

ISMS COUNCIL & COMMITTEE DESCRIPTIONS

ISMS Medical Student Section Representative Responsibilities and Purposes

Council on Membership and Advocacy

Aggressively develops and pursues marketing strategies and programs designed to retain existing members and promote recruitment of new members. Promotes membership value through continued development and enhancement of member resources, services and benefits.

Council on Communications

Oversees and actively participates in outreach and communications activities, assuring ongoing communications with members on a timely basis, via a diverse array of communications vehicles and formats. Continually seeks new channels of information distribution for important messages. Also works to build visibility and awareness of membership value at the grassroots level.

Council on Economics

Considers issues that involve ongoing relationships with third party payers and health care cost and utilization review activities. Deals with all physician-related Medicare and Medicaid issues, credentialing issues, and issues that affect private utilization review practices and concerns. Also responsible for liaison with the Illinois Peer Review Organization (PRO) and the Medicaid inpatient review contractor. Meets regularly with PRO representatives and staff to discuss and attempt to resolve PRO issues of mutual concern to Illinois physicians. Deals with issues relating to the collection and publication of data by the Illinois Health Care Cost Containment Council.

Council on Education and Health Workforce

Studies and evaluates all phases of medical education, including development of programs by and for the Society. Communicates to deans of medical schools, directors of residency training programs and directors of medical education, recommendations from the viewpoint of the practicing physician. Advises the Illinois Department of Professional Regulation regarding issues related to physician licensure and discipline. Liaison is maintained with medical students and physicians-in-training. Activities regarding physician distribution and retention are also within the scope of the council. The council also is charged with reviewing issues that impact access to care in rural, suburban and urban Illinois.

Council on Governmental Affairs

Keeps the ISMS and its members aware of all state and federal legislation and laws affecting the health of citizens of Illinois and the practice of medicine in Illinois. Promotes legislation to improve the health care of citizens of Illinois and the practice of medicine in Illinois, and cooperates with the AMA in similar programs. Develops programs to educate the public and ISMS membership in the privileges and responsibilities of citizenship.

Medical Legal Council

Focuses on legal developments which affect the medical profession. Conducts educational programs, assesses trends and developments and makes recommendations about the development of materials designed to enhance understanding of key legal issues. Oversees the Impartial Medical Evaluation program, an activity in which the Society responds to requests from the Industrial Commission and the US District Court for the Northern District of Illinois to have physician members provide examinations and reports on contested medical cases before these bodies.

Council on Medical Service

Attends to a wide array of issues pertaining to the provision of medical care and health services in the public and private sectors, including OSHA, CLIA, medical waste, emergency medical services, health facilities and delivery systems, laboratory services, environmental and community health, maternal and child health, nutrition, workers' compensation and rehabilitation. Proposes legislation and regulations in these areas and provides recommendations regarding their potential impact for physicians.

MECO COORDINATOR

The MECO (Medical Education Community Orientation) Program was initiated in 1969 and has provided valuable summer preceptorships for hundreds of medical students ever since. The program is hospital-based with participating institutions ranging from inner-city hospitals to small rural centers, all of which offer unique perspectives to enhance the students MECO experience. Programs include rotations through both clinical and non-clinical areas of the hospitals or clinic, observation and participation in through both clinical and non-clinical areas of the hospitals or clinic, observation and participation in physicians' offices, and study of the function of health-related agencies and institutions within the community. The individual hospital programs are determined by the participating hospital. MECO encourages the study of patient-oriented health care delivery and the relationship of the patient to the total health care system. The student participants gain a hands-on experience in these aspects of community medicine and a taste of rural medicine practice. Annually, a MECO Student Coordinator is selected to help administer the program. The primary responsibilities of this position are 1) assisting in recruitment of new hospitals to the MECO program, and 2) assisting with hospital/student match decisions (in March). One prerequisite of the position is that the applicant must be a past MECO participant. The MECO Coordinator position is not an official member of the governing council.

THE ABOVE GROUPS MEET QUARTERLY (normally) WITH THE EXCEPTION OF THE MECO COORDINATOR. MEETING SCHEDULES ARE DETERMINED BY THE APPROPRIATE ISMS DIVISION LIAISON. MEETING DATES ARE NOT AVAILABLE AT THIS TIME. THOSE STUDENTS APPOINTED AS COUNCIL/COMMITTEE MEMBERS ARE ISMS MSS GOVERNING COUNCIL MEMBERS AND WILL PROVIDE COUNCIL/COMMITTEE UPDATES TO THE MSS GOVENRING COUNCIL.