**NHAND Conference 2013: ABSTRACT SUBMISSION**

**Presenter(s) full name/degrees**James Sensenig, ND

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 **Short description of presentation** **BACK TO THE FUTURE: Why Vitalism is the "new medicine**

The vitalist world view defines THE difference between conventional medicine and naturopathic medicine. It holds that "Nature" is intelligent and purposeful. This view of the universe by the “scientific community” demonstrates that naturopathic medicine has not only understood the "Laws of Nature" but has presaged by millennia the "New" medicine.

**Suggested time allotment:**

90 minutes, with open mikes for Q&A.

**Clearly stated learning objectives**

Understand the concept of paradigm/paradigmatic models

Articulate the fundamental similarities and differences between vitalism and mechanism.

Appreciate that the philosophic foundation of naturopathic medicine is described by the vitalist paradigm.

Demonstrate that the classical thinkers in Western medicine espoused an understanding of natural phenomenon only now appreciate by "modern science."

Show that naturopathic medicine espouses a view world and a therapeutic rationale which will define the future of medicine

**Presentation outline**

1.Overview of naturopathic world view
2.Principles of Naturopathic medicine reframed in terms of new concepts
3.The definition and illustration of paradigms, the need and the rationale for same
4.Examples from the literature
5.Emerging concepts in today's science regarding ideas about energy, consciousness, holism, non-linear thinking and order.
6. An emerging mathematical model for consciousness and purposefulness
7.Proposition that naturopathic medicine represents the conceptual framework in medicine that or culture is rediscovering
8.Call naturopathic physicians to their "higher" purpose

**Pharmacy:** No

**Target Audience**: Naturopathic physicians and those interested in the potential of vitalism

**Speaker bio:**

**James S Sensenig, ND** has been practicing naturopathic medicine for over thirty-five years. He sees patients with complaints of all kinds, and is particularly interested in the treatment of difficult cases and of children with developmental delays and autism.

Dr. Sensenig graduated from the National College of Naturopathic Medicine in Portland, Oregon where he later served as Dean of Education. He was the founding President of the American Association of Naturopathic Physicians, the Chairman of its Government Affairs Committee for a decade, and the founding Dean of the College of Naturopathic Medicine at the University of Bridgeport.

He is on the faculty of the Southwest College of Naturopathic Medicine in Tempe, Arizona and the University of Bridgeport, College of Naturopathic Medicine. In addition to being a Senior Editor for the Foundations of Naturopathic Medicine project, he has recently founded an organization to advance naturopathic clinical excellence, the Naturopathic Medicine Institute.