



COMSEP
Excellence in Medical Student
Education in Pediatrics

The Pediatric Educator

Council on Medical Student Education in Pediatrics

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Message from the President



Another winter storm has just blown through Iowa as I write about Spring in Nashville. I really am looking forward to warmer weather!

Annual Meeting: COMSEP and APPD members will gather in Nashville, Tennessee, April 10-14, for the long anticipated combined meeting of our two organizations. You have already received notices about hotel reservations and meeting registration. Don't wait to register for the meeting!

The joint meeting is much larger and more complex than our stand-alone annual gatherings. Planning committees have involved enthusiastic participants from both COMSEP and APPD, supported by incredibly helpful and knowledgeable staff from Degnon Associates. The effort expended by these working groups will be readily apparent to you in Nashville as you listen to research presentations, view the posters, and participate in workshops and task force meetings that emphasize both organization-specific and shared interests and topics. We will again present the "New Clerkship Directors" workshop as part of the preconference schedule. Details of the other preconference workshops and schedule for the regular workshops are provided on the registration form.

Our goal in planning the joint meeting is to help attendees work and learn together. COMSEP members will have opportunities to work closely with APPD members who have complementary interests, educational skills, and research goals. A special session on Thursday April 11 will be devoted to "Key Stakeholders in Education Across the Continuum - with Interactive Q&A." The schedule for Friday April 12 and Saturday April 13 is replete with workshops and task force meetings open to both COMSEP and APPD members.

The **Miller-Sarkin Lecture** will, once again, be the centerpiece of the meeting. Kevin Eva, PhD, from the University of British Columbia, will speak about "Competency-based assessment: The good, the bad, and the puzzling." Dr. Eva has published extensively on assessment and has served in an advisory capacity to the NBME and the Medical Council of Canada. We are looking forward to hearing his talk.

The **COMSEP Business meeting** on Thursday April 11 will be followed by an open forum and "hot topics" discussion. You will also learn about the recipients of the **COMSEP Awards** for Education, Research, Clerkship Administration, and the COMSEP Achievement Award.

Recipients of the **COMSEP grants** for 2013 will be announced by Janet Fischel at the meeting. Remember that you, too, can apply for financial support for an educational project. The next round of applications will be announced in the Fall, with recipients to be announced at the 2014 meeting in Ottawa, Canada. Details of the grants program can be found on the COMSEP web site: <http://www.comsep.org/scholarlyactivities/grants.cfm>. Janet's email address is on the web page and she is eager to answer questions about the Grants Program.

The results of the **COMSEP Annual Survey** will be reported at the meeting. This important yearly survey is directed by Sherilyn Smith and has provided valuable information about the membership and about topics of interest since its inception in 2009. Any COMSEP member may suggest topics for inclusion in future surveys. More information about the survey is available on the COMSEP web site: <http://www.comsep.org/scholarlyactivities/annualSurvey.cfm>. Sherilyn is happy to answer questions from the membership about the survey. Her email is on the web page.

We will hold our banquet on Thursday evening, April 11, at the Country Music Hall of Fame and plan to help our APPD colleagues learn the importance of dancing at educational meetings. The **Miller-Sarkin Fun Run/Walk** will be held on Friday afternoon and will feature another unique T-shirt.

Joe Gigante and his colleagues at Vanderbilt assure me that Nashville will be ready for COMSEP (and APPD). Will you be ready for Nashville?

COMSEP Elections are currently underway. The ballot will be open until March 14. If you have not voted, please do so! *All* COMSEP members are eligible to vote under the revision to the By-Laws that was accepted by the membership at the Indianapolis meeting in 2012. Remember, COMSEP no longer has "delegates" who cast one vote each for an institution. Instead, COMSEP currently has 458 members, and each individual who is listed as a COMSEP member may cast a vote. Please open the election web page at <http://www.comsep.org/election/>. After opening the link, you will be asked for your COMSEP user ID and password. Please cast your vote for the next President-Elect, two members of the Executive Committee, and one member of the Nominating Committee. A brief biography of each candidate can be viewed by clicking the candidate's name.

COMSEP Journal Club: If you have not already started reading the articles in the COMSEP Journal Club, consider doing so. Susan Bannister and the review board provide us with monthly reviews of articles relevant to medical education. The March Journal Club was just sent out via the COMSEP list and also appears on the COMSEP web site at <http://www.comsep.org/scholarlyactivities/jc.cfm>. Past submissions are available by clicking on the [Journal Archives](#) link here or at the bottom of the Journal Club web page.

The February issue of *Pediatrics* features a piece written by Lavjay Butani, Rebecca Blankenburg, and Michele Long entitled "Stimulating Reflective Practice Among Your Learners."

