

## For Immediate Release

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## YARBROUGH RECEIVES ACHE'S 2007 HEALTH MANAGEMENT RESEARCH AWARD

**CHICAGO, August 6, 2007**— Amy K. Yarbrough, PhD, principal investigator, and Brian P. Baumgardner, co-investigator, received the American College of Healthcare Executives' 2007 Health Management Research Award of \$25,000 to launch a study titled "The Incorporation of Nontraditionally Educated Managers Into Hospitals."

An increasing number of managers are entering healthcare leadership roles without a healthcare management or clinical discipline educational background. According to Yarbrough and Baumgardner, the processes organizations use to acculturate employees from nonhealthcare backgrounds are not well understood. The 12-month study will examine the challenges and benefits of employing nontraditionally trained managers into healthcare leadership roles.

"I hope to provide a better understanding of the challenges and benefits of employing nontraditionally educated managers to existing healthcare leaders so that they can use this information in making recruitment and training decisions," Yarbrough says.

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“Additionally, I hope this research will benefit those in the healthcare field by giving them an appreciation for the support that nontraditionally educated managers need to succeed within healthcare organizations.”

The research will explore areas such as characteristics of nontraditionally educated healthcare managers, including their positions and method of entry into the healthcare field; ways in which nontraditionally educated individuals are learning about healthcare and healthcare management principles; and differences between nontraditionally educated managers and traditionally educated managers. The research will include structured interviews of executives from select hospitals and a national survey of healthcare managers.

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 11-member Higher Education and Research Committee.

Yarbrough is an assistant professor in the Department of Health Services Research, Management and Policy at the University of Florida. She completed her doctorate in Health Administration with a concentration in Strategic Management at the University of Alabama at Birmingham in 2006. She also holds a master of science in health administration and a master of business administration from the University of Alabama at Birmingham and a bachelor of science in Healthcare Management from the University of Alabama. Her research interests center around executive selection and leadership development in acute-care hospitals.

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Baumgardner is the chief operating officer at Lawnwood Regional Medical Center and Heart Institute, an HCA hospital located in Ft. Pierce, Fla. He holds a master of health administration and a master of business administration from the University of Florida.

The American College of Healthcare Executives is an international professional society of more than 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 groundbreaking 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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