Medical Student Section Committee Charters

Learn more about the work of the MSS Committees:

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AMA MSS Committee on Bioethics and Humanities

Committee Charter

Vision: The Committee on Bioethics and Humanities (CBH) will engage the larger AMA and MSS communities in critical and current topics on medical ethics and humanities. We encourage awareness of ethical and humanistic topics by facilitating discussions and highlighting experiences that affect the wellbeing of both patients and physicians.

Goals/Responsibilities:
- To facilitate discussions on ethics and humanities with the larger AMA body
- To advocate and educate on topics particularly focused on humanism and bioethics
- To plan and submit a minimum of 1 humanities and ethics centered program for AMA national conferences
- To grow and foster a relationship with the AMA Journal of Ethics and encourage student participation with the journal
- To collaborate with other bodies within the AMA to develop ethical policies that consider a broad range of perspectives from an ethical standpoint
- To promote member education through internal education through journal clubs, ongoing discussions, and social media engagement

Meetings:
- Monthly committee-wide video conference calls
- Subcommittee conference calls as well as ongoing group discussions focused on coordination and conference event planning
- Optional journal club topic discussion

Key Annual Projects:
- Interim and Annual AMA Conference Programming: Aimed at educating MSS and physician members on various ethical and humanistic topics. This has included partnering with other committees to collaborate on important and timely topics.
- Resolution Review: Providing feedback on resolutions proposed to the AMA and AMA-MSS regarding topics related to ethics and humanities
- Regular MSS Member Education: This has included monthly MSS Facebook page posts, internal topic discussions in committee group chats, and journal clubs
- Reports: Publishing reports relating to topics of bioethics and humanities as assigned by the MSS Governing Council.
AMA MSS Committee on Economics and Quality in Medicine

Committee Charter

Vision: An MSS armed with the health policy knowledge to educate their peers -- and their attendings. It is the Mission of CEQM to provide the resources, background, and educational materials to produce an informed MSS that can serve as ambassadors for quality and economics as they pertain to medicine. CEQM aims to produce policy briefs, social media content, and live programming that enable informed decision making and discussions about the future of medicine.

Goals/Responsibilities:
- To create 2 Policy Briefs on major contemporary issues
- To enable continuous engagement through biannual educational webinars
- To query and engage the MSS at large monthly through social media
- To mentor a corps of student members who engage deeply with health policy
- To review MSS Resolutions in preparation for the Annual and Interim Conferences
- To present high quality content and producing programming for the conferences

Meetings: Monthly Video Conference Calls discussing recent committee work, reviewing current events, planning future activity, and hosting a journal club.

Key Annual Projects:
- Policy Briefs - Serve as educational and comprehensive looks at upcoming healthcare policy and legislation to educate the MSS base and facilitate informed discussions.
- Ask CEQM - Solicits and answers questions put to CEQM from the general MSS on social media. Usually involves topical questions about health economics/quality improvement or health policy. Committee members select the top ranked question, formulate an answer within a few days, and rapidly turn around an answer for the MSS general body.
- Facebook Quick Economics and Quality (QEQ) - Shorter form introductions to common concepts in Economics and Quality that form the foundation for understanding the larger field.
- Committee Reports - Produced at the request of the MSS Governing Council and larger MSS Assembly. These documents not only cover and discuss the background of an issue, but also discuss solutions and provide policy recommendations.
- Annual/Interim Programming - Creates programming session for Interim and Annual meetings. Topic varies from year to year, past topics have included comparative health systems, and mergers and acquisitions in health care.
- Reviewing Resolutions for Annual and Interim Conferences relevant to committee areas of focus to provide feedback and guidance to authors and the Assembly.
AMA MSS Committee on Global and Public Health

Committee Charter

**Vision:** The Committee on Global and Public Health (CGPH) is dedicated to the education and awareness of current public health issues in the US and abroad amongst medical students and clinicians alike. We function to spread knowledge on how social determinants of health and recent global and domestic happenings can affect how clinicians can and should provide care to their patients. Previous experience or formal education in public health (such as obtaining an MPH) is not required but showing a history of interest in public health issues is highly regarded.

