



**APHA Education Board**  
**Submitted by Kusuma K Schofield, Chair**  
**October 29, 2023**

**Submitted to: APHA Governing Council**

**Committee Members:** Kusuma Schofield (Chair), Anthony Santella (Vice Chair), Kim Baskette, Diane Downing, Jennifer Mandelbaum, Sherry L. Ornitz, Marian Passannante, Molly Polverento, Virginia Reising, Mary Volenec, Nizar Wehbi, Jim Wohlleb, Michele Zawora, Eric J. Zgodzinski

**APHA Staff:** Mighty Fine, Alyssa Holland

**Purpose of the Education Board:**

The purpose of the Education Board is to assure a better-educated public health workforce and an informed public. As such, the Education Board is charged with maintaining and enhancing professional knowledge; increasing technical proficiencies; and enabling members to promote and protect environmental and community health. The Board is also committed to assisting APHA sections and SPIGS by improving learning opportunities provided by the Learning Institutes and Scientific Sessions on an annual basis.

The Education Board has three committees, and they are as follows: Continuing Education & Workforce Development Committee, Learning Institutes Committee, and the Public Education / Assessment & Evaluation Committee. The charge, vision, mission statement, goals, and areas of strategic focus for the Education Board as identified in the 2017-2021 Education Board strategic plan are as follows:

**Charge:**

There shall be an Education Board whose function shall be to stimulate and coordinate the education activities of the Association; to maintain and enhance professional knowledge, to increase technological proficiencies in facilitating the delivery of education, to enable members to promote and protect environmental and community health, and to educate the public concerning public health issues (Constitution, Article XII).

**Vision Statement:**

To envision a competent Public Health workforce supported by lifelong learning that enhances its abilities to act on current needs, to respond to emerging needs, and to work with communities to promote and improve the health of the public and to assist in achieving health equity.

**Mission Statement:**

The purpose of the Education Board is to assure a better-prepared public health workforce and an informed public.

**Goals:**

- Contribute to the ongoing assessment of gaps in knowledge, skills and attitudes of the public health workforce
- Foster innovative and cutting-edge continuing education for the public health workforce based on the best evidence and technology
- Increase the competency of the public health workforce to promote and protect environmental and community health
- Enhance the public’s knowledge of public health and related public health issues

**Areas of Strategic Focus:**

During 2017-2021, the strategic focus of the Education Board includes the following:

- Continuing Education
  - Explore and provide continuing education opportunities for the public health workforce
  - Offer distance education opportunities, such as webinars
  - Propose and review activities for the assurance of the quality of APHA educational offerings
  - Review and implement collaborative relationships with external partnerships to promote utilization of educational technologies in continuing education
  - Enhance the public’s knowledge of public health and related public health issues
- Assessment and Evaluation
  - Enhance collaboration and communication with APHA section, affiliates, and other relevant entities to determine their educational needs
  - Propose and review methods for ongoing assessment of the educational needs of the APHA membership and the public health workforce
- Learning Institutes
  - Propose, review, and select Learning Institutes for the APHA Annual Meetings
  - Support the attainment and maintenance of disciplinary accreditation for the provision and approval of continuing education

**Membership of the Education Board:**

- Members are appointed from the membership of APHA to serve on the Education Board for a term of three years.
- The role of members is to review, advise, guide and advocate for policies and programs to advance public health education of the workforce and of the public.
- The Chair and Co-Chair of the Education Board served a one-year term (second year for this new procedure). In previous years, the Chair and Co-Chair served a two-year term.

**Committee Reports November 2022- September 2023:**

**Continuing Education & Workforce Development Committee Report:**

Submitted by Molly Polverento, MS. Ed, CPH Committee Chair

Committee members include the following:

- Sherry L. Ornitz, MPH
- Virginia Reising, DNP, RN, PHNA-BC
- Nizar Wehbi, MD, MPH, MBA

**Committee Goal(s):**

- Develop a workforce themed session to be held during the APHA Annual Meeting.
- Enhance knowledge of public health workforce focused professional development needs and opportunities.
- Review and implement collaborative relationships with external partners to promote educational opportunities for the public health workforce.

The following activities were conducted:

January – March 2023

- The committee, with feedback from other Education Board members, identified possible topics for the APHA Annual Meeting scientific session.

April 2023

- The committee selected a topic for the annual meeting scientific session.
- The committee brainstormed speaker ideas.

May - July 2023

- The committee contacted possible speakers to secure participation in the scientific session.
- The committee worked with APHA staff to confirm session time.

