



COMSEP

Excellence in Medical Student  
Education in Pediatrics

# The Pediatric Educator

Council on Medical Student Education in Pediatrics

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Volume 22 Issue 2

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## Message from the President

Hello COMSEP members!

Summer in the Pacific Northwest came early this year and the rhododendrons are blooming in the Olympic Mountain forests. I hope that you all have had some time to enjoy the things that bring you happiness and joy in your life. The COMSEP leadership group has been working to bring many of the ideas that started at 2015 COMSEP meeting to fruition. You will hear more about all the activities in the reports that follow.

I am excited that the 2016 COMSEP meeting will be in St. Louis. The meeting theme is “Spirit of Exploration: New Frontiers in Medical Education” and as a native Texan, this theme speaks to me on many different levels. The “can do attitude” that the theme implies mirrors the attitudes I grew up with could be the rallying cry for COMSEP! I am looking forward to learning more about your innovative methods to operationalize exciting new teaching approaches, as well as how you implement novel solutions to emerging challenges in the changing educational environment. In the upcoming months, look for a “Save the Date” notice and a formal announcement for workshops and abstracts in the early fall.

Our major summer work will be preparing for a strategic planning meeting in the fall. The last strategic planning meeting (in 2014) created the COMSEP mission, vision and values (<http://www.comsep.org/about/mission.cfm>) as well as the road map that helped us become an independent organization this past year. Our task will be to focus on the next 5-10 years and develop a fiscally responsible plan that will help the organization continue to grow. We will be reaching out to all COMSEP members, the COMSEP leadership group, as well as external stakeholders to gather your views to inform this process. We need your thoughts and guidance. **Please look for the survey via the listserv and fill it out!** The more ideas and impressions we have to work with, the better the strategic plan. I hope to tell you about the fruits of our labors next spring in St. Louis.

Finally, I want to thank you all for the work you do for your students and by extension the children you care for. I view each new task I take on as an opportunity for professional and personal development. Too often, however, the “thank you’s” are missing and we must feed the drive and enthusiasm for our work from our own internal fire. So thank you COMSEP for being a wonderful, supportive group of talented educators. I hope you can reach out to someone you know in our organization and let them know how much you appreciate them.

All the best....see you in St. Louis!

Sherilyn

Forest Rhododendrons (courtesy of Stephen Cobert, MD)



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Calendar Item	Deadline / Dates	Additional info / website
Annual Meeting 2016	April 6 - 9, 2016	Hilton St. Louis at the Ballpark St. Louis, MO

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### 2015 COMSEP Meeting Highlights

Here is a summary of the recognitions shared during the annual meeting:

COMSEP Research/Scholarship Award: Linda Tewksbury, MD

COMSEP Teaching/Education Award: Anne Elizabeth Stuart, MD

COMSEP Award for Excellence in Clerkship Administration: Gretchen Shawver

COMSEP Achievement Award: William (Bill) Wilson, MD

Poster Awards:

Best Research Poster:

Daniel Walmsley, MD et al. Analysis of Individualized Learning Plans in a Sub-intern Outpatient Pediatric Rotation: Do Students' Goals match the ACGME Core Competencies?

Best Innovation Poster:

Lucy Chang, MD et al. Comparison of Mid-Clerkship Faculty and Student Self-assessment Using a PRIMES iPad Application.

Best Trainee Poster:

Margaret Emmott, MD et al. A Qualitative Study of Third-Year Medical Students.

Sarkin Foundation/COMSEP grant award:

Gabrina Dixon, MD for the proposal: What Influences Underrepresented Minorities Regarding Choosing Academic Pediatrics.

Miller-Sarkin Lecture Speaker: Stuart Slavin who gave an inspiring talk: Flourishing in Times of Change. The slide set is in the members only section of the webpage under annual meetings (2015 New Orleans)

And once again, a big thank you to the COMSEP meeting host team—Robin English, Scott Davis, Amy Creel and Stephen Weimer. You all put your heart and soul into this meeting and it showed! You made us feel comfortable and welcome...from the music that accompanied the poster session, to the great t-shirt logos, to the river boat music/dancing and fun run/walk. I am sure we will be talking about this meeting for a long time.

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## COMSEP Task Force Updates

### [Evaluation Task Force \(ETF\)](#)

*Submitted by:*

Lisa Martin     [martinlisa1012@gmail.com](mailto:martinlisa1012@gmail.com)

We enjoyed seeing old friends and welcoming new faces to our task force meetings in New Orleans. We laid groundwork to launch a library of Evaluation Tools to be hosted on the COMSEP website for use by all members. At the meeting, we worked on developing both the structure for the library and the process for growing the library. This is a substantial, ongoing project and we are looking forward to the active involvement of COMSEP members from all task forces for a successful launch. A subset of members also worked on developing a workshop on forward feeding.

