

## Council of Academic Societies

The Council of Academic Societies (CAS) is one of three governing councils of the AAMC, along with the Council of Deans (COD) and the Council of Teaching Hospitals and Health Systems (COTH). The CAS is presently comprised of 94 academic societies devoted to biomedical and behavioral research, medical education, and patient care. The collective membership of the CAS societies include essentially all faculty members and scientists in American medical schools engaged in life sciences research, research training, and medical education. The CAS, though diverse in membership, is a powerful forum for discussing and exchanging information of common interest to medical school faculty and for evaluating and recommending policy initiatives to the association.

The CAS Administrative Board spent considerable effort this year developing the *CAS Initiative to Highlight Faculty Innovations*. Anticipated project outcomes include: 1) The identification, consideration, and dissemination of innovations that address issues of concern to faculty and other institutional leaders; 2) The engagement of a broad spectrum of faculty in CAS-led leadership activities; 3) Creation of a cohort of faculty members more engaged in promoting change and innovation at their institutions; and 4) internal and external recognition of the CAS as a productive catalyst for innovation.

The theme of the 2010 *CAS Spring Meeting*, hosted by CAS and the organization of Resident Representatives (ORR), held March 4-6, 2010 in Austin, Texas was “The Role of Faculty Leaders in Aligning Priorities, Perceptions, and Missions.” A summary of the meeting was posted to the AAHSL listserv in mid April. The 2011 Spring Meeting is scheduled for March 3-5, 2011 - The Westin Providence- Providence, R.I.

The CAS sponsored four *sessions at the AAMC Annual Meeting*, November 5-10, 2010 in Washington, DC. These included: “Balancing an Academic Career in Medicine and Family Responsibilities: Can it be Done?”, “Advancing Values While Advancing Research; Educating new Scientists”, “Reconsidering ‘Scholarship Reconsidered’”, and “Scientific Exchange: At the Interface of Academic Societies, Continuing Medical Education, and Industry”. In addition, the CAS held its Business Meeting and Luncheon on Monday, November 8, 2010 from 12:00 – 2:00pm.

“*Leadership News and Items of Possible Interest*” is regularly provided to CAS representatives and forwarded to the AAHSL listserv. Reaction to these postings continues to be highly positive.

AAHSL representatives work closely with Tony Mazzaschi, AAMC Senior Director, Scientific Affairs. Mr. Mazzaschi is also an AAMC representative to the Chicago Collaborative.

Respectfully submitted, CAS Representatives,  
Logan Ludwig, PhD, Associate Dean  
Loyola University Stritch School of Medicine

Gary D. Byrd, PhD, Director, Health Sciences Library  
University of Buffalo (SUNY)