

NCCHA Newsletter

North Central College Health Association

Lisa Sommerhauser, ACHA Representative

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This June, I followed Dan Hoff in what has been a long line of distinguished Region II Representatives to the ACHA Board of Directors. Region II is the only region that encompasses a three affiliate area in ACHA. Our affiliates: North Central, Rocky Mountain, and Central College Health Associations have always held a "gentleman's agreement" that we rotate Regional Representatives and ACHA Nominating Committee Representatives.

As Nurse-Director / Manager of Campus Health Services at St. Louis Community College since October 1995, I have seen my job evolve. With my background in community health nursing, I had a good foundation, but college health was a new adventure for me. I was truly "brought up" in my affiliate, Central CHA, with the help of many excellent mentors.

Networking in your affiliate is where I find one truly learns about college health. I have found my ACHA membership to have benefited me numerous times. I am currently the Immediate Past President of Central CHA and had the pleasure of hosting our 2004 Annual Meeting in St. Louis, Missouri.

I am very impressed by your website: position descriptions, student grants, and your newsletter. It is obvious that North Central not only advocates for the college health professionals, but has identified a path to bring aboard new leaders.

I was recently invited to be the affiliate President representative to the ACHA Voluntary Leadership Infrastructure Review Committee (VLIRC). ACHA Immediate Past President, Nancy Allen, provided our

committee the freedom to explore all volunteer relationships within ACHA, and make recommendations for the future structure and development of leaders. The recommendations were discussed by the ACHA Board of Directors in Spring 2005 and subsequently passed. ACHA President Doreen Perez has taken the next step-implementation! An exciting new look at ACHA in a three-tiered approach: making local connections through Affiliates, professional connections through Sections, and studying issues specific to college health with multidisciplinary partners through Coalitions has begun to open us to possibilities.

I look forward to working with you! Please contact me with questions/comments.

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Inside this issue:

USD AAAHC Accreditation 2

Meningitis Update 2

SDSU Director Relocates 2

Student NCCHA Voices 3

Smoke-Free Initiatives 3

Web Survey Reliability 3

Save the Date! NCCHA 4

SCSU Student Grant 4

ACHA National Meeting Held

For all those who attended the 2005 Annual Meeting in San Diego on May 31 to June 4, ACHA thanks you for your enthusiastic participation! Over 1,800 individuals gathered to discuss, network, and learn,

as well as to enjoy the sights and sounds of San Diego.

Visit www.acha.org to revisit highlights of the meeting, access online presentations, and order CDs of sessions that you missed or would like

to share with colleagues.

Next year's meeting will be held in New York City at the Marriott Marquis at Times Square. Meeting dates will May 30 - June 3, 2006.



A view of the beautiful gardens and pool at the San Diego Town and Country Resort

USD Health Services Accredited

Revised from a story in the Yankton Press and Dakotan www.yankton.net on 12/20/04.

Sioux Valley Vermillion Clinic ~ USD Student Health has been accredited by the Accreditation Association for Ambulatory Health Care, Inc. (AAAHHC).

Status as an accredited organization means Sioux Valley Vermillion Clinic ~ USD Student Health has passed a series of rigorous and nationally recognized standards for the provision of quality health care, set by the AAAHC.

Timothy J. Tracy, CEO at Sioux Valley Vermillion Medical Center, gives credit to the clinic staff and supporting

departments throughout the medical center for receiving the accreditation. "It takes day to day dedication to service excellence in providing the quality care at our clinic," states Tracy. "Our patients know they will receive outstanding quality patient care while here and this accreditation underscores our long-standing commitment to providing the highest possible levels of quality care to the community we serve." According to the accrediting association, the dedication and effort necessary for an organization to be accredited is substantial, and Sioux Valley Vermillion Clinic-USD Student Health is to be commended for this accomplishment.

"This accreditation is a formal affirmation of the commitment of our staff to provide the best quality care possible to our patients. I'm proud of the hard work that all of our staff does to make this a reality," commented Dr. Vicki Walker, Medical Director of Sioux Valley Vermillion Clinic-USD Student Health.

