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— THE AAIP —

ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN INDIAN PHYSICIANS NEWSLETTER  
— FALL 2007

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# FROM THE PRESIDENT



Greetings! The Association of American Indian Physicians has grown a great deal over the last several decades since its inception in the early 1970's. Along with this has come an increase in our capacity to impact the health of our people. As President, I envision AAIP as continuing to grow and collaborate with many institutions – both Native American and Non-Native American – to reduce the health disparity of our American Indian and Alaska Native people and communities.

The Association has come a long way on our journey. It is evolving and becoming a stronger voice in meeting our mission and goals. AAIP has persevered and will continue in our mission to increase the number of American Indian physicians and address the health needs of our communities. However, we are emerging into an era where partnerships and collaborations with other National Indian organizations, tribes, and urban communities will be even more critical for all of us to achieve our goals. We must all stand with “one strong voice”. By doing so, we will become more effective and will increase our impact.

AAIP has already signed a memorandum of understanding with the National Council of Urban Indian Health at our last meeting in Nashville. Also, AAIP and NCAI have agreed to collaborate, as addressed by a resolution, to address the severe shortage of Native American health care providers, to reduce the health disparities, and to ensure that Congress provide programs and adequate funding earmarked to address these issues. As I chaired the long range planning committee this past year, it became increasingly clear to me that by joining hands in this way – all of us will have a louder voice. It is my intent to pursue the same course of action with other national Indian organizations in order to address our common goals. It can only be a win-win situation for all of us.

The next Annual Meeting will be held on the Coeur d'Alene Reservation in Northern Idaho and I am looking forward to returning home. The theme for the meeting will revolve around “Indian Youth Health Issues” – as the youth are our future, we must do everything in our power to address their needs. Margaret Knight and I have met with the Chairman of the Coeur d'Alene Tribal Council and various other representatives on the reservation. We have been met with enthusiastic anticipation and welcome. The meeting will be held at the end of July at the time that the Coeur d'Alene Tribe holds its annual Powwow, “JULY'AMSH”, the largest outdoor event of its kind in the Northwest. There will be many opportunities to enjoy the beauty of all that the Coeur d'Alene Reservation and my fellow tribes-people have to offer. I am looking forward to seeing all of you there and reconnecting with old friends in the Association. It is always invigorating for me and renews my strength and energy. This will be even more so as I will be returning to the homeland where I grew up as a youth, a place where I can re-center myself with my people and walk the earth of my ancestors. I consider myself so fortunate to have been born SCHITSU'UMSH (Coeur d'Alene).

GERALD IGNACE, M.D.  
PRESIDENT  
ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN INDIAN PHYSICIANS





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(Above) The "King of Rock and Roll" makes a guest appearance at the AAIP Conference.



(Right) Participants enjoy the AAIP Pow wow which featured dancers in colorful native dress.

# AAIP

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### PRESIDENT

Gerald L. Ignace, MD – Coeur d'Alene

Dr. Gerald L. Ignace was raised on the Coeur d'Alene reservation in northern Idaho. He graduated from Gonzaga University with a Bachelor of Science in Basic Medicine Science in 1961.

Dr. Ignace earned his medical degree from Marquette University School of Medicine in 1965. He completed his internship at St. Joseph Hospital in Denver, Colorado. From 1966-69, Dr. Ignace served in the Indian Health Service as a commissioned officer of the U.S. Public Health Service in Shiprock, New Mexico on the Navajo Indian Reservation. He completed his residency training in Internal Medicine at the Milwaukee County General Hospital in 1972. He then spent a decade as Clinical Instructor at the Medical College of Wisconsin.

Dr. Ignace has made a life-long commitment to improve the health of all Indian people and to increase the number of American Indian and Alaska Natives in the health professions. He is a charter member and co-founder of the original Milwaukee Indian Health Board, Inc. (MIHB). He served as chairman of the MIHB from 1974-1984. Under his leadership, the organization received recognition as a model Urban Indian Health Clinic by the Indian Health Service.

