August 2023

GIR News and Business

GIR Membership Verification

AAMC Member Services is performing an annual data review for members of AAMC professional development groups. You should receive an email on August 21 with the subject line "Verify your membership in AAMC groups." Please take a minute to respond – we appreciate it! If you have any questions, contact AAMC Constituent Relationship Senior Specialist Katina Beale at kabeale@aamc.org.

GIR Research Technology Work Group (RTWG)

Thank you to everyone who joined the GIR RTWG for their July 10th call. Shawn O'Neil, Assistant Professor of Research in the Department of Biomedical Informatics at the University of Colorado School of Medicine, and one of our plenary speakers at our recent conference in Denver, discussed two large-scale efforts in data integration: the National COVID Cohort Collaborative (N3C), hosting the largest de-identified health record database in the US, and the Monarch Initiative, connecting dozens of curated knowledge bases with information on genes, diseases, and their clinical manifestations. He also reviewed state-of-the-art techniques and recent research in AI, exploring how such data and knowledge might be integrated.
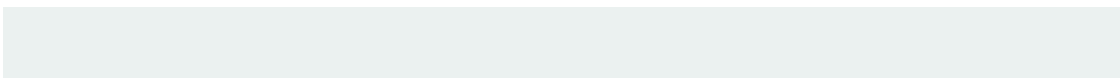
The presentation was recorded, and if you were unable to attend, we invite you to take the time to **view the recording** and share it with colleagues who might be interested.

IT Operations – GIR Quarterly Calls

Thank you to everyone for participating in the IT Operations Quarterly calls. Please consider joining this conversation for our last call of the year, which is scheduled on October 5, 2023. Please email gir@aamc.org for topic suggestions.

Please accept the **appointment here** for the last call in 2023:

October 5, 2023
3:00-4:00 p.m. ET

Register now for Learn Serve Lead 2023: The AAMC Annual Meeting

This annual event draws thousands of attendees from across the academic medicine community to connect with thought leaders, spark conversation on critical issues impacting medical education and patient care, and encourage collaborations that influence the future of health. In addition to plenary sessions, Voices of Medicine and Society Series lectures, and more than 130 breakout sessions, the meeting features several networking opportunities. Early bird registration ends August 29.

REGISTER NOW

Possible sessions of interest to GIR members

Save the Date! 2024 Information Technology in Academic Medicine Conference, Sponsored by the AAMC Group on Information Resources (GIR)

May 29 - 31, 2024
Ritz Carlton New Orleans, New Orleans, La.

The call for proposals will open in mid-October.

Save the date for this premier professional development experience, sponsored by the Group on Information Resources (GIR), which will transform how you work and present solutions to your challenges. This conference is equal parts educational and engaging, bringing together the academic medicine technology community to share how they address various challenges and develop successful strategies to meet organizational goals.

GIR IT Survey – Showcasing Data

One section in the IT survey that is fielded in even years, asks questions about Governance and Policies. Questions include:

- Is there a strategic plan for IT at the school of medicine? (y/n)
- Does the school of medicine have an IT governance process that provides advice on decisions about IT issues/projects? (y/n)
- Does the school of medicine have a data governance process that provides advice on decisions about data issues/projects? (y/n)
- Please indicate if you have policies related to the following topics and if they have been recently developed, have been updated, or are planned at your institution: Cloud Computing; Collaboration Tools; Data Governance; Social Media; and Virtual Patients.

If your school participates in the survey, you can receive a copy of the school identified Excel data file. Please contact girsurvey@aamc.org.

Join a GIR Work Group

Work Groups exist to implement the strategic initiatives and actions of the GIR. Participation in a Work Group will help professionals within academic medicine grow and learn in their professional roles and develop their leadership capacities. Work Group members actively participate in hour-long monthly conference calls and may be asked to join project teams or contribute knowledge in between calls. Current GIR Work Groups:

- Diversity and Inclusion (GIRDI)
- Education Technology (ETWG)
- Research Technology (RTWG)
- Data-Driven Academic Medical Centers (DDAMC)

More information on GIR Work Groups is [available here](#), and if you are interested in joining a Work Group, please contact gir@aamc.org.

Join our Virtual Communities

GIR members are currently engaged in two AAMC Virtual Communities. The Information Technology in Academic Medicine Virtual Community is open to anyone, and members gain access to a library, which contains resources such as presentations, videos,

webinars, articles, and more.

