

Fellows' Committee, NASPGHAN
Minutes
June 1, 2009

Location: Chicago, IL

Present:

Rebecca Cherry (Chair)
Christine Waasdorp
Jatinder Bhardwaj (Endoscopy Committee member)
Jose Garza
Michelle Sicard
Brigitte Moreau
Nikki Allmendinger
Sharon D'Mello
Samar Ibrahim
Kathy Schwarz, NASPGHAN President-Elect
Margaret Stalling, NASPGHAN Executive Director

Agenda:

1. Introductions
2. Disclosure of conflicts of interest
3. Action item review: Boards prep
 - Christine has been sending out prep questions every other week
 - Roughly 250 unanswered questions have been distributed to fellows to be answered
 - NEW – When the questions are compiled, they will be posted on the Fellows' webpage
 - NEW – it was agreed that we can release the questions “en bloc”
 - NEW – we would prefer that answers completed by fellows be vetted by faculty members before they are distributed, and there should be a disclaimer when we post them on the website that the questions and answers may not represent what is on the Boards.

 - Samar has been coordinating the composition of new questions based on the core content articles listed on the ABP website.
 - NEW – Around the time of the Boards, we will solicit feedback as to how helpful this strategy was.
 - NEW – Samar will start sending out reminder e-mails to fellows who volunteered to read articles and prepare questions.
 - NEW – Samar will add a short explanation at the beginning of each set of questions to clarify the point of the exercise and which article is being referred to.

 - NEW – There were suggestions for an on-line Board Review course, a new Board Review book, and for Board-Review sessions to be included in the 3rd Year Fellows' conference. Margaret is aware of these suggestions and will be looking into them with

us and with the Professional Education Committee. The possibility of a podcast of relevant articles is at this point in the purview of the Publications Committee.

- NEW – The question of a more-reduced fellows' subscription rate was raised. Unfortunately, that is not a possibility under the contract with our current publisher (to expire in 2012).

4. Action item review: Fellows' reception at the next national meeting

- We are requesting a combined business meeting/networking reception at the next annual meeting this coming November. Margaret and her staff will schedule and organize that activity for us.

5. Action item review: Selection of fellows for NASPGHAN committees

- Ryan Himes represented our committee at the first-year Fellows' meeting and Jose compiled the list of those fellows randomly selected for each committee (two first-year fellows per committee). Jose also notified all the fellows whether or not they were on a committee and invited all those who wished to be on a committee to join the Fellows' Committee. There is a range of popularity of the different committees.

- NEW – Next year, we will try to improve the process by putting a brief description of the role of each committee on the sign-up sheets. Jose has agreed to run the selection process again.

- NEW – It was noted that there are no fellows on the Publications Committee, and Margaret will inquire as to whether two fellows per year can join starting next year.

6. Action item review: Educate new fellows about NASPGHAN.

- Rebecca and Margaret will send out a welcome letter and a packet of information about NASPGHAN to all the new first-year fellows in July. We will continue to encourage people to use the fellows' listserv.

7. Action item review: Create new content for the Fellows' website.

- NEW – The list of Fellows' Committee members on the website is in the process of being updated.

- NEW – We will begin posting syllabi from the 1st and 2nd year conferences and abstracts from the 3rd year conference.

- NEW – We will request photos of each fellow, with contact information, to post on the site (for access to members only). Michelle will draft a list of the information and functionality that we would like to include.

- NEW – The minutes of Fellows' Committee meetings will also be posted on the website.

8. Action item review: Suggest content areas for web-based learning modules.

- These suggestions were made in January and we await feedback from the receiving committees.

9. Action item review: Create and coordinate a program for 2nd and 3rd year fellows to serve as mentors for 1st year fellows.

- Rebecca will follow up with Maria Perez about starting such a program, sometime after the first half of July.
- Suggestions included matches by academic interest and by geographic region.

The meeting was then adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Rebecca Cherry, M.D.