



INTEGRATED
HEALTHCARE POLICY
CONSORTIUM

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Press Release

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Changing of the Guard at Integrated Healthcare Policy Consortium

The Integrated Healthcare Policy Consortium today announced that Board Chair Sheila Quinn has decided to retire from that role, and will complete her duties at the close of the March 2010 board meeting. Quinn has guided the organization since its inception. IHPC's executive director, Janet Kahn, in making the announcement, expressed the organization's deep gratitude for Quinn's guidance over the years. *"She has been a steady hand at the helm as she oversaw our growth from an idea to an organization that has earned respect from the integrated healthcare community, and has real effect on Capitol Hill. Her knowledge of the field, the players, and the needs of a developing organization has served us well. We wish her joy and satisfaction in her next endeavors, and we trust that we will always be in touch."* Quinn will be succeeded by Leonard Wisneski, MD, a long-term member of the IHPC board and a leader in the field of integrative health care, who has agreed to serve as Interim Board Chair.

Of her time at IHPC, Quinn said, *"I have regarded it as an honor and a serious responsibility to fill the role of Chair of IHPC's Board of Directors since its inception as an independent nonprofit organization 8 years ago. At the time, it was a natural segue from the work I had done (along with Candace Campbell and Pamela Snider, ND) on the National Plan to Advance Integrated Health Care and (with many others) the National Dialogue on Integrated Health Care: Finding Common Ground. These years have been filled with excitement about important achievements, wonderful collaborations with dedicated and talented colleagues, and – inevitably – the stresses associated with securing funding and the natural setbacks that accompany any political endeavor. My*

deepest thanks and respect to all my IHPC colleagues over the years, and to everyone who has contributed to what is now a very broad-based national effort to create an effective integrated healthcare system for all."

Wisneski said, about assuming his new duties, *"It is an honor to serve as interim Chair of IHPC. With discussions of healthcare reform as a major Capitol Hill focus now and for the coming years, IHPC is in a pivotal position to affect legislation to assist in providing a level playing field for all licensed healthcare providers and access for consumers to the range of healthcare approaches that they want. I have personally witnessed the beneficial responses of patients, including quality of life parameters, when exposed to an integrated approach to treatment over the three decades of my medical practice in Bethesda, Maryland. IHPC as an umbrella organization representing a broad range of healthcare associations, professionals, and consumers, can help move American healthcare to an expanded, integrated system that not only approaches the diagnosis and treatment of disorders and pathology, but also incorporates and supports those practices and lifestyle changes that will lead individuals toward optimal vitality."* Dr. Wisneski is author of the well-reviewed book "The Scientific Basis of Integrative Medicine."

Quinn, now a freelance medical writer and editor, previously served as co-founder and Vice President of Bastyr University (1978-1990), Executive Director of the American Association of Naturopathic Physicians (1993-2000), and Senior Editor at The Institute for Functional Medicine (2000-2007), for whom she recently co-authored and edited *"21st Century Medicine: A New Model for Medical Education and Practice."*

The Integrated Healthcare Policy Consortium, a broad coalition of healthcare professionals, consumers, and organizations driving public policy to ensure all Americans access to safe, high quality, integrated health care—and to the building blocks of health, including whole foods and clean air and water—has created the field's first Online Action Network for consumers and practitioners of complementary, alternative, and integrated healthcare, and all people interested in creating policy that supports healthy lifestyles. You can learn more about IHPC at <http://www.ihpc.info/> and join the network at that site by clicking on Take Action.