

ASAHP UPDATE

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ASAHP ELECTION RESULTS

Following a high level of participation in the Association's 2008 election, the results have been tabulated. Candidates were notified personally by the Chairperson of the Nominations and Elections Committee. The following individuals were successful in their bid to obtain an elected position:

President Elect

Gregory H. Frazer (Dean, Duquesne University) was elected to a one-year term as President-Elect. He then will serve for two years as President and one year as Immediate Past-President.

Treasurer

Randall S. Lambrecht (Dean, University of Wisconsin at Milwaukee) will serve a two-year term as Treasurer.

Board of Directors

Barry S. Eckert (Dean, Long Island University-Brooklyn) will serve a three-year term on the Board of Directors.

P. Kevin Rudeen (Dean, University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center) will serve a three-year term on the Board of Directors.

Nominations & Election Committee

The following three individuals were selected for a two-year term:

Bethany A. Krom (Assistant Dean, Mayo Clinic College of Medicine)

Edward R. O'Connor (Dean, Quinnipiac University)

Sharon R. Stewart (Associate Dean, University of Kentucky)

Terms of office for all these individuals become effective on November 1, 2008 immediately following the Annual Conference in Baltimore, MD. A special thanks is extended to these individuals and to all the other candidates for their continuing interest and support of the Association.

ASAHP AWARD WINNERS ANNOUNCED

Based on nominations that were reviewed and decided upon, the following individuals will be honored during the Awards Banquet at next month's Annual Conference in Baltimore, MD on October 30.

Darrell Mase Presidential Citation

Cecil B. Drain (Dean, Virginia Commonwealth University)

Outstanding Member Board Award

David D. Gale (Dean, Eastern Kentucky University)

Distinguished Service and Achievement Award

Marcia Brand (Administrator, Bureau of Health Professions, HRSA)

Cultural Pluralism Award

Randall S. Lambrecht (Dean, University of Wisconsin at Milwaukee)

Fellows Program Award

Richard E. Talbott (Dean, University of South Alabama)

Lori Stewart Gonzalez (Dean, University of Kentucky)

James B. Erdmann (Dean, Thomas Jefferson University)

J. Warren Perry Award for Best Article in the Journal of Allied Health

Charles R. Fox (Associate Dean, Wichita State University)

INSTITUTIONAL PROFILE SURVEY

Data collection for this year's iteration of the annual study began on September 8. As of today, 27 schools have begun to provide information. The deadline for participating is **October 31, 2008**. Technical assistance is available in the form of an auto-tutorial that was created several months ago. This highly valuable tool can be accessed from the moving scroll section on the right-hand portion of the website at www.asahp.org.

HEALTH POLICY FELLOWSHIPS

The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and Prevention's National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS) and AcademyHealth are seeking applications for their *2009 Health Policy Fellowship*. The fellowship allows visiting scholars to conduct new and innovative analyses, participate in health policy activities related to the design and content of future NCHS surveys, and offers access to the data resources provided by the CDC.

Applicants may be at any stage in their careers from doctoral students to senior investigators. The duration of the full-time fellowship is 13-24 months and salaries are commensurate with qualifications and experience. The application deadline is **January 7, 2008**. Additional information about the fellowship and eligibility criteria are on the Web at www.academyhealth.org/nchs/.

ASAHP ANNUAL CONFERENCE

As of this morning, 221 individuals have registered for the Association's Annual Conference in Baltimore, MD at the end of this month. Following the event, a one-day research symposium is scheduled for November 1 and 65 persons have registered for it. Both figures are quite good in comparison to similar offerings in previous years.

Each year, contracts have to be signed for meetings that will occur two to four years in the future. Projections have to be made about the number of lodging rooms that will be filled. If the quota is not met, ASAHP has to pay for each unfilled room. A wrong guess can lead to a loss of \$10,000 to \$20,000. The reverse problem is that too few rooms are reserved. Every attendee who registers late is placed in the position of having to stay in another hotel and perhaps even pay a much higher rate.

In every case, contracts are made with hotels, but no planning committee has yet to decide what activities will occur at the conference. By the time those decisions are made, it may not be possible to do certain things because meeting room space is unavailable. Again, the reverse also occurs. Extra space can be inserted as a component of the contract, but if it is not used, then the vacancy requires a payment.

More than two years ago when the Baltimore contract was signed, there was no way of knowing how many would attend. Thus, it is most gratifying to know that the upcoming meeting should be one of the best ever.

COMMUNITY COLLEGES

According to a new *Working Paper* from the National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER), community colleges have become an important entryway for students intending to complete a baccalaureate degree. Yet, many skeptics question the viability of the transfer function and wonder whether students suffer a penalty for starting at a two-year institution.

This paper examines how the outcomes of community college entrants compare to similar students who initially entered four-year institutions within the Ohio public higher education system. Using a detailed dataset, outcomes for nine years are tracked and multiple strategies are employed to deal with selection issues: propensity score matching and instrumental variables.

The results suggest that straightforward estimates are significantly biased, but even after accounting for selection, students who initially begin at a community college were 14.5 percent less likely to complete a bachelor's degree within nine years. The study was conducted by Bridget Terry Long of Harvard University and Michal Kurlaender of the University of California at Davis.

Many schools of allied health rely on community colleges to serve as feeder institutions that propel students into baccalaureate and higher degree programs. It would be of interest to determine whether students in the health sciences have the same degree of likelihood or something that is different from the standpoint of their ability to complete a bachelor's degree in nine years.

COMMITTEES AND /TASK FORCES

Chairpersons of ASAHP committees and task forces are reminded that yesterday was the deadline for submitting reports that describe what has occurred within their respective domains since the time of last year's annual conference. This information is of importance to the Board of Directors and for the production of the *Annual Report* later this month.

FAQ COMING SOON

ASAHP frequently acts as an intermediary by directing queries that an individual might have to other Association members. The message is entitled *Member Assistance*. Some questions are generic in nature. Responses sent to these items are being compiled and the results will appear on the Web in a new *FAQ* section, beginning next week.