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EDITOR:

TAMMY WELCHERT

Letter from the President

Several years ago the parent of a prospective Capital University student asked me what made our health professions program so strong. In addition to some of the standard responses (great caring faculty, opportunities for students, etc) I mentioned that it was also the great resources, knowledge, and access to information that came with being active in CAAHP and NAAHP. I noted that when a question arose about the application process that I could pick up the phone and talk directly to someone at any of the application services because they provided wonderful direct contact information for NAAHP advisors. I mentioned the advisor portals that most of the associations maintain, and their wealth of great, first-hand information. The parent was amazed, and pumped me for much more information about NAAHP. Only after I had extolled the virtues of the organization, the fabulous conferences, and the great advisors and advisory council members, did she disclose that she had been a high school guidance counselor for several years. She left that job because she felt like a lone ranger, struggling to find the kinds of information that her students needed to be successful. She wished she had the kind of support that CAAHP / NAAHP provides, and she was thrilled that I was an active part of it. Her daughter came to Capital University, graduated near the top of her class, and is now a medical resident.

CAAHP continues to be healthy and strong, and continues to provide these vital resources to our members. In troubled economic times, when universities are cutting back on memberships and travel (among other things), it is a testament to the organization that the programs and resources (such as the regional and national meetings, information received from our national Advisory Council partners, and relationships with admissions offices at most of the health professions schools in the country) are seen as valuable and worthwhile enough to scrounge for membership dollars.

As we approach the national conference in Atlanta this June, I hope each member of CAAHP has it on the calendar and is planning to attend. Many of you have asked for travel assistance and we will do our best to accommodate as many advisors as possible. The program, as usual, will be outstanding, with many new elements and many tried and true favorites. The CAAHP annual business meeting and elections will take place at our regional breakfast. I'm sure the parent mentioned above will be happy to know I (and many of you) will be attending.

To each and every member of CAAHP, I thank you for all you do each day on behalf of the students in your care.

I hope to see all of you in Atlanta!

Kerry Cheesman
CAAHP President



June
16-20,
2010

NAAHP-Atlanta Here We Come!

Please join your colleagues and professional school representatives for one of the best national meetings ever! The planning committee, headed by Program Chair Scott Wright from UT Dallas, has been working diligently behind the scenes to provide you with a stand-out program. Highlights include a plenary AAMC/HHMI Committee report session regarding premed competencies, concurrent session focus areas on advising special student populations such as first generation students, students returning from the military, etc. In addition, sessions such as “The Millennium Generation,” “Uses and Abuses of Social Networking Websites,” and a “Students of Concern” panel will be timely sessions you’ll not want to miss! School tours will be at Emory University, Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine (Georgia campus), Life University of Chiropractic Medicine, and more.



The conference will be held at the Atlanta Marriott Marquis (Room rate \$155/single/double), and reservations can be made here: https://resweb.passkey.com/Resweb.do?mode=welcome_ei_new&eventID=1462022

Hotel description: “Taking sophistication and service to new heights, the Atlanta Marriott Marquis paints a picture of prestige with its soaring 50-story atrium. Conveniently located in the heart of downtown Atlanta’s Peachtree Center, there’s no better choice for the Atlanta-bound business, leisure and meeting guest. The Atlanta Marriott Marquis is a dramatic convention hotel in the heart of Atlanta’s Peachtree Center.”

To view the preliminary general program outline: http://www.naahp.org/2010meeting/pdf/NAAHP_Meeting_2010_PreliminaryProgram.pdf
(A more detailed program will be available in April.)

Advisor Member Meeting Registration is now open!

- \$245.00* -- Early Registration Period: 2/8/10 - 3/21/10
- \$295.00* -- Standard Registration Period: 3/22/10 - 5/2/10
- \$350.00* -- Late Registration Period: 5/3/10 - 5/31/10
- 6/1/2010 --Online Registration Closed
- \$370.00-- On-Site Registration: 6/16/10 - 6/20/10

Registration is available at the NAAHP Web site: <http://www.naahp.org/>. Please note you will need your NAAHP password to access the registration site.

