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### Presidential Note

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**Abstract**

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## American Academy of Health Behavior Presidential Note

**M. Renée Umstatted Meyer, PhD, MCHES\***

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It is with great excitement that I write today as we launch the inaugural issue of *Health Behavior Research* as the official journal of the American Academy of Health Behavior. This date marks the culmination of years of effort invested by many Academy members, Board members, and past Presidents committed to the vitality and impact of the Academy originally envisioned by our founding members. *Health Behavior Research* was envisioned and birthed out of the dedication of these Academy members and leaders to ensure that AAHB is a preeminent voice nationally and internationally in the translation of research to advance policy, program planning, and/or practice that is relevant to health behavior change. This inaugural issue of *Health Behavior Research* includes: strong research studies co-authored by AAHB members; a summary of our 2017 Scientific Meeting, “*Health Behavior in the Age of Personalized Medicine*,” including refereed presentation abstracts; a discussion about the future of our field continued from the 2017 Annual AAHB Scientific Meeting; and three commentaries that provide reflection and future direction written by the 2017 AAHB Research Laureate, Dr. Kenneth Ward, the 2016 AAHB Research Laureate, Dr. Marcia Ory, and the 2011 AAHB Research Laureate, Dr. John Lowe. The AAHB Board members commend the work of Dr. Rita DeBate, the journal’s editor-in-chief, and the *Health Behavior Research* Editorial Board in publishing this engaging inaugural issue. We are excited to expand the reach of AAHB through quarterly issues of *Health Behavior Research*, contributing to national and international conversations within our discipline and related fields. The scholarly works from this journal will enhance basic and applied scientific research that rigorously applies, tests, and informs efforts to revise, refine, and/or reject theoretical principles. We look forward to engaging with the innovative work of our esteemed members through these quarterly issues, providing a platform for dissemination of research efforts year round.



M. Renée Umstatted Meyer, PhD MCHES  
American Academy of Health Behavior President (2017-2018)

Join us March 4-7, 2018 in Portland, Oregon for the AAHB 18th Annual Scientific Meeting  
“*An Equity Approach to Health Behavior Innovations.*”  
We look forward to seeing you there!



<http://www.aahb.wildapricot.org/2018-Conference-Overview>