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**Message from the President**



Hello, AAHB Members! I hope everyone is happily concluding the spring semester in great spirits as we head into May and the quickly approaching summer months. It is hard to believe that the 17<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting in Tucson is already more than 2 months behind us, and that we are solidly in preparation for our 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting to be held in Portland, Oregon March 4-7, 2018! Dr. Erika Trapl, Dr. Lisako McKyer, and I are excitedly working with the rest of the Conference Planning Committee to build a conference program around the theme “An Equity Approach to Health Behavior Innovations”. We encourage all members to start planning now for our upcoming call for abstracts that will be released at the end of the summer. We also inch closer to the release of the inaugural issue of *Health Behavior Research*, the Academy’s new journal in which we will feature several innovative refereed articles by our esteemed members. Thank you to Dr. Rita DeBate and the Editorial Board members, as well as all of those who have submitted such high quality scientific work. I know that with the release of the inaugural issue, scholars within our organization and outside of it will benefit from the innovative work of our Academy colleagues! I also want to thank everyone who has engaged in discussions regarding meritocracy and future directions of our Academy. The Board will continue these discussions over the next few months as we seek to honor the Academy’s history while planning for our future. In addition, I want to thank all of you who are involved as members of Academy Councils and Committees. The Academy is at its best when we incorporate the expertise of all of our amazing members. If you are not currently involved as an Academy Council or Committee member, please contact a Board member to learn about how you can get involved and contribute to the leadership of this great organization! I am encouraged by the forward progress we have already made on a number of fronts and look forward to seeing more members become involved this year! Enjoy the start to your summer!

Renée Umstadd Meyer, Ph.D., MCHES, AAHB President

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**Annual Meeting Recap – Thanks again to the 2017 Sponsors!**

**AAHB 2017 Annual Meeting Focuses on “Health Behavior Research in the Age of Personalized Medicine”**

The Annual Meeting of the Academy presented experts in the field of personalized and precision medicine who discussed their work in multiple health behavior areas including [personalized health behavior change interventions on women’s health](#), [contributions of genomics to health promotion interventions in nutrition](#), the [NIH BRAIN Initiative](#), [genomics and weight management](#), [eHealth and mHealth interventions for sexual health](#), [mHealth to personalize behavior change](#) in weight management and weight loss, among others.

**Dr. Kenneth D. Ward is the 2017 Research Laureate**

AAHB Fellow, Kenneth D. Ward, PhD, professor and director of the Division of Social and Behavioral Sciences, University of Memphis School of Public Health was recognized for his research in community-, healthcare system-, and population-level approaches to reducing the burden of tobacco use. His presentation “Reflections on 15 years in the global tobacco trenches” will be published in the AAHB journal, *Health Behavior Research*.

**Dr. Samuel D. Towne Wins the 2017 Judy K. Black Award**

AAHB member, Samuel E. Towne Jr., PhD, MPH, CPH, won the 2017 Judy K. Black Early Career Award for his paper, “Trends in Geospatial Correlates of Fall-related Hospitalizations and Asset Mapping of Fall Prevention Interventions for Vulnerable Older Adults.” His paper will be published in a future issue of the AAHB journal, *Health Behavior Research*.



**Dr. Adam M. Leventhal Receives Mid-Career Mentorship Award**

AAHB Fellow, Adam M. Leventhal, PhD, Associate Professor of Preventive Medicine and Psychology at the University of Southern California Keck School of Medicine and USC Norris Comprehensive Cancer Center was recognized for his mentorship of other health behavior researchers. This mid-career award recognizes an Academy member who has demonstrated outstanding mentorship by dedicating time, knowledge, and energy for the purposes of guiding, nurturing, and supporting mentees in research and scholarship.



**Class of 2016 AAHB Fellows Receive Recognition**

Cristine D. Delnevo, PhD, MPH; Lara B. McKenzie, PhD; E. Lisako J. McKyer, PhD, MPH; and Susan M. Rawl, PhD, RN, FAAN were recognized for their [many accomplishments](#).



**Research Scholars Mentorship Program Pairs are Highly Productive**

The seven mentee-mentor pairs who participated in the 2016 Research Scholars Mentorship program collaborated to generate 28 submitted manuscripts, 7 submitted grant applications, four new research studies, one academic course, and seven new networks. The [2017 Research Scholar pairs](#) were announced at the meeting.

**McGrievy and Oman win Drawing after Completing Annual Meeting Evaluation**

Congratulations to Brie McGrievy and Roy Oman for winning 1/2 off regular meeting registration for the 2018 AAHB Annual Scientific Meeting by completing the evaluation for the 2017 Annual Meeting!

**Save the Date! 2018 AAHB Annual Scientific Meeting, March 4-7, 2018**

“An Equity Approach to Health Behavior Innovations” at the Embassy Suites Portland—Downtown, Portland, Oregon. [2018 Sponsorships](#) are now available!

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**Professional Updates**



**Dr. Rodney G. Bowden named Dean at Baylor University**

AAHB Member Rodney G. Bowden, PhD, professor of health education and Brown Foundation Endowed Chair at Baylor University has been appointed dean of Robbins College of Health and Human Sciences.

**Dr. Kenneth McLeroy Retires**

AAHB Fellow and 2010 Research Laureate, Kenneth R. McLeroy, PhD, retired on January 2, 2017, as Distinguished and Regents Professor at Texas A&M School of Public Health.

**Dr. Brittany Rosen Wins the Golden Apple for Excellence in Teaching Award**

AAHB member, Brittany Rosen, PhD, received the Golden Apple for Excellence in Teaching Award from the University of Cincinnati. The Golden Apple Award is a College of Education, Criminal Justice, and Human Services student-voted honor awarded each year to faculty members from each academic program who demonstrate excellence in teaching and student-faculty relations.

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**Research Updates**

**Publication**

**New Publication Highlights Long-term Consequences of Exposure to Childhood Adversity on Substance Use Disorders**

Dr. McKenzie L. LeTendre and AAHB President-Elect Dr. Mark B. Reed recently published a [manuscript](#), “The effect of adverse childhood experience on clinical diagnosis of a substance use disorder: Results of a nationally representative study” in *Substance Use & Misuse*. They identified a positive relationship between higher scores on the adverse childhood experience index and the likelihood of developing a substance use disorder later in life.

**Grant**

**Grant Awarded to Dr. Eric Bui**

Dr. Eric Bui, Associate Professor at the San Diego State University Graduate School of Public Health, is working with ETR to implement and test an innovative healthy relationships intervention. Based on a piloted intervention and scientific evidence, About Us promotes positive adolescent romantic relationships and use of condoms and highly effective contraceptive if having sex. The program includes 8 lessons that blend group-based activities with online activities implemented in school-based health centers (SBHCs). About Us will be implemented in 7 SBHCs located in rural or suburban counties in California with large Hispanic populations. The intervention will be tested using a multi-site independent randomized group treatment trial (IRGT) involving 1,209 10th grade students. The work is being funded by the Administration on Children, Youth, and Families—Family and Youth Services Bureau: Personal Responsibility Education Program, Innovative Strategies (HHS-2016-ACF-ACYF-AP-1153) (\$1,425,000).

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**Job Announcements**

[Truth Initiative—Public Policy and Research Scientist Position](#)

[Case Western Reserve University Transdisciplinary Fellowship in Primary Care Research](#)

Complete [Job Board](#) available in the Members Only section of the AAHB website

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