Dear Members and Friends:

A lot has been happening over the past several months. We have seen the departure of our previous Executive Director and we have been faced with a new funding challenge. The National Center for Environmental Health (NCEH) is undergoing a reorganization. Due to this reorganization and to budget constraints at NCEH/ATSDR, the funding of our cooperative agreement has been eliminated for the 2016-2017 fiscal year.

Since the majority of our operating funds were derived from this cooperative agreement, this drastically impacts our usual operations. We are streamlining our office to continue to provide service to Environmental Health academic programs. Rather than dwelling on the negative impacts of these cuts, the Board of Directors and I are viewing this as an opportunity to take stock of where we are at as an organization and how we can more effectively advance Environmental Health education. Until the Board of Directors determines a new structure and funding scheme, I have been asked to serve as the interim Executive Director for both AEHAP and the National Environmental Health Science & Protection Accreditation Council (EHAC) without salary, thereby saving funds that can be better spent on delivering services.

Thanks to our member dues and to being able to carry over some cooperative agreement funds, we have sufficient funds to keep the office going for at least another year. We have one full time staff person, Leslie Mitchell who is spending half time working as the Accreditation Coordinator for EHAC and half time for AEHAP carrying out the essential activities necessary for our office. In addition, we are fortunate to have contracted with Carla Brown, an experienced bookkeeper, who is helping us get our financial house in order and ensure that we meet all of the legal requirements of a 501(3)c non-profit organization contd. on pg. 6....
Greetings from AEHAP’s New Board President, Dr. Jason Marion and President Elect, Dr. Anne Marie Zimeri!

President, Dr. Jason Marion

Dr. Jason Marion currently serves as the President of the AEHAP board. Dr. Marion is an associate professor of environmental health science at Eastern Kentucky University (EKU). Marion teaches courses in epidemiology, water/wastewater, research methods, and biostatistics. Prior to EKU, he worked 13 years with the state of Ohio serving the Ohio Department of Natural Resources and the Ohio Department of Agriculture. He has had additional experience at The Ohio State University as an infectious diseases fellow. Dr. Marion is a member of NEHA and the American Public Health Association (APHA). He maintains an active research agenda with graduate and undergraduate students studying heavy metal exposure in Appalachian well water users as well as waterborne diseases in developing nations. Dr. Marion’s board experience has included service as a member of the Board of Regents at Morehead State University and as a member of The Ohio State University Board of Trustees. More information can be found at aehap.org.

President Elect, Dr. Anne Marie Zimeri

Dr. Anne Marie Zimeri has been the Program Director of the BSEH at the University of Georgia since 2008. She teaches a suite of EHS classes including an introduction to EHS, Solid and Hazardous Waste Management, Bioremediation, and Genetic Applications in Environmental Health. Every other summer she takes a group of students to Monteverde, Costa Rica on a Comparative Environmental Health Program that focuses on Global Food Security. Her research activities include studying environmental factors such as heavy metals and PCBs and their relationship to sporadic breast cancer. Dr. Zimeri has also partnered with the USDA to look at heavy metals, pesticides, and the microbial ecology of farmers’ market farms (soil, compost, irrigation water) and the produce they sell.

More information at AEHAP.org

AEHAP President’s Message: AEHAP Needs You!

On behalf of AEHAP, welcome to the start of a new academic year. During this last year, our society and our world came face-to-face with environmental health issues either directly or through the news media. Specifically, events such as the emergence of Zika virus in the Americas, lead in drinking water, to EH challenges associated with the Olympic Games in Rio, and more. We saw direct evidence of the importance of our profession and the EHAC curriculum for developing environmental health practitioners who can think and act. Because of these issues and several years of EH-related public health problems, this is our time to provide solutions. Together, we can speak more boldly about the importance of science in solving environmental health problems. Together, we can better educate entering college students about the profession of environmental health. Many students want to do environmental health, but they still do not know we exist.

Our association is only as strong as our programs. We must remain mindful that there is strength in numbers. Across our 31 programs, we have a lot of commonality in terms of our needs for reaching students, explaining our programs, and showcasing the amazing career opportunities of the EH field. Through AEHAP we promote our programs and opportunities more effectively, but we will need to work together even more than ever.

