



Ἄξιον ὠφελεῖν τοὺς ἀλγούντας
Be Worthy to Serve the Suffering

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**Alpha Omega Alpha Honor Medical Society Names
Paul Haidet, MD, MPH, Editor in Chief of *The Pharos***

AURORA, COLORADO – Alpha Omega Alpha Honor Medical Society announced today the appointment of Paul Haidet, MD, MPH (AΩA, Penn State College of Medicine, 1991) as its new Editor in Chief of *The Pharos*, effective Dec.1. Haidet will replace Richard L. Byyny, MD, FACP, who announced in July his retirement from *The Pharos* at the end of the year.

Haidet is currently the Director of Medical Education Research and a Distinguished Professor of Medicine, Humanities, and Public Health Sciences at the Penn State College of Medicine. He has served as deputy editor at two peer reviewed journals, and has held several national leadership roles, including terms as President of the Academy of Communication in Healthcare (2011) and the Society of Directors of Research in Medical Education (2016-2018). Edward ‘Ted’ Bollard MD, DDS, MACP (AΩA, Penn State College of Medicine 1992, Penn State chapter Councilor), stated of Dr Haidet: “The term ‘thinking out of the box’ is often over-used, in my opinion. However, as I have observed Paul in various committees, teaching sessions, and leadership roles in our college, what stands out is his ability to provide a perspective that goes beyond just being different. He is an active listener who incorporates all opinions, utilizes not only evidence-based resources but also an incredible foundation of the arts, humanities, ethics and professionalism before providing opinions that generate deeper thought rather than simple answers.”

“I have long valued the reflections created by articles I read in *The Pharos*,” said Haidet. “I feel incredibly honored and humbled to be following in the footsteps of Dr. Byyny and the previous editors, and look forward to our editorial team continuing to uphold *The Pharos*’s tradition of providing a voice of reason, humanism, and professionalism for AΩA members and the medical community worldwide.”

Bradley Barth, MD, MSLOD, Executive Director of AΩA, congratulates Byyny on his retirement and welcomes Haidet as the fifth Editor in Chief of *The Pharos*, which has been published since 1938.

“The Search Committee members and I combed through many applications to select Dr. Haidet,” said Barth. “Dr. Byyny has been a great leader, and leaves a lasting legacy on the society.”

Named for one of the seven wonders of the ancient world, the Pharos lighthouse of Alexandria, AΩA’s quarterly, peer-reviewed journal publishes scholarly essays covering a wide array of nontechnical medical subjects, including medical history, ethics, and medical-related literature. It is distributed to more than 125,000 readers internationally, and is available in both print and online formats.



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When Byyny steps down in December, it will mark the end of a 15-year tenure with the ΑΩΑ National Office. He joined ΑΩΑ in 2010 as Executive Director and Editor in Chief of *The Pharos*, and continued his role as editor in chief when he retired from the Executive Director role in 2024.

“I have greatly enjoyed my time as Editor of *The Pharos*, and I will always be an admirer and reader of the publication,” said Dr. Byyny. “I look forward to passing the torch to Paul to carry on the tradition of the journal.”