



COMSEP

Better Health for All Patients
Through Pediatric Education

The Pediatric Educator

Council on Medical Student Education in Pediatrics

March, 2017

Volume 23, Issue 3

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Message from the President

I can't believe that this is the last Educator I will send you all! It has been so very fun keeping up with what COMSEP is doing and sharing with our great group. I am looking forward to seeing you all in less than a month. For those of you who can't make it...follow us on Twitter! #COMSEP2017. We will send out pictures of the meeting, thoughtful messages and great ideas.

As Spring tries hard to make its way to Seattle (it is raining here and snowing in the mountains), I remember the sense of anticipation I feel this time each year--longer days (moving toward those 16 hour stretches of light), flowers, warmer temperatures, baseball games and the hiking trails becoming more available. This is also the time of year when I get an infusion of energy from my colleagues at national meetings. Not sure if it is just the longer days or the natural rhythm of the work we do, but I feel very **optimistic**.

I have two quotes to reflect the wonder of the season and my feelings about all the great COMSEP members I have had the pleasure of working with this year.

*Gratitude bestows reverence, allowing us to encounter everyday epiphanies, those transcendent moments of awe that change forever how we experience life and the world. --
John Milton*

"Life isn't about finding yourself. Life is about creating yourself." — George Bernard Shaw



Photo by Steve Cobert, MD

All the best,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Sherilyn Smith".

Sherilyn Smith, MD

COMSEP President, 2015-2017

COMSEP Members Hard at Work!

The Executive Committee has been working hard to advance the COMSEP strategic plan this past year. There will be more updates at the meeting, but here are a few things we have been focusing on with the help of many, many COMSEP members:

Member Engagement & Professional Development:

Provide support, resources and programs to enable every member to thrive

- Expanded welcoming program during the COMSEP 2017 meeting
- Expanded Mentoring Program
- Expanded the New Clerkship Director/COMSEP member workshop

Educational Excellence:

Develop and share exemplary resources and practices

- Curriculum Project Group (Revision of the Core COMSEP Curriculum)

Innovation and Scholarship:

Advance the science of medical education

- Increased support for the Grant Program

- **New preconference workshop about scholarship**

Collaboration & Leadership:

Work across professional organizations to lead, influence and guide pediatric and medical education Issues

- **APPD/COMSEP/AMSPDC collaborations**
- **MOC IV Project**
- **New preconference workshop on leadership**

Organizational Vibrancy:

Maintain the leadership, resources and governing documents for a sustainable Council

- **COMSEP Website refresh**
- **Meeting APP for COMSEP 2017**

Annual Meeting Update

Charting a Course to Competency: The Next Expedition

March 29-April 1, 2017

Hilton Portland and Executive Tower

921 SW Sixth Avenue

Portland, Oregon

MARCH 20th will be the last day to register for the COMSEP Annual Meeting!

[Register now for the 2017 COMSEP Annual Meeting](#)

[View the COMSEP Workshop Schedule here](#)

Other can't miss events:

- **Miller Sarkin Lecturer: Robert Englander, MD, MPH**
- **Expanded PreConference Workshops**
- **Dinner and Dancing at the Collaborative Life Sciences Building**
- **Networking, Networking, Networking!**

COMSEP GIVES BACK

COMSEP members will have the **opportunity to bring and donate their favorite book to the Children's Community Clinic's** Reach Out and Read Program (<http://www.reachoutandread.org>). Inspired by Dr. First's talk last year about giving back to your community, COMSEP is partnering with the **Children's Community Clinic** in Portland, OR, which began in 2005 and is part of the Coalition of Community Clinics. The clinic's mission is to provide high quality and compassionate healthcare to children, from birth to 21 years, of families who are underserved (uninsured and underinsured), regardless of ethnicity, geographic residency or ability to pay. We hope all attendees will participate.

COMSEP DINE AROUND

This year, COMSEP is excited to offer a Dine Around for Wednesday Evening. We know that the first night at a conference can be...well, awkward. You don't know who is there yet; it may be your first COMSEP Conference. And then there is dinner - where to go and who to go with! Don't worry, we are here to help! COMSEP has made reservations at a few local restaurants. Simply sign up for a restaurant reservation that you would like to attend. Then Wednesday night, everyone will meet in the lobby and go to dinner. This is a great way to meet new members and see some of Portland. Please note, COMSEP is NOT picking up the tab - only making the reservation! If needed, more restaurants will be added!

Sign-up here: <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080d45a5ac29abfd0-comsep>

Follow us on Twitter! #COMSEP2017

COMSEP Executive Office
6728 Old McLean Village Drive
McLean, VA 22101
Phone: (703) 556-9222
Fax: (703) 556-8729
Info@comsep.org www.comsep.org