

News in Brief

Editorial Staff

Editor's Note: The first news brief is a digital exclusive; the second and third briefs also appear in print.

A Purple Heart for Southwest Acupuncture College

Southwest Acupuncture College in Santa Fe, N.M., has been designated as a "Purple Heart College" by the Military Order of the Purple Heart. According to Southwest College, the distinction "is the first for a college or university in the State of New Mexico and the first such distinction for an Oriental Medicine School in the world."

In a press release announcing the designation, the college also noted: "Southwest Acupuncture College has been proud to have many Alumni who have served in the U.S. Military, several of whom who had been decorated, and who have participated in Veterans Administration (VA) scholarships and vocational rehab programs. The College has also sought to recognize and support U.S. military service people by offering reduced rates for treatment in our College clinic.. Southwest Acupuncture College is honored to be able to formally recognize the continuing commitment of military service people and veterans as a part of our mission through accepting this honor."

The New Mexico Commander of the Military Order of the Purple Heart, representatives from U.S. Senate offices, and students, alumni and patients (some of whom are Purple Heart recipients themselves) attended the college's official proclamation ceremony.

ASA Announces New Board

The American Society of Acupuncturists (ASA) has announced a new board following the organization's 5th Annual Council Congress in May:

- Vice Chair - Zeyaid Elias, DAOM, RAc
- Secretary - Christine Cronin, DAOM, LAc
- Treasurer - Jason Bussell, PhD, MBA, MPH, LAc
- Immediate Past Chair - David Miller, MD, LAc
- Board Member at Large - Candace Sarges, MAc, LAc
- Board Member at Large - LiMing Tseng, MAOM, LAc

Although the ASA's in-person conference in Washington, D.C., was canceled due to COVID-19 restrictions, council proceedings continued via Zoom. As of press time, the ASA has scheduled its next in-person conference for April 17-19, 2021, in D.C. Visit the ASA website for additional information and updates as they become available.

New Acupuncture and Chinese Medicine College

Deborah Bushway, president and CEO of Northwestern Health Sciences University in Bloomington, Minn., recently announced the opening of a new NHSU college: The College of Acupuncture and Chinese Medicine. Assistant Professor Jessica Frier, DAOM, assumes the role of dean of the new college, which offers Master of Acupuncture and Doctor of Chinese Medicine degree programs. Both programs continue to be accredited by the Accreditation Commission for Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine (ACAOM).

"Being taken from a program into a college is a sign of growth, an outward step that signals to everyone that acupuncture and Chinese medicine are growing," commented Dr. Frier in an NHSU press release announcing the new college. "The university is allocating more resources to our success, and it's just a really good, positive sign regarding our position in health care."

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