<http://pediatricsde.aap.org/pediatrics/201302#pg21>. This represents another contribution from COMSEP in its ongoing partnership with *Pediatrics*. As of January 2013, the series has been renamed "Pediatric Perspectives/Monthly Feature." Susan Bannister serves as the editor for this series and is assisted by an editorial board consisting of Chris Maloney (Associate Editor), Janice Hanson, Bill Raszka, and Bob Dudas.

Pediatric Educational Excellence Across the Continuum (PEEAC): COMSEP is once again proud to be one of the sponsors of PEEAC, along with APPD, APA and CoPS. The third edition of this highly successful faculty development meeting is currently in the final stages of planning. Ann Burke from APPD and Jerry Woodhead from COMSEP are serving as the planning committee co-chairs. PEEAC 3 will be held October 4-5, 2013 in Arlington, VA, at the Renaissance Arlington Capital View Hotel. Ken Roberts will present the keynote address.

Participants will engage in workshops, discussions about professional development planning, and a poster session. Look for more information this spring about the meeting and a call for poster abstracts. PEEAC is designed for individuals involved with education in Pediatrics anywhere on the continuum from medical school to clinical practice/faculty. The meeting is designed to provide attendees with faculty development that can promote educator success. Preliminary information can be found at <http://peeac.org>.

I look forward to greeting you in Nashville and to seeing many of you at PEEAC3!

Jerry

President, Council on Medical Student Education in Pediatrics

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Calendar Item	Deadline / Dates	Additional info / website
COMSEP Elections	March 14, 2013	http://www.comsep.org/election/electionlogin.cfm
2013 Annual Meeting with APPD Renaissance Nashville Nashville, TN	April 10-14, 2013	Register Today! Annual Meeting Information
2014 Annual Meeting Ottawa, ON	March 27-29, 2014	Save the Date!

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COMSEP Task Force Updates

[Curriculum Task Force](#)

Submitted by:

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The Curriculum Task Force continues to plug away on the projects we launched last spring:

- The number of available user's guides (teachers guides) for the Common Problem Sets has expanded significantly. These will be updated shortly on the COMSEP website.
- We have two working groups collaborating to a) draft a brief version of the written curriculum and b) map the core competencies and objectives to the ACGME competencies.
- The Annual Survey included needs assessment questions that will ultimately guide Curriculum Task Force recommendations for pre-clerkship training in pediatrics.
- The Point of Care Illness Scripts group has drafted initial versions of a tool designed to jump start students' active participation in pediatric clinical reasoning by providing essential knowledge of common illnesses and complaints in a "reasoning-friendly" format.
- The draft illness scripts have been handed off to a final working group who will explore the development of a script concordance test.

Plans for the spring meeting include reviewing all of the data and drafts that have been generated over the year and engaging the APPD Curriculum Task Force in our ongoing projects and discussions around clinical reasoning.

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Evaluation Task Force (ETF)

Submitted by:

Gwen McIntosh gkmcinto@wisc.edu

Lisa Martin limartin@lumc.edu

Plans are underway for our task force meetings at the joint meeting with APPD in Nashville this spring. We will be soliciting ideas from the Evaluation Task Force members for questions to be submitted to the next COMSEP annual survey. Please come with evaluation questions you would like to see posed to the greater COMSEP membership. We plan to create some work groups to develop workshops for submission to COMSEP or other national meetings so please also bring your ideas for future workshops. Gwen and Lisa have also been planning the joint COMSEP/APPD task force meeting with our program director counterparts. Look for interesting discussions about the Milestones project and subintern evaluations. There will definitely be opportunities for networking and collaboration, so we invite both returning task force members and those new to our group to join us in May!

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Faculty Development Task Force

Submitted by:

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The Faculty Development Task Force is busy preparing for the combined COMSEP/ APPD meeting in Nashville. The workshop selection process is complete and we are actively recruiting mentors for new clerkship directors. Faculty development task force groups from COMSEP and APPD will meet once separately to address our own agenda and then jointly to discuss issues of common interest. We are continuing to build our library of online faculty development resources and the family centered rounds resource will have its first showing in April! We are currently developing two tracks (one for new clerkship directors and one for those interested in scholarship) that will result in COMSEP certificates after completion of the required courses. At the Nashville meeting we will be revealing some really cool new proposals but in order to be the "first to know" you will have to show up for the FDTF meeting on Thursday, April 11. AND you do not want to miss the country western duo singing of Bruce Morgenstern and Bill Wilson.