**Goals/Responsibilities:**
- To raise awareness of current events in the US and abroad that can affect the health of the general population
- To educate and inform members of the effects of social determinants of health on the health of our patients and how they can be addressed in our delivery of care
- To highlight the specific plights of groups due to varying sociopolitical and economic factors that may require special consideration by medical students and physicians
- To advocate for health equity among all populations in the US and abroad
- To organize public health initiatives, establishing the AMA as a leader in improving public health

**Meetings:**
- Monthly video conference calls attended by all members and smaller subcommittee conference calls as needed.

**Key Annual Projects:**
- **Collaborations with National Organizations** (APHA National Public Health Week, AAPHP partnership): Work with national organizations outside of the AMA to create educational material for medical students and clinicians on various public health topics and to examine public health curricula in medical education.
- **Interim and Annual AMA Conference Programming:** Aimed at educating members on various global and public health topics especially highlighting issues facing vulnerable populations nationally and globally.
- **Resolution Review:** Providing feedback on resolutions proposed to the AMA and AMA-MSS regarding topics related to global and public health
- **Regular MSS Member Education** (monthly MSS Facebook page posts, webinars/journal clubs): Using social media platforms and other methods of communication as a means to provide education to MSS members on current events that affect the health of the public domestically and abroad.
- **Reports:** Publishing reports relating to topics of global and public health as assigned by the MSS governing council.
AMA MSS Committee on Health Information Technology

Committee Charter

Vision: The Committee on Health Information Technology (CHIT) is dedicated to contributing to the formation of proactive, informed, and evidence based policies. The aim is to identify health information technology (HIT) related policy gaps and actively collaborate with members of the MSS assembly to fill these gaps in a timely manner. CHIT strives to educate MSS members regarding technological and policy related developments in the HIT space.

Goals/Responsibilities:

- To author informational reports and provide policy recommendations related to health information technology (HIT) as tasked by the MSS Governing Council
- To create robust health information technology policy via resolution writing
- To engage the larger AMA-MSS by providing content via social media and programming relating to current developments in HIT

Meetings:

1) Once a month for large group committee meetings in order to touch base with entire team and the status of individual/subcommittee projects
2) Approximately 2-4 a month for subcommittee meetings with the goal of organization and delegation of tasks related to the specific subcommittee goals. These will look different depending on which subcommittee members are a part of.

*All meetings are held via video conference.

Key Annual Projects:

- **Reports:**
  - Conduct primary literature reviews on health information topics
  - Write a summative report on the current body of knowledge
  - Formulate policy recommendations as assigned by the AMA-MSS GC

- **CHIT Chat:**
  - Provide content to the MSS facebook page during National Health IT Week
  - Update AMA-MSS with new development in HIT sphere via social media

- **Resolution writing and review:**
  - Identify policy gaps relating HIT and submit resolutions at annual and interim addressing these gaps. While Committees cannot formally author resolutions, we believe that it is important that our members work together to form well-crafted resolutions to be submitted as individual authors.
  - Review resolutions submitted by MSS members in the area of HIT to provide feedback and guidance, ensuring quality policy proposals

- **Programming:**
  - Submit at least 1 programming proposal for annual and interim to educate attendees about HIT
AMA MSS Committee on Legislation and Advocacy

Committee Charter

Vision: The Committee on Legislation and Advocacy is dedicated to assisting medical students around the country in their advocacy initiatives. COLA aims to provide resources and educational materials that will ensure a Medical Student Section engaged in the legislative process and advocacy.

Goals/Responsibilities:
- To create and maintain a network of medical school sections to accomplish grassroots advocacy
- To advance key student issues through educational initiatives at each national meeting
- To assist with grassroots campaigns for specific Medical Student Section priority issues by providing strategy, sample letters, talking points and additional information and resources

Meetings: Monthly all-committee video conference calls to provide updates about big projects and brief member-led education. Additional subcommittee meetings as needed for specific advocacy projects, resolution review, and programming session development.

