

American Medical College of Homeopathy

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American Medical College of Homeopathy
Transforming Lives



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AMCH Thanks Members of the Research Committee

AMCH would like to extend a grateful thank you to the members of the AMCH Research Committee. These individuals have been working diligently to support AMCH's research efforts. These currently include: Iris Bell (Chair), Meghna Thacker (Administrator), Joie Rowles, Bonnie Phelps, Marilyn Gradov, Melanie Grimes, Carol Baldwin, Loretta Butehorn, Joyce Frye, Nancy Gahles, David Brule, Tina Quirk and Todd Rowe.

AMCH Seeks Founding Members

AMCH is seeking founding members for its capital campaign. Your generous contributions can help to make it possible for AMCH to continue to grow and fulfill its mission. Please consider a tax deductible donation or pledge. Even small donations at this time can make a big difference.

AMCH Seeks Volunteers

Marketing committee • Fundraising committee • Financial committee

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The AMCH Letter

American Medical College of Homeopathy
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A newsletter of the American Medical College of Homeopathy

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MESSAGE FROM The President

The Changing Face of Homeopathic Education

Many Americans are facing significant challenges and changes in their way of life. Economic stresses, environmental stresses and technological stresses, have all taken their toll.

It is critical that homeopathic education keep pace with the changing style and pace of American lives. This requires considerable creativity and flexibility in the way that we educate our students.

Successful Career Track

Homeopathic schools traditionally have provided quality homeopathic education but have not been very successful in providing a career path for their students. Only approximately 1/3 of students graduating from programs in North America currently end up in successful homeopathic practice. Students want homeopathic education but need to see a strong career path that will allow them to practice successfully. It is critical for schools to provide better and more successful outcomes for their students.

Online Education

Online education provides a method to deliver homeopathic programming that reduces both travel stress and costs. As the quality of online education improves, it is increasingly possible to deliver quality homeopathic education through an online environment. Even clinical training can be partially taught through online virtual and interactive environments. The greatest challenge is to promote and nurture an online community that provides a healthy culture for homeopathic students.

Movement From the Sage on the Stage to a Guide on the Side

The face of successful education is gradually changing from lecture dependent learning to problem based and clinically based learning. Research shows that teachers are far more effective in the role of facilitating learning, as opposed to more traditional lecturing. It is important for schools to train faculty in effective and diverse methods of teaching.

Partnerships With Like Minded Homeopathic Institutions

Homeopathic institutions have traditionally been very insular and not worked with each other. The North American Network of Homeopathic Educators (NANHE) supports member homeopathic schools throughout North America and works to improve the quality of homeopathic education. Homeopathic schools are finding that by partnering together, they can share academic resources while facilitating each others missions.

Partnerships with Other Organizations

Homeopathic educational institutions have also not traditionally partnered with other alternative and allopathic organizations. If homeopathic education is to grow, partnerships with more mainstream organizations will help to improve the visibility and awareness of homeopathic medicine. In addition, there are many opportunities for shared resources with other institutions.

Improving the Standards of Homeopathic Education

The Council on Homeopathic Education (CHE) is the accrediting body for homeopathic schools in the United States. They are in the process of improving their standards for accreditation. In addition, they are in the process of applying for United States Department of Education recognition. In doing such, this will help to make low interest federal loans and student visas available to participating accredited schools.

VISION Statement

To provide the highest standard of education in homeopathic medicine, which transforms health care and improves the quality of life.

MISSION Statement

- To provide homeopathic students with the knowledge and skills basic to the practice of homeopathic medicine, inculcate them with the fundamental attitudes of compassionate, humanistic patient care, with a spirit and desire for lifelong independent learning and scholarship;
- To establish continuing medical education programs for practicing homeopathic practitioners;
- To make nationally and internationally recognized contributions to homeopathic research;
- Throughout the United States, to model and to promote excellence in homeopathic patient care, engender leadership in environmentally sustainable medicine and disseminate health information to the public.