### PRESIDENT-ELECT

Gerald Hill, MD – Klamath/Paiute

Dr. Gerald Hill received his undergraduate degree from the University of Washington in 1971. He went on to earn his medical degree from University of Washington in 1980. He completed his residency in internal medicine at the University of California at San Francisco. As a clinical faculty member and a Robert Wood Johnson fellow, Dr. Hill has specialized experience in health-related research in urban and reservation-based Indian populations. He has served on a variety of boards, advisory committees, and appointments based on his expertise in American Indian health issues. He was President of the AAIP in 1993-94.

Dr. Hill was the Director of the Center of American Indian and Minority Health at the University of Minnesota School of Medicine – Duluth. In 1993, the program successfully pioneered a model project called “Center of Excellence in Indian Health”.

### IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT

Susan Sloan, MD – Eastern Cherokee

Dr. Susan Sloan is the first in her family to attend college. She began her career as a teacher. Twenty-two years after earning her undergraduate degree and pregnant with her fifth

child, she enrolled at the University of Minnesota School of Medicine. She graduated in 1998 and completed a residency in internal medicine at Berkshire Medical Center in Pittsfield, Massachusetts in 2001. Dr. Sloan was then appointed assistant professor of medicine at the University of Massachusetts. She was also coordinator of resident ambulatory education at Berkshire Medical Center. The following year she returned to her home state of Tennessee to become the Associate Director of the Internal Medicine Program at East Tennessee State.

Dr. Sloan is devoted to improving medical care for underserved women. She founded Preterm Connection, a non-profit organization serving pregnant women at risk for giving birth prematurely. She has also served as Medical Director of Health, Education, Resource, Outreach and Advocacy (HEROA).

### TREASURER

Shanda Lohse, MD – Standing Rock Lakota

Dr. Shanda Lohse excelled in science in high school, but didn't consider medical school until an adviser encouraged her to explore it. She earned her undergraduate degree from Columbia University. She then entered the University of Minnesota

# AAIP MISSION

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To pursue excellence in Native American health care by promoting education in the medical disciplines, honoring traditional healing practices and restoring the balance of mind, body, and spirit.

Medical School in 1993. Dr. Lohse says she would not have completed her medical degree without the help of the Center for American Indian and Minority Health (CAIMH). Today, she serves as a physician at the Alaska Native Medical Center in Anchorage, Alaska.

Dr. Lohse has been a member of AAIP since 2002. She has been active in the Association of Native American Medical Student organization serving as its national president. Dr. Lohse is dedicated to mentoring students and promoting the mission of AAIP. Before becoming a doctor, she had never met a Native physician. Her goal is to encourage more young people to pursue the profession.

## SECRETARY

**Lise Alexander, MD – Grand Ronde**  
Dr. Lise Alexander received her undergraduate degree from Maryhurst College in 1982. She earned her medical degree from the University of Washington in 2003. Dr. Alexander completed the Providence Family Medicine Residency Program with the Seattle Indian Health Board.

She is currently working at the Tulalip Tribal Clinic in Tulalip, WA. In addition to her commitment to AAIP she is co-adviser to Medicine Wheel Society (University of Washington Medical

School Student Organization). She also continues to mentor college and medical students as well as residents on their journey.

Her research experience includes a survey for a Northwest Tribal Clinic to assess the patient base regarding their knowledge, usage and interest in Complementary/Alternative Medicine. The study was used as a tool for the tribe to evaluate future healthcare needs for the community. Dr. Alexander is now working with the University of Washington and Tulalip Tribe on a Cardiovascular Grant.

## MEMBER AT LARGE

**Melvina McCabe, MD – Navajo**  
Dr. Melvina McCabe completed her undergraduate studies and medical degree at the University of New Mexico. She is a geriatrician and board certified family physician at the University of New Mexico School of Medicine – Department of Family and Community Medicine. Dr. McCabe also serves as a member of the University of New Mexico Mosaic Committee to advise on the recruitment and retention of underrepresented students. Her research includes issues regarding Hantavirus, alcohol abuse, diabetes, and geriatric education.

