

U P D A T E

Statewide Advisory Board Convened

Fall/Winter 2002

Featured presenters at the October 1 meeting of the New York State AHEC System Advisory Board were Thomas H. Feeley, PhD, Education/Evaluation Specialist and Carol S. Brewer, RN, PhD, Director of Nursing. Both are with the New York State AHEC System Statewide Office at the University of Buffalo.

Dr. Feeley summarized the results of the summer 2002 survey of Advisory Board members. The purpose of the survey was to 1) evaluate purpose and direction of the advisory board, 2) solicit advice from advisory board members on structure, process, and effectiveness of the advisory board, and 3) evaluate communication and information dissemination from the New York State AHEC System to the advisory board members.

When asked about the extent to which the New York State AHEC System advisory board had been successful in contributing toward identified goals, respondents indicated success in "forging important relationships." Respondents indicated that previous advisory board meetings were effective and could be improved through "more *action* plans and updates on *actions*."

Mary J. Sienkiewicz, MBA, New York State
AHEC System Deputy Director

Dr. Brewer provided an overview of "Examining New York State Nurses: A Regional Analysis of the 2000 National Sample Survey of Registered Nurses." The report analyzed data by each of the four AHEC regions (western, central, eastern and New York Metropolitan) and statewide in the following areas: demographics (race/ethnicity, gender, age, income, education and employment), job satisfaction, unemployed/nurses in transition and nurse educators. The report included a discussion of the implications of the analysis and recommendations for state, regional and local actions. The full report may be accessed on the New York State AHEC System website www.ahec.buffalo.edu.

Dr. Thomas C. Rosenthal, Director, provided an update on the status of the New York State AHEC System. Accomplishments of the Hudson-Mohawk AHEC, Central New York AHEC and Bronx-Westchester AHEC (the newest centers that had not yet reported to the Advisory Board) were provided by executive directors Tim Christensen, MS, Joanne Borfitz, and Odalis Ortiz, MPH respectively.