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### [Faculty Development Task Force \(FDTF\)](#)

*Submitted by:*

Sharon Sholiton     [Sharon\\_Sholiton@rush.edu](mailto:Sharon_Sholiton@rush.edu)  
Stephanie Starr     [starr.stephanie@mayo.edu](mailto:starr.stephanie@mayo.edu)

The Faculty Development Task Force (FDTF) was busy during the New Orleans meeting. The **new member welcoming committee** successfully teamed seasoned volunteers with new members to help orient them to the meeting. At our breakout sessions we brainstormed workshop topics for 2016 and discussed ideas for further **improvements in workshop selection, delivery, eventual scholarship and Just-in-time feedback to presenters**. We discussed ways to **promote scholarship** for our members, to advertise and facilitate the **Teachers Traveling to Teach Teachers (T4) program**, and to share **existing open source web-based faculty development modules**. We heard updates on plans for the **New COMSEP Member welcoming packet**, including a 'welcome to COMSEP video'. The 4<sup>th</sup> year medical student ("M4") team continued planning how best to engage our members who want to connect with others involved in **M4 education**. We also again hosted the **Networking Luncheon** and helped to plan and conduct the annual meeting survey.

We are looking for a new FDTF leader to join our team and to lead the task force in 2018-19. Please contact Steph Starr ([starr.stephanie@mayo.edu](mailto:starr.stephanie@mayo.edu)) or Sharon Sholiton ([Sharon\\_Sholiton@RUSH.EDU](mailto:Sharon_Sholiton@RUSH.EDU)) if interested.

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## [Research and Scholarship Task Force \(RSTF\)](#)

Submitted by:

Robin English [rengli@lsuhsc.edu](mailto:rengli@lsuhsc.edu)

Gary Beck [gbeck@unmc.edu](mailto:gbeck@unmc.edu)

Jocelyn Schiller [johuang@med.umich.edu](mailto:johuang@med.umich.edu)

Mary Rocha [mary.rocha@bcm.edu](mailto:mary.rocha@bcm.edu)

Rebecca Tenney-Soeiro [tennysoeiro@email.chop.edu](mailto:tennysoeiro@email.chop.edu)

The RSTF meetings were well attended in New Orleans. The peer review process was organized by Drs. Robin English and Jan Hansen, ensuring each abstract had a team of experienced and new reviewers. We received 74 abstract submissions; 52 were accepted for poster presentations and 4 platform presentations. The poster reception was well attended with many engaged in discussions of their scholarly work. Congratulations to all who presented posters. Posters were again evaluated this year; the following were recognized as best posters (listed above).

Members of the Task Force presented 4 workshops related to research and scholarship at the 2015 annual meeting: A pre-conference workshop “Practical Skills to Design and Conduct a Rigorous Qualitative Study in Medical Education and three workshops “Poster Presentations 101,” “MedEd Portal 1.0” and “Finding Opportunities in Qualitative Research.” Ideas for workshops at the 2016 meeting were discussed, which included scholarly approach to using workplace assessment instruments (EPAs), evaluation instruments for interprofessional education, selecting outcome measures for your project, assessing the validity of an instrument, how to use a small educational grant and how to present successful platform presentations.

During this meeting there was also a discussion on the abstract review process/quality improvement. Ideas included:

- develop a tip sheet with consensus about how to handle incomplete data in abstracts so that it is approached in a standard way by abstract review teams
- revise rubric for innovations; it is working well for research
- consider a works in progress category
- how to provide mentorship to promising works in progress
- pairing junior reviewers with experienced reviewers to provide mentorship

Gary Beck will continue leading this effort.

Small group discussions included simulation (considering a 201 level workshop for next year, Mitzi Scotten/Rebecca Tenney-Soeiro ), clinical reasoning instrument development (TJ Jirasevijinda), M4 education (Mary Rocha) and entrustment decisions (Jan Hanson).

Thank you to everyone who made the 2015 meeting so successful. The task force continues to grow and there are many exciting projects to undertake.

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## [Learning Technology Task Force](#)

Submitted by:  
Glen Medellin [medelling@uthscsa.edu](mailto:medelling@uthscsa.edu)

## Learning Technology Task Force (LTF)

The Learning Technology Task Force (LTF) maintains its interest in cutting edge educational technologies for medical student education. Raghu Kasetty was selected as Task Force co-chair to replace Bob Dudas as he rotated off. Glen Medellin continues as Task Force co-leaders while Soumya Adhikari serves as COMSEP Webmaster. We had a robust discussion of WAGs (Websites, Apps and Gadgets) as well as our task force led workshop on iPads. One of the hot topics the group was interested would be - How to utilize social networking programs/sites in teaching medical students.

The members of the LTF are available for technology consultations to other task forces. Please let us know if we can assist in helping with technology supports for the scholarly products being developed and produced.

