

## For Immediate Release

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## McALEARNEY RECEIVES ACHE'S 2006 HEALTH MANAGEMENT RESEARCH AWARD

**CHICAGO, August 1, 2006**—Ann Scheck McAlearney, ScD, principal investigator, with consultant investigators **David J. Reisman**, Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston, and **Duane E. Reynolds** and **Rebecca Schmale, PhD**, OhioHealth, Columbus, received the American College of Healthcare Executives' 2006 Health Management Research Award of \$25,000 to launch a study titled "Corporate Universities in Healthcare Organizations: Exploring the Evidence."

The 12-month study will examine the role and reach of corporate universities in healthcare organizations and how such programs can benefit healthcare organizations striving to train and develop their employees. Their research will explore how to leverage resources to promote in-house learning and development while capitalizing on external management training programs.

“Essentially, corporate universities can promote a development mind-set within healthcare organizations, providing an umbrella for learning opportunities. Corporate universities often

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offer specific courses in leadership, negotiation and conflict resolution as well as provide training in targeted areas such as new information technologies,” says McAlearney. “Employees gain knowledge, skills and experience that can increase their individual competencies and value within the organization.”

The researchers’ objectives are to determine the essential components of corporate universities in healthcare organizations as well as alternative approaches to corporate university development. A nationwide survey of current practices in hospitals and healthcare systems will be combined with key informant interviews and case studies of exemplary corporate universities in healthcare organizations. All data will be analyzed to develop specific recommendations and guidelines for healthcare organizations interested in designing or extending the reach of corporate universities and leadership development programs.

“Corporate universities are fairly new in healthcare compared with other industries where companies such as General Electric Co., Motorola and Disney have well-established corporate universities. We want to explore which healthcare organizations currently have corporate universities, why they are pursuing this option and how they are measuring success. Then we will see how other organizations could apply the lessons we learn about corporate university design, implementation and evaluation,” McAlearney says.

ACHE introduced the Health Management Research Award in 1988 to enhance managerial effectiveness and/or career opportunities in health services administration. It is awarded annually through monies left to the Foundation of the American College of Healthcare Executives by the late Foster G. McGaw, founder of the American Hospital Supply Corporation. The award is granted to ACHE affiliates who are full-time faculty of health administration programs. Selections for the award are made by ACHE’s 12-member Higher Education and Research Committee.

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McAlearney currently is assistant professor at The Ohio State University School of Public Health in the Division of Health Services Management and Policy. She is the author of numerous academic articles and books including *Population Health Management: Strategies for Health Improvement*, published by Health Administration Press. She holds a doctor of science degree in health policy and management from Harvard University, a master's degree in biological sciences from Stanford University, and a bachelor's degree in arts and sciences in English and biological sciences from Stanford University.

### **American College of Healthcare Executives**

The American College of Healthcare Executives is an international professional society of 30,000 healthcare executives who lead hospitals, healthcare systems and other healthcare organizations. ACHE is known for its prestigious credentialing and educational programs and its annual Congress on Healthcare Leadership, which draws more than 4,000 participants each year. ACHE is also known for its journals, the *Journal of Healthcare Management* and *Frontiers of Health Services Management* and its magazine, *Healthcare Executive*, as well as ground-breaking research and career development and public policy programs. ACHE's publishing division, Health Administration Press, is one of the largest publishers of books and journals on all aspects of health services management in addition to textbooks for use in college and university courses. Through such efforts, ACHE works toward its goal of being the premier professional society for healthcare leaders by providing exceptional value to its members.

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