Key Projects:
- **Resolution Review:** COLA members provide edits on Resolution first drafts and testimony for resolutions on the Virtual Reference Committee and the floor of the Assembly at national meetings
- **National Advocacy Week (NAW) Collaboration:** COLA works under GRAF leadership to assist with tasks for NAW including drafting policy briefs as well as creating and promoting social media content
- **Annual and Interim Programming:** the committee develops, organizes, and facilitates educational programming for attendees at the Annual and Interim meetings
AMA MSS Committee on LGBTQ+ Issues
Committee Charter

**Vision:** The Committee on LGBTQ+ Issues represents the interests of patients and physicians from sexual and gender minorities (SGMs) and reviews policy at the MSS and AMA level related to SGM health. The goal of the Committee is to ensure that existing AMA policy is based in evidence-based science as it relates to SGM patients and to propose policy changes based in scientific findings. Additionally, the Committee aims to provide expertise in LGBTQ+ issues by reviewing resolutions related to SGMs, offering testimony, and reviewing current literature to make recommendations.

**Goals/Responsibilities:**
- To develop educational programming sessions for medical students at national AMA MSS meetings and on social media.
- To assist in the creation and the review of policy proposals related to LGBTQ+ issues.
- To collaborate with other committees and groups within the AMA as LGBTQ-related policy issues & opportunities arise.

**Meetings:**
- Monthly committee-wide video conference calls with more frequent check-ins around Conferences as needed.

**Key Projects:**
- **Reviewing Resolutions** for Annual and Interim Conferences relevant to committee areas of focus to provide feedback and guidance to authors and the Assembly. The following are examples of resolutions written by committee members:
  - **FMLA Equivalent for LGBTQ+ Employees**
    - Adopted by MSS at I-17 and AMA/HOD at A-18
    - [Resulting press release from AMA & Human Rights Campaign](#)
  - **Resolution: Revision of Blood Donor Deferral Criteria**
    - [Resultant letter to the FDA, providing guidance on individual risk assessment](#)
- **Annual/Interim Programming:** The committee members develop programming sessions for the Interim and Annual meetings on topics relevant to LGBTQ+ issues, such:
  - “Rights: What Are They and Who Ensures They are Protected?”
    - Guest speaker: **Frank Clark, MD:** Professor of Psychiatry, Medical University of South Carolina; Chair, Minority Affairs Section
  - “LGBTQ+ Research and the PRIDE Study: What Do We Know and What Don’t We Know?”
    - Guest speaker: **Carl G Streed, Jr, MD:** Research Fellow, Brigham and Women’s Hospital; Immediate Past Chair, LGBTQ Advisory Committee
- **Additional Projects:** Webinars, Journal Clubs, Discussions of Current Events/LGBTQ+ Policy
AMA MSS Committee on Long Range Planning

Committee Charter

Vision: To understand the future directions of medicine, to work towards bettering the future of medicine, and to understand the roles the AMA-MSS should represent in these future directions through study and programming.

Goals/Responsibilities:
- To develop timely and comprehensive reports in response to Governing Council assignments and directives, which are considered items of business in the MSS Assembly;
- To testify as subject matter experts for the AMA MSS;
- To provide mentorship and feedback to medical students across the nation during the resolution writing process that precedes each national conference;
- To develop and present programming on subject matter expertise at each national Conference.

Meetings:
- Once Monthly Video Conference Calls - Video Conference call times and dates are determined by committee availability. All COLRP members are expected to attend.
- Committee Updates and Conversations through Slack, email, and Trello.

