Greetings!

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

Congratulations to 2021 International Award Winners

The ACGME-I congratulates this year’s ACGME International Award Honorees. ACGME-I International Awards recognize individuals who have been instrumental in pursuing and implementing a transition in their respective institutions to ACGME-I accreditation, and who have achieved excellence in leading, teaching, mentoring, and providing service to the educational process. This year’s winners have made significant contributions to graduate medical education at their respective institutions.

Physician Leader Award:
Dr. Faith Chia

Dr. Chia is the designated institutional official for the National Healthcare Group (NHG) in Singapore, a position she has held since 2018. Previously, she served as the program director for the internal medicine residency at NHG. Dr. Chia has pioneered a ‘Medicine in Community’ elective program, has led efforts to pilot the ACGME-I Self-Study process, and initiated a COVID-19 MVP award for residents. In recognition of her strong, collaborative, and professional leadership, ACGME-I awards the Physician Leader Award to Dr. Chia. Congratulations!

Physician Educator Award:
Dr. Llewellyn Lee

Dr. Lee has been program director for the ophthalmology residency at NHG in Singapore since 2010, and as such was responsible for the redesign of the residency to meet ACGME-I requirements. His program has been consistently recognized for the Questions of the Quarter

Each quarter, this section of the ACGME-I Newsletter answers different questions applicable to all ACGME-I-accredited programs. This quarter’s focus is on how to meet new Foundational requirements for faculty development.

Question: What are the ACGME-I requirements for faculty development?

Answer: The ACGME-I Foundational Requirements indicate that faculty members must participate in faculty development programs designed to enhance the effectiveness of their teaching [Foundational Requirement II.B.3.e) for residencies and II.B.2.h) for fellowships]. The intent is that this faculty development occurs at least annually and is tailored to meet the needs of busy faculty members. The Foundational Requirements also indicate that the Program Evaluation Committee (PEC) must review faculty development activities as part of its annual review of the program [Foundational Requirement V.D.1.b) for residencies and fellowships].

Question: What are some ways to provide faculty development programs on teaching? What should be included in these sessions?

Answer: There is no one way to deliver faculty development on teaching effectiveness.
The residency was also one of the first in Singapore to conduct an ACGME-I Self-Study and his effort will serve as a template for all programs in Singapore.

In recognition of his professionalism, and his humanistic mentoring of learners at all levels, ACGME-I congratulates Dr. Lee as this year’s winner of the Physician Educator Award.

**International Staff Award:**

**Rania Jaber**

Ms. Jaber is the graduate medical education coordinator/manager for American University of Beirut (AUB) in Lebanon. Ms. Jaber began her career at AUB as the coordinator for the internal medicine residency, and when the institution sought ACGME-I Sponsoring Institution accreditation, it was clear that Ms. Jaber should lead the administrative team to achieve that goal. She has trained numerous coordinators and program directors on ACGME-I accreditation and has been key in the achievement of ACGME-I accreditation for all 23 programs at AUB.

In recognition of her intelligence, hard work, and skill in advocating for quality GME, ACGME-I awards Rania Jaber the International Staff Award. Congratulations!

**2022 Awards**

Nominations are now open for 2022 ACGME International Awards. Look for the nomination forms at acgme-i.org and consider nominating your institution’s excellent physician leaders, educators, and administrators. Winners will be honored at the February 2022 Annual Education Conference in Development opportunities can be provided at the institutional or departmental level, or faculty members can be encouraged to attend conferences that focus on teaching and learning. Sessions designed to enhance the effectiveness of teaching should be interactive to engage faculty members, provide opportunities for them to practice new ideas and techniques, and allow time for reflection and discussion with colleagues. Providing assignments prior to the session, using case studies, role play, and simulation are all techniques that will actively involve faculty members.

Adults learn best from each other and when the topic is one that is important to them. Faculty development should incorporate discussion, collaboration, and problem solving. Faculty members should take an active role in determining topics based on common issues or difficult teaching situations. ACGME-I has many resources to help with faculty and staff development.

ACGME-I’s learning portal, **EXPLORE**, has been designed to help programs and institutions provide faculty and staff development through distance education. The site now offers a variety of videos on topics ranging from competency assessment, developing effective remediation activities, and recognizing resident/fellow and faculty member burnout. There is also a set of three videos, “Introduction to ACGME-I Accreditation,” that can be used to orient new faculty and staff members on topics such as the basics of accreditation, how to maintain accreditation, and use of ACGME-I’s Accreditation Data System (ADS). Resources in EXPLORE are free to all faculty and staff members in ACGME-I-accredited programs, and new content is added regularly.
Review Committee-International News:  
Comment Period Open for Internal Medicine Requirements

At its January 2021 meetings, the Review Committees-International awarded Initial Accreditation to eight new programs and three new Sponsoring Institutions. ACGME-I now accredits 164 residency/fellowship programs and 19 Sponsoring Institutions in nine countries.

As part of the regular review and revision of requirements, the Review Committee-International is now requesting comments on the Advanced Specialty Requirements in Internal Medicine. Designated institutional officials, program directors, faculty members, residents, and fellows are encouraged to provide feedback on areas in the current Advanced Specialty Requirements for Internal Medicine that need review, and to provide suggestions for revisions needed to best reflect the practice of internal medicine in the future. Comments will be accepted until 30 April. The current Internal Medicine Advanced Specialty Requirements, directions, and a feedback form are on the ACGME-I website, available [here](#). The Review Committee-International will consider all comments received in drafting its proposed revision to the Requirements. The proposed revised Requirements will be on the ACGME-I website in fall 2021 for additional comments prior to their final approval. It is envisioned that revised Advanced Specialty Requirements in Internal Medicine will be effective 1 July 2022.

ACGME-I Board News:  
New and Revised Requirements Approved

The ACGME-I Board of Directors, complete with international representation meets three times a year. Its responsibilities for oversight of accreditation activities includes review of all Requirements prior to implementation, approval of the Manual of Policies and Procedures, and monitoring of Review Committee-International actions to ensure consistent deliberations, validation processes, and patient-centered requirements. Dr. Thomas J. Nasca serves as Chair, and Dr. Kamal Badr has been elected as Vice Chair. Finally, the selection of the International Awards has been transferred from the Awards Committee of the ACGME Board to the privilege and responsibility of the ACGME-I Board.

At the February 2021 meeting, the Board approved a major revision of the requirements for Sponsoring Institutions, and new Advanced Specialty Requirements for fellowships in Pediatric Anesthesiology, Pediatric Emergency Medicine, Pediatric Orthopaedic Surgery, and Pediatric Urology. The revised requirements for Sponsoring Institutions will be effective on 1 July 2021. The new fellowship requirements are effective immediately. These requirements and application forms will be posted soon on the Sponsoring Institution page and on the specialty pages at acgme-i.org.

Aga Khan University, Nairobi  
Aga Khan University, Karachi
Did you know?

1. Three new Sponsoring Institutions were granted Initial Accreditation at the January 2021 Review Committee-International meeting. Welcome to:
   - Aga Khan University – Karachi, Pakistan
   - Aga Khan University – Nairobi, Kenya
   - Zayed Military Hospital – Abu Dhabi, UAE

2. ACGME-I Resident and Faculty Surveys will be available from 15 March through 18 April. The surveys will again include well-being questions. Well-being questions are not available for the Review Committee-International to use in reviewing programs, but the aggregated data can be used by programs and institutions to provide information on faculty and resident well-being. Note that surveys are required for 2021, and programs must have at least a 70 percent response rate in order for programs to be sent the aggregate results.

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