Participants
37 section members in attendance included: Emily B Sagalyn, MD, FACEP, Chair; Lori Weichenthal, MD, FACEP, Immediate Past Chair; Tara Taylor-Jean Haston, DO, Chair-Elect; Susanne J Spano, MD, FACEP, Councilor; Martha Barrett, MD, FACEP; Adam C Benzing, MD; Michael J Caudell, MD, FACEP; Ethan Benjamin Deckert, MD; Charles Duke, MD; Cassie Lowry Edmark; Blaine D Evans, DO; Carlton E Heine, MD, PhD, FACEP; Nicholas Michael Glover; Bruce E Harvey, MD, FACEP; Seth Collings Hawkins, MD, FACEP; Daniel Holleyman, MD; Carl Victor Hurtig, MD; Hillary R Irons, MD, PhD, FACEP; Bryan Thomas Jarrett, MD; Stefan Jensen, MD; Austin T Jones; Christopher S Kang, MD, FACEP; Erwin L Kong, MD; Grant S Lipman, MD, FACEP; Lillian J Lockwood, MD, FACEP; Meganna Martin, MD; Yevgeniy Maksimenko, MD; Scott E McIntosh, MD, FACEP; Amanda Montgomery, MD; Andre Michael Pennardt, MD, FACEP; Tim M Plonk, MD; Tzlil Perahia, MD; Walter Alan Schrading, MD, FACEP; Harry Eugene Sibold, MD, FACEP; William R Smith, MD, FACEP; David F Toro, MD, FACEP; Jeffrey Wayland

12 others participating in the meeting included: Lauren Altschuh, MD; Miriam N Asher; Howard D Backer, MD, MPH, FACEP; James Jacob Fabiszak; Sar Medoff, MD; Alex Payne; Jessica Walrath, MD; Craig R Warden, MD; Maude S. Hancock, Staff Liaison and Representatives from BTG Inc.

Agenda
1. Welcome and Introductions
2. Review and Approval of 2017 meeting minutes
3. Councilor Report
4. Wilderness Medicine Photo Contest Results
5. engagED: New Online Member Community Demo and Q&A
6. Thailand Cave Rescue Presentation by William R Smith, MD, FACEP
7. Board Liaison Report
8. Committee Chair Reports
9. Elections for Committee Chairs
10. Section Goals / Activities for 2018-19
   a. Refer to the 2017 minutes for the list of committees and objectives
   b. Incorporate goals and activities identified into committee objectives
   c. Set timeline for progress reports and completion of objectives

Major Points Discussed
1. Dr. Sagalyn welcomed everyone to the meeting. The section officers in attendance: Emily B Sagalyn, MD, FACEP (Chair) Lori Weichenthal, MD, FACEP (Immediate Past Chair) Tara Taylor-Jean Haston, DO (Chair-Elect) introduced themselves. Elections were done electronically ahead of the meeting this year. Officers were installed at ACEP18 and will serve a 2-year term.

   **Chair** - Emily B. Sagalyn, MD, FACEP
   **Chair-elect** - Taylor Haston, DO
   **Secretary/Newsletter Editor** – David Young, MD
   **Immediate Past Chair** - Lori Weichenthal, MD, FACEP
   **Councillor** - Susanne J. Spano, MD, FACEP
   **Alternate Councillor** – Brendan Milliner, MD

2. The 2017 annual meeting minutes were approved.

3. Dr. Spano, Section Alternate Councilor reported on the council meeting. No resolutions presented this year pertained specifically to wilderness medicine, but she highlighted a few of the most contentious ones as well as the commendation for Dr. Rogers. A report will be circulated after ACEP18.

4. Dr. Heine gave an overview of the Wilderness Medicine Photo Contest and announced this year’s winner: Brian M Scheele, DO for his photograph: *17k Camp high on a Denali NPS patrol as the team physician*. John Dietrich Anderson, MD, FACEP received an honorable mention for *Wilderness medicine class trying to ignore the scenery and focus on the patient. Refugio Bonatti, Val Ferret, Italy*. 96 photos were submitted this year.

5. Ms. Hancock provided an overview of the new engagED online member community, what it means for the section and how to get started. She reminded everyone that the section e-list was being phased out by the end of the year and to update their contact list with the new community email address.

6. William R Smith, MD, FACEP offered a captivating presentation on the Thailand Cave Rescue highlighting its enormous level of complexity, from preparation to execution.

