President’s Message: Renewing Ourselves At the AANP Convention

By Lise Alschuler, ND, FABNO

In just two months, on August 19th - 22nd, the annual convention of the AANP will take place in Tacoma WA. In addition to the medical education, what I look forward to most about the convention is experiencing our community. In spite of our naturopathic quirks, there is something about us that I simply love. The passion and dedication that we each have to making this world healthier is part of that something. Our unmasked willingness to care about our patients and about each other is part of it. Our trust in nature and our willingness to defend this trust is another part. Fundamentally, I believe in us. I believe in our ability to make this world a better place and to do so with loving kindness, audacity and integrity.

The other day, I was speaking to another health care provider about the challenges before the naturopathic profession. I spoke rather passionately about the many barriers that prevent naturopathic doctors from being fully empowered in our health care system. He listened sympathetically, but his response was surprising. He expressed his own apathy for becoming engaged in any reform initiatives, "What difference will it make anyway. I don't even know what I would be fighting for. What I do for patients falls so far short of what I know I should be doing. What I hear you saying is that you love what you do. Believe me, with that faith in your own medicine, you are far better off than you might think."

He was right, we are far better off than we might think. We have chosen a powerful medicine. As a community, we are heart, soul and creative intelligence. I can't imagine a more exciting and fulfilling professional vocation, nor a more passionate and dedicated community of providers. Thank goodness for our summer convention - what a joy to be together celebrating each other and our great and important communal work in this world.

News From the Office: Health Care Reform, The Journal of Natural Medicine, and the AANP Convention

By Karen Howard

These are interesting times in Washington DC. Legislative proposals are being floated on a daily basis, coalitions are forming, and coalitions are splitting. Transparency is greater than in any reform effort to day. And yet, affecting change is more elusive than ever before. So where do we stand? I have no definitive answer, only these points that I encourage you to watch.
One, there are enormous costs associated with the various reform efforts. The greatest obstacle to inclusion of all things related to a legitimate health and wellness reform plan remains the Congressional Budget Office’s (CBO) inability or unwillingness to attribute savings for wellness and prevention programs. CBO functions as an independent agency of the Congress, responsible for defining the cost of virtually every proposal created. On the Executive side, the Office of Management and Budget wields equal power. Assigning savings to services by providers that keep people healthy is essential to reducing the cost of all these proposals, yet ever elusive.

Two, you will soon begin to hear a battle over states’ rights. Regardless of what reform option, the question of whether state mandates relating to specific benefits and providers are to be honored in a new system has yet to be determined.

And good news for naturopathic medicine, there continues to be dialogue about the inclusion of all licensed practitioners in a reformed health care system. The next ‘fireside chat’ on the nitty and gritty of health care reform is scheduled for July 8.

**The Journal of Natural Medicine**

We are thrilled to announce the creation of The Journal of Natural Medicine, the official journal of the AANP. Editor Tina Kaczor, ND, publisher Karolyn Gazella and a stellar Advisory Board are creating an innovative online publication featuring the latest research information on natural medicine. Designed as a destination site for a broad array of health care professions, we will continue to enhance the visibility of naturopathic medicine across the county. AANP’s first edition will be launched at the AANP 24th Annual Convention in Tacoma.

**The Annual Convention!**

It’s the place to learn who will prevail in this year’s contested election for the Board of Directors. It’s an amazing cast of quality speakers. It’s the watering hole for a profession that thrives when gathered as a community. [Click here to register.](#)

**State Legislative Update**

Congratulations to Oregon, New Hampshire and Hawaii. All three states have made great progress in expanding the scope of practice of naturopathic physicians. In Hawaii, a bill enabling the Naturopathic Board to independently establish a formulary, and allow NDS to administer injections and perform minor surgery, currently awaits the Governor’s signature. Our Hawaiian colleagues are working diligently to protect against the bill being vetoed, as similar legislation was last year. In New Hampshire, a bill that explicitly allows naturopathic physicians to dispense prescription drugs has passed and is expected to be signed by the Governor. This bill places the naturopathic formulary in compliance with a section of Pharmacist’s law. And in Oregon, a bill has been signed into law allowing the Formulary Council to add synthetic pharmaceuticals to
the naturopathic formulary. Despite being a target of the AMA’s national Scope of Practice campaign, these states have prevailed. We commend your hard work and commitment to the expansion of naturopathic primary care.

As state legislative activity winds down, we continue to track some key efforts, including bills in California and Washington DC. Last month, we saw the reintroduction of a proposal by California Governor Schwarzenegger to eliminate the Bureau of Naturopathic Medicine as part of a budget cut measure. California has been actively educating key legislators on the consequences of eliminating the self-funded Bureau, with 4448 messages being sent through Capwiz in the last month.

In DC, the Mayor has signed legislation repealing sections of law providing for registration of naturopaths. The law that provides for licensure of naturopathic physicians who attended accredited schools will remain unchanged. This bill also greatly expands the definition of “practice of medicine” for MDs and DOs, which we do not see posing a threat to current ND scope, but may affect future efforts to expand scope. Again a reflection of a national campaign to restrict the practice of medicine.

