

Contact: Judy Lyle
Executive Director
Association of Occupational Health Professionals in Healthcare (AOHP)
109 VIP Drive, Suite 220
Wexford, PA 15090
j.lyle@kamo-ms.com
800-362-4347

**Penn State University Professor Dr. Deidre McCaughey
to Deliver Keynote Address at AOHP's 2013 Annual National Conference**

April 15, 2013– Dr. Deirdre McCaughey, PhD MBA, Assistant Professor, Healthcare Management & Strategy, The Pennsylvania State University, will deliver the keynote address *Dollars & Sense: Making the Business Case for Optimizing Hospital Safety Performance*, on Thursday morning, September 12 at the AOHP 2013 Annual National Conference in Orlando, FL. She will discuss the impact of safety training in lowering incidents of employee injury, examine differences in safety perceptions between injured and non-injured employees, highlight best practices in employee safety, and evaluate the relationship between employee attitudes and positive organizational outcomes. In constructing the business case for investing in occupational safety and health, she will give occupational health professionals tools to better align healthcare employee safety with patient safety. Her presentation is sponsored by Axion Health.

Dr. McCaughey, the *John Jones Scholar in Worker's Compensation Research*, earned her PhD and MBA from the Asper School of Business in Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada. Prior to her academic career, Dr. McCaughey practiced as a physical therapist in a large teaching hospital in Canada, and spent 10 years working in management in the private sector in marketing, strategic planning and operations. As faculty in the MHA program, she teaches health services management and the application of organizational behavior theory to healthcare workplaces in pursuit of evidence-based management.

She is currently working in a research partnership with ARAMARK Healthcare to investigate occupational health and safety issues with support service workers in hospitals. The international study is in its second phase and includes safety training interventions and employee surveys to determine the efficacy and ROI of workplace safety training. This study and her other work in occupational health and safety have received numerous award nominations, including the Academy of Management Best Paper and Academy of Management Best Theory to Practice Paper, and she has been published in journals such as *Accident Analysis and Prevention*, *The Gerontologist*, the *Journal of Applied Psychology* and *Healthcare Management Review*.

The 32nd AOHP Annual National Conference is a vital component of the association's mission to provide members with opportunities for professional growth through education. More than 250 occupational health professionals – representing approximately 25 percent of AOHP's membership – are expected to attend this year's conference, scheduled for September 11-14 at the Hilton Walt Disney World Resort in Orlando, FL. This preeminent event, one of the country's largest conferences for occupational health professionals in healthcare, features four days of dynamic educational programming and the exchange of successful research and innovative practices, in addition to an exhibition, opportunities for networking and the ability for attendees to earn continuing education hours in a wide variety of content areas.

Axion Health (www.axionhealth.com) is proud to support AOHP as keynote sponsor for the fourth consecutive year. Axion Health provides employee health, occupational health, medical surveillance, and emergency preparedness software for health systems, government agencies, and industry. Axion Health's ReadySet is a mobile-friendly, Web-based solution that is easy to use, Internet-accessible, NIST and HIPAA-compliant, and

100% paperless. The solution also offers robust integrations with clinical, HR, information and regulatory systems.

AOHP, a national association with about 1,000 members, is the defining authority shaping healthcare worker health, safety and well-being. AOHP promotes health and safety for healthcare workers through: advocacy; occupational health education and networking opportunities; health and safety advancement through best practice and research; and partnering with other invested stakeholders.

Sponsorship and exhibit opportunities for the AOHP 2013 Annual National Conference are still available. Registration opens in early summer. Anyone interested in sponsorship opportunities or registration information should contact AOHP Headquarters at 800.362.4347 or info@aohp.org.

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