# PAEA Business Meeting October 15, 2021 Washington, DC

#### PROPOSED MINUTES

Voting Members Present: K. Whitaker, AdventHealth University; N. Gardner, Albany Medical College; T. Moore, Alderson-Broaddus University; M. DiBaise, Arizona School of Health Sciences; M. Ellis, Army Medical Center of Excellence (formerly known as Interservice); V. Bester, Augsburg University; R. Cooperman, Barry University; E. Elliott, Baylor College of Medicine; C. Hanson, Bethel University (MN); K. Patch, Brenau University; E. Schmidt, Butler University; C. Forest, California State University, Monterey Bay; L. Gerstner, Campbell University; K. Murphy, Carroll University; C. Lord, Case Western Reserve University; A. Walsh, Chapman University; G. Poole, Charleston Southern University; J. Truscott, Chatham University; D. Millward, Colorado Mesa University; H. Persaud, CUNY York College; H. Taylor, Des Moines University; K. Ehrhardt, DeSales University; C. Garrubba, Dominican University of California; J. Kinzel, Drexel University; J. Barnett, Duke University Medical Center; L. Kalinowski, Eastern Michigan University; K. Dempsey, Eastern Virginia Medical School; K. Stokes, Elon University; M. Lund, Emory University; K. Cavanagh, Gannon University; A. Steele, Gardner-Webb University; K. Wright, George Washington University; J. Eames, Hardin-Simmons University; R. Rebman, Indiana University School of Health and Human Sciences Masters of PA Studies (IUPUI); T. Meehan, Johnson & Wales University; T. Scanlon, Kettering College; S. Kramer, Lake Erie College; E. Mercer, Le Moyne College; D. Brown, Lincoln Memorial University; M. Steidl, Lipscomb University; A. Smith, Lock Haven University; R. Chappell, Louisiana State University – New Orleans; T. Bigler, Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center Shreveport; J. Midgley, Marist College; M. Wiemiller, Marquette University; J. Mattingly, Mercer University; D. LaBarbera, Mercy College of Ohio; L. Walker, MGH Institute of Health Professions; J. Gunn, Midwestern University (Downers Grove); K. Bonnin, Midwestern University (Glendale); A. Hull, Milligan University; R. Canales, Missouri State University; C. Barry, Northeastern University; E. Villarreal, Northern Arizona University; M. MacLean, Northwestern University; L. Butler, Nova Southeastern University - Orlando; M. Bowlby, Ohio University; P. Kenney-Moore, Oregon Health & Science University; J. Covino, Pace University - Lenox Hill Hospital, NYC; C. Bruce, Penn State University; J. Bower, Pennsylvania College of Technology; D. Sayre-Stanhope, Point Loma Nazarene University; R. Hadley, Radford University; L. Larson, Rochester Institute of Technology; C. Ruff, Rocky Vista University; J. Radke, Rosalind Franklin Univ of Medicine; M. McQuillan, Rutgers University; M. Valdez, Saint Elizabeth University PA Program; M. DeRosa, Samuel Merritt University; C. Hanifin, Seton Hall University; A. Schempp, Shenandoah University; M. Borger, Slippery Rock University; R. Lethbridge, South University, Richmond; S. Fernandes, Stanford University; A. Hardy, Sullivan University; M. Taylor, Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center; T. Howell-Stampley, The University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center; P. Boyle, Touro College Manhattan; B. Reeves, Trevecca Nazarene University; B. Buyea, Tufts University; M. Heidtbrink, Union College; T. Gilford, University of Alabama at Birmingham; J. Sivahop, University of Colorado; N. Weber, University of Dubuque; N. Multak, University of Florida; A. Brenneman, University of Iowa; J. Rolfs, University of Lynchburg; C. Hendrix, University of Maryland Baltimore (Anne Arundel Community College); B. Ekey, University of Mount Union; S. Grammer, University of Nebraska Medical Center; D. Kempton, University of Nevada, Reno; D. Brown, University of New England; J. McHugo, University of North Dakota; B. Dobey, University of Oklahoma - Oklahoma City; E. Murphy, University of Pittsburgh; P. Marriott, University of Saint Joseph; T. Cleveland, University of South Dakota; K. Lohenry, University of Southern California (LA); F. Ambriz, University of Texas Rio

