Greetings!
Enclosed you’ll find news updates, resources, and highlights of our global efforts to improve health care worldwide.

New Advanced Specialty Applications Now Available

We know many programs are working toward a site visit this fall. We have reorganized the application form, and want you to use this correct new one, as it will help with our interpretation of your program and its effectiveness.

Revised Advanced Specialty Application Forms are now on the ACGME-I website. Each revised application can be found on the applicable specialty page. Specialty pages can be accessed here. All applications for Initial Accreditation and Continued Accreditation will be revised prior to 01 October. The first round of revisions to be posted are for the following specialties and subspecialties:

- Anesthesiology
- Cardiovascular Disease
- Diagnostic Radiology
- Endocrinology, Diabetes and Metabolism
- General Surgery
- Internal Medicine
- Neonatology
- Neurology
- Ophthalmology
- Otolaryngology
- Preventive Medicine
- Psychiatry
- Renal Medicine

Question of the Quarter

Each quarter, this section of the ACGME-I newsletter answers a different Frequently Asked Question (FAQ) applicable to all ACGME-I-accredited programs. This quarter’s question has to do with the requirement for faculty scholarly activity.

Programs may not accurately report faculty scholarship data in the Accreditation Data Systems (ADS). Some examples of common errors include missing dates of publications and listing publications or presentations older than the five years requested. In general, the Review Committees-International will consider an activity as scholarship if new information is disseminated at a regional, national, or international level, and if the activity is beyond the faculty member’s job responsibilities.
Programs that will have site visits in Fall 2016 should use these new Advanced Specialty Application Forms, which have been converted into electronic format to make them easier for programs to complete and for reviewers to access information.

Many of you are aware of the revision process for the Requirements, and that such a process was just completed for the following specialties:

- Emergency Medicine
- Family Medicine
- Obstetrics and Gynecology
- Pathology
- Pediatrics

Revised Advanced Specialty Program Requirements in these specialties will become effective 01 July 2017.

Programs in these specialties that will have site visits in Fall 2016 can choose which Advanced Specialty application form best suits their needs. If the revised Requirements are better suited to your educational program, use the Advanced Specialty application materials that are effective 01 July 2017. Conversely, you may use the current application materials if those better suit what the program is now doing. Both the Advanced Specialty Program Requirements and the application forms currently in effect and those that will be effective 01 July 2017 are available on the specialty pages on the ACGME-I website. All specialty pages can be accessed here.

We appreciate the complexity of these changes, and encourage programs to contact Review Committee-International Executive Director Lori Lewis (llewis@acgme-i.org) with any questions on the forms or about the Advanced Specialty Requirements.

Attendance at meetings does not count if the faculty member does not present new information, such as in a workshop or poster presentation. Presenting at a journal club to fellows does not count if it is within the faculty member's regular teaching responsibilities. Serving on a quality improvement committee does not count if the committee discusses issues at the departmental level only.

All FAQs related to the International Foundational Program Requirements are available here.

Question:
What are the requirements for scholarly activity for core faculty members?
[International Foundational Program Requirement, II.B.3.d).(2)]

Answer:
Core faculty members must demonstrate productivity through at least one piece of scholarly activity per year averaged over five years. Scholarly activity includes receiving peer-reviewed funding; authorship of original research or review articles, chapters in textbooks, or case reports; presentation of peer-reviewed educational seminars or clinical series at local, regional, national, or international professional and scientific society meetings; or, participation in national or international committees or educational organizations.

Scholarship is not limited to basic or clinical science, and can be in the areas of patient safety, quality improvement initiatives, or educational innovation. Faculty scholarship must be disseminated. Publications must be within five years. 'In press' articles/chapters and attendance by a faculty member at a national or scientific meeting without dissemination of the results of the scholarship does not qualify as fulfilling the requirements for scholarly activity.
Review Committees-International Reorganized

The 20-23 July 2016 Review Committee-International meeting will mark a turning point for ACGME-I. The changes described below are a consequence of the growth of the number of programs, the desire to increase the representation of international members on the Committee, and the desire to expand the specialties represented on the Committee to provide "content expertise" in more areas.

