On March 2 and 3 the GEA is holding a strategic planning session to explore its mission for the next 5 years. The goal is to consider the GEA’s contributions to the AAMC and to its constituency moving forward. Both a task force and the GEA steering committee will meet in Washington DC to brainstorm and review the GEA Blue Sky meeting and member survey data as we develop a robust mission for the future. Please stay tuned to learn more about this exciting strategic planning initiative. Our hope is to position the GEA to contribute to and promote medical education and educators for years to come.

The AAMC’s second annual Medical Education Meeting is the national platform to experience evolutionary advancements in medical education, connect with thought leaders from across the educational continuum, collaborate on transformative scholarly work, and engage with peers who are implementing innovative strategies to enhance teaching and learning. Hear from an outstanding assembly of groundbreaking researchers presenting their work that was selected through rigorous peer review.

The meeting will feature a must-see plenary session with a fresh and provocative perspective, opportunities for cross-disciplinary conversations with colleagues and authors, and focused, interactive sessions that will engage participants in hands-on activities and problem-solving exercises on high-priority topics in education. Help shape the future of medical education at this special meeting.

The Call for Submissions is currently open. Go to www.aamc.org/mededmeeting for information about the meeting, and the Call for Submission.

The CGEA annual spring meeting will be held jointly with the Central Group on Student Affairs (CGSA) and the Central Organization of Student Representatives (COSR). This year, the meeting theme is Collaborating to Train Tomorrow’s Physicians. The meeting will be held April 9-12 in Columbus, Ohio and is hosted by The Ohio State University.

For registration information, go to: http://www.cvent.com/events/2015-cgea-cgsa-cosr-regional-meeting/event-summary-9e4c784ca6c144af89f27db2c6ecfbdd.aspx.

The preliminary program can be viewed at the CGEA website: https://www.aamc.org/members/gea/regions/cgea/.
The 2015 CGEA Call for Mini-Grant Proposals is now available. The Central Group on Educational Affairs (CGEA) seeks to promote scholarship in medical education and advance the community of scholarship within the Central region. Priority will be given to multi-institutional projects that foster collaborations among CGEA institutions or sections (i.e., UGME, GME, CME and MESRE). Consistent with the requirements of scholarship, the results of these projects must be made public, available for peer review, and available for others to build upon. The Call for Mini Grant Proposals can be found at the CGEA website: https://www.aamc.org/members/gea/regions/cgea/.

GEA NORTHEAST REGION
Chair: Norma Saks EdD Rutgers Robert Wood Johnson Medical School

The NEGEA Annual Education Meeting will be held at the University of Massachusetts School of Medicine, Worcester, Massachusetts, April 17-18, 2015. Our keynote speaker is Dr. Pat Croskerry of Dalhousie University who will speak on "Teaching the Scarecrow: Critical Thinking to Improve Clinical Decision Making." A second plenary will feature Dr. Jonathan (Yoni) Amiel and Dr. Boyd Richards who will focus the group on Entrustable Professional Activities (EPA's). We are also pleased to welcome special guest, Dr. Mary Ellen Gusic, the new AAMC Chief Medical Officer.

Three new awards will be presented at the meeting: NEGEA Distinguished Educator Award, NEGEA Distinguished Service and Leadership Award, and NEGEA Innovation in Medical Education Award. The meeting program can be found online at the conference website: http://www.umassmed.edu/NEGEA.

There has been a call for nominations for 3 NEGEA Steering Committee positions: UME Chair, MESRE Chair, and CEI Chair. New Steering Committee members will be introduced at the Annual Meeting. NEGEA hopes that the snow in Worcester will have melted by the time we arrive!

GEA SOUTHERN REGION
Chair: Kathy Kreutzer MEd Virginia Commonwealth University School of Medicine

The Spring SGEA Meeting is coming up April 24-26 at the Westin Charlotte, in Charlotte, North Carolina. Our theme is "Inter-Professional Education: Beyond the Limits" and our host institution is Carolinas Healthcare System. The conference is being co-sponsored by Charlotte AHEC, Duke Graduate Medical Education - Duke University Hospital, Duke University School of Medicine, Greenville Health System, University of North Carolina School of Medicine, and the University of South Carolina School of Medicine - Greenville.

We are excited to present plenary sessions as well as posters, workshops, small group discussions, and demonstrations providing opportunities for educational scholarship and professional development for our colleagues. MERC workshops, and the LEAD program are all taking place during the conference as well.

The SGEA Medical Education Scholarship Award (MESA) Program will continue to provide peer reviews to nominated presentations. The best rated poster by a trainee, best poster overall, and best oral presentations in UME, GME, CEI and Research in Medical Education Categories will be recognized.

