



STFM Board of Directors Student/Resident Representative 2019 - 2020 Annual Report

SOCIETY OF TEACHERS OF FAMILY MEDICINE (STFM) BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Resident

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Class of 2021

Student

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Class of 2020

The Society of Teachers of Family Medicine (STFM) is a national organization of family medicine teachers and scholars with the goal of advancing family medicine education and research to improve health, at all levels of medical training and professional development. As student and resident members of the Board, we participated in board meetings with full voting rights with goals of sharing resident and student perspectives to the board. These voting rights demonstrate that students and residents are important part of making policies, and these policies will continue to set the direction for STFM to advance family medicine through innovation, education, scholarship and mentorship. Over the past year, we have been fortunate to learn and contribute to decision-making on a variety of family medicine advancement areas, including promoting academic medicine and advocating on behalf of students/residents as a valid and important contribution to STFM programming. One of the major tasks we accomplished this year as board members was the discussion and finalization of the STFM Strategic Plan 2020-2024, which will shape the direction and priorities of STFM in the next 5 years. Additionally, student and resident representatives served as members of the Medical Student Education Committee and Graduate Medical Education Committee (GME), respectively, in order to advocate for student and resident perspectives in each of these committees per below.

Resident

The STFM Board of Directors worked diligently this year to support our educators in academic medicine, while finding ways to encourage residents and students to learn and become part of STFM. As main highlights of this year, the Board approved our Strategic Plan 2020-2024 as stated above which will focus on professional and leadership development, workforce recruitment and retention, scholarship, health equity, and advocacy. As part of the GME Committee, I helped to make improvements to the Faculty for Tomorrow Workshop, which is a workshop for residents interested in a career in academic medicine. As a pre-conference workshop to the STFM Annual Spring Conference, this workshop continues to be a valuable tool for residents to not shy away from junior faculty roles after graduation and provides scholarships for residents to attend to offset costs of travel. Additionally, the GME Committee advocated for changes in ACGME requirements to provide protected time for our core faculty, with recognition that our faculty members are stretched in multiple directions between administrative burden, competing priorities, clinical time, and educating residents. I hope that this protected time can be a small part and a start in helping to prevent burnout in our faculty members.

During this role, I learned about the power of residents and medical students in shaping our education in family medicine. From our discussions on telemedicine, experiences in leadership training and improvements that can be made to what is currently available as educational resources, to continuing to identify the need for increasing diversity in medical schools and residencies, the Board listened wholeheartedly to my and the student representative's perspectives even as the newest members to the group. In developing the strategic plan, I learned how to best advocate for the group, rather than as an individual, as this would reflect the goals of the larger organization. This training in organizational leadership is a skill I will continue to utilize in my future leadership positions. It has been a privilege to be part of the Board, and to have met an amazing set of mentors who are passionate about shaping the field of academic family medicine. I feel honored to continue in this role for one more year as a resident representative and excited to see what I can help to accomplish for our future teachers in family medicine this upcoming year.

Student

STFM Board Activities and Achievements

As mentioned previously, a major accomplishment of the board was finalizing the strategic plan, outlining the goals, objectives, and tactics over the next five years. These goals are centered around the five core values of professional and leadership development, workforce recruitment and retention, scholarship, health equity, and advocacy. Furthermore, the pandemic has brought about a great time of uncertainty, but STFM responded accordingly and promptly. The 2020 Annual Spring Conference was changed to a virtual conference, which is being held August 24-27th, 2020. In addition to this change, at the latest meeting, the board approved the creation of a virtual coaching program. This is a service free for members to pair them with coaches to "help members advance their careers through targeted access to the talents and expertise of STFM colleagues". The new Health Systems Engagement Plan was also discussed and approved with great enthusiasm. The goal is to ensure health systems better understand the value of family medicine and ensure adequate time and resources for teaching and faculty and learner well-being. . All in all, this is an incredibly exciting time for STFM.

Medical Student Education (MSE) Committee

The purpose of the MSE committee is to "provide insight and resources to address the needs of family medicine departments and educators, plan the Conference of Medical Student Education, and organize the STFM Academic Track for the National Conference of Family Medicine Residents and Medical Students". My role on the committee has largely centered around the Conference on Medical Student Education, helping reach out to students through email and social media, read presentation submission, and help prepare for upcoming events. The 2020 conference boasted the largest student attendance in STFM history, and we hope to see even more in the future. Everyone should mark their calendars for the 2021 MSE Conference, which is set to be January 31st - February 3rd, 2021 in Atlanta, GA! Finally, before my duties as the student representative unfortunately come to a close, I will be helping with a global health equity session at the 2020 AAFP National Conference and finalizing a project with the MSE Collaborative Steering Committee to connect with medical students all around the country and raise more awareness of STFM.

Lessons Learned and the Value of Serving on the STFM Board

I do not think I have the words to describe how incredible this experience was. It has been an honor and a privilege to serve as the student representative, and I am beyond grateful. Everyone involved in these committees is kind and dedicated, and they are all passionate about family medicine. It is an amazing opportunity to be able to collaborate with professionals to work towards the advancement of family medicine and for the betterment of family physicians everywhere. It has further ignited my

enthusiasm for family medicine and will continue to inspire the trajectory of my career. Even though I will no longer be the student representative, I will remain a part of STFM. I highly encourage everyone to become involved with STFM.

Note: This report was prepared by the resident or student representative(s) listed and includes their account(s) of the business conducted during their term. This is not an official record of business proceedings from the AAFP or any other entity. To find out more about the business of the AAFP, its congresses, commissions, and current policies visit aafp.org.