Key Projects:
- "Is there a Vaccine for Burnout?": COLRP began its focus on medical student burnout at Interim 2017. Since that time, national meeting programming has evolved to allow medical students to connect individually and in group settings, discuss burnout in their own lives, and develop resiliency techniques to help them combat burnout. Aims for the project continue to evolve, with hopes of creating a member toolkit that can be utilized in between meetings.
- Annual Reports: Annual Report topics will vary based on what is assigned to COLRP. Common focuses in COLRP studies include predicting the long term impact of a particular policy, cross examining the implementation of initiatives, and tracking and updating the impact of policy changes. COLRP reports can include synthesis of current available research or de novo research from surveys, studies, targeted interviewing and more!
- Longevity in Medicine: Address the growing impact of burnout in both medical students and the medical community at large and discuss and study the impact various initiatives to address medical student debt. Addressing these two focuses include reports, annual programming, and discussions with AMA leadership.
AMA MSS Committee on Medical Education

Committee Charter

Vision: The Committee on Medical Education (CME) has a wide scope of interest incorporating everything involved in undergraduate and graduate medical education (UME, GME). The committee’s main areas of concern are curriculum content and structure, assessments (USMLE, COMLEX, etc), and fair practices in UME and GME. CME aims to close policy gaps regarding medical education by working with the AMA-MSS and creating actionable resolutions. CME also educates AMA-MSS about current issues commonly discussed in medical education circles.

Goals/Responsibilities:
- To review MSS Resolutions in preparation for the Annual and Interim Conferences
- To develop educational programming for medical students, both virtual and in-person at national conferences
- To serve as the content experts on the field of medical education for the MSS
- To advocate for student needs with regards to undergraduate and graduate medical education

Meetings:
- Committee-wide video conference meetings twice a month with member-led journal club discussions, resolution review, report writing, and educational program development

Key Projects:
- Journal Club Discussions: Member-led education and discussion during committee meetings on the latest topics in undergraduate and graduate medical education
- Educational Webinars: Virtual programs developed by committee members featuring expert speakers for medical students on social media on medical education topics
- Committee Reports: Produced at the request of the MSS Governing Council and larger MSS Assembly. These documents not only cover and discuss the background of an issue, but also discuss solutions and provide policy recommendations.
- Annual/Interim Programming: The committee members create programming sessions for the Interim and Annual meetings on topics relevant to medical student education, such as how to have difficult end-of-life conversations.
- Reviewing Resolutions for Annual and Interim Conferences relevant to committee areas of focus to provide feedback and guidance to authors and the Assembly.
- Summer Opportunities Database: A committee-curated collection of summer opportunities for first year medical students involving health policy/health systems by surveying students for past experiences and recommendations.
AMA MSS Committee on Scientific Issues

Committee Charter

Vision: The Committee on Scientific Issues aims to engage the AMA-MSS in discussing the latest scientific and technological advancements and issues. Foremost, our goal is to raise awareness about the impact of such developments on academic research, medical education, and patient care. Lastly, we aim to increase medical student interest in research, and help them appreciate the impact of research on the advancement of medical care, as well as career development.

Goals/Responsibilities:

● To develop guides to address AMA policy gaps on novel scientific issues and serve as a reference to medical students who are interested in working on science-related resolutions.
● To engage with the AMA Research Symposium by selecting abstracts for the medical student section and assisting during the event.
● To develop programming for national AMA-MSS meetings, and organizes talks, interviews, and forums on scientific topics of interest.
● To serve as an informational resource to the Medical Student Section Assembly on resolutions related to recent scientific developments, and the integration of science into the medical education.

Meetings: monthly committee-wide video conference calls

Key Projects:

● **AMA Research Symposium:** Held annually at the Interim Meeting, the Symposium features medical student research through poster presentations. Committee members review, score, and select abstracts for the Symposium in September.
● **CSI Policy Guide:** The committee researches current AMA policy and identifies policy gaps that could be addressed with future AMA resolutions.
● **Annual/Interim Programming:** The committee members develop programming sessions for the Interim and Annual meetings on topics relevant to scientific issues in medicine, such as the FDA drug review process and the science of pain with regards to the use of Opioids.
● **Reviewing Resolutions** for the Annual and Interim Meetings relevant to committee areas of focus to provide feedback and guidance to authors and the Assembly.
● **CSI Interview Series:** Committee members interview physician and/or scientist experts on topics related to science and technology to educate medical students via social media.
AMA MSS Community Service Committee

Committee Charter

**Vision:** An MSS that engages with the communities surrounding their home institutions and with the communities that host national AMA meetings. This engagement extends beyond students’ clinical responsibilities, into psychosocial and economic interventions.

