

Spring 2016

Greetings North Dakota ACHE members and welcome to spring. I hope that you had an uneventful winter and are preparing for a summer filled with outdoor events and warmth! It was a shame that we did not have any North Dakota members join me at the Annual Congress in Chicago this year. Hopefully next year we can get a group of us scheduled and enjoy this exceptional educational opportunity together.   
  
First of all in this quarter's letter I would like to recognize and welcome Dane Grebel from Jamestown Regional Medical Center, Melissa Larson from Sanford Health – Fargo Region, and Sherry Goyal, MD as North Dakota's newest ACHE members. If you know or work with any of these three please welcome them and make sure they are aware of the great benefits of membership in ACHE. Also to be recognized are Bonnie Johnson, FACHE, Andrew Lankowicz, FACHE and Jeffrey Drop, FACHE for recertifying as Fellows in ACHE. Congratulations to each of you and thank you for recommitting to ACHE. If anyone reading this has questions on advancement or recertification please do not hesitate to contact me.   
  
I am not sure how many of you are aware that ACHE also has a Higher Education Network (HEN) that is available to any college or university that offers a healthcare administration Bachelor's or Master's degree. There are other specific criteria that must be met by the school and it is certainly not a "gimme". However, if the program meets the qualifications, this is a great opportunity to welcome students to ACHE who aspire to work in the healthcare administration field. They also can access the career tools available through ACHE and make those all important career contacts as well. We currently have one school that is a HEN member, Minnesota State University – Moorhead, but we hope to expand this enrollment and have contacted several other programs for consideration. I will keep you updated as we progress with this exciting addition/expansion within the ND Chapter.   
  
The North Dakota Chapter board continues to work on final details necessary for the Chapter to be considered for an annual award this year. There is a lot of hard work going on to create the necessary bylaws, procedures and other documents necessary for us to meet the stringent criteria to be considered for a Chapter award but I have no doubt that the group of leaders we have for our state will get them done and we can be represented as a top quality chapter at next year's Congress. I am very excited about the energy and enthusiasm demonstrated by the board and the new members and their commitment to positive representation for our state. They are also putting together the first in-state face-to-face education opportunity that we have had here in several years. Hailey Schepp, Chapter President, mentioned it in the chapter newsletter but I want to reinforce it here because of the approach they are taking. It will be offered in Bismarck to make it as available as possible so watch for more information to come and plan to attend. This will be a great opportunity to reintroduce and reinvigorate friendships so "come for the education and stay for the networking!"   
  
My final update subject is to begin educating/refreshing all ND ACHE members on services and tools available through ACHE. I am going to start with the strategic plan. The three strategic objectives are; preserve and enhance core offerings to drive continued recognition of ACHE as the preeminent organization and trusted partner for healthcare leadership growth, extend and adapt ACHE offerings and brand position to meet the needs of the emerging market in healthcare leadership, and innovate and educate to deliver meaningful new solutions to healthcare leaders. This is where it all starts. The rest of all ACHE activities build from here and become more specific. I will cover the four strategic initiatives in my next update letter. I think it is critical for each of us to be aware of ACHE's priorities and why we are members of this great organization. More details in the next newsletter!

As I close this quarter's update letter I want to ask each of you to think of someone who is an exceptional young careerist and/or senior executive. Each year I have the honor of presenting these two awards to deserving candidates in our state. I cannot possibly know who the best candidates are for these awards so I am asking you to send me the name(s) of those you feel are. No need for great detail at this point as I will contact you for those later. I would like to present the two awardees at our ACHE breakfast in October at the NDHA annual meeting so I will need to get my nominations to ACHE with plenty of time to get the awards done. Please send me your nominations sometime in May or June to ensure there is processing time – and thanks for your help!

As always, I remain at your service so please do not hesitate to contact me with your questions or requests.

Respectfully,

  
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