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Madhu (Mona) Soni, M.D.
ACE President

2025-2026 Annual Report

2025-2026 in Brief

Over the past year, ACE has advanced on multiple fronts—strengthening its leadership with the election of Dr. Nadia Ismail (CDIM) as President-Elect and Dr. Annie Rutter (STFM) as Treasurer, both taking office following the October 2025 annual meeting. The organization made significant progress on its publications portfolio, including the forthcoming 6th edition of the *Guidebook for Clerkship Directors* and a new webinar series supporting the *Handbook on Assessment and Evaluation*, alongside continued growth of the *MedEdChat* blog and *MedEdBriefs*.

ACE also expanded its national visibility, with a panel on the learning environment accepted for presentation at the Generalists in Medical Education conference, and deepened its strategic partnerships with Aquifer and NBME, exploring new specialty applications and AI-driven learning tools. Details on each of these efforts follow below.

Our Mission

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 from the specialty groups which provide guidelines for the core clinical clerkships in most medical schools.

In support of its mission, the Alliance for Clinical Education takes 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 ensuring medical students achieve outcomes of core competencies
- innovation in medical student clinical education, and assessment based on well-designed research, especially as this applies across specialties
- professional educator development of clinical medical educators and leaders
- service to our constituent organizations, other organizations in academic medicine, and students as a resource for information, ideas, and advocacy

Member Organizations

ACE is comprised of representatives from eight different organizations, which include:

- Association of Directors of Medical Student Education in Psychiatry (ADMSEP)
- Association of Professors of Gynecology and Obstetrics (APGO)
- Association for Surgical Education (ASE)
- Clerkship Directors in Emergency Medicine (CDEM)
- Clerkship Directors in Internal Medicine (CDIM)
- Consortium of Neurology Clerkship Directors (CNCD)
- Council on Medical Student Education in Pediatrics (COMSEP)
- Society of Teachers of Family Medicine (STFM)

A roster of representatives from each organization is listed in Appendix A. Executive Committee representatives are identified in the organizational rosters.

Activities in 2025-2026

Annual Meeting

The annual virtual meeting was held in September and October 2025. We invited representatives from Aquifer to attend the meeting this year. Leslie Fall, CEO, and Emily Stewart, Chief Learning Officer, presented on Aquifer's history, growth (282 cases, ~127,000 learners), AI-driven personalized feedback, the Calibrate self-assessment dashboard, and development of virtual patient encounters with persona-based dialogue.

Discussions touched on expanding to emergency medicine, neurology (via CNCD), and surgery cases, plus aligning with transition-to-residency milestones. An ACE-Aquifer partnership was initiated and has continued working through 2026. The Aquifer team will return for the 2026 annual virtual meeting in October for an update on this project.

Dr. Nadia Ismail (CDIM) was elected President-Elect and Dr. Annie Rutter (STFM) was elected Treasurer, with terms beginning at the close of the October 15, 2026 annual meeting.

AAMC Learn Serve Lead Panel

“The Power of Thanks: Fueling Education through Philanthropy,” moderated by Dr. Mona Soni (ACE), with panelists Ms. Jessica Breithbarth (Carle Illinois), Ms. Brigid Mullen (Rush University), and Dr. Joseph Safdieh (CNCD) was presented at the 2025 AAMC Learn Serve Lead meeting in San Antonio, Texas.

The Guidebook for Clerkship Directors, 6th Edition

The sixth edition of *The Guidebook for Clerkship Directors* is nearly completed and ready to go to the publisher. Dr. Lonika Sood (CDIM) has served as the senior editor. The editorial board consists of:

- Irene Alexandraki (CDIM)
- Amy Cutright (CDEM)
- Holli Horak (CNCD)
- Erin McMaster (COMSEP)
- David Power (STFM)
- Archana Pradan (APGO)

- Christiana Shaw (ASE)
- Nutan Vaidya (ADMSEP)

Recognition: The Louis N. Pangaro Medical Educator Award

In efforts to recognize excellence in clinical medical student education, ACE created the Alliance for Clinical Education Louis N. Pangaro Medical Educator Award in 2023. At the AAMC Learn Serve Lead meeting in November 2024, Dr. Dawn DeWitt, Elson S Floyd College of Medicine Washington State University, became our third recipient.

