

AMERICAN COLLEGE OF HEALTHCARE SCIENCES (ACHS)

(formerly Australasian College of
Health Sciences)
800.487.8839; www.achs.edu
5940 SW Hood Ave,
Portland, OR 97239

BY EMERSON SANDOW

In 1978, Dorene Petersen founded a college in New Zealand, designed to bring distance-learning and study of Complementary Alternative Medicine (CAM) a.k.a. **holistic health**, to interested students,

ners – but also “hobbyists” who wish to apply these ancient, time-tested principles of healing and health maintenance to themselves and their families.

The college for-credit curriculum includes Aromatherapy (almost daily, being shown to be powerfully effective in stress-relief and health maintenance); Herbal Medicine; Holistic Medicine and others, as well as non-credit courses in Community Wellness, which provide infor-

*This fully-accredited
Alternative Medicine institution
has been 20 Years in the U.S.
and is Growing!*

living outside the college geographic locale. In 1989, Ms. Peterson brought ACHS to the United States, establishing the college in Oregon, where it has grown and expanded during these 20 years.

The value and necessity of holistic health practice and treatment, which considers the person – mind, spirit and body – as a whole, has increased tremendously since 1989, as Western medicine has consistently been shown to be incomplete in its approach to treatments of many conditions (especially preventative practices). Often Western medicine will damage a system of the body, in treating another system, such as is the case with chemotherapy. Holistic health knowledge and practice has never been more pertinent and ACHS is the leader in the holistic, alternative healthcare world, providing serious instruction and guidance to hundreds of students, most of whom have eyes on a career as alternative healthcare practitio-

ners and hands-on knowledge for one’s own practice.

Ms. Petersen noted, “. . . we have changed the face of healthcare education in the US, achieving many industry firsts, including first Aromatherapy distance learning programs, first CAM degrees, first online CAM programs, and many more.”

ACHS became a State Licensed Vocational School in 1998 and transitioned to a degree-granting Institute of Higher Learning in 2007. It earned accreditation from the DETC in 2002 and was reaccredited in 2008.

ACHS has various funding options available, including in-house financing, Veterans’ funding, post-911 GI bill, and private student loans.

Please visit the ACHS website for a catalog of their exciting online classes, complete information about alternative healthcare resources, networks and local events – especially for those fortunate enough to be in the Portland area! *E.S.* ✱



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path toward a life-changing
career in holistic health*

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