Granting accreditation reflects the accrediting organization's confidence based on survey evidence that Sioux Valley Vermillion Clinic-USD Student Health meets and exceeds the standards outlined by the organization.

For more information on college health clinic accreditation, visit www.aaahc.org.

Meningitis Vaccination Update

The meningitis vaccination is a hot topic for college students, specifically for incoming first-year students living in the residence halls. This year has seen a change in the CDC vaccine recommendations: The meningococcal conjugate vaccine (MCV4) is recommended for all children at their preadolescent visit (11-12 years of age) as well as first year college students, microbiologists, U.S. military recruits, anyone visiting high-risk parts of the

country, those who have a damaged or removed spleen, those with an immune system disorder, or anyone who may have been exposed to meningitis.

MCV4 was licensed in 2005 while the meningococcal polysaccharide vaccine (MPSV4) has been available since the 1970's. Both vaccines work well and protect about 90% of those who get it. MCV4 is expected to be longer-lasting.

Meningococcal disease strikes up to 3,000

Americans, killing 300 people a year. Ten to 12% of people with meningococcal disease die, and among survivors, up to 15% may experience serious effects including deafness, brain damage, or limb amputation.

Medical providers should stay up to date on the meningococcal vaccine and inform students about the costs and benefits of receiving the vaccination.

www.cdc.gov; www.acha.org/meningitis

SDSU Health and Counseling Director to Relocate

Dr. Janet Mullen, the Director of Student Health and Counseling Services at South Dakota State University for the past three years is moving to take a new position at Arizona State University's Student Health and Wellness Center in Tempe, Arizona. This is somewhat of a homecoming for Dr. Mullen as she worked at ASU in various student affairs and academic capacities previously, and earned her advanced degrees from ASU.

Her new position is Chief Operating Officer. Goals for her new position are to

assist in initiating third party billing, developing an employee health program and planning for a new building to encompass Student Health, Student Counseling, Health Education and Recreation Centers.

During her tenure at SDSU the department evolved into an integrated delivery model incorporating a team approach to serving the medical and mental health needs of clients. Along with the support of her staff, Dr. Mullen has improved funding sources and

management, stabilized staffing, added technology improvements including an automated scheduling system, and increased significantly the involvement of peer educators in marketing and delivering educational programs. Lastly, the department has implemented a Quality Improvement program, and developed a policy and procedure infrastructure in preparation for its first accreditation application.

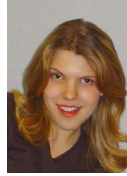
Thanks for all your hard work and good luck, Janet!

Student NCCHA Representatives Speak Out

We have three outstanding student representatives serving this year! Michelle Taylor (MSU, Mankato), Stacy Britz (UND), and Ian Lalich (MSU, Mankato) have offered the following comments on why they serve on the NCCHA Board.

“As a pre-med major and peer health educator, I hope that acting as a student representative will allow me to bring students’ ideas, concerns, and

goals to the NCCHA committee and work with the committee to address those concerns in order to further the health of college students in our region.”
Michelle Taylor



that they are provided with information to help them do that. I have experienced only positive things in my involvement with Student Health and Student Health Promotion and I am more than happy to be spreading what I’ve learned to other people.
Stacy Britz

“College health is an extremely important area to be concerned with. Students at this stage in their lives are learning to take responsibility for their own health and it’s important

“I am excited to be working with the NCCHA and I am glad that I will be able to gain the experience of being a student representative for my college.”
Ian Lalich



Smoke-Free Initiatives at Minot State University

Caren Barnett of Minot State University in North Dakota shared information on their attempts to become a smoke-free campus.

A committee is currently working on campus towards a tobacco free campus. A survey was recently sent via e-mail to all faculty, staff and students. That survey is in the process of data aggregation and results should be completed sometime this summer to complete the analysis.

“Of course, many of us would like to see the campus tobacco free.”

“Of course, many of us would like to see the campus tobacco free and if that decision is made, then the committee will proceed with implementation prior

to fall semester.” Barnett said.