For more information on the SGEA conference go to: http://www.chs-sgea2015.com. Our region is presenting a special "Writing Strong Proposals and Promoting Collaborative Projects" workshop at the conference, building on work done by GEA colleagues Maria A Blanco EdD (NEGEA), Mary Y Lee MD, MS (NEGEA), Sebastian (Bas) Uijtdehaage PhD (WGEA) and Steve Durning (NEGEA). We hope that this opportunity will help attendees proposal-writing skills and assist them in successful funding of educational research projects.
Our members at large are working on interesting projects: Elza Mylona (Easter Virginia Medical School) is working on a Faculty Wellness initiative, and Gerry Crites, Medical College of GA/U GA Partnership Campus is working to facilitate multi-institutional research collaboration and IRB approval.

Former member at large Karen "Sam" Hughes Miller, University of Louisville, is developing a Medical Education Advisor Database (MEAD).

Former member at large Janet Piskurich, Paul L Foster SOM, TTUHSC-El Paso, continues to do a great job with our Special Interest Group (SIG) program. SGEA SIGs are designed to improve collegiality, encourage collaboration, and increase member participation. Current SIGs include: Student Academic Enhancement, Science Education in Integrated Curricula, Program Evaluation, Evidence-Based Teaching, Faculty Development in Medical Education, Coordinators & Administrators In Medical Education, Portfolio: Research, Implementation and Evaluation, and Interprofessional Education. For more information, see: www.aamc.org/members/gea/regions/sgea/278280/sgea_special_interest_groups.html.

SGEA offers an annual Innovation Award of $5000 to recognize an innovation in medical education and two research grants of up to $3000 each to support new research projects. For information, please see the SGEA website: https://www.aamc.org/members/gea/regions/sgea/awards/.

For a list of current SGEA Steering Committee members, please go to: https://www.aamc.org/members/gea/regions/sgea/66930/sgea_steering_committee.html.

**GEA WESTERN REGION**

Chair: Kevin Moynahan MD  
University of Arizona College of Medicine -- Tucson

The WGEA is busy working with Jess Mandel and his team from UCSD to help plan the 2015 WGEA/WGSA/WOSR/WHAAHP Regional Spring Meeting, “Borders and Boundaries.” The meeting will take place from April 23-26, 2015 at the US Grant Hotel in San Diego. We look forward to a wonderful conference focusing on, among other things, health issues that affect border areas in the United States.

Preliminary program information can be found here: http://meded.ucsd.edu/2015wgsawgea/index.html. The WGEA invites all GEA members to join us in sunny San Diego in April (you know you want to!).

**SECTION ON UNDERGRADUATE MEDICAL EDUCATION**

Chair: Kim Lomis MD  
Vanderbilt University School of Medicine

The Section on UME would like to facilitate the creation of orientation materials to encourage members to become more involved in the GEA across the continuum of medical education. We need your advice. What types of information do you think is needed? What do you wish you had known sooner, or do you need to know now, about the organization and function of the GEA? Do you have existing materials that you are willing to share? Please send responses to UMElomis@gmail.com.

**SECTION ON GRADUATE MEDICAL EDUCATION**

Chair: Joseph Jaeger DrPH  
Monmouth Medical Center

AAMC Priorities: As many of you know, the AAMC has recently announced the goals and objectives for their “Optimizing GME” effort. As an organization, the AAMC will be focusing its efforts on investing in future physicians, optimizing the learning environment, and preparing the physician and physician-scientist for the 21st century. Priorities include ensuring public
funding, GME accountability, improving the learning environment for trainees and faculty, elevating performance thresholds, and developing models around the duration of education and training. The Section will play a central role in meeting the AAMC’s GME goals, and has been working with AAMC staff to determine where the section might lead, support, or partner with others to accomplish both long and short-term objectives. One potential partner with whom the GEA GME Section has been talking about the above initiative is the Group on Resident Affairs (GRA). The GRA is intimately involved with GME, and is a natural collaborator in this, and other GME efforts.

**GME & Meetings:** GME is an increasing part of each regions section meetings, and include topics such as interprofessional education, academic collaboratives, grantsmanship, milestones and faculty development. Make sure to sign up for your region’s spring meeting. The call for submissions to the AAMC’s national medical education meeting is out, and has a deadline of March 25th. Submissions detailing GME and emerging solutions, learning with technology, and innovations are encouraged. The call may be found here: [https://www.aamc.org/meetings/421328/2015medicaleducationmeeting.html](https://www.aamc.org/meetings/421328/2015medicaleducationmeeting.html)

**Fellowships:** There is a national discussion regarding the starting date of fellowships. The GME Section will be working with colleagues (as above) on questions regarding timing, finance, benefits, and curricula that cross specialties.

