



Commission on Membership and Member Services 2021 Annual Report

COMMISSION ON MEMBERSHIP AND MEMBER SERVICES

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Our job as the resident and student on CMMS is to represent your voice in all things related to membership in the academy.

At our Winter Cluster Meeting, a large topic of discussion was how to restructure the AAFP Award for Excellence in Graduate Medical Education application in order to make it more inclusive. Additionally, a letter of recommendation was changed to a form filled out by residency directors with specific questions to help ensure a more consistent approach to award judging.

We completed an annual review of the member interest groups. This year we recommended approval for the Intersectionality in Health Care group. The mission of this group is to provide a safe space for providers from marginalized groups to discuss their personal experiences with implicit and explicit bias and for allies to learn about the struggles of their colleagues and contribute to a community of support. They also want to provide a place to organize and advocate for health care equity, racial and social justice, particularly within CME opportunities. We also recommended approval for the Home-Based Primary Care group. Additionally, we recommended the sunseting of the Academic Mentorship and Oral Health interest groups due to a lack of members interested in leading the group.

Another topic of discussion was the continued dip in membership when transitioning from residency to new physicians. A New Physician workgroup was started. This group met twice during the year to discuss why new physicians were not renewing their membership and how the Academy could better support them.

At the Spring cluster meeting, our attention was raised to an overall increase in the number of active members in the Academy, but a decrease in the number of student members. AAFP Staff Members reported that this decrease was on par with findings from other medical specialty societies due to the lack of in person medical education.

At both meetings, membership dues were discussed to ensure accommodation for hardships faced during COVID. This was balanced against the need for increased funds in order to keep providing value to AAFP members. The Academy had delayed cancellations in the wake of the pandemic, but the Commission recommended a \$10 increase in dues in 2022 to ensure quality membership in the future.

Through this position, we have both learned the high value the AAFP places on our thoughts as training physicians. The AAFP seeks to support and create the future of family medicine with us. We have also learned that AAFP is just as flexible as our chosen specialty and willing to support its members even when our specialty faces some of its most trying days.

If you are interested in advocating for our voices as students, residents, and the next generation family physicians, we would encourage you to apply to be the representative to CMMS for 2020-2021.

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