

Adam Barry

Educational Background:

PhD Health Education Texas A&M University

M.S. Health Education (Community) Florida State University

B.S. Health Education (School) Florida State University

Current Position: Assistant Professor - Purdue University Department of Health & Kinesiology

Immediate Past Professional Position: Lecturer – Texas A&M University, Department of Health & Kinesiology

Professional Activities:

- Consulting Editor for the *Journal of American College Health*
- Secretary for the American College Health Association's Coalition for the Health Needs of Military Veteran Students
- Indiana Member at Large and member of the Executive Board of Directors for the Mid America College Health Association
- Journal Manuscript Reviewer:
 - *American Journal of Health Promotion*
 - *Health Education & Behavior*
 - *Journal of American College Health*
- Grant Reviewer for the NCAA CHOICES Alcohol Education Grants
- Undergraduate Research Mentor for Purdue University's Dammon Dean's Scholar Program
- Graduate Teaching Mentor for Texas A&M's Graduate Teaching Academy

AAHE/AAHPERD Professional Activities and Service - National, District or State:

While I have presented research at numerous AAHE/AAHPERD conferences, I have not engaged in any service-related work for either organization.

Brief Statement

In simplest terms, health education is the business of changing behavior. The theoretical underpinnings of our profession focus upon identifying why individuals perform (and do not perform) behaviors that will improve their overall quality of life and health. Our actions focus upon interpreting the various factors (intrapersonal, interpersonal, and community) influencing behavior, assessing and understanding individual and community need, planning interventions to address identified needs, and evaluating the effectiveness of our developed interventions. At their core, these efforts are ultimately aimed at changing behaviors.

Considering that chronic (i.e., lifestyle/behavior-based) diseases such as heart disease and diabetes now represent the greatest threats to our nation's health, there has been increasing emphasis on primary and secondary prevention efforts. As a result, the time is ripe for the "business" of health education to inform how we conceptualize and practice health care delivery. In order to do so, however, the field of health education must continue to make forward strides in honing its practice, training its practitioners, and marketing itself to the public. Key efforts in

making such strides include focusing on enhancing professional practice, such as the National Commission for Health Education Credentialing's competency-based framework.

As one of the preeminent national health education organizations, I view the American Association for Health Education (AAHE) as a key leader in moving health education forward. Moreover, I believe AAHE's advocacy and professional development activities clearly demonstrate the organization's commitment to progressing the role of health education, changing behavior, and ultimately improving the health of our nation. I am excited about the opportunity to serve alongside my fellow health educators on AAHE's Board of Directors and advance our profession. If elected, I will bring a critical eye focused on identifying the "holes" in our professional practice, and a creative perspective on how best to address these shortcomings.