October CPD Activity Update

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Accomplishments of the section in the last 3 (or more) months:

1) After extensive discussion between the AAMC staff and members of the section’s steering committee, the name was changed from the Section on Continuing Education and Improvement (CEI) to the Section on Continuing Professional Development (CPD). This name change reflects (a) the desire to address the increasingly diverse professional roles of faculty working in academic medicine and (b) an emphasis on faculty development within medical schools and teaching hospitals. Using education to increase knowledge, enhance competence, and improve patient care remain vitally important. However, CPD goes beyond clinical care and quality improvement – the name change embraces a broader view that the work of the section’s members extends to all professional roles of the faculty.

2) This summer, we welcomed Emily Vinas, EdD to the section’s leadership team, representing the SGEA. Emily serves as the Director of Educational Strategy and Program Development as well as the Director of CME at the University of Texas at Austin Dell Medical School.

3) The section leadership is focused on bridging the gap between the silos of the medical education continuum. Members of the section can greatly contribute to building skill sets of faculty and staff members working in each of the academic missions. Further, members of the section are encouraged to collaborate with their colleagues in UME to GME on issues impacting medical education. For example, faculty burnout and physician wellness are topics that affect all members of the GEA.

4) Over the past few months, the Section has also worked collaboratively with the Society for Academic Continuing Medical Education (SACME) to forge a new relationship that more clearly distinguishes the work of each organization. In turn, this will help determine which projects make sense to do on our own and which projects will be better served through a joint effort.
Plans for the next 3 months (Projects, Activities at LSL or the Regional Meetings):

1) The section is encouraging all its members to attend and actively participate in the regional meetings of the GEA. The planning committees of each regional meeting have been contacted and we hope to have at least one section-sponsored workshop or presentation at each meeting. The section’s goals are to increase the visibility and relevance of the section at the regional meetings, forge connections across the GEA and promote individuals working in CPD. Two topics we are considering for these sessions are: (a) direct observation skills for the purposes of assessing learners in competency-based frameworks and (b) faculty development efforts to meet the new Section VI GME Common Program Requirements.

2) At Learn Serve Lead, the CPD Section’s leaders will be meeting with officers of SACME in what is known as the Joint Working Group. In Boston, the discussion will include updates on current projects and it will help determine which future projects to collaboratively pursue. In addition, everyone in the GEA is welcome to attend the business meeting of the CPD Section scheduled for Sunday November 5 at 7:00 am at Center 309.

3) Two of our members, Clara Schroedl and Emily Vinas will be working with Bill Rayburn, one of the new Senior Consultants to the AAMC Medical Education Cluster, on the Harrison’s Survey. The latter will be sent out in the spring of 2018 and promises to provide valuable information about the organization, activities and impact of CPD/CME units across the country.