

**Group on Student Affairs  
Committee on Student Records (COSR) Annual Report 2009**

COSR hosted its first stand alone professional development conference (PDC) this June in Ft. Lauderdale, FL. Over 40 student records administrators attended the conference while many others were not able to attend due to institutional budget restrictions. Overall, the feedback from the conference indicated high levels of satisfaction with the programming of the conference. COSR is looking forward to planning the next PDC for 2011.

The revised Handbook for Student Records Administrators was released this year in electronic and print format. Some of the significant additions to the handbook include content on medical school structures from a records perspective, management of electronic data, and criminal background checks.

Several members of COSR are participating in a working group on 4<sup>th</sup> year away electives that met in July and will also meet at the annual meeting. The working group is engaging in discussions about how to streamline the cumbersome process of completing affiliation agreements for students participating in away electives.

The Visiting Student Application System (VSAS) continues to be a successful system for students and medical school administrators with 64 host schools in its second year. COSR will be working on a best practices document this year to assist schools during their implementation of VSAS and also how to effectively manage visiting student applications.

COSR maintains that it is the best interest to allow Osteopathic Students to be able to apply for away rotations through VSAS for schools that accept Osteopathic Students. VSAS schools that accept Osteopathic Students currently have to manage dual systems and incorporating Osteopathic Students into VSAS would streamline institutional processes. COSR brought forward a position statement on this issue to the Group on Student Affairs Steering Committee in July that was unanimously approved.

Chris Meiers  
Chair, National GSA-COSR 2009-2012