Greetings! I’m pleased to share updates from Medical Education at the AAMC. After a successful Learn Serve Lead 2017 in Boston, MA where many of your colleagues shared their innovative work, we are back in Washington, DC and focused on welcoming new staff and building the interrelated units that will compose the Medical Education Cluster:

1. Digital Education Resources & Scholarship (Anne Farmakidis)
2. Educational Affairs (Kate McOwen)
3. Strategic Initiatives and Partnerships (Lisa Howley, PhD)
4. Medical Education Research (Dorothy Andriole, MD, effective January 2018)

Additionally, we’ve welcomed three new Senior Consultants who are working within our Strategic Initiatives and Partnerships Unit to support, identify, and lead initiatives across the continuum of medical education (pre-med to retirement), across specialties within medicine, and across healthcare professions education that help achieve the mission and vision of the Association. Specific initiatives currently include: the role of humanities and arts in medical education; advancing quality improvement and patient safety education; responding to the opioid epidemic through curricular integration and continuous professional development; advancing interprofessional education; improving transitions to residency; the structure and function of CME/CPD units within Academic Medical Centers; and competency based medical education innovations.

1. **UME**: Sheila Crow, PhD is the Senior Associate Dean for Accreditation, Faculty Development & Medical Education at California University of Science and Medicine (CalMed). Sheila is currently working on defining ways to better support interprofessional education across the continuum.

2. **GME**: Carlyle Chan, MD is the Professor of Psychiatry at the Institute for Health and Society (Bioethics and Medical Humanities) at the Medical College of Wisconsin. Carl is supporting our work in the role of humanities and arts in medical education and how we can better support our educators in addressing the opioid epidemic.

3. **CME/CPD**: William Rayburn, MD, MBA is the Distinguished Professor, Associate Dean of Continuing Medical Education and Professional Development, and emeritus chair of obstetrics and gynecology at the University of New Mexico. Bill is leading the current revision and launch of the Harrison Survey of CME/CPD professionals in North America.

As many of you heard at Learn Serve Lead, Terri Cameron, Director of Curriculum Inventory is retiring December 31. We will miss her tremendously, but wish her all the best in this new phase of her life which will include substantial time babysitting her adorable, first grandchild. Curriculum Inventory remains a core component of the Digital Education Resources and Scholarship and Anne Farmakidis is actively looking to fill Terri’s position. The job posting is available [here](#).
I look forward to working with our new team, and introducing them to you over the next year. We’ll be attending the Regional GEA Meetings and hope to hear from you about how we’re doing.

Best wishes to all.

Alison Whelan, MD

Updates from Medical Education

Academic Medicine’s New Conversations: Justice, Disparities, and Meeting the Needs of Our Most Vulnerable Populations

In a November 2017 editorial, Dr. Sklar, editor-in-chief of Academic Medicine, announced the new topic for the journal’s ongoing New Conversations series—social justice, health disparities, and meeting the needs of our most vulnerable and underserved populations.

All are welcome to submit. Submissions should be scholarly contributions that follow the journal’s regular submission criteria for Invited Commentaries, Perspectives, Articles, Innovation Reports, or Research Reports. (For more information about those criteria, please see the journal’s Complete Instructions for Authors). Submit manuscripts for consideration through the journal’s online submission system, Editorial Manager, using the article type “New Conversations.” Submissions will be peer reviewed.

The journal will also continue the conversation outside the pages of the journal on its blog, AM Rounds, which will feature a series of discussions related to the New Conversations contributions that are published in the journal, and via its Twitter handle (@AcadMedJournal), using the hashtag #AcMedConversations. We hope many of you will submit and join the conversation!

MedEdPORTAL’s Latest Call for Submissions on Vulnerable Population Aligns with Academic Medicine’s New Conversations

MedEdPORTAL is actively seeking submissions that feature curricula or learning activities that address an important topic that is both timeless and timely in medical education – the care of our most vulnerable populations. We have a responsibility as educators and leaders to highlight these issues in a scholarly way through commentary, research, and advocacy. In addition, publishing learning activities through MedEdPORTAL offers concrete solutions for training our future physicians to be attentive, knowledgeable, and proactive to how social justice, racial/ethnic/sexual identity disparities, and geopolitical forces have deleterious effects on human health. We are launching this effort in conjunction with our sister journal Academic Medicine; please read more in Dr. Sklar’s thoughtful announcement here.