Licensing activity continues for the few states in session, and as always we will alert our community as legislation moves forward. In the meantime, we have already begun planning for the 2010 legislative session.

**Nominations Deadline For 2009 AANP Awards Is July 8, 2009**

AANP is now accepting nominations for Physician of the Year, Corporation of the Year, and the VIS Award!

We encourage you to nominate the colleague(s) and/or company who you believe best meet our defined criteria. All the information you need is conveniently located on our web site.

The deadline for nominations is 5:00 pm EDT, July 8, 2009.

To make a submission by the deadline, simply visit the award pages on our web site to download the call for nominations and nominating form.

You can print out the form(s) and submit via mail or fax. Again, nominations close on July 8. Awardees will be determined by the Board of Directors and presented at the Annual Gala at our convention on Saturday, August 22, 2009 in Tacoma, Washington.

**Early Bird Convention Registration Rates End July 17 - Register Now!**

Registration for the AANP Convention is now open.
Register online today to receive early bird rates!

For more information about the AANP Convention, check out the Convention pages on our Web site.

- Read the schedule
- Learn about CE offerings
- Book your hotel room
- Find a room or ride share
- Pre-order convention proceedings

→ Finding Your Passion And Making It Work For Your Practice

AANP member Dr. Joanne Wu is a naturopathic doctor and licensed acupuncturist practicing in Takoma Park, MD. Since graduating in 2004 from NCNM, Dr. Wu has worked in a sole practitioner practice and treats an average of eight to nine patients per day, five days per week. We asked Dr. Wu to tell us some of the things that have helped her grow her practice. Here are her ideas:

I learned about my location and prospective clientele, and then gently made my presence known. My husband and I were newly located on the eastern seaboard and could choose to live in DC, Maryland, or Virginia. A few communities in this large area stand out as more ‘alternative-minded’, and we investigated those. The town we eventually chose is known locally as ‘Berkeley East’ and felt similar (architecture, walk-ability, community activism) to Portland, Oregon where we had lived for almost 25 years between us. It is also easily accessible to the greater DC area via public transportation since it was important to us to not rely on automobile transport.

Read the full article.

→ Naturopathic Students: Win A FREE Admission to the AANP Convention!

Calling all naturopathic students: Integrative Therapeutics invites you to test your ND skills for a chance to win FREE Admission to the 2009 American Association of Naturopathic Physicians (AANP) Conference, August 19-22 in Tacoma, WA. The deadline for applications is July 6, 2009.

Enter now!

→ AANP Member Services Events:

July 8, Legislative Conference Call. Learn what's going on in Washington DC with health care reform and other hot topics.

Future Legislative Calls are scheduled for Sept 9 and Nov 4.

Natural Standard Webinar Trainings. Natural Standard is an international research collaboration that aggregates and synthesizes data on complementary and alternative medicine (CAM). It provides
objective, reliable information that aids clinicians, patients, and healthcare institutions to make more informed and safer therapeutic decisions. Free access to this wealth of information is included as part of your AANP membership. Attend a 30-minute webinar and learn how to leverage this valuable tool.

Free webinars are scheduled for 6/25, 7/30, 9/24 and 10/29. Additional calls will be announced.

To register for any of these free events, please use the My Events link on your member profile page on www.naturopathic.org.

Integrative Therapeutics™ Announces 2009 STAIR Program Scholarship Winners

Integrative Therapeutics, Inc. (ITI®) and the American Association of Naturopathic Physicians (AANP) are pleased to announce this year’s recipients of the ITI-AANP STAIR Residency Scholarships. This unique scholarship program, now in its third year, gives the residents a fully paid, one year residency in both a naturopathic practice and an integrative medicine practice.

"The AANP whole-heartedly thanks ITI for their commitment to making it happen," stated Lise Alschuler, AANP President. "Congratulations to the 2009 ITI STAIR residency recipients, Dr. Sage Wheeler, from Bastyr University and Dr. Meghan Larivee from National College of Naturopathic Medicine." "Increasing the number of residencies available to naturopathic physicians is vital to the community, she added, "thank you ITI."

Dr. Sage Wheeler will be spending his residency at the Integrated Health Center in Redmond, WA. He will be working with Brooke Azie-Rentz, ND, primary care physician and Stephanie Baker, MD, who specializes in preventive medicine. "The STAIR residency offers an excellent opportunity to work with healthcare professionals who work in a truly integrative team care approach, Wheeler commented, "The union of all medical modalities, applied in a logical and holistic fashion, is the future of healthcare. I am excited to be a part of it at such an early stage."

Dr. Meghan Larivee will spend her residency at the Institute for Restorative Health, located in Davis, California. She will be working with Eric Hassid, MD, the founder and medical director and Marco Vespignani, ND, medical director of Restorative Health services. "I look forward to collaborating with such a talented group of providers and the opportunity to learn from their expertise," she stated, "I hope to serve my patients well, using an integrative approach to address their individual health care needs, and I believe this residency will be a great fit!"