August - September 2023

- The committee gathered all session information required by APHA staff.
- The committee confirmed speakers and moderator for APHA scientific session.

October 2023

- The committee met with speakers and moderators to plan scientific session.
- The committee developed marketing materials for session to be distributed by committee members.

November 2023

- The committee will host scientific session with speakers from deBeaumont Foundation,

the Network for Public Health Law, and the Region V Public Health Training Center.

**Public Education/Assessment & Evaluation Committee Report:**

Submitted by Kim Baskette, Committee Co-Chair

Committee members include the following:

- Jim Wohlleb (Co-Chair)
- Jennifer Mandelbaum, MPH
- Marian Passannante
- Michele Zawora, MD

**Committee Goal(s)**

Collaborate with stakeholders across the organization to enhance public health knowledge to the public and propose and review methods for disseminating evidence-based public health information.

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- Recommend stories for The Nation’s Health or other APHA publications.
- Host educational webinars.
- Enhance collaboration and communication with APHA sections, affiliates, and other relevant entities to determine their educational needs.
- Propose and review methods for ongoing assessment of the educational needs of the APHA membership and the public health workforce.
- Provide reporting to Learning Institute Committee to assist in 2022 selection.
- Review Annual Meeting App questions.
- Provide reporting and documentation on the success of programming conducted by APHA.
- Analyze results from Learning Institute evaluations.
- Develop annual APHA-wide professional development needs assessment.
- Establish mentorship program for incoming Education Board members.
- Review, modify and update “day of” instructions for Education Board member assessment of Learning Institutes.

**Public Education Committee**

Purpose:

- Collaborate with stakeholders across the organization to enhance the public’s knowledge of public health.
- Propose and review methods for dissemination of evidence-based public health information to the public.

Plans:

- Collaborate with APHA Member Sections at the Annual Meeting to host town hall meetings that address how health disparities affect individuals residing in the local area
- Sponsor webinars focused on health topics deemed important to APHA members
- Create a comprehensive report on health information sources and social media

### **Assessment and Evaluation Committee**

Purpose:

- Enhance collaboration and communication with APHA sections, affiliates, and other relevant entities to determine their educational needs
- Propose and review methods for ongoing assessment of the educational needs of the APHA membership and the public health workforce

Plans

- Update survey tools (data gathering and reporting)
- Update Needs Assessment for APHA webinars
- Distribute Needs Assessment to APHA leadership for annual post meeting webinar
- Distribute and analyze LI surveys (provide assessment)
- Annual meeting app survey
- Annual meeting post-survey
- Online training programs
- Mentorship

For 2023, the following activities were conducted:

#### **Reviewed and updated the Professional Development Needs Assessment Survey for APHA webinars**

- Co-Chairs reviewed the survey and sent suggested edits to Mighty Fine. The survey is developed with our feedback included and will be administered to members in November after the Annual Meeting.

#### **Planned and hosted a virtual “Tips on Navigating the APHA Annual Meeting & Expo” webinar on October 11, 2023 from 12:00-1:30pm**

- Webinar panel consisted of Mighty Fine, Fran Atkinson from Intersectional Council, Brenna Kirk from Student Assembly and Sarah Rines from Council of Affiliates.
- Kim Baskette and Jim Wohlleb served as moderators for the webinar.
- 575 members registered for the webinar with 300 attending.

#### **Learning Institutes Committee Report:**

Submitted by Anthony Santella, DrPH, MPH, MCHES Committee Chair

Committee members include the following:

- Diane Downing, PhD, RN
- Mary Volenec, DNP, MPH, RN
- Eric Zgodzinski, DrPH, MPH

### **Committee Goal(s)**

- Oversee Learning Institutes for the annual meeting which includes writing/revising the call for LI proposals, encouraging the submission of LI proposals by qualified faculty, selecting the LIs for the annual meeting, and evaluating the effectiveness of the LIs.
- Support the attainment and maintenance of disciplinary accreditation for the provision and approval of continuing education.
- Review and assess Learning Institute applications for the APHA Annual Meeting
- Create the Learning Institute program for the APHA Annual Meeting

For 2023, the following activities were conducted:

The Learning Institute (LI) committee is charged with selecting high quality Learning Institutes for the annual meeting which includes writing/revising the call for LI proposals, encouraging the submission of LI proposals by qualified faculty, selecting the LIs for the annual meeting, and evaluating the effectiveness of the LIs.

A recording on application best practices was made available to the APHA membership. The Call for LI Proposals for 2023 yielded a total of 33 applications. Of the submissions, 11 were accepted, including 2 sessions approved by APHA leadership because of existing partnerships with the association.

