

## ACCAHC Tuesday Letter: December 15, 2010

*Below and attached. Sent one or more Tuesdays of each month to ACCAHC leaders and project participants*

Hello ACCAHC Board Members, WG Members, Organizational Leaders, Advisers, Key Donors:

This is the **16th** Tuesday Letter sent with brief updates, events and hopefully useful information to you. We are sending bcc to limit your email. **If you wish to communicate something with the whole group, please let us know.** This letter is also attached.

### NUHS and Leo S. Guthman Fund Each Make \$30,000 Commitments to ACCAHC

- **National University of Health Sciences (NUHS) the First “Gold” donor to the ACCAHC Center for Optimal Integration** As announced first in the ACCAHC Annual Meeting December 1, Jim Winterstein, DC, NUHS president, and his executive team have committed to **Gold level donor status** for the ACCAHC Center for Optimal Integration (COI). The first \$10,000 of the 3-year grant-pledge of \$30,000 has already arrived. This is a wonderful, energetic start to our efforts to create this go-to site for all stakeholders in optimal integration arena. *This follows NUHS’s generous \$10,000 grant to support the CEDR marketing in 2009. Many thanks, Jim and NUHS!*
- **Leo S. Guthman Fund Commits to 3 Additional Years as ACCAHC Sustaining Donor (\$30,000)** We were honored to hear last week from the Leo S. Guthman Fund, a private, Midwest-based charity, that the Fund will renew its ACCAHC Sustaining Donor Group commitment for 2011-2013, at \$10,000 a year. *This will bring the Guthman Fund’s total investment in our work to \$60,000 in the 6 year period from 2008-2013.* The commitment honors all the ACCAHC organizations committing to work together – and then seeing the work you all are accomplishing. Thanks to Beth Rosenthal, ACCAHC assistant director, for this connection.

### What a Definition Means: ACCAHC 2005 Input on “Integrative Medicine” Definition in Fox News Article Lauding the Field

The 2nd paragraph of a recent Fox News article ([Integrative Medicine May Be Just What the Doctor Ordered](#)) evidences work by ACCAHC board members and our colleagues with the Consortium of Academic Health Centers for Integrative Medicine (CAHCIM) in 2005. The definition of “integrative medicine” in the Fox article, taken directly from the CAHCIM site, includes the inter-professional amendment that ACCAHC leaders recommended to their CAHCIM colleagues: “ ... makes use of all appropriate therapeutic approaches, **health-care professionals and disciplines** to achieve optimal health and healing.” [Bolded words were included by CAHCIM leaders based on the ACCAHC recommendation.] The Fox News piece shows the ripple effects of an inter-professional agreement. Nice! New-comers to IM reading the piece will explicitly see the multidisciplinary nature of the field.

### ACCAHC Annual Membership Meeting Notes

ACCAHC’s Annual Membership Meeting was held December 1, 2010 with 30 people in attendance. David O’Byron chaired as Liza is in Sikkim, India, presenting on inter-professional education at a conference that featured the Dalai Lama. Attendees were: Beau Anderson; David O’Byron; Felicia Tomasko; Frank Nicchi; Guru Sandesh S. Khalsa; Heidi Schor; Horace Elliott; Jamey Wallace; Jan Schwartz; Jason Wright; Jennifer Brett; Karla Karapetian; Kathy Taromina; Kory Ward-Cook; Kristina

Conner; Marcia Prenguber; Mark Christianson; Mike Wiles; Molly Punzo; Pamela Snider; Rick Marinelli (ACCAHC nominee on the IOM Pain Committee); Stacy Gomes; Stan Dawson; William Meeker; Molly Punzo; Kory Ward-Cook; Frank Nicchi; John Weeks; Beth Rosenthal. Meeting notes are attached.

## IOM Pain Committee Update: Opportunity for Input on Key Strategic Directions

Rick Marinelli, ND, LAc, the ACCAHC nominee appointed to the [IOM Committee on Advancing Pain Research, Care and Education](#) will be asked for his perspective on the areas listed below of the Committee's inquiry. If you have suggestions, please send to [jweeks@accahc.org](mailto:jweeks@accahc.org) and I will pass them to Rick. The Committee's work, part of the [National Pain Care Policy Act of 2010](#), will lead to a report to the Department of Health & Human Services, the NIH and Congress. The Committee is charged to:

- Review and quantify the public health significance of pain, including the adequacy of assessment, diagnosis, treatment and management of acute and chronic pain in the United States. This effort will take a comprehensive view of chronic pain as a biological, biobehavioral, and societal condition.
- Identify barriers to appropriate pain care and strategies to reduce such barriers, including exploring the importance of individualized approaches to diagnosis and treatment of pain.
- Identify demographic groups and special populations, including older adults, individuals with co-morbidities, and cognitive impairment, that may be disparately undertreated for pain, and discuss related research needs, barriers particularly associated with these demographic groups, and opportunities to reduce such barriers.
- Identify and discuss what scientific tools and technologies are available, what strategies can be employed to enhance training of pain researchers, and what interdisciplinary research approaches will be necessary in the short- and long-term to advance basic, translational, and clinical pain research and improve the assessment, diagnosis, treatment and management of pain.
- Discuss opportunities for public-private partnerships in the support and conduct of pain research, care, and education.

Ideas? Send them to [jweeks@accahc.org](mailto:jweeks@accahc.org) to forward to Rick. Thanks. Subsequent meetings are planned for early January, February and March.

