OSR National Meeting

Washington Hilton

November 6-8
Dear Fellow NEOSR Reps,

Well, this is an abbreviated Newsletter, but I guess that's OK. The response was quite underwhelming, but that must be because everyone's saving their energy for the National meeting! Tom has info for you about that, so I won't say much more.

Here in Buffalo, I've been pretty busy. After our Spring meeting, I came back and polled by classmates (then Third Year students) about the stresses of Third Year and how each person dealt with them. I got a good response, and found, not surprisingly, that people often wanted someone to talk with, but often felt that there was no one there for them who really understood. As a result, I formed a Clinical Big Brother/Big Sister program for Third Year students. Basically, it's an on-going, very informal advisory program involving 30 Fourth Year students who are willing to offer advice, lend an ear, etc. to Third Year students throughout the year. Thus far, it's been pretty successful, and our administration has been extremely supportive of our endeavors and have even financed our activities.

Otherwise, I'm gearing up for the National meeting. Something that's currently of a lot of interest to me is the proposed NY state legislation to regulate residents' hours and limit medical students' hands-on participation in the clinical setting. I'd like to talk about this with anyone who is interested at the meeting. So if you've got any info on this that you'd like to share, please bring it with you.

I hope everyone takes advantage of the opportunity to pay a visit to Senators and Congressmen while in Washington. Call ahead (to the Capitol) and make an appointment. You'll probably speak with a legislative aid, but believe it or not, they are very interested in hearing from you. Some topics of interest: financial aid for students, maintaining federal funding for residency programs, status of foreign grads, legislation to regulate resident/medical student training, etc. It's probably a good idea to speak to deans or financial aid officers at your school; they tend to be fairly well versed on current legislative affairs.

Well I was glad to hear from Brian McGrorey and that he's planning to run for Rep-at-large. Remember, if you're considering running for office, bring a C.V./resume with you to the meeting. It will make things a lot easier for you.

That's about all folks. I'm looking forward to seeing new and old faces alike. I hope the enthusiasm that was present at our regional meeting is still there! See you soon!

Kathy O'Leary
SUNY at Buffalo, '88
Dear Fellow Northeast OSR Reps,

1987-'88 will be my second scholastic year as OSR Rep at Columbia College of Physicians and Surgeons. I plan to run for OSR Representative-at-large at the National meeting in November. I wish to be elected to this position because I'm interested in becoming more involved in the AAMC and I think that student input to the AAMC and its policy decisions is of utmost importance. If elected I can offer my time and enthusiasm, a strong background in the issues of racism and sexism in education and a dedication to student input to the decisions and policies set forth by the AAMC. I would strive to maintain the excellent rapport between the OSR and the AAMC that is so necessary for the functioning of both groups.

I hope that you will support my candidacy at the National meeting, and I look forward to seeing you there.

Thank you,

Brian McGrory
Columbia P&S, '89
NOTES FROM SCHOOLS

Dear NEOSR Reps,

I sat down to "summarize and synthesize," but so much has happened in the past week, it's difficult to write a coherent piece. Bear with me...

1. Thanks for a great meeting. I'm glad to see such an involved group that is sure to push us to do meaningful work in the future (as in the past!) My regrets go out to our reps who were unsuccessful in the Ad Board elections, but please think about running again and about ways to channel this energy into our own region.

2. During our closing meeting, I wrote down the following questions: Who are you? What will you contribute to society? to OSR? How? Why? Introspection is a tool to bring you to higher planes of action. Use our meetings as springboards for activity at any level. And remember that our group efforts carry much weight in the eyes of the Deans, Teaching Hospitals, etc.

3. Any interest in a regional effort to expose students to career and/or practice options? This year I will be compiling a health policy opportunities handbook. What programs are out there for the doctors interested in policy? Any takers?

4. The New York State issues are two-fold and have obvious implications for us all: -resident/hours staffing problems
   -medical students' allowable responsibilities

We plan to address these at the Spring Meeting on the personal, educational, institutional and societal levels...sound good?

