Welcome to the first edition of the SUNY Downstate Residency Program Coordinators’ Forum Newsletter!

“Our mission is to support all residency and fellowship program coordinators in the areas of (1) professional development, (2) residency education development, (3) emotional and physical well-being, (4) advocacy, and (5) work-life balance. Our aim is to equip coordinators with necessary tools for productivity and positive morale. We believe that our aim will make working within the mission, vision, and values of SUNY Downstate a pleasant framework where we will speak the same language of success and manage each other up whenever we speak with or reference each other. The cornerstones of our forum are productivity, positive morale, personal development and advocacy.” (DOwens, 6/2019)

“Meet the Founding Officers of the Residency Program Coordinators’ Forum”

From left to right: Juliet Arthur, MHA, C-TAGME, Chairperson Debra Owens, MEd, C-TAGME, Co-Chairperson Natalie Arrindell, MBA, GME Chief Liaison

The forum was founded by Ms. Juliet Arthur, MHA, C-TAGME in October of 2018. In January of 2019, Ms. Arthur invited Debra Owens, MEd, C-TAGME, to serve as the forum’s Co-Chairperson and appointed Natalie Arrindell, MBA, to serve as the forum’s GME Chief Liaison.
Upcoming Events & Reminders:
The next RPCF Meeting: June 25, 2019

Graduating Residents/Fellows SUNY Albany Exit Survey
Deadline: June 20, 2019

Incoming Residents/Fellows Orientation:
June 17 – 18, 2019
Location: Alumni Auditorium, 395 Lenox Road

The next TAGME Workshop: TBA

BIRTHDAY ACKNOWLEDGMENT
Ms. Carletta Hanniford
Residency Program Coordinator, Department of Medicine, Member of RPCF and Co-Editor of "The Buzz" Newsletter

RPCF Committees:
Awards and Scholarships Committee
Birthday Club
C-TAGME Committee
GMEC Representative and Forum's Policies Committee
Membership Committee
Mentorship Committee
Forum's Newsletter
Event Planning Committee
Professional Development Committee
Coordinators’ Wellness Committee

The forum will host its first educational conference/retreat on Friday, August 2, 2019.

- The theme for the conference/retreat is “Building Resilience and Well-Being.”

- We have invited four national speakers to our conference/retreat. Two of them presented at the 2019 ACGME Annual Conference in Orlando, Florida and the other presented at the 2019 American Association of Directors of Psychiatric Residency Training Conference in San Diego, California.

- We will host regional coordinators, GME personnel, and Housestaff personnel from Maimonides Medical Center and Kings County Hospital Center.

- Our objective is to address major areas that should exist for a well, happy, efficient, program coordinator/manager to manage a residency or fellowship program.

Breakfast and Lunch will be provided by Mr. Ernest “Ernie” Sgaglione from Café 101
In order to apply to take the TAGME examination, the applicant must:
(1) currently be employed as a GME professional of an accredited ACGME/AOA program, (2) have completed 2 consecutive years of experience in this role, and (3) meet the professional development eligibility requirements.

Application deadline: **June 30, 2019**


Please use the URL above and/or contact Ms. Gloria Jorge or Natalie Arrindell at (718) 270-7361, if you have any questions.

**2019 Certification Schedule:**

Application Submission: **May 1 – June 30**

Application Review & Notification:

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**RPCF SPOTLIGHT**

“Because of his efforts to organize the coordinators in 2015, the RPCF has chosen Dr. Stephen Wadowski for our spotlight.”

**Stephen Wadowski, M.D.**
Senior Associate Dean for Graduate Medical Education
Chairman, Department of Pediatrics
Professor of Pediatrics
Associate Director of Pediatric Pulmonary

A leader in medical education administration and former Vice Chairman for Education in Pediatrics at Downstate, Dr. Wadowski served as Pediatrics Residency Director for 15 years training over 400 new pediatricians and then was appointed Associate Dean/Designated Institutional Official responsible for all of SUNY Downstate’s graduate medical education programs (nearly 50 residency and fellowship programs, over 930 trainees, across a dozen participating sites) for 8 years during which time New Innovations was implemented, GME salary sources were consolidated to either SUNY or KCHC, new programs were developed and affiliate sites were added, LICH was integrated under Downstate’s sponsorship and then was dissolved, and a new ACGME accreditation system along with CLER site visits were applied.

Now as Chairman of the Department of Pediatrics, Dr. Wadowski is responsible for a faculty of over 80 pediatricians, pediatric subspecialists, and children's care providers across clinical specialty divisions (including programs in child development and behavior, early childhood education and early intervention) at SUNY Downstate and Kings County Hospital. Dr. Wadowski has a long record of active engagement in institutional leadership, administration and health services that included serving as Director of Pediatric Critical care at Kings County Hospital and at University Hospital of Brooklyn. Additionally, Dr. Wadowski is a Founder and Executive Committee Member for the Brooklyn Children’s Society, a charitable organization that supports programs and projects addressing issues affecting the health of children in Brooklyn, and is a member of the Board of Managers for the SUNY Downstate College of Medicine Alumni Association.