-Gail Robinson
Southern Illinois University-Carbondale
NAAHP 2010 Planning Committee Member



Father Joseph L. Walter Award Nominations

Nomination for the Fr. Joseph L. Walter Award for Outstanding Advising is open to all members of the CAAHP.

If you have someone in mind (including yourself!) who you believe is deserving of this special honor, please submit that name to Jim Foster at foster.34@nd.edu by April 15th, 2010.

The selection of the recipient of the Fr. Joseph L. Walter Award is based on several criteria. Among them are:

- the creation and development of advising tools (web pages, books, bulletins, handouts, etc.) that are now used by other advisors
- the sharing of best practices with the advising community
- the publication of advising articles in *The Advisor* or other journals
- outstanding research in the area of advising
- presentations given at national or central meetings of the Association or at other professional conferences
- mentorship of new advisors
- the receipt of external funds for new advising projects
- the creation of external partnerships
- letters of recommendation from peers, students, and supervisors



Father Joseph, L. Walter

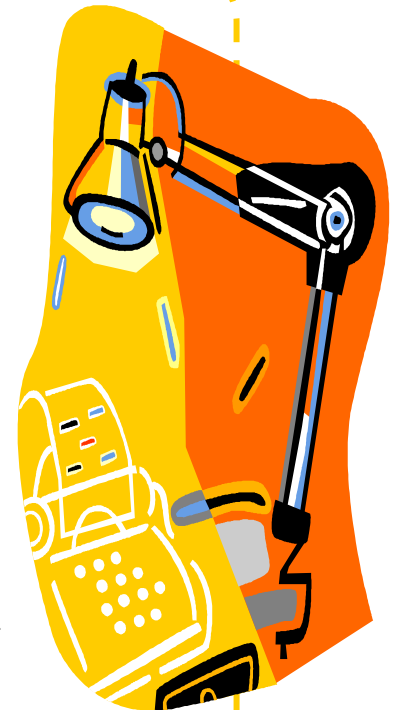
CAAHP Board of Directors Elections

During the CAAHP Business Meeting in Atlanta this June we will be electing **two CAAHP Board Members-At-Large**. Members-At-Large are elected to a three-year term.

Service on the Board of Directors involves two board meetings each year (in the fall and again in the spring or summer in conjunction with that year's regional or national meeting). Members also communicate in the spring via a conference call. Other communication is via phone or e-mail, as needed.

Members-At-Large typically volunteer for places on one of the CAAHP committees: Communications, Membership/Mentoring, and Grants. At-Large members have the chance to further develop their leadership skills, and to explore additional leadership opportunities within CAAHP.

If you would like to nominate someone for one of these Member-At-Large positions (self-nominations are also acceptable), or if you have questions about the position, please send an e-mail to Chuck Hauck, Chair, Nominating Committee: charles-hauck@uiowa.edu We will also invite nominations from the floor at the business meeting.



NAAHP Membership Report

Seventy-two new advisors from underrepresented groups have joined NAAHP this year through grant support from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. The RWJ grant, which is also supported by the AAMC and ADEA, provides initial memberships for advisors from Historically Black Colleges, Hispanic-Serving Institutions and Tribal Colleges, among others.

The new advisors were welcomed through correspondence from Susan Maxwell, NAAHP Executive Director. Regional presidents have also received contact information for the new advisors to provide a welcome of their own. Of the group, twelve are members of CAAHP.

Due in large part to these additional new members, NAAHP membership remains strong at 1,084 advisor members, up 20 members from Dec. 2008. However, certainly the tough economy and reduced funding support at some of our member institutions has prevented some members from continuing in NAAHP. We continue to look for ways to support the membership and are encouraged by the response to the Travel Grant program, which will help fund advisor travel to the National Meeting in Atlanta this summer for advisors who do not have sufficient travel support from their home institutions.

The economy has undoubtedly had some effect on the renewals of our patron members as well. Patron membership stood at 368 at the end of 2008, aided by the timing of the National Meeting in Chicago in the summer of that year. Since then, patron membership has declined to 310 members. We expect patron membership to increase with the coming of the National Meeting in Atlanta, though how significant the boost will be is unclear at this time.