Dr. McCabe is active in several key committees, including the Minority Affairs Consortium of the American Medical Association and the National Institutes of Health National Advisory Council on Minority Health and Health Disparities. She served as a Presidential appointee to the bipartisan advisory committee to the White House Conference on Aging 2006. She also served New Mexico's Governor Bill Richardson as a member of the Health Policy Committee. Dr. McCabe served as President of AAIP in 2000.

## MEMBER AT LARGE

**Lyle Ignace, MD – Coeur d'Alene**  
Dr. Lyle Ignace received his undergraduate degree from Marquette University in 1992. He earned his medical degree from the University of Minnesota in 1996. Dr. Ignace was active in the Association of Native American Medical Students during medical school.

Dr. Ignace practices internal medicine at the Gallup Indian Medical Center in Gallup, New Mexico. He was recently appointed Chief of Internal Medicine. An active member of AAIP since 1996, he works to educate and encourage high school, college and medical school students to continue their studies.

# NEW MEMBER

# SPOTLIGHT

Dr. Yolandra Toya

AAIP is proud to welcome a new member, Dr. Yolandra Toya. She is a member of the Jicarilla Apache Nation in north central New Mexico. Dr. Toya is a pediatrician at the University of New Mexico's Children's Hospital. Her mother inspired her at a young age to help others.

"My mother started the first Elderly Support Program on our reservation when I was growing up," explains Dr. Toya. "I saw the value of taking care of others, especially those who are sick, dying, or in need of other types of support. My mother was an advocate for these very special individuals in our tribes. She made sure that the program she was developing provided a comprehensive (mind, body, soul) network of services for them."

Dr. Toya received her medical degree from the University of New Mexico School of Medicine. She also has a Masters of Public Health from the University of California at Berkeley. She earned her undergraduate degree at Princeton's Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs. In December 2007, she will join New Mexico Pediatrics – a private practice group in Albuquerque, NM.

"I hope to offer urban Native Americans an alternative to existing, overcrowded medical facilities. I also will continue to work in community health in the field of Injury Prevention in Native communities," says Dr. Toya.

She had several mentors in AAIP – Gayle Dine Chacon, Melvina McCabe, and Erv Lewis. Dr. Toya says they were great role models.

"We need more Native Americans in all fields of medicine. My mentors told me they supported AAIP's programs to attract more students to health careers. I feel that by being a member, I'm doing the same. I think we provide balance and an alternative view of what modern and traditional medicine can be," says Dr. Toya.

Dr. Toya is married to Greg Toya (Jemez Pueblo). The couple has two children, Anya and Cody.



"We need more Native Americans in all fields of medicine...  
I think we provide balance and an alternative view  
of what modern and traditional medicine can be..."



# CIRCLING RAVEN

Scenic location set for  
2008 Annual Convention

The Association of American Indian Physicians is planning for the 2008 Annual Convention to be held at the Coeur D'Alene Resort Hotel in Worley, Idaho. The hotel is nestled in the natural beauty of the Northwest allowing AAIP members and their families to enjoy hiking and biking trails, boat cruises, shopping, entertainment, and sightseeing.

Organizers are preparing the conference programs. AAIP members can expect a variety of topics, presentations and discussions. Youth health issues will be a major focus.

Convention participants will also look forward to the Julyamsh Powwow hosted by the Coeur d'Alene Tribe. The event is the largest outdoor powwow in the Northwest.

**Conference Date: July 24-29, 2008**  
Registration and other details are coming soon!





# YOUTH INITIATIVE

## EXPOSES NATIVE STUDENTS TO HEALTH CAREERS

10th Annual National Native American Youth Initiative Held in Washington, D.C.

