

## Student Forum & Leadership Positions

The Student Forum helps plan the Student Retreat, encourages student participation in OAFP and selects the medical student representatives to the OAFP Board of Directors and the OAFP Members Assembly.

### Membership:

All medical student members of the Academy receive communications relative to medical student and Student Forum activities via listserv and are considered to be members of the Student Forum. Student members not interested in receiving listserv communications will be removed from the listserv upon request. The forum elects its own chair (at the Student Retreat), who serves a one year term. Details regarding the chair position (position responsibilities as well as criteria for being eligible to run for chair) have been set by the forum and are available upon request from the OAFP office. The chair also serves as the student member of the OAFP Board, with full voting privileges.

A family physician advisor who is appointed by the OAFP president, a board liaison, and an OAFP staff person also serve as non-voting members of the forum. The board liaison is appointed by the president, with the consent and approval of the Executive Committee, for the purpose of providing a link between the forum and the OAFP board. The president serves as an ex officio member of the forum.

### Meetings:

The Student Forum holds one in-person meeting during the Student Retreat (spring) for the purpose of electing leadership for the coming academic year. Beyond that one in-person meeting, the forum will conduct its business primarily through electronic communication; conference calls can be arranged and are held at the discretion of the chair if the need arises.

Students maintain a listserv ([oh\\_fpstu@lyris.aafp.org](mailto:oh_fpstu@lyris.aafp.org)) to facilitate discussion among OAFP medical student members.

### Responsibilities:

The purpose of the Student Forum is:

- To fulfill any charge given to the forum by the board of directors relative to the Academy's mission, strategic plan or Members Assembly referral
- To facilitate interaction between students from Ohio's medical schools for the pursuit of excellence in medical education, assurance of student well-being, and the promotion of family medicine as a discipline in the State of Ohio.
- To plan the annual Student Retreat; the Retreat being designed to provide students from all Ohio medical schools the opportunity to interact and gain exposure to family physicians, family medicine and topics not typically covered in medical school
- To identify candidates interested in serving as OAFP student representatives to the AAFP National Conference of Family Medicine Resident and Medical Student Members (NCFMR/NCSM) meeting held annually in Kansas City in late July or early August. The OAFP Foundation provides scholarships for the two medical student representatives to attend

NCFMR/NCSM and selects those representatives from the candidates who apply. One of the representatives is designated as delegate and the other is designated as the alternate delegate. The voting delegate, with input from the alternate delegate, is responsible for voting upon issues discussed in the Congress and candidates for national offices. Candidates for student representative to NCFMR/NCSM must have participated in one OAFP activity prior to being elected, must be OAFP and AAFP members in good standing, and must submit materials to the OAFP Foundation to include a current CV (not to exceed 2 pages) and a statement of interest. Self-nominations are accepted and encouraged.

- To elect annually an OAFP student member to serve as chair of the Student Forum for the upcoming OAFP year (see eligibility requirements listed below). The elected Student Forum chair will also serve as a full voting member of the OAFP Board of Directors for that year. Sometimes the Student Forum has selected co-chairs or a chair and vice chair to lead the Student Forum; in that case both co-chairs or the chair and vice chair are invited to attend OAFP board meetings but have only one vote between them. In some instances, the forum has elected a vice chair with the intent that the vice chair become the chair the following year.
- To select five OAFP student members to represent student members of the OAFP at the Members Assembly. Delegates who are responsible for attending the OAFP Members Assembly, participating in reference committee work, listening to discussion on all issues presented, and voting on resolutions and recommendations as they are presented to the Assembly. Student delegates to the Members Assembly participate fully in all aspects of Members Assembly proceedings.

**Elected Leadership Positions of the Student Forum** – election of Student Forum chair will take place during the Student Retreat held in the spring; terms for all positions start immediately upon election (the student representative to the OAFP board is expected to attend the first OAFP Board of Directors meeting held following the Student Retreat.)

The responsibilities of the chair include:

- Serves as the student representative to the OAFP Board of Directors to report on any Student Forum activities and to provide a student perspective to board issues; this involves attending four board meetings in Columbus each year.
- Coordinates, prepares agendas, and leads any conference call meetings of the Student Forum.

Eligibility requirements to run for chair, chair/vice-chair or co-chair of the Student Forum include:

- Must have participated in one OAFP activity prior to being elected
- Must be an OAFP member to participate in nominations or elections
- Self-nominations are accepted
- Candidates must be prepared to give a biographical overview of their qualifications and state their reasons for being interested in the position at the Student Retreat prior to elections; if a candidate is unable to attend the retreat, they should submit materials to include a CV (two page maximum) and a one page letter of interest which will be presented in their behalf prior to elections.

Delegates to OAFP Members Assembly (5 selected annually for one year term) – responsibilities to include:

- Represents medical student members at the OAFP Members Assembly
- Participates fully in OAFP Members Assembly proceedings

- Involvement in the Student Forum is strongly encouraged

Eligibility requirements to run for position of delegate to the OAFP Members Assembly:

- Must be an OAFP member
- Self-nominations are accepted