The project of working with National office staff to upgrade the NAAHP database is ongoing. Computility, the software solutions company contracted to provide services to NAAHP has been working with National office staff on training and instruction and the new database is currently operational. Plans include an on-line directory, which is expected to replace the current printed directory. Also in the works is a transition to a new NAAHP website. The changes will allow NAAHP to enhance the delivery of services to NAAHP members and constituents.

Chuck Hauck, Chair, NAAHP Membership Committee

Seventy-two new advisors from underrepresented groups have joined NAAHP this year through grant support from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation.

Collaboration Corner

Have you been thinking about a project or some aspect of advising that you would like to explore or study? Chances are other advisors are thinking about the same thing.

Projects can be overwhelming and you may feel like you don't have the expertise needed for the study you want to do.....

Why not join heads and work in collaboration with another adviser?

Would you like to have an adviser from the sciences work with you? How about an adviser from a small liberal arts school?

With all the members of CAAHP the opportunities are endless. If you have an idea and would like some assistance in finding others who are interested in working with you email James Johnson at jjohnso@luc.edu or Chuck Hauck at charles-hauck@uiowa.edu.



Collaboration: What can we work on together?

CAAHP Membership Report

Greetings from your CAAHP Membership and Mentoring Committees! CAAHP membership numbers continue to be strong and hover around the 300 mark. I am currently contacting those members who let their membership lapse during the 2009 year. We hope to either welcome those folks back into our midst, or if there has been a retirement or job change, introduce their counterparts to our organization and invite them to membership as well.

In terms of mentoring, I had a great response to our last newsletter article from new advisors looking for mentors. Fabulous – but now I need to put out a call to the more experienced advisors – **we need more mentors** in order to meet the demand of those requesting one. If you have been advising for a few years and you are ready to take on the role of helping newer colleagues acclimate to the profession, **please contact me ASAP about serving as a mentor**. Current mentors will tell you that the time commitment is not large & it is also an enjoyable experience. As mentors, we ask that you make yourself available to your “mentee” a few times a semester for the first year to see if he/she has questions and to just touch base. Some mentees will call/email with questions, while others appreciate hearing from you as well. I currently have 5 new advisors looking for a match – I hope to hear from prospective mentors and will then work to make these matches. To those folks who contacted me for a mentor, thanks for the patience....I am doing my best to find you one!

Heidi Lang, M.A., L.P.C.
Preprofessional Advisor, Michigan State University
CAAHP Membership & Mentoring Committees Chair
langhe@msu.edu

**We need
more
mentors!**

**To become a
mentor contact
Heidi Lang at
langhe@msu.edu**

CAAHP Travel Grant Update

CAAHP is again offering travel grants to support member attendance at the NAAHP National Meeting. The amount of \$7,000 was set aside to assist travel grant recipients with travel and hotel expenses to the National Meeting in Atlanta in June. Two e-mails were sent to the CAAHP membership announcing the grants, and information about the grants was also posted to the CAAHP website. Travel grant applications closed Feb. 1st and 20 applications were received.

NAAHP also is awarding travel grants in the sum of \$22,000 and 57 applications have been received at the national level. Applicants were encouraged to apply for both regional and national grants to maximize their chances of receiving funding; however, applicants are only eligible to receive one award in order to ensure that as many advisors receive funding as possible.

The CAAHP Travel Grant Committee will be conferring to discuss travel grant selection and results will be communicated to applicants no later than April 5th. CAAHP was the first region to offer travel grants and is pleased to once again offer this benefit to the membership.





State Highlights

CAAHP is composed of professionals from colleges and universities in a twelve state region. Included in our region are Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, Ohio, North Dakota, South Dakota, and Wisconsin.

This newest section of the newsletter is designed to share information and allow advisers from each state or from surrounding states to see what other advisers are doing. If you have program announcements or would like to share information on programs, seminars, general advising, or professional development please send the information with your contact information to Tammy Welchert, Chair of Communications at welchertt@umkc.edu.



We worked with the U. of Iowa Carver School of Medicine to do an admissions conference here in December, and I've had email contact with Ed Weston at Wartburg who gave me some very useful advice about setting up our first MCAT review

course this summer.

