## GBA News: My Two Cents



March 2025

### **GBA News and Business**





Register Now!

#### Balancing Tradition and Innovation: Strategic Synergies in a Time of Change



#### Join Us in Phoenix!

April 23-25, 2025 Hyatt Regency Phoenix Phoenix, AZ

The **GBA** and **GIP** invite finance and administration, human resources, department administration, strategic planning, and space and facilities professionals from medical schools, academic health centers, and teaching hospitals to join us at the **GBA** and **GIP 2025 Joint Spring Meeting**. This year, the AAHCI Senior Administrative/Fiscal Officers (SAFO) Meeting will take place alongside the GBA and GIP 2025 Joint Spring Meeting, bringing SAFO executive leaders together with GBA and GIP attendees. This unique

collaboration will allow all attendees to attend sessions and events hosted by each group.

The 2025 theme, Balancing Tradition and Innovation: Strategic Synergies in a Time of Change, explores how institutions steeped in legacy can evolve strategically. Together, we'll tackle the challenges of modernization while preserving the unique identities of our institutions. Through shared insights and collaboration, we'll identify ways to navigate change without losing sight of the values that anchor us. **Questions?** Contact <a href="mailto:gba@aamc.org">gba@aamc.org</a>.

# Recording Now Available: Data-Driven Academic Medical Centers (DDAMC) Work Group

The February DDAMC Work Group featured a presentation on *Revolutionizing Faculty Clinical Productivity Management: The cFTE Portal Impact* by Jon Rueter, MBA, Director of Research Administration and Revenue Management, UCSF Department of Medicine. We invite you to <u>watch the recording</u>.

For more information on the DDAMC work group, please visit the <u>GBA Committees</u> webpage and contact <u>Natalie Floyd</u> if you would like to join the work group.

#### GBA Emerging Issues Moderated Call: Al and Practical Uses

On February 24th, the GBA Emerging Issues Committee hosted a moderated call focusing on AI and practical uses of AI. Attendees were provided with opportunities to delve into a variety of AI specific topics. Attendees and members of the GBA community are welcome to communicate directly with the call's moderators to further discuss these topics:

Discussions around open-source tech were led by:

Patrick Frazier, MBA, BSN, RN

Director of Clinical Research

University of Alabama at Birmingham Heersink School of Medicine

thomasfrazier@uabmc.edu

Discussions around AI in marketing and communications were led by::

Sarah Rainwater, MEd

Senior Project Manager, Office of the Dean

The Ohio State University College of Medicine

<u>sarah.rainwater@osumc.edu</u>

General AI discussions were led by:

John Schiavone, MBA

Chief Operating Officer

Hackensack Meridian School of Medicine

John.Schiavone@hmhn.org

#### Data of Interest to GBA Members: Refreshed Faculty Data Tables

The *U.S. Medical School Faculty* report has been refreshed to reflect December 31 snapshots of full-time faculty on the Faculty Roster public website (<a href="https://www.aamc.org/data-reports/faculty-institutions/report/faculty-roster-us-medical-school-faculty">https://www.aamc.org/data-reports/faculty-institutions/report/faculty-roster-us-medical-school-faculty</a>). Snapshots are available from 2022 through 2024. The U.S. Medical School Faculty report presents information about the distribution of full-time faculty and department chairs by characteristics such as department, rank, degree, tenure status, gender, race/ethnicity, and age, and about full-time faculty hires, departures, and promotions. In addition, there are several trend reports on the Faculty Roster website showing counts and percentages of full-time faculty, department chairs, and medical school deans over time. There are also trends showing full-time faculty attrition and promotion rates and trends in the average age of full-time faculty and department chairs over time.

#### Data of Interest to GBA Members: Department Chair Ages

If you are interested in information on the ages of department chairs, there are several reports in the Faculty Roster application (<a href="https://mda.aamc.org/mda-faculty-roster">https://mda.aamc.org/mda-faculty-roster</a>) that you might find helpful. For example, go to Reports>Aggregate Reports>Selected Medical School and set the Appointment Type to "Chair" to get data about department chairs at your medical school. You may use the Snapshot Date field to generate the report to reflect your department chairs as of whatever date you specify. For national data on department chair ages, go to Reports>Aggregate Reports>All Medical Schools to see chair data aggregated at the national level or go to Benchmarking Reports>Chair Benchmarking Report to see chair data aggregated by medical school. The reports in the Faculty Roster application allow you to break out chairs by age crossed with other variables such as gender or race/ethnicity.

### **AAMC News**

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### **AAMC** statement on the House budget resolution

AAMC President and CEO David J. Skorton, MD, and Chief Public Policy Officer Danielle Turnipseed, JD, MHSA, MPP, issued a statement on the budget resolution ahead of the vote by the U.S. House of Representatives. "As the House considers its fiscal year 2025 budget resolution, we urge lawmakers to protect access to care for millions of hardworking Americans by rejecting policies that could lead to significant cuts to the Medicaid program and limit access to student financial aid for aspiring physicians."

