ASSOCIATION OF MEDICAL SCHOOL PEDIATRIC DEPARTMENT CHAIRS, INC.

Bonita Stanton, MD
President
Professor and Schotanus Family Endowed Chair of Pediatrics
Carman and Ann Adams Department of Pediatrics
Wayne State University School of Medicine
3901 Beaubien Blvd, Suite 1K40
Detroit, Michigan, 48201
Phone (313) 745-5870
Fax: (313) 993-0390
E-mail: bstanton@dmc.org

6728 Old McLean Village Drive
McLean, VA 22101
Phone: (703) 556-9222
Fax: (703) 556-8729

www.AMSPDC.org
info@amspdc.org

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Dear Colleagues,

I look forward to seeing you all at our annual meeting of the Association of Medical School Pediatric Department Chairs, Inc. (AMSPDC). This meeting will take place from March 4th-8th, 2010 at the Grand Hyatt Tampa Bay in Tampa, Florida.

We are very excited about several aspects of this year's meeting including honoring Duane Alexander. Duane will be speaking on Friday afternoon to talk about his quarter century as the NICHD Director; we shall be thanking him for all that he has done for pediatrics at that evening's dinner. I so hope that you all can attend. Other aspects of the meeting include:

Thursday, March 4th:

As in past years, this year's meeting opens with a session for Pediatric Scientist Development Program (PSDP) and the Canadian Child Health Clinician Scientist Program (CCHCSP) trainees who will attend career development workshops. The PSDP operates under the aegis of AMSPDC with funding from NICHD, AAP, APS, the Hospital for Sick Children Foundation, the Paediatric Chairs of Canada, the March of Dimes, and St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. PSDP and CCHCSP enable pediatric fellows to undergo intensive research training with highly successful mentors in renowned research programs.

A dinner for PSDP fellows and members of the Steering Committee will conclude the day's events.

Friday, March 5th:

Those AMSPDC Chairs and their accompanying residents who have been invited to participate in this year's Frontiers in Science (FIS) program, will want to arrive in time for presentations by third-year PSDP fellows. Residents contemplating careers in research find these presentations particularly exciting because they see first-hand how PSDP training develops young pediatric physician-scientists. The application process for PSDP fellowship will be reviewed at this meeting.

As noted above, in addition to the FIS program, Duane Alexander, MD will be honored and will present a lecture describing highlights of his nearly quarter century as Director of the Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development.

The scientific program closes with posters presented by second-year PSDP fellows and CCHCSP fellows; scientific interchange with AMSPDC chairs and residents is a high point.

The evening concludes with a dinner that brings together PSDP fellows, FIS residents, and their sponsoring AMSPDC chairs. All other AMSPDC members who are interested in attending are welcome as we will be honoring Duane Alexander, MD.

Saturday, March 6th:

We will begin with breakfast meetings for the Chairs of Small Departments and Chairs of Large Departments to encourage discussion with chairs of departments with similar demographics. Lewis First has agreed to Chair the Meeting of the Chairs of Small Departments and Mark Batshaw will Chair the Meeting of the Chairs of Large Departments. Please send them any items you wish to discuss.

At noon, the women chairs will continue their tradition of having lunch together to discuss common issues and to act on projects of interest to them.

Frontiers in Science continues with an afternoon session devoted to research presented by faculty from different institutions. These presentations update chairs on new work that will impact us as academicians and gives PSDP fellows a chance to see other research horizons. Those chosen to speak are chosen not only for their science but also for their ability to tell the story.

The evening will include the President's Reception and the Frontiers in Science and PSDP Dinner. The President's Reception is for all attendees; however, the dinner is reserved for FIS residents and PSDP fellows invited to the meeting.

Sunday, March 7th:
This will be the first day of the AMSPDC meeting and plenary session. Sunday morning includes regional breakfasts designed to give chairs of specific geographic regions the chance to discuss issues of mutual interest in an informal setting.

Session One of the general meeting will address health care reform and feature a panel discussion and guest speakers, including Arthur Kellermann, MD, MPH, Associate Dean of Public Policy at Emory University. Dr. Kellermann will be providing members with an update on the state of healthcare reform. Session Two will address the challenges of productivity based compensation and include presentations by Elaine Gallagher and Jon Hayes of the AAAP and CFTE. We will also be hearing from AMSPDC members regarding compensation plans for both Large and Small Departments.

The evening will include a reception and dinner for members of AMSDPC and their guest.

Monday, March 8th:
We will continue Monday morning with Session Three, a discussion on the challenges to resident education. This session will include a presentation by APPD President Susan Guralnick.

Following these presentations, I will lead a discussion regarding AMSPDC's advocacy agenda for the next one to two years.

We are grateful to Alan Stiles and his Program Committee for arranging interesting and exciting sessions for the rest of us! Each year, this meeting proves to be a great opportunity to interact with our colleagues. We hope that you attend so that you may learn from and with your fellow pediatric department chairs. *Your attendance is what makes this meeting valuable.*

Please find the preliminary program of events attached. This program is subject to change.

I very much hope to see you in March!

Best Wishes,

Bonita Stanton

Bonita Stanton, MD
President, AMSPDC

Attachment

The FIS program is made possible in part by an unrestricted educational grant provided by Abbott Nutrition. Abbott Nutrition's support did not include input or influence over the content of the program.