

How to Be an Effective CFAS Rep

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CFAS Knowledge Sharing Techniques

The following list provides examples of ways CFAS reps have successfully communicated the work and activity of CFAS back to their appointing institutions. If you have additional ideas, please send them to Eric Weissman at eweissman@aamc.org.

- Discussing highlights from CFAS meetings to the chair of the Faculty Executive Committee and formally presenting to the Committee as a whole.
- Delivering a 7-10 minute PowerPoint presentation overview to the Faculty Council.
- Putting together a formal report for the rep's academic society as well as a brief article for the society's newsletter. Former CFAS Ad Board member Mike Levitzky, PhD, wrote such an [article in *The Physiologist*](#) in 2014.
- Publish a journal article on the benefits of CFAS membership to individuals associated with academic health centers. CFAS society reps Barbara Cubic, PhD, and Laura Shaffer, PhD, co-wrote an [article on the benefits of CFAS membership](#) to psychologists in academic health centers.
- Verbally sharing information about CFAS with the rep's department members and chair.
- Sending a detailed email or report to the department chair, vice dean, and dean.
- Discussing CFAS with the Faculty Advisory Committee or a similar group which the rep is a member of.
- Forwarding CFAS emails to all medical school faculty and clinical administrators.
- Reporting to the rep's Committee on Faculty Affairs and to their Dean.
- Updating the Vice Dean for Faculty at regular intervals and meeting with the GFA rep to interact with them on AAMC initiatives.

- Reaching out to CFAS to get talking points for an all-faculty meeting. CFAS shares AAMC meeting highlights as well as Washington updates from Karen Fisher as PowerPoint presentations. The reps can use the [AAMC Annual Meeting PowerPoint presentations](#) as talking points.
- Submitting a report after each meeting to a rep's society, which is published in their newsletter, and posting items of interest from CFAS News to the society's website.
- Giving a brief, 5-minute presentation with 4-5 slides at both the department meeting and at the GMEC committee meeting.

Attending CFAS and AAMC Meetings:

- Connect with the senior or junior rep from your institution.
- Share your ideas and concerns freely and often. The purpose of these meetings is to hear from you, the faculty. We want to know what the issues are and how we can help. At each of our meetings we have "CFAS Knowledge Sharing Sessions" which are specifically designed to create an open forum for the purpose of openly and honestly discussing important topics in academic medicine. Don't be shy! No topic is off limits.
- Have fun! As one of the only national professional development groups for faculty at academic health centers, one of the most important benefits we offer are robust networking opportunities with your peers from institutions across the country. We specifically craft programming at our meetings to maximize your opportunities to engage in networking through regular networking breakfasts, receptions, and dinners.

Participating in CFAS Committees:

Getting involved with a CFAS Committee in an area that interests you is a great way to contribute to the direction the AAMC takes with regard to issues affecting faculty members and academic societies. A list of the various committees and working groups is below. We encourage you to contact any of the groups' chairs to get involved.

- **The CFAS Basic Science Committee**, chaired by [Richard L. Eckert](#), PhD
- **The CFAS Communications Committee**, chaired by [Alan Dow](#), MD
- **The CFAS Advocacy Committee**, chaired by [Arthur Derse](#), MD, JD
- **The CFAS Diversity and Inclusion Committee**, chaired by [VJ Periyakoil](#), MD
- **The CFAS Program Committee**, chaired by [Aviad "Adi" Harmati](#), PhD
- **The CFAS Nominating and Engagement Committee**, chaired by [Scott Gitlin](#), 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