Grande Valley; K. Mulitalo, Utah Valley University; P. Campbell, UW-La Crosse Gundersen-Mayo-Marshfield; T. Jackson, Wagner College; G. Bodner, Wake Forest University (Bowman Gray); A. Baker, West Chester University; B. Childers, West Liberty University; J. Momen, West Virginia University; R. Guizado, Western University of Health Sciences; J. Hixon, Westfield State University; A. Garino, Yale University Physician Associate Program

Voting Members Not Present: Arcadia University; Ashland University; Augusta University; Baldwin Wallace University; Bay Path University; Bethel University (TN); Boston University School of Medicine PA Program; Bryant University; California Baptist University; Canisius College; Central Michigan University; Charles R. Drew University; Christian Brothers University; Clarkson University; College of Saint Mary; College of St. Scholastica; Concordia University; Concordia University Ann Arbor; Creighton University; Daemen College; Dominican University; Duquesne University; D'Youville College; East Carolina University; Emory & Henry College; Faulkner University; Florida Gulf Coast University; Florida International University Herbert Wertheim College of Medicine; Florida State University; Franciscan Missionaries of Our Lady University; Franklin College; Franklin Pierce University; Frostburg State University; Gannon University-Ruskin; George Fox University; Grand Valley State University; Harding University; High Point University; Hofstra University; Idaho State University; Indiana State University; Ithaca College; James Madison University; Kean University; Keiser University; King's College; Lenoir-Rhyne University; Lincoln Memorial University - Knoxville; Loma Linda University; Long Island University; Marietta College; Marshall B. Ketchum University; Marshall University Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine: Mary Baldwin University (Murphy Deming College of Health Sciences): Marywood University: Mayo Clinic School of Health Sciences; MCPHS - Manchester/Worcester: Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences; MCPHS University (Boston); Medical University of South Carolina; Mercy College; Mercyhurst University; Methodist University; Miami Dade College; Misericordia University; Mississippi College; Mississippi State University - Meridian; Monmouth University; Morehouse School of Medicine; Mount St. Joseph University; New York Institute of Technology; North Greenville University; Northeastern State University; Northwestern College; Nova Southeastern University - Fort Lauderdale; Nova Southeastern University - Fort Myers; Nova Southeastern University - Jacksonville; Ohio Dominican University; Oklahoma City University; Oklahoma State University; Pace University - Pleasantville; Pacific University; Pfeiffer University; Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine; Presbyterian College; Quinnipiac University; Red Rocks Community College; Rocky Mountain College; Rocky Mountain University of Health Professions; Rush University; Sacred Heart University; Saint Catherine University; Saint Francis University; Saint Louis University; Salus University; Samford University; San Juan Bautista School of Medicine; Seton Hill University; South College - Nashville; South College- Knoxville; South University, Savannah; South University, Tampa; South University, West Palm Beach; Southern California University of Health Sciences; Southern Illinois University; Springfield College; St. Ambrose University; St. Bonaventure University; St. John's University; Stephens College; Stony Brook University; SUNY Downstate Medical Center; SUNY Upstate Medical University; Temple University Lewis Katz School of Medicine; The CUNY School of Medicine; Thiel College; Thomas Jefferson University, Center City Campus; Thomas Jefferson University, East Falls Campus; Touro College (Bay Shore); Touro College (Middletown); Touro University California; Towson University CCBC- Essex; Trine University; University of Arkansas; University of Bridgeport; University of California Davis; University of Charleston; University of Dayton; University of Detroit Mercy; University of Evansville; University of Findlay; University of Kentucky; University Of La Verne; University of Mary Hardin-Baylor; University of Maryland Eastern Shore; University of Michigan - Flint; University of Missouri-Kansas City; University of New Mexico; University of North Carolina - Chapel Hill; University of North Texas HS Center Fort Worth; University of Oklahoma - Tulsa; University of Saint Francis - Fort Wayne; University of South Alabama; University of South Carolina SOM; University of South Florida; University of St. Francis; University of Tampa;

University of Tennessee Health Science Center; University of Texas- HS Center at San Antonio; University of Texas- Medical Branch at Galveston; University of the Cumberlands; University of the Cumberlands, Northern Kentucky Campus; University of the Pacific; University of the Sciences; University of Toledo; University of Utah; University of Washington; University of Wisconsin - Madison; Valparaiso University; Wayne State University; Weill Cornell Graduate School of Medical Sciences; Western Michigan University; Wichita State University; Wingate University; Xavier University of Louisiana; Yale University Physician Assistant Online Program; Yeshiva University

