



CAFAM REPORT TO THE FAMILY MEDICINE LEADERSHIP CONSORTIUM (FMLC) August 2024

CAFAM has met twice since the February FMLC Meeting – in April and in June. Below are updates from those meetings.

UPDATES TO CAFAM CHAIR MODEL

In 2019, CAFAM moved to a rotating Chair structure. Each of the four organizations are tasked with selecting a member or members of their leadership (typically the President or Past President) to serve as Chair. Since then, the organization has also had the opportunity to split the role for the year allotted to them between two members of their leadership. As of April, AFMRD President Sarah Z. Cole, DO, is serving as Chair.

In February 2024, CAFAM revisited this process and discussed whether it needed to be updated. After reviewing several different models over the last few months, CAFAM is hoping to finalize at their August meeting a new process for selecting the chair (below).

The CAFAM chair role runs from October to October and is chosen by the organization in an annual rotation empowered to select the chair. Organizations will have **one CAFM chair** per organization per year to minimize onboarding a new chair.

This looks very similar to the past process, however, instead of allowing organizations to split the role between two members while they have the role for a year, they will need to select one chair. The other stipulations to this include: 1) the person selected must be a current or past member of CAFM to minimize onboarding 2) we will introduce a chair elect role to help with continuity.

CAFAM also has reinstated a past practice of holding **orientations for new members**. The goal is to allow members to orient themselves to CAFAM before joining a meeting and ask any questions they have. Ideally these will be held twice a year in the spring and fall, or as needed.

ESTABLISHING AN HONORIFIC AWARD FOR OUR MIDDLE-CAREER ACADEMICS

CAFAM has continued to explore establishing an honorific award for mid-to-late career academics. Primarily they have focused on exploring whether there's any synergy with this effort and the STFM Bishop Society. After several conversations with STFM, ADFM and the Bishop Society, the Bishop Society decided not to expand its focus at this time and so CAFAM will not move forward with that idea. Additionally, the 2024 ADFM Annual Survey included questions around whether or not department chairs think their institution would value this type of honorific (of the 88 (98.8%) respondents who completed the survey, 73 (83%) chose "true") and if they would promote it and nominate their faculty



(of the 88 (98.8%) respondents who completed the survey, 80 (90.1%) chose “true”). As the possibility of a joint effort looks less likely, ADFM is exploring this opportunity with its Executive Committee.

NEW STRATEGIC AIMS

In February CAFM reviewed and updated its ways of operating and process documents (found on [their website](#) near the bottom). After the documents were finalized, CAFM moved to reinstate a past practice of drafting strategic aims for the next few years. This began with a poll in which members identified 1-2 areas of focus and then everyone voted on their top 2 areas of focus. CAFM spent the April and June meeting reviewing the results and deciding on next steps. Ultimately, they decided on developing strategic efforts on AI and education. They plan to hear more concrete examples and hopefully finalize a direction at the August meeting.

CAFM GOVERNMENT RELATIONS

THC funding

Congress did include an extender through the end of Dec 2024 and increased the baseline number to 164 million. Hoping for another bill or opportunity to pass legislation. In addition to new funding, there is a carry-forward provision that permits HRSA to use its unobligated balance, which is believed to be around \$75 million. Since October 2023, three CRs have appropriated \$55 million to the THCGME program.

DEI toolkit

Last year, organizations addressing the emerging anti-DEI legislation got together to create a toolkit. It is almost ready to go live and will include resources like a letter template and talking points for meeting with the legislature. The [online DEI toolkit](#) is live as of May 2024.

Voter voice

The Director of Government Affairs looked into a subscription with Voter Voice earlier this year. Briefly it would allow CAFM to send newsletters and create advocacy campaigns on our websites. It would involve more templated outreach; we’d be able to track bills and could notify community members. This would be available to all members of CAFM. It would be accessed by Nina through STFM. The contract has been signed, subscription started on June 28, 2024.