



Latino Medical Student Association (LMSA) Student Liaison 2018 Annual Report

Student Liaison to Latino Medical Student Association (LMSA)

Student

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Thank you for choosing me to represent the first official LMSA to AAFP National Liaison position. It has been a great experience and I look forward to continuing serving both organizations this year. As the LMSA-AAFP Liaison, my primary goal is to be an approachable point of contact and to work together with both organizations on common goals.

Purpose & Scope of work:

After having collaborated with the Student National Medical Association (SNMA) for many years, the AAFP recognized the need to establish a relationship and collaborate with LMSA at the national level. An LMSA representative attended the COE meeting last year and discussed LMSA goals, direction, and this partnership with COE members. A memorandum of understanding was reached in February of 2017 year between AAFP and LMSA, and this position was created. Both organizations mutually agreed upon eligibility criteria and selection process.

The main purpose of this partnership has been to work collaborative towards the main goal of increasing workforce diversity in primary care, specially in Family Medicine. In order to do so, this position should aim to identify and act on opportunities for increasing medical students awareness and affinity for primary care careers, specially as it relates to serving the underserved and underrepresented communities.

Activities and achievements:

- **Defining responsibilities:** As the first elected member for this position, I have worked closely with both organizations to help identify priorities, individual, and common goals. I have started the process of defining what the role and the responsibility of the Liasion should be. During this year, I worked closely with the Vice President of Externals Affairs from LMSA, and with the Student Representative Leaders from the AAFP. Together, with National and Regional FMIG coordinators, I attended a leadership training and worked with these leaders. As part of my role, together with AAFP and LMSA leaders, we decided a change in terms to the position was needed to better align with elections and responsibilities. An Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) revision has been proposed and is currently under review by LMSA leadership. This amendment states that this position will now be concurrent with the AAFP leadership terms which are from January 1st – December 31st. Dur to this change, my year term will also be extended to cover the gap and better transition to the next term.
- **Leadership:** I form part of an excellent leadership team with FMIG leaders from across the country. As part of this team, I attended a National Leadership training in January, and attend monthly conference calls to discuss events, ideas, and support each other.

On the LMSA side, I participate on as needed conference calls with the VP of External affairs. I also participated on our National Elections for the transitioning board of directors.

- **Increasing Family Medicine awareness at LMSA events:** During this past year, I was able to attend two National LMSA conferences, representing the AAFP. In October, I attended the 5th Annual LMSA Policy Summit in Washington D.C., this summit congregates LMSA leaders from across the country interested in policy change and advocacy. During this conference, we not only told students about the AAFP, but also gave a workshop on leadership from a Family Medicine Resident guest. The second LMSA conference, was held this past April in Miami. This conference is open to all LMSA members across the country and is a great opportunity to interact on a personal level. As a recently matched Family Medicine future resident, I presented two workshops on “careers on Family Medicine”, providing attending students with information about FM. We had two Family Medicine Residents as guest. We were also pleased to have Dr. Acosta, the Chief Diversity and Inclusion Officer for the AAMC, also a Family Physician, join us and discuss his perspective on the future of Family Medicine and the need of a diverse workforce.
- **AAFP National Conference:** Part of my responsibilities have included planning and coordination of different events for the National Conference. I am part of a committee working on a FMIG leadership specific event, as well as the Diversity Workshop for students and residents.
- **Social Media and communications:** As part of my role, I have been actively involved in social media and our internal student and leader’s portal. Our goal is to promote LMSA and AAFP events, news related to Family Medicine and Latino health, policy and advocacy.

Personal Experience

I have thoroughly enjoyed my position as the National LMSA- AAFP Liaison. It has been wonderful to work with the FMIG network leaders, staff, and student leaders. I am excited to continue working with this wonderful group of individuals. Professionally, it has been a humbling and great learning experience. I have acquired great knowledge of how national organizations work, I have improved my communication skills, and I have learnt about organizing events from a different perspective. I am honored to have been chosen to be the first LMSA Liaison and I hope to continue to strengthen this relationship further. It is evident that the Academy of Family Physicians, is really involved with student organizations and cares about the future of medicine. Our common goals of increasing diversity in the workforce has united us and motivated us to work together. I am excited to continue working with the AAFP through my residency and beyond.

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.