INTERPROFESSIONAL EDUCATION

The latest issue brief from the Josiah Macy, Jr. Foundation is on the topic of delivering interprofessional education and teaching teamwork, one of five areas where the Foundation has a focus on grantmaking. The brief outlines how to overcome some of the emerging challenges health professions schools face in providing and expanding IPE, and shares promising models for learning purposes.


The Interprofessional Education Collaborative (IPEC) has announced the next Faculty Development Institute focused on Interprofessional Education: Building a Framework for Collaboration. It will be held on October 7-9, 2015 at the Dulles Hyatt in Herndon, VA. Faculty teams are invited to come together for a guided learning experience, team-based planning activities, and dedicated time to create actionable plans for implementing projects that advance interprofessional curricula, clinical training and population health experiences, and student assessment.

More details on Institute objectives, team composition, program format, and registration can be accessed at https://ipecollaborative.org/2015_Fall_Institute.html.

STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

Each year, the Association sponsors the Scholarship of Excellence Program for allied health students enrolled in its member institutions. The purpose is to recognize outstanding individuals who excel in their academic programs and have significant potential to assume future leadership roles in the allied health professions. Each student chosen for an award will receive a $1,000 scholarship.

In 2014, ASAHP gave scholarships to 12 students. Five of these awards were provided by the firm of CertifiedBackground.com, a company that offers criminal background check and immunization status check services to member institutions.

The year 2013 marked the inauguration of the Elwood Scholar Award. Created by the Board of Directors and named for ASAHP’s former Executive Director Thomas W. Elwood who retired from that position in 2012, at the conclusion of the selection of the Scholarship of Excellence Award recipients, an additional review process will commence to identify the most outstanding applicant.

The Elwood Scholar will receive an additional $1,000 scholarship and a complimentary registration to the 2015 ASAHP Annual Conference in Scottsdale, AZ where he or she will be formally recognized as the award recipient. All travel and rooming costs will be paid by ASAHP.

Several conditions must be met to apply. Only one candidate from each member institution can be nominated. All degree levels are eligible. Information about application procedures is on the Web at www.asahp.org in the Members Section.

A key point to observe is that each application must include a letter endorsed by the dean or director who serves as the official ASAHP Institutional Representative that supports the nomination and describes qualities of the candidate. Although it is customary for a chairperson or faculty member also to write a letter of support, a letter from the dean or director at the institution is required. The application deadline is June 9, 2015.
ASAHP PUBLICATIONS

Newsletters cast a rearview glance on events that already have transpired, but ASAHP’s newsletter TRENDS contains a feature called Technology Corner, which describes recent innovations that have the potential to undergo widespread adoption. Beginning with the upcoming May 2015 issue, a new addition to TRENDS called Emerging Social Developments will describe events of a different kind of nature that may help to shape in the not-too-distant future how health care is delivered and how allied health professionals will be educated and trained.

Another related new feature is intended to shed light that emerges from the professional literature about relevant activities within various disciplines usually included under the allied health umbrella. A similar effort already is reflected in ASAHP’s quarterly Journal of Allied Health in the section called Quiddity, which represents an effort to enable readers to travel down literary byways that either are completely unfamiliar to them or are not immediately perceived to be germane to their particular interests.


As always, new reviewers for the Journal are welcome to become part of the panel that conducts these important assessments. Areas that would benefit from the addition of newcomers are: physical therapy, interprofessional education, and both qualitative and quantitative research. Holders of an earned doctorate, along with experience in having articles published and serving as reviewers for other periodicals are the kinds of individuals sought for this purpose. Expressions of interest should be sent by E-mail to thomas@asahp.org.

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 proven to be immensely popular for newcomers to the study. Last year, 89 schools furnished data for the IPS study.

IOM NAME CHANGE

The National Academy of Sciences has voted to change the name of the Institute of Medicine (IOM) to the National Academy of Medicine effective July 1. The newly named entity will continue to be an honorific society and inherit more than 1,900 current elected members and foreign associates.

The IOM is a highly distinguished body that is widely regarded for its efforts to convene groups of experts to present insights on a wide range of health matters. Publication in the form of books or workshop reports is a typical end product. An example is Allied Health Workforce and Services - Workshop Summary that resulted from an effort on May 9-10, 2011 to examine the current allied health care workforce and consider how it can contribute to improving health care access, quality, and effectiveness. Speakers at the workshop examined the following kinds of questions: What is allied health, and who is part of that workforce? What workforce strategies could improve access to select allied health services? The report can be accessed at http://www.iom.edu/reports/2011/allied-health-workforce-and-services.aspx.

Worth noting is that only a few allied health professionals have ever been selected to be a member of the Institute of Medicine. The relative paucity of such individuals in key arenas such as the IOM and study groups at the National Institutes of Health makes it all the more difficult for allied health to be included when important discussions about the kinds of health issues that should be examined and how funding is allocated. A worthy ongoing exercise would be how to bolster the ranks of these groups with representatives from allied health.

HIGHER EDUCATION DATA

The Digest of Education Statistics, 2013 from the National Center for Educational Statistics (NCES) is the 49th in a series of publications initiated in 1962. The purpose is to provide a compilation of statistical information covering the broad field of education from prekindergarten through graduate school. The Digest contains data on a variety of topics, including the number of schools and colleges, teachers, enrollments, and graduates, in addition to educational attainment, finances, and federal funds for education, libraries, and international comparisons. Chapter 3 is on postsecondary education and Chapter 5 is on outcomes of education. The Digest can be accessed at http://nces.ed.gov/pubs2015/2015011.pdf.