



**Southwest
Chapter**

AMWA Southwest Chapter Newsletter

May 2008 Special

2007-2008 Chapter Officers

President

Stephen Palmer, PhD, ELS
832.355.8902
spalmer@amwasouthwest.org

Program Chair

Ruth SoRelle, MPH
713.798.4712
rsorelle@amwasouthwest.org

Assistant Program Chair

Kristina Wasson-Blader, PhD
405.640.6196
kblader@amwasouthwest.org

Treasurer

Alison Woo, ELS
713.563.3432
awoo@amwasouthwest.org

Secretary

Diego Pineda, MS
409.692.0306
dpineda@amwasouthwest.org

Past President

Christine Wogan, MS, ELS
713.792.3160
cwogan@amwasouthwest.org

Membership Chair

Ann Sutton
713.745.2205
asutton@amwasouthwest.org

Publicity Chair

Pierrette Lo, ELS
713.794.1906
plo@amwasouthwest.org

Newsletter Editor

Hanson Yu, PhD
915.276.8288
hyu@amwasouthwest.org

Directors-at-Large

Natasha Green, MA, ELS
281.228.7519
ngreen@amwasouthwest.org
Lori Buffum
832.355.6595
lbuffum@amwasouthwest.org
Pamela Metoyer, ELS(D)
713.798.3652
ptice@amwasouthwest.org
Jude Richard, ELS
512.963.8859
jrichard@amwasouthwest.org
Jeanie Woodruff
713.745.1981
jwoodruff@amwasouthwest.org

Plenary Lecture
**“Reforming Louisiana’s Health Care
System: Strategies for Change”**

David Hood
Senior Healthcare Policy Analyst
Public Affairs Research Council of Louisiana

1555 Poydras Street, 22nd Floor
Tulane University Health Sciences Center
School of Medicine, New Orleans, Louisiana

Friday, June 6, 2008
Noon to 2:00 p.m. (Lunch)

As the highlight of the AMWA Southwest Medical Communications Conference 2008 in New Orleans, David Hood of the Public Affairs Research Council of Louisiana will deliver a plenary lecture on strategic healthcare reform. He served as cabinet secretary of the Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals for 6 years and retired in 2004 from a 26-year career in public healthcare administration. Since 2004, he has been senior healthcare policy analyst for the Public Affairs Research Council of Louisiana, a private, nonprofit research organization that offers an independent voice and solutions to critical public issues and serves as a government watchdog and catalyst for governmental reform. Well-respected as a reform-minded government administrator, Mr Hood developed strategies for more efficient use of tax dollars by minimizing waste and fraud, deploying new technologies and utilizing private sector solutions wherever possible. He proposed and successfully implemented major system changes to improve primary

and preventive care that emphasized early diagnosis and treatment, health education and lifestyle changes to avoid expensive diseases and chronic conditions.

Mr Hood’s success in public service has been recognized by several national awards. In 2004, he was honored with the Nathan Davis Award for careers in public service in the advancement of public health, a national award from the American Medical Association. In 2002, he won the Child Health Advocate Award from the American Academy of Pediatrics for his significant progress toward improving the lives of children. In 1995, he won the John Bragg Award for Excellence in Legislative Service by the Southern Legislative Conference.

Since healthcare reform is a prominent issue during the current presidential election, the role of medical writers is expected to become increasingly important. This plenary lecture will provide some insights for medical writers to be involved in the healthcare reform process. When you register for this conference, plan on attending Mr Hood’s presentation. He will be able to answer a lot of questions relevant to our medical writing profession in the coming years crucial for healthcare reform.

For latest updates, please visit
www.amwasouthwest.org/Events/nola.htm



AMWA Southwest Chapter Newsletter

Hanson Yu, Editor
 P.O. Box 12286
 El Paso, TX 79913
 Phone: 915.276.8288
 Email: hyu@amwasouthwest.org

Registration Deadline: May 16, 2008

Friday, June 6, 2008
7:45 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Contact Angela Lorio
(loriocom@cox.net; 504.328.3348)
or Steve Palmer
(spalmer@amwasouthwest.org; 832.355.8902).

Ballot

AMWA Southwest Chapter Officer
Candidates for 2008–2009

- President:* Kristina Wasson-Blader
- Program Chair:* Jude Richard
- Assistant Program Chair:* Angela Townley Odensky
- Treasurer:* Alison Woo
- Secretary:* Diego Pineda
- Newsletter Editor:* Ann Sutton
- Director-at-Large:* Susan Bairnsfather
- Director-at-Large:* Jenny Withers
- Director-at-Large:* Hanson Yu

If you will not be attending the 9th Annual Career Roundtables Meeting on May 10, 2008, please complete and send this ballot by Friday, May 9, to Ruth SoRelle at 5814 Warm Springs Road, Houston, TX 77035, or rsorelle@amwasouthwest.org.