### **AAMC Joins 600 Organizations in Support of NIH Funding**

The AAMC joined 600 organizations in a <u>Feb. 25 letter (PDF)</u> urging House and Senate Appropriations Committee leadership to provide robust fiscal year (FY) 2025 funding for the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and protect against cuts to the agency. Specifically,

the letter called on Congress to ensure the NIH receives at least the \$1.77 billion increase proposed in the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2025 (S. 4942). Additionally, the letter supports the continuation of legislative language prohibiting changes to NIH facilities and administrative cost reimbursements [refer to *Washington Highlights*, Feb. 14]. "NIH funding is a key driver of economic growth, job creation, and medical breakthroughs, and this policy change would hinder our ability to remain globally competitive," the letter noted.

## AAMC Joins Letter Responding to the Department of Education's SFFA Guidance

The AAMC joined 67 higher education organizations in a Feb. 25 community comment letter (PDF) sent to the Department of Education in response to the department's recent dear colleague letter (DCL) which provided guidance on higher education institutions' civil rights responsibilities following the *Students for Fair Admissions v. Harvard* (SFFA) Supreme Court decision.

### **AAMC-Supported Letter Urges Support for VA Workforce**

The Friends of the VA Medical Care and Health Research (FOVA) Coalition executive committee, of which the AAMC is a member, sent a Feb. 20 letter (PDF) expressing concern to House and Senate committee leadership regarding the ongoing federal hiring freeze the recent dismissal of Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) employees and their impact on veteran care, patient safety, and medical research conducted at VA medical centers nationwide. Specifically, the letter urged the administration and congress to halt and rescind the dismissals of key VA medical and research staff and to exempt all roles related to medical care and research from the federal hiring freeze. "These actions are necessary to protect veteran health, maintain medical research momentum, and prevent irreparable harm to VA's ability to deliver high-quality care," the letter noted.

### AAMC Joins Amicus Briefs Opposing Executive Order Ban on Gender-Affirming Care

The AAMC joined the American Academy of Pediatrics and more than a dozen other national and state medical and mental health organizations in two amicus briefs focused on ensuring that all adolescents, including those with gender dysphoria, receive the optimal medical and mental health care they need.

The AAMC joined a Feb. 13 brief urging a U.S. District Court in Maryland to maintain an injunction against a Jan. 28 executive order banning federally supported health care institutions from providing patients under 19 medically necessary treatments for gender dysphoria [refer to *Washington Highlights*, Jan. 31]. The District Court entered a temporary restraining order against implementation of the ban as it relates to genderaffirming care for adolescents.

The AAMC also joined a Feb. 25 amicus brief urging a U.S. District Court in Seattle to

issue a preliminary injunction against the executive order's ban on federally supported health care institutions providing patients under 19 medically necessary treatments for gender dysphoria.

# AAMC Joins Amicus Brief Urging Supreme Court to Uphold Preventive Care Coverage

The AAMC on Feb. 24 joined the American Hospital Association, the Catholic Health Association, the Federation of American Hospitals, and America's Essential Hospitals to file an amicus brief urging the Supreme Court to reverse the 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals decision in *Braidwood Management v. Becerra*, which invalidates the Affordable Care Act requirement that private health plans cover, without cost-sharing, preventive services recommended by the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force [refer to *Washington Highlights*, May 5, May 19].

# AAMC Lawsuit Results in Temporary Nationwide Restraining Order on Cuts to F&A Rates

The AAMC outlined its main priorities and concerns related to the budget reconciliation process in a Feb. 21 letter (PDF) to Senate Majority Leader John Thune (R-S.D.) and Speaker of the House Mike Johnson (R-La.). The letter follows the release and mark-up of competing budget resolutions by the House and Senate Budget Committees last week [refer to *Washington Highlights*, Feb. 14]. The budget resolution represents a first step in the budget reconciliation process, which would provide an expedited process to bypass the Senate filibuster and enact President Donald Trump's domestic policy agenda by a simple majority vote.

# AAMC Joins Group Letter Requesting Rescission of HIPAA Proposed Security Rule

The AAMC joined several health organizations in a <u>letter urging the Trump administration</u> (<u>PDF</u>) to rescind the proposed rule "<u>HIPAA Security Rule to Strengthen the Cybersecurity of Electronic Protected Health Information</u>" and to engage with organizations to develop a more balanced approach that addresses cybersecurity concerns without imposing excessive burdens on the health care sector. While the letter expressed the group's commitment to enhancing cybersecurity, it raised concerns with the impact the staggering costs and regulatory burden of this regulation would have on hospitals and health care systems, as well as the unreasonable timeline. The letter explained that the complexity and scope of the requirements would necessitate substantial investments in time, resources, and personnel to achieve compliance, diverting funds away from other critical areas, impacting patient care.