**Goals/Responsibilities:**
- To support the National Service Project, a nation-wide AMA initiative currently directed to combat the opioid crisis
- To enable MSS participation by providing service opportunities at Interim and Annual
- To organize, market, and execute these service opportunities, as well as to evaluate their impact and success.
- To support Region Community Service Chairs in their initiatives
- To encourage community service at the school level through activities like service project competitions and the Project Idea Book
- To mentor a corps of student members who are passionate about the economic and social issues affecting their communities

**Meetings:** monthly video conference calls discussing committee initiatives, planning service events, and generating ideas for improvement.

**Key Projects:**
- **Educational programming and service events at Interim and Annual Meetings:** Opportunities for conference attendees to serve the community hosting the conference, or programming that educates and empowers students to better serve their home communities.
- **Project idea book:** A compilation of service project ideas for local AMA sections that address the National Service Project theme for the year
AMA MSS House of Delegates Coordination Committee
Committee Charter

Vision: The House of Delegates Coordination Committee (HCC) aims to improve the quality of resolutions submitted to the MSS Assembly and advise the Assembly of redundancy with or explicit contradiction of existing policy so that it may focus attention on substantive debate of novel submissions. We also provide for the faithful expression of the Section’s will by its representatives to the AMA House of Delegates and we create a record of policy hearings and debates at meetings of the HOD for the Section’s future reference.

Goals/Responsibilities:

- To provide a thorough review of all resolutions submitted to our MSS assembly and all resolutions and reports submitted to our HOD through the lens of our MSS policy and, when relevant, HOD policy.
- To provide MSS authors with a resource designed to facilitate the direction of their advocacy goals.

Meetings:

- House Coordinating Committee members are organized into teams led by HCC leadership and appointed tenured members with some oversight from leadership.
- Teams meet weekly to discuss all resolutions reviewed using the platform of their choice.
- Full committee meetings are held before each new resolution check point.

Key Projects:

- Open Forum Review: committee members provide feedback on resolution ideas posted on the Open Forum.
- Draft Resolution Review: committee members examine draft resolution submissions for the Annual and Interim Meetings.
- Final Resolution Review: committee members examine and assist in the scoring of final resolution submissions for the Annual and Interim Meetings.
- House of Delegates Resolution Review: committee members join Region Delegates and Alternates in reviewing resolutions submitted to the AMA House of Delegates and work on small teams to record the discourse in live reference committee hearings and in the HOD.

Committee Email: hcc.amamss@gmail.com
AMA MSS Membership, Engagement, and Recruitment Committee

Committee Charter

**Vision:** The Membership, Engagement, & Recruitment Committee works to increase national membership and bolster current member engagement in the AMA-MSS. The committee will create tangible products that sections and members can utilize for guiding section involvement in the AMA and the MSS. The committee will work to increase the visibility of the AMA-MSS.

