

New York State College Health Association

www.NYSCHA.org



January 18, 2008

Dear Members and Friends of NYSCHA,

The New Year brings a considerable change to our affiliate's structure of our organization. On January 1, 2008, our traditionally independent affiliate officially became united with ACHA along with the remaining two non-united groups. Some changes will be evident immediately and others may emerge as time goes on. Among those at the front of everyone's mind are issues related to the cost of membership.

This is the time of year that NYSCHA membership renewals are distributed and herein lies the greatest impact to us, as an affiliate. Our united status with ACHA means that, in order to join NYSCHA as individuals, we need to pay dues to ACHA. We have been accustomed to an annual fee of \$25. For the year 2008, the fee will be \$150 for staff at ACHA member institutions and \$180 for those from nonmember institutions. In the latter case, it may be time to approach your administration about institutional ACHA membership. The base fee for ACHA institutional membership is \$300 plus $.00070 \times$ your Health Service budget.

For example, if a Health Service budget totaled \$850,000, the ACHA institutional membership fee would be calculated as follows:

Base Fee	\$300
Additional fee based on Health Service budget	\$595
TOTAL	\$895

The institutional membership fee includes an individual membership for a Representative from a Member Institution (**RMI**). This individual is determined by the Health Service Director. Basically, this is a free membership for one individual. In thinking of smaller Health Services which often are staffed by one nurse, the cost of individual membership would be automatically covered. Institutional membership also allows for one student representative from a member institution (**SRMI**). Exposing students to professionalism in college health has proven invaluable over the years as evidenced by the quality of NYSCHA's own Student Section. More information is available at the ACHA website at www.acha.org.

The message from the NYSCHA Board is simply that we all, as members, are going to experience this change in our organization and grow together. We are acutely aware that the change in dues structure may be a challenge for some current members. The Board has brainstormed numerous ways to assist those members not ready to join ACHA and have implemented a few changes prior to our 2007 Annual Meeting. Those attending may have noticed that we have eliminated the separate registration fee structure for *Members* vs. *Non-Members*. This practice will continue.

We ask that you send your thoughts, concerns, and questions to the NYSCHA Executive Board. The list of members is on our website at www.nyscha.org. I can be available to anyone within a short time (depending on my patient schedule) and will welcome any communication. My office phone is (315) 443-9017 and my email address is kmmaclac@syrr.edu. I wish everyone a happy and productive 2008!

Sincerely,

Kathy

Kathleen MacLachlan, MS, APRN-BC
NYSCHA President

The New York State College Health Association (NYSCHA) is an organization of individuals dedicated to promoting the health, safety, and well being of college students through primary care, mental health services, health counseling, health education, and health promotion activities. NYSCHA also recognizes its role as an advocate for health services and their representatives in areas relating to college health.