

Top stories in this newsletter



Message from the President



Professional Updates



Research Updates



Job Announcements

**AAHB 2017 Annual Meeting
Late-Breaker Abstract Submissions
Open Nov. 16 - Dec. 6, 2016**

Message from the President



Dear AAHB Members,

As Fall has arrived and the oppressive temperatures are starting to leave Central Texas, the AAHB Annual Meeting seems far away, but Adam Barry and his crew are working hard on what I hope will be the best conference to date. Joanne has recently returned from a site visit to the Loews Ventana Canyon Resort and it appears to be the perfect site to renew ourselves in mind, body and spirit. I am excited about the theme of this year's meeting is "Health Behavior Research in the Age of Personalized Medicine". With advances in epigenetics, the human microbiome and our understanding of the human genome we are truly entering a brave, new world. We are in the process of inviting some amazing speakers who can help us explore how and where health behavior research will fit in to improve health.

We are also getting close to the launch of our new journal, Health Behavior Research. I am delighted that our board has selected former President and Academy Fellow, Dr. Rita DeBate as our inaugural editor. Rita is joined by two Honorary Laureate Editors, Drs. Steve Sussman and Larry Green. In addition nine AAHB Fellows have agreed to serve as editorial board members. Keep a look out, the initial call for papers will be released shortly.

I am excited by all of the developments of the organization and look forward to seeing all of you in Tucson in March.

Aloha,

Jay Maddock, Ph.D., FAAHB
President, AAHB

[Back to Top](#)

Professional Updates

2016 Winner of the Judy K. Black Award

The 2016 winner of the Judy K. Black Early Career Research Award was Dr. Adam P. Knowlden for his paper "Theoretical Model of Goal Directed Behavior Predicting Sleep Behavior of Young Adults."



Dr. Mark B. Reed Promoted to Full Professor

AAHB Member Mark B. Reed, PhD was promoted on May 13, 2016 to Full Professor in the School of Social Work at San Diego State University.



Dr. Nies Grant and Publication update, Book published, and Distinguished Nurse Alumna Award

AAHB Fellow, Mary A. Nies, PhD, RN received a \$1.5 million Health Resources and Service Administration grant for the Idaho Senior Refugee Interprofessional Holistic Health Project (7/2015—8/2018) resulting in two publications: Febles, C.G., Nies, M.A., Fanning, K., Tavernier, S. (In Press). Challenges and strategies in providing home based primary care for refugees in the US. *Journal of Immigrant and Minority Health*. Nies, M.A., Lim, W.Y., Fanning, K., Tavernier, S., (2016) Importance of Interprofessional Healthcare for Vulnerable Refugee Populations. *Journal of Immigrant and Minority Health*, 18 (5): 941-942. She co-authored *Community/public health nursing: Promoting the health of populations* (2016; published in Greek). She also received the University of Illinois at Chicago, College of Nursing, 2016 Distinguished Nurse Alumna Award.

Dr. Green receives prestigious American Public Health Association (APHA) Award

AAHB Fellow/Research Laureate/Lifetime Achievement Awardee Lawrence Green, MPH, DrPH, DSc (Hon.), professor (retired) at the School of Medicine, University of California at San Francisco, was presented with the APHA Sedgwick Memorial Medal for Distinguished Service in Public Health for devoting his career to the bridging of theory and research to planning, implementation and evaluation of programs and policies in public health.



[Back to Top](#)

Research Updates

Publications

AAHB Research Scholars Mentoring Program (RSMP) Collaboration Yields Publication

Dr. Sarah Maness and Dr. Lorraine Reitzel's collaboration through the AAHB RSMP yielded a recently accepted manuscript, "HPV Awareness, Knowledge and Vaccination Attitudes among Church-going African-American Women," that will appear in the Nov/Dec 2016 edition of the American Journal of Health Behavior.

Academy Alcohol Researchers Combine Forces (and Field Data) to Guide Drink-Driving Health Communication Messaging

Conversations at AAHB poster sessions led to a collaborative study, with findings published in this October's American Journal of Public Health. Researchers merged field data collected at bar districts and house parties across the country to study the association between alcohol intoxication levels and perceived drunkenness. Their study identifies how common it is for young adults to feel no buzz or only a slight buzz while legally intoxicated for driving. More information about the study is available at: <http://ajph.aphapublications.org/doi/full/10.2105/AJPH.2016.303321>

Implementation of Lifestyle Modification Program Focusing on Physical Activity and Dietary Habits in a Large Group, Community-Based Setting

The implementation of a life style modification program, in a community setting, using a large group format, shows improvement in participant's nutrition and physical activity behaviors.

Obesity Prevention Grant Results in Two Publications Regarding Military Fitness Training

Along with her colleagues, AAHB member, Dr. Katie Heinrich recently published two papers in *Military Medicine*: Is high intensity functional training (HIFT)/CrossFit® safe for military fitness training? doi:10.7205/MILMED-D-15-00273; The benefits of high intensity functional training (HIFT) for military personnel, *in press*. Funding: R01DK099516.

Grants

Lorraine Reitzel is Taking Texas Tobacco Free

Dr. Lorraine Reitzel (Associate Professor, University of Houston) and her colleagues Dr. Virmarie Correa-Fernandez and Dr. Dan O'Connor (University of Houston) with community partners Dr. Bill Wilson, Mr. Bryce Kyburz, and Mr. Tim Stacey (Austin Travis County Integral Care, Austin Texas) recently received a grant from the Cancer Prevention and Research Institute of Texas (PP160081, 8/30/16-11/30/17) to disseminate and implement a previously funded multi-component tobacco-free workplace program across the remaining community behavioral health centers in Texas that were not touched by the original award.

Creating Safe Places to Play: Implementing Culturally-relevant Play Streets in Low-income Rural Communities

Drs. Keshia Pollack (Johns Hopkins) and Renée Umstadd Meyer (Baylor University, AAHB member, President-Elect) are co-PIs of a recently awarded 2-year RWJF-funded project housed within the Physical Activity Research Center (PARC). This project aims to examine implementation of Play Streets within diverse, low-income rural U.S. communities as a way to provide culturally tailored and accessible physical activity opportunities in these underserved and under-resourced communities.

Reducing Depressive Symptoms among Rural African American: REJOICE

Dr. Karen Yeary recently received a \$2.14 million grant from NIMHD to test the effectiveness of a culturally adapted evidence-based intervention in rural African American churches

The University of Houston Launches New Health Disparities Institute

AAHB Fellow Dr. Lorraine Reitzel is Co-Founder and Co-Director of the [HEALTH Research Institute](#) brings together scientists from various disciplines with community representatives in a partnership to proactively address the prominent health concerns experienced locally and nationally. The mission of the institute is focused on helping Everyone Achieve a LifeTime of Health through rigorous and innovative science paired with community-based common sense.

[Back to Top](#)

Job Announcements

New Assistant/Association Professor of Epidemiology Position at Baylor University

Fellow (Post Doc) in Kinesiology Position at Kansas State University

Funded Doctoral Gradual Assistant Position at Baylor University

The Baylor University project is looking to hire a doctoral level graduate research assistant within the USDA funded "Salud Para Usted y Su Familia" project. [Back to Top](#)