7. Dr. Kang gave a brief report from the ACEP Board. He also thanked the section leaders and members for another successful year and offered his support as the section plans their initiatives for the year ahead. Ms. Hancock reported that the section had received the Service to Section Award for producing: *Adventures Outside the ED: A Wilderness Experience in the ACEP17 Exhibit Hall*. Dr. Hawkins mentioned that he and Drs. Abo, Millin and Smith held a successful 2-
day Wilderness EMS Medical Director pre-conference on September 29 and 30 for 28 participants.

8. The Chairs and members in attendance from the various committees reported on their latest accomplishments and activities and discussed potential initiatives for the 2018-19 section year:

   a. **Residency Committee**: Charlie Duke, MD discussed the EMRA MedWAR taking place on October 4 at Cuyamaca Rancho State Park, San Diego, CA.

   b. **Fellowship Directors Committee**: Susanne J Spano, MD, FACEP reported that the committee held a meeting on Monday, October 1. 14 attended the meeting and 8 wilderness medicine fellowship programs were represented. Discussion items included the offer date, investing in a matching software, peer review of programs by SAEM and WMS and finding a system/platform for the test bank.

   c. **Liaison Committee**: Lillian J Lockwood, MD, FACEP reported that she had conversations with the Pediatric, Disaster and EMS sections about potential collaboration and will reach out to them as the sections refine their upcoming initiatives. Adam C Benzing, MD volunteered to be the liaison to the EMS section.

   d. **Activities Committee**: No activity was held in 2018. New section secretary David Young, MD was nominated to chair the Activities Committee for 2019 and David F Toro, MD, FACEP volunteered to help with events(s).

   e. **Exhibit-Simulated Outdoor Setting**: Michael J. Caudell, MD, FACEP reported that the experience in 2017 was a success. It increased involvement by many more section members than those who are officers or committee chairs. It was also an opportunity for the section to interact with other sections such as EMS and Aerospace Medicine. For non-section members, it promoted education about wilderness medicine, was an avenue to easily get that information, generate interest and get involved. Sponsors mentioned it was worthwhile to them, they specifically like the format, a different venue compared to their usual individual booth. It was a heavy lift for the few section members and staff who lead the project. If we were to try to repeat the experience, collaborating and sharing the space with 2 other sections (Pediatric and Wellness were mentioned) would be a more realistic commitment for section members.

   f. **Environmental and Human Health Committee**: Renee Salas, MD could not be in attendance and provided a written report:

      i. ACEP Policy Statement on Climate Change and Public Health was passed in June 2018 (link).

      ii. ACEP Fossil Fuel Divestment Resolution did not pass on September 30, 2018.

      iii. SAEM Climate Change and Health Interest Group was formed in April 2018. This is a forum for continued collaboration for ACEP and advancement of climate change and health for emergency medicine nationally.

      iv. California ACEP joined the Medical Society Consortium on Climate and Health. It is the hope that once SAEM joins (which should be shortly), then ACEP itself can be asked to join as this is directly in line with their passed policy statement in June 2018.

9. **Elections for Committee Chairs**
a. **Residency Committee**: As Chair of the EMRA Wilderness Medicine Division, Charlie Duke, MD remains Chair until 4/2019 when Vice Chair Lauren Altschuh, MD takes over.

b. **Fellowship Directors Committee**: Susanne J. Spano, MD, FACEP

c. **Liaison Committee**: Chair: Lillian J Lockwood, MD, FACEP, liaison to the Disaster section. Member: Adam C Benzing, MD, liaison to the EMS section.

d. **Activities Committee**: Chair: David Young, MD. Member: David F Toro, MD, FACEP

e. **Exhibit-Simulated Outdoor Setting**: On hiatus as we evaluate a cross-section model

f. **Environmental and Human Health Committee**: Renee Salas, MD

**Other Business**

Offering AWLS as a pre-conference was mentioned. More discussion and research would be needed.

Dr. Haston encouraged all section members to continue to share their “Life Fuel” via short blurbs in the newsletter. She also urged current and new Fellows to share their experiences in the newsletter’s dedicated “Fellow’s Corner”. Submit your articles and/or photos to newly elected secretary/newsletter editor: [David Young, MD](mailto:David.Young@medschool.virginia.edu).

Dr. Sagalyn closed the meeting by urging attendees to keep the excitement going and to get involved with the section by joining a committee, submitting a course proposal, proposing a section activity, writing for the newsletter, etc.

Representatives from BTG were in attendance and announced an upcoming educational program that may be of interest to the section members. For more information, visit: [https://www.crofab.com/Strike-Back-Envenomation-Education/Webinars](https://www.crofab.com/Strike-Back-Envenomation-Education/Webinars).