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This June marked the beginning of the last of my two terms of service as graduate advisor for the Student Academy of the American Academy of Physician Assistants (SAAAPA). I am pleased to report that the last year has included many successes for SAAAPA, several of which involved PAEA. I have continued to connect with the AAPA graduate advisor and Student Academy leadership as we begin our work with a new slate of leaders elected in May at the AAPA meeting in Las Vegas.

Along with Student Academy duties, I have also had the opportunity to continue serving as a member of the PAEA Future Educator Development Steering Committee. This group has worked diligently to develop plans and programming related to students. Of particular note is the upcoming Future Educator Fellowship (FEF) at the PAEA Education Forum, as well as other new initiatives. This year we received 86 applications for the Future Educator Fellowship; this is an increase from the 56 applications we received in 2016, and the highest number of applicants to date. Kendall Mealy and Johonna Nuby have continued to provide exceptional staff support. In addition, Zach Britt's involvement has elevated our educational programming and strategy for the FEF.

Throughout the year, the Student Academy was busy working to increase its relevance to students and PA programs. I provide this report to recap the activities of the Student Academy over the past year and to update you on pertinent resolutions the Assembly of Representatives (AOR) has in place for the 2017-2018 leadership year.

AAPA National Conference, May 2017, Las Vegas, Nevada

- The AOR met to discuss policy and debate issues related to PA students, the Student Academy, and the PA profession. In addition, a new group of national student leaders was elected and/or appointed. I have attached a list of those leaders for your reference in Appendix A of this report.
- The newly elected Student Board underwent AAPA/Student Academy orientation at the AAPA Annual Conference in Las Vegas. An additional board meeting is scheduled for late September 2017.
- The House of Delegates (HOD) Student Delegates were once again involved in critically important issues at this year's AAPA conference. The student HOD delegates had the opportunity to participate in the HOD by hearing and giving testimony and then voting on resolutions, including Optimal Team Practice debate.

- Of specific note, work continued on collaborations between SAAAPA, AAPA, and PAEA leadership to develop a task force study and proposal to the challenges of clinical rotation sites.
- The student delegation was able to continue to work proactively to protect student interests as well as those of the HOD.
- Once again, a high number of student members applied to serve during the coming year as student representatives to the HOD. These student delegate selections will be made in the early fall.
- The AOR passed resolutions that charged the Student Academy with its work for the coming year. I have highlighted some of the resolutions pertinent to PA programs and educators later in this report. For the full listing of carried and failed resolutions, please visit the Student Academy website: https://www.aapa.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/06/AOR_Resolutions-Final.pdf
- Jennifer Feirstein, AAPA graduate advisor, and I had the opportunity to meet with AAPA leadership to discuss PA student issues.
- The SAAPA National Medical Challenge Bowl was again a highlight of this year's conference. There were 82 PA programs represented with spirited teams at this year's event. As always, the event was well-attended, filling the convention center hall. This year's National Medical Challenge Bowl title was won by Southern Illinois University with a strong performance in the final round. [Click here](#) to see this year's bracket.

Resolutions Pertinent to PAEA Board and Membership

2017 Assembly of Representatives Resolutions

Currently, the SAAAPA leadership is in the process of selecting student members to serve in implementing the approved resolutions. Early planning has also begun to develop the programming needed to accomplish the varied goals of the resolutions. Below are the resolutions pertinent to PA education and PAEA.

2017-03:

The Student Academy resolves to promote the advancement of the PA profession with thoughtful discussion leading to an AOR-led, student society-based advocacy workshop.

2017-07

The Student Academy resolves to explore opportunities for diversity promotion and methods by which diversity can be highlighted among the PA student community.

2017-09

The Student Academy resolves to educate PA students on the current opioid crisis and how to get involved on a student level.

2017-10

The Student Academy resolves to revise and reimplement the AOR toolkit to empower the individual PA programs and assist in a smooth transition between AOR reps in order to continue excellent leadership.

2016-05

The Student Academy resolves to promote interprofessional development and relationships between PA students and other medical professional students.

As these efforts move forward, I will be working to guide SAAAPA leadership in regard to PA education interests, including maintenance of ARC-PA Standards, while developing resolution activities. Discussions have already been helpful to better focus resolution activities to appropriate actions in addressing these issues.

SAAAPA Microsite

The Student Academy has continued to develop a PA microsite designed by and for students (www.pastudentessentials.com/) that has content targeted from pre-PA students through new graduates. PA student blogs are a big focus of this microsite. Student leaders and students from around the country have developed content for the website. Traffic remains strong. Students from PA programs around the country submit blog posts to the director of communications for publication on the microsite. Other areas of interest on the microsite include a section on the didactic and clinical year, a student spotlight, and resources on PA programs. The SAAAPA leadership has reached out to PAEA's Future Educator Development Steering Committee to contribute blog content. This should be an excellent conduit to disseminate information to students as we look for ways to distribute student-related PAEA content.

