Advisory Board Convenes to Discuss Health Workforce Goals

The New York State Area Health Education Center (AHEC) System Advisory Board met in the State Capitol Building in Albany on September 11, 2000. Thomas C. Rosenthal, M.D., Director; provided a status report on AHEC development in New York State. Kenneth L. Oakley, Ph.D., C.E.O., Western New York Rural AHEC reported on the center’s accomplishments during its inaugural year.

The meeting featured a focused discussion and work session on how to establish health care workforce goals for New York State. Edward S. Salsberg, M.P.A., Director of The Center for Health Workforce Studies, University at Albany provided a status report on New York State’s health workforce which was followed by a reactor panel: Darrin Ocke, Associate Director for Legislative and Political Affairs, Medical Society of New York; Martha Orr, R.N., M.N., C.A.E., Executive Director, New York State Nurses Association; Ronald C. Brach, Executive Director, New York State Legislative Commission on Rural Resources; and Neil S. Calman, M.D., President and C.E.O., The Institute for Urban Family Health.

The New York State AHEC Advisory Board was created to provide advice on the quality and effectiveness of the AHEC model designed to facilitate the recruitment, training and retention of multi-disciplinary, primary care health providers in medically underserved urban and rural communities in New York State.

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The Advisory Board is comprised of representatives of the State University of New York, New York State Department of Education, New York State Department of Health, deans, health sciences schools (medicine, nursing, optometry, dentistry, pharmacy, allied health and social work), business and industry, health professionals and consumers.