Applications for the 2010-2011 STAIR Scholarships will be available this fall. All graduating naturopathic seniors from US-based naturopathic schools are encouraged to apply. Please visit www.stair.integrativeinc.com for details.
CNME Seeks Nominees For Practitioner And Public Members

This August, CNME Board President Marcia Prenguber, ND, and Vice President Brian Henderson, MEd, will both be completing their second and final term on the CNME Board of Directors. The Council is in the process of seeking two new members to replace them: one practitioner member and one public member. The following is a brief description of these two categories of CNME Board membership:

- **Profession members.** The Board has from four to six members who are licensed naturopathic physicians. Each of these members may serve for up to two three-year terms. An ND who works for or is affiliated with a naturopathic medicine program is eligible to serve on the Board.

- **Public Members.** The Board has two or three members who are representatives of the public, and who are not affiliated with a naturopathic medicine program or the naturopathic medical profession. Each of these members may serve for up to two three-year terms.

The CNME Nominating Committee is currently in the process of reviewing potential nominees to fill the upcoming vacancies on the Board. Association members who might be interested in serving on the CNME Board, or who know of well qualified individuals who might be interested, should mail or email a copy of their CV or resume to the CNME Executive Director at the address below. Having well qualified and committed individuals serving on the CNME Board of Directors is essential to the ongoing development of the naturopathic medical field. The Council appreciates your help identifying potential new members.

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2009 Institute for Natural Medicine - Scholarship Winners Announced

The Institute for Natural Medicine (INM), a philanthropic foundation founded in 1993 for the purpose of promoting naturopathic education and research, is proud to announce the recipients of the 2009 Natural Health Scholars Award for naturopathic medical students. Selection of the scholarship recipients was competitive and based upon essays written by the candidates on such topics as scholarly research, clinical case studies, scientific research, and education methodology pertaining to whole food nutrition. INM has awarded three $2500.00 scholarships for 2009 to naturopathic medical students.

Congratulations to Michael Long with his essay titled; The Modern Evolution of “Diet” - An Interesting Development in Medical Nutrition,
and Martha Reid Eating Whole Foods: The Creation of an Antioxidant Arsenal both forth year students representing Boucher Institute of Naturopathic Medicine & Lia Sonnenburg a forth year student from the Canadian College of Naturopathic Medicine with her essay Whole Food Nutrition and Chronic Degenerative Disease.

➡️ Medicines from the Earth Herb Symposium Report

500 health professionals gathered at beautiful Blue Ridge Assembly in Black Mountain, North Carolina to attend the symposium May 29-June 1.

They keynote speaker was Dr. Vasant Lad, renowned author and Ayurvedic expert, who spoke on “The Spiritual Basis of Healing” in which he emphasized the connection of the healer with the patient on many levels, not just physical diagnosis.

Other symposium presenters included Mary Bove, ND, Amanda McQuade Crawford, Deborah Frances, ND, Cascade Anderson Geller, Jill Stansbury, ND, Paul Bergner, Decker Weiss, , ND, David Winston and Donald Yance. Topics covered botanical therapies for a wide variety of conditions, including: headaches and migraines; hypertension; type 2 diabetes; breast health; early cognitive decline; inflammatory conditions; esophageal disorders; atopic phenomena; thyroid dysfunction; cancer and inflammation and much more.

In addition to the clinical lectures, there were medicine-making demonstrations and field study of the amazing variety of plants growing in the Blue Ridge Mountains. The newly expanded exhibit hall offered an opportunity to visit representatives from herbal companies, organizations and schools. Proceeds from the exhibit hall benefitted ND licensure efforts, especially in North Carolina.

➡️ Corporate Member Spotlight: Cancer Treatment Centers of America
Every cancer patient is unique. So is our approach. We combine the latest medical treatment options with a full array of complementary therapies designed to reduce side effects and improve the quality of our patients’ lives. Unlike any other hospital system, our Naturopathic doctors work side-by-side with oncologists to offer whole-person care for each patient.

Naturopathic medicine is an integral part of our care that never quits. As we are growing, we are expanding our staff of Naturopathic doctors, and continuing to support our Naturopathic Oncology Residency program.

Contact us at
1-800-784-1044 or
cancercenter.com
for more information

For a complimentary copy of Cancer Fighters Thrive magazine for your clinic, go to:
www.cfthrive.com/subscribe.aspx
Opportunities


Position Available - Seeking doctor interested in developing working skills in drainage and french pluralist homeopathy. Successful clinic in progressive Cleveland Heights, Ohio seeks naturopathic doctor interested in employment where they may gain experience working with traditional naturopathic methods and “Drainage” (Unda numbers, pluralist homeopathy, gemmotherapy, etc.). The practice is focused on the methods of Gerard Gueniot, whose teaching has been sponsored by Seroyal since 1998. The position will have full mentoring, with supervision and training intermittently in person and via distance communications. Some prerequisite training in homeopathy or in biotherapeutic drainage is preferred. All other non-suppressive modalities are encouraged and welcomed. If interested, send letter and CV to doctorerin@gmail.com.

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