At the University of Dubuque, we have no pre-med organization as such. I am the main advisor for about 6 pre-med students per year, and our nursing program advises about 40 pre-nursing students per year. We have very few students with other health-profession plans who are advised individually.

Bill Karkow, MD (Fellow, American College of Surgeons - retired)
Assoc. Professor - Biology University of Dubuque wkarkow@dbq.edu
563-589-3143



We have a Pre-Health Club at Nebraska Wesleyan University. With 1500 students on our campus, there are approximately 150 members of this club. We organize panel discussions, invite guest speakers from various professions, visit schools, and do a small amount of volunteering. We would love to hear about how other groups encourage volunteering as well as other activities their clubs do.

Cindy Marolf, Chair, Pre-Health Committee
Nebraska Wesleyan University, (402) 465-2450,





Greetings from University of Michigan! You may want to know that a good number of advisors in the state of Michigan gathered at Michigan State University in Lansing, MI, early last fall, to get acquainted with each other, discuss common issues and devise ways to improve communication among ourselves. The meeting was organized by Heidi Lang, pre-health advisor at MSU. We committed to meet at least annually at rotating locations. In the meantime, to facilitate communication, we have created an online resource called MIAHP Ctools site (Michigan Advisors for the Health Professions, housed at University of Michigan Ann Arbor) to help us share information about upcoming events, ask questions etc. (Incidentally, Ctools is an advanced web-based course and collaboration environment. Some of its features include access also for non University of Michigan affiliates, opportunity to easily e-mail all group members, a real-time chat option, email notification for announcements and resources uploaded to the site, etc.) Pre-health advisors in the state of Michigan who wish to join the MIAHP can e-mail Mariella Mecozzi <mmecozzi@umich.edu> to join the Ctools site.



Mariella Mecozzi, University of Michigan, mmecozzi@umich.edu

On the Ann Arbor campus, we also have a group called PHAF, the pre-health advisor's forum. This group of individuals meets 5-6 times per year to share ideas, best practices, concerns, etc. as relates to the actual advising or the myriad of conversations we have with pre-health students. We interact with students in different ways, depending on our role(s) with students.

Peggy Zitek, Ph.D.
University of Michigan-Ann Arbor, pzitek@umich.edu



Last spring John Carroll University launched a new course called Survey of Health Professions, which has been a great way to organize speakers coming in to represent various healthcare professions. The students get to ask questions and get some first hand information about the profession, the specific school or program, admissions requirements, and the like. For me, I do not have to continually cajole student to come hear a speaker because they now get 1 semester hour credit for attending. The word of mouth from last years groups has led to a full to over-flowing roster of students enrolled this year. It is great.

Gwen Kinebrew, Chair, Pre-Health Studies
John Carroll University, 216- 397-4491

I participate as a Pre-Med Advisor and a Pre-Med Committee member. I communicate with colleagues discussing scholarships and opinions on various topics like committee recommendation letter content through the Pre-Med Committee e-mail. The general advising department supports advising efforts with seminars and workshops.

Kathy Hughes

MISSOURI



At Missouri Western State University we partner extensively with the Northwest Missouri Area Health Education Center, housed here in St. Joseph at the Heartland Regional Medical Center. In fact, we published a description of this collaboration and some of the join programs

we sponsor in the September 2007 edition of The Advisor. Our local AHEC has been so valuable to us in helping coordinate everything from health professions panel discussions, to admissions night, to interview skills events, to mock MCAT/DAT days. We have a pre-health club (called the Pre-Professional Club) but it is routinely populated by only 20 to 30 students. The AHEC help allows our students to experience so much more than our club or our advisors alone could provide. At Missouri Western we have 4 faculty in the sciences who focus on advising pre-health students.