The Association of American Indian Physicians sponsored the 10th Annual Patty Iron Cloud National Native American Youth Initiative (NNAYI) program June 23 – July 1, 2007 in Washington, D.C. The program encourages high school students to explore careers in health care and biomedical research.

Fifty-one high school students selected nationwide attended the summer program. They represent 32 federally or state recognized tribes from 15 states.

“It’s a rare opportunity for the students,” says Lucinda Myers, NNAYI Program Director. “They get to explore the medical field by visiting a number of institutions and meeting with health care professionals. The doctors and researchers are Native Americans who serve as excellent role models.”

The NNAYI participants were housed at George Washington University, located in the heart of the nation’s capitol. Students were given guided tours to various medical institutions that include George

“... it was incredible to be able to participate in the lectures with all of these influential doctors...”

Dinah Harjo  
Norman, Oklahoma



18-year-old Dinah Harjo accepts a certificate from 2006-2007 AAIP Board President Dr. Susan Sloan. At a special banquet, the students received the certificates for completing the NNAYI summer program in Washington, D.C.

Washington University, Georgetown, the National Library of Medicine, the Office of Minority Health, and Indian Health Services. One of the highlights of the tours was the National Library of Medicine’s exhibit, “Visible Proofs: Forensic Views of the Body.”

The curriculum is designed to include a series of lectures, interactive workshops, and field trips. The students learned about opportunities in the medical field and resources for their educational endeavors. They also discussed health care issues affecting Native American communities.

“I thought it was incredible to be able to participate in the lectures with all of these influential doctors and to see the medical facilities at work,” says 18-year-old Dinah Harjo of Norman, OK. “The NNAYI really did help me make a decision to pursue a career in physical therapy.”

Eleven AAIP member physicians along with two former NNAYI scholars served as mentors and guest speakers during the program. Counselors were also a vital part of the program, acting as chaperones and role models for the participants. They provide both professional and personal guidance during the week-long program.

Students also got the opportunity to meet more than a dozen U.S. Senators.

“We’re so proud to be able to provide this program to these students. We want to be able to inspire them early to take on a leadership role,” explains Margaret Knight, AAIP Executive Director. “They are the future – and we hope they aspire to make a difference.”

## NNAYI SURVEY DRAWING

1. iPod Nano – Kolton Holmes
2. (2) DVD Players – Joni Gee and Alicia Chaino-Ahkeahbo
3. Target Gift Card – Hannah Prairie Chief
4. Borders Bookstore – Chris Roman Nose
5. Wal-Mart gift card – Jessica Kinsey
6. Visa gift card – Mikela Jones
7. McDonalds gift card – Kael Wanamaker
8. Shells gas card – Ginger Jacobs
9. Starbucks gift card – Frances Kachele
10. Bath & Body Works gift card – Michael Adams

# MAYO CLINIC ONCOLOGIST HONORED AS INDIAN PHYSICIAN OF THE YEAR

National Organization Recognizes Doctor as Role Model for Native Americans

The Association of American Indian Physicians honors Dr. Judith Kaur as the 2007 Physician of the Year. Dr. Kaur is the Medical Director of the Native American Programs of the Mayo Comprehensive Cancer Center. She is also Associate Professor of Oncology at Mayo Clinic College of Medicine.

"Dr. Kaur (Choctaw/Cherokee) is one of the few Native American oncologists in the nation," says Melvina McCabe, MD, Chair of the Selection Committee. "She is the driving force of a number of health programs and initiatives to improve the care and treatment of all cancer patients."

Dr. Kaur is active in outreach and educational projects. She oversees a program called Native WEB that provides training to nurses who conduct breast and cervical cancer screening to Native American and other underserved women. She is also proud of the Spirit of E.A.G.L.E.S. program which inspires students to explore health careers and examine health issues in Native American communities.

"I'm drawn to the study of cancer because of its complexity and how it affects people," explains

Dr. Kaur. "It's important for us to care and counsel patients with compassion."