5. Don't forget the committee opening on the LCME (see attached).


Jeralyn Bernier, Chair NEOSR
Brown
401-521-9774

Hi Everyone,

First, let me apologize for this Newsletter going out so late, but deadlines were missed all around. Thanks to those few people who got their summaries to me on or near the original deadline. I'm sorry for those of you who were waiting for the summary of the meeting to distribute at your school. I hope this isn't too late.

Most of the workshops and seminars were summarized by our region, but we missed a few. Wend has promised to fill in the gap, where possible, with summaries she has received from other regions.

Meanwhile, I have just completed a hectic month away and am now gearing up for my subinternship in Medicine here in Buffalo. Thus far, there have been no changes made secondary to the Bell Commission's evaluation of resident's hours and students' clinical responsibilities, but the programs here are preparing to deal with possible changes.
The deadline for the next Newsletter will be March 10th. This deadline will be strictly adhered to. There are a lot of issues in this present newsletter which could be responded to by each of us in the next newsletter, so plan on giving it a try!

To all the 4th year students who will be taking Part II of the Boards in April (12-13), this may interfere with the Spring Meeting just a bit, so we will have to keep that in mind!

Please feel free to send any comments or ideas about the Newsletter and your contributions to the Spring Newsletter to me. I look forward to hearing from you?

Kathy O'Leary  
SUNY-Buffalo  
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Buffalo, NY 14222  
716-882-1131

Dear NEOSR reps,

Hi! How are you? It was great to see familiar faces and new ones. I'm really looking forward to seeing everybody in Montreal and to being in Montreal. My husband and I spent Easter weekend there last year and had a great time.

At the National Meeting, I went to a bunch of sessions on Monday and Tuesday and I've summarized them for this issue. I'd like to make a plea for input to give to the Northeast GME Steering Committee. They will be discussing methods of evaluating clinical clerks at their Spring Meeting - a very important area for us to have input. So please write me or the Newsletter with your ideas, suggestions, or comments.

If anyone will be in Connecticut in the near future and needs a place to stay, please write or call.

Beth Malko  
U. of Connecticut  
1681 Orchard Hill Road  
Cheshire, CT 06410

Hi Everyone!

I know that the Washington meeting just ended, but Sandy, Brian, David and I are already thinking about Montreal. We need to plan the party! So when you write a note to the Newsletter, give us an idea of when you'll be able to arrive and what you might be interested in.

One final note to Tom—it was wonderful working with you for the past two years. I can't tell you how relaxed I felt once you walked into the workshop I ran in Washington. If it was going to flop, I knew that you would pick up the pieces. And that is what you've always done for the NE region. We'll miss you a lot! Hopefully you'll get a break and come up to Montreal!

Debbie Capko  
UMDNJ  
7 Aspen Road  
West Orange, NJ 07052
Opening for Student Representative to Liaison Committee on Medical Education

An important way in which student perspectives are brought to bear on issues facing medical educators is through participation on national committees. The committee described below is one for which the OSR Administrative Board will be making nominations during 1988. One does not need to be an OSR member to apply. So, please encourage all students who are interested at your school to apply.

Interested students should submit a curriculum vitae to Wendy Pechacek by March 15, 1988 in order to be considered. Students who serve on committees are responsible for keeping in touch with the OSR Chair on actions and proceedings. This includes summarizing meetings attended in a letter or report for the OSR record.

Liaison Committee on Medical Education (LCME):

The joint AAMC/AMA Committee is responsible for certifying the quality of American medical schools. It has established the following criteria for the appointment of a student member: a) have commenced the clinical phase of training by July 1988, b) be in good academic standing, c) warrant the judgment that the responsibilities to the LCME would be capably executed. Demonstrated interest in academic medicine and participation on academic affairs committees are also important. This one year term begins June 1988. The appointment entails extensive reading and attendance at four meetings per year. Contact AAMC Section for Accreditation for additional information at 202/828-0670.