

Year 6

Issue 4



AAAHH Newsletter

Asia Pacific Action Alliance on Human Resources for Health

AAAHH 7th Annual Conference – Special Edition

Conference Re-Location

Owing to technical difficulties, the 7th Annual AAAHH conference has been moved and will now be held in Bangkok, Thailand, from the 5th to the 7th of December 2012.

The conference will take place in the beautiful 5 star Pullman Bangkok King Power hotel. Learn more about this hotel and its facilities here: pullmanhotels.com



The theme and sub-themes for the conference remain unchanged. They can be seen on the AAAHH Conference website here: <http://www.aaah-conference.org/12/article/theme-and-sub-themes>



Visit the AAAHH Conference Website to register and to learn more:

<http://www.aaah-conference.org/>

Registration for the AAAH Annual Conference

Anyone wishing to attend the conference is welcome to register via the AAAH conference website here: <http://www.aaah-conference.org/12/article/registration>

There is a discount for early registration: [Early bird registration](#) costs ฿6300 Thai Baht (Approx Equivalent to \$200 USD) and is available until the 30th of September 2012.

Standard Registration will be available from the 1st until 31st of October and will cost ฿9500 Thai Baht (Approx Equivalent to \$300 USD).



Registration for the conference includes the following:

- Access to all plenary and parallel sessions throughout the three day conference
- Welcome dinner in the Pullman Hotel
- Conference Celebration Dinner on [Chao Praya Grand River Cruise](#)
- Participation in half-day fieldtrip
- Lunch on all three days
- Morning and afternoon snacks
- Conference book and souvenir package



Abstract Selection Process

This year the AAAH Annual Conference received almost 100 abstracts. These came from 19 different countries, including from 12 of the 16 AAAH member countries as well as Colombia, Japan, Kenya, Morocco, Pakistan, Senegal, United States

The 12 external reviewers worked hard to select the best abstracts for oral and poster presentation at this year's conference. We are very grateful to our reviewers from Healthspace.asia, Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), Naresuan University Thailand, the Rockefeller Foundation (RF), the Strengthening Thai Capacity for Health Promotion Programme (STRETCH), the University of the Philippines, the World Bank and the World Health Organisation (WHO).

All abstracts were read initially by at least two reviewers, and wherever reviewers disagreed the papers were then sent for further review to make a final decision.

The papers were assessed on four key criteria.

- Relevancy — Does the paper seem relevant for the conference?
- Originality — Are the ideas in the paper new?
- Clarity — Are the ideas organized and presented in a clear and logical way?
- Scientific Quality — Are the scientific approach and applied methods valid and clearly outlined?

The standard of the abstracts was very high and a number of abstracts have been provisionally selected for oral and poster presentation. The chosen abstracts represent a wide range of different experience and knowledge from a number of countries within, and outside, the AAAH network.

The Secretariat are looking forward to welcoming between 200 and 250 participants to this year's conference, we hope to see you there.

Download the conference programme from the AAAH Conference website "here":<http://www.aaah-conference.org/12/article/general-information>

Human Resources for Health News and Research

News

Cambodian PM's visit aims to enhance ties with China

The Chinese government has pledged to assist Cambodia in the health sector through human resources training and combating any form of epidemic.

Read more: <http://www.globaltimes.cn/content/730824.shtml>

Retiring US Surgeon to teach in Rwanda

A professor of surgery from Amarillo USA, is working to solve the shortage of HRH in Rwanda through volunteering to teach for a year in the Rwandan capital Kigali .

Read more: <http://amarillo.com/news/2012-09-04/flight-dove-lands-rwanda>

Doctors in Bangladesh don't want to work in rural areas

This interesting article, written by a doctor in Dhaka, explains the problem.

Read more: http://www.thefinancialexpress-bd.com/more.php?news_id=140826&date=2012-08-24

Research

Pacific Islander Health Professionals – Many leave to study – few return home

This new study examines the destination of Pacific Island health professional graduates from a New Zealand university and the factors that would encourage them to return and practice in their own countries.

