

# U P D A T E

## Health Care and the Economy

Summer 2002

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The New York State AHEC System Advisory Board met on April 15 in Albany to focus on the economic impact of health care on business and communities and the role(s) for the New York State AHEC System.

The “Health Care and the Economy – Trends and Perspectives” session included presentations on Workforce Trends - Douglas W. Reamer, Principal Statistician, Division of Research and Statistics, New York State Department of Labor; Business and Health Care – Elliott A. Shaw, Director of Government Affairs, The Business Council of New York State, Inc.; and Health Care and Healthy Communities - Donald J. Tobias, PhD, Associate Professor, Director, Community and Rural Development Institute, College of Human Ecology, Cornell University.

Gary Fitzgerald, President, CEO, Iroquois Healthcare Alliance and Christine Johnston, MPH, Vice President for Public Policy, New York State Association of Health Care Providers provided perspectives on the Health Care Workforce Recruitment and Retention Act enacted by New York State.

Following a discussion of workforce trends, the Advisory Board focused on generating priority issues and identifying a role(s) for AHEC at the community, regional and statewide levels.



*New York State AHEC System Advisory Board Meeting, April 15, 2002.*