If any COMSEP members have an idea for a project or are seeking collaborators for a project, please reach out to us at [COMSEPltf@gmail.com](mailto:COMSEPltf@gmail.com).

Glen & Raghu

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## Curriculum Task Force

Submitted By:

Michele Long [michele.long@ucsf.edu](mailto:michele.long@ucsf.edu)

April Buchanan [abuchanan@ghs.org](mailto:abuchanan@ghs.org)

Jenny Soep [jennifer.soep@childrenscolorado.org](mailto:jennifer.soep@childrenscolorado.org)

Greetings from the COMSEP Curriculum Task Force (CTF)!

At the 2015 COMSEP CTF sessions, COMSEP attendees worked on seven (!) different small group projects, which reflect education across the entirety of medical school and address enhancing old curricula and focusing on new areas for medical education advancement. Plans are underway to move forward and groups have room for expansion to include members of the COMSEP community! Please check out the list below and if you'd like to join a group, email the group leader/coordinator.

### Preclinical Curriculum

Melissa Held [mheld@connecticutchildrens.org](mailto:mheld@connecticutchildrens.org)

Adam Weinstein [adam.r.weinstein@hitchcock.org](mailto:adam.r.weinstein@hitchcock.org)

### Updating the 3rd year curriculum

Greg Toussaint [gregory.toussaint@wright.edu](mailto:gregory.toussaint@wright.edu)

Michele Long [michele.long@ucsf.edu](mailto:michele.long@ucsf.edu)

### 4th year Pediatric Specific EPAs

April Buchanan [buchanao@greenvillemed.sc.edu](mailto:buchanao@greenvillemed.sc.edu)

### COMSEP Clinical Cases

Ed Clark [clark.edward@mccg.org](mailto:clark.edward@mccg.org)

### Illness scripts

Jon Gold [jonathon.gold@hc.msu.edu](mailto:jonathon.gold@hc.msu.edu)

EPA-4: Enter orders, prescription-writing

Jenny Soep [jennifer.soep@childrenscolorado.org](mailto:jennifer.soep@childrenscolorado.org)

Teaching Value in Pediatrics

Alison Holmes [Alison.v.holmes@dartmouth.edu](mailto:Alison.v.holmes@dartmouth.edu)

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## [Mentoring Program Committee](#)

Submitted by:

Alicia Freedy [Alicia.Freedy@inova.org](mailto:Alicia.Freedy@inova.org)

Amy Fleming [amy.e.fleming@vanderbilt.edu](mailto:amy.e.fleming@vanderbilt.edu)

Jennifer Koestler [Jennifer\\_Koestler@nymc.edu](mailto:Jennifer_Koestler@nymc.edu)

The mentoring committee continues to work in two primary areas, 1. The “welcoming program” which welcomes new attendees to the annual meeting and provides a friendly face and advice as people join COMSEP and 2. A Pilot project to set up formalized mentoring around scholarship. This Scholarship mentoring has been well received in concept by junior and senior members of COMSEP. We have received several applications and are in the process of choosing mentors and mentees, creating the pairings, designing the framework of the program, and writing an IRB to study our intervention. This collaborative effort has great potential for development of our future pediatric education leaders.

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## [Clerkship Administrator’s Group:](#)

### **Congratulations to...**

**Pia Hughes** – Pia was recognized as the Clinical Administrative Professional of the Quarter. The recognition program at Baylor College of Medicine serves to identify faculty and staff employees who make exceptional contributions to BCM directly or indirectly to advance the College’s mission.

**Marlynn Haigh** - Marlynn received her 3rd Staff Aureus Award in 12 years of service at the Children's Hospital of Pittsburg. The Staff Aureus Award is given to the staff member whose caring and helpful attitude has made the most positive impact on graduating students' experience. The recipient is selected by the medical student class.

**Teresa Ureña** - Each year the Harvard Medical School students vote for the individuals across the core clerkships who have contributed the most to their education over the course of the year. Teresa was chosen as this years recipient of the 2015 MGH PCE clerkship administrator award.

The next edition of the **CAMP Newsletter** (COMSEP Administrator Mentoring Program) will be distributed in August. The April newsletter provided testimonials from current administrators about their experience in formulating projects for abstract submission, including best practices. We will continue to provide information and guidance to those who would like to submit a workshop and/or poster abstract for the



2016 meeting. If you have ideas or would like additional information, please contact Gretchen Shawver ([gshawver@stanford.edu](mailto:gshawver@stanford.edu)) or Marlo Meyer ([MME4A@hscmail.mcc.virginia.edu](mailto:MME4A@hscmail.mcc.virginia.edu)).