Her devotion to her patients and her profession earned her the recognition of Physician of the Year at the recent AAIP conference held in Nashville, TN. Her colleagues consider her a remarkable role model and mentor for Native American students. Dr. Kaur is the first in her family to graduate from high school. She spent several years as an educator and counselor before earning her medical degree from the University of Colorado Medical School.

"My goal is to inspire 10 more students to study oncology before I retire," says Dr. Kaur. "The work is very fulfilling – it's a wonderful thing to be able to make a difference in the lives of patients."

The selection committee was composed of past recipients of the award. Dr. Kaur was honored at the closing luncheon of the AAIP Annual Meeting and Health Conference. She was presented with a Pendleton blanket embroidered with her name, award, and the year.

"I'm drawn to the study of cancer because of its  
complexity and how it affects people..."

It's important for us to care and  
counsel patients with compassion."





## ONE CULTURE TWO WORLDS

# CONNECTING TRIBAL & URBAN INDIAN HEALTH

36th Annual Meeting and National Health Conference

The Association of American Indian Physicians held its 36th Annual Meeting and National Health Conference on July 27 – 31 in Nashville, Tennessee. More than 300 people attended the convention with dozens of activities, programs and presentations scheduled.

AAIP President Susan Sloan, MD provided a stimulating Welcome Address focused on the convention's theme – "One Culture, Two Worlds: Connecting Tribal and Urban Indian Health."

"The theme of the conference reflects what we wanted to achieve – celebrate modern and traditional approaches to the practice of medicine," explained Margaret Knight, AAIP Executive Director. "Our board and staff worked really hard to make this event a memorable one. We had wonderful speakers, educational workshops, and mentoring and networking opportunities for professionals and students."

The Executive Director's Diary recaps and reflects on the five-day conference:

### THURSDAY AND FRIDAY, JULY 26-27, 2007

The conference began with a Pre-Admissions Workshop for 26 American Indian/Alaska Native students from various areas of the country. The University of Minnesota – Center of American Indian and Minority Health co-sponsored the workshop. The program is designed to assist students in the process of applying to medical school. Presenters spoke on various topics such as Financial Aid and Scholarships, MCAT Preparation, Developing Your Personal Statement and Health Disparities in Native American Communities.

Juan Amador, Senior Staff Associate for the Division of Diversity Policy and Programs of the Association of American Medical College, was a guest speaker on

the topic of AAMC Building Diversity in the Physician's Workforce.

Students found valuable information in the interactive session called The Application Process: Selling Yourself on Paper and in Person. The medical student and physician panel gave wonderful insight regarding what students can expect during and after medical school. The two-day workshop ended with the "mock interview" process that allows students an opportunity to experience a medical school admissions interview with AAIP member physicians conducting the interviews.

Additional student sessions included the following:

- Professional Development Workshop and Talking Circle for Residents
- What I Wish I Would Have Known Before Residency
- MedEd101 for residents and MedEd101 for medical students

After two days of intensive sessions, the students and Pre-Admission Workshop faculty were treated to a dinner/mixer. This was a great networking opportunity for those attending.

Dr. Larry Agodoa and Winnie Martinez of the National Institute of Diabetes & Digestive & Kidney Disease (NIDDK) Research Training Program provided a session for students interested in doing research, highlighting the many opportunities available through NIDDK.

An NDEP Focus Group was conducted on Friday asking AAIP physicians what can NDEP do for them – inquiring about the tools and educational materials needed to better educate and care for Native patients.

Theresa Maresca, MD and Shanda Lohse, MD facilitated the Women's Retreat. It was a well-attended activity. As one participant stated, "The Women's Retreat is always rewarding to renew my spirit for one more year." Participants also enjoyed the Golf Scramble.

Sessions that were not part of the CME program were presented on Friday afternoon and covered topics such as Financial Planning, American Indian Health Information and Music in Healing.

After two full days of student sessions, conference participants were treated to an evening at the Grand Ole Opry for the Family Night Activity. Headliners were Little Jimmy Dickens, Porter Wagoner and Charley Pride who sang his famous "Kaw-Liga" which brought applause from the large Native audience.



