



AMERICAN  
ACADEMY  
OF HEALTH  
BEHAVIOR

A MULTIDISCIPLINARY  
SOCIETY OF HEALTH  
BEHAVIOR SCHOLARS AND  
RESEARCHERS

**M. Renée Umstattd Meyer, PhD MCHES**

Associate Professor of Public Health  
Baylor University, Waco, TX  
Renee\_Umstattd@Baylor.edu

<http://www.aahb.org>

March 4, 2018

Dear Academy Members and Colleagues:

As President of the American Academy of Health Behavior, I am pleased to welcome you to the 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Scientific Meeting– *An Equity Approach to Health Behavior Innovations*. The meeting will provide attendees with the opportunity to interact directly with and learn from the field’s best researchers and leaders actively engaged in this vital area of work.

We have a very strong slate of nationally and internationally known speakers and an exciting meeting agenda. The speakers will reflect on what we know and how to move forward with an equity approach in conducting novel, rigorous, and thought-provoking health behavior research. In addition, this year’s conference includes two exceptional professional development luncheons on “Keys to Quality Mentorship and Productive Collaborations: Lessons Learned from AAHB Scholars” and “Natural experiments: Innovative methodology in applied health promotion and chronic disease research”, as well as breakfast roundtables, peer-reviewed poster sessions, un-plugged events, and evening socials. We will have the State of the Academy annual business meeting Tuesday at 3:30 pm. This meeting is open to all conference attendees. Please join us for the Awards Breakfast on Wednesday morning as we celebrate our awardees and the contributions they have made to the Academy and to our discipline. Immediately following the Awards Breakfast on Wednesday morning we will conclude with an engaging dialogue led by several Research Laureates of the Academy as they discuss their perspectives on equity approaches to health behavior research.

At the opening session on Sunday evening we will proudly recognize Dr. John D. Clapp as the 2018 AAHB Research Laureate and Drs. Shervin Assari, Adam Barry, Elaine Borawski, Kenneth Michael Cummings, Derek Griffith, Eric Walsh-Buhi, and Robert Weiler as the 2017 Class of AAHB Fellows. On Tuesday evening, Dr. Mark Reed will be inaugurated as the 18<sup>th</sup> President of The Academy.

The planning for our annual meeting is a task requiring considerable effort and time. The Board of Directors and the Conference Planning Committee have worked for over two years to bring this program you. I want to thank Drs. Erika Trapl and Lisako McKyer for their leadership in coordinating and leading our conference planning and Dr. Annie Nguyen for directing this year’s research review and poster abstract process. All members of the Conference Planning Committee dedicated countless hours to bring us a top-notch slate of speakers and research. I also want to thank each of the Board members who dedicate their time and energy to serving the Academy throughout the year and the person who keeps us all moving forward - Joanne Sommers, our Executive Director, who ensures that the day-to-day operations of the Academy run smoothly and efficiently!

You will be receiving an email shortly after the meeting to complete our online meeting evaluation. We look forward to receiving your feedback regarding this year’s meeting.

Best wishes for an engaging and enjoyable Annual Scientific Meeting!

M. Renée Umstattd Meyer, PhD, MCHES  
2017-2018 AAHB President

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## 2018 Conference Planning Committee

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Adam Barry, Ph.D.	Conference Planning Committee Past Chair
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E. Lisako McKyer, PhD, FAAHB	Equity and Diversity Council Chair
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## Poster Award Judges:

Ruopeng An	Jason Daniel-Ulloa	Anna Greer	Daphne Hernandez	Hsien-Chang Lin
Wenhua Lu	Jay Maddock	Phillip Massey	Julie Merten	Roy Oman
Mary Steinhardt	Steve Sussman	Mohammad Torabi	Shana Walsh	

## 2018 Abstract Reviewers:

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Angela Bowman	Danielle Madden	John Lowe	Matthew Rossheim	Shambhavi Singh
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