Communications

- The Student Academy continues to use social media and pastudentessentials.com as important tools for communicating with students. The Communications and Outreach Volunteer Group and the director of communications continue to explore and utilize Facebook and Twitter as well. Traffic to SAAAPA social media outlets has increased over the last year.
- Monthly board conference calls have continued among student leaders and advisors, as planning is underway for the upcoming year. An in-person Board meeting will be held in September 2017. I expect this meeting will set the stage for a very productive 2017-2018.

- The quarterly AOR conference calls have been a success in maintaining open lines of communication between the Student Academy and PA programs. Approaches to improve this communication are being discussed. Regional directors will continue to hold quarterly conference calls with all the AOR representatives in their region.
- AOR representatives should continue to use the permanent email addresses that have been passed on to future AOR representatives in order to maintain consistency in communication.
- Efforts will continue in order to maintain the most current email and contact information for the students, faculty advisors, and the PA programs they represent.

Task Forces and Work Groups

- **PAEA Future Educator Development Steering Committee**

Since beginning our work three years ago, the FEDSC has continued initial efforts with great momentum. The committee has been able to make actionable progress in several areas, most notably with PAEA Board approval to transition to a permanent committee, as well as development of a more robust FEF curriculum.

The FEDSC has worked to develop opportunities to connect PAEA with students and students with PAEA. In May, at the AAPA National Conference, the SATF developed and presented SPARK student track sessions on leadership opportunities as PA students and as early career practitioners. The sessions were well attended and well-received.

Since my last report, the FEDSC successfully launched the second annual Future Educator Fellowship at the PAEA Education Forum in 2016. We appreciate the Board of Directors' support for this. There were 25 students selected and they voiced having a great experience. We have an outstanding 86 quality applications vying for 15 spots in this year's Future Educator Fellowship (FEF). The Fellowship will include the typical general session activities and select spotlight sessions, as well as programming specifically designed for FEF Fellows. This year, a revamped curriculum is being developed that will allow for an expanded experience with increased didactic content on the basics of PA education and pedagogy. The reception from faculty attendees at last year's Forum was once again quite positive.

In FEDSC communication and conference calls, we continue to think broadly about our goals of increasing the student-to-preceptor and student-to-faculty pipelines, recruiting to increase the diversity of our programs and organizations, and recruiting for leadership. I believe taking the next step of becoming a permanent

council has set the group up well to continue the work already begun and to think about the next chapter in the connection between PAEA and PA students.

- **SAAAPA Volunteer Groups**

I sit as an advisor on a variety of the Student Academy resolution volunteer groups. For a full listing of SAAAPA work groups and their members, please feel free to contact me directly.

Thanks and Acknowledgements

I would like to thank and recognize the hard work and dedication of PAEA's FEDSC. Under the outstanding leadership of John Ramos, the FEDSC has continued to be an incredibly constructive and thoughtful body, as well as ambitious. I believe these characteristics have positioned the group to make a tremendous impact for our organization. FEDSC also recognizes the outstanding work and organization of Kendall Mealy and Johonna Nuby. I would like to personally thank the Board of Directors for extending me this opportunity to serve our students and PAEA. It is an exciting time to be associated with PAEA and the amazing work our students are doing.

Respectfully submitted,



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PAEA Graduate Advisor, 2016 - 2018
Student Academy of the American Academy of Physician Assistants
PAEA Future Educator Development Steering Committee

Appendix A

STUDENT ACADEMY LEADERSHIP 2017 -2018

Congratulations to those students elected to Student Academy Leadership for the 2017-2018 year. The new student board members are:

Board of Directors

President: Alfred "Trae" Beasler, University of Oklahoma

President Elect: Stephen Lewia, Lynchburg College

Chief Delegate: Mia McDonald, Jefferson College of Health Sciences

Director of Outreach: Niki Perez, Case Western Reserve University

Director of Student Communications: Emma Reeve, Slippery Rock University

Regional Director - West: Tara Ibe, Heritage University

Regional Director - South Central: Phillip Foster, University of Oklahoma

Regional Director - North Central: Julianne Knezovich, Lake Erie College

Regional Director - Southeast: Jonathan Albers, Lincoln Memorial University

Regional Director - Northeast: Kurt Futral, Bryant University

Regional Director - Mid-Atlantic: Jess Zosky, Temple University

Appointed Position

PA Foundation Student Representative: James Millward, Indiana University, School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences

Student Academy Advisors

AAPA Graduate Advisor: Jennifer Feirstein, MSBS, PA-C, A.T. Still University

PAEA Graduate Advisor: Cody Sasek, MPAS, PA-C, Creighton University

AAPA Director of the Student Academy: Caitlin Harrison, AAPA

Appendix B

Regional Distribution of the Student Academy of AAPA

- Mid-Atlantic: DC, DE, MD, PA, VA, WV
- North Central: IL, IN, IA, MI, MN, ND, OH, SD, WI
- Northeast: CT, ME, MA, NH, NJ, NY, RI, VT
- South Central: AR, KS, LA, MO, MS, NE, NM, OK, TX

- Southeast: AL, FL, GA, KY, NC, SC, TN
- West: AK, AZ, CA, CO, HI, ID, MT, NV, OR, UT, WA, WY