After over a decade of receiving funding support from the Centers of Disease Control and Prevention’s National Center for Environmental Health, AEHAP will not be receiving support renewed support after this fiscal year’s funds are exhausted. As faculty and programs pursue grant opportunities, please feel free to reach out to AEHAP if partnerships are needed. AEHAP can link programs for contd. on pg. 7...
Fort Valley State University and C.H.O.I.C.E. International Inc. Partner to Raise Awareness Lupus Awareness

37 of Fort Valley State University MPH students participated in a web based lecture on Lupus awareness provided by C.H.O.I.C.E. Int'l Inc. a nonprofit organization with a mission of helping individuals achieve holistic wellness through education and prevention. As April closes out minority health month and May ushers in Lupus Awareness Month, raising awareness on the auto immune disease Lupus and the health disparities among African American women is important to public health advocacy. The collaboration between C.H.O.I.C.E. Int'l Inc. and Fort Valley University will help bridge the gap between public health professionals that are in the field and communities dealing with real people with real health problems. Being aware of the signs and symptoms can lead to early detection, reduce misdiagnosis, and increase connections with resources and access to care for improved health outcomes.

Dr. Oreta Samples distributed the web based module and accompanying survey to her students as part of the Master of Public Health Research Methods course (ENVH 5803) offered as a web-hybrid class at Fort Valley State University. C.H.O.I.C.E. Int'l Inc. utilized the resource from the Directors of Health Promotion and Education Lupus LEAP Mini Grantee program to fund the initiative. The Lupus lecture will help prepare Fort Valley students giving them a broader knowledge of public health disparities and chronic diseases that they are likely to encounter in their respective careers. The web based lecture type of learning was innovative and was well received by the students. For more information on how you can get involved with Lupus or other public health projects contact choice1nonprofit@gmail.com.

SAVE the DATES!

- July 7-9, 2017: EHAC Annual Meeting at the 2017 NEHA-AEC in Grand Rapids, Michigan
- July 10, 2017: AEHAP Annual Meeting at the 2017 NEHA-AEC in Grand Rapids, Michigan
- July 10-13: NEHA Annual Meeting in Grand Rapids, Michigan
Student Research Competition Winners and National Sanitation Foundation Scholarship Winner Present Research at the National Environmental Health Association’s Annual Meeting in San Antonio, Texas - A Superb Group of Young Professionals!

In June 2016, the Student Research Competition (SRC) winners and the National Sanitation Foundation (NSF) Scholar attended the National Environmental Health Association’s (NEHA) Annual Conference. The five students presented their individual research projects as part of the conference. SRC winners received $1,000 scholarships sponsored by the CDC and the NSF scholar received $3,500 to support her research efforts from the National Sanitation Foundation. In addition to the awards, students received financial support to attend the conference, thanks to scholarships provided by the Centers for Disease Control and the National Sanitation Foundation.

Students lauded the opportunity to present their work before their peers and EH professionals and especially the opportunity for one on one discussions during the poster session and between sessions. Significantly, students in schools with small environmental health programs found inspiration in having the chance to attend a national conference and network with so many and varied professionals and one student was hired on the spot - commenting that “this conference literally changed the course of my life.” Research areas focused on 1) the efficacy of mosquito abatement techniques in North Carolina, 2) morphological and molecular identification methods of La Crosse, Degue, Chikungunya and Zika vectors, 3) the presence of airborne particulates associated with frac sand plants, 4) residual soil lead present in a West Dallas neighborhood affected by historic lead smelter activities and 5) the use of third party standards municipal drinking water system plumbing component regulations and recommendations.

SRC Winners and NSF Scholar receiving their awards from Lt Commander, Jasen Kunz, Dr. David Gilkey of Colorado State University and Chuck Treser, AEHAP’s Interim Executive Director. Pictured from left to right: Lt Commander, Jasen Kunz, Scott Bieber, Melanie Keil, Marissa Taylor, Jason Volkman, Chuck Treser, Ethan Fuhrman
AEHAP NEWS: Internships and Scholarships

2017 Student Research Competition
Application Deadline: February 28, 2017

Win a $1,000 award and more than $1,000 in travel expenses to attend NEHA’s Annual Conference in Grand Rapids, MI - July 10-13, 2017

Winning students will be selected to present a 20-minute platform presentation and present a poster at the National Environmental Health Association’s (NEHA) Conference & Exhibition in Grand Rapids, Michigan July 10-13, 2017.

