

UNC News Brief



Janet Place given the Ervin Award

DENVER--Janet Place, MPH, director of the Southeast Public Health Training Center at the NC Institute for Public Health, received the Theodore R. Ervin Award for Outstanding Service at the American Public Health Association Annual Meeting. The award, presented by the board of directors of the Public Health Foundation, is in recognition for creative vision, relentless commitment and leadership to public health practice.

Previous winners have included Claude Earl Fox, former administrator of the Health Resources and Services Administration, Douglas Scutchfield at the University of Kentucky and Leslie M. Beitsch, former Oklahoma state health director as well as others in national leadership roles within public health practice.

Place was honored for her work in modifying and adapting the national core public health competencies created by the Council on Linkages between Academia and Practice (COL). Her work has involved creating a three tier competency continuum that better defines the expected skills of entry level, management and leadership personnel in public health agencies.

The core competencies are crucial in workforce development as a means of assessing performance and training needs and developing training curricula. The COL competencies are cited as the workforce development standards in the new Healthy People 2020 blueprint, which will be released in early December.

Place is continuing to coordinate national efforts to create tools that utilize the core competencies for better workforce assessment, including outcome measures, professional development and quality improvement.