Curriculum Inventory Update

133 schools participated in the 2016-2017 upload cycle: 131 (90%) US medical schools and 2 (10%) Canadian medical schools. We are currently analyzing data and will begin updating reports in December using a new Custom Content Report format that provides a three-year comparison, rather than a single year of data.

The November Curriculum Inventory in Context (CIIC) will discuss Transitions to Residency in US Medical Schools, with commentary by Bridget O’Brien at UCSF. To view previous issues of the CI in Context, visit
The December 13 CI Administrators’ Group agenda includes CI Updates, particularly related to documentation of tracks and integration blocks, a medical school highlight for Université de Montréal Faculty of Medicine by Dr. Genevieve Gregoire, and a summary of the CI Update from Learn Serve Lead. Register here.

**Update from the AAMC**

**Learn Serve Lead 2017: The AAMC Annual Meeting**

On November 7, the AAMC completed Learn Serve Lead 2017: The AAMC Annual Meeting, which hosted more than 4,550 registrants in Boston over five days. Featured at Learn Serve Lead were addresses from the leadership plenary session, featuring Marsha D. Rappley, MD, who delivered a talk titled, “The Most Important Questions We Can Ask,” and Darrell G. Kirch, MD, who spoke on “Truth, Science, and the American Dream.” At the meeting, the AAMC announced its new Board of Directors. The Council of Faculty and Academic Societies (CFAS) also announced a leadership transition. The AAMC additionally recognized nine individuals and one medical school with awards for outstanding contributions to academic medicine.

**Upcoming Events and Opportunities**

**The Activity Report Wants to Hear from You**

For the December issue of the Activity Report, we would like to hear from the members of the GEA! Send us your favorite holiday recipes, artwork, share travel stories, or tell us how you became involved with medical education and the GEA. Please send all submissions, ideas, pictures etc. to Beatrice Schmider (bschmider@aamc.org) by Friday, December 15.

**Organizational Commitment Statements**

The Action Collaborative on Clinician Well-Being and Resilience, which is sponsored by the National Academy of Medicine, ACGME, and AAMC, posted a webpage featuring “organizational commitment statements” of several societies and associations about strategies to improve clinician well-being and reduce burnout. The page also offers the opportunity for additional organizations to add their names and statements. The deadline for inclusion is December 13.

**Call for Abstracts for the 10th Annual Integrating Quality Conference**

AAMC is currently accepting abstracts for its 10th annual Integrating Quality Conference: A Decade of Progress Bridging Health Care Quality and Education to be held on June 7-8, 2018 in Arlington, VA. AAMC seeks proposals for posters, interactive workshops, and presentations in health care quality, patient safety, and high-value care with an emphasis on successful strategies in care delivery, health professions education, and research in health professions schools, teaching hospitals, and health care systems. The deadline for submissions is December 29.

**Applications for the 2018 Macy Faculty Scholars Program**

The Josiah Macy Jr. Foundation is accepting applications for its 2018 Macy Faculty Scholars Program, which is designed to identify and nurture the careers of promising educational innovators in medicine and nursing. Selected scholars will receive salary support of up to $100,000 per year for two years and at least 50% protected time for two years to pursue educational projects. The deadline for applications is February 14.
Register for the Interprofessional Education Collaborative’s 2018 Spring Institute
The Interprofessional Education Collaborative (IPEC) is holding its 2018 Spring Institute on April 30–May 2 at the AAMC Learning Center located at the AAMC’s Washington, D.C., headquarters. The deadline for early bird registration is February 16.

Suggested Reading
Introducing Trainees to Academic Medicine Career Roles and Responsibilities
MedEdPORTAL. 2017;13:10653
Read Here

What Should Guide Health Policy? A Perspective Beyond Politics
Kirch DG and Ast C.
Academic Medicine. 2017;92(9) 1222–1224
Read Here

Diagnosing and Remediating Clinical Reasoning Difficulties: A Faculty Development Workshop
MedEdPORTAL. 2017;13:10650
Read Here