INTERPROFESSIONAL EDUCATION

As evidenced by a major initiative that was launched by the Institute of Medicine (IOM) and also the existence of federal funding to establish a National Center for Interprofessional Practice and Education, which is based at the University of Minnesota, a considerable amount of attention is being focused on efforts to enhance the prospect of producing more effective health team performance. One example of recent activity was highlighted in the daily *Newswire* section of the ASAHP website on April 22 when a new report from the IOM was posted there on the topic of methods to measure the impact of interprofessional education on outcomes. ASAHP has been involved in the IOM endeavor since early 2012 and Past President Richard Talbott represents ASAHP in this important undertaking.

A five-part podcast series based on the publication “Progress and Promise: Profiles in Interprofessional Health Training to Deliver Patient-Centered Primary Care,” is available. Following a Question & Answer format format, each chapter provides an in-depth analysis of three of the seven programs highlighted in the publication “Progress and Promise” by sharing the program’s experiences, opportunities, and challenges in building and maintaining an interprofessional program.

The podcasts are as follows:

- No.1: Unique aspects of the interprofessional teaching programs
- No. 2: New Mexico State University’s collaborative training program
- No. 3: University of Oklahoma program to integrate pharmacists into primary care.
- No. 4: San Francisco Veterans Affairs Center of Excellence in Primary Care Education/Education
- No. 5: Reflections on successful strategies used by each profiled program


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](http://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.
OUTCOMES RESEARCH FUNDING

Established by the Affordable Care Act (ACA), the Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI) began funding research in December 2012. This entity currently is the largest single research funder that focuses on patient-centered comparative effectiveness research (CER). The goal of PCORI is to determine which treatment options work best in particular circumstances. Given the plentitude of health care services provided by allied health professionals, it would be beneficial for them to seek research funding from this source.

As reported in the April 14 issue of the ASAHP UPDATE, the Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI) indicated that under its Pragmatic Clinical Studies initiative, as much as $90 million in support will be offered for projects evaluating the effectiveness of different care options in “real-world” settings. Then on April 21, PCORI approved more than $120 million in funding for 34 patient-centered clinical comparative clinical effectiveness research studies. The new awards include nearly $58.5 million for five new pragmatic clinical studies that seek to answer critical CER questions about radiation therapy for breast cancer, treating fractures in older adults, and therapies for children with bipolar disorder and Crohn’s disease.

PCORI is hosting a free two-day interactive workshop in Atlanta, GA on June 22-23 to provide applicants with the tools and strategies to develop a winning application. This interactive workshop—led by expert staff—will offer an overview of PCORI and its: national priorities for research; funding opportunities; application development and submission requirements; methodology standards; patient and stakeholder engagement requirements; merit review process; contract activation, monitoring, and reporting; project completion and contract closeout; and invoicing and payment processes.

The workshop will provide opportunities to meet PCORI staff, ask questions, obtain resources, and network with other participants. Also present to offer additional insight will be contract administrators, research program officers, engagement officers, and notable awardees who can provide both programmatic and administrative intelligence to help interested parties to apply for and manage a PCORI contract. Registration and related information can be accessed at http://conferences.thehillgroup.com/PCORI/Contract sWorkshop/index.html?utm_source=CMA+Atlanta+ Workshop+June+2015_2&utm_campaign=CMA+Atlanta+Workshop+June+2015_2&utm_medium=email.

FACULTY DEVELOPMENT CLINIC

The Mayo Clinic Florida Campus is offering the first Annual Mayo Clinic Faculty Development course on October 9-10, 2015. It is designed to enhance the skills of both seasoned and novice educators with the tools they need to instruct, guide, train, and mentor learners. The program will be centered upon a series of didactic lectures, illustrative cases, and simulation techniques devoted to providing a road map and understanding of the most up-to-date means by which to educate the next generation of medical professionals.

The agenda has been specifically designed to offer practical approaches that faculty educators may readily integrate into their daily teaching. Course faculty will address diverse areas of educational topics ranging from class room/bedside teaching skills to developing research/quality improvement programs for the trainees. Registration and additional course information can be accessed at https://ce.mayo.edu/quality/node/3721.

CALL FOR CASE STUDY PROPOSALS

A Working Group convened by the Association for Prevention Teaching and Research (APTR) Healthy People Curriculum Task Force (HPCTF) in collaboration with the Association of American Veterinary Medical Colleges (AAVMC) seeks proposals for new, previously unpublished case studies. The call is constructed around the One Health Interprofessional Education Initiative, which seeks to integrate One Health concepts into the degree programs of health professions students through the case study method of instruction.

The Working Group has developed a broad-based One Health Educational Framework designed for use in all health professions education. The project aims to engage faculty in developing interprofessional teaching cases as well as case studies specific to an individual field of study. One Health is the collaborative effort of multiple disciplines – working locally, nationally, and globally – to attain optimal health for individuals, animals, and the environment. The initiative focuses attention on the importance of the connections between human health, animal health, and ecosystem health.

Proposals are due by June 12, 2015. Case studies from more than one health profession are highly encouraged. The call for proposals can be accessed at http://c.ymcnm.com/sites/www.aptrweb.org/resource/resmgr/One_Health_Case_Studies_Ca.pdf.