For Immediate Release

ACHE Announces Winners of the 2019 Richard J. Stull Student Essay Competition in Healthcare Management


Marisa Polonsky of The University of Iowa won first place in the graduate division for her essay "High Reliability Organizations: The Next Frontier in Healthcare Quality and Safety." In the undergraduate division, Andrew W. Peeler of Auburn University won first place for his essay "Strategies for Cost Saving through Social Determinants of Health."

Polonsky and Peeler each received $3,000 and a plaque. Their schools each received $1,000. The first-place essays will be published in the Journal of Healthcare Management, ACHE’s official journal.

Jessica R. Maloy of the University of Minnesota took second place in the graduate division for her essay "Uncharted Territory: Making the Case for Health Systems as Community Integrators in the Journey to Health Equity." In the undergraduate division, the second-place prize went to Katia Zillic of James Madison University for her essay “Implementing Whole Community: Emergency Preparedness for Healthcare Organizations.” The second-place winner in each division received $2,000 and a plaque.

Lauren Navarro of the University of the Incarnate Word won third place in the graduate division for her essay “The Maternal Mortality Rate Disparity Between White and Black Mothers in the United States.” Nolan Ehrbar of Texas State University won third place in the undergraduate division for his essay “The Integration of Artificial Intelligence and Healthcare Human Resource Management.” Both third-place winners received $1,000 and a plaque.

The goal of the Richard J. Stull Student Essay Competition in Healthcare Management is to stimulate and demonstrate the ability of future healthcare executives to identify and describe important issues and developments in their chosen profession. It is open to all ACHE Student Associates enrolled in either a graduate or an undergraduate U.S. or Canadian health administration program that is part of ACHE’s Higher Education Network.

The competition was named in honor of ACHE’s fourth CEO, Richard J. Stull, FACHE, who served from 1965 to 1979. For more information and submission guidelines, contact Sheila Brown, chapter specialist, Division of Regional Services, at (312) 424-9316 or sbrown@ache.org.
About the American College of Healthcare Executives
The American College of Healthcare Executives is an international professional society of more than 48,000 healthcare executives who lead hospitals, healthcare systems and other healthcare organizations. ACHE's mission is to advance our members and healthcare management excellence. ACHE offers its prestigious FACHE® credential, signifying board certification in healthcare management. ACHE's established network of 78 chapters provides access to networking, education and career development at the local level. In addition, ACHE is known for its magazine, Healthcare Executive, and its career development and public policy programs. Through such efforts, ACHE works toward its vision of being the preeminent professional society for leaders dedicated to improving health. The Foundation of the American College of Healthcare Executives was established to further advance healthcare management excellence through education and research. The Foundation of ACHE is known for its educational programs—including the annual Congress on Healthcare Leadership, which draws more than 4,000 participants—and groundbreaking research. Its publishing division, Health Administration Press, is one of the largest publishers of books and journals on health services management including textbooks for college and university courses.

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