## Reports:

ACE (Alliance for Clinical Education):

ACE is the Alliance for Clinical Education, and is the organization of specialty medical student education organizations – a analogous to a gene/protein superfamily. It meets annually and its Executive Council has multiple conference calls through the year. COMSEP's representatives to ACE include Bob Drucker, Bruce Morgenstern, and Sherilyn Smith. COMSEP's Gary Beck serves as ACE's Executive Director, so if there are pressing issues in medical student education which cross specialty lines, contact any of the 4 of us. We will see if the issue has traction amongst our colleagues. Several such issues are being addressed by ACE at the moment. 1) ACE is developing a position statement about community-based preceptors. Baylor's new Dean, Jenny Christner has been leading the team drafting the paper. It will likely appear in the journal Teaching and Learning in Medicine 2) ACE has drafted a letter to the LCME, with which it meets at least every other year, to try to convince the LCME to take a stronger position on medical students and the electronic health record, so we can convince compliance officers at hospitals to relax their arbitrary rules which often limit student ability to document in the record. 3) ACE is embarking on the 5<sup>th</sup> edition of its Guidebook for Clerkship directors. COMSEP's Bruce Morgenstern is again the editor-in-chief and Gary Beck is the main driving force. If you have ideas for content or wish to contribute, please contact Bruce or Gary.

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## Grants Program:

Submitted by:

Janet Fischel [Janet.Fischel@stonybrookmedicine.edu](mailto:Janet.Fischel@stonybrookmedicine.edu)

### **Please Participate! The COMSEP Grant Program**

COMSEP awards small grants to COMSEP members for projects of importance to undergraduate pediatric education. Our *COMSEP Grant Program* is an opportunity for you to participate in our organization at a variety of levels. First, consider submitting a project proposal in response to the 2016 *Call for Proposals to Advance Scholarship in COMSEP*. The *Call* will be posted on our website (only a click away from the home page) during this summer, with announcements to the listserv, and an application deadline in early December, 2015 for a two-year grant. Secondly, during the coming winter we will solicit applications through the listserv to fill two vacancies upcoming on the COMSEP Grant Committee. If you have interest, and research and scholarship experience, this is an excellent opportunity to join peers in the confidential review of project proposals for award and funding. You need not have been a COMSEP grantee to apply for Committee membership; you simply bring your knowledge, skills, and enthusiasm to the table! Further, we can proudly report that COMSEP grantees have gone on to present their work at a variety of



national meetings and in the pediatric literature, so the Grant Program is a terrific way to develop your interest and expertise in educational themes of your choosing.

COMSEP has partnered with the Richard T. Sarkin Foundation in the development of the Grant Program, honoring Dr. Sarkin's creative and energetic commitment to quality teaching and learning in Pediatrics. Kudos to Dr. Gabrina Dixon at Children's National Medical Center. She has been awarded a COMSEP grant in the 2015 cycle for her planned study of: *What Influences Underrepresented Minorities Regarding Choosing Academic Pediatrics?* She serves as the Richard T. Sarkin Foundation grantee with this award. Dr. Marta Ania King is our 2015 awardee and Richard T. Sarkin Foundation grantee, studying with co-investigators, Drs. Linda Orkin Lewis, and Carrie Phillipi, the *Development and Multicenter Validation of a Written Pediatric History and Physical Exam Evaluation (P-HAPEE) Tool*.

What's new? This year, we invited members to share with us a one-page letter of intent to submit a grant proposal which COMSEP Grant Committee members will review and provide feedback. This is not a requirement of the Grant Program; it is simply a way to help applicants should they choose to avail themselves of early input. Delighted to report that the Committee received several letters of intent, so we are busy in the review and feedback process. Please do consider submitting a COMSEP grant proposal, whether you are new to grantsmanship or not; please consider participating more fully in the COMSEP Grant Committee when the application for new members is announced!

### [COMSEP Webmaster Update](#)

*Submitted by:*

Soumya Adhikari [SOUMYA.ADHIKARI@childrens.com](mailto:SOUMYA.ADHIKARI@childrens.com)

Many of you sought me out to provide feedback on ways in which the website might be more useful to you moving forward during this year's meeting. I welcome all continued feedback, either via email, or if you would like to set up a time to talk, please be in touch.

We have made a fair bit of progress on the earlier revealed plans to host a message board on our website – keep an eye out for an “unveiling” in the near future. Other thoughts which came my way which we are actively exploring: 1) making the website more mobile friendly, 2) continuing to refresh outdated or older, less relevant links and of course 3) working with task force leadership to gauge how we can make the website more useful for individual task

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**PLEASE SUBMIT YOUR GREAT IDEAS!**

In an effort to continue to share our collective knowledge and practices on medical student education beyond our annual COMSEP meeting, please submit your Great Ideas! to showcase great resources that you have **either developed** or have **found from other resources** and implemented in your program with impactful results. This would be an opportunity to not only share knowledge, but add to your CV as a non-peer reviewed publication. We would plan to showcase one submission per edition.

Editor:

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