The first change is the addition of a second Review Committee, with division by specialties. One committee will review programs in the medicine-related specialties, including family medicine, internal medicine and internal medicine subspecialties, neurology, pediatrics and psychiatry. The other will review programs in the surgical and hospital-based specialties, including anesthesiology, emergency medicine, general surgery, obstetrics and gynecology, ophthalmology, orthopedic surgery and radiology.

The new reviewers, who bring a wealth of expertise across a broad range of specialties, were selected from medical education leadership of ACGME-I-accredited programs. An additional group of new members includes past leaders in ACGME accreditation in the U.S. For 2016, all new members will be paired with current members for program and Sponsoring Institution reviews to ensure that the quality of the accreditation process is maintained at the highest standard possible.

The 2016 Review Committees-International members are:

Medical Program Review Committee
- Sophia Archuleta, National University Health System, Singapore - Internal Medicine
- James Arrighi, Rhode Island Hospital/Brown Medical School, U.S. - Internal Medicine
- Maha Al Fahim, Shiekh Khalifa Medical City, Abu Dhabi - Family Medicine
- Timothy Brigham, ACGME, U.S.
- Sally Chih Wei Ho, Singapore Health, Singapore - Family Medicine
- Halah Ibrahim, New York University, Abu Dhabi - Internal Medicine
- Mary Lieh-Lai, ACGME, U.S. - Pediatrics
- Steven Ludwig, Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, U.S. - Pediatrics
- Sandra G.B. Sexson, Medical College of Georgia, U.S. - Psychiatry
The Review Committees-International review all Initial and Continued Accreditation applications for residency and fellowship programs and Sponsoring Institutions, as well as mock site visit reports, progress reports, requests for permanent increases in resident complement and other major changes in programs and/or Sponsoring Institutions. The Committees also consider all public comments related to posted revisions in ACGME-I Foundational, Institutional and Advanced Specialty Program Requirements in determining the final versions of these documents. Finally, the Committees periodically review ACGME-I policies and procedures and advise staff on matters related to accreditation of international graduate medical education.

Each member of the Review Committees-International must abide by ACGME-I policies on conflict and duality of interest. No member reviews programs from his or her own institution or from any program or Sponsoring Institution at which he or she has an actual, apparent or potential conflict of interest. Members do not participate in or hear discussion related to any matter, including accreditation reviews and policy discussions, with which they have such a conflict.

The Review Committees-International meet twice a year, generally in June or July and December. Following July 2016, the next meeting will be held 8-10 December 2016, and will include review of programs with site visits taking place in Fall 2016.

Learning Opportunities!

Our growing international community has been very responsive to the need for ongoing training about graduate medical education. Whether it be the importance of meaningful evaluations, the need for cultural sensitivity, or the reasoning behind the Milestones, there is just as much of a need to keep pace with educational rationales and effectiveness as there is with our own specialties' updates in clinical practice.

International participation in the large ACGME Annual Educational Conference has grown dramatically over the past years. Last year, over 100 international registrants learned about
challenges and rewards of international accreditation, the work of the Review Committees-International, and the increasing presence of globalization forces in medical education. In 2017 the ACGME Annual Education Conference will be 9 to 12 March at the Rosen Shingle Creek Resort in Orlando, Florida. We will again feature an international track to complement the many general sessions. Also, ACGME-I is in the planning phase for its own conference for the international audience within the next two years.

In January 2017, ACGME-I will participate in a hybrid approach, joining forces with the Singapore graduate medical education community at the Asia Pacific Medical Education Conference (APMEC). Plenary talks, symposia and panel discussions will feature ACGME and ACGME-I representatives, including Drs. Thomas Nasca, Timothy Brigham, Eric Holmboe, Kevin Weiss and Susan Day in topics pertinent to all, including the Milestones, patient safety, promoting leadership in graduate medical education and the role of accreditation in improving population health care.

**Save the dates of 11-15 January 2017 in Singapore. We hope to see you there!**