Background and Overview
In response to a charge from the boards of both AMSPDC and AAAP, a group of three chairs (Stephen Daniels, Brent Polk and Hugh O’Brodovich) and three AAAP member-leaders (Erin Allen, Elaine Gallagher and Alison Marx) met in August 2014 to explore ways for the two groups to collaborate more closely.

In October, 2014, the AAAP and AMSPDC distributed a survey to identify potential topics for collaboration. The survey was completed by 51 chairs and 60 administrators. The identified priorities, each of which had at least 14 #1 survey votes included:

- effort definitions
- compensation methodology
- best practice compilation
- value-based health care

After reviewing the top priorities, the Steering Committee selected faculty effort as the first topic to be investigated. Workgroups were formed for each category of effort (clinical, teaching, administrative and research), with co-chairs appointed from each organization. Members from each group volunteered to serve on each of the workgroups. Co-Chairs included: Rob Lane, Beth Kalberg, Judy Aschner, Sandie Bolina, Bob Vinci, Patricia Segerson, Bruder Stapleton and Gail Cohen. General Members included: Michelle Barnett, Wesley Burks, Norman Christopher, Loretta Cordova de Ortega, Bryan Downey, Allison Eddy, Tina Gray, Michael Probst, Wade Clapp, Sherin Devaskar, Kerstin Hildebrandt, Liz McCarty, Robin Steinhorn, Rick Barr, Alicia Gacharna, David Ingram, Phil O’Brien, Teresa Welch, Jackie Burczyk, Steve Czinn, James Dimond, Steve Lipshultz, Teresa Quattrin, Tracey Wallace and George Weiss.

Framework for Project
In recognition of the diversity of institutions represented in both organizations, the Steering Committee charged the workgroups with offering some guidelines on each of the effort categories, rather than seeking consensus for definitions or funding approaches to faculty effort. The primary intent of the work was to test the model of bringing chairs and administrators together in a collaborative activity. Specifically, each workgroup was asked to identify key principles associated with effort definition in their category, and then to share their institutional practices with other workgroup members, identifying advantages and challenges associated with each approach. Finally, the workgroups identified unresolved issues or questions that may benefit from further consideration in a “phase II” project.

The preliminary summaries were shared with the AAAP membership at the May 2015 annual meeting. Subsequent to that meeting, the feedback of the AAAP members was incorporated into the summaries. In October of 2015, AMSPDC board members reviewed the documents and provided additional feedback.

Summary
The Steering Committee is pleased to present the membership of both organizations with the results of this work via this joint newsletter which we plan to share on each organization’s
website. In addition to sharing the results of these efforts, information on each of the participating team members is included, in an effort to further build a foundation for collaboration and communication. The Steering Committee looks forward to hearing suggestions and feedback from the membership of both organizations on future opportunities for shared initiatives and partnership.