

## STATE NEWS

The **California Association for Healthcare Quality (CAHQ)** and Janet Brown, author of *The Healthcare Quality Handbook*, are offering a Healthcare Quality Overview and Certification Workshop on July 16–17 and October 15–16. For more information on CAHQ events, contact Don Gilbert, association manager, at 800/230-3163, or visit [www.cahq.org](http://www.cahq.org).

NAHQ member Susan Mellott, PhD RN CPHQ FNAHQ, has been named the 2009 recipient of the Indiana University of Pennsylvania Distinguished Alumni Award, the highest honor the alumni association offers. She will be presenting the **Mississippi Association for Healthcare Quality's (MsAHQ)** first Certified Professional in Healthcare Quality (CPHQ) review session October 22 as part of its annual fall conference. For more information regarding the review session, visit the MsAHQ Web site ([www.missahq.com](http://www.missahq.com)).

Mellott received the award in recognition of her demonstrated leadership abilities in healthcare quality, business, and nursing education. She is the CEO and founder of Mellott and Associates, a healthcare consulting firm in Houston, and an adjunct assistant professor at Texas Woman's University–Houston. A Bronze Star recipient, Mellott retired as lieutenant colonel after serving 20 years in the U.S. Army Reserves. She is the coauthor of *Childhood Cancer: A Nursing Overview* and of several chapters published in professional books. She was an editor of the sixth edition of the study guide for the CPHQ designation and served as editor of the *Journal of Healthcare Quality*. She serves as director of the board of the Houston chapter of the American Association for Legal Nurse Consultants and currently serves as past president of the Texas Association for Healthcare Quality.

Twenty members of the **Rhode Island Association for Healthcare Quality (RIAHQ)** were reinvigorated by a breakfast meeting at Rhode Island Hospital in Providence, RI, on May 27. Attendees were introduced to the officers, updated their membership information, and made plans for a second annual Quality Education Day. The program, "The View on Q," will be held on October 21 and will feature five speakers with different perspectives on healthcare quality issues. Attendees also discussed efforts to revise the association's bylaws, the possible formation of a CPHQ exam preparation support group, and plans for a state association Web site. Each member left the meeting with a charge to recruit new members, including the nontraditional members described in the national report. For more information on RIAHQ events and meetings, contact Paula Bolig at [pbolig@lifespan.org](mailto:pbolig@lifespan.org).

In partnership with the Tennessee Hospital Association, the **Tennessee Association for Healthcare Quality (TAHQ)** is presenting a series of 1-hour Webcasts. Upcoming dates and topics:

- **June 18:** "Integrating National Patient Safety Goals into Your Organizational Activities" presented by Joyce Gentry, CPHQ

**National Association for Healthcare Quality**  
**800/966-9392, 847/375-4720**  
**[www.nahq.org](http://www.nahq.org)**

- **July 16:** “Measuring the Effectiveness of Educational Programs” presented by Lee Ann Hanna, PhD RN CPHQ
- **August 20:** “Introduction to Clinical Performance Measurement and Improvement” presented by Judy Weddle, MA BS
- **September 24:** “Leading Change by Developing the Organization’s Quality Culture” presented by Michelle Franklin, MBA BSN CPHQ

All Webcasts will be held from 3 to 4 pm Eastern Time. Registration is open to all. [Click here to register or learn more about the Webcasts.](#)