



The TSAHP Chronicle



A Publication of the Texas Society of Allied Health Professions

Vol. 28 No. 1 2006



IN THIS ISSUE

- TSAHP Strategic Plan
- Fall Conference 2006 announcement
- News from Texas

TSAHP Service to the Allied Health Professions of Texas since 1979



A LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Welcome to the #1 edition for 2006 of the TSAHP Chronicle. We have much to report, so I hope you will spend some time perusing this edition.

Refinement of the Strategic Plan

Based on feedback from the board and other members, the TSAHP strategic plan has been revised. While this is a living document which should change as education and health care in Texas change, we believe that this represents a clear direction for the organization. You will find the complete Strategic Plan outlined on page X. I think you will see that we have already taken steps to meet some of the goals that have been established.

Dialogue with Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB) staff

The TSAHP Board met with Dr. Kal Kallison, Acting Deputy Assistant Commissioner, Division of Academic Affairs and Research and Dr. Camille Pridgen, Program Director to discuss issues important to allied health, including the need for clinical doctorates in the allied health professions. Dr. Kallison was very generous in sharing with us staff-developed slides which described possible criteria for degree expansion. See page X for this criteria.



Susan Sportsman Ph.D.
2005 –2006 TSAHP President

Outreach to Community College Allied Health Programs

Paula Mitchell, Dean of Allied Health at El Paso Community College and Cynthia A. Casparis, Dean of Science, Health and Mathematics of Odessa College served as an ad hoc committee to develop an outreach plan for community colleges. Letters introducing the work of TSAHP will soon be sent to Presidents of non-member community colleges and emails to Deans of Allied Health programs will soon follow. As you work with schools in your area who are not members of TSAHP, please invite them to join us.

Planning for the Annual Meeting in Dallas in September, 2006

Plans are already underway for an outstanding meeting in Dallas next fall. See page X for more details. I would encourage all of you to nominate your students for scholarships and apply for research funding. This is a major benefit to membership of TSAHP and we want everyone to take advantage of these opportunities.

Thank you to each of you for the work you do in improving the state of allied health in Texas. Together, we make a difference.

The listing below, presents the issues and possible criteria that the Coordinating Board staff consider to be important in the decision making process, concerning Clinical Doctorates in Texas: An important meeting of the THECB was held on March 28th, in Austin, at which the TSAHP President was invited to attend. The THECB staff presented their views on the issue, along with comments from various stakeholders. It is expected that the THECB will make a decision shortly, on this important issue and this will be reported in the next (#2) issue of the Chronicle.

Issues and Possible Criteria for Degree Expansion Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board Staff

- New degree is required for accreditation or licensure.
- New degree makes clear distinction in skills and scope of practice between graduates at different levels.
- Empirical evidence shows that more education results in significantly better patient outcomes.
- New degree has consistent curriculum across programs.
- Employers want graduates with new degree.
- New degree would not exacerbate professional shortages or reduce the number of underrepresented practitioners in the field.
- Implementation plan addresses previous graduates in field.
- Status quo would result in loss of students to other states or private institutions.
-

TSAHP Board of Directors 2005 - 2006



President

Susan Sportsman, Ph.D.
Dean, College of Health
Sciences & Human Services
Midwestern State University
3410 Taft Boulevard
Wichita Falls, Texas 76308
Tel: (940) 397-4594 Fax: (940) 397-4513
E-mail: susan.sportsman@mwsu.edu



President Elect

Robin Satterwhite, Ed.D.
Associate Dean
Learning Outcomes and Technologies
Texas Tech University, Health Science Center
3601 4 Street, Lubbock, TX 79430
Phone: 806-743-2262, Fax: 806-743-3244
E-mail: robin.satterwhite@ttuhsc.edu



Past President

Giovanni De Domenico, Ph.D.
Chair, Department of Physical Therapy
UT Health Science Center at San Antonio
7703 Floyd Curl Drive, MSC:6247
San Antonio, Texas 78284-3900
Tel: (210) 567-8762 Fax: (210) 567-8774
E-mail: dedomenico@uthscsa.edu