The GIR Work Group Hub is a repository of agendas and presentations from the monthly GIR Work Group calls.

If you don't have an account already, please request one here and note that you would like to join either/both communities.

GIR Listserv Archives

The following topics were posted on the GIR Listserv in July 2023: SIS - PeopleSoft Student?; Wayfinding Solutions

Access the GIR Listserv archives

To post a question: gir@lists.aamc.org

AAMC News

AAMC announces 2023-2024 Board of Directors

The AAMC has announced its 2023-2024 Board of Directors. The incoming board's term begins Nov. 7 and will end at the conclusion of Learn Serve Lead: The AAMC Annual Meeting in November 2024. Lee Jones, MD, dean for medical education and professor of psychiatry at Georgetown University School of Medicine, has been elected to serve as chair of the AAMC Board of Directors. Julie A. Freischlag, MD, chief academic officer and executive vice president of Advocate Health, chief executive officer of Atrium Health Wake Forest Baptist, and executive vice president for health affairs of Wake Forest University, has been named chair-elect and will succeed Jones next year. Also appointed to the Board is Marc M. Triola, MD, Associate Dean for Educational Informatics, Director, Institute for Innovations in Medical Education and Professor, Department of Medicine at NYU Langone Health. Read More

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AAMC Submits Comments to NSF on Development of a Research Security Organization

The AAMC on June 30 submitted comments to the National Science Foundation (NSF) on the development of the Research Security and Integrity Information Sharing Analysis Organization (RSI-ISAO), as mandated by Section 10338(b) of the CHIPS and Science Act of 2022 (P.L. 117-167).

The RSI-ISAO is charged with empowering institutions and members of the research community to address foreign interference issues and with facilitating access to federal expertise. In its letter, the AAMC noted that this mission can best be accomplished by assisting institutions with understanding current requirements under federal law or policy and then facilitating principled and productive international scientific collaboration.

Information: Anurupa Dev; Heather Pierce, AAMC Scientific Affairs.

We're Committed to Diversity: A Message from AAMC President and CEO David J. Skorton, MD

Following the U.S. Supreme Court ruling concerning the consideration of an applicant's racial and ethnic background in higher education admissions, David Skorton, MD, AAMC president and CEO, addressed future physicians and researchers to reassure them of the association's commitment to supporting a diverse medical school community and health care workforce. View Video

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Grover: Impact of the SCOTUS ruling on race-conscious admissions on health services research

Atul Grover, MD, PhD, executive director of the AAMC Research and Action Institute, authored a blog post for AcademyHealth on the recent Supreme Court decision on race-conscious admissions and how it will affect medical school admissions and health care overall. "In my own experience, first as a trainee and then as a physician and researcher, I have seen individuals from diverse racial, ethnic, geographic, and socioeconomic backgrounds raise research questions that otherwise may have been overlooked by teams looking to improve the science and delivery of health care," Grover wrote.
Read More

AAMC response to new residency application platform for obstetrics and gynecology

AAMC President and CEO David J. Skorton, MD, and Alison J. Whelan, MD, AAMC chief academic officer, issued a statement in response to a new residency application platform announced for obstetrics and gynecology (OB/GYN). "We were surprised and dismayed by today's announcement that the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologist (ACOG) is launching a new residency application platform for the 2024-25 residency application cycle. While it is too early to fully understand the consequences of this development – intended and unintended – the AAMC remains committed to creating a fair and equitable process for learners, medical schools, and programs. Over the past several years, the AAMC has made significant advancements to the Electronic Residency Application Service® – including support of holistic review and integration with Thalamus – to streamline the residency application process and support the entire transition to residency community. Read More

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AAMC statement on Senate Appropriations Committee's FY24 HHS spending bill

AAMC (Association of American Medical Colleges) President and CEO David J. Skorton, MD, and Chief Public Policy Officer Danielle Turnipseed, JD, MHSA, MPP, issued a statement in response to the Fiscal Year (FY) 2024 Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies spending bill (S. 2624) approved on July 27 by the Senate Appropriations Committee. "The AAMC commends the Senate Appropriations Committee for working in a bipartisan manner to draft and approve an FY 2024 spending

bill that protects funding for the National Institutes of Health, the Health Resources and Services Administration health workforce programs, and other key public health programs and agencies in a year when appropriators had to work within the limits of impractical budget allocations due to the Fiscal Responsibility Act of 2023. We also greatly appreciate the bipartisan commitment by the committee to avoid problematic policy provisions that would impose arbitrary restrictions on efforts to advance research, education, public health, and health care." Read More