**AAMC** statement on the confirmation of Doug Collins as VA secretary

AAMC President and CEO David J. Skorton, MD, and Chief Public Policy Officer Danielle

Turnipseed, JD, MHSA, MPP, issued a statement on the confirmation of Doug Collins as the secretary of the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA). "The AAMC congratulates Doug Collins on his confirmation as secretary of the Department of Veterans Affairs. For nearly 80 years, academic medicine, made up of the nation's medical schools, academic health systems, and teaching hospitals, have forged a robust partnership to advance the health of veterans. ... The AAMC looks forward to working with Secretary Collins and the dedicated VA staff to build on our impactful and historic partnership to provide high-quality care to those veterans who have bravely and selflessly served this country."

# AAMC lawsuit results in nationwide temporary restraining order on proposed drastic cuts to NIH funding

On Feb. 8, AAMC President and CEO David J. Skorton, MD, and Chief Scientific Officer Elena Fuentes-Afflick, MD, MPH <u>issued a statement</u> in response to an announcement from the new administration regarding drastic cuts to National Institutes of Health (NIH) funding. The AAMC issued a follow-up statement on Feb. 11 regarding a lawsuit led by the AAMC, with other organizations, challenging the legality of the administration's stated plan to make major cuts to federally funded research. "Last night a federal judge in the U.S. District Court for the District of Massachusetts granted the AAMC's motion for a nationwide temporary restraining order, preventing a Feb. 7 notice from the NIH from going into effect. ... The AAMC is pleased that the court agreed with our assertion that the notice would have resulted in irreparable harm to the research mission, leaving institutions no choice but to scale back research activities. This could mean fewer clinical trials, less fundamental discovery research, and slower progress in delivering lifesaving advances to the patients and families that do not have time for any delay."

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# AAMC statement on firings at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

AAMC President and CEO David J. Skorton, MD, and Chief Public Policy Officer Danielle Turnipseed, JD, MHSA, MPP, issued a statement regarding firings at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). "We were deeply dismayed to hear reports of broad and, what appear to be, arbitrary firings across many federal agencies and offices directly related to and responsible for the public's health. ... We urge [HHS Secretary Kennedy] to reconsider these firings so we can leverage the expertise and experience of these trusted, skilled, dedicated civil servants and work with them to improve the health of the nation."

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### Jaffery op-ed on the impact of drastic NIH funding cuts

In an op-ed published this week in *USA Today*, AAMC Chief Health Care Officer Jonathan B. Jaffery, MD, MS, MMM, underscores the devastating impact of proposed National Institutes of Health (NIH) cuts to indirect costs on medical research and patient care. He recalls how NIH-funded research has revolutionized treatments and lead to dramatic

improvements in survival rates and quality of life for patients, but notes the proposed cuts, should they be enacted, will have far-reaching consequences for medical research, patient care, and the health of communities across the country.

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# AAMC seeks examples on the impact of executive actions on academic medicine

The recent National Institutes of Health (NIH) announcement on a 15% facilities and administrative (F&A) rate cap and other administration executive orders and actions could have significant implications for AAMC-member institutions and faculty, researchers, learners, and trainees. The AAMC is collecting detailed examples of how this and other executive actions are impacting research, education, clinical care, and overall institutional operations. Responses will help the AAMC advocate on behalf of academic medicine by providing policymakers with concrete evidence of the challenges these changes present. If you would prefer to share examples of impact on the phone, please reach out to your affinity group point of contact.

**Submit Examples** 

#### David A. Acosta, MD, AAMC chief diversity and inclusion officer, to retire

David A. Acosta, MD, AAMC chief diversity and inclusion officer, will retire from the AAMC on March 28. Since joining the association as chief diversity and inclusion officer in 2017, he has led transformative initiatives to improve access, opportunity, and inclusion for students, faculty, and staff. A passionate advocate and tireless mentor, Acosta has fostered environments where all individuals feel valued and supported. To ensure continuity of the AAMC's important and ongoing work to produce a physician workforce that includes individuals from all backgrounds and perspectives, Malika Fair, MD, MPH, AAMC senior director of equity and social accountability, has been named acting chief diversity and inclusion officer, effective March 31.

### **Learning Opportunities**

### IT Operations - 2025 GIR Quarterly Calls

The Group on Information Resources (GIR) is hosting quarterly calls to discuss hot topics in the IT academic medicine community around operations. These calls seek to facilitate networking with peers by learning from each other through promising practices.

We invite you to forward these calls to any colleagues who may be interested in participating.

