2019 ASAHP SUMMIT

The Association is partnering with Kindred Health Care and Saint Louis University to co-host the 2019 ASAHP Summit, "Collaborative Stakeholder Forum Connecting Academic Programs and Clinical Practice Together to Inform System Improvement." The event will be conducted on May 31, 2019 at the Doisy College of Health Sciences at Saint Louis University, providing an opportunity to bring together health industry and academic partners to discuss translational skills and any corresponding gaps between Interprofessional Education (IPE) and Interprofessional Collaborative Practice (IPCP).

Earlier this month, a survey was distributed by ASAHP to member institutions seeking information from preceptors, clinical instructors, clinical faculty, and their respective health industry partners regarding five recommendations made by the Association’s Clinical Education Task Force in 2018. Responses will serve as a valuable resource to help inform activities by participants at the Summit. Additional information can be obtained by contacting either Anthony Breitbach at Anthony.Breitbach@health.slu.edu or Barbara Wallace at Barbara.Wallace@Kindred.com.

ASAHP ANNUAL CONFERENCE

The Association’s 2019 Annual Conference is scheduled to occur on October 16-18 in Charleston, SC. The theme of the event is “Keeping Ahead of the Curve-Allied Health Education in the Evolving World of Health Care Delivery.” Mid-May is expected to be the beginning of the period to accept Abstract Submissions for presentations in both Concurrent Sessions and a Poster Session. Once again, an opportunity exists to provide support as Advertisers, Sponsors, and Exhibitors. Additional information can be obtained at http://www.asahp.org/conferences.

LABOR-HHS FUNDING

The House Appropriations Committee’s Labor-HHS Subcommittee’s 1st markup this year will occur on April 30 for the 2020 fiscal year that begins on October 1, 2019.

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 leadership roles in the allied health professions. Each student chosen for an award will receive a $1,000 scholarship.

In 2018, 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.

That individual will receive an additional $1,000 scholarship and a complimentary registration to the 2019 ASAHP Annual Conference in Charleston, SC where he or she will be recognized formally as the award recipient. All travel and rooming costs will be paid by ASAHP.

Only one candidate from each member institution can be nominated. All degree levels are eligible. An application form and additional information about criteria can be obtained at https://asahp.squarespace.com/scholarship/.

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. A letter from a chairperson or faculty member also may be included. The deadline for submitting an application and necessary information is June 7, 2019.
FUNDING OPPORTUNITY

The National Institutes of Health (NIH) Office of Research on Women's Health (ORWH) and participating NIH Institutes and Centers invite institutional career development award applications for Building Interdisciplinary Research Careers in Women’s Health (BIRCWH) Career Development Programs. Assistance will support mentored research career development of junior faculty members, known as BIRCWH Scholars, who recently have completed clinical training or postdoctoral fellowships, and who will be engaged in interdisciplinary basic, translational, behavioral, clinical, and/or health services research relevant to the health of women and, where appropriate, the use of both sexes to obtain a better understanding of the influence of sex as a biological variable on health and disease.


OPIOID GUIDELINE MISAPPLICATION

According to a paper published on April 24, 2019 in the New England Journal of Medicine, the authors of influential federal guidelines released in March 2016 for opioid prescriptions for chronic pain indicated that doctors and others in the health care system had wrongly implemented federal recommendations by withholding pain medication from patients who need them. The guidelines were intended to be applied for patients with chronic pain not tied to cancer, palliative care, or end-of-life care, but they have been erroneously affecting care for the wrong sets of patients on different occasions.

The topic is one of interest to ASAHP and the Association has provided information about opioids to its members previously. For example, a special issue of the ASAHP UPDATE was distributed on May 22, 2018 and readers were invited to describe activities at their institutions to address this problem.

The College of Nursing and Health Professions at Arkansas State University indicated that it hosted a three-hour session on February 23, 2018 entitled “Battling the Opioid Epidemic in Arkansas for students, faculty, and clinical instructors from all programs in the college. Also, “Confronting Opioid Dependence: An Interprofessional Strategy” was the University at Buffalo’s approach to interprofessional education, providing more than 800 health science students in 10 different programs an opportunity to work on this problem.

CLINICAL EDUCATION PRESENTATION

Representatives of ASAHP’s Clinical Education Task Force and the Association’s clinical partner, Kindred Health Care, will present at the AAHC 2019 Global Issues Forum on Strategic Partnerships on May 6, 2019 in Washington, D.C. Developed by Julie O’Sullivan Maillet (Rutgers University) and Laura Dailey and Annie Roden (both from Kindred Health Care), the presentation will focus on: clinical education of allied health students in the U.S., promoting awareness through examples of hours per year or total hours per student in selected allied health professions, recommending how to strengthen allied health clinical education, gathering suggestions on how to achieve recommendation strategies, and developing relationships with the AAHC.

ATHLETIC TRAINING PRESENTATION

The 2019 National Athletic Trainers’ Association Meeting in Las Vegas, NV will feature a presentation at an ASAHP Affiliate Session on June 27 by Deans Lou Fincher (Emory & Henry College), Christopher O’Brien (Kings College) and Christopher Ingersoll (The University of Toledo). The theme of the meeting is “Charting Athletic Training’s Future: Perspectives From The Academy.” They will discuss the impact of new changes in athletic training education. A short video by Anthony Breitbach (Saint Louis University), NATA’s liaison to ASAHP, describing the event can be viewed at www.asahp.org

MEMBERS IN THE NEWS

Harold P. Jones retired on March 31 after serving for 18 years as Dean at the University of Alabama at Birmingham and for nine years at East Carolina University as Dean. Andrew Butler (Georgia State University) will assume the position at UAB on July 1.

Charles J. Gulas will retire effective at the end of the academic year from Maryville University after 20 years of service, including 14 years as dean. Michelle Jenkins-Unterberg will move into the role of dean after serving as assistant dean since 2015.

ONLINE COURSE ENROLLMENT

Fully online courses are more likely to drive enrollment growth, according to a recent survey of institutions from Quality Matters and Edventures Research, the research division of ACT/NRCCUA. A report describing growth can be obtained at https://www.qualitymatters.org/qa-resources/resource-center/articles-resources/CHLOE-3-report-2019.