2019 ASAHP ELECTION RESULTS

Secretary (Two-Year Term):
Teresa Conner-Kerr (University of North Georgia)

Board of Directors (Three-Year Term):
Andrew Butler (The University of Alabama at Birmingham)
Deborah Larsen (The Ohio State University)

Nominations and Election Committee (Two-Year Term):
Elizabeth Adams (University of South Alabama)
Shandra Esparza (University of the Incarnate Word)
Susan Gordon-Hickey (University of South Alabama)

2019 ASAHP AWARD RECIPIENTS

President’s Award
Kristen Truong (ASAHP Staff)

Distinguished Service and Achievement Award
Richard E. Oliver (University of Missouri, Columbia)

Outstanding Member Award
Barbara Wallace (Kindred Rehab Services/Rehabcare)

Fellows Award
Barbara Wallace (Kindred Rehab Services/Rehabcare)
Roy B. Anderson (Cleveland Clinic)
Jon Williamson (University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center)
Stanley Wilson (Nova Southeastern University)
Robert McLaughlin (Baylor College of Medicine)

Award for Institutional Excellence and Innovation in Interprofessional Education and Collaborative Health Care
Indiana University Purdue University Indianapolis

Elwood Scholar Of Excellence Award
Bethany Williams (University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center)

ALLIED HEALTH PROFESSIONS WEEK

Allied Health Professions Week will be observed on November 3-9, 2019 to honor the valuable contributions made by educators, researchers, and providers in the allied health professions to improve health status at both individual and community levels. A wide variety of activities may be undertaken that week on campuses at ASAHP member institutions to highlight the allied health professions and achievements undertaken at a school. Examples were listed in the previous issue of the ASAHP UPDATE on October 1, 2019.

ASAHP UPDATE readers are encouraged to send information to ASAHP staff about events that occur during Allied Health Week, which then can be highlighted in the Association’s newsletter TRENDS.

STUDENT AID

A report from the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) contains tables that present data from four administrations of the National Postsecondary Student Aid Study (2003–04, 2007–08, 2011–12, 2015–16) that show trends in how graduate students financed their education. Data include the demographic attributes and academic characteristics of graduate students and the average price of attendance for the programs in which they were enrolled.

Data are presented by various demographic and enrollment characteristics, including degree program, and may be obtained at https://nces.ed.gov/pubs2019/2019485.pdf.

SOCIAL DETERMINANTS OF HEALTH

A blog from the Josiah Macy Jr. Foundation discusses the importance of understanding social factors that can affect a patient’s health and how health professionals need to understand the community conditions if they are going to help their patients live healthiest lives. The blog can be obtained at https://macyfoundation.org/news-and-commentary/social-determinants-of-health-a-required-curriculum.
CLASS OF 2018 STUDENT DEBT

An annual study conducted in September this year by The Institute for College Access and Success (TICAS) suggests that the class of 2018 graduates owed an average of $29,200 upon graduation, a two percent increase from the average of $28,650 in 2017. In comparison, between 1996 and 2012, the average debt of borrowers increased steadily, at an average of four percent per year, before it began to slow substantially between 2012 and 2016.

New data show that the average student debt for college graduates continues to climb but at a slower pace. Nationally, about two in three (65 percent) college seniors who graduated from public and private nonprofit colleges in 2018 had student loan debt. These borrowers owed an average of $29,200, two percent higher than the 2017 average.

TICAS’ 14th annual report on debt at graduation finds wide variations in debt levels across states as well as colleges. Average student debt at graduation in 2018 ranged from $19,750 in Utah to $38,650 in Connecticut, and new graduates’ likelihood of having debt ranged from 36 percent in Utah to 76 percent in New Hampshire. High-debt states remain concentrated in the Northeast and low-debt states are mainly in the West. The report can be obtained at https://ticas.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/09/classof2018.pdf.

HIGHER ED ACCOUNTABILITY

Driven by concerns over cost, quality, and overall value, accountability in higher education is an area of great and growing interest among policymakers and stakeholders, but also of considerable ambiguity and debate. While featured prominently on the agenda for the upcoming reauthorization of the Higher Education Act (HEA), the lack of consensus on an appropriate accountability framework and associated metrics to assess the performance and value of colleges and universities has hindered progress. Despite numerous Congressional hearings and bills, discussions have stalled in the face of considerable complexity and a period of retrenchment involving the federal role in education.

New America released a report that proposes an overhaul of the federal government's framework for holding colleges and universities accountable.

It can be obtained at https://d1y8sb8igg2f8e.cloudfront.net/documents/Searching_for_Accountability_in_Higher_Education_2019-10-02_134947.pdf.

ACCREDITATION TRENDS

An article by Judith Eaton, President of the Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA), appeared in the September/October 2019 issue of Trustee Magazine, a publication of the Association of Governing Boards of Universities and Colleges (AGB). Her topic was “Trends in Accreditation: What Matters to Governing Boards.”

She indicated that three major trends are shaping the current direction and operation of accreditation. The first is the current demand for greater accountability from accreditation, focusing particular attention on student achievement and transparency. The second is the pressure on accreditation to provide more leadership for change and innovation. The third is the growing role of the federal government in what has heretofore been the core work and primary responsibility of accreditation: judging academic quality.

For example, the demand for accountability is coming from many actors: the media, think tanks, the government, and students. Also, the federal government has a powerful and growing influence on accreditation and institutions through judging quality.

The article can be obtained at https://agb.org/trusteeship-article/trends-in-accreditation-what-matters-to-governing-boards/.

EDUCATION-EMPLOYMENT DISCONNECTS

A recent survey of students, parents, and employers indicates that real world skills are more important than ever. The Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation commissioned the first national survey to understand perspectives on the future of education and work. Seventy percent of adults surveyed reported that high school graduates in the 1950s and 1980s were prepared to succeed in the workforce, but only 49 percent believe that students graduating from high school today are "somewhat" prepared to succeed.

Adults and students also recognize the workforce is changing. Eighteen percent of adults surveyed believe their job won't exist in 20 years, and 26 percent of high school students believe the job they will hold in 20 years hasn't been invented yet. A conclusion reached is that it is time to rethink education so that it can better prepare students for the future of work.