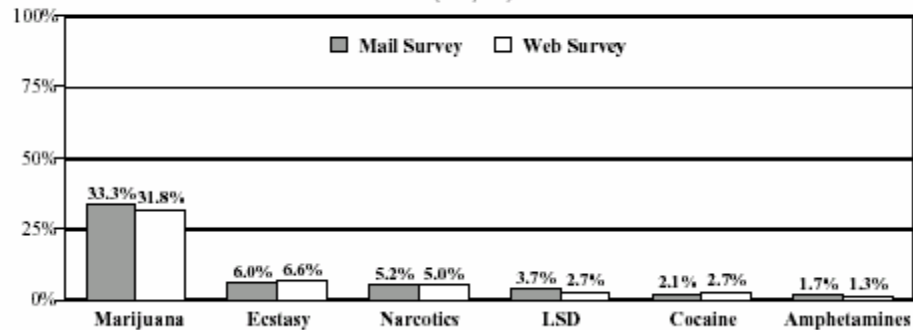
Two Harvard School of Public Health studies published in the American Journal of Preventive Medicine and the Journal of American College Health in March 2001 reported that colleges and universities can reduce smoking among students by making campuses smoke-free and by improving smoking cessation programs.

Study Finds Web Survey May Be as Reliable as Mail Surveys

Many of us wonder whether web surveys accurately reflect student behaviors as well as mail surveys. According to one study of undergraduate students at a large Midwestern public university, illicit drug use does not differ significantly between mail and web surveys. Both undergraduate men and women reported similar rates of past year substance use, regardless of survey mode.

Furthermore, the web-based survey had a higher response rate (63%) than the mail-based survey (40%).

Percentage of Undergraduate Men Reporting Past Year Substance Use, by Mail or Web Survey**
(n=1,497)



Source: Adapted by CESAR from McCabe, S.E. “Comparison of Web and Mail Surveys in Collecting Illicit Drug Use Data: A Randomized Experiment,” *Journal of Drug Education*, 34(1):61-72, 2004.

Save the Date!

The North Central College Health Association Annual Conference

October 26-28, 2005

University of Minnesota - Minneapolis, MN

“Innovations in College Health: Clinical Care, Communication, and Public Health”

We're still accepting presenters! It's not too late to submit a proposal for a program! Please contact Carol Uchal, 612-625-6410 or e-mail at cuchal@bhs.umn.edu for more information or to receive a call for proposal paper/program information form.

Watch for program and registration information to be mailed in early September.

CME Credits will be offered*.

*Application for CME Credits filed with the University of Minnesota Office of Continuing Medical Education. Determination of Credit Pending.

“An application has been submitted to SOPHE to award Category I CHES CECH. The Society for Public Health Education Inc. (SOPHE) is a designated provider of Continuing Health Contact Hours by the National Commission for Health Education Credentialing.”

St. Cloud State University Students Wrap Up NCCHA Grant

After being awarded an NCCHA grant to promote a Safe Spring Break, SCSU students were thrilled to be able to add programs like “Safer Spring Break Bingo” and provide great prizes such as sunscreen, lip balm, condoms, dental dams, band aids, alcohol poisoning charts, and other items for their peers.

Health Educator Troy Shafer said, “Through our outreach and programming with this grant, we have found new organizations which would like to assist us next year. Hopefully we can get bigger and better and provide the best service possible to our students.”

Visit www.acha.org/NCCHA/index.html for information on how your students can apply for funding. Grants are available for up to \$500 on a continuous basis.

We're on the Web!

www.acha.org/NCCHA/index.html

NCCHA Current Budget

Checking:

Balance	1/2005	\$ 8,476.43
Balance	2/2005	\$ 8,053.92
Balance	3/2005	\$ 8,408.92
Balance	4/2005	\$13,644.80
Balance	5/2005	\$13,687.91

January–May (Deposits: \$8703.38; Withdrawals: \$991.90)

Savings:

Opening Bal Equity	11/2004	\$25.00
Interest Earned	thru 03/2005	\$.10
Balance		\$25.10

For more information or comments about this newsletter
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