



FMIG Network National Coordinator 2020 Annual Report

FMIG Network National Coordinator

Student

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Regional Coordinators and Liaisons

Five regional coordinators, a Latino Medical Student Association (LMSA) liaison, and a Student National Medical Association (SNMA) liaison are serving as FMIG Network leaders through December 2020:

Region 1, Hannah Smith (M4), East Carolina University—Brody School of Medicine
Region 2, Brynn Wright (M4), University of Kansas School of Medicine—Wichita
Region 3, Shelby Owens, MD, Mayo Clinic Family Medicine Residency, Rochester, MN
Region 4, Rebecca Stoll (M3), Alabama College of Osteopathic Medicine
Region 5, L. Merkle Moore (M3), East Tennessee State University James H. Quillen College of Medicine
LMSA Liaison, Deanna Gonzalez (M4), University of New Mexico School of Medicine
SNMA Liaison, Mikaela Moore (M4), The Ohio State University College of Medicine

I serve as the FMIG National Coordinator. My term began at the 2019 AAFP National Conference of Family Medicine Residents and Medical Students and will end in August at the 2020 National Conference. I previously served as the regional coordinator for the Mid-Atlantic region. This March, I matched to the family medicine residency at Oregon Health and Sciences University in Portland, OR.

The FMIG network serves 37,400 AAFP student members as of April 2020.

Pandemic Support

The FMIG Network published an [open letter](#) to fellow students in March 2020 to show support for our fellow students and outline how they can help during this pandemic. We also opened up a conversation about how FMIGs across the country are refocusing their efforts or volunteering during the pandemic.

I followed up on these activities by writing a [guest editorial](#) that was featured in AAFP news in April 2020. The editorial summarizes the challenges students in every year of school are now facing and offers a look at some of the activities students are engaged in to support their communities in the struggle against COVID-19.

Also during this time we have been offering for student organizations to have us facilitate virtual

leadership transition meetings with their incoming leaders to help better bridge goals and communications during this time of virtual-based learning for medical students. We have received much positive feedback thus far!

Student Membership Promotion

Regional Coordinators actively recruit new Student Membership Ambassadors and student members. Nearly 125 medical schools currently have an appointed Student Membership Ambassador. These efforts contribute to an overall growth in membership year to year.

Over the past year, the student membership within the AAFP reached 37,200, meaning that more than 1 in 4 medical students across the country are connected to the AAFP and exploring family medicine as a potential field of practice.

AAFP staff have developed a report that shows the medical schools and branch campuses in the US without a Student Membership Ambassador, and FMIG leaders are collaborating on a plan to conduct outreach to those schools in 2020.

Program of Excellence Awards

The FMIG Network continues to host the Program of Excellence Awards, which recognizes outstanding FMIGs across the country. Awards are given out during the FMIG Breakfast at the National Conference. This year, at the virtual conference, they will be given out during a networking happy hour celebration. The deadline for submitting a PoE Award application was extend this year in order to allow students greater time to coordinate responses now that on-site meetings are on hiatus, to highlight service activities related to the COVID-19 pandemic. The winners will be announced live at National Conference and shared online the week after.

National Conference Promotion

For the eighth year, the AAFP has funded an initiative to promote the AAFP National Conference of Family Medicine Residents and Medical Students through FMIGs. FMIGs are given \$100 to help offset the costs of hosting a meeting or event in which they share information about National Conference. Leaders are provided a PowerPoint presentation and an attendance sheet to collect the names and emails of students who attended the meeting. Emails submitted at each event are shared with the marketing team to add to email send lists.

This year, AAFP staff were invited to present at a local FMIG event focused on National Conference. Staff further had the opportunity to meet with the FMIG's faculty advisor and think about ways to grow attendance of the school's students at National Conference.

FMIG Network National Conference Workshops

Each year, the FMIG Network student leaders work with AAFP staff to plan four National Conference workshops for FMIG leaders and members. These workshops give medical students multiple opportunities to learn, grow, and connect. This year, like many other people, we have been adapting these sessions to our virtual platform. We plan to do three this year.

One session at the 2020 Virtual National Conference will be a workshop on the leadership skill and trait of being an influencer. It will aim to help FMIG leaders develop relationship-building skills and understand how to identify and work within their spheres of influence at their schools and in their communities.

Another workshop, *FMIGs 101: Essentials for Leaders*, will serve new and upcoming FMIG leaders with information on essentials like fundraising, event planning, and communication.

The *FMIG Breakfast* has traditionally provided an opportunity to recognize the winners of the annual Program of Excellence (PoE) Awards from each region and allowed students from across the US to network and share ideas. This event is typically very well attended by hundreds of students and featured updates from the FMIG Network National Coordinator, SNMA Liaison, LMSA Liaison, AAFP Foundation, and American Medical Student Association (AMSA), and the AAFP President. In the virtual environment, breakfast will be transitioned to an evening networking event with trivia, inspiring speakers, and breakout rooms.

