

**AAST Program Directors Subcommittee Phone Conference**

**Monday, June 24, 2024**

**Notes**

Allison McNickle

Andrew Drahos

Annie Moore

Deepi Koganti

Jill Streams

Kazu Matsushima

Kevin Harrell

Mbaga Walusimbi

Jason Sciarretta

Mira Ghneim

Nate Mowery

Nick Nash

Nina Glass

Shane Jensen

Stephanie Savage

Thomas Easterday

VanZant

Nancy Parks

Ron Tesoriero

Laura Haines

Steve Gondek

Jonathan Gates

1. ACS Committee Updates
   1. Fellows Leaving Fellowship Early

Kevin Harrell presented his findings on fellows who left from classes of 2018 to 2024. Reasons varied from family reasons, no longer wanted an academic career, issues with 2nd year curriculum, found a job/financial considerations, and major issues with the program. The ACS Committee discussed this and decided to appoint an Ombudsman who can serve as a non-biased representative to follow up with departing fellows as well as address issues with programs. A more formal policy will be developed and shared with Programs.

* 1. Pre-Hospital Subtrack

ACS Committee discussed last week and wanted to see how the PD’s felt about developing this subtrack. The overall consensus was that it was probably not worth the time right now, but that we should begin thinking about how to include that information in the education curriculum or is it better to leave it with the individual programs. Because EMS is not uniform across states, it may be a challenge to have a uniform course presented by the AAST. It may be easier to leave it with the individual programs.

* 1. Survey Results  
     Graduated Fellow Survey Results will be distributed this week for your review. It will be on the July agenda for discussion.
  2. Bootcamp  
     We will be running a pilot program in early August with a small number of fellows at Shock Trauma to run through the program and work out any of the issues before opening this to all programs. We were able to collect a fair amount of donations from industry, however, many of the funds are restricted so we are still working through budgeting issues.
  3. Final Fellowship Exam

Exam will be open tomorrow, Tuesday, June 25th and will be open for just over two weeks, accounting for the Fourth of July holiday.

1. 2024 Projects
   1. Didactic Curriculum – There are just a few outstanding courses to be completed, but we plan to have this available to all PDs/Programs for the 2024-25 Academic year.
   2. Match Issues – the majority of the issue is around one year versus two-year programs. Are Fellows really interested in the two-year program or just applying to make sure they are accepted somewhere?
   3. Caselog Revisions – after using the system for a few years, a subcommittee is working with ACGME to make adjustments to the system that will help make it easier for Fellows to enter their cases and clear up areas of confusion. We are also investigating ways to eliminate double data entry for the SCC year.
2. Reminders and Upcoming Dates:
   1. Next Program Directors’ Meeting
      1. Monday, July 22nd