

**AAST Program Directors Subcommittee Phone Conference**

**Monday, November 25, 2024**

**Minutes**

Annie Moore

Jason Sciarretta

Jason Smith

Jeremy Levin

Jonathan Gates

Mbaga Walusimbi

Michael Cripps

Thomas Carver

Drew Nunn

Jen Knight Davis

Jeremy Levin

Jonathan Gates

Kazuhide Matsushima

Nick Nash

Rita Brintzenhoff

Shane Jensen

Steve Gondek

Thomas Easterday

Erin VanZant

Ron Tesoriero

Ziad Sifri

Greg Stettler

Christina Regelsberger-Alvarez

Linda Maerz

Deepi Koganti

Lou Magnotti

Nicole Garcia

Bryan Cotton

Laura Haines

Nishant Merchant

Dina Filiberto

Collin Stewart

1. ACS Committee Updates

Nicole Garcia and Ron Tesoriero will be serving as Vice Chairs of the PD Committee.

We have a couple small groups already working on two projects that we will be sharing with the committee in the coming year. The first is compiling data from graduated fellow survey from the past 5-6 years. The second is looking at the caselog numbers from the past few years to evaluate the minimum requirements that are in place.

We need to reactivate the group that was working with the ACGME on logging issues in the case log system.

The Didactic Curriculum is live on the website under the Acute Care Surgery tab. We are still working to upload all the resources. The Trauma section is much more complete than the EGS section, but the entire curriculum is being updated regularly. In addition, there have already been suggestions for new topics to be added to the curriculum. We plan to review and update the curriculum on a regular basis.

1. Ombudsman Update – Jason Smith

Jason Smith began the discussion on the role of the Ombudsman position for the AAST Fellowship programs and fellows. He asked for feedback on three areas:

* Experience of the ideal candidate? How long out of fellowship? Do they have to be a PD or history of being a PD? The group agreed that 4-5 years of experience was good, but specific program management was not necessary.
* Reporting requirements back to the program director subcommittee? How often would we want to see updates from the Ombudsman? Formal process? Ad hoc as things come through? An annual report at the AAST Annual Meeting and as needed throughout the year. Determine what issues warrant more frequent communication.
* Any must haves from the PD Subcommittee for this position and the relationship between ombudsman and PD Committee
1. MIS SubTrack – Michael Cripps

Michael Cripps presented the history of the ACS Committee’s work on subtracks. The Peds and Burn subtracks are active and available. In his role with SAGES, Michael has serves as liaison to SAGES. While the AAST can develop their own subtrack, but it was suggested that an MIS subtrack be developed in conjunction with SAGES to lend a little more credibility to the certificate. SAGES has developed the proposal and submitted it. Because the robotic tools are not widely available, we can’t make this a requirement, but we should look at a way to make this education available to fellows in some format.

1. SubTrack discussion

Concern about adding subtracks that contain elements that are done every day. Because every program is different and have different case loads and resources, this may be a supplement for some programs. Not sure a subtrack will add much more than what already exists. If we start developing subtracks, do we need to develop them for any area where we don’t have enough exposures. Does this start to hurt the differentiation of the programs. Could subtracks be an option for a fellow that wants more experience in a particular area and they can attend that program as an away rotation. Programs that have more volume in particular areas