Participants
Section members in attendance included Marion McDevitt, DO, FACEP, Chair, Michael J. Caudell, MD, FACEP, Immediate Past Chair; Susanne Spano, MD, FACEP, Councillor; Paul S. Auerbach, MD, MS, FACEP; Nicole J. Battaglioli, MD; Julio M. De Pena Batista, MD, FACEP; Carlton E. Heine, MD, PhD, FACEP; Hillary R. Irons, MD, PhD; Renee Salas, MD; Walter Schrading, MD, FACEP; Ian S. Wedmore, MD, FACEP; Christopher Williams, MD; Megann Young, MD, FACEP

Non ACEP members in attendance included N. Stuart Harris, MD; Christopher Williams, MD; Pranav Koirala, MBBS, DiMM, DMEM (Nepal)

Maude S. Hancock, ACEP Staff Liaison

5 Fellowship Programs were represented at the meeting: UCSF Fresno (CA); Georgia Regents University (Augusta University) (GA); Madigan Army Medical Center (WA); Massachusetts General Hospital (MA); Stanford (CA)

University of Alabama and University of Arizona are both exploring starting a Fellowship in Wilderness Medicine.

Agenda

1. Welcome and Introduction
2. Confirmatory Offer Date Discussion
3. Question Bank
4. Opportunities
5. Other Business
Major Items Discussed

1. Section Chair Marion McDevitt, DO, FACEP welcomed everyone to the meeting and had the attendees introduce themselves.

2. Confirmatory Offer Date Discussion:
   a. November 1 was the agreed upon date (12pm Eastern / 9am Pacific), but it was brought up to the group that there may have been a violation of the agreement.
   b. There was a discussion about whether the following two scenarios were considered violations of the agreement:
      i. A program offering a fellowship to an applicant who is not interviewing with any other program as long as the program is also not interviewing any other candidates.
      ii. A program offering a fellowship to an applicant who is a resident in the same institution as long the candidate is not interviewing with any other program AND the program is also not interviewing any other candidates.
   c. The group agreed that the second scenario could constitute an exception to the agreement, but not the first. Dr. McDevitt will be put this to a vote via the Fellowship Program Directors listserv.
   d. The original agreement was reached last year in order to protect the applicants and Dr. McDevitt offered to speak to the fellowship program director accused of the violation.
   e. Dr. Auerbach suggested changing the offer date from November 1 to October 1 to allow more time for the paperwork to be completed. The group liked the idea, but is aware that ACEP's Scientific Assembly is usually a popular venue for some programs to interview candidates. Dr. McDevitt will also put the date change suggestion to a vote via the Fellowship Program Directors listserv. If it passes, we will need to ensure that the information is shared and easily available to ACEP members, SAEM, EMRA, etc. If passed, this change would only take effect in the fall of 2016. Dr. McDevitt will work with Ms. Hancock on disseminating the information.

3. Question Bank:
   a. Dr. McDevitt mentioned that Jennifer Dow, MD, FACEP is still working on the test question bank and is accepting questions from contributors. Those interested to contribute to this project can email Dr. Dow.

4. Upcoming Training Opportunities
   a. Dr. Wedmore invited the group the spread the word to their fellows about the Madigan Army Medical Center's Mountain Medicine Course. It runs for 2 weeks in early May. The course accepts non-military, as long as there is space. Those interested, contact Dr. Wedmore.
   b. Dr. Wedmore also mentioned a fellow exchange program with USC San Diego in mountain or dive medicine. The programs are 1 to 4 weeks of training.
5. Other Items Discussed
   a. Dr. Caudell proposed doing a “survey” to all the fellowship programs, asking
      them what they are doing with the goal to get a snapshot of the landscape
      and share with other programs.
   b. Dr. McDevitt mentioned that the University of Utah was doing a
      GoToMeeting Journal Club. She suggested expanding the concept to all
      interested fellowships. One meeting per month, with the fellowships
      rotating.
      i. Dr. Salas liked the idea and will look into the possibility of setting up
         monthly meetings via Google Hangouts.
      ii. Ms. Hancock will investigate whether the section could host the
          meetings via ACEP’s GoToMeeting account.
   c. To build on the fellow exchange program mentioned by Dr. Wedmore, the
      group discussed making a multi-program calendar of courses and
      activities available to the section. Dr. Spano offered to put together a
      calendar and Ms. Hancock will set up a page for it on the section website.
   d. Dr. Auerbach built on Dr. Caudell’s idea of a survey to the programs and
      asked if the group would be interested to find out how many fellows go on to
      be involved with wilderness medicine x years after they completed their
      fellowship and to what degree? In other words, what does it mean to be a
      fellow in wilderness medicine? How can applicants have a career in WM?
      Dr. McDevitt, Dr. Caudell and Ms. Hancock will investigate feasibility of
      such surveys.
   e. Starting a new fellowship: A few participants in the meeting are currently
      investigating the steps to starting a new fellowship in WM. They were
      attending hoping to gather information from the group, find out about best
      practices, lessons learned etc. The group discussed various components such
      as funding structure (i.e.: salary + x amount of shifts per month + CME) as
      well as didactic and experiential curriculum options. Ms. Hancock will add
      those individuals to the WM Fellowship Directors listserv.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2pm.