

Call for Bishop Society Applications

STFM announces its 2026 call for Bishop Society members. The Bishop Society is a community of experienced senior leaders in STFM and is intended to recognize senior leaders in academic family medicine, to provide a forum for them to interact with one another, and to contribute to STFM's mission.

Goals of the Bishop Society

1. To recognize and honor STFM members who have made distinguished career contributions to academic family medicine.
2. To create a forum for these leaders to interact and communicate with one another.
3. To encourage senior leaders to remain actively involved in STFM even for those who have assumed leadership roles outside of the discipline.
4. To create a resource for mentorship and leadership training for STFM members.
5. To create a resource for counsel and advice for STFM leaders.
6. To work on projects and activities at the request of STFM leaders.

Activities of the Bishop Society

The Bishop Society will serve as a resource to STFM and the community of academic family medicine. The Society will sponsor an annual Bishop Lecture at each STFM Annual Spring Conference to discuss current challenges facing our discipline. Other examples of how the Bishop Society members may contribute include:

- Speakers for STFM fellowship programs
- Developers of leadership sessions at conferences
- Coaches for STFM leadership programs and activities
- Advisors to STFM leadership on issues of relevance to academic medicine

The criteria for membership are:

- Bishop Society members must be current STFM members.
- Bishop Society members should be mid- and senior-career faculty who have made outstanding contributions to our discipline over the course of their careers.
- Bishop Society members must be willing to support the ongoing mission of STFM as advisors or mentors and will encourage membership in STFM and attendance at STFM meetings.

To self-nominate, please send the following materials to Molly Roudebush, STFM Director of Communications & Engagement, by August 31, 2026. Please email mroudebush@stfm.org:

- The name, address, email address, photo, and bio sketch, and CV.
- A one-page letter explaining why you are interested in being a Bishop Society member and your agreement to support the ongoing mission of STFM.

The Bishop Society and the STFM Nominations Committee will review all nominations and select up to five new Bishop Society members. Nominees not selected will be reconsidered every year for 3 years after the nomination, so some people might be selected even if they are not chosen on the first pass. The new Bishop Society members will be announced in November.

Factors used to select new Bishop Society members include:

- STFM members interested in promoting the mission of STFM and acting as mentors and consultants to other STFM members.
- STFM members who have made significant contributions to family medicine education over time.
- STFM members who have held multiple leadership positions within and outside family medicine.