Applications must be submitted by Feb. 28, 2017 to Leslie Mitchell at:
info@aehap.org

For submission guidelines please visit: http://aehap.org/student-research-competition

AEHAP NEEDS YOUR HELP!!
The Student Research Competition (SRC) Project Needs YOU!

AEHAP’s most successful student support tool has been our Student Research Competition. For more than five years, AEHAP (with CDC funding) has logistically and financially supported the attendance of 5 to 10 undergraduate and graduates students if NEHA’s annual meeting. SRC winners benefit hugely from this experience, both personally and professionally.

Currently, we need volunteers to assist with this project as well as to search for funding to support these students. After several years of great success under the leadership of Dr. David Gilkey at Colorado State University, we are actively seeking a new SRC chair. We are fortunate to have had David head the SRC as it is a signature AEHAP program, and were desire to maintain the success of this great program. If you are interested in serving as chair of the SRC committee or on the committee itself, please email Jason Marion at ja-son.marion@eku.edu or Leslie Mitchell at info@aehap.org.

This program has changed the course of student’s lives, please help us continue to make this

National Environmental Public Health Internship Program (NEHPIP)- Application Deadline: Late February 2017

The purpose of NEPHIP is to encourage environmental health students to consider careers at local, state, or tribal environmental public health departments following graduation. Through this internship program, students will be exposed to the exciting career opportunities, benefits, and challenges of working with environmental public health agencies throughout the U.S.

Students who apply must be from National Environmental Health Science and Protection Accreditation Council (EHAC) accredited environmental health academic programs. Selected students will receive a stipend of up to $4,000 ($400 per week) for an 8 to 10 week internship to cover expenses. An additional stipend is available to cover the costs if the student relocates for the internship.

For more information on this opportunity and how to apply please visit: http://neha.org/internships.

2017 National Sanitation Foundation Scholar Application Deadline: January 16, 2017

Win a $3,500 award for research and up to $1,000 in travel expenses to attend NEHA’s Annual Conference in Grand Rapids, MI - July 10-13, 2017

The winning student will be selected to present a 20-minute platform presentation and present a poster at the National Environmental Health Association’s (NEHA) Conference & Exhibition in Grand Rapids, Michigan July 10-13, 2017.

Entries must be submitted by Jan. 16, 2017 to Leslie Mitchell at:
info@aehap.org

For submission guidelines please visit: http://aehap.org/student-research-competition
More importantly, we are actively moving forward on a number of fronts. First we fully intend to keep making progress on AEHAP’s primary mission of helping EH programs to become accredited with EHAC, helping new and existing programs to recruit new students and supporting increased diversity in both students and faculty within EHAC accredited programs.

We have outlined a plan for moving forward on several key initiatives. We are developing a package that programs can customize and use for recruiting new students into their program. We are revitalizing our website and developing new communication tools so that programs can network together to share best practices. We plan to continue to operate the Student Research Competition each year, as well.

And lastly, we are working with other Environmental Health associations including NEHA and the American Academy of Sanitarians (AAS) to increase the public’s understanding of Environmental Public Health and the people who work in this discipline; to promote the practice of Environmental Public Health, and raise the level of public support for Environmental Public Health services. We continue to be an active participant in the National Environmental Health Partnership Council (NEHPC) and the Environmental Health Coalition (EHC) both of which are funded by CDC and staffed through the American Public Health Association (APHA).

Reduced staffing has required revaluation of priorities. However, with the help and active involvement of the faculty in our academic programs, we can accomplish much more than we have to date. Many of the activities that staff have taken on in the past would be better performed by faculty and programs who have a better understanding of the curricular needs of Environmental Health education.

As just one example of how we can work together to advance EH education, consider the area of recruiting new academic programs. A major stumbling block for a number of programs is the absence of a course in Epidemiology or a course in Toxicology. AEHAP members who have already developed fully on-line courses in these subjects could make them available to programs who do not have the on-campus ability to teach one or both of these. All educational institutions permit students to transfer in a minimum number of credits from other institutions. The benefits are obvious, the host program gains the tuition revenue from students taking their course, and the prospective program gains the ability to become accredited by being able to ensure that their students meet all of the accreditation criteria.