- Biostatistics for Non-Statistician (12 hours)
- Preparing to Take and Pass the CPH Exam (12 hours)
- Scientific Writing for Public Health (6 hours)
- Conceptualizing, Creating, and Delivering Impactful Presentations for Diverse Audiences to Advance Public Health Initiative (3 hours)
- How to Center Community Engagement in Public Health Practice (3 hours)
- Not Another Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, Justice (DEIJ) Training (3 hours)
- Reimagining Public Health Leadership for Health Equity, Transforming Systems and Uplifting Community Power (3 hours)
- How to Evaluate Public Health Programs (6 hours)
- Practical Resources for Adapting Interventions to Serve Your Community's Needs (3 hours)
- Using Healthy People 2030 to Address the Social Determinants of Health and Examine Social and Ethical Challenges (3 hours)

LI Committee members reviewed each of the proposals and submitted individual ratings and comments. The LI Committee members met April 2023 virtually to discuss the merits of each LI proposal and selected the highest quality proposals to invite to the 2023 Annual Meeting. The LI Committee continued to ask faculty to make themselves available on the day of committee review in case members needed to call for additional question for selection. Members also

provided specific feedback to authors based on questions or concerns raised by committee members as a means of helping them understand why their application was not accepted.

The committee solicited Education Board members to serve as volunteers to assist with the administration and evaluation of the 2023 Annual Meeting Learning Institutes. Most LI sessions will have an Education Board member to monitor the session. The remaining sessions will be monitored by temps. Feedback from Education Board members will be used as 2024 LI sessions are planned.

### **Additional Education Board Activities and Accomplishments:**

As part of the Joint Policy Committee, Education Board members, Kusuma Schofield (Chair), Anthony Santella (Co-Chair), Virginia Reising, and Jim Wohlleb worked diligently to review proposed policies to be submitted to the Governing Council at the annual meeting in the most effective manner. The Education Board Chair (Kusuma Schofield) also worked closely with the Science Board and Action Board chairs (other co-chairs of the JPC) to address some of the recommendations for improving the APHA policy review process.

In 2023, several new members (Eric J. Zgodzinski, Michele Zawora, Mary Volenec, Virginia Reising, Sherry L. Ornitz, Jennifer Mandelbaum) joined the Education Board. An introduction of the Education Board was provided to the new members, and all new members chose to participate in a subcommittee. In its spring mid-year meeting, the Education Board heard from the Council on Education for Public Health. The Education Board heard updates on APHA's strategic plan and committed to pursuing activities consistent with its mission. In total, the Education Board convened 6 times, including the mid-year spring meeting. Our November 2022 Annual meeting will be held at the APHA Annual meeting.

### **Prospective for 2024:**

The Education Board continues to seek opportunities to enhance the educational activities of the Association and professional knowledge of the members in public health. In 2024, the Education Board will finalize their strategic plan and align with APHA's plan.

### **Fiscal Implications:**

No new fiscal and recourse implications have been identified. The Education Board continues to develop recommendations for enhancing continuing education opportunities for the public health workforce that could also enhance the revenue capacity for APHA.

### **Implications for Follow-Up:**

None for the Governing Council.

### **APHA 2023 Learning Institutes Schedule**

9:00AM – 4:30PM (Saturday)

- Scientific Writing (6 hours credit)
- Biostatistics for Non-Statisticians Day 1 (6 hours credit)
- Preparing to Take and Pass the CPH Exam Day 1 (6 hours credit)

1:00PM - 4:30PM (Saturday)

- Conceptualizing, Creating, and Delivering Impactful Presentations for Diverse Audiences to Advance Public Health Initiatives (3 hours credit)
- Not Another Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, Justice (DEIJ) Training (3 hours credit)
- Reimagining Public Health Leadership for Health Equity, Transforming Systems and Uplifting Community Power (3 hours credit)
- How to Center Community Engagement in Public Health Practice (3 hours credit)

9:00AM – 5:30PM (Sunday)

- How to Evaluate Public Health Programs (6 hours credit)
- Preparing to Take and Pass the CPH Exam Day 2 (6 hours credit)

1:00PM - 4:30PM (Sunday)

- Biostatistics for Non-Statisticians Day 2 (3 hours credit)
- Using Healthy People 2030 to Address the Social Determinants of Health and Examine Social and Ethical Challenges (3 hours credit)
- Practical Resources for Adapting Interventions to Serve Your Community's Needs (3 hours credit)