



Medical Student Section *Bulletin*

Winter 2012

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Welcome to the inaugural Illinois State Medical Society Medical Student Section *Bulletin*, providing a snapshot of what *your* ISMS MSS governing council is up to, featuring topics centered on policy, education and recruitment, and service. We'll also highlight activities and initiatives from our Illinois local school MSS chapters several times throughout the year.

The ISMS MSS governing council is comprised of a delegate and alternate delegate from each allopathic and osteopathic school in Illinois, a student representative on ISMS council and committees (physician led) as well as an executive committee. Delegates and alternates also represent their school at the AMA MSS meetings.

If you're not already an ISMS member, we invite you to [learn more and join us!](#)

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POLICY

Message from your Delegate to the ISMS House of Delegates

By Tokoya Williams, University of Illinois COM, Chicago

Hot Topic

When the Nurse Wants to Be Called "Doctor"

Article Summary/Key Points, Oct. 1, 2011, *New York Times*

- Over the past year, thousands of nurses have returned to school to earn a doctorate degree in nursing. The result is a quiet battle over not only the title "doctor," but also the money, power and prestige that often comes with it.
- For nurses, getting doctorates can help them land a top administrative job at a hospital, improve their standing at a university and win them more respect from colleagues and patients. But so far, the new degrees have not brought higher fees from insurers for seeing patients or greater authority from states to prescribe medicines.
- Many physicians are suspicious and say that once tens of thousands of nurses have doctorates, they will invariably seek more prescribing authority and more money.
- There is real concern among physicians that the use of the word "doctor" will not be clear to patients.
- Physicians and their allies are pushing legislative efforts to restrict who may use the title of doctor. A bill proposed in the New York State Senate would bar nurses from advertising themselves as doctors, no matter their degree. Laws already in effect in Arizona, Delaware and other states forbid nurses, pharmacists and others to use the title "doctor" unless they immediately identify their profession.
- As demand for health care services has grown, nurse practitioners and physician assistants

have become increasingly important care providers, particularly in rural areas. Twenty-three states allow nurses to practice without a physician's supervision or collaboration, and most are in the mountain West and northern New England, areas that have trouble attracting physicians.

- Not all physicians are willing to surrender the traditional understanding that they should be the ones to lead the team. Their training is so extensive, physicians argue, that they alone should diagnose illnesses.

Featured Chapter: Southern Illinois University, Springfield "Welcome to Organized Medicine"

By Shalini Bhattacharya, SIU SOM, Springfield; Secretary, ISMS MSS

To de-mystify the concept of organized medicine, the Chapter at SIU SOM organized "Welcome to Organized Medicine" event. Guest speakers Dr. Gayle Woodson (ENT) and Dr. Craig Backs (Internist), physician leaders from the Sangamon County Medical Society and ISMS, explained what organized medicine is and how we can be involved. Dr. Woodson is the current president of the Sangamon County Medical Society and the past president of the American Laryngological Association. Dr. Backs is the chairman of the ISMS Board of Trustees. The event was held at Dublin Pub in Springfield.

Both physicians did a wonderful job describing how they got involved in organized medicine, their roles, how they juggle all of their responsibilities, and why it is important for students to be involved. The event was a great platform for discussion, and students said they came away with a better understanding about what medical policy entails. Students also got excited about an upcoming debate- formatted policy seminar. We hope to invite a few ISMS representatives who will educate medical students how to make an informed analysis of resolutions submitted to the ISMS House of Delegates annual meeting in April 2012.

EDUCATION & RECRUITMENT

Featured Chapter: Rush Medical College "Amazing Race"

*By Katy March, Delegate; and
Nathan Frogge, Alternate*

The RU Amazing Race was hosted by the Rush AMA Chapter as part of the new student orientation week for incoming M1s. M1s paired up in teams of six and were assigned one M2 member for their group.

On the day of the event, each team was given a Chicago Transit Authority map and the rules and clues to five places. Some teams deciphered the clues before heading out from Rush and others did it along the way. Teams raced across the city taking pictures and documenting their destinations. The only form of transportation allowed was the Chicago CTA, which allowed students to get familiar with their newly minted UPass. Local Chicago destinations included the "Bean," the Marilyn Monroe statue on Michigan Avenue, the Water Tower which survived the Chicago fire of 1871, the large phone booth on Milwaukee, and Wiener Circle, a north side hot dog joint. The race finished at Happy Village, a bar in the Wicker Park area. The first team to arrive at Happy Village received gift cards to Subway. We enjoyed food and had a great time socializing.

Although we could not sign students up for ISMS/CMS/AMA until the activities fair (held in early September) due to school policy, it was an excellent way of recruiting. Overall the event was a great success. Rush Chapter members did a great job publicizing the event, and shared event information on their Facebook pages. The only thing that may have made it better would have been if it wasn't raining, although it was a motivating factor to finish quickly.

SERVICE

Featured Chapter: University of Illinois COM, Rockford "Intubation and IV Catheter Placement"

*By Jennette Hansen, Delegate; and
Rachel Maurer, Alternate*

We hosted an event that gave students an opportunity to learn intubation and IV placement from a veteran paramedic. We then practiced the new skills on mannequins - and one another.

Our instructor, first introduced to us by a mandatory CPR class organized by our College of Medicine, and has been practicing and teaching emergency medicine for many years and has a lively and engaging teaching style. We approached him about teaching other emergency medicine techniques, specifically intubation and IV placement, and he was ready and willing to teach a workshop.

After this initial contact we worked on the details; how much his teaching fee would be, who would supply the materials (he did), set-up a good location to have the workshop that would be convenient for students and allow sufficient work space, contacted the administration to determine the right process to make reimbursement easy, and designed our promotion of the event. The program was organized before the first recruiting event, so we were able to promote recruitment by highlighting the event as members only.

The event took place on two consecutive Mondays to prevent overcrowding, and a few students with little clinical experience were able to attend both workshops to get more instruction and practice. Recruitment/promotional information was available with funding provided from the AMA chapter involvement grant program.

OF SPECIAL INTEREST

Dates to note and links to more info

Upcoming Meeting

Who: ISMS MSS Governing Council
When: Saturday, Feb. 25, Noon
Where: ISMS, 20 N. Michigan Ave., Chicago
Contact: mss@isms.org

[2011 Update on ISMS Activity in Illinois General Assembly](#)

[Illinois New Physician Workforce Study](#)

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