**Goals/Responsibilities:**

- To create tangible products that sections and region leadership can use to increase member recruitment and engagement
- To work closely with staff to amplify existing recruitment efforts to increase membership in the MSS
- To use social media and other platforms to increase the awareness of MSS member opportunities and to increase engagement
- To work closely with the Governing Council and other standing committees to advertise their efforts and expand visibility of MSS projects
- To coordinate outreach, informational and recruitment efforts between national, regional, state and medical school sections levels of involvement
- To strive to find ways to further the value of AMA membership to medical students
- To integrate and direct social media efforts for the Medical Student Section in conjunction with MSS leadership and staff

**Meetings:**

- Monthly committee-wide video conference calls with additional project meetings as needed

**Key Projects:**

- **Social Media Publicity Campaigns:** Use existing hashtags and social media efforts to increase awareness of the AMA and the MSS. Takeover social media at Annual/Interim to show what occurs at the meetings.
- **Section Spotlight:** Feature different AMA school sections around the country on AMA social media platforms to highlight their innovative and commendable programs
- **Podcast Club:** Foster discussion among medical students on social media by featuring various podcasts on hot topics in medicine
- **Section Expansion Contact Spreadsheet:** Maintain an updated list of developing AMA school sections and work with them to increase engagement with the AMA
- **National Meeting Buddy Pairing System:** Coordinate a mentor pairing system between first time and experienced attendees at the Annual and Interim meetings
AMA MSS Minority Issues Committee  
Committee Charter

Vision: The Minority Issues Committee (MIC) aims to address health issues and disparities specific to minority and marginalized populations through policy development, health education, and service. The Committee identifies minority medical student needs and ways to bring awareness and knowledge to the unique experiences of minority medical students, as well as to contribute to increasing AMA-MSS minority membership and inclusiveness.

Goals/Responsibilities:
- To raise awareness, educate, and advocate for minority health issues and also those pertaining to minorities in medicine and in the AMA.
- To submit at least one programming event idea and one resolution about minority issues per AMA conference (resolution cannot be submitted on behalf of the committee, but as individuals).
- To collaborate with outside organizations, such as SNMA, LMSA, and APAMSA, to better address minority issues as well as fostering better relationships with the AMA-MSS and these organizations.
- To working with the MSS Governing Council to bolster minority involvement and inclusion in the AMA-MSS and to bring up the unique perspectives of minority AMA-MSS members.

Meetings: Monthly committee-wide video conference calls with subcommittee conference calls as needed.

Key Annual Projects:
- Social Media Campaigns and Education: This includes but is not limited to having a social media presence during national awareness months, such as Black History Month, Hispanic Heritage Month, and Asian Pacific Islander Month.
- AMA Annual and Interim Programming: The committee members develop programming sessions for the Interim and Annual meetings on various minority health and medical student topics and issues.
- MSS Resolution Review: Committee members provide feedback and guidance to authors and the Assembly on MSS resolutions regarding topics related to minority health and minority medical students for Annual and Interim Conferences.
- Committee Reports: Produced at the request of the MSS Governing Council and larger MSS Assembly on topics of minority health and minority medical students. These documents not only cover and discuss the background of an issue, but also discuss solutions and provide policy recommendations.
- Doctors Back to School Volunteering: Volunteer with the Minority Affairs Section during conferences by going into high schools to talk to minority youth about choosing a career in medicine.
AMA MSS Women in Medicine
Committee Charter

Vision: The Women in Medicine Committee is dedicated to the mentorship and advocacy of women in medicine. The committee aims to engage MSS members in current topics that affect women, honor current women in leadership, and promote policy for the betterment of women's health and women in medicine.

Goals/Responsibilities:
- To raise awareness of current events and issues in the US and globally that can affect women’s health and women in medicine
- To advocate for important topics related to women’s health
- To be the voice of MSS for the unique needs, challenges, and talents of female medical students
- To promote mentorship between women in medicine

Meetings: Monthly full committee video conference calls with one or more monthly subcommittee meetings as needed

Key Projects:
- Programming session at national meetings: engaging MSS members in highlighting issues affecting women’s health or women in medicine
- Social media campaigns (i.e. Women’s Health Week, Women’s Month): identifying and promoting issues that affect women’s health or featuring female leaders in medicine on AMA social media platforms
- Resolution review: providing feedback on resolutions related to women’s health or women in medicine for national meetings
- Reports: development of reports assigned by the MSS Governing Council for any resolution on women’s health or women in medicine that are referred to study by the MSS Assembly