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Opinion: An ill-advised Supreme Court decision could impact health care in underserved communities

A new AAMC opinion piece published on CNN.com and authored by David J. Skorton, MD, AAMC president and CEO, and Frank R. Trinity, JD, AAMC chief legal officer, explores how the Supreme Court's decision on race-conscious admissions will ultimately impact the health of people everywhere. "The court's ruling … is a consequential decision that could harm our nation's health for generations to come, unless those of us who are entrusted with training our future doctors use every tool available within the law to avert this outcome," the authors wrote. Read More

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Reminder: Sign on to support AAMC statement on SCOTUS decision

The AAMC continues to welcome support of its statement following the Supreme Court of the United States (SCOTUS) ruling on race-conscious admissions from member medical schools, teaching hospitals and health systems, and academic medical societies, as well as organizations focused on health, education, and research. If you wish to be added to the list of signatories, please contact press@aamc.org (include "Statement Support" in the subject line). Read More

Learning Opportunities

Register for AAMC Telehealth Equity Catalyst Award Symposium presentations

The AAMC Advancing Health Equity Through Telehealth Learning Series highlights the role of academic medicine in promoting and advancing health equity through telehealth. In a free two-part webinar, with the first part having taken place on Aug. 7th and the second part scheduled for Aug. 16th at 2:30 p.m. ET, AAMC Telehealth Equity Catalyst (TEC) Award-winning institutions will discuss how they use telehealth and health technologies to address barriers to access and health care inequities in their communities. Presenters will also highlight how the TEC Awards have supported their successful efforts. Register Now

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AAMC accepting applications for 2024 Project CORE Cohort

The AAMC is currently accepting applications for its 2024 cohort of Project CORE (Coordinating Optimal Referral Experiences). Since 2014, over 50 adult and pediatric hospitals and health systems have participated in Project CORE to implement eConsults

and enhanced referrals with the goals of enabling timelier specialty access, improving communication and coordination between providers, and increasing value for patients and the health system. Through one-to-one consultation, resources, advocacy, and peer-to-peer networking, Project CORE supports organizations in establishing a scalable, sustainable program. The CORE program is open to organizations interested in either implementing the CORE model or optimizing an existing eConsult program. Applications will be accepted on a rolling basis through Sept. 29. For more information, register for an upcoming informational webinar (Aug. 11 at 12 p.m. ET) or email projectcore@aamc.org. Read More

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Register for AAMC Advancing Health Equity Through Telehealth Learning Series

The AAMC Advancing Health Equity Through Telehealth Learning Series highlights the role of academic medicine in promoting and advancing health equity through telehealth. During the next webinar on Aug. 18 at 3 p.m. ET, representatives from Children's Hospital Colorado will discuss how they have incorporated a health equity lens into their telehealth program at the health system. Presenters will also provide guidance for other institutions seeking to optimize their own telehealth services to better address the diverse patient population needs of their communities. All individuals interested in telehealth and health equity issues are invited to register for this free virtual learning series. Register Now

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The Post-Dobbs Impact on Medical Education – UME, GME, and Beyond (Webinar #2)

Monday, Aug. 21
2:45pm – 4:00pm ET

REGISTER TODAY

Registration for the second webinar in the series is now open. This webinar will focus on the impact the Dobbs decision has had on learners' curricular experience, as well as medical education leaders and program directors, and discuss how institutions are addressing training requirements in the context of reproductive health restrictions. Speakers will discuss curricular solutions as well as provide a learner perspective of how these changes may potentially impact learner's career choices. Extra time will be allotted for audience questions.

Register now: AAMC webinar on emergency preparedness in the research enterprise at academic medical centers

The AAMC will convene a webinar on Sept. 8 at 2 p.m. ET to discuss the importance of emergency preparedness and integrating the research enterprise into an institution's overall emergency planning. Attendees will hear from three academic medical centers on

how to plan for and address major disruptions such as power outages and natural disasters. This webinar is hosted by the Group on Research Advancement and Development (GRAND) and the Group on Institutional Planning (GIP), and open to colleagues at all AAMC member institutions. Questions about webinar registration can be directed to aamc@commpartners.com, and general questions can be sent to gip@aamc.org or grand@aamc.org. [Register Now](#)

MedBiquitous 2023: Early Bird Registration is Open!