#### **Upcoming Calls**

- April 17, 2025 1:00 pm ET Save the Date
- July 17, 2025 1:00 pm ET Save the Date



**Registration Now Open!** 

GIR-ing Up for the Future



Join us May 28-30 in Minneapolis for the 2025 Information Technology in Academic Medicine Conference, hosted by the AAMC Group on Information Resources (GIR). This year's theme, "GIR-ing Up for the Future," sets the stage for a dynamic, collaborative experience where technology and data leaders come together to drive innovation in patient care, medical education, and research.

**Enhance Your Experience: Data Symposium | May 28** 

Arrive early for the <u>Data Symposium</u>, a **one-day pre-conference workshop** designed for those looking to deepen their expertise in data management, analytics, and business intelligence. This intensive session will offer hands-on learning, expert insights, and interactive discussions to help you optimize data strategies within academic medicine. Add the Data Symposium while registering for the IT in Academic Medicine Conference. Don't miss this opportunity to collaborate, learn, and shape the future of technology in academic medicine.

#### Save the Date: June 2025 Remembrance Conference



Please save the date for the 2025 Remembrance Conference on **June 6-8** at the Jacobs School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences at the University of Buffalo. The aim of the conference is to engage teams of medical students and faculty in conversations, curriculum and programming that employ a public health approach to reduce firearm injuries and fatalities. The conference will also bring together medical and trauma experts, government officials, and representatives from the University at Buffalo and Michigan State University.

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### Publications & Resources

### AAMC Leads: Congress must support robust federal funding for NIH

AAMC Leads: is a collection of articles that express the opinions and positions of the AAMC on the most timely issues affecting academic medicine today. From advocacy to community engagement to research, AAMC Leads highlights the work of the AAMC in leading and serving America's medical schools, academic health systems and teaching hospitals, and the millions of faculty members, students, resident physicians, and biomedical researchers who make up the academic medicine community. The latest article highlights the critical role the National Institutes of Health (NIH) plays in funding scientific research that benefits millions of Americans and urges Congress to support robust federal funding for the nation's medical research agency.

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#### **Experts examine variables that impact life expectancy**

<u>AAMC Research and Action Institute</u> Executive Director Atul Grover, MD, PhD, and Megan Ranney, MD, MPH, dean of the Yale School of Public Health, co-authored an opinion piece published this week in STAT News discussing the impact of three external causes of injury and death —alcohol, drugs, and firearms — and what can be done to

address them. Data comes from the recent <u>institute analysis that examined the impact on life expectancy</u> by state if deaths due to these three causes were eliminated.

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## AAMC Center for Health Justice explores changes in trust in communities

From 2021 through 2024, the AAMC Center for Health Justice conducted four polls that asked respondents to rate how much they trusted institutions to serve everyone in their local community fairly. A new brief published by the Center presents trust-related findings and insights into changes in trust over time and provides information on the demographic subgroups that report lower levels of trust.

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# New AAMC resource on Trump administration executive actions most likely to impact academic medicine

The AAMC has compiled a list of executive actions issued by the Trump administration related to immigration, health care, federally funded grants, global health, and other areas that are most likely to impact academic medicine.

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### New report presents a vision for American science and technology

The Vision for American Science and Technology (VAST) has published a new report to examine opportunities and challenges facing American science and technology. A task force of more than 70 leaders from across industry, academia, government, and the non-profit sector, including AAMC President and CEO David J. Skorton, MD, contributed to the report, *Unleashing American Potential*. The publication explores what is most needed to strengthen the American science and technology enterprise and includes a strong roadmap and three action items that will help the nation achieve it.

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## New resources explain the importance of facilities and administrative costs

To support its ongoing advocacy for fair and sustainable funding policies at the National Institutes of Health (NIH), the AAMC has developed educational resources around the issue of facilities and administrative (F&A) costs. The resources include a <u>video</u>, <u>infographic</u>, and <u>one-pager</u> that outline what F&A costs are, how they are determined, and why they are crucial to the conducting life-saving medical research. As a reminder, the AAMC is <u>collecting detailed examples</u> of how the announcement of the 15% F&A rate cap is impacting AAMC members as part of our advocacy on the issue.

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### Recommended Reading

# Resident Unions: Why Now and Will They Change Medical Education and Health Care?

Sklar, David; Javed, Britani

Academic Medicine. 100(2):123-126, February 2025.

# <u>Unionization of Graduate Medical Education Trainees: Perspectives From Designated Institutional Officials</u>

Co, John Patrick T.; Katznelson, Laurence; Guralnick, Susan; Berns, Jeffrey S. *Academic Medicine*. 100(2):127-130, February 2025.

### Welcome New Members

#### February 2025

Olga Alagiozidou Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai

Jenny Hamlin
University of Virginia School of Medicine

Adam Kanallakan
University of Colorado School of Medicine

In Kim

University of Louisville School of Medicine

Melissa Martynenko Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai

Omayra Mercado Rutgers New Jersey Medical School

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