There are any number of other opportunities in which our program can work together to advance the field of Environmental Health practice. We are actively soliciting your ideas, your support, and your involvement in advancing Environmental Public Health education. Please send us your ideas and comments.

Chuck receives AEHAP’s Jack Hatlen Award from former AEHAP President Lynn Burgess for his long time and significant service to the Environmental Health Profession at AEHAP’s 2016 Annual Meeting in San Antonio, TX. Thanks for all of your hard work for Environmental Health education Chuck!
President’s message from pg. 2... collaboration and AEHAP can also actively seek funds that may not be best sought via university mechanisms.

For this year, a key priority will be to enhance the standing of our AEHAP students in the environmental health profession. Being a student at an AEHAP school already has advantages in terms of internships and co-op opportunities, but we can further elevate the student experience and share their success for the continued improvement of our discipline and programs. Enclosed in this newsletter are two journal articles that may help AEHAP programs and faculty promote our programs. See below.

Collaboration & Student Club Initiatives

Across our AEHAP programs, tremendous creativity lies among our students and faculty. Through the use of social media applications, our student organizations can collaborate and share effective programs on their campuses and communities. Recently, Tim Murphy, Chuck Treser, and I met with David Dyjack, Executive Director of NEHA, and it is evident that there is strong support for strengthening the role of student clubs located on EHAC campuses as well as in the profession and at the NEHA Annual Educational Conference. As our clubs engage more with their campuses and prospective students, students are encouraged to share their stories through their own social media platforms as well as outlets such as the AEHAP newsletter.

For reaching prospective students, email lists can also be maintained by AEHAP, and targeted EH information can be sent on behalf of AEHAP spotlighting our student and career opportunities. Over the next year, we will work to enable a channel for faculty to have targeted email contacts receive information from AEHAP to help faculty and programs reach top students.

Other News – Appointments

At our annual AEHAP Meeting, Dr. Mike Fletcher was reappointed to the AEHAP board. Mike provides continuity and a great understanding of the AEHAP membership.

If you have any interest in supporting AEHAP or ideas for AEHAP, feel free to contact me at ja-
son.marion@eku.edu. With no additional CDC funding support after the current funds are ex-
hausted, AEHAP will need to focus on a lower oper-
ational cost model for promoting our academic programs. Our strongest assets though continue to be our current programs and our faculty. AEHAP is always willing to seek funding support for our students and our programs. Funding our current and future student research programs remains a top priority. Your membership or affiliation with AEHAP as a program or faculty member is appreciated and your dedication to develop skilled professionals who can think and act in regards to public health chal-

Best regards,

Jason W. Marion, Ph.D.
President, AEHAP
Associate Professor, Eastern Kentucky University

Two Articles for Promoting EH Programs

A short summary and links are provided below for the articles that I referred to in my letter. Please take a moment to have a look.

Much of AEHAP’s purpose is to support the growth of existing and new academic programs. Faculty and programs interested in sharing documentation to new or prospective students are free to use either or both of our two articles speaking to two specific issues: (1) career opportunities in EHS compared to other science professions, and (2) the value of a scientific and technical foundation in the practice of environmental public health. Recent studies and polling of today’s students indicate that many students desire public health careers; however, many also fail to obtain the technical background required to achieve career goals in disease prevention and public health problem solving. For contrasting our curriculum from other programs, AEHAP members can use and share either of our two AEHAP articles recently printed in the Journal of Environmental Health... contd. on pg. 8


The National Environmental Health Association has been a great partner and has kindly allowed us to share these articles published in their journal as part of their annual support of AEHAP through their journal. The first article uses Bureau of Labor statistics data and the BLS data demonstrate that the jobs are available in the EH field, and the pay is also among the most competitive in the country for recent B.S. graduates. The second article, published this September speaks to the importance of students seeking certain careers needing to have a scientific background to practice in the most exciting areas of public health. For AEHAP programs encountering students wishing to get involved with Zika efforts, global health issues related to water or food, or lead issues related to drinking water, these programs and their students will find the most recent article very helpful in explaining why EHAC accreditation matters.

**Highlights from 20150-2016 Annual Report from EHAC Accredited Programs**

![Chart 7: Undergraduate Enrollment Trends and Graduation Rates Over 10 Year Period](chart7.png)

![Chart 8: Graduate Enrollment Trends and Graduation Rates Over 10 Year Period](chart8.png)