



**Scott Gitlin, MD,
CFAS Chair
AAMC Board of
Directors Member**

Welcome to CFAS!

Your appointment to the Council of Faculty and Academic Societies reflects your institution's or society's confidence in you as a leader who can think deeply about the issues affecting academic societies, faculty members, and academic medicine in general. We look forward to seeing the value you will bring to the council's initiatives and engaging with you to keep the academic medicine enterprise vibrant and thriving.

CFAS is one of three AAMC councils, which are the only AAMC affinity groups with direct representation on the AAMC's Board of Directors. Because of this positioning, CFAS is able to bring issues that affect faculty members and academic societies to the attention of AAMC leadership. Input from CFAS guides the AAMC's programs, services, and initiatives. For example, CFAS has been heavily involved in the AAMC's GME initiatives; created its own faculty-specific advocacy webpage on aamc.org; coordinated the distribution of AAMC sign-on letters to academic societies on various advocacy issues, recorded podcasts on prominent faculty issues through its communications committee; created the framework for the AAMC's popular "Well-being in Academic Medicine" website; and taken the lead in the ongoing effort to define faculty.

But the greatest benefit CFAS offers is its role as a convener. By pulling together junior and senior school and society representatives from diverse professional backgrounds, CFAS is able to bring a wealth of perspectives to academic medicine's most complex and challenging issues. Examining these issues from all sides allows us to develop holistic, practical solutions and to bring these ideas back to our schools and societies.

We hope that you will fully engage in this important work and take advantage of the tremendous networking opportunities that CFAS offers. In order to keep the bidirectional communication flowing between the AAMC and its member institutions, all CFAS reps have the responsibility to communicate the insights and knowledge gained from CFAS and AAMC meetings back to their sponsoring schools or society. There are several committees within CFAS that focus on specific areas of interest to the council's various constituents. We encourage you to contact the chairs of any groups where you would like to make an impact.

- **The CFAS Basic Science Committee**, chaired by [Richard L. Eckert](#), PhD
- **The CFAS Communications Committee**, interim co-chairs are [Alan Dow](#), MD, and [J. David Warren](#), PhD
- **The CFAS Advocacy Committee**, interim co-chair is [Arthur Derse](#), MD, JD
- **The CFAS Diversity Committee**, chaired by [VJ Periyakoil](#), MD
- **The CFAS Evaluation Committee**, chaired by [Carolyn Meltzer](#), MD
- **The CFAS Program Committee**, chaired by [Gabriela Popescu](#), PhD MD
- **The CFAS Nominating and Engagement Committee**, chaired by [Vincent Pellegrini](#), MD
- **The CFAS Value of Faculty as Educators Committee**, chaired by [Lisa Bellini](#), MD
- **The CFAS Mission Alignment and Impact of Faculty Educators Committee**, chaired by [Stewart Babbott](#), MD

- **The CFAS Faculty Resilience Committee**, chaired by [Mona M. Abaza](#), MD, MS

Thank you for your participation in CFAS. If you have not already, you will soon receive an introductory orientation call from Eric Weissman, the AAMC's senior director of faculty and academic society engagement, who will walk you through more details of the organization and answer your questions as they arise. You of course can reach out to me with any questions or comments.

I look forward to working with you!

Best wishes,

Scott Gitlin, MD

CFAS Chair