Vice President

Bruce Reed, Ph.D.
Program Coord., Rehabilitation Services
University of Texas Pan American
1201 W. University Drive
Edinburg, Texas 78539
Tel: (956)316-7038 Fax: (956)318-5237
E-mail: bjreed@panam.edu



Executive Director

Lynn Verret

Office of Admissions,
School of Allied Health Sciences
University of Texas Medical Branch
301 University Blvd.
Galveston, Texas 77555-1028
Tel: (409) 772-3090 Fax: (409)747-1624
E-mail: lverret@utmb.edu



Secretary

Paula Mitchell, Ph.D.

Dean, Health Occupations, Math & Science
Campus Dean, Rio Grande Campus
El Paso Community College
P.O. Box 20500
El Paso, Texas 79998
Phone: (915) 831-4030 Fax: (915) 831-4131
E-mail: paulam@epcc.edu



Treasurer

Richard Rahr Ph.D.

Professor and Chair
Physician Assistant Studies
School of Allied Health Sciences
University of Texas Medical Branch
at Galveston, Texas 77555-1145
Tel: (409) 772-3047 Fax: (409) 772-971
E-mail: mailto:rrahr@utmb.edu



**Member at Large
Chair, Nominating Committee**

Donna D. (De De) Gardner, MSHP

Assistant Prof., Dept. of Respiratory Care
School of Allied Health Sciences
UT Health Science Center at San Antonio
7703 Floyd Curl Drive
San Antonio, Texas 78284-3900
Tel: (210) 567-8859 Fax: (210) 567-8852
E-mail: gardnerd@uthscsa.edu



**Member at Large
Chair, Research Committee**

Larry J. Petterborg, Ph.D.

Professor, School of Physical Therapy
Texas Woman's University
8194 Walnut Hill Lane
Dallas, Texas 75231-4365

Phone: (214) 706-2460 Fax: (214) 706-2361

E-mail: lpetterborg@twu.edu



**Member at Large
Chair, Nominating Committee**

Kathy Voigt Geurink, M.A., RDH

Associate Professor, Dept. of Dental Hygiene
School of Allied Health Sciences
UT Health Science Center at San Antonio
7703 Floyd Curl Blvd., MSC 6248
San Antonio, Texas 78229-3900

Phone: (210) 567-8829 Fax: (210) 567-8852

E-mail: geurink@uthscsa.edu

Texas Society of Allied Health Professions

MISSION

The Texas Society of Allied Health Professions is a professional organization dedicated to enhancing and promoting education, research and clinical practice of allied health within the state.

GOALS

- To serve as a unified voice for allied health in the state.
 - To represent mutual interests of allied health educators, practitioners, and students in legislative, professional, health planning, and consumer affairs.
 - To promote multidisciplinary liaison and cooperation in allied health fields.
 - To serve as a forum/platform for discussion of issues and trends for allied health fields.
 - To provide an opportunity for educational institutions, professions, organizations, practitioners, students, and others concerned with allied health to exchange ideas on matters of mutual concern.
 - To advance public awareness and marketability of allied health care.
 - To offer venues for exchange of information and collaborative enterprise among allied health professionals and programs within the state.
 - To develop leaders in allied health for the 21st century.
-
-

The Zone Important information about TSAHP is placed in this box

2006 Memberships - Now Due

Annual Dues notification for 2004 will come by e-mail

Individual Membership - \$35.00

Institutional Membership - \$300.00

Student Membership - \$5.00



2006 Annual Conference

**The TSAHP 2006 Annual Conference will be held on September 28th and 29th
at the Denton Campus of the Texas Women's University in Dallas.**

The conference theme will be:

Allied Health in Texas: Developing a Vision

The conference will include presentations in the broad areas of:

Education - Research - Clinical Practice.

An official 'Call for Papers' will be posted on the TSAHP Website and will also appear in the next issue of the Chronicle newsletter. Members are encouraged to consider submitting a contribution to present at the conference as early as possible. Both Poster and Platform presentations are invited.

TSAHP

Catch the Fever - Join us Today !

