

REPORT TO THE ASSEMBLY
OF THE ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN MEDICAL COLLEGES
FROM THE COUNCIL OF ACADEMIC SOCIETIES
November 3, 1969

Dr. Glaser, Dr. Cooper, and Members of the Assembly:

The Council of Academic Societies has just completed its third annual meeting. The two programs, "Which Basic Science Departments in a Medical School?" and "The Full-Time System Revisited," drew audiences of 200-250--far the largest attendance we have ever had. At the Annual Business Meeting yesterday, all but four of our constituent societies were represented.

The proceedings of the conference on Graduate Medical Education, held in September, 1968, were published during the year under review.

Under a contract with the National Library of Medicine, a two-day conference was held in Bethesda on the development of a national audio-visual network for medical information. It was attended by representatives of the constituent societies and by a substantial group of experts in audio-visual techniques--information storage, transmission and retrieval. The report of this conference was written up, accepted and circulated to those attending. A larger contract has been written to develop a plan suitable for implementation from the authorized Lister Hill Center. This is intended to provide program material of the highest possible authenticity, relevance and usefulness for dissemination under the auspices of the NLM and/or the Lister Hill Center. Staff has been recruited and a preliminary report is expected by June, 1970, and a final report to Dr. Martin Cummings, Director of the NLM, within a year. Dr. E. A. Stead has agreed to serve as chairman of the advisory committee and will work closely with the full-time staff on this important undertaking.

The CAS established a standing committee on graduate medical education under the chairmanship of Dr. Thomas Kinney which has studied the implications of the assumption of corporate responsibility for residency training programs in a way that could permit institutional accreditation. As a part of this study arrangements have been made to visit 4 university medical schools and their university hospitals as the test of the practicability of such a plan. The Committee, which has already prepared a report of its deliberations, plans to revise it in the light of this additional experience.

Members of the CAS or of their constituent societies have worked on many of the committees of the AAMC. As chairman, I joined in sending the letter to our member institutions urging thoroughness in documenting claims for reimbursement under Medicare and Medicaid. Representatives were designated to meet with the Committees of the COTH and representatives of the COD on this important matter.

Members of the CAS, headed by Dr. Tosteson, testified before Representative Flood in favor of adequate funding of biomedical research, support of student programs in our medical schools and of the schools themselves.

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The CAS is following with great interest the plan endorsed last year for a Commission on Graduate Medical Education. This has been referred by the Council on Medical Education of the AMA to the Liaison Committee of the AMA and AAMC where it will be considered later this month.

The CAS is also following with intense interest the negotiations with the SSA on payments under Part B for services rendered patients in teaching programs.

A motion was adopted to appoint a task force to study the development of physician's assistants in the sense used by Dr. Eugene A. Stead, this task force to report by February, 1970.

Seven additional societies were recommended for membership in the CAS by its Executive Committee and elected by the CAS at its meeting yesterday. These will be presented to the Executive Council of the AAMC, who will report to the Assembly, for possible election by the Assembly. They are in order:

- Association for Medical School Pharmacology
- American Association for Thoracic Surgery
- Association of Anatomy Chairmen
- American Gastroenterological Association
- Association of University Professors of Neurology
- Society of Academic Anesthesiology Chairmen
- Association of Academic Physiologists

These are all relatively small groups composed largely or wholly of faculty members.

The CAS Executive Committee recommended to the CAS that it depart from the earlier policy of excluding from consideration the large professional colleges and academies which do not necessarily have so high a proportion of members in academic life, but nevertheless play important roles in medical education, particularly graduate medical education. There being no dissent in the CAS, the Executive Committee expects to propose a few carefully selected societies in this category to the CAS for election in the future, probably in 1970. A mechanism is to be developed for adjusting the discrepancy between the number of member societies and the 35 places in the Assembly accorded the CAS, during the coming year.

The CAS received a resolution from the COD relating to the control of inflation in academic salaries. I believe there was broad agreement that inflation had to be recognized as it was recognized by the escalator clause in the resolution.

Also received was an alternate resolution from the COTH proposing further study before action, and a memo from Dr. Anlyan as Chairman of the COD indicating that some of the deans felt that the factors affecting inflation of academic salaries extended far beyond the schools and that these other factors required additional study.

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Accordingly, a resolution was passed and is presented to you asking that an inter-council committee with perhaps 3 representatives from each council be formed to study this matter further with the help of staff; and report its findings to each council prior to submission to the Assembly.

A draft proposal prepared by the staff defining more clearly the relative interest of the CAS in certain of the activities of the AAMC and the relation of these interests to the revised structure of the AAMC staff was received by the CAS Executive Committee for more detailed study later this fall.

The new officers elected were Daniel Tosteson, Chairman; James V. Warren, Chairman-Elect; and Harry A. Feldman, Secretary-Treasurer.

Mr. Chairman, I move acceptance of this report as a whole.

(Presented by the Chairman)