**Board Members Present:** Michel Statler, president; Kara Caruthers, president elect; Howard Straker, immediate past president; Carl Garrubba, treasurer; Janie McDaniel, secretary; Jonathan Bowser, director at large; Shalon Buchs, director at large; Nicole Burwell, director at large; Shaun Grammer, director at large; Robert Hadley, director at large; Linda Sekhon, director at large; Mary Ruggeri, student member at large

Senior Staff Present: Mary Jo Bondy, chief executive officer; Sara Fletcher, chief operating officer; Amanda Gunter, chief digital officer; Karen Hills, chief, educational development; Monica Miles, chief diversity, equity & inclusion officer; Olivia Ziegler, chief assessment officer; Lynn Heitzman, senior director, operations; Kendall Mealy, senior director, leadership & organizational development; Donna Murray, senior director, admissions.

## 1. Approval of the Agenda

The agenda was approved.

Ms. Statler announced that a quorum was present of 96 voting member programs.

## 2. Announcement of Board of Directors Election Results

Ms. Statler announced the election results and congratulated new President Elect Linda Sekhon, Jacqueline Barnett, elected as Treasurer, and Virginia Valentin, elected as director at large.

- **3. Approval of the Minutes.** There were no corrections to the minutes of the 2020 Business Meeting. **A** *motion to approve the minutes was seconded and carried.*
- **4. President/CEO Annual Membership Report.** Ms. Statler indicated that she had no additions to the report in the book. *There was no objection to the report being accepted as written.*
- 5. Financial Report Treasurer's FY21 4th Quarter Report

There were no objections to the report bring accepted as written.

6. Liaison Reports

A) SAAAPA — A. Wildermuth

There were no objections to the report bring accepted as written.

- 7. External Organization Reports
- A) AAPA.
- B) ARC-PA.
- C) PA Foundation.
- D) NCCPA.
- E) nccPA Health Foundation.
- F) Physician Assistant History Society.

Ms. Statler thanked all the external organizations for providing their written or video reports. *There were no objections to the reports bring accepted as written or presented*.

- 8. Continuing Business
- A) Journal of Physician Assistant Education Report.

Ms. Statler thanked Dr. Asprey for his service to the Association as JPAE's Editor-in-Chief. *There were no objections to the report bring accepted as written or presented*.

### 9. New Business/Other Items Motions Received by the Deadline

Ms. Statler noted that four motions have been placed on the consent agenda, and the consent agenda would be subdivided so members could vote on motions BOD-1, BOD-2, and BOD-4, separately from BOD-3, which requires 2/3 majority as it is a bylaws amendment. Motions BOD-1, BOD-2, and BOD-4 require a simple majority. Ms. Statler asked members if they wished to pull any motion from the consent agenda. No member requested pulling a motion. *Motions BOD-1, BOD-2, and BOD-4 were approved by consent. Motion BOD-3 was approved.* 

# **2021-BOD 1. INTERPROFESSIONAL EDUCATION**

**Background/Rationale**: PAEA position policy #6, Interprofessional Education, is scheduled to sunset in 2021. The Board recommends reaffirming the Association's position policy on interprofessional education.

**Motion**: Be it resolved that PAEA position policy #6, Interprofessional Education, be reaffirmed.

#### INTERPROFESSIONAL EDUCATION

PAEA endorses interprofessional education for PAs and encourages efforts to promote and encourage interprofessional education and practice.

This motion was approved as part of the consent agenda.

2021-BOD 2. PATIENT CENTERED MEDICAL HOME POSITION POLICY

**Background/Rationale**: PAEA position policy #11, Patient Centered Home Medical Care, is scheduled to sunset in 2021. The Board recommends reaffirming the Association's position policy on the patient centered medical home.

**Motion**: Be it resolved that PAEA position policy #11, Patient Centered Home Medical Care, be reaffirmed.

#### PATIENT CENTERED MEDICAL HOME

PAEA is supportive of the patient centered medical home (PCMH) which incorporates all primary care providers (PCPs), as an approach for providing comprehensive team-based primary care.

This motion was approved as part of the consent agenda.

