ASAHP ANNUAL CONFERENCE

The Association’s 2019 Annual Conference will be on October 16-18 in Charleston, SC. The theme is “Keeping Ahead of the Curve—Allied Health Education in the Evolving World of Health Care Delivery.” Earlier, attendees were invited to contribute to the program by submitting abstracts to be presented in one of two formats: (1) Paper Presentation during a 20-minute Concurrent Session, or (2) Poster Presentation during a two-hour Poster Session. 125 abstracts were submitted in response to the invitation.

The Opening Plenary Session Address on Day 2 of the conference will be delivered by Randall Lambrecht, President, Aurora Research Institute, System Vice President, Advocate Aurora Health. While involved in the University of Wisconsin system, he spent more than 28 years as a researcher and professor in infectious disease and molecular microbiology/immunology where he also served as Dean of the Colleges of Health Sciences. A former Member of the ASAHP Board of Directors and Treasurer, he continues to review manuscripts for the Association’s Journal of Allied Health.

As a special feature of this year’s conference, the ASAHP Leadership Committee is working to develop a session on Senior Leadership Strategies, Case Studies, and Lessons Learned with the goal of initiating a longitudinal program that will enable the sharing of leadership expertise and experiences as the senior leaders of health professions schools across the nation.

The following kinds of topics may be addressed:

- Change management
- Faculty recruitment: Strategies and Challenges
- Institutional Finance and Budgeting
- Growing research and scholarship at an institution.

Attendees are reminded to take advantage of discounted registration fees by September 13, 2019. Hotel bookings at the Charleston Marriott at the room block special rate run through September 23 or until the group block is sold-out. More information about the conference is available at www.asahp.org.

ASAHP SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

In 2019, ASAHP will award scholarships to 12 students. Five of these awards are provided by the firm of CertifiedBackground.com, a company that offers criminal background check and immunization status check services to member institutions.

Six years ago marked the inauguration of the Elwood Scholar Award. It was created by the Board of Directors and named for ASAHP’s former Executive Director Thomas Elwood who retired from that position in 2012.

The recipient of this award is Bethany Williams of The University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center, a student in nutritional sciences. Along with the scholarship, she will receive a complimentary registration to the 2019 ASAHP Annual Conference in Charleston, SC, where she will be recognized formally as the award recipient. All travel and rooming costs will be paid by the Association.

Working independently of one another, some ASAHP Past Presidents also selected the following nominees to receive scholarships:

- Ny-Aja Boyd—Sacred Heart University (Speech Language Pathology)
- Jocelyn Chokkattu—MGH Institute of Health Professions (Speech Language Pathology)
- Christine Cook—Augusta University (Physical Therapy)
- Kimberly Gardner—Howard University (Nutritional Sciences)
- Jessica Henry—Nova Southeastern University (Occupational Therapy)
- Ethan Hosford—The Ohio State University (Respiratory Therapy)
- Lisa Langhals—Bowling Green State University (Dietetics)
- Carolyn Perez—University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio (Speech Language Pathology)
- Christina Pool—University of North Carolina Greensboro (Genetic Counseling)
- Bailey Sanderson—Keck Graduate Institute (Human Genetics)
- Timothy Turner—University of Kansas Medical Center (Physical Therapy)
2019 ASAHP ELECTION

ASAHP’s annual election is underway and voting will remain open through Monday—August 19, 2019. The following slots are in contention: Two positions are open for the Board of Directors, one position for Secretary on the Board of Directors, and three positions for the Nominations & Elections Committee. Information about the candidates can be obtained at https://asahp.squarespace.com/config/. Election guidelines and an electronic link for voting purposes can be obtained at https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/VRGDZHP.

MEMBERS IN THE NEWS

According to a recent announcement from the University of North Carolina System, former ASAHP Board Member Peggy Valentine was appointed interim chancellor of Fayetteville State University where she will take office on August 7. Until recently, she has been serving as dean of the School of Health Sciences at Winston-Salem State University in North Carolina. Her research focuses on homeless and minority health issues. Among her many achievements, she is the founding editor-in-chief for the Journal of Best Practices in Health Professions Diversity.

FUNDING OPPORTUNITY

Early-stage physicians and other health professional investigators with a commitment to aging and/or aging-related diseases are eligible to apply for funding to advance their research and leadership skills in their specialty and in the broader field of aging and geriatrics research. The National Institute on Aging (NIA) is pursuing this initiative to recruit early-stage investigators who have begun to establish research programs and who, through this award, will be ready to assume leadership roles in their field of expertise and be poised to change theory, practice, and health outcomes related to the health of older individuals.

Unlike other mentored K awards, candidates for this award must have received competitively awarded research support as a Program Director/Primary Investigator (PD/PI) at the faculty level or have otherwise leveraged faculty-level research support to develop an independent line of research. Funding is designed specifically for applicants proposing research that does not involve leading an independent clinical trial, a clinical trial feasibility study, or an ancillary clinical trial.


COLLEGE GRADUATES’ EXPERIENCE

A report from the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) provides information about outcomes of 2015–16 bachelor’s degree recipients one year after graduation. Outcomes include time to degree, amount borrowed for undergraduate education, postbaccalaureate enrollment, employment status, earnings and job characteristics, and steps taken toward a career in teaching. Findings are based on data from the first follow-up of the Baccalaureate and Beyond Longitudinal Study, a nationally representative longitudinal sample survey of students who completed the requirements for a bachelor's degree during the 2015–16 academic year. The report can be obtained at https://nces.ed.gov/pubs2019/2019241.pdf.

PhD CAREER PATHWAYS

Using data from the Council of Graduate Schools’ Understanding PhD Career Pathways for Program Improvement project, a brief looks at current and immediate prior jobs of PhD degree holders who earned their doctorates three years (Cohort A), eight years (Cohort B), and fifteen years (Cohort C) ago. The examination involves the nature of job transitions that occurred within the last three years.


INNOVATION IN ACCREDITATION

The Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA) released Innovation in Accreditation and Higher Education: Accrediting Organizations Describe Their Engagement. This new research report provides a comprehensive account of U.S. recognized institutional and programmatic accrediting organizations and what they report about how they address the challenge of innovation with quality in higher education.

Topics covered in the report include: how these accrediting organizations, in general, view themselves as moderately innovative, and how at present, a majority of accrediting organizations do not plan to expand their work beyond traditional higher education.