



# FMIG Network National Coordinator 2018 Annual Report

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## FMIG Network National Coordinator

### Student

Chandler Stisher  
University of Alabama School of Medicine  
Birmingham, AL  
Class of 2019

### Regional Coordinators and Liaisons

Five regional coordinators, a Latino Medical Student Association (LMSA) liaison, and a Student National Medical Association (SNMA) liaison continue to serve in their terms through December 2018:

- Region 1, Dylan Nehrenberg, MS3, University of Washington School of Medicine, Spokane
- Region 2, Zachary Nicholas, MS3, California Northstate University College of Medicine
- Region 3, Erin Clark, OMS-III, Campbell University School of Osteopathic Medicine
- Region 4, Keanan McGonigle, MS4, Tulane University School of Medicine
- Region 5, Jacqueline Sroka, MS3, Florida International University Herbert Wertheim College of Medicine
- LMSA Liaison, Victoria Otaño Pereira, MD, PGY-1, Halifax Medical Center
- SNMA Liaison, Blessing Inyang, MS4, Creighton University School of Medicine

The FMIG Network is led by Chandler Stisher, MS4, University of Alabama School of Medicine. His term as FMIG National Coordinator began at the 2017 AAFP National Conference of Family Medicine Residents and Medical Students and will end at the upcoming National Conference in August 2018.

The FMIG network serves 34,300 AAFP student members as of April 2018.

### Student Membership Promotion

The Regional Coordinators, in their first four months, were able to actively recruit new Student Membership Ambassadors, formerly Student Membership Coordinators, and student members. In doing so, the student membership within the AAFP reached 34,300, meaning that more than 1 in 4 medical students across the country are now connected to the AAFP and exploring family medicine as a potential field of practice. Program of Excellence Awards

The FMIG Network continues to host the Program of Excellence Awards, which recognizes outstanding FMIGs across the country. The application cycle is open in February and March. Awards will be given out during the FMIG Breakfast at the National Conference. This year, two \$600 incentives were offered, and we received 35 applications, 10 more than in 2017.

### National Conference Promotion

For the seventh 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, and they are provided a PowerPoint presentation and an attendance sheet to collect the names and emails of students who attended the meeting. After they hold their meeting and present the PowerPoint, they are asked to complete a submission form and turn it in along with the attendance sheet.

## **FMIG Network National Conference Workshops**

The FMIG Network student leaders along with AAFP staff have been working to plan four National Conference workshops for FMIG leaders and members. These workshops will give medical students multiple opportunities to learn, collaborate, and connect. Planning for these sessions will continue through July.

The first of four sessions will take place 7:00-9:00 a.m. on August 2. The session is entitled *A Brand Idea: Achieving Big Things for Yourself and Your FMIG Through Personal Branding*, and will be hosted by regional coordinators Jackie and Erin, and LMSA liaison Victoria. Special guest speakers are Steve Brown, MD, and Natasha Bhuyan, MD. This interactive leadership workshop will help FMIG leaders develop personal mission statements and help them become familiar with tools and approaches to establishing a personal brand.

The second workshop, *FMIG Basics*, is scheduled for 10:45-11:45 a.m. on August 3, and will last 60 minutes. This session is designed for FMIG leaders, focusing primarily on new and upcoming FMIG leaders. We will spend the session navigating the FMIG website and resources available with the intent of focusing on trouble areas identified by leaders in the 2017 AAFP FMIG Activity Survey. Topics may include mentorship, membership and recruitment, funding and fundraising, myths and facts about family medicine, community service, and national conferences and leadership.

The third FMIG Network event is the FMIG Breakfast, scheduled for 7 a.m. on August 3. The primary purpose of this session is to recognize the 2018 winners of the annual Program of Excellence (PoE) Awards. The FMIG leaders of the winning programs will be presented with a plaque and photographed with any mentor faculty who may be present. Regional Coordinators will deliver the plaques to each winning program within their own region. This event will also include breakfast for all in attendance as well as games and prizes, updates from the FMIG Network National Coordinator, SNMA Liaison, LMSA Liaison, AAFP Foundation, American Medical Student Association (AMSA), and opportunities for FMIG leaders and members to meet their Regional Coordinator as well as other student leaders in the FMIG Network.

The final workshop, *Best Practices for FMIGs*, will take place 10-11:30 a.m. on August 4. and will feature representatives from select PoE Award-winning schools. Topics will be based on PoE award categories and will ideally feature one speaker from each region. There will be time at the end of the session for discussion and group work as needed.

## **FMIG/SNMA Collaboration**

At the 2018 SNMA Annual Medical Education Conference (AMEC) in San Francisco, CA, Blessing addressed the SNMA House of Delegates and networked with attendees interested in family medicine. She helped ensure family medicine was represented in conference programming and organized a panel of family physicians to speak about their unique career paths. She is also working to increase SNMA awareness regarding membership in the AAFP, National Conference, and Tar Wars.

## **FMIG/LMSA Collaboration**

The LMSA position will begin its second year in August 2018. Vicki will continue in the role through December 2018 as the position term is realigned to match the AAFP's leadership election timelines. Applications for the 2019 LMSA term are open and will be reviewed in the fall.

In April, Vicki represented the AAFP at the LMSA National Conference in Miami, Florida. She led sessions for pre-medical and medical students about a career in family medicine, as well as helped provide input to LMSA leadership on meeting programming.