Jason C. Baker, Ph.D., Missouri Western State University
816-271-4380, jcbaker@missouriwestern.edu

There are currently only two PreHealth advisors at our university. We meet every week, plus we are in constant communication every day. We have gone to Med School Day at Mizzou. They invite preprofessional health advisors from pretty much all of the universities in Missouri. It is a good time for us to have discussions and network with other preprofessional health advisors in the state of Missouri. We also have met with Barbara Brown at UMSL School of Optometry. She has Pre-optometry workshops twice a year and we encourage our pre-optometry students to attend. We also meet regularly with all of the Saint Louis University advisors for all of the colleges and also with Honors advisors and Pre-Law advisors.

The Pre-professional Health Studies office advises undergraduate students who plan to continue on to schools of medicine, dentistry, optometry, podiatry, and veterinary medicine. Pre-professional Health Studies offers :

- A full-time advising office - help when you need it
- Help tailoring your class load to fit your abilities and schedule
- Courses for students interested in medicine and other helping professions
- An active student club with opportunities for service and volunteering at medically related sites

Medical Scholars

With a qualifying ACT or SAT score and an outstanding high school record, students also can apply to [SLU's Medical Scholars](#) program. If you complete the program's requirements, you could be notified of your admission to SLU's School of Medicine as early as the summer before your junior year.

Donna Nonnenkamp, Saint Louis University
Preprofessional Health Studies Program Coordinator
Phone 314-977-2840, email nonnendj@slu.edu



For the past ten years, we have held an annual pre-med/pre-health advisor meeting on the first Friday in May. The event is typically held at one of our two medical schools (UW Madison School of Medicine & Public Health or the Medical College of Wisconsin),

but the Marquette University School of Dentistry has also hosted our meeting. Our meetings are organized alternately by either myself (UW Milwaukee Pre-med/Pre-Professional Advising Office) or my wonderful colleague and counter-part at UW Madison, Dr. Consuelo Lopez Springfield, depending upon where the event is going to be.



Pre-Med/Pre-Health advisors from the State of Wisconsin are invited to attend a day long series of presentations by the medical schools, dental school and other professional health programs (e.g. Pharmacy, Physician Assistant, Veterinary Medicine, etc.). It gives us a great opportunity to connect with our colleagues, get updated program information from the professional schools, and discuss ideas and hot topics. Please feel free to provide my name and contact information in the CAAHP Newsletter!

Patty Cobb, M.S., Senior Student Services Coordinator
UW Milwaukee. pacobb@uwm.edu



I meet with alumni and students for professional/graduate school planning, application review and professional school mock interviews. I facilitate a wide range of workshops on further education.



Pam Waechter, Career Services
University of Waterloo, 519 888 4567, ext. 35521, Waechter@uwaterloo.ca





The Health Careers Center at the University of Minnesota serves all undergraduate pre-health students (www.healthcareers.umn.edu). We offer students an amazing array of opportunities to build their portfolio for a health profession program. Students who are not sure what they are interested in can take either an in-person or on-line 1 credit course to Explore Health Professions. Students who are interested in medicine can take three consecutive courses all designed to support them in learning about the field of Medicine. The Future Physician course series include: Medicine in the 21st Century (taught by Dr. Prasad and myself); The Life and Work of a Physician (also taught by Dr. Prasad and myself with guest presenters each week from the medical school) and the final course Experiences in Medicine is a service-learning course where students get experience in a health setting.

In addition to courses, we have on-line non-credit short courses (most between 1-4 hours of content) that are focused on helping pre-health students prepare for application <http://www.healthcareers.umn.edu/shortcourses/home.html>. The Personal Statement short course, and the Interviewing for a Health Profession short courses help students on some very specific tasks. The Planning for Medical School short course was designed for students who didn't have the time or were not students at the UMTC to build an Action Plan for Medical School.

Tricia Todd, MPH, University of Minnesota, 612-624-6767, todd0002@umn.edu

We have a committee of four members who interview students who plan on entering medical school. These members are from the departments of biology, chemistry, physics and philosophy. Students suggest a list of persons they would like to have evaluate their character and personal abilities. A private interview is held between the student and a member of the team, if possible, someone the student did not have for class. Finally when all the information is completed, a committee interview is held with the student and the members of the committee. Following the interview, a committee letter is composed by one member of the committee and read by another member to make sure all the discussed material is included in the letter. This letter is sent to the medical schools the student wishes and a copy is kept on file. This procedure has worked well for the students over the years.