**Membership:** Finally, the Section is looking to continue to grow its membership, so if you have any thoughts, comments, or ideas, or wish to be further engaged in the GME Section, please feel free to reach out to us. Remember, your GME Section Steering Committee can be found at [https://www.aamc.org/members/gea/gea_sections/gmesection/steering_committee/](https://www.aamc.org/members/gea/gea_sections/gmesection/steering_committee/).

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**SECTION ON CONTINUING EDUCATION and IMPROVEMENT**  
Chair: David Price MD  
*University of Colorado Denver School of Medicine*

Leaders from the CEI Subsection and the Society for Academic Continuing Medical Education (SACME) meet regularly as a “Joint Working Group” (JWG) to discuss common areas of interest and collaboration. The AAMC CEI team hosted a very engaging offsite of the JWG at the AAMC office in Washington DC on February 9 and 10. After a discussion of the landscape of changing medical practice, changes in medical education, the strategic opportunities for Continuing Professional Development, and the work of other organizations involved in CPD, the JWG agreed to work together on:

- Development of individuals involved in academic CPD (both leaders in CPD as well as academic medical center faculty involved in CPD)
- Facilitating and optimizing the clinical learning environment through CPD
- Develop messaging to explain CPD’s capabilities to support the mission of academic medical centers (especially in relation to the first two bullet points)
- Continuing and enhancing communication mechanisms to share innovative practices in the CPD community.

Specifics (domains, competencies, tools) and metrics for monitoring progress in each of these areas will be determined in follow-up JWG meetings over the next several months.

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**SECTION ON MEDICAL EDUCATION SCHOLARSHIP RESEARCH & EVALUATION (MESRE)**  
Chair: Sebastian Uijtdehaage PhD  
*David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA*

Every GEA region has a grant program that provides seed money for educators to support educational research. The regional programs aim at promoting high-quality research in their respective region and are open to junior or seasoned researchers. For those who feel they could use help with preparing a competitive proposal, the MESRE (Medical Education Scholarship, Research, and Evaluation) Section is offering a grant-writing workshop at several
These hands-on workshops are designed to get you started with a proposal and are tailored to each regional program. Furthermore, regional MESRE reps will be available for one-on-one consultation. While we recommend these workshops for prospective applicants, participation is not required for application to the grant programs. For more information about the regional GEA grant programs or the workshops, contact your regional MESRE Rep:

- NEGEA: Aubrie Swan Sein, PhD (NEGEAMESRE@gmail.com)
- CGEA: Beth Bierer, PhD (biererb@ccf.org)
- SGEA: Andria Thomas, PhD (athomas@gru.edu)
- WGEA: Cha Chi Fung, PhD (ChaChi.Fung@med.usc.edu)

**ALSO… it is time to solicit nominations for three MESRE positions:**

**The RIME Program Planning Committee.** Newly elected members would begin their 3-year term at the close of the 2015 Medical Education Meeting (November 2015). A full description of the responsibilities for RIME Program Planning Committee members and the corresponding qualifications and nomination criteria can be reviewed at the following website: https://www.aamc.org/members/gea/gea_sections/mesre/planning_committee/

**The MESRE Chair-Elect:** The person would serve as Chair-Elect for one year, Chair for two years, and then Past Chair for one year. A full description can be reviewed at https://www.aamc.org/members/gea/gea_sections/mesre/175854/mesre_bylaws.html.

**The MESRE Communication Director:** This is a 2 1/2 year position that would be effective immediately after selection (approximately May-June 2015) and end in November 2017.

**Nominations are due March 15, 2015.** Please submit nominations to Jennifer Kogan, Chair of the Nominating Committee (jennifer.kogan@uphs.upenn.edu), and include the following information: (a) Name of Nominee, (b) CV, (c) Short statement of nominee’s qualifications for the position, and (d) Completion of Areas of Expertise Inventory (RIME Program Planning Committee Nominees only).

Please be sure to confirm with the nominee that s/he would be able to serve in the position for the full term before you submit the nomination. Please email Jennifer Kogan directly at jennifer.kogan@uphs.upenn.edu if you have questions.

**ORGANIZATION OF STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES (OSR)**

Liaison: Katie Maurer New York University School of Medicine

Currently there are two major projects that are nearing completion. The Legislative Affairs Committee is working on putting together a succinct infographic, termed the ACA Perspectives Series, which is designed to give students a brief history of the healthcare system in the U.S. from the WWII era until the inception of the Affordable Care Act (ACA). Release of the series is aimed for the spring of 2015. The Medical Education Committee is building a primer on Medical Education Research as a resource for students aspiring to get involved in research related to medical education. The primer will include helpful tips for finding a mentor and a research project, examples of “gold-standard” research projects in medical education, potential timelines for doing research during undergraduate medical education, and more. The primer is currently being vetted by members of Medical Education Scholarship Research and Evaluation (MESRE), a GEA section. The primer is expected to be completed in the spring of 2015.

