

NEWS

Association for Healthcare Philanthropy

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Association for Healthcare Philanthropy Recognizes Russell Harris, Greg Pope, Nancy Simpson-Banker, and Doug Smith with Highest Distinction — The AHP Fellow

WASHINGTON, D.C., (October 4, 2003) – The Association for Healthcare Philanthropy (AHP) recognized at its 37th Annual International Educational Conference Awards Banquet Russell Harris, Greg Pope, Nancy Simpson-Banker, and Doug Smith for achieving the AHP Fellow designation (FAHP).

Elevation to the status of Fellow in AHP is the highest level of achievement in the field of health care philanthropy. Conferring of the Fellow designation is not so much an award, as it is recognition of individual professional distinction, well earned through dedication and continual self-advancement.

Russell Harris, FAHP

Russell M. Harris, FAHP is President and Chief Executive Officer of Partners for a Healthy Community, Inc. in Anderson, South Carolina. Partners was chartered in 1996 to address health and quality of life issues and to improve the health and well being of residents of upstate South Carolina. Russell began an avocation of fundraising and development while a banker from 1971 until 1992. During this time he served for nine years on the Board of Trustees of Erskine College, his alma mater, where he chaired the Development Strategic Plan and Business-Finance committee.

Russell began his professional fundraising career in 1992 at Anderson Area Medical Center where he was the founding executive director of the AnMed Healthy Futures Trust. While at AnMed, he established successful employee and annual giving campaigns. He planned and initially directed for a very successful \$12 million Alliance Capital Campaign which benefited the Medical Center as well as five other community nonprofits. Since joining Partners in 1996 as its CEO, he has led one of the most successful healthy community organizations in the region in initiatives addressing health care access, faith and health through a parish nurse program in 62 congregations, community and neighborhood development and Healthy People 2000 and 2010 objectives.

Russell is currently the AHP Southeast Region Director-elect and the Region Primer Dean. Additionally he has served on the Southeast Region cabinet as membership chair and region conferences as education chair, track dean and faculty. He was also a roundtable presenter in 2002 at San Antonio.

In addition to his work in health care philanthropy, he has been a presenter at national and regional conferences on healthy communities, faith and health collaboratives and at the Medical University of South Carolina's Doctor of Healthcare Administration program. In 2002 the South Carolina Hospital Association awarded him their Community Service Award.

He has been recognized as Anderson's Community Service Leader of the Year for his work and leadership on numerous boards and by his church and denomination as an elder and as moderator of Foothills Presbytery of the Presbyterian Church, USA. He will serve as the Chairman of the Board of the South Carolina Association of Nonprofit Organizations in 2003/2004. He is the founder and coordinator of Saturday Servants, a weekend feeding program for the indigent and homeless of Anderson, which provides over 15,000 bag lunches annually. He was a primary leader in the successful bid to have Anderson County, South Carolina named an All America City in 2000. He is married to Dr. Joellen C. Harris. They are the parents of two daughters and a son and have two grandchildren with the third due in February 2003.

Greg Pope , FAHP

Greg Pope, FAHP is Vice President for Philanthropy at Saint Thomas Health Services in Nashville, Tenn. From an early age Greg felt led to fundraising as his life's work. He worked his way through college raising money for public radio stations. His success with on-air pledge drives eventually led to his appointment as Director of Marketing and Development for Nashville Public Radio. There he led a fundraising program responsible for creating the largest endowment fund in the nation for a public radio station.

For the past seven years he has served as Vice President for Philanthropy of Saint Thomas Health Services a local health ministry of Ascension Health. In this role he oversees private gift support, community benefit programming/grant making activities, and volunteer programs for a large five-hospital system. The hospitals include Saint Thomas Hospital in Nashville recognized as among the three leading cardiovascular surgery programs in the United States and Baptist Hospital, also of Nashville, one of the largest neonatal and obstetric centers in Southeast. Saint Thomas employs more than 10,000 staffers and caring for more than 240,000 patient visits annually.