We are a small University in a rural area. Actually most of the biology faculty here are well prepared to advise pre-med students. We are very fortunate to have access to personnel at Mayo clinic and many of our students have internships in their labs during the summers. Some do research at Gundersen Lutheran Hospital in La Crosse. Research on the undergraduate level is required for graduation and it has been my thought that our graduates have skills that prepare them well for medical schools.

Dr. Clare Korte, Saint Mary's University of Minnesota, ckorte@smumn.edu



CAAHP ROCKS IN CLEVELAND -2011!

Hey you...yes you! Advisers, exhibitors, health professions schools.....trust us, you do not want to miss this meeting!

Start planning NOW! Mark your calendar, beg your boss, and plan your budget.

April 14-17, 2011

The Renaissance Hotel, Cleveland, Ohio

Top 10 Reasons to come to Cleveland for CAAHP:

10. Cleveland is an outstanding city
9. The place.....The Renaissance Hotel
8. Football....GO BIG BROWN!
7. Basketball....Go Cavaliers!
6. Baseball....Go Indians!
5. Rock and Roll Hall of Fame Museum
4. Concurrent Sessions: Application Workshop, Letters of Recommendation, MCAT News, and Hot Topics!
3. Plenary Sessions: Profession Updates, Keynote Address, and Business Meeting
2. Meet the Deans and Exhibitors: Schools, Post-Bacc Programs, Summer Opportunities
- #1. All the coolest people in town will be there (including YOU!)

*Mark your
calendar....
Beg your
boss....
Plan your
budget.....
You just
have to be
there!*



Reflections from a new adviser

Lessons Learned:

- 1) *Students cannot be what they do not know*
- 2) *Intimidated students cannot hear*
- 3) *Students speak a different language and advisers need to learn it*

*Janae Currington
Michigan State
University*

During my undergraduate years, I was the friend that always brought up the huge elephant in the room: “What is your major?” It did not take me long to realize that questions like these often came with an unspoken plea for assistance and guidance, light perspiration, mild stuttering, and a good view of the whites of my fellow students eyes. Having worked for the advising center since before my official first day of undergraduate classes as a freshman, I had picked up on a lot of helpful information that it seemed a lot of my fellow students were too intimidated to go ask for themselves. Not much has changed in the needs of students I work with today. Instead of my friends giving me the “deer in headlights” look when I ask about their career goals over lunch in the cafeteria, now I have perfect strangers giving me this look from the other side of my desk in my office. Parents are still hovering, students are still intimidated, and I have the wonderful task of calling their attention to the elephant that can still, somehow, fit in the room. Nevertheless, I have learned some important lessons about being an advisor to my students.

Students cannot be what they do not know – There is a rumor going around that doctors and dentists are the only health professions there are. For some of my students who have played sports, there are also physical therapists, but the buck stops there. Most of the “pre-med” students I have seen don’t know the variety of health professions there are for them to pursue or that they may even be better career fits for them, like occupational therapy, podiatry, child life specialists, public health or genetic counseling. I have learned to discuss these other health professions with all of my students claiming to want to go to medical school or dental school.

Intimidated students cannot hear – I have noticed that the more comfortable that my students are with communicating with me, the more they actually “hear” me and vice versa. As odd as it seems to me, for some of my students the mere thought of speaking to an “authority figure” is enough to break them out in a sweat. I have found that relating to students on their level is a way to engage them so that they will actually hear the advice that will help them rise to success. If they are uncomfortable, they will not come in for advising or they will come and not speak and in a profession where listening to students is just as important as talking to them, it is really important that they give all the details so that we as advisors can give them direction.

Students speak a different language...and advisers need to learn it. – Tweeting, texting, Facebooking, blogging: Sometimes the best advice takes under 140 characters to say. Some of the fastest responses I have gotten to messages I have sent to students have been from using some of these avenues instead of emails or even face-to-face conversation. I have learned that it is not necessarily how students are getting the message, but that they are actually getting it and know how to respond. It is my way of meeting them half-way in order to educate them. To put it in perspective, some of my students have had nothing but cordless phones, caller id, and voicemail in their homes. They don’t know that AOL had an email service before there was instant messaging and few have ever actually used a postal service to mail anything, including bills. We now live an electronic age so we need to use it to our advantage and as an opportunity to educate.

