

## **Announcement: International Health Literacy Association (IHLA) Discussion – July 18-19, 2016**

I'm pleased to announce an upcoming Guest Discussion about the newly forming International Health Literacy Association (IHLA)! There has been talk for several years about starting a professional association to support the field, and the responses so far have identified a need for it. The IUHPE Global Working Group on Health Literacy has discussed the need and in the U.S. there have been open meetings on the topic at several IHA, Wisconsin and HARC conferences. There are active Health Literacy networks in the UK and Europe and the Asian Health Literacy Association has been established for three years now. Their leaders are involved in this new effort, and a small steering committee has formed.

The goals for this discussion are:

1. To share with the field the state of this new international health literacy association, which will be run by and for its members
2. To unite global interests and include new advocates from around the world to jointly discuss the planning of the association
3. To invite you to get involved in the effort by volunteering to join a working group
4. To explore different funding mechanisms (incubator organization, founding members, member dues, grants, etc.)

The discussion will take place on the Health Literacy Discussion List from July 18-19, when we will be joined by Guest Moderators:

- Peter Chang, Asian Health Literacy Association
- Sabrina Kurtz-Rossi, Health Literacy Leadership Institute (U.S.)
- Kristine Sørensen, Health Literacy Europe

We will send more information soon, but please note the dates on your calendar, and invite others who are not yet part of the list to join for this discussion.

All the best,

Julie

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