Creating a Legacy for Homeopathic Education

Most schools in North America are dependent on a single teacher or administrator. When this individual retires, the school will often close. If homeopathic education wants to continue to grow and leave a longer term legacy it will be important to move away from a teacher dependent school to a faculty dependent school.

In the face of all of these changes, AMCH is working hard to creatively adapt to the changes in the modern world while preserving its educational philosophy and core principles.

Todd Rowe MD, MD(H), CCH, DHT
President

TRANSFORMING Lives

Life changing stories with homeopathy

Homeopathic Teaching Methods by Peris Gumz



The words auditory, visual and kinesthetic are probably familiar to many readers, especially those involved in education. It has become common to identify oneself using one of those words, as in "I'm a kinesthetic (or hands-on) learner." AND that's only one-third of the story.

When people identify themselves as a learner of a preferred perceptual language, that usually tells us where they feel naturally most capable, especially of retaining specific information and making subtle distinction. According to the Mind Patterns approach (see note below), all of us actually use all three perceptual languages; and for each of us, one of those languages triggers beta brain waves, one alpha, and one theta. Simply put, this means that for each of us, one language - let's say auditory - brings us to focused attention, ready to split hairs, the beta brain wave place. Another - let's say visual - brings us to alpha, the place of sorting, evaluating, exploring choices. The third - let's say kinesthetic - brings us to theta, the associative mind, even lost in thought or spacieness. In shorthand, we could say this hypothetical learner uses the AVK pattern. There are six possible perceptual patterns.

This means in any classroom, office, social setting, you name it, participants are processing their experience according to their perceptual pattern. For example, in hearing a lecture, some are tracking and remembering the verbal output with ease; some are concurrently asking themselves "Does that make sense to me? I don't think I would say it that way;" and some (unless they've learned good compensatory strategies such as note-taking or drawing or movement) may be associating, as in: "Lycopodium... I'm not sure I'd like a podium, maybe to lean on, or hold my notes..." or spacing out altogether.

The classroom implications at any level of education are huge. As an educator or presenter, maybe you're thinking "No matter what I do, one-third of the group will be struggling to bring their attention forward." The most effective strategy is to teach in ways that use all three perceptual languages. And reader - even that is only one-half of the story. For something to be

learned and not just taught, the learner needs to experience the material *receptively and expressively in all three perceptual languages*. We call this the "learning loop."

In our homeopathy classes, this means, for example, not just pre-reading and lectures with power points, but a concerted effort to represent ideas graphically (instead of just words) or three-dimensionally with objects that students can interact with. The whole class does role plays and shape-shifts into remedies. There are frequent opportunities for students to work in small groups so that they get to express what they are learning. We like to bring the actual source substance when exploring materia medica, although we have stopped short of bringing spiders and snakes. We have often done self-assessment by having students physically place themselves along a continuum of facility with a concept, and then invite them to take a step forward if they respond in affirmative to specific questions.

One of the best examples was a repertory lesson on the respiratory system, which included guided sounding, so that the class had a felt sense of specific parts of the body. I was wearing a turtleneck; and after each organ was explored, my teaching partner drew it on my clothes. This brought gasps! Next time, we're all going to draw on each other!

Finally, it is important to offer choices whenever possible. One example is the students' debrief in dyads after a concept is introduced - remind them that they can make notes, converse, take a walk together, whatever facilitates their process, and to notice what works best for them.

Peris Gumz, RN, CCH is a faculty member of the Spiral Program and Teleosis Homeopathic Collaborative, both in the Boston-area. She is available at perisg@aol.com

Mind Patterns was developed by Dawna Markova, PhD and Annie Powell. Books include The Open Mind by Markova and How Your Child is Smart (temporarily out of print) by Markova and Powell.

