



On Belay! News from the HLD Alumni Association  
To connect, serve, learn, and advise

November 2013

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**HLD Alumni Association  
Board of Directors  
2013 - 2014**

**HLD I**

Shawn Anderson  
Kevin Lewis  
Emily Rines  
Anita Ruff  
Peter Sirois

**HLD II**

Steve Keegan  
Evelyn Kielytyka  
Julie Osgood

**HLD III**

Valli Geiger  
Diane Skog  
Judian Smith  
Bob Williams

**HLD IV**

Mary Ann Amrich  
Arabella Perez  
Dennis Roy

**Register Now for December 5th  
HLD Alumni Conference  
and Class Dinners**

Join other HLD Alumni on December 5th to explore trust in this time of healthcare transformation. [Register now](#); you can also [view the agenda](#). The conference is 9:30am - 4:30pm in Augusta at [Governor Hill Mansion](#). Afterwards, there will be a networking reception, followed by separate dinners for each class (see below).



The keynote speaker is Dr. Jay Want, Chief Medical Officer and former Board Chair of the [Colorado Center for Improving Value in Healthcare](#). Dr. Want brings an articulate and inspiring voice to the challenge of building trust to drive transformational change in health care.

We'll also be joined by Frank Chessa and Jessica Miller, clinical ethicists at Maine Medical Center and Eastern Maine Medical Center respectively, who will work with us to connect the dots of trust, integrity, and ethics, with creating change in healthcare.

**Class Dinner Information**

Each class will gather at locations around the Augusta area for dinner after the conference. HLD I will meet at the Liberal Cup in Hallowell; [email Anita](#) if you are coming.

For all other classes, contact your Alumni Association reps for more information.

## HLD V

Catherine Chicester  
Brenda Czado  
Chris Muffett  
Lorrie Potvin  
Jana Purrell

## HLD VI

Poppy Thacher Arford  
Ruth Frydman  
Deb Silberstein

# HLD Alumni Association Board Update

The Board of Directors for the HLD Alumni Association met on September 13, 2013 for their annual retreat. Ideas flowed and conversations were animated as we discussed our past accomplishments, our current mission and plans for the coming year.

## Committees

Several committees formed to work on:

1. Fundraising options for our annual alumni scholarship. This includes going beyond the class fundraising work to brainstorm simple, painless ways for alumni to raise funds;
2. Energizing our regional meetings. This group is exploring ways to make the meetings more accessible, relevant and pertinent;
3. Planning for the fall alumni reunion. This group is working with Jim and Kathy to plan the agenda for the December 5th conference; and
4. Brainstorming with Jim and Kathy on ways to address the growing gender gap and shortage of physicians in HLD classes.

## Projects and Communications

The board discussed working with an intern to develop an alumni speakers/skills bureau and working with Hanley to allow alumni access to HLD class materials (see below). Anita Ruff agreed to continue to produce the newsletter. There is a typical 47 - 55% readership, double the national average for these types of publications.

## Your Class Representatives

Each HLD class has 3-5 representatives on the board. Get to know who your representatives are (see above). Let them know what you would like for networking and learning opportunities. Tell them what works for you and what alumni activities you'd like to see improved.

## New Board Leadership

Finally at the board retreat, MaryAnn Amrich assumed the position of board chair. She is grateful to Anita Ruff for her years of leadership in establishing the alumni association.



## Have Experience with Silent Auctions? Your Help is Needed!

The first ever HLD Silent Auction will be in March, and we need help putting it together! Proceeds will go towards the Alumni Association's scholarship fund.

If you are interested in a time-limited project, working with fun people, and helping others participate in the HLD Program, join us! The work will be done mostly over email and conference call, so distance isn't an issue. It's easy; just email [Poppy](#) or [Diane](#).

## Alumni News

The Alumni News section is the most read part of the newsletter! Help make it even more interesting by [submitting your news](#).

### Interclass Alumni News

Several HLD alumni are serving on the Steering Committee and Sub-committees of the State Innovation Model Grant from the [Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation](#). **Rhonda Selvin (IV)** and **Michelle Probert (VI)** serve on the Steering Committee. Serving on the Payment Reform Sub-committee are **Jamie Kuhn**, **Chris Zukas**, **Chris McCarthy**, **Kevin Lewis**, all from HLD I, as well as **Judiann Smith (III)** and **Michelle Probert (VI)**. **Ralph Johnson (II)** and **Katherine Pelletreau (IV)** serve on the Data Infrastructure Sub-committee. Serving on the Delivery System Reform Sub-committee is **Regen Gallagher (III)**, **Chris Pezzulo (IV)**, **Julie Schackley (IV)**, **Catherine Ryder (V)**, and **Rhonda Selvin (V)**.

### HLD I

**John Benoit** and **Kevin Lewis** were recognized by the Maine Health Management Coalition at their 20th anniversary symposium with a [20 in 20 Award](#). This recognition was awarded to 20 people from around Maine that have worked to improve the value of health care in Maine.



Congratulations to **Colleen Hilton** on her re-election to her third term as Mayor of Westbrook!



**Kevin Lewis** received the Maine Primary Care Association's President's Award at their Annual Meeting.

## HLD II

**Deb Fournier** was elected as Chair of the Maine Health Care Association's Board of Directors. She also recently gave a presentation at the National Association of State Veterans Homes.



## HLD III

Congratulations to **Angela Westhoff** who was recently elected as President of the Maine Public Health Association.



## Professional Development Resources

### Mongan Commonwealth Fund Fellowship Program

The Commonwealth Fund supports training for physician leaders who are dedicated to creating high-performance health systems for vulnerable populations. Deadline is December 16th.

View the application at:

[Mongan Commonwealth Fund Fellowship Program in Minority Health Policy](#)

### Recommended Reading

Wondering how to help your staff, organization, yourself, manage all of the changes in healthcare? We recommend reading *Switch: How to Change Things When Change is Hard*. This book describes the conflicts that happen between our rational and emotional sides, particularly when the path forward isn't clear.

## Health Disparities Ambassadors Program News

Over the last month, we had another exciting sharing of the collective HLD Health Disparities Ambassadors' wisdom with a presentation-Hidden Disparities: The Identification and Management of Systemic and Individual Implicit Bias-by **Jessica Loney** (HLD III), **Rene Dumont** (HLD I), **Ralph Johnson** (HLD II), **Becca Matusovich** (HLD II), and **Lorrie Marquis Potvin** (HLD VI) at the Maine Public Health Association Fall Meeting. The program was very well received and generated some lively discussion. Well Done!

The HLD Health Disparities Ambassadors Program will be evolving at the end of the year with a close of the formal Ambassador Project support and the growing development of the Health Equity Advisory Council. For the past 2 years, the Ambassadors Program has received technical support from Harvard Pilgrim Healthcare Foundation's Culture InSight primarily through **Fela Alvarado** (HLD III) and Dr. Mitzi Johnson, as well as from the Maine CDC's Office of Health Equity through its Director, Lisa Sockabasin. The Hanley Center's focus on the critical issue of health disparities and inequities will continue through the work of the newly formed Health Equity Advisory Council. If you have a passion for this work, please join the Council by contacting [Kathy Vezina](#).

### **New Access to Online Portal to HLD Program Material and Readings**

Have you ever wished you could get your hands on an article discussed during HLD or wondered about the latest in leadership? That information is now available to HLD alumni!

Go to [www.healthleadershipmaine.org](http://www.healthleadershipmaine.org).

At the bottom of the page, click on Login.

The username is Alumni. The password is network.

On the left navigation, click on Current Class, and the curriculum and course materials will be there.