A Note from the Past President

Dear Colleagues:

It's hard to believe that Spring Break has come and gone once again and Easter will soon be here. 2006 seems to be disappearing at an alarming rate. Nonetheless, your TSAHP board continues to work hard in planning for the future. As you can see from the President's remarks, we are poised to play a significant role in the future development of Allied Health in Texas. I think it was very clear from our meeting at the Coordinating Board, that TSAHP is in a very good position to play a major role in developing the vision for Allied Health in our State. The 2006 Fall conference promises to be a very important conference in this respect, so I urge you all to mark your calendars and join us at the TWU campus in Dallas.



Giovanni De Domenico Ph.D.
2004 – 2005
TSAHP President

Over recent years, the Board has discussed the roles and duties of the Past President and we have determined that one of the main tasks for the Past President is ensure that TSAHP follows it's By-laws. This also means that the Past President will bring any necessary By-law changes to the Board for discussion. Eventually, any proposed changes to the By-laws will come before the members for ratification at an Annual General Meeting of TSAHP. Over the past few years, the Board has considered some changes to the By-laws and these will be published in the next issue of the Chronicle and then presented to members at the Fall conference in Dallas. Most of the changes are minor and reflect the rapid rate of technological change that we have seen in recent times.

Finally, as we speed towards the end of the Spring semester and yet another successful graduation for our various professions, I send them and you, many congratulations and all good wishes for the future.

Giovanni De Domenico Ph.D.

TEXAS SOCIETY OF ALLIED HEALTH PROFESSIONS STRATEGIC PLAN

VISION

By 2010, the Texas Society of Allied Health Professions will be the recognized organization to represent the collective interests of the Allied Health professions in Texas.

MISSION

The mission of the Texas Society of Allied Health Professions is to enhance and promote education, research, service and clinical practice of allied health professionals within the state of Texas

GOALS

1. To serve as a unified voice for allied health education in the state of Texas.

- Improve communication among TSAHP members through:
 - a. Provision of links to the Chronicle on emails that announce its posting.
 - b. Use of Postalnet.com to announce annual meetings.
 - c. Solicitation of feedback from members regarding the proposed strategic plan.
- Reach out to Allied Health programs in community colleges by:
 1. Developing an ad hoc committee to plan for outreach.
 2. Sending TSAHP literature to all allied health programs in community colleges.

2. To represent the mutual interests of allied health educators, practitioners, and students in legislative, professional, health planning and consumer affairs by serving as a forum/platform for the discussion of issues and trends.

- a. Dialogue with Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board by:
 - a. Inviting THECB representatives to meet with the TSAHP Board during the January, 2006 board meeting in Austin.
 - b. Inviting THECB staff to participate in the annual meeting each fall.
 - c. Use publicly available data to document the need for allied health professionals in the future.
- Advocate with the Texas Legislature for legislature which supports the growth of allied health education and practice.

3. *To promote multidisciplinary cooperation in allied health education in the state by providing venues for exchange of information and collaborative enterprise.*

- Increase the participation of Texas Allied Health Deans by:
 - a. Providing special meetings just prior to the annual meeting designed particularly for Deans to discuss issues of special concern.
- Advocate for processes which encourage the articulation of students from one level of education to another.
- Expand the use of advanced technology and distance education methodology to provide allied health education to all eligible students by:
 - a. Focusing on technology and teaching as a component of the annual meeting and other member communication.

4. *To provide an opportunity for educational institutions, professions, organizations, practitioners, students and others concerned with allied health education to exchange ideas of matters of mutual concern*

- Provide an opportunity at the annual meetings to include an opportunity for:
 - a. Deans to meet together.
 - b. Discipline-specific representatives to identify common issues to be addressed.
 - c. Discipline-specific representatives to address the TSAHP membership.

