



Mentoring the Next Generation: How to Cultivate an AMA Student Chapter



MSS/SMS Joint Educational Program



Friday, June 12, 2009



AMA-MSS Organizational Structure

- Medical Student Section (AMA-MSS) is organized by chapters
- Each LCME and AOA-accredited medical school with medical student AMA members is considered a chapter
- Chapters serve as the primary unit for grassroots activity and AMA member recruitment



What is a Chapter Mentor?

- An academic physician (preferably an AMA member) who is involved in local and national organized medicine
- Serves as a contact person for the AMA-MSS chapter at his or her medical school

Why do Chapters Need a Mentor?

- Provides greater continuity from year to year in the working of the chapter
- Brings general organizational knowledge and institutional memory
- Successful chapters usually have a significant, invested local physician presence



Chapter Mentor Responsibilities

- Provide a link to the administration of the medical school
- Direct students to AMA resources, such as educational tools, publications, and the Web site
- Attend meetings of the AMA-MSS Chapter
- Assist in the planning of Chapter activities
- Assist in bringing guest lecturers to speak on medical and/or political issues



Chapter Mentor Responsibilities (continued)

- “Host” students at local, state and national meetings of organized medicine
- Help with fundraising efforts
- Assist students in getting involved with local, state or national lobbying efforts
- Be available to assist students and AMA staff in efforts to build or maintain the strength of the AMA-MSS Chapter