## WHO Publishes "Training Benchmarks" for TCM, Naturopathy, Ayurveda, others

The World Health Organization (WHO) has published "Benchmarks for Training in Traditional, Complementary and Alternative Medicine." The PDF file documents relate to the following fields: Traditional Chinese Medicine, Naturopathy, Tuina, Unani Medicine, Nuad Thai, Osteopathy and Ayurveda. Information is [available here](#).

## Member Announcements

- **Alliance for Massage Therapy Education Engages Teacher Standards Project** ACCAHC Associate Member the [Alliance for Massage Therapy Education](#) has announced the launch of a **National Teacher Education Standards Project**. Executive director Rick Rosen, LMT, shares that the project's purpose is to "strengthen and improve the quality of massage therapy education by developing and implementing competency standards for teachers across the continuum of entry-level, continuing education and advanced training programs." A white paper on the background, scope and rationale for this project can be accessed from [this direct link](#). The announcement followed publication of a survey of the profession's educators, the results of which are [available here](#).

- **CNME, ND Accreditation Group, Announces 5 Year USDE Renewal** Dan Seitz, JD, executive director of the Council on Naturopathic Medical Education (CNME) shares the following news with the ACCAHC community:

“CNME’s latest re-recognition hearing happened just this past Wednesday: **Rita Bettenburg** [CNME president; ACCAHC EWG; primary care project] and I appeared before the National Advisory Committee for Institutional Quality and Integrity (NACIQI), which is the second-to-last step in the renewal of CNME’s recognition as an accrediting agency by the U.S. Dept. of Education (USDE). We may have set a record for the shortest hearing ever: after a few brief presentations, the NACIQI members voted unanimously to recommend that the Assistant Sect’y for Post Secondary Education renew CNME’s recognition for five years—the longest time allowed; also, they determined that CNME is in full compliance with their regulations. The whole hearing process took about five minutes. The Assistant Secretary now has 90 days on which to act on the NACIQI recommendation. We anticipate this final step will go smoothly ... A word of thanks to Rita: she has done a terrific job leading the Council.” Seitz also thanks **Karen Howard** [AANMC executive director] and **David Matteson**: [AANMC consultant]: “They have over the years cultivated a positive relationship with senior staff inside the U.S. Dept. of Education, and have made USDE staff aware of the profound difference between the ND programs we accredit and the abbreviated and diploma mill programs that generate so-called ‘traditional naturopaths.’”

- **Invitation to Association of Chiropractic Colleges-Research Agenda Conference** Top educator-researcher annual meeting in the “CAM” world, drawing some 450, mainly from the chiropractic field. Integration theme this year. CWG member and primary care project lead Bill Meeker, DC, MPH was involved in planning; John Weeks will be part of a panel. Las Vegas, March 18-19, 2011.
- **Call for Presentations: SYTAR** John Kepner sends notices that submissions deadline for the Symposium on Yoga Therapy Research is January 5. The Symposium will be held September 23-25, 2011.

## Media/Publications

- **Robert Wood Johnson Foundation pushes inter-professional education** [“Interprofessional education promotes safety, quality of care, experts say”](#) is the name of the November 23, 2010 article on the RWJF site. Focus is on nurses and MDs.
- **IPE article on communication in conventional/CAM** EWG member Stacy Gomes, EdD sends notices of this article: “Bridging the physician and CAM practitioner communication gap: Suggested framework for communication between physicians and CAM practitioners based on a cross professional survey from Israel.” The researchers found that “a framework for advancing MD-CAM practitioner communication is feasible.” [Abstract available here.](#)

## CAHCIM & Conventional Academic Medicine News

*These notes, unless otherwise stated, are from the CAHCIM E-News which is shared with ACCAHC.*

- **Acupuncturists granted privileges in advanced reproductive medicine** Ben Meyerhoff reports that acupuncturists have been granted privileges to the embryo transfer (IVF) suite in the Operating Room of the University of Colorado Hospital: “We are now coordinating on-call TCM care with the Endocrinologists of Advanced Reproductive Medicine and on the date of embryo transfer we are performing acupuncture before and after that procedure to increase the embryo’s chances to become a baby.”
- **Two integrative MD fellowship opportunities** One is a focus on TCM at UCLA Center for East West Medicine. The other focuses on integrative services to the under-served, via Beth Israel Medical Center/Albert Einstein College of Medicine.

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## EVENTS & CONFERENCES

- **International Integrative Care**, Amsterdam, March 11-12, 2011 ACCAHC Council of Advisers members Richard “Buz” Cooper and Adi Haramati are involved. For details and registration [click here](#).
- **ACCAHC Biennial Meeting June 26-28, 2011** Many of you are now or will soon be planning your budgets for 2011. Get the ACCAHC Biennial Meeting in your planners and in your budgets!
- **[Collaborating Across the Borders III](#), November 19-21, 2011**. The Center for Interprofessional Education and the American Interprofessional Health Collaborative are pleased to announce Collaborating Across Borders III. This major conference on interprofessional education will take place on November 19-21, 2011 in Tuscon, AZ.
- **North American Research Conference on Complementary and Integrative Medicine: [May 15-18, 2012](#)**

Here’s hoping you find this efficient and useful. Let me know if you have information to report or ideas for how the Tuesday Letter might better serve you.

John

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