5. *To advance public awareness and marketability of allied health care.*

- Provide members with the opportunity to share professional innovations by:
 - a. Offering peer-reviewed presentations at the annual meeting

6. *To develop leaders in allied health for the 21st century.*

- Award scholarships to associate degree, baccalaureate and graduate students at the annual meeting.
- Award research awards at the annual meeting.
- Utilize publicly available data to

2006 TSAHP STUDENT SCHOLARSHIPS

The Texas Society of Allied Health Professions (TSAHP) will award up to four (4) students scholarships of \$300 each at its Fall 2006 Conference. The scholarships will be awarded to allied health students who have demonstrated scholastic achievement and a commitment to service in their profession and community. The scholarships will be offered to students of academic institutional members of TSAHP.

To be eligible for the scholarship, students must have successfully completed 24 hours or 50% of their professional program (whichever is greater) and must have at least a 3.0 cumulative GPA on a 4.0 system. Students may be enrolled on a full- or part-time basis. Scholarships will be given in the following categories:

- Community College Student
- Unrestricted (Student may fall in any category)
- Undergraduate Student
- Graduate Student

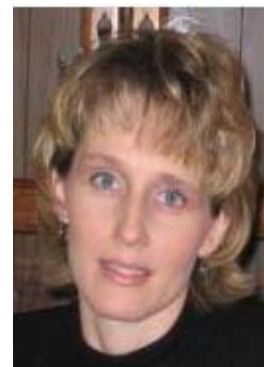
There is NO limit to the number of nominees an institution may submit for each category. The application must be sent through the Dean/Chair/Department Head of a program affiliated with an institutional member of TSAHP.

Selection Criteria

- GPA (in Major)
- The level and significance of the civic activities
- The level and significance of the school/professional activities, including offices held and presentations and publications to professional or lay audiences
- Student's potential for future achievement (A program representative will submit a discussion of the student's potential as part of the scholarship application. Applicants may submit up to two additional letters of recommendation, if desired.)
- Recommendation of Department Chair/Dean

Completed forms must be postmarked by **August 18, 2006** and returned to:

Donna (De De) Gardner, MSHP, RRT
Assistant Professor/Director of Clinical Education
Department of Respiratory Care
The University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio
7703 Floyd Curl Drive MSC 4268
San Antonio, Texas 78229-3900
Office Phone Number: 210-567-8859, Fax Number: 210-567-8852



Email address: GardnerD@uthscsa.edu

2006 TSAHP Research Awards

The Texas Society of Allied Health Professions announces the availability of two research grants of \$1,000 each for 2006. These grants are available to institutional and individual members of TSAHP and are intended to support scholarly activity in allied health in the areas of health care quality, education, procedures and techniques, and outcomes.

Proposals should include an abstract, background (with significance to allied health directly addressed), methods and budget (travel limited to 20% of total award and must be used to present research findings at the 2007 TSAHP meeting). Criteria used to evaluate proposals will include justification for project (25%), design (40%), budget/logistics (25%), and clarity (10%).

The PI will provide written assurance that an appropriate IRB approval has been or will be obtained prior to the dispersal of funds to the selected award recipient.

Please submit three copies of your proposal to the TSAHP Grants Evaluation Committee, in care of:

Dr. Larry Petterborg
Professor, School of Physical Therapy
Texas Woman's University
8194 Walnut Hill Lane
Dallas, Texas 75231
Phone: (214) 706-2460
Fax: (214) 706-2361
Email: Lpetterborg@twu.edu



Larry J. Petterborg, Ph.D.
Chair, Research Committee

The deadline for submissions is **August 18, 2006**. Awardees will be announced at the 2006 Annual meeting (notification by mail will follow soon after). For more details contact Dr. Petterborg,

TSAHP Distinguished Service Award

The Texas Society of Allied Health Professions is soliciting nominations for the 2006 TSAHP Distinguished Service Award. The criteria for this award are the following:

- Number of years as a member of TSAHP,
- Service as a TSAHP officer and/or committee chair,
- Recognition as a leader in allied health at the local, state, and/or national levels,
- Evidence of sustained service to the Allied Health community.



