



## RESIDENT PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

### Introductory Message

Ryan Shanahan, MD  
AAEM/RSA President

Hello and welcome to a new academic year for the AAEM/RSA! I am honored to represent you as the president of the Resident and Student Association and am looking forward to a wonderful year.

At the start of every year there is, naturally, a reevaluation of priorities and a good deal of thinking that goes into focusing our efforts to be of maximum benefit to our members. I know that many of our members have benefited from our excellent board review book. Our "Toxicology Handbook" and "Rules of the Road for EM Residents" book have been handy resources for years. Our Scientific Assembly has always been well attended and the resident track remains a wonderful resource.

This organization could easily rest on its laurels and continue to provide these services with no loss of face. That said, it is better to implement changes from a position of strength. I believe that we can still do better by you. We are currently surveying members to determine your interest in Smartphone applications for the Written Board Review book and the next edition of the "Toxicology Handbook". We will be strengthening our mentorship program through the Young Physician Section (YPS) of AAEM to give graduating residents a leg up when searching for jobs and evaluating potential places to practice. Finally we will be looking to you, our membership, to let us know what you need and what would be useful to you.

Our profession is today facing some of the same challenges that it faced in its infancy. What does it mean to be an emergency physician? What kind of training is required? In most states these questions are being asked and the answers provided by some are not good for our profession and our patients. AAEM was founded on the idea that every emergency physician should be board certified and that board certification should now entail residency training. This is a basic principle that I believe every emergency medicine resident can agree with. This is an interesting time for our field and a great time to be involved with organized medicine. AAEM and the RSA are actively working to protect our profession from both these challenges to our credibility as an independent field and also from the challenge of organized corporate medicine threatening to disconnect the physician from his community.

I would encourage you to look a little harder at AAEM. I know that many residents are signed up by their programs and many students are attracted by the free trial membership. Some would claim that our organization is radical or a fringe group. I would encourage you to go to our website ([www.aem.org](http://www.aem.org)) and take a look at AAEM's principles for yourself. You might find that you yourself are more "radical" than you think. Our ideals are likely yours as well and together we can work them to fruition. I welcome your comments at [shanahan.ryan@gmail.com](mailto:shanahan.ryan@gmail.com) and look forward to a wonderful year working together.

**Become  
a Part of  
EMIG Select!**

AAEM/RSA announces its newest membership program, EMIG Select. Sign up 20 or more members of your program for AAEM/RSA student membership and get recognized in *Modern Resident*, *Common Sense* and Facebook!

Contact [info@aaemrsa.org](mailto:info@aaemrsa.org) for more information and to sign up today!

#### Current EMIG Select Programs (2010-2011)

- Midwestern University/Arizona College of Osteopathic Medicine