NEW ASAHP PRESIDENT-ELECT

The Board of Directors has selected **Phyllis King**, Associate Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs at the University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee, as its President-Elect for 2019. Her term in that position became effective upon conclusion of the 2018 ASAHP Annual Conference in St. Petersburg, FL on October 12. Most recently, she led the Association’s 2018 Leadership Development Program. A current member of the Board of Directors, she has been an active member of ASAHP for many years.

Her term as President-Elect will last until the conclusion of the 2019 ASAHP Annual Conference in Charleston, SC on October 12, at which time she will serve as President for two years. That period will be followed by one year as Immediate Past-President while continuing to be a member of the Board of Directors.

IMPROVING PATIENT CARE

Individuals living with a serious or life-threatening illness, their families, and caregivers often face daunting challenges accessing and navigating America’s health care system. With a rapidly aging population, workforce shortages and inadequate training and support for caregivers pose a threat to the quality of care delivered to this nation’s elderly and for caregivers themselves. To address these challenges, the Bipartisan Policy Center released the second of two reports that recommends new federal policy options for improving care for individuals and families coping with serious illness.

These patients have conditions that carry a high risk of mortality, limit their ability to live independently, and cause them to rely heavily on caregivers to help them remain at home. Typically, they have multiple chronic conditions, like heart disease and diabetes, or struggle with a life-threatening disease such as cancer or dementia. The report can be obtained at [https://bipartisanpolicy.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/Improving-Care-for-Patients-with-Serious-Illness-Part-Two.pdf](https://bipartisanpolicy.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/Improving-Care-for-Patients-with-Serious-Illness-Part-Two.pdf).

INSTITUTIONAL PROFILE SURVEY

Efforts are underway to launch ASAHP’s *Institutional Profile Survey* at the beginning of 2019. A centerpiece of this annual study has been the collection of data on salaries of faculty and staff. The new version also will include a focus on interprofessional activities, clinical instruction, and trends in student enrollment by profession.

A key element will be the assignment of an individual at each school to oversee coordination of the data collection process. Deans and directors are encouraged to consider in advance whom to select to carry out this highly essential coordinating role.

FUNDING OPPORTUNITY

The Administration on Aging (AoA) within the Administration for Community Living (ACL), U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) forecasts the possible availability of Fiscal Year (FY) 2019 funds to make three-year grants to approximately 10 entities to develop capacity, bring to scale, and sustain evidence-based falls prevention programs that will help to reduce the number of falls, fear of falling, and fall-related injuries in older adults.

**Sustainable Systems Grants**: approximately six grants of $400,000 to $600,00 focused on developing integrated, sustainable systems for delivering falls prevention programs, and **Capacity-Building Grants**: approximately four grants of $50,000 to $150,000 to build capacity to introduce and deliver falls prevention programs within underserved areas and populations.

Higher education institutions are among the eligible applicants. The closing date for submitting applications is **January 29, 2019** no later than 11:59 PM Eastern Time. More information can be obtained at [file:///C:/Users/Owner/Downloads/FPSP%20Full%20Announcement.pdf](file:///C:/Users/Owner/Downloads/FPSP%20Full%20Announcement.pdf).
ONLINE EDUCATION COMPETITION

According to Eduventures Research, there used to be an inverse relationship between top graduate schools and online master’s degrees. The more prestigious the institution, the less likely it was to offer any degree fully online. Change is occurring, however, as elite graduate schools are moving aggressively to offer online master’s programs. A question pondering is whether the best schools on campus also become the best and biggest schools online?

Federal enrollment data offer a window into what is transpiring. R1s are the 115 most selective and research-intensive universities in the nation, using the well-known Carnegie Classification. R2s and R3s grant doctoral degrees, but undertake less research. R1 schools are the giants of graduate education, enrolling one-third of all graduate students and offering nearly one-third of all master’s programs. Online they have lagged behind, but are growing fast, posting 78% growth in online students over the past five years, much faster than other types of schools.

A new breed of elite online master’s degree is too new to judge completion rates and R1s may revert to type and limit scale or experiment with lower prices without the necessary redesign. Yet, non-R1 schools should be alert to the novel competition. If a growing number of R1s use online master’s programs to embrace scale while leveraging redesign and low price, less prestigious schools will need to re-think their niche. More information can be obtained at https://encoura.org/how-elite-universities-are-changing-the-online-masters-game/?mkt_tok=eyJpIjoiTjJSaE1EY3dZbVF6TmpaaSIIsInQiOiJTY3JncndUUE5cL0NHUXVQbzhBQKdiVmyyVFBMTR0TnVsVURhRFY5cXE5a2djS0hXemFIRU9DQ0htV0tBZWo1TmpkOVViWGltd2liZ1Z2YWJnM99aa3dTOUhYYUPPMiwvTkkrYYXkrU3ZVb0U3RnhYZmZ5eXhSSTN0OUVtMjZlSHJEl0%3D

STUDENT COLLEGE CHOICE

A report from the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) is based on data from the High School Longitudinal Study of 2009, a nationally representative, longitudinal study of more than 23,000 9th-graders in 2009. The cohort was surveyed again when most students were in 11th grade. The survey included questions about characteristics that would influence choosing a school or college after high school. The report can be obtained at https://nces.ed.gov/pubs2019/20191119.pdf.

SCOPE OF PRACTICE

The National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL) has developed a webpage that is an easily accessible source of information for health care providers, the public, and for state leaders as they consider leveraging nurse practitioners, physician assistants, dental health hygienists and therapists— and now non-physician behavioral health providers—to address the health care needs in their states. Users can explore information about these providers through interactive maps and links to relevant scope of practice legislation by state. The website is funded through HRSA’s cooperative agreement under the National Organizations for State and Local Officials Program.

An overview of oral health providers can be obtained at http://scopeofpracticepolicy.org/practitioners/oral-health-providers/ and an overview of physician assistants can be obtained at http://scopeofpracticepolicy.org/practitioners/physicians-assistants/.

CLINICAL PREVENTIVE SERVICES

The U.S. Preventive Services Task Force (USPSTF) released its “Eighth Annual Report to Congress on High-Priority Evidence Gaps for Clinical Preventive Services.” It highlights recent topics related to cancer prevention and cardiovascular health, the leading causes of death among adults in the United States, for which more research is needed. The report also calls for additional research among underrepresented populations disproportionately affected by these conditions. Topics highlighted in the report include:

Cancer Prevention: Screening for Cervical Cancer, Especially Among Diverse Populations and Screening for Prostate Cancer, Especially Among African American Men and Men With a Family History

Cardiovascular Health: Screening for Atrial Fibrillation With Electrocardiography; Screening for Cardiovascular Disease Risk With Electrocardiography; and Risk Assessment for Cardiovascular Disease With Nontraditional Risk Factors.

The report can be obtained at https://www.uspreventiveservicestaskforce.org/Page/Name/eighth-annual-report-to-congress-on-high-priority-evidence-gaps-for-clinical-preventive-services.