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Research and Scholarship Task Force

Submitted by:

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Hello everyone! We are really looking forward to our upcoming meeting in Nashville and are hoping to see you at our Task Force meetings. This year has seen some successful projects among our members, including those related to simulation, clinical reasoning, and the sub-internship.

Thanks go to past task force chairs Linda Tewksbury and Jan Hanson for organizing the abstract review process. Thanks also go many of our members who participated as abstract reviewers. We had some excellent

submissions and are looking forward to seeing the final posters and platform presentations. We will be recruiting reviewers for the poster session, and we hope to have a lot of members interested in this, as we have in the past. Reviewing posters is a great way to learn about educational scholarship! At our first task force meeting, we will be briefly reviewing the criteria so that reviewers have a good idea of what to look for.

At the upcoming meeting, our task force members are presenting several workshops to help participants enhance their knowledge and skills with respect to research and scholarship. Among them are "Examining the Evidence: Validating an Assessment Tool for Clinical Reasoning", "They Can Be Mentored and You Can Mentor Them: Practical Approaches to Engaging Trainees in Research", and a pre-conference workshop with the APPD RSTF entitled, "Your Educational Scholarly Project: From Idea to Analysis to Dissemination."

Finally, our task force will be discussing new endeavors to explore in the upcoming year, including a joint project with the Faculty Development Task Force and opportunities to collaborate with the APPD RSTF on projects related to milestones.

As always, we welcome our seasoned members as well as anyone looking for a task force home within COMSEP. See you soon!

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[Clerkship Administrators Update](#)

Submitted by:

Donnita Pelsler Donnita.pelsler@wesleymc.com

The Administrator's Group Leadership Team has been busy preparing for the upcoming meeting in Nashville. The Clerkship Administrator Certification Program will be offered again this year. There are three workshops this year that Administrators will have the opportunity to attend. The two COMSEP ones are "What to Expect When Expecting an LCME Site Visit," and "An Apple™ A Day, the Educational Way: Interactive Teaching in Medical Education." New this year is a combined APPD Coordinators/COMSEP Administrators workshop entitled, "Boot Scootin Boogie Collaboration to Achieve Success in Both Resident and Student Education." Our General Session guest speaker is Dr. Mark Harrison who will present, "The Unprofessional Student 101."

There will be a change in the Administrator Group leadership beginning April 14, 2013. I have asked Gretchen Shawver (Stanford) to assume my role as leader, so I can focus on expanding the Clerkship Administrator Certification Program to another level of certification. Exciting details will be forthcoming soon. Thank you to all as it has been a pleasure leading this exceptional group of Administrators for the last 3 years. I look forward to seeing everyone in Nashville!

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[Website Update](#)

Many of you might know that I took over the reins as "Webmaster" at the last COMSEP meeting. Since that time, the website has migrated to a new host, and many revisions have been and continue to be made. At any time, if you have suggestions for the website, please don't hesitate to contact me at soumya.adhikari@childrens.com.

In the meantime, large-scale upcoming goals for the website include refinements to its search functionality, the creation of a new tab for clerkship administrators and ongoing revisions to the members-only pages.

And - still in the planning stages - but plan to pay special attention to the website at this year's annual meeting as we hope to support any efforts to live-tweet the meeting by embedding a twitter search stream on the main page so that even those without twitter accounts can follow along simply by coming to the COMSEP page.

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Perspectives Column

Submitted by:

Susan Bannister susan.bannister@albertahealthservices.ca

Editor, Journal Club, *The Pediatric Educator*

Journal Club

Thank you to all the reviewers (more than 30!) who have enabled us to produce a monthly Journal Club for eight months now! I very much appreciate their hard work. Three associate editors will be joining me starting in February. They have been selected based on their ability to write a great review (synthesize the key features of an article and describe its relevance), work to deadlines, and interest in this initiative. They are Drs. Linda Lewin, Jonathon Gold, and Randy Rockney. Two of them will be featured in the February edition! I am so excited to be working with all of them!

Now that I have this great team assembled, the next project will be tagging the previous reviews to different headings such as "assessment", "professionalism", "reflection", etc as suggested at the executive meeting in September, 2012. We hope that this will allow COMSEP members to easily find a previous review when needed.

Pediatrics

Our quarterly column in Pediatrics - formerly known as the Perspectives column and appearing first in the print version of the Journal - will now be known as a Monthly Feature and will appear second in the print version of the Journal. An article by Editor Dr. Lewis First explains the rationale for this in the January 2013 edition of Pediatrics. COMSEP shares the Monthly Feature with two other organizations so we will still have a publication four times a year.

So, look for an article by Dr. Lavjay Butani et al about reflective practice in February's edition!

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