The award is a highly esteemed honor given the increasing numbers of nominations we receive. In 2026, we received six nominations for the award, which will be presented virtually on October 21, 2026.

Committee Reports

ACE has four standing committees to help facilitate the work of the organization: Awards, Communications, Publications, and Research. Highlights from each committee's work this year are detailed below. Full committee rosters are listed in Appendix B.

Awards Committee — Chair: Amit Pahwa (CDIM)

The committee solicits nominations and reviews the Alliance for Clinical Education Louis N. Pangaro Medical Educator Award (see Recognition, above), including managing the 2026 nomination and selection process that produced six nominations for this year's award.

Communications Committee — Chair: Gary Beck Dallaghan (ACE)

The ACE Communications Committee has continued the MedEdChat Blog. The blog is posted to our website at the following link:

allianceforclinicaleducation.org/social-media/mededchatblog

Although Dr. Beck Dallaghan writes many of these blogs, topics are generated from the Communications Committee as well as the General Council. We have been fortunate to have guest authors as well. Some of the recent topics include the following:

- Renovate This Old House: Why It's Time to Dismantle the Fourth Year of Medical School
- Teaching Tomorrow's Doctors: Why AI Belongs in the Medical Curriculum Today
- No, the LCME Does NOT Require That!

Publications Committee — Chair: Adam Quick (CNCD)

The Med Ed Briefs are published on a regular basis. Briefs are available on our website:

allianceforclinicaleducation.org/social-media/mededbrief

Dr. Quick creates a submission schedule twice a year so that each ACE member organization can contribute at least two briefs per month. Submissions undergo peer review by the Publications Committee; once published, Dr. Quick provides authors a letter acknowledging their submission as an alternative electronic publication so authors can claim the work on their curriculum vitae.

Once the Briefs are online, Dr. Beck Dallaghan promotes the publication via the DR-ED listserv as well as ACE's LinkedIn page. Numerous individuals independently email to express gratitude for these summaries as they expose people to articles they may not have known about otherwise.

Research Committee — Chair: Irene Alexandraki (CDIM)

The committee has been hard at work with ongoing projects over the past year. The following projects are nearing completion:

- *Work Engagement of Medical Educators-Opportunities to Support Job Resources and Understand the Threats of Job Demands* has been submitted for publication. This survey project was led by Dr. Chad Vercio (COMSEP) and involved academic and non-academic physicians.
- *Ready or Not: Patterns in PGY-1 Preparedness based on 2020–2024 Resident Readiness Survey Data* is in preparation. Drs. Gary Beck Dallaghan, Jennifer Gold (COMSEP), and Temple Ratcliffe (CDIM) along with Veronica Lynch, a junior medical student at Carle Illinois College of Medicine have analyzed data from the AAMC Residency Readiness Survey for this study.
- *Artificial Intelligence Use in Clerkships: A Call for National Guidance* is also in preparation. Dr. Amy Creel (COMSEP) led this team to review the clerkship director websites to identify available resources for teaching medical students how to use artificial intelligence in patient care settings. Drs. Beck Dallaghan, Larrilyn Grant (ADMSEP), and Ratcliffe have contributed to this project.

Looking Ahead: 2026-2027

- **2026 Generalists in Medical Education Panel:** *Navigating the Gray: Institutional Approaches to Medical Student Mistreatment and the Learning Environment* will be presented in Anaheim, CA on November 6, 2026. Panelists include: Drs. Shobhina Chheda (CDIM), Felicia Gliksman (CNCD), Rachel Slotcavage (ASE) and will be moderated by Dr. Madhu (Mona) Soni. Dr. Shireen Madani Sims (APGO) helped plan the panel but will be unable to attend.
- **ACE Strategic Plan:** Over the past year, the executive committee has been working on a strategic plan for the organization. We anticipate it will be completed this fall.
- **ACE Future of Assessment Webinar series:** In September 2026, monthly webinars will be presented addressing content from the *Handbook on Medical Student Assessment and Evaluation, 2nd Edition*. These are free and will be recorded and made available through the ACE website.
- **NBME-ACE Webinar:** The National Board of Medical Examiners will co-host a session in early 2027 related to vexing problems with assessment. Drs. Meg Keeley (COMSEP) and Nadia Ismail (ACE) will be on the panel.
- **Guidebook for Clerkship Directors, 6th edition:** Anticipated publication is early 2027.

