

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Two Integrative Medicine Fellowship Scholarships Awarded to Arizona Health Practitioners

DECEMBER 20, 2007 – TUCSON, AZ – The spirit of holiday generosity is alive and well at the University of Arizona Program in Integrative Medicine, thanks to support from the Arizona Health Education Centers (AHEC).

The Program is pleased to announce that Francis Robin Riley, NP of Ganado, Arizona and Catherine Taylor, MD of Nutrioso, Arizona are the recipients of AHEC scholarships for the Fellowship in Integrative Medicine Class of 2009. The scholarships will cover their full tuition for the Program's two-year, 1,000-hour distance learning Fellowship.

Dr. Catherine Taylor is a practicing physician for North Country Healthcare in Springerville and St. Johns. She received her medical degree from the University of Arizona in 2001, after having taught high school in the communities where she now practices medicine. As a health practitioner in an underserved community, Dr. Taylor is anxious to learn and apply integrative medical techniques, such as nutrition recommendations and mind-body medicine, for her patients in rural communities.

Frances Robin Riley received her RN and MSN from Vanderbilt University in 2005 and 2006, respectively. She works as a nurse practitioner at Sage Memorial Hospital in Ganado, AZ, which predominantly serves the Navajo population in her county. As a member of the American Holistic Medical Association, Ms. Riley embraces the integrative medical concept of treating the whole person – body, mind and spirit – in her current practice. She looks forward to learning how to integrate the “conventional” and “alternative” approaches to medicine into her practice, so she may better serve her patients.

Dr. Taylor and Ms. Riley will begin their Fellowship training in January of 2008.

“We are very grateful for the Arizona Health Education Centers’ support for the Fellowship in Integrative Medicine,” said Victoria Maizes, MD, Executive Director of the University of Arizona Program in Integrative Medicine. “Integrative medical care is highly desired by our patients. These scholarships help assure that integrative care will be made available to patients of all socio-economic backgrounds.”

A grant from the AHEC allowed the Program to offer two full-tuition scholarships for its Fellowship in Integrative Medicine to qualified physicians, nurse practitioners or physician assistants who practice in the state of Arizona, with an emphasis on those who work in areas that are typically medically underserved. Applicants were nominated by AHEC regional directors.

Founded in 2000 by Dr. Andrew Weil, the Fellowship is an online integrative medical education program for physicians, nurse practitioners and physician assistants that utilizes state-of-the-art online educational techniques and incorporates three intensive one-week training sessions in Tucson. Fellows learn to incorporate integrative medicine into their clinical practices, receive an extensive overview of complementary and alternative treatment methods and review current research in the field.

For more information about the Fellowship in Integrative Medicine, please visit our website integrativemedicine.arizona.edu or contact Moira Andre at (520) 626-2865 or afsup@email.arizona.edu.