Creating your future involves a continuous cycle of reflection and action. By taking action, you find out which aspects of your vision, goals and plans are workable and which can be refined.

~Dave Ellis of Leadership Development and Coaching

JoAnne Lyons Wooten joined ASHA on February 4, 2013 as its interim executive director. As a transitional leader, JoAnne is tasked with assessing the organization’s structures and practices and providing recommendations for improvement. Think of JoAnne as ASHA’s “turnaround principal.” In an underperforming school, a turnaround principal identifies those obstacles that stand in the way of success, looks for the root causes of underperformance, and works with the school’s stakeholders (e.g., staff, students, families) to change.

ASHA is pleased to announce that Maurice J. Elias, Ph.D., Professor of Psychology and Internship Coordinator and Director of Clinical Training, Ph.D. Program in Psychology at Rutgers University in New Brunswick, NJ will be the Friday morning keynote at the ASHA conference. Dr. Elias serves as Academic Director of The Collaborative, Rutgers’ Center for Community-Based Research, Service, and Public Scholarship (http://engage.rutgers.edu/). Dr. Elias is also past president of the international Society for Community Research and Action, Director of the Rutgers Social-Emotional Learning Lab, and Founding Member of the Leadership Team for the Collaborative for Academic, Social, and Emotional Learning (www.CASEL.org).

And every day, when children come to schools hungry, afraid of harassment, intimidation, or bullying, or of neighborhood violence, or if they are involved in alcohol or tobacco or other drug use, or if they are victims of unkindness, or consumed by their educators’ anxiety over standards and standardized tests, they are not able to learn to their potential.

Dr. Maurice Elias

Conference Keynote

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Conference Workshop Proposals
By Holly Hunt, President-Elect

What was the best workshop you ever attended? Were you challenged as an adult learner to gain new knowledge and insights? Did you have to step outside your comfort zone and try something new? Did you learn something that you used in your classroom or on your job soon after the session? Did the session leave you wanting more?

We are looking for great workshops to inspire and challenge school health professionals. If you have programs and initiatives others can learn from, please submit an abstract today!

Workshop proposals will be accepted until MARCH 15TH! Sessions should be interactive, innovative, and stimulating. Tell us about that special school health project or program. Tell us how your school health initiative has impacted student health and achievement. Do you have a teaching technique or special lesson that you want to share? Have you engaged in cutting-edge research? YOU HAVE UNTIL MARCH 15TH TO SUBMIT A PROPOSAL. PLEASE DON’T WAIT! Go to www.ashaweb.org and submit your proposal today. We cannot accept late submissions this year due to tight deadlines for continuing education application requirements.

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the culture of the school to one of productivity and positivity. Turnaround leaders, in education and business, must be excellent communicators, keen observers, and skilled planners. JoAnne brings us these skills and more.

ASHA has been faced with numerous challenges since the move to Bethesda and it was vital that the organization reflect on its new status as a “Beltway” player and craft a plan to realize the organization’s goals. During the first 60 days at ASHA, JoAnne is interviewing ASHA staff and board members, reviewing current policies and practices, and assessing ASHA’s current fiscal status. She meets regularly with ASHA’s staff to help plan and guide their work and she has also met with several of ASHA’s school health partners to discuss current and future partnerships. JoAnne is also a seasoned fund raiser and is actively seeking possible sponsors for future activities. JoAnne will provide the ASHA Board of Directors with a full report and recommendations at an online meeting in mid-April. Stay tuned!
Focus on Committees: Awards

By Nancy Hudson and Susan Clark

The Awards Committee, currently co-chaired by Susan Clark and Nancy Hudson, has been diligently working to finalize proposed changes to the Awards Committee Operating Code. The ASHA Board of Directors approved a moratorium on student scholarships this year so that the Awards Committee could review the criteria and develop a scholarship program that will better serve the organization and its student members. The Committee is also updating the criteria for the Howe Award, ASHA Fellow status and the Distinguished Service Award. The proposed changes will be submitted to the ASHA Board of Directors for review and approval at the March meeting.

A description of ASHA’s awards and past award winners can be found on the ASHA website. Criteria for awards for 2013 will be posted soon. Please direct any questions on award nominations to info@asha.web.org. The information will then be shared with the Awards Committee.

Why should you come to ASHA Myrtle Beach?

White sandy beaches, 76 degrees and sunny, golf, great food, entertainment galore, great workshops, time with friends and colleagues, and YOU MIGHT EVEN LEARN SOMETHING NEW!

Conference Keynote from page 1

Social-Emotional and Character Development (SECD) for the George Lucas Educational Foundation at www.edutopia.org. He is especially proud to have published three articles in the Journal of School Health.

Dr. Elias will speak on Promoting Social-Emotional and Character Development in Safe and Civil Schools for All Children: Charting the Course with No Alibis, Excuses, or Exceptions. His session will focus on creating schools that are healthy, safe, caring, respectful, and challenging. The presentation will provide practical suggestions for creating positive school climate and culture, integrating SECD into academics, preventing harassment, intimidation, and bullying, and increasing student voice and involvement in the life of the school.

Sponsor a Future Professional

Do you remember your first ASHA Conference? Would you like to sponsor a Future Professional to attend this year’s ASHA Conference? This year, all ASHA members will have an opportunity to sponsor a student by paying the student’s conference registration fee. Sponsored Future Professionals and their “mentors” will be invited to a special “meet and greet” at the conference. More information will be shared soon. Barb Donica, a member of the ASHA Finance Committee and Louisville LPC chair, and Phyllis Lewis, past president of ASHA, will lead this effort to connect future school health professionals with an ASHA sponsor. Look for more information soon!

ASHA Pre-Conference Sessions
By Holly Hunt, President-Elect

This year, Conference Program Planning Chair and President-Elect Holly Hunt actively solicited pre-conference workshops to meet the needs of ASHA’s diverse membership. Four pre-cons will be offered on Wednesday, October 9th at the Myrtle Beach Hilton. A small registration fee will be charged for each half-day session.

One session will focus on the new School Health Services Index being developed by the American Academy of Pediatrics. This session will be great for school nurses, school physicians, and those who work in school-based health centers.

A second session will feature a pilot study on Ready for Recess, an intervention that focuses on environmental modifications to support physical activity among elementary students.

A third session will focus on CDC’s School Health Guidelines to Promote Healthy Eating and Physical Activity and will provide attendees with important information to improve implementation in schools.

Finally, Jess Lawrence will offer a workshop on strategies for systems change to support school health—a must-attend for school health coordinators and others interested in improving school health programs.

Registration for these pre-con sessions will be posted when conference registration goes live.

Make sure you plan to arrive in Myrtle Beach early enough to take advantage of these more in-depth sessions on timely topics.

This year, conference exhibits will be open Wednesday evening with a special opening ceremony followed by the President’s Reception and Awards Ceremony. The evening will end with some South Carolina fun and opportunities to network, meet our great sponsors and exhibitors, and plan your conference with friends and colleagues!

Plan to arrive in time for all the fun and action!

Wednesday: Pre-Cons, Exhibits, Awards
Thursday: Dr. Gene Carter, sessions, exhibits
Friday: Dr. Maurice Elias, sessions
Saturday: Sessions