Greg regularly serves as a consultant to churches and church related organizations. He has worked with a diverse group of congregations, denominations, and ministry organizations on issues related to fundraising, strategic planning, and estate stewardship. He is well known for his use of donor surveys and his skill at cultivating major gifts. He often helps build strategic fundraising and endowment plans for churches and ministries along with coaching their key volunteers and staffers during implementation and evaluation phases of campaigns.

He has written more than 75 articles on personal and congregational stewardship and has contributed chapters to two books. His own book, *Gift of a Lifetime* (Broadman), is a resource for congregations engaged in the development of estate stewardship programs. A sought after speaker he has presented at dozens of conferences and meetings including the Christian Stewardship Association, The Ecumenical Stewardship Center Conference, The Center for Non-Profit Management, The Association of Christian Community Foundations, The Gathering, Lifeway Christian Resources (SBC), and the United Methodist Convocation on Stewardship.

He received a B.S. degree in Economics from The University of Tennessee and the Master of Business Administration degree, with an emphasis in Church Administration, earned through the

Theological College of The Bahamas / Templeton Seminary. He studied under the Rev. Dr. Charles Elliott, Dean Emeritus, Trinity Hall, Cambridge and is one of only nine John Templeton Fellows in Church Administration.

A member of the National Council on Planned Giving, the Association of Fundraising Professional's (AFP) and the Association for Healthcare Philanthropy (AHP), Greg has continuously held the Certified Fundraising Executive (CFRE) designation since 1991 and now holds the Fellow designation. He was named Fundraising Executive of the Year in 2001, and was chosen one of Nashville's top leaders under 40 in 2002.

Greg's volunteer activities include board and committee memberships for the United Methodist Men Foundation, the United Methodist Committee on Scouting, the West Nashville Family Shelter, and the Nashville Clinical Pastoral Education Partnership.

Greg serves on the AHP Southeast Region Cabinet - Government Relations, is the AHP Southeast 2003 Region Conference Education Chair, and was an AHP International Conference Track Dean and the AHP Southeast Region Conference Chair Track Dean in 2002.

Nancy Simpson-Banker, FAHP has been Vice President for Philanthropy at Faulkner Hospital in Boston since 1995. Prior to that she was Vice President for Development at the Winchester Hospital Foundation and Director of Development at Mount Auburn Hospital. Before entering health care, she spent eight years in institutional advancement in higher education. She has served on the board of the New England Association for Healthcare Philanthropy (NEAHP) since 1990 and served as NEAHP president and regional conference chair. She was the New England Regional Director on the AHP board from 1999-2001, served on the 2001-2002 AHP Foundation Board and the 2002 AHP conference committee. She is currently the Secretary/Treasurer of the AHP Board. She lives in Needham, MA with her husband Steve and the Beautiful Banker boys – Patrick and Deane.

Nancy Simpson-
Banker, FAHP

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Doug Smith, FAHP

Doug Smith, FAHP is president of the Greater Baltimore Medical Center Foundation in Baltimore, Md., a position he has held since 1997. Prior to that, he was president of Pittsburgh Mercy Foundation at Mercy Hospital in Pittsburgh. He has held a number of philanthropic leadership positions during his 28-year career in development.

Mr. Smith now adds AHP Fellow to his list of honors and awards, which includes the CFRE, a distinction he received in October 1987. He has been a presenter at numerous AHP regional conferences, and has served in several leadership positions within AHP, including regional chair, Mid-Atlantic Region, vice chair for regional affairs, vice chair for membership and communications, and chair of the educational conference advisory committee for the 36th Annual International Educational Conference in San Antonio.

Mr. Smith holds a bachelor's degree in English from Ohio University, and earned a master's degree in public management from Carnegie Mellon University. He is a board member of the Baltimore Chamber Orchestra.

Successful applicants must have earned the Certified Fundraising Executive (CFRE) designation, have at least eight years of experience in raising and managing philanthropic funds for a health care organization, and pledge in writing to adhere to the AHP's statement of Professional Standards and Conduct and to uphold the AHP-endorsed Donor Bill of Rights. To achieve the status of Fellow, applicants must pass a written and oral exam.

AHP, established in 1967, is a not-for-profit organization whose 3,500 members manage philanthropic programs in 1,900 of the nation's 3,400 not-for-profit health care providers. AHP members raised more than \$8 billion in FY 2002.



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