Read more: <http://www.human-resources-health.com/content/pdf/1478-4491-10-24.pdf>

Good news on attitudes to rural work among trainee doctors in Nepal

This study concludes that medical students are enthusiastic about working in rural areas, if there are suitable facilities and conditions.

Read more: <http://www.human-resources-health.com/content/pdf/1478-4491-10-27.pdf>

Rapid Expansion of Health Professional Education in Tanzania

This study discusses the growth of medical training in Tanzania and examines the international partnerships that are helping with curricula revision and faculty development. .

Read more: <http://www.plosmedicine.org/article/info%3Adoi%2F10.1371%2Fjournal.pmed.1001284>

Ms Zhang Yun—New Focal Point for China



We wish to give a warm welcome to our new AAAH Focal Point for P.R. China Ms Zhang Yun. Ms Zhang is Program Manager at the Beijing Health Human Resources Training Center, in the Ministry of Health, P.R. China. In this role her main priority is exploring and carrying out international programmes in the field of HRH. Ms Zhang is also a Program Officer in the Department of International Cooperation, in the Ministry of Health, P.R. China. This role requires developing bilateral health cooperation with Asian and African countries, and conducting regional health cooperation with ASEAN, GMS, China-Japan-Korea and CAREC.

Ms Zhang has both a bachelors, and a masters degree in Health Management from Shandong University in P.R. China. With this academic record and relevant work experience working with international networks, we expect Ms Zhang to be a very valuable addition to the AAAH family.

Rumanusina Francine Maua—New Focal Point for Samoa

The Secretariat are pleased to introduce Ms Rumanusina Francine Maua, the new focal point for Samoa. Ms Maua has a bachelors degree in Political Science and Social Policy from University of Victoria in Wellington, New Zealand, as well as a masters degree in Health Management from the University of New South Wales, Australia.



Ms Maua is now Principal Human Resource & Administration Officer in the Corporate Services Division of the Ministry of Health, Samoa. In this role she has a wide range of responsibilities including leading and managing the staff of the Human Resource unit, ensuring the development of an appropriate range of HR policies, and providing technical advice and training to managers. Ms Maua has a long involvement with HRH issues, and attended the 3rd, 4th and 6th AAAH annual conferences. We look forward to working with Ms Maua more closely now she is the new AAAH focal point for Samoa.

Miscellaneous Worldwide HRH News

USA Affected by HRH Shortfall

The 'Alliance for Health Reform' have conducted research which forecasts a shortfall of 90,000 physicians expected to affect the USA in the next 10 years. The 'toolkit' they have produced gives detail of relevant articles and research and can be found in the link below.

Read more: http://allhealth.org/publications/Physician_Workforce_Shortage_110.pdf

GHWA – Third Global Forum on HRH – October 2013

The Global Health Workforce Alliance will host the Third Global Forum on Human Resources for Health in October 2013. Details will follow soon regarding the location of next year's forum.

Conference Alert.

Topic	Nursing Staffing Levels and Skillmix
Date	Tuesday 23 October 2012
Venue	Hallam Conference Centre, London
Website	http://www.healthcareconferencesuk.co.uk/nursing-staff-levels-skills-mix
Topic	Global Nursing Conference
Date	January 18, 2013 - January 19, 2013
Venue	Hampton Inn & Suites East Corona/Riverside, California
Website	http://uofriverside.com/nursingconference.html

A Message from the AAAH Secretariat

It has been a challenging time for the AAAH network as technical issues and the sad passing of the AAAH Focal point for Bangladesh, Dr. Khaled Shamsul Islam, resulted in the relocation of this year's 7th Annual AAAH Conference to Bangkok.

Despite this the conference is shaping up to be our best ever with a great many exiting presentations lined up after a record number of abstract submissions.

We hope to see as many members of the AAAH network joining the conference as possible. See you in Bangkok!

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"Strengthened HRH planning and management capacity toward adequate, equitable, efficient and effective HRH and health systems for health equity and quality improvement in the Asia-Pacific region"