## **Primary Care Leadership Collaborative**

The FMIG Network continues to collaborate with Primary Care Progress (PCP) to provide coaching and leadership development for FMIGs that have volunteered for the Primary Care Leadership

Collaborative (PCLC). PCLC will kick off its second year at the 2018 National Conference. This coaching program teaches participating FMIGs leadership skills to help them make changes in their communities that will elevate and promote primary care, for example, creating a pipeline program and advocating for changes to medical school curriculum.

### **FMIG Network Social Media Presence**

Social media is a vital tool for FMIG Network leaders to connect with FMIG leaders. Throughout the year, AAFP staff and FMIG Network leaders use Facebook and Twitter to reach out to medical students, family medicine faculty advisors, and others involved in medical education during conferences and on a regular basis.

### **Community Discussion Boards**

In August 2017, the five regional FMIG community discussion boards hosted by the AAFP were merged into one national community discussion board. The thought behind this was to encourage discussion among all FMIG leaders across the country. As of May 2018, there are more than 460 student members on the discussion board receiving communication through this space and connecting with one another. A recent topic of discussion on the community was about hosting a successful procedures workshop through the FMIG at local institutions. Several students had some advice on their best practices for this type of workshop including where to get supplies, who to partner with, and suggestions about using medical simulation.

We have recently completed a survey for all members of the discussion board to find out what they want to gain from an online community: networking, advice from other FMIG leaders, programming ideas, communication for the national office, etc. Results show the importance of email platforms and communities for students.

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

### **Conference Presentations**

AAFP staff, FMIG National Coordinator Chandler Stisher, and a team of family medicine faculty members and researchers presented workshops on student interest topics, as well as a pre-conference workshop for FMIG advisors, at the Society of Teachers of Family Medicine Conference on Medical Student Education in January 2018. AAFP staff also presented on student interest and family medicine at the STFM Annual Spring Conference and Beyond Flexner. AAFP staff and FMIG students also attended and exhibited at the American Medical Student Association (AMSA) annual conference, LMSA National Conference, and the SNMA Annual Medical Education Conference. At LMSA, liaison Victoria Otaño presented to medical and premedical students. SNMA liaison Blessing Inyang addressed the SNMA House of Delegates at the SNMA's annual conference and hosted a panel discussion with family physicians. National Coordinator Chandler Stisher addressed the AMSA House of Delegates during its Annual Convention in March 2018. This was the fifth time a representative from the AAFP or FMIG Network has spoken before AMSA leadership and conference attendees. AAFP staff member Marselle Bredemeyer and FMIG National Coordinator Chandler Stisher also hosted an FMIG workshop at the Alabama Academy of Family Physicians 2018 Annual Meeting. Staff plans to present workshops at the Family Medicine Education Consortium annual meeting and the Family Medicine Midwest meeting this fall.

### **Looking ahead**

The 2017 FMIG Network student leaders are currently working on presentations for the 2018 AAFP National Conference. The student leaders will host three workshop sessions and a breakfast at National Conference. Additionally, a new National Coordinator will be elected at National Conference. The leaders also look forward to their continued collaboration with LMSA, SNMA, and AMSA. They are excited about continuing collaboration with Primary Care Progress and hope it will engage and activate more FMIG members.

FMIG Network leaders will continue to use the online community space to engage FMIG leaders and promote the AAFP FMIG Network on Facebook and Twitter.

The group will continue to garner student interest in family medicine through the AAFP's collaboration with Health is Primary/Family Medicine for America's Health and the "Choose More. Choose Family Medicine" campaign, as well as through promotion of the FMIG resources available at [aafp.org/fmig](http://aafp.org/fmig) and via social media.

In the coming year, there will also be discussion about modifying the current FMIG Funding Initiative, including different categories of funding for FMIGs, and trying to broaden our reach to more medical students as we work together to diversify the family medicine workforce of the future.

### **Personal Experience**

As I reflect back on my time as National Coordinator, I must say that time has passed rather quickly. I believe the FMIG Network is continuing to grow stronger and more students are interested in family medicine than ever before. I have thoroughly enjoyed working with all of the student leaders and AAFP staff over the past year. This team's passion and vision for family medicine has inspired me, and I look forward to seeing where they take the FMIG Network with the new National Coordinator after National Conference.

Since National Conference last year, I have been fortunate enough to work with an amazing group of student leaders and AAFP staff that have taught me so much, both personally and professionally. This position has challenged me to become a better leader, and it has shown me even more about the specialty of family medicine and the "family" of family medicine. I feel blessed to have been a part of the FMIG Network leadership team, and I know the skills I have learned will make me a better family doctor one day.

I would like to say a very special thank you to Ashley, Marselle, and Mary, for their constant encouragement, dedication, and wisdom throughout my time in the FMIG Network. Nothing would have been accomplished without them, and I am very grateful for their hard work. It saddens me to be leaving the FMIG Network leadership team, but I look forward to what lies ahead of me on this journey and to see where the FMIG Network will go next. I am confident that the current student leaders will continue their work in developing this community of students who all have one common goal: to become a family physician.

**Choose more. Choose family medicine.**  
*[aafp.org/med-ed](http://aafp.org/med-ed)*

*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](http://aafp.org).*