

Lawton Robert Burns



Lawton R. Burns, Ph.D., MBA, is the James Joo-Jin Kim Professor, and Professor of Health Care Systems in the Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania. He is also Director of the Wharton Center for Health Management & Economics and (from 1998-2002) Visiting Professor in the Department of Preventive Medicine at the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine. Dr. Burns teaches courses on healthcare strategy, organization and management, managed care, and integrated delivery systems. He received his doctorate in Sociology and his MBA in Health Administration from the University of Chicago. Dr. Burns taught previously in the Graduate School of Business at the University of Chicago and the College of Business Administration at the University of Arizona.

Dr. Burns has analyzed physician-organization integration over the past fifteen years. He has conducted numerous surveys of physicians at the hospital system, county, state, and national levels, and analyzed the trajectory of physician-hospital relationships over time. In recognition of this research, Dr. Burns was named the Edwin L. Crosby Memorial Fellow by the Hospital Research and Educational Trust in 1992. Dr. Burns has also published several papers on the structure and performance of the physician practice management industry, the market forces that shape the growth of group practices and investor-owned networks, and the organizational options for physicians in a consolidating industry.

In addition to this research, Dr. Burns has conducted an extensive analysis of the Allegheny Health Education & Research Foundation (AHERF) bankruptcy and is now completing a follow-up paper on its implications for hospital governance. He has also completed an analysis of the impact of ownership conversions on hospital strategy, in collaboration with Frank Sloan at Duke University.

Most recently, he has completed a book on supply chain management in the healthcare industry: *The Health Care Value Chain* (Jossey-Bass, 2002). The study focuses on the strategic alliances and partnerships developing between pharmaceutical firms/distributors, disposable manufacturers, medical device manufacturers, group purchasing organizations, and organized delivery systems.

Dr. Burns has also received an Investigator Award from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (along with Gloria Bazzoli) to study the reasons for failure in organizational change efforts by healthcare providers, and to develop a conceptual model of successful and sustained change.

Dr. Burns teaches one- and two-day management seminars on behalf of the Wharton School and other organizations. These seminars are designed to prepare physicians and administrators for managing integrated delivery systems.

Dr. Burns sits on the editorial boards of *Health Services Research* and *Health Administration Press*. He is a past member of the Grant Review Study Section for the Agency for Health Care Policy & Research.