**Spring Regional Meetings**

Planning is well underway for the April regional meetings. The COSR meeting will take place in Columbus, OH, (April 9-12), the SOSR/NEOSR joint meeting will be held in New Orleans, LA, (April 15-18), and the WOSR meeting will take place in San Diego, CA, (April 24-26).
MEET THE NEIGHBORS:
THE GROUP ON WOMEN IN MEDICINE AND SCIENCE (GWIMS)

The Group on Women in Medicine and Science (GWIMS) is one of the AAMC’s 17 professional development groups that looks to advance the full participation and inclusion of women in academic medicine by addressing gender equity, career advancement tools, analyzing the recruitment and retention of women into academic medicine, and recognizing leaders and award winners in the field. GWIMS holds several sessions each year at the AAMC Learn Serve Lead Annual Meeting to elevate the national conversation around women in academic medicine, continues to publish chapters of the GWIMS Toolkit that address both individual and institutional strategies to advance women, and awards one individual and one institution for outstanding leadership in the area. Now in their fifth year as an official AAMC Group, GWIMS is looking to create strategic partnerships with other AAMC Groups to broaden the conversation around women’s advancement in all facets of the academic medical center.

As an initial exploration into these new partnerships, GWIMS is excited to begin a new relationship with the Group on Educational Affairs through their regional meeting presence. Members from the GWIMS Steering Committee and Subcommittees from each region will be attending these meetings, hosting special “GWIMS Update” sessions to 1) update local GEA members about GWIMS activities, and 2) explore how the two groups can continue to collaborate together.

Any faculty member can be a GWIMS member regardless of their gender. GWIMS is looking for advocates to help amplify the message and is looking forward to seeing how GWIMS and GEA members can collaborate. To join GWIMS, or find out more about the group, visit their website at https://www.aamc.org/members/gwims, or email Diana Lautenberger, Director of Women in Medicine and Science at dlautenberger@aamc.org.

NO EDUCATORS LEFT BEHIND:
UPCOMING CONFERENCES OF INTEREST TO MEDICAL EDUCATORS

Alliance for Continuing Education in the Health Professions – ACEhp
2015 Annual Conference in Grapevine TX: January 14 –17 (http://www.eventscribe.com/2015/acehpannual/)

Association of American Medical Colleges – AAMC
A list of sponsored conferences is available: (https://www.aamc.org/meetings/)

Association of Directors of Medical Student Education in Psychiatry – ADMSEP
Annual conference in Stowe VT: June 18-20 (http://www.admsep.org/future_meetings.php)

Association for Medical Education in Europe – AMEE

Association of Professors of Gynecology and Obstetrics – APGO
Annual conference in San Antonio TX: March 4-7 (https://www.apgo.org/meetings/creog-a-apgo-annual-meeting.html)

Association of Standardized Patient Educators – ASPE
2015 Annual Conference in Denver CO: June 13 – 17 (http://www.aspeducators.org/)

Association for the Study of Medical Education – ASME
Annual Scientific Meeting in Edinburgh Scotland: July 15 – 17 (http://www.asme.org.uk/)

Association for Surgical Education – ASE

Canadian Conference on Medical Education -- CCME
Central Group on Educational Affairs – CGEA
2015 Annual Meeting in Columbus OH: April 9 – 12 (https://www.aamc.org/members/gea/regions/cgea/)

Clerkship Directors in Internal Medicine – CDIM
National Meeting in Atlanta GA: October 8 – 10 (http://www.im.org/p/cm/ld/fid=377)

Consortium of Neurology Clerkship Directors – CNCD
Annual meeting in Washington DC: April 18-25 (https://www.aan.com/conferences/2015-annual-meeting/)

Council on Medical Student Education in Pediatrics – COMSEP

International Association of Medical Science Educators – IAMSE

MedBiquitous

Northeastern Group on Educational Affairs – NEGEA

Ottawa Conference in Medical Education -- Ottawa
2016 Conference in Perth Australia: March 19 – 23 (http://www.ottawaconference.org/)

Society for Academic Continuing Medical Education – SACME

Society for General Internal Medicine – SGIM
2015 Annual Meeting in Toronto Canada: April 22 – 25 (http://www.sgim.org)

Society for Simulation in Health Care – SSH

Society of Teachers of Family Medicine – STFM
2015 Annual Conference in Orlando FL: April 25 – 29 (https://www.stfm.org/Conferences/AnnualSpringConference)

Southern Group on Educational Affairs – SGEA

Team-Based Learning Collaborative – TBLC
2015 Annual Conference in St. Petersburg FL: March 4 – 7 (http://www.teambasedlearning.org)

Western Group on Educational Affairs – WGEA