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http://www.aahb.org

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Dear Academy Members and Colleagues:

As President of the American Academy of Health Behavior, I am pleased to welcome you to the 16<sup>th</sup> annual scientific meeting— *Using the Past to Propel the Future*. The meeting will provide attendees with the opportunity to interact directly with the field's best researchers and thought leaders.

We have a very strong slate of nationally known speakers and an exciting meeting agenda. The speakers will reflect on what we have learned and how to move us forward in conducting novel, rigorous, and thought provoking research. In addition, this year's conference includes two exceptional professional development luncheons on "Strategies and Tips for Writing Manuscripts and Publishing in Peer-Reviewed Scholarly Journals" and "The Importance of Mentoring: Lessons Learned from the AAHB Research Scholars Program", as well as breakfast roundtables, workshop/retreat, peer-reviewed poster sessions, un-plug events, and evening social events. Moreover, on Monday afternoon the Past Presidents of the Academy will discuss their perspectives on the future of health behavior research. Furthermore, we will have the State of the Academy annual meeting Tuesday at 4:00 pm. This meeting is open to all conference attendees. Please join us for the inaugural Awards Breakfast on Wednesday morning as we celebrate our awardees and the contributions they have made to the Academy and to our discipline. Dr. Lawrence Green will provide an outstanding wrap-up on Wednesday titled, "The Drift, Drag and Drive of Our History in Health Behavior Research."

Most notably, at the opening session on Sunday evening we will proudly recognize Dr. Marcia G. Ory as the 2016 AAHB Research Laureate and Drs. Chloe Bird, Adam M. Leventhal, Deborah Parra-Medina, Lorraine R. Reitzel, Audrey Shillington, and Keith Zullig as the 2015 Class of AAHB Fellows. On Tuesday evening, Dr. Jay Maddock will be inaugurated as the 16<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 a year to bring this program you. I want to thank Dr. Anna Greer for her leadership in coordinating and leading our conference and Dr. Hsien-Chang Lin for directing this year's 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 want to thank the person who holds us all together as well - 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 your feedback regarding this year's meeting.

Best wishes for an enjoyable conference experience!

Jeff Hallam, PhD AAHB President



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## **Poster Award Judges:**

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## **2016 Abstract Reviewers**:

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