The Color Guard kicks off an event at the conference. More than 300 people attended the AAIP Conference this summer.

## SATURDAY, JULY 28, 2007

This was the official opening of the conference with the All Nations Warrior Society Honor Color Guard from Cherokee, North Carolina presenting colors and the Flag Song by the Sizzortail Drum of Shawnee, Oklahoma.

After a welcome address by Dr. Susan Sloan, AAIP President, a special signing ceremony was conducted between AAIP and the National Council of Urban Indian Health to solidify a collaboration and partnership between the two organizations. Taking part in the welcome were Moke Eaglefeathers, President of NCUIH – Richie Grinnell, Director for the Indian Health Service Nashville Area – and Brenda Shore representing the United South Eastern Tribes. A keynote address by Ralph Forquera, Executive Director of the Seattle Indian Health Board, focused on urbanization.

The keynote address was followed by plenary sessions and concurrent workshops. A panel of Urban Indian Clinic health care providers and administrators covered issues that were of great interest to the audience. The workshop covered topics such as

Holistic Healing in Addiction, Effects of Substance Abuse and Alcohol and IHS-Tribal Alcohol Screening. Those in attendance gave high marks for the presentations. They said the sessions were very hands-on and provided excellent information that could also be given to high school students. The lectures gave participants a new way of understanding medi-clinical approaches.

The American Academy of Pediatrics sponsored a luncheon for students and physicians. The featured guest speaker was Dr. Benjamin Hoffman from the University of New Mexico, Associate Professor of Pediatrics. Paulette Baukol of the AI/AN Leadership Initiative on Cancer, Mayo Clinic, Spirit of EAGLES provided a session for the students on Saturday evening.



Pictured here are (left) Dr. Mark Laroque and (right) Dr. Gerald Ignace, the 2007-2008 AAIP Board President. The Gourd Dance was held before the Grand Entry.



Contest winners are announced after their dance performances.

The evening activities featured the Gourd Dance – the evening Grand Entry – and Pow wow. The Master of Ceremonies, Mr. Tim Tallchief of Oklahoma kept the dance moving along with the various contest categories. People attended from various areas of the southeast and from as far away as Cherokee, North Carolina. The Pow wow was a great cultural activity and was well attended.

## SUNDAY, JULY 29, 2007

Several special events were scheduled for this day. The AAIP Initiation Ceremony welcomed new member physicians into the organization. See page 6 for a profile of one of our new members, Dr. Yolandra Toya.

A special breakfast for the AAIP Diabetes Program Affiliates provided an opportunity for AAIP staff to give an update to the Diabetes Program Affiliates as well as plan for future activities.

The second of two urban clinic panels was scheduled for this day. Geoffrey Roth, Executive Director of NCUH, provided a general urban health update. Phyllis Wolfe provided information from the urban Indian Health update, regarding the Office of Urban Indian Health. And finally, Moke Eaglefeather weighed in on the topic of Urban and Tribal Relations. The audience gave high marks to this panel for the breadth and depth of the information that was presented.

Dr. Dawn Wyllie and Dr. Patrick Rock described the Partnerships Between Tribal and Urban Program in the Bemidji Area. The presentation was interesting and important for the practice of medicine by exploring different areas in medicine and pharmacy.

Three concurrent workshops were of great importance to the audience – The Genetics and Pre-ec-lampsia Project, Use of Autologous Platelet Graft and “Salad Sisters”.

The National Diabetes Education Program (NDEP) recognized AAIP for its mission and vision. Dr. Jane Kelly, Director of NDEP from the Centers of Disease Control, made the presentation marking AAIP’s 10-year anniversary as a founding partner of NDEP.

Dr. Gerald Ignace incoming AAIP President for 2007-2008 presented a video that illustrates the natural beauty of his home area of Coeur D’Alene, Idaho. It is the proposed site of the annual meeting next summer. Planning is already underway for the 2008 conference.

