

**American College of Emergency Physicians  
Section of Medical Humanities**

October 31, 2017  
Washington, DC

**MINUTES**

Participating in all or part of the meeting were: Jay M. Baruch, MD, FACEP; Arlene Chung, MD; Henry A. Curtis, MD, FACEP; Arthur Derse, MD, JD, FACEP; Mert Erogul, MD; Alexandra Godfrey, PA-C; J. Shane Hardin, MD, PhD; Seth C. Hawkins, MD, FACEP; Hans R. House, MD, FACEP; Joshua Schiller, MD; Barbra Villona, MD, FACEP.

Others participating: Tracy Napper, ACEP staff liaison.

**Agenda**

1. Call to Order
2. Current Activities
  - A. Officer election results
  - B. Newsletter update
  - C. Writing Award for 2017
  - D. Visual Arts Award for 2017
  - E. Social media presence
  - F. Section grant update
  - G. "Story slam" event
3. Adjourn

**Major Points Discussed**

1. The meeting was called to order by outgoing section chair Jay M. Baruch, MD, FACEP. He welcomed everyone and asked everyone present to introduce themselves.
2. New Business
  - A. Dr. Baruch asked everyone to please send newsletter articles to Dr. Paganussi or Ms. Napper. He reminded attendees that the ACEP copyright form does not remove their rights to their own work; this is for ACEP to reproduce their work in the newsletter. Also, if anyone needs help polishing their submissions, he is willing to assist via email. He also reminded everyone to use the section Facebook and Twitter page as a way to engender community, make announcements (books being published, events coming up, etc). Dr. Hawkins said that the Wilderness Section also does a photo award and that perhaps we could "cross-pollinate" with

- that section. Dr. Hawkins and Dr. Baruch will work on creating a common hashtag with the Wilderness Section to spread the word.
- B. Dr. Baruch gave an update on the progress of the section grant project, “Medical Humanities at the Bedside.” The Web site is almost complete and ready for promotion to ACEP membership. Members are invited to review and provide comments to Dr. Baruch and Dr. Himelfarb. The site is located at <https://www.acep.org/humanities-at-the-bedside/>. More resources for the Resource tab are needed. Dr. Baruch also reminded everyone that not every piece that was submitted could be included, but that this site is evolving, so please contact him or Dr. Himelfarb if you have material you think should be included.
  - C. Dr. Hawkins gave a report on the proceedings of the ACEP Council meeting. He provided the ACEP election results. For our section, the incoming chair is Robert C. Solomon, MD, FACEP. Dr. Paganussi will continue as newsletter editor. Dr. Hawkins will be the councillor, with David P. Sklar, MD, FACEP, as alternate councillor.
  - D. Dr. House presented Dr. Baruch with his certificate of appreciation for his service for the last 4 years as section chair. Dr. Baruch thanked everyone and said it had been a great honor and that he hoped to continue to contribute to the section. He also thanked Hagan Barron Intermediaries (HBI) for sponsoring the section breakfast.
  - E. The Writing Award for 2017 was given to Alexandra Godfrey, PA-C, for her piece, “Innocence.” The Visual Arts Award for 2017 was given to Dr. Bella Shah for her work, “Lunch Break.” Dr. Shah was not able to attend the meeting. It was decided that next year the Writing Award should have 2 categories, for prose and poetry.
  - F. Dr. Baruch said that Dr. Hawkins’ new book, “Wilderness EMS,” has just been published. Dr. Hawkins said that his book does include some humanities information. Dr. Hawkins then went on to suggest that the section create a book of all of the past Writing and Visual Arts award winners. This could be an e-book that all ACEP members could enjoy. Ms. Napper suggested he submit a section grant and aim to have the book published in 2019 to coincide with the section’s 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Dr. Hawkins will spearhead this project.
  - G. Dr. Schiller and Dr. Chung explained the background and importance of their “story slam” event; more information can be found at [airwaystories.org](http://airwaystories.org). They suggested ways these events can be set up and promoted. Members shared their stories, and Ms. Godfrey read her Writing Award-winning piece, “Innocence,” as well as another piece, “Photograph.”

The meeting was adjourned.