FMIG/SNMA Collaboration

The 2020 SNMA Annual Medical Education Conference (AMEC) was held virtually in conjunction with the AMSA National Convention. Mikaela addressed the SNMA House of Delegates and shared information about the AAFP and family medicine, as well as networked with attendees interested in family medicine in the AAFP's virtual exhibit booth.

FMIG/LMSA Collaboration

Deanna represented the AAFP at the 2020 LMSA National Conference in St. Louis, MO, in March. She helped recruit the family physician keynote speaker that LMSA had chosen, and recruited speakers for a residency panel. AAFP staff and Deanna exhibited at an AAFP booth, sharing information and answering questions about family medicine from the premed and medical student attendees.

Primary Care Leadership Collaborative

The FMIG Network continues to collaborate with Primary Care Progress to provide coaching and leadership development for FMIGs selected for the Primary Care Leadership Collaborative (PCLC). The 2019-2021 cohort will receive continued training and support collectively this summer at National Conference. Throughout the year, each school continues to receive regular coaching from volunteer coaches Anthony Markuson, MD; Cleveland Piggott, MD; Jean Shiraki, DO; Vicky Bakhos Webb, MD; and Tate Hinkle, MD. The coaching team is led by head coach Christina Kelly, MD.

The schools participating in PCLC are:

- Elson S. Floyd College of Medicine at Washington State University
- University of Hawai'i John A. Burns School of Medicine
- University of Colorado School of Medicine
- University of New Mexico School of Medicine
- Penn State College of Medicine, University Park
- Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine
- Warren Alpert School of Medicine at Brown University
- Mercer University School of Medicine, Savannah
- University of Tennessee Health Science Center

FMIG Network Social Media Presence

Throughout the year, AAFP staff and FMIG Network leaders use Facebook and Twitter to share stories about family medicine and reach out to medical students, family medicine faculty advisors, and others involved in medical education during conferences and on a regular basis.

Currently, 3,925 people like and 4,124 people follow the FMIG National Network Facebook page.

AAFP student interest staff post multiple updates per week on the channel.

The FMIG Network also operates a Twitter handle, @aafp_fmig, as the official account of the AAFP FMIG Network. This account is managed by AAFP student interest staff. FMIG Network leaders have also established their own Twitter presences. As of April 2020, @aafp_fmig had 5,755 followers, up from 5,506 followers in January 2020.

Community Discussion Board

In addition to maintaining direct lines of communication with leaders in their regions, the FMIG coordinators and liaisons distribute information on a large online forum for FMIG leaders. There are currently 463 members on the forum.

Most posts in the community are from the regional or national leaders and are about important deadlines, events, or opportunities. Occasionally, campus FMIG leaders will post questions or give advice.

FMIG Faculty and Staff Advisors continue to have a separate community discussion board where announcements are shared by AAFP staff.

Conference Presentations

In January 2020, I presented at the STFM Medical Student Education conference with AAFP staff, fellow student leader Ian Coker, University of Wisconsin FMIG advisor Joyce Jeardeau, and PCLC lead coach Christina Kelly. Our team led a summit for more than 40 FMIG and ACOFP chapter faculty advisors, focused on helping FMIGs and the students who join them find their purpose. There are tentative plans in place to present at the 2020 STFM Virtual Annual Conference on student choice and the 25x2030 initiative.

Medical Education Webinars

FMIG Network leaders help support and AAFP webinars for students. In November 2019, the AAFP aired a webinar on the opportunities in family medicine, facilitated by Chase Mussard. This webinar and additional resources are now online.

Looking Ahead

As the Regional Coordinators and Liaisons prepare sessions for the AAFP National Conference, the main priorities of these leaders continue to be promoting the scope of family medicine and encouraging pipeline development among students who are underrepresented and underpowered in medicine.

Personal Experience

Serving as FMIG National Coordinator the past few months has looked quite different than the first few months serving in this role. We have seen a pandemic grip our nation and our world and bring to the forefront the fragile existence we have as humans. During this time, however, I have had the opportunity to see the best of our human spirit, exhibited greatly in our medical students. Time and time again, I have been inspired and seen true resiliency. Students have been struggling mightily during this time, with clinical cancellations and board exams delayed. Yet, these same students are ones finding ways to continue being great and serving their communities and patients. They have truly stepped up the plate, and made me honored to be a part of the next generation of family physicians this nation and our world needs. Much of my role is to highlight and celebrate the truly great things students have done, and that has been perhaps more evident now than any other time in our past. I

simply ask that we continue inspiring, protecting, and celebrating our fellow students to know that their struggles or triumphs during this unique and difficult time will forge us into a generation more equipped, prepared, and inspired to work through the next challenge we may face.

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