

Facts about ACEP Fellow Resolution 11(07) and Proposed Resolutions 9(08), 10(08), 11(08) and 12(08)

- Resolution 11(07) removed only the requirement of ABEM/AOBEM board certification. All other criteria remain the same or made more stringent.
- ACEP is a MEMBER organization, NOT a CERTIFICATION organization. Fellowship is a MEMBERSHIP issue.
- Resolution 11(07) was good for the organization by increasing Legacy Physician activity at the grass-roots, state chapter level.
- Resolution 11(07) did not harm the organization. Membership has increased nearly 8% since the passage of Resolution 11(07).
- FACEP is not a credential. It is an honor and membership designation.
- ACEP does NOT recognize any substitute for ABEM/AOBEM certification.
- The 24(05) Taskforce on Fellowship could not find any evidence that employers consider FACEP to be equivalent to board certification.
- The 24(05) Taskforce on Fellowship could not find any evidence that supports the assumption that granting Fellow status to non-ABEM certified members diminishes the value of FACEP.
- ACEP membership is closed to non-EM Residency Trained emergency Physicians as of December 31, 1999. Resolution 11(07) provided equality in eligibility to apply for FACEP only to members who are long time career emergency physicians and long time active members of ACEP.
- Resolution 11(07) did not assume, nor assert, that there is any substitute for board certification. It simply allows all members of ACEP to be recognized and honored for their service to the College and to the specialty.
- ACEP officially supports its Legacy members in a policy statement. Legacy Emergency Physicians are defined in ACEP policy as member physicians who trained in specialties other than Emergency Medicine and began the practice of Emergency Medicine prior to Dec. 31st, 1999.
- The ACEP 24(05) Task Force, chaired by Dr. George Molzen, reported that it is time for ACEP to consider de-linking board certification from Fellowship. They could not identify any specific ways that Fellowship would be harmed or lessened for other members by this action.

- This issue is about recognition and respect of long-time loyal members of ACEP, about respecting peers who have worked side by side in the trenches for many years.
- Fellowship does NOT affect hospital credentialing, does NOT affect hiring choices, and does NOT affect the care we all provide care to our patients every day.
- Every ACEP member is eligible to serve on any committee, can be appointed to any taskforce, serve as a councilor, and be elected to any office within the College including that of President. Every member of ACEP should be eligible for Fellowship.

- New proposed Resolution 9(08) and Resolution 12(08) place an arbitrary, unnecessary and unequal deadline for Legacy Physicians to apply for FACEP.
- Passage of proposed Resolution 9(08) and Resolution 12(08) would eliminate an incentive for members to become more active in their state chapters.
- Resolutions 9(08) and Resolution 12(08) are not necessary since the number of Legacy Physicians is declining each year to zero due to the College closure.
- Resolutions 9(08) and Resolution 12(08) are unfair since the same deadline for FACEP application is not applied equally to EM residency graduates.

- Resolution 10(08) which calls for another Fellow Task Force is repetitive and redundant. Two prior Fellow Task Forces have come to similar conclusions. Proposed Resolution 10(08) would be a waste of time and money.

- Resolution 11(08) would retroactively remove FACEP member designation from 163 new Legacy Fellows, many of whom are planning to attend the 2008 Fellow Convocation this month.
- Resolution 11(08) would require new Legacy Fellows to use the membership designation FACEP(hon). This is redundant since FACEP is already an honor.
- Resolution 11(08) is offensive and divisive. It detours our focus from national issues such as health care financing, boarding and work force issues.
- Resolution 11(08) is destructive in that it will re-open the Pandora's box of the board certification issue which was put to rest by last year's Resolution 11(07).

Respectfully submitted by the Section on Certification and EM Work Force