Dear AMA colleague,

We are writing to encourage you to join us in becoming a member of the AMA’s Academic Physicians Section (APS). It is a critical time for medical education in our country.

* Allopathic and osteopathic medical schools have been expanding both in number and class size, yet the number of residency slots has not substantially increased. This mismatch could increase the likelihood that U.S.-trained medical students are unable to match into residency positions. *How will these students cope with the hundreds of thousands of dollars in educational debt they have amassed?*
* Internationally trained physicians on visas are also facing challenges in securing residency positions in the United States. More recently, these physicians are threatened by proposed changes in immigration laws. *How might this affect the physician workforce our nation needs to meet our expanding and changing health care needs?*
* Teaching physicians in medical schools, teaching hospitals and voluntary physicians’ offices and clinics are under increased pressure to generate clinical revenue and find it difficult to make time available for teaching and mentoring students and residents. *Have we lost the “L” in Learning?*
* Major innovations in curricula are occurring in our medical schools.If you graduated more than five years ago, you probably wouldn’t recognize your medical school’s curriculum today! You would find earlier introduction of clinical experiences, health systems science, flipped classrooms and students who are more engaged in their community. *Wouldn’t you like to know more about these changes?*

Your AMA membership means you’re rewriting the book on medical education. Your participation in the APS, more specifically, ensures teaching physicians have a voice in addressing issues impacting the lives of students, residents, fellows and teaching physicians. The APS engages and informs the AMA Council on Medical Education as it creates reports and policies affecting the learning environment. The APS partners with the Medical Student Section, Resident and Fellow Section, and others in formulating and refining AMA resolutions for AMA House of Delegates’ meetings. The APS needs *your* voice, to assure that the interests of *all* teaching physicians are heard.

The Academic Physicians Section changed its name (from the Section on Medical Schools) to expand the breadth of its work and to engage any physician, in any practice environment, who teaches or mentors medical students, residents, and young physicians. We invite you to join us. Please contact Fred Lenhoff, our lead APS staff, at [fred.lenhoff@ama-assn.org](mailto:fred.lenhoff@ama-assn.org) or (312) 464-4635, to obtain the APS membership application, or reach out to us personally. To learn more about the APS, visit our website at [ama-assn.org/go/aps](http://www.ama-assn.org/go/aps).

We welcome your participation and look forward to hearing from you soon,

George Mejicano, MD, MS, FACP

Chair, APS Governing Council

mejicano@ohsu.edu

Peter Carmel, MD

Past President, AMA and Chair,   
APS Membership Committee

Cell: (312) 560 5945