A native of Brooklyn, Dr. Wadowski grew up in Flatbush and attended NYC public schools in Brooklyn including elementary school on Parkside Avenue. Coming from the CUNY Brooklyn College 7 year combined BA/MD Program, Dr. Wadowski completed his medical education at SUNY Downstate College of Medicine where he was awarded his MD Degree, CUM Laude in 1987 and was inducted into the AOA National Honor Medical Society. Dr. Wadowski completed his specialty training in Pediatrics and served as Pediatric Chief Resident at SUNY Downstate/Kings County Hospital. He went on to complete a Pediatric Cardiology fellowship at NY Columbia-Presbyterian Medical Center, returned to SUNY Downstate and completed a fellowship Pediatric Pulmonary Disease. He is certified as a diplomat by the American Board of Pediatrics.

Dr. Wadowski is a fellow of the American Academy of Pediatrics, of the American Thoracic Society, and Academic Pediatrics Association. He has received several honors and awards including Faculty Honoree for Excellence and Outstanding Contributions to Graduate Medical Education by the SUNY Downstate Residents and Fellows Alumni Society in 2002, 2003, and 2007 and the Curran-Clark Award for Medical Administration in 2017.

In addition to children’s health and medical education, Dr. Wadowski is interested in a wide range of medical conditions and health concerns particularly those affecting children in urban and disadvantaged communities to whom he has dedicated his career. Dr. Wadowski looks forward to developing a Brooklyn Children’s Health and Hospitals System with SUNY Downstate as its academic core ensuring for health providers at every level, and continuous advancement in science to the betterment of health and wellbeing for children here and everywhere.
Wellness

Have You Ever Thought About Starting a Walking Group?

It is easy and FREE!!

It is known that failing to take breaks will lead to burnout. We should try to take breaks, not just to the cafeteria for a caffeine boost.

We are looking for residency program coordinators to lead morning, lunchtime, and/or after-work walking groups.

Please let us know if you are interested.

I am a Fellowship Coordinator

By Deborah Pointer, M. Ed

I am a Fellowship Coordinator and a multi-tasker, With fellows hovering around my desk, as they bring their documents, show me pictures of their kids, and ask about the best neighborhoods in the area.

I wonder if the other coordinators have the same experiences of making a list of ten things to do in a day and finishing –
I hear that the GME Director and staff are working very hard to make our jobs more professional, recognizing the special skills it takes to be a Coordinator.

I see friendly faces when I attend a Coordinator’s meeting, listen to committee reports and know that we are all in this together.
I understand the frustration of completing new reports, meeting deadlines, and still smiling at the end of a hectic day.

I sometimes cry and rejoice when I see a fellow graduate that struggled during their fellowship and know what odds they overcame to finish the program.

I understand that it takes time to see changes made and that we are a team of Fellowship Coordinators who work hard, play hard, and sometimes laugh at ourselves.

I am, a Fellowship Coordinator, and a multi-tasker.

ACGME News:

With the support of our DIO, Ms. Robin Gitman, in 2019, there were more residency/fellowship program coordinators from SUNY Downstate Medical Center in attendance at the ACGME Annual Conference, in Orlando, Florida than ever in the history of SUNY Downstate Medical Center.

The residency/fellowship program coordinators experienced and discussed the benefits of attending the ACGME Annual Conference: (1) Professional development by attending various sessions that were specifically designed for program coordinators; (2) Networking opportunities that enabled coordinators to meet other coordinators and GME personnel from regional institutions and institutions from other states throughout the United States; (3) Networking opportunities that enabled coordinators to spend time with members from their professional associations; (4) Meeting the ACGME RRC for their specialty areas and spending an entire session with them to learn first-hand about the ACGME Common Program Requirements Section VI interpretation and its implementation; (5) Viewing the research posters from coordinators representing other institutions who are publishing; and (6) Obtaining educational credits to take the TAGME examination or to maintain their TAGME certification.

The 2020 ACGME Annual Conference will take place in San Diego, California from February 27th through March 1. We would like to have most of SUNY Downstate residency/fellowship coordinators represent the forum and SUNY Downstate Medical Center at the 2020 ACGME Annual Conference. There are components of the conference that cannot be attended by one coordinator and brought back to others—for example, sitting in the RRC session for a particular specialty can only be attended and fully appreciated by someone who works within that specialty.

Are You Ready for the New Requirements?
The CPR Section I-V Table of Implementation Dates with explanations can be found using this URL:

https://www.acgme.org/Portals/0/PFAssets/ProgramRequirements/CPRResidencyImplementationTable.pdf

We encourage you to peruse our first edition and submit your comments and suggestions for future editions. Please contact Kim Kearns at ext. 8207, Carletta Hanniford at ext. 2353, and Deborah Pointer at ext. 1694.