



AFMRD Board of Directors Resident 2016-2017 Annual Report

ASSOCIATION OF FAMILY MEDICINE RESIDENCY DIRECTORS (AFMRD) BOARD OF DIRECTORS – RESIDENT MEMBER

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Over the last 2 years, I have had the distinct pleasure of serving as the resident representative to the AFMRD Board of Directors. This is an organization which serves to support residency program directors in their pursuit of excellence in family medicine residency training. The vision of our organization is to cultivate a robust community of residency directors engaged in excellence, mutual assistance, and innovation to meet the health care needs of the public. My role in this group was to serve as a resident voice and offer perspective on a range of issues pertinent to family medicine education and training.

Strategic Plan

The Board has been crafting a new Strategic Plan over the past two years, which will serve to both clarify the mission and goals of the organization in order to guide its future direction, as well as taking steps to improve our infrastructure and self-governance processes. The creation of this document involved polling members and leadership, employing an outside consultant, and many long discussions and revisions along the way. We have now finalized the document and feel it effectively captures the soul of our organization, placing emphasis on our main goals of Professional Development and Education, Residency Program Quality Improvement, Advocacy and Collaboration, Communication, and improved Infrastructure. This will provide the framework for our future efforts over 2017-2019.

Resident Scholarship to Family Medicine Advocacy Summit (formerly Congressional Conference)

The AFMRD provides up to 10 family medicine residents each year with scholarships to participate in the newly renamed Family Medicine Advocacy Summit, which takes place in Washington DC. This year the recipients were chosen from a very impressive group of applicants. While in the Capitol, they met with the Congressmen from their own individual states and advocated in opposition of the ACHA or legislation which would decrease coverage or access to care and in support of funding for Teaching Health Centers, and promoted House participation in the Primary Care Caucus. The participating recipients later transformed these experiences into presentations to share with resident counterparts or written compositions. Overall, it was a very well attended and impactful weekend, and our Board remains committed to supporting resident participation in this program.

Physician Wellness Taskforce

There has been a huge movement throughout the House of Medicine to improve physician and resident wellness, and this was enthusiastically carried forward by our Board and the organization's Physician Wellness Task Force. Representatives from the Board and the Taskforce attended the ACGME

Symposiums on Physician Well-being, and have worked over the past year to create an Action Plan for Residency Wellness. This action plan provides a step-by-step guide for residency programs to create a culture of wellness through measurement and adjustment of environmental, infrastructure, schedule, and communication factors. The plan also helps residencies integrate formal wellness curricula into their programs. The work of the task force and their final product represents a large step in the right direction on the fight against physician burnout and wellness promotion.

A sampling of other ongoing activities of the board include: involvement in the Family Medicine Length of Training Pilot to compare 3 and 4 year training programs; the revision of the formal list of Entrustable Professional Activities (EPAs) brought forth from Family Medicine for America's Health as well as mapping each EPA to its associated ACGME Milestones; the facilitation of the Family Medicine Graduate Survey, which provides information to program directors about what graduates are doing in practice and their level of preparedness; the Residency Curriculum Resource, which is an online resource of peer-edited, up-to-date lectures and educational tools for PD's use to improve their programs' academic rigor and curriculum; the Residency Performance Index, which allows programs to measure residency progress and make necessary program adjustments to fill gaps; the National Institute for Program Director Development, which is a program for family medicine educators to enhance their leadership and teaching skills; and Accreditation Navigation, which is an AFMRD program to assist osteopathic programs successfully complete the transition to ACGME governance.

It has been my pleasure to serve in this position with an incredibly impressive group of model physicians and program directors as well as the ever-dynamic and personable AFMRD staff. I have learned about the necessity of teamwork, the principles of self-governance and financial sustainability of an organizational board, and gained a keen insight into the administration of academic medicine on a national scale. I would recommend this position to anyone with an interest in academic or organized medicine and look forward with excitement to meeting the next representative who will take my place.

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