ASAHP BOARD MEETING

The Association’s Board of Directors will meet in Washington, DC on June 3-4. The following items are included on the agenda:

- Reports from both President Richard Oliver and Treasurer P. Kevin Rudeen
- A discussion about maintaining the current level of reserves v. funding member initiatives
- The focus of ASAHP’s strategic planning moving forward
- Whether allied health or another term provides the best understanding of the health disciplines under the allied health umbrella
- A proposal to form a consortium for schools in the U.S. that would work to develop training and educational infrastructure in other countries
- Creation of an allied health student association
- Potential nominees to serve on the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Educational Programs (CAAHEP)
- Update on the Institute of Medicine project on interprofessional education
- Update on the Allied Health Professions Political Action Committee (PAC)

INSTITUTIONAL PROFILE SURVEY

The data collection period for ASAHP’s next iteration of the survey will open in early September and close by the end of November. Now is a good time to determine who will be assigned responsibility for collecting data. A User’s Guide is online at www.asahp.org in the section of the homepage labeled “Members.” It has proved to be immensely valuable for newcomers to the study.

PERIODICAL AUTHORS GALORE

The manuscript, “Combined Measurement of the Higgs Boson Mass in pp Collisions at √s = 7 and 8 TeV with the ATLAS and CMS Experiments” that appeared in the May 15, 2015 issue of Physical Review Letters had 5,154 authors. Not consciously striving to appear too miserly, but an effort is made with the Journal of Allied Health to restrict the number of authors to six who can demonstrate that they played a constructive role in the preparation of a manuscript.

The Summer 2015 Issue of the Journal will be distributed in mid-June. Articles include the following topics: interprofessional education assessment and evaluation, lesbian and gay occupational therapists, academic mentorship, performance on clinical placements, and preparation of rehabilitation sciences students.

Also, a Commentary article on “Advocacy Priorities and Strategies for ASAHP: A Survey of the ASAHP Membership” will appear. It is the product of a group of participants in the Association’s Leadership Development Program in 2013.

A profile of the Journal of Allied Health in the form of a series of data snapshots for the period May 1, 2014 to April 30, 2015 is provided from the perspective of both production-related data and manuscript content.

Meanwhile an analysis of all periodical titles on ingentaconnect reveals that out of more than 16,200 titles for the number of full-text downloads, the Journal of Allied Health ranked 60th with 1,263 downloads for the period April 1 to April 30, 2015.

NEWS FROM THE COLLEGES

ASAHP President Richard Oliver, who is Dean Emeritus of the School of Health Professions at the University of Missouri, Columbia, was honored at a ceremony last month. The first floor of Dogwood Hall at the university, which is the home of the Four Winds Learning Community, has officially been renamed the Oliver House.
RWJF FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation will select up to four national leadership program centers to receive a three-month planning grant to co-develop the launch of the leadership program(s), with a maximum amount of $750,000 per award per program. The four new programs (and their working titles) are:

- RWJF Diversity in Health Policy Research
- RWJF Interdisciplinary Research Leaders
- RWJF Multisector Leaders for Health
- RWJF New Clinical Scholars

Applicants may submit a proposal for one or more programs. The online application process begins on June 3, 2015 and closes at 3:00 PM Eastern Time on July 29, 2015. More information can be accessed at http://www.rwjf.org/en/library/funding-opportunities/2015/national-leadership-program-centers.html?id=b9DqDr_nbVqMCzAWLsAxFXYXWIRN1AH&et_cid=261209.

COMPETENCY-BASED EDUCATION

When higher education actively is experimenting with competency-based education (CBE), confusion exists about what it is and the extent of its contribution to the present transformation of higher education. Officials at the firm Eduventures contacted 300 higher education industry leaders about this practice to obtain a better understanding of the many myths and misconceptions about CBE.

Five of the most common myths and misconceptions can be viewed at http://www.eduventures.com/2015/05/myths-and-misconceptions-about-competency-based-education/

DIGITAL STORYTELLING CONFERENCE

The University of Missouri campus will host one of the first digital health storytelling conferences on September 10-11. DigiHealth 2015, funded by Mizzou Advantage, will bring together innovators in the healthcare, research, and communication industries to discuss current trends, best practices, and how-to-do-it for digital media techniques used to improve health outcomes.

The two-day event is aimed at attracting personnel from health organizations, corporations, and nonprofits, along with university faculty, staff and students. Early-bird registration is now open at http://journalism.missouri.edu/2015/05/innovative-digital-health-storytelling-conference-slated-for-sept-10-11/.

CONDITION OF EDUCATION

The Condition of Education 2015, a new report from the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES), summarizes important developments and trends in education using the latest available data. The report presents 42 indicators on the status and condition of education, which represent a consensus of professional judgment on the most significant national measures of the condition and progress of education for which accurate data are available. Three spotlight indicators also are featured that describe selected issues of current policy interest.

Along with data on younger students who constitute the pool from which health professionals of the future will be educated, the report contains information about the number of undergraduate students enrolled in postsecondary institutions in 2013-14, the percentage of fulltime undergraduate students at a 4-year institution receiving financial aid in 2012-13, and the percentage of students who began a bachelor’s degree at a four-year institution in fall 2007 who completed it within six years.


KEY NATIONAL HEALTH DATA


BEHAVIOR CHANGE AND HEALTH


HEALTH INSURANCE CYBERATTACKS

CareFirst BlueCross BlueShield, the Washington, DC-Baltimore region’s largest health insurer, became the victim of the 3rd cyberattack of a major insurer this year. Personal medical data on tens of millions of patients have been compromised by a group of highly sophisticated computer hackers.