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

Appendix A: Roster of Member Organization Representatives

Association for Surgical Education

- James Lau, M.D., MHPE
- Matthew Lin, M.D.
- Rachel Slotcavage, M.D. (*Executive Council Representative*)
- Robyn Stewart, M.D.

Association of Directors of Medical Student Education in Psychiatry

- Kristin Escamilla, M.D.
- Jeffrey Rakofsky, M.D. (*Executive Council Representative*)
- Dana Raml, M.D.
- Jason Rosenstock, M.D.

Association of Professors of Gynecology and Obstetrics

- Laura Baecher-Lind, M.D., MPH (*Executive Council Representative*)
- Katie Lacritz, M.D.
- Hedwige Saint Louis, M.D., MPH
- Merima Ruhotina, M.D.

Clerkship Directors in Emergency Medicine

- Sharon Bord, M.D. (*Executive Council Representative*)
- Nicole Dubosh, M.D.
- Joseph House, M.D.

Clerkship Directors in Internal Medicine

- Irene Alexandraki, M.D., MPH
- Shobhina Chheda, M.D., MPH (*Executive Council Representative*)
- Nancy T. Skehan, M.D.
- Lonika Sood, M.D., MHPE

Consortium of Neurology Clerkship Directors

- Felicia Gliksman, D.O.
- Doris Kung, D.O.
- Adam Quick, M.D.
- Stephen VanHaerents, M.D. (*Executive Council Representative*)

Council on Medical Student Education in Pediatrics

- Lavjay Butani, M.D.
- W. Christopher Golden, M.D.
- Meg Keeley, M.D. (*Executive Council Representative*)
- Michael Ryan, M.D.

Society of Teachers of Family Medicine

- Marisyl D. de la Cruz, M.D.
- Ruben Hernandez, M.D. (*Executive Council Representative*)
- Tessa Rohrberg, M.D.
- Roberto Silva, M.D.

Appendix B: Standing Committee Rosters

Awards Committee — Chair: Amit Pahwa (CDIM)

- Laura Baecher-Lind (APGO)
- Kelly Cozza (ADMSEP)
- Meg Keeley (COMSEP)
- Sarkis Kouyoumjian (CDEM)
- Doris Kung (CNCD)
- Louis Pangaro (ACE)
- David Power (STFM)
- Rachel Slotcavage (ASE)
- Madhu (Mona) Soni (ACE)

Communications Committee — Chair: Gary Beck Dallaghan (ACE)

- Jeremy Cutsforth-Gregory (CNCD)
- Amy Cutright (CDEM)
- Zaiba Jetpuri (STFM)
- Brian Kwan (CDIM)
- Katie Lacritz (APGO)
- Bruce Morgenstern (COMSEP)
- Dana Raml (ADMSEP)
- Robyn Stewart (ASE)

Publications Committee — Chair: Adam Quick (CNCD)

- Mary Blazek (ADMSEP)
- Marisyl De La Cruz (STFM)
- Karen Forbes (COMSEP)
- Jonathan Gold (COMSEP)
- Paul Ko (CDEM)
- Peter Muscarella (ASE)
- Hedwige Saint Louis (APGO)
- Rachel Salas (CNCD)
- Sherine Salib (CDIM)
- Navddep Sekhon (CDEM)
- Roberto Silva (STFM)

Research Committee — Chair: Irene Alexandraki (CDIM)

- Amy Creel (COMSEP)
- Felicia Gliksman (CNCD)
- Jennifer Gold (COMSEP)
- Larrilyn Grant (ADMSEP)
- Mark Olaf (CDEM)
- Priti Parikh (ASE)
- Temple Ratcliffe (CDIM)
- Tessa Rohrberg (STFM)
- Merima Ruhotina (APGO)
- Stephen VanHaerents (CNCD)