Persons nominating a candidate should submit: One nomination letters addressing the four criteria and current vita of the candidate. Please submit your nomination to:

Dr. Gordon Green

Dean, Southwestern Allied Health Sciences School
UT Southwestern Medical Center
5323 Harry Hines Boulevard
Dallas TX 75390

Tel. 214 648 1500

Fax. 214 648 1505

dean.sahss@utsouthwesrern.edu



Dr. Gordon Green

Recipient of the
2005 TSAHP
Distinguished Service Award

Nominations should be submitted no later than
August 18, 2006

TSAHP Distinguished Service Award

Nomination Form - 2006

Persons nominating a candidate should submit the following:

- (1) Information about the nominee (see below; please print this page, fill in and return to the address below).
- (2) A nomination letter addressing each of the four selection criteria
- (3) A current vita of the candidate.

Information about the Nominee: (Please print or type)

Name: _____ Title: _____
 (Last, first, middle initial) (Faculty rank, administrative, etc.)

Degree(s): _____
 (MPH, PhD, MS, EdD, MD, DDS, etc.)

Address: _____ Phone: () _____
 _____ Fax: () _____
 _____ E-mail _____

 (City, State, Zip Code)

Information about the person Making the nomination: (Please print or type)

Name: _____ Title: _____
 (Last, first, middle initial) (Faculty rank, administrative, etc.)

Degree(s): _____
 (MPH, PhD, MS, EdD, MD, DDS, etc.)

Address: _____ Phone: () _____
 _____ Fax: () _____
 _____ E-mail _____

 (City, State, Zip Code)

Copy and fill in the form and e-mail; OR Print and Mail Nominations by August 15th, 2005 to:

Dr. Gordon Green Dean, Southwestern Allied Health Sciences School
 UT Southwestern Medical Center 5323 Harry Hines Boulevard Dallas TX 75390
 Tel. 214 648 1500 Fax. 214 648 1505 dean.sahss@utsouthwesern.edu

DRUG SCREENING AND CRIMINAL BACKGROUND CHECKS: TWU School of Physical Therapy's Approach

By Sue Schafer, Ph.D., PT

For many years, Texas Woman's University's (TWU) School of Physical Therapy has had a policy in place for drug screening and criminal background checks that apply to our students who are engaged in fulltime internships. However, we had no policy that covered part-time clinical experiences – until recently. What precipitated our current actions was a change in the contract with a local facility which we use for part-time experiences for all of our students during the first year of their program. The revised contract requires that all students, even those who are only engaged in patient observations, have negative criminal background checks and negative drug screens prior to having access to that facility.

While we were determining how to remedy this situation, several other facility contracts added the same requirements – a pattern that continues today. After reviewing the policies of other health-related degree programs at TWU and discussing the issue with TWU's legal counsel, we ruled out using these tests as admissions requirements. Instead, we decided to require that these tests be completed during the first semester of the program and developed policies for handling negative outcomes. The School arranges for these tests through independent contractors. The tests are administered on site and are paid for by the students. We started this procedure in summer 2005. No student was averse to taking these tests. In fact, many stated that they had already had to be tested for previous employers.

We plan to repeat this procedure in summer 2006 when the next class begins the program. Applicants have already received information about this requirement, so there will be no surprises if they are accepted for the next class. This change has only required some administrative adjustments and should benefit students in the long run, especially if they select fulltime internship sites that require these tests.

Dr. Schafer is Associate Director of TWU's School of Physical Therapy. She may be reached at sschafer@twu.edu.

Send news items by e-mail to:

Giovanni De Domenico, Ph.D.

Editor, *TSAHP Chronicle*

Department of Physical Therapy

(MC 6247)

UT Health Science Center at San Antonio

7703 Floyd Curl Drive

San Antonio, TX 78229-3900

Work: (210)567-8750

FAX: (210)567-8774

E-mail:

dedomenico@uthscsa.edu

Send inquiries to:

Ms. Lynn Verret

Office of Admissions

School of Allied Health Sciences

The University of Texas Medical Branch

301 University Blvd.

Galveston, TX 77555-1028

Work: (409)772-3090

FAX: (409)747-1624

E-mail: lverret@utmb.edu

TSAHP *Leading the Way - Join Today*