



**2021-2022 Annual Report**

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## **2021-2022 Annual Report for the Alliance for Clinical Education**

The Alliance for Clinical Education (ACE) is a multidisciplinary group formed in 1992 to enhance clinical instruction of medical students. ACE's mission is to foster collaboration across specialties to promote excellence in clinical education of medical students. Its members include representatives of the groups, which direct the core clinical clerkships in most medical schools.

In support of its mission, the Alliance for Clinical Education will take a national leadership role in promoting:

- the recognition of excellent medical education as the enduring core mission of medical schools with a concomitant commitment of adequate resources
- collaboration, communication, and resource sharing among educators in different clinical disciplines, including a multidisciplinary approach to core competencies for medical students
- innovation in medical student education based on well-designed research, especially as this applies across clinical disciplines
- professional development of clinical medical educators

service to our constituent organizations, other organizations in academic medicine, and students as a resource for information, ideas, and advocacy.

In accordance with our mission, the Alliance for Clinical Education (ACE) undertook a variety of collaborations and outreach during 2021-2022. This annual summary provides an overview of our efforts to promote clinical medical student education.

### Annual Meeting:

Due to the pandemic, ACE conducted its annual meeting virtually in October, 2021. Highlights of the business meeting included discussions on the following topics:

- As part of the meeting, we spent time reviewing the activities of our standing committees. More information about each of those follows.
- Drs. Michael Barone and Chris Feddock joined us for a lengthy discussion about initiatives at the National Board of Medical Examiners. Our goal was to identify initiatives that ACE could collaborate with them on to improve the quality and types of examinations the NBME offers.

- One of the initiatives we discussed in our previous annual report was the development of the Clinical Medical Education webinar series. This series is based on chapters from the Guidebook for Clerkship Directors, 5th Edition. At the time of the annual meeting, two webinars had taken place. Details about the webinar series are detailed later in this report.

#### Publications & Scholarship:

ACE's research committee undertook a survey study to investigate changes in formal education related to telemedicine. When the pandemic hit, few clerkships had content related to telehealth. We were able to identify some interesting findings in a paper that was published late in 2021. The citation is:

- Jortberg BT, Beck Dallaghan GL, Schatte D, Christner J, Ryan M. [Expansion of Telehealth Curriculum: National Survey of Clinical Education Leaders](#). J Telemed Telecare 2021 November. doi:10.1177/1357633X211058330

ACE is the official host of the regularly scheduled Twitter chat (#MedEdChat). Our director, Dr. Gary Beck Dallaghan, has worked with Dr. Bin Bin Zheng at the University of Hong Kong to conduct various studies based on the activities of the chats. In the past year, they have published two different articles and have a third submitted. The citations for the two publications are:

- Zheng B, Beck Dallaghan G. [A Twitter-facilitated Professional Learning Community: Online Participation, Connectedness, and Satisfaction](#). BMC Med Educ. 2022; 22:577. doi:10.1186/s12909-022-03639-6
- Zheng B, Beck Dallaghan G, Gomez M, Holihan S. [Exploring Online Participation and Discussion in an Online Professional Learning Activity on Twitter](#). J Med Educ Curric Dev. January 2022. doi:10.1177/23821205211072723

Over the past year, ACE has provided support for the Medical Education Administrators Certificate Program. This program was started by Dr. Beck Dallaghan for clerkship administrators/coordinators when he was in the Association of American Medical Colleges Central Group on Educational Affairs in 2004. Last year, a group from this program conducted a follow up study of participants to identify the impact that it had. The citation for that work is:

- Ricker AD, Pelsler D, Beck Dallaghan GL. Eight-Year Investigation of the Impact of the Clerkship Administrator Certificate Program. Cureus 2022; 14(4):e24024. DOI: [10.7759/cureus.24024](#).

The Guidebook for Clerkship Directors 5th Edition is nearly sold out. ACE is currently investigating publishing options for the 6th Edition to ensure it is available as a physical book and electronic book simultaneously. Once we have decided on the publishing venue, work will begin on updating and adding chapters to the next edition.

#### Standing Committees:

ACE has three standing committees to help facilitate the work of the organization. They include Communications, Publications, and Research. The following are some highlights for each committee.

*Communications Committee - Chair: Gary Beck Dallaghan (ACE):*

ACE has been moderator for the weekly #MedEdChat on Twitter since 2017. The Communications Committee members provide topics and questions for these chats. ADMSEP, APGO, CDIM and COMSEP have contributed topic ideas on a regular basis. Although Dr. Beck Dallaghan has sent individual requests to the Communications Committee representatives from ASE, CNCD, CDEM and STFM, no one has responded.

