



RESIDENT PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

*Megan Boysen, MD
President, AAEM/RSA*

Our presence in AAEM dates back to the formation of the resident section in 1999. Since then, we have become an independent AAEM Resident and Student Association, increased our membership three-fold (last year we had 2300 members) and accomplished feats of advocacy and education. The coming year marks the tenth year of the resident section in AAEM and is a tremendous opportunity to shape the future of emergency medicine by becoming involved in AAEM/RSA. The most obvious way to accomplish this is to become a committee member. The four AAEM/RSA committees are chaired by the at-large board members and include advocacy, communications, education and membership.

Our advocacy committee focuses on the issues facing emergency medicine such as overcrowding, insurance and government programs, the election and fair contracts. The communications committee supports our website www.aaemrsa.org and arranges email communication between the board and RSA members. The education committee's major responsibility is to plan the educational track at the Scientific Assembly in March 2009 in Phoenix, Arizona. Finally, our membership committee encourages the growth of our organization.

By choosing emergency medicine, you have declared yourself a leader. I hope you will take a step further to become a leader of leaders.

I am excited about the newly elected board which includes five returning members and five new additions.

Andrew Pickens, MD JD MBA, who recently finished his residency at the University of North Carolina, will be contributing on the board as the immediate past president. Our vice president, Kalpana Narayan, MD MSc, is from Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston, MA. Dr. Narayan was the 2007-2008 advocacy committee chair. The secretary-treasurer, Cyrus Shahpar, MD MPH MBA, is from Johns Hopkins University and served as last year's membership committee chair; he will also operate as the liaison to AAEM's Young Physicians Section (YPS). Dr. Shahpar helped increase AAEM/RSA membership by 12% last year. Mike Ybarra, MD, will join our board as an at-large board member and was the 2007-2008 president of the AAEM Medical Student Council. Dr. Ybarra will also act as the resident board liaison to the Medical Student Council. The remaining at-large board members include: Heather Jimenez, MD, Indiana University; Jennifer Kanapicki, MD, Stanford/Kaiser; Brian Ostick, MD, Christiana Care; and Alicia Pilarski, MD, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Greg Casey, from Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine, will be the Medical Student Council president and will also be the medical student liaison to the board.

Opportunities to become involved will be emailed, but I encourage you to email me or any of the board members with your interest and questions: www.aaemrsa.org/leadership/. In addition, please mark your calendar for the Scientific Assembly, March 2-4, 2009. I look forward to the opportunity to serve you in the coming year.

Thanks to All: A Year in Review Student President

*Michael Ybarra, MD
Immediate Past President, Medical Student Council*

I want to take the opportunity to thank everyone I have met and worked with over the 2007-2008 membership year and review our progress and growth as an organization. At our initial conference call nearly a year ago, we set four goals: increase communication, develop EM Select, expand the EMIG Workshop Starter Kit Series and grow our membership base. The Medical Student Council of the Academy finished the year with over a thousand members for the first time ever!

Our success in achieving these goals is due in part to the work of those that came before me – a group of very dedicated students, who are now successful residents and attending physicians. They were instrumental in bringing us to our starting point, and the medical student council in 2007-2008 worked hard to take the organization to the next level.

Ben Feinzimer, the vice president, and incoming PGY-1 in Chicago oversaw the further development of EMSelect.org, our residency program selection tool. It has become the most user-friendly and up-to-date program available, and we are proud to offer it as a free service to our paying members.

The group of regional representatives (Michael Habicht from the west, Adrian Elliott from the east, Tom Masters from the midwest and Caleb Trent from the south) created an extensive network of Emergency Medicine Interest Groups. They connected these clubs with the resources of our organization and were instrumental in expanding our membership base.

We worked as a team to increase communication, put on workshops and information sessions across the country
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