#### 2021-BOD 3. BYLAWS AMENDMENT ARTICLE 2.01

**Background/Rationale**: In 2021, the Board of Directors began developing a new strategic plan to guide the Association for the coming years. Throughout its conversations, the Board agreed that the mission statement should be revised to be inclusive of the Association's values and its commitment to equity and inclusion. The Board feels this proposed mission statement best positions the Association as it moves forward with a new strategy.

**Motion**: Be it resolved that the following amendment be made to the PAEA Bylaws.

#### ARTICLE 2.01 MISSION

The Physician Assistant Education Association is an organization in the United States representing physician assistant ("PA") educational programs.

PAEA's mission is leadership, innovation, and excellence in PA education. advancing excellence in PA education through leadership, scholarship, equity, and inclusion.

This motion was approved.

#### 2021-BOD 4. PA PROFESSION TITLE CHANGE

**Background/Rationale**: As a member-led association, PAEA's Board of Directors is committed to representing and assisting our diverse member programs that have unique perspectives, environments, and needs.

PAEA has been closely following the title change process since 2018 when John Burns, PA-C, represented the Association on the HOD title change advisory council. Before the HOD vote took place, PAEA considered the title change concept during two Board meetings and reviewed AAPA's research from the perspective of students and faculty. We also reached out to institutional leaders and deans and hosted a listening session to inform program directors and hear their perspectives. PAEA President Michel Statler testified during the AAPA reference committee that our member programs believed their priority should be creating a diverse PA workforce. After the vote passed supporting physician associate as the profession's new title, PAEA conducted a poll to determine members' stance on the title change and shared an estimate of the Association's costs to assist our members and advocate federally for the title change. The PAEA Board recognizes concerns raised that "physician assistant" does not

accurately describe for patients and other stakeholders the full scope of what the profession does and does not convey the value of our profession within the healthcare team and healthcare delivery system.

In crafting this position policy, the PAEA Board of Directors were guided by PAEA's priorities and guiding principles:

#### Mission

PAEA's mission, "leadership, innovation, and excellence in PA education," is at the heart and soul of all we do and every decision we make. We meet our mission by always listening to our members. On June 3, PAEA sent program directors a poll asking about their stance on the title change. The response rate was robust (54%), and the results indicate that 58% of our respondents favor the title change, and 42% do not. While there is no clear consensus among our members regarding the title change, our members expressed the need for continued information and guidance on title change updates.

#### Collaboration

Partnership is a foundational part of being a PA. At PAEA, we deeply value our relationships with physician partners. The founder of the PA profession was a physician, and physicians have always played a vital role in developing the PA profession and training and supporting PAs. PAEA leadership believes that trust between a patient and their medical care team begins with understanding each provider's role on the team. We believe it is vital for PAs to continue partnering with physicians and their broader healthcare teams to offer collaborative, compassionate care.

#### **Codification of Physician Associate**

Although associations and PA programs may change their titles and names, codifying language enacted through state and federal legislation is where the change is operationalized and put into practice. It is critical that as these efforts move forward, allowances are made for a transition from the title "physician assistant" to assure that all past and current graduates are able to seek licensure and credentials without restriction.

## **Engaging Students**

Students are the future of our profession. Aligning with our vision of "Health for All" in communities across the nation, we recognize the vital role that students will play in the PA profession for decades to come. Through outreach to programs and monitoring social media, we have found that students seem to support the title change. Throughout this process, we have considered their interests and needs and believe that this resolution reflects their perspective as the future of the PA profession.

Based on these guiding principles and input from multiple stakeholders, including our members and institutional leaders, the PAEA Title Change position policy is as follows.

**Motion**: Be it resolved that PAEA adopts the following position policy #18, PA Profession Title Change:

## **PA Profession Title Change**

PAEA will support and help guide all member programs through the name change process as state legislatures and accreditors codify the new title of "physician associate" during the transition.

## This motion was approved as part of the consent agenda.

**Other Items:** Ms. Statler took a personal point of privilege and thanked the PAEA Board and Staff for their stellar work managing the Association remotely since the start of the pandemic and provided a special recognition of those Board member rotating off the Board in 2021: Jonathan Bowser, Reamer Bushardt, Carl Garrubba, Mary Ruggeri, and Howard Straker.

The meeting was adjourned.