As this list continues to grow, I take pride in the work that I do. If my biggest challenge of the day is how to link a twitter account to a Facebook status that feeds into the pre-health blog so that my students can learn that there is more than just dental and medical school out there and feel comfortable enough to come and talk to me about these opportunities and facing that elephant in the room, then I am having a great day. I appreciate that I am finding new ways to connect with students and that I have the opportunity to be just as excited as my students are about learning new things.

Janae Currington
Preprofessional Advisor / Michigan State University
Jan 2008 - present

“A heckuva deal!”-NAAHP/CAAHP Membership

Faced with an outstanding student, academically sound, well-informed, experienced in altruistic activities, but with mediocre MCAT scores, his advisor sought counsel about how to advise him. Faced with another student, whose grades did not reflect her strong intellectual capacity because she had to work 20 hours a week to help pay her tuition, her advisor wondered, “Would her grades disqualify her?” Both of these advisors turned to their colleagues in the National Association of Advisors for the Health Professions (NAAHP) through its list-serve and with personal phone calls to medical school admissions officers and other undergraduate advisors whom they trusted. Though the first advisee said, “I don’t do well on standardized tests,” the advisor could tell him with reinforcement from his colleagues, “You need to do better and I know you can. Figure it out. Try these strategies...” The student did, got good scores and was admitted. And the second advisee learned that most admissions committees look at applicants holistically and consider not only grades but also the applicant’s personal journey. Much advising simply involves passing on information, but some, as in these two stories, involves more complex activity: acting as a teacher, guide and coach, and developing a relationship based on trust, honesty and mutual respect. That’s what makes our work so challenging...and so satisfying. But for their membership in NAAHP, the advisors could not have given sound advice reinforced by others’ experience to these students and others.

Many advisors are being asked to pay for their own memberships and are no longer being reimbursed by their home institutions. Even so, it’s a worthwhile expense, part of the cost of being a really good advisor. As one advisor who has always had to cover her membership fees observed, “I cannot imagine doing my job effectively without the organization.” NAAHP has over 900 health professions advisors at colleges and universities throughout the United States and is committed to the professional development of advisors for the health professions.

Here are some of the benefits:

- You are connected with a body of colleagues who understand, appreciate, and can support your work with pre-health professional students. It’s as if you have an infinite cadre of consultants, and it never hurts to get another opinion. And if you are new to advising, you can be connected, and develop a relationship, with a mentor from another institution.
- You have access to a national list-service (HLTHPROF) where advisors seek and offer advice.
- You receive complimentary copies of the admissions requirements books for MD, DO, and DDS schools, potentially useful every day.
- You receive quarterly editions of *The Advisor*, a valuable journal of articles on topics of interest to health professions advisors, among which are articles that span the health care professions—what they do, the admissions requirements for their schools, and the variety of opportunities for practice; describe in detail best practices in advising; examine and critique academic course requirements; and review books of use to your advisees.
- You receive discounted conference fees for NAAHP meetings.
- You develop professionally. You are afforded the opportunity to serve on regional and national boards, to make presentations at our conferences, to serve in a variety of other capacities at meetings (session moderator or facilitator, conference planning committee member, etc.), and to network with key individuals from the health professional schools associations, the schools themselves, and your colleagues from across the nation.

As they say in Minnesota, “A heckuva deal!”

Laurence Savett, University of St. Thomas, St. Paul, MN
Heidi Lang, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI

**“I cannot
imagine doing
my job
effectively
without the
organization.”**

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NAAHP Representative

Cassandra Flambouras, University of Chicago, flambouras@uchicago.edu

Save the Date-2011 CAAHP Meeting

April 14-17, 2011

Cleveland Renaissance Hotel

www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/clebr-renaissance-cleveland-hotel/

24 Public Square, Cleveland, OH 44113

Room rate \$132

CAAHP will host a joint meeting with the AAMC Central Group on Student Affairs