Registration is open for MedBiquitous 2023, Oct. 17-18, at the AAMC Learning Center in Washington, D.C. This two-day, in-person event features inspiring speakers and insightful presentations discussing how data and emerging technologies can enable resource-sharing across organizations in health professions education. Early bird registration ends Sept. 9. [Register Now](#)

GBA/GIP Virtual Programming: Onboarding Webinar

Friday, September 29, 2023
1:00–2:00 p.m. (ET)

[REGISTER NOW](#)

This two-part, 60-minute webinar was originally presented as a session at the recent Group on Business Affairs (GBA) and Group on Institutional Planning (GIP) Joint Spring Meeting in April.

A Thoughtful Approach to Recruiting and Onboarding Department Administrators
Department administrators are key members of the academic medical center leadership team, and it is important to employ a strategic, inclusive process to recruit the best talent to these positions. Once individuals are hired into these roles, it is equally important to implement a coordinated onboarding experience for these team members to enable their success and promote retention. At The Ohio State University College of Medicine, we developed and implemented an inclusive recruitment process for these positions, capitalizing on the partnership between the department and the Dean's office. We also launched a robust onboarding program for these new hires that provides support throughout the first year of their employment. This presentation serves to provide an overview of our journey.

An Onboarding Program with the Employee as the Heart of the Department
The University of Alabama at Birmingham (UAB) Department of Medicine (DOM) created and implemented an employee onboarding program. This new program allowed the DOM to shift the focus for new employees from orientation, a one-time, task-focused event, to "onboarding", a process strategic in nature, relationship-based with a focus on ongoing professional development. Over the past four years we have continued to refine our process and expand to provide new resources. This presentation will share lessons learned, our homegrown onboarding database, and our partnerships with others outside

UAB to provide a successful onboarding experience.

Save the date for virtual AAMC Awards Recognition Event

The AAMC will host its third annual virtual AAMC Awards Recognition Event on Oct. 25 from 4 – 5:15 p.m. ET. This virtual event is a celebration of excellence in medical education, research, and clinical care, and will honor the outstanding professionals who have made significant contributions to academic medicine. Registration for this free virtual event will open in August. Learn more about last year's extraordinary winners in this video. Read More

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Recording and graphics available from virtual maternal health workshop

The AAMC Center for Health Justice has published a recording and slides from its second virtual Maternal Health Equity Workshop held earlier this year. During the workshop, participants engaged in discussions about the anti-racist, anti-discriminatory, and pro-equity considerations that must be applied when using artificial intelligence and natural language processing and how to avoid pitfalls. Graphic illustrations providing a visual summary of each session of the workshop have also been posted. View Recordings

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Recording available from AMA webinar on medical education and the Supreme Court decision

In response to the Supreme Court ruling that prohibits race-conscious admissions policies, the American Medical Association (AMA) recently convened a group of thought leaders in medical education and health equity to discuss the negative impact of the decision on diversity efforts in medical education, the relationship between a diverse health care workforce and health equity, and more. Panelists included David Acosta, MD, AAMC chief diversity and inclusion officer, and leaders from AMA, the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education, UC Davis School of Medicine, and Meharry Medical College. Read More

Publications & Resources

Seeking participants for the AAMC/Vizient Patient Portal Messages Survey

The AAMC and Vizient are collaborating to better understand and describe variations across organizations regarding patient-initiated portal communication. Through this survey, we hope to understand the different ways that health systems are responding to asynchronous patient-initiated portal communication and the usage of eVisits and its impact on the Quintuple Aim (equity, quality, patient experience, care team experience, and cost). AAMC members are invited to complete the linked survey, which is open until Aug. 18. Please forward to leaders at your organization who make operational decisions about patient portal messages with a request to complete this survey. Participants will receive deidentified summary results. Please contact Danielle Carder at

dcarder@aamc.org with questions. [Read More](#)

New AAMC publication explores state of medical school faculty engagement

The AAMC has published a new report, *AAMC StandPoint™ Surveys: 2023 State of Medical School Faculty Engagement,* with information about the workplace experiences of U.S. medical school faculty since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic. The data analyses chosen for this report provide an overview of faculty engagement and retention measures and highlight areas where medical school leadership has opportunities to create positive change in their workplaces. The AAMC encourages academic health institutions to routinely evaluate their workplace culture and offers ways for every institution to participate in StandPoint Surveys to improve faculty engagement and retention. [Read More](#)