The afternoon continued with CME sessions that covered important and timely topics such as Indian Country Methamphetamine Initiative. Dr. Roger Dale

Walker provided details on the growing problem of meth in Indian Country. A partnership between several organizations and tribes are producing a toolkit to be disseminated in Indian Country.

Dr. James Jarvis from the University of Oklahoma College of Medicine spoke about another health concern – Systemic Lupus in Indigenous American Teenagers and Young Adults.

Breakout sessions ranged from Exercise and Pregnancy, Native Health Initiative and Disparities in Cardiac Procedure Rates. The audience gave high marks to Dr. Steve Williamson, Anthony and Shannon Fleg, and Dr. Stacey Jolly. Those attending the lecture say the information would be helpful in their own practices.

A Presidential Reception and Gala was held on Sunday evening. Dr. Susan Sloan hosted the event featuring great food and an Elvis impersonator who helped entertain the guests.

## MONDAY, JULY 30, 2007

About 25 runners and walkers participated in the Fun Run held at the Two Rivers Park. The trail had some challenging turns and hills. After the run, participants were treated to an omelet breakfast.



Conference participants laced up their tennis shoes for the 5K Fun Run and 1 mile walk. The event is a way to promote exercise and good health.

Another excellent group of topics in the plenary session included the following:

- **Flip the Lip: Oral Health Risk Assessment Training** by Tamana (Bunny) Begay, DDS
- **Prescription Pain Pill Abuse** by James Thompson
- **Pediatrician Where Art Thou? – with Dr. Joseph Bell**

The American Psychiatric Association sponsored a luncheon for physicians and students to hear Dr. Mary Roessel talk on Real Psychiatry: Doctors in Action.

The afternoon plenary sessions covered two topics:

- **Juvenile Justice Advocacy for Native American Youth** by Dr. Yolandra Toya, a pediatric resident at the University of New Mexico Children's Hospital
- **Along Came A Spider: Colorectal Cancer in American Indian Communities** by David Purdue, Assistant Professor, University of Minnesota.

## TUESDAY, JULY 31, 2007

More plenary sessions were featured on the final day of the conference:

- **Funding Challenges for Urban Indian Programs – Dr. Katherine Whipple**
- **Gambling and Mental Health Among Native American Veterans – Dr. Joe Westermeyer**
- **Long Term Care in American Indians – R. Turner Goins**
- **Pathways Into Health – Dr. James M. Galloway, Regional Health Administrator for the Department of Health and Human Services.**

The conference concluded with a luncheon to honor the AAIP Physician of the Year – Dr. Judith Kaur. See a feature story on page 10.

**COMMONWEALTH FUND / HARVARD UNIVERSITY**  
**FELLOWSHIP IN MINORITY HEALTH POLICY**

**At the Harvard Medical School - Boston**  
 Applications now accepted for a 1-year, full-time fellowship beginning July 2008. Program prepares physicians for leadership positions in minority health policy and public health. Incorporates intensive training in health policy, public health and administration. Will complete academic work leading to a master's degree at Harvard School of Public Health. Full graduate program includes courses, seminars, leadership forums, practicum, site visits and mentoring by senior faculty and public health leaders.

The Fellowship also offers the MPA degree at Harvard's John F. Kennedy School of Government to physicians who already have an MPH.

**Qualifications** - BC/BE required, experience with minority health issues, interest in public policy and public health, and U.S. citizenship.  
**Salary/Benefits** - \$50,000 stipend, master's degree tuition, health insurance, travel for professional meetings and site visits.  
**Application Deadline** - January 2, 2008

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**Underrepresented Minorities and Women  
are Encouraged to Apply**



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## CONFERENCE FEEDBACK

- 96% rate conference “very good” or “excellent”
  - **100% rate speakers as well-prepared and knowledgeable**
- 96% believe conference met their expectations.
  - 91% rate conference as well-organized