EDUCATIONAL Opportunities

Full Time Program

The AMCH doctoral program in homeopathy begins in February 2011. This is designed to be a four-year full-time training in homeopathic medicine and will provide a doctoral level of training. We plan to have our graduates eventually licensed as doctors through the Arizona Board of Homeopathic Examiners. The program is available both online and campus based. The next open houses are scheduled for Saturday July 17th, 2010 at 2PM PST and September 4th, 2010 at 2PM PST. These can be attended on campus or by webinar. Contact the registrar@AMCofH.org, or call 602-347-7950 for more information.

Introductory Talk Program

AMCH is offering an Introductory Talk Program in homeopathic medicine. These talks are available as both classroom based and online webinars: May 15th is called "Conquer Autism with Homeopathy"; and June 12th is called "Homeopathy and the Cure of PTSD". Both talks are from 10 am - Noon PST. Contact officemanager@AMCofH.org or call 602-347-7950 for more information.

AMCH/PIHMA Joint Program

AMCH is partnering with the Phoenix Institute of Herbal Medicine and Acupuncture to offer a combined program in Oriental Medicine and Homeopathic Medicine. For AMCH: Contact the registrar@AMCofH.org or call 602-347-7950. For PIHMA: Contact the registrar at contactus@pihma.edu or call 602-274-1885.

Preceptorship Programs

AMCH offers preceptorship programs for medical students and residents. These range from weekend based to full month clerkship. Contact the registrar at preceptorships@AMCofH.org or call 602-347-7950.

Acute Care & First Aid

AMCH offers a 40-hour introductory course that is designed to teach acute care and first aid prescribing for the public. This class meets one Saturday per month for six months. We are currently offering this program in Phoenix, Tempe and Pittsburgh. Let us know if you would be interested in teaching this program in your area. Contact the registrar@AMCofH.org or call 602-347-7950.

Introductory Distance Learning Programs

We have two distance learning programs that we offer nationally. These are 40 hour and 50 hour introductory courses that are designed to teach first aid and acute prescribing. They are CD/DVD based and accompanied by an extensive syllabus. Contact Lesley Hesselmann at DistanceLearning@AMCofH.org or 602-347-7950 for more information.

Green Medicine Distance Learning Program

We are beginning a new Distance Learning Program in Green Medicine. This program teaches how to create a sustainable green medicine practice. This program is offered in affiliation with Teleosis Institute. The program is 35 hours and spans two months. It includes on-line training and chat room discussion. Contact Lesley Hesselmann at DistanceLearning@AMCofH.org or 602-347-7950 for more information.

IN THE News

AMCH Newsletter Goes Green

After this issue, the AMCH Letter will only be available in an online format. This will help AMCH to go more green. To continue to receive our newsletter, please go to our website at <http://www.amcofh.org/newsletter.html> to subscribe for an electronic version.

AMCH Expands its Online Programs

As AMCH continues to grow, nearly all of its programs are being offered online. We have renovated our classrooms to provide the technology necessary to make this possible. We are planning on offering the Doctoral Program in a synchronous online format so that it will be available to anyone in the country.

AMCH Move Now Complete

AMCH has completed its move to its new location. It held its Grand Opening in December of 2010, which was a great success. The new location represents a considerable expansion of space and will provide a more suitable facility to launch the medical school in February 2011. Please note our new address at 1951 W. Camelback Rd, Suite 300, Phoenix AZ 85015. Our phone numbers and email remain unchanged.

American Museum of Homeopathy Seeks Historical Donations

AMCH has begun to display its museum collection. We are seeking historical homeopathic artifacts for display, as well as remedy sources from the animal, plant or mineral kingdoms. All donations are tax deductible. Contact the museum curator (Nancy Tichenor) at museum@AMCofH.org for more information.

National Library of Traditional Medicine Opens Its Doors

The National Library of Traditional Medicine represents a partnership between AMCH and the Phoenix Institute of Herbal Medicine and Acupuncture. The address is 301 E. Bethany Home Road, Suite AS-135, Phoenix Arizona. Contact 602-274-1885 for more information.



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