New issue of *AAHCI Leadership Perspectives:* Communicating Science to Patients, Professionals, and the Public

In this second in a [series of commentaries](#), three leaders at academic health centers in the United States provide perspectives and guidance for academic health centers to build and broaden initiatives in science communication. The commentaries explore the importance of advancing science communication with patients, health care professionals, and the public, and highlight models for developing a culture of trust, transparency, and inclusion as well as steps to implement thoughtful, well-coordinated communication programs. [Read More](#)

New AAMC resources following SCOTUS decision on race-conscious admissions

The AAMC is continuing to develop resources for its member institutions following the recent decision by the Supreme Court of the United States (SCOTUS) in two cases seeking to end the limited consideration of race or ethnicity in college admissions. A [recording](#) of a webinar hosted by the AAMC on July 10 is now available. Additionally, a new set of [frequently asked questions](#) was developed to support medical schools as they determine what the decision means for medical education. [Read More](#)

New AAMC resources for community engagement and anti-racism faculty development

The AAMC has developed two new resource collections in its Virtual Communities. The [first is a collection](#) describing the importance of community engagement to advance health equity and improve population health. The [second is a set of faculty resources](#) to support anti-racist curriculum design and teaching practices in medical education. A [free log-in](#) is required to access the content. [Read More](#)

Resources for nonpartisan voter registration at health care institutions

The AAMC has developed a [fact sheet](#) in collaboration with Vot-ER, a nonpartisan organization that works to integrate voter education and registration into health care settings. During Civic Health Month in August, medical schools and teaching hospitals are invited to participate in Vot-ER's 2023 Healthy Democracy Campaign, which brings together schools and students across the country to increase civic engagement and voter access. Last year, health professions students across the country helped more than 8,000 fellow students, colleagues, and community members get ready to vote. [Read More](#)

Recommended Reading

The Use of Artificial Intelligence Tools to Prepare Medical School Applications

The authors call for clear guidelines on what forms of assistance—human and technological—are permitted in the preparation of medical school applications. AI may provide more equitable access to application preparation assistance.

Daniel A. Hashimoto, MD, MS, and Kevin B. Johnson, MD, MS

[Read More](#)

Improving Graduate Medical Education by Aggregating Data Across the Medical Education Continuum

In this article, the authors examine the potential of a national graduate medical education (GME) data infrastructure to improve GME, review the output of 2 national workshops on this topic, and propose a path toward achieving this goal.

Angela E. Thelen, MD, MHPE, Brian C. George, MD, MAEd, John C. Burkhardt, MD, PhD, Deena Khamees, MD, Mary R.C. Haas, MD, MHPE, and Debra Weinstein, MD

[Read More](#)

AAMCNews: **The deadly legacy of redlining — and a mission to reverse it**

For decades, redlining — the widespread denial of home loans in majority Black neighborhoods — undermined the health and well-being of entire communities. Now, a medical school course about the practice aims to open eyes and address deep disparities. [Read More](#)

AAMCNews: **How can medical schools boost racial diversity in the wake of the recent Supreme Court ruling?**

The court's rejection of considering race in college admissions leaves academic leaders worried, but hopeful about other diversity strategies. [Read More](#)

Fixing a Broken Clerkship Assessment Process: Reflections on Objectivity and Equity Following the USMLE Step 1 Change to Pass/Fail

Huynh, Ashley; Nguyen, Andrew; Beyer, Ryan S.; Harris, Mark H.; Hatter, Matthew J.; Brown, Nolan J.; de Virgilio, Christian; Nahmias, Jeffry

Academic Medicine. 98(7):769-774, July 2023.

[Read More](#)

Precision Medical Education

Triola, Marc M.; Burk-Rafel, Jesse

Academic Medicine. 98(7):775-781, July 2023.

[Read More](#)

Welcome New Members

(July 1 - July 31)

Karim Hanna
USF Health Morsani College of Medicine

Stephanie Hippolyte
Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai

Avery Levinger
Saint Louis University School of Medicine

David McCarty
University of Washington School of Medicine

Tom Moynihan
University of Washington School of Medicine

Ashish Narayan
Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai

Shawn O'Neil
University of Colorado School of Medicine

Shakaib Rehman
University of Arizona College of Medicine - Phoenix

Megan Sheffield
Emory University School of Medicine

Alex Vargas-Lopez
University of Arizona College of Medicine