*Publications Committee – Chair: Scott Graziano (APGO) & Adam Quick (CNCD):*

ACE and *Teaching and Learning in Medicine (TLM)* have had a longstanding relationship. Over the past year, ACE published several Med Ed Briefs. The Med Ed Briefs are available on our website at:

<http://allianceforclinicaleducation.org/med-ed-briefs/>

Submissions undergo a peer-review process by the members of the Publications Committee. Once the Brief has been published on the website, Dr. Graziano provides the authors with a letter acknowledging their submission as an alternative electronic publication so individuals can claim the work on their curriculum vitae.

Dr. Graziano has stepped down as chair of the committee. Dr. Adam Quick has agreed to serve in that role and took over in June 2022.

*Research Committee – Chair: Dawnelle Schatte (ADMSEP) & Jennifer Christner (COMSEP):*

After several years with ACE, Dr. Dawnelle Schatte relocated to Colorado and is no longer in medical education. Fortunately, Dr. Jennifer Christner was happy to assume the role of chair of the committee. In the past few months, there are two projects that the committee is working on. The first relates to the impact of teaching on burnout in medical educators. Dr. Chad Vercio at Loma Linda University is working with the committee to get this project approved and then we will begin recruiting other schools to participate. The second project is to investigate the realities of ACE's recommendations for clerkship directors to have dedicated .5 FTE to do the job. A survey is currently in development which we will be sending to all clerkship directors.

Clinical Medical Education Webinar Series:

Dr. Elise Everett (APGO) worked with a task force to map out a clinical medical educator webinar series that began in September 2021. This series follows the content from the Guidebook for Clerkship Directors, 5th Edition. Nine webinars were conducted last year. ACE created a YouTube channel to save the recorded sessions from last year. We had anywhere from 30-60 participants for these webinars.

The links to the sessions are on our website at:

The second year of webinars will begin in September 2022. The topics and tentative schedule is also on the ACE website.

Medical Education Administrators Certificate Program:

In support of ACE's mission, we strongly advocate for continuing professional development of educational administrative staff. For those working in pre-clinical medical education and clinical medical education, the role of educational administrators is essential to the success of medical student education. This certificate program was created by ACE's executive director, Dr. Beck Dallaghan, and past president, Dr. Fred McCurdy. Over the past year, two virtual sessions for the medical education administrators program were offered. Information about this program is available here:

<http://allianceforclinicaleducation.org/cacp/>

Advocacy:

ACE continues engaging with other organizations to address issues impacting clinical medical education.

- *National Board of Medical Examiners Clinical Advisory Task Force:* As noted above, we have been working to strengthen our relationship with the NBME. As a result of that dialog, we were invited to recommend up to three ACE representatives to serve on this newly created task force of the NBME. Dr. Rishi Reddy (ASE, University of Michigan) was chosen to represent ACE on this task force. He will be reporting back to us as the task force gets underway with its work.
- *Expectations 2.0 and the LCME:* After we published the updated expectations of and for clerkship directors, Dr. Roman contacted the secretariats of the LCME to ask them to consider stipulating that clerkship directors have at least .5 FTE protected time to run the clerkships. The LCME met in February and did discuss this request, but ultimately declined to do anything. According to them, the medical schools must demonstrate adequacy of resources through the site visits, thus it is monitored. Although ACE respectfully disagrees with them, we have opted to pursue other methods of obtaining data to go back to them to ensure clerkship directors have the time they need to do their jobs.

Plans for 2022-2023

- *Improve member organization involvement:* Last year, Dr. Beck Dallaghan notified organizational presidents of the need for more active representation in ACE and its committees. This year he will engage the ACE executive committee representatives and organizational leaders to address these concerns. Given the increased level of activity of all of our committees, we need active engagement from every organization.
- *ACE Officer Elections:* At our annual meeting this year we will be putting forward a slate for President-elect and Treasurer. Two individuals have self-nominated. The election will occur at our annual meeting November 11, 2022.

- *Learn Serve Lead Panel:* Although ACE submitted four proposals, none were accepted through the traditional peer-review process. However, ACE scheduled time on Friday, November 11, 2022 at 1 pm, to present a panel on educational value units, led by Drs. Mona Soni (ACE Treasurer) and Meg Keeley (COMSEP).

Visit the ACE website (<http://www.allianceforclinicaleducation.org>) to find out more about the organization.