



FMIG Network National Coordinator 2024 Annual Report

FMIG Network National Coordinator

Student

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Purpose & Scope of Work:

The AAFP established the National Family Medicine Interest Group (FMIG) Network in 1995 to aid communication and the exchange of best practices between FMIG students and faculty leaders across the country. The network consists of student FMIG leaders and campus-based faculty, five appointed Regional Coordinators, one elected National Coordinator, a liaison to the Latino Medical Student Association, and a liaison to the Student National Medical Association. These coordinators serve as consultants to and resources for FMIGs.

Six regional coordinators began their terms in January and will serve through December 2024; Student liaisons to the Student National Medical Association (SNMA) and Latino Medical Student Association (LMSA) began their term in January and will serve through December 2024. The 2024 leaders are listed below:

Regional Coordinators:

- Samantha Busch, MS3; University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health
- Brianna Chachere, MS4; University of Houston School of Medicine
- Alison Johnson, MS3; Pennsylvania State University College of Medicine
- Pavit Suri, MS2; Donald and Barbara Zucker School of Medicine at Hofstra/Northwell
- Colleen Yang, OMS3; Campbell University School of Osteopathic Medicine

International Medical Student Regional Coordinator:

- Hirak Trivedi, MS3; Washington University of Health Science

LMSA Liaison:

- Alvaro Cortez, MS2; Medical College of Georgia at Augusta University

SNMA Liaison

- Jenny Davis, MS2; East Tennessee State University

I serve as the FMIG National Coordinator. My term began at the 2023 AAFP National Conference of Family Medicine Residents and Medical Students and will end in August at the 2024 National Conference. I previously served as the International Medical School Coordinator.

Activities & Achievements

FMIG Network reaffirmed their strategic plan during their strategic planning and team building weekend in January. The FMIG Network Strategic Objectives are as follows:

1. Develop a robust family medicine workforce that is inclusive and representative of those underrepresented in medicine.
2. Raise the awareness, understanding, and confidence of U.S. and international medical students, current and aspiring, to choose family medicine and spread a shared vision for the future of family medicine and primary care in the U.S.
3. Develop leadership skills and competencies that will enable and encourage future family physicians to excel in a primary care career and influence the health care system.
4. Encourage the success and effectiveness of FMIGs and increase their ability to collaborate with other family medicine and ally organizations.
5. Empower FMIG Network members — student and faculty leaders — to engage and serve their communities and challenge social and systemic barriers to health equity.

Student Membership Promotion

FMIG Network leaders actively recruit new Student Membership Ambassadors and AAFP promote student membership through FMIGs and collaboration with LMSA and SNMA. As of February 2024, the AAFP had 26,300 student members. The FMIG Network continues to advocate for and promote student membership.

Program of Excellence Awards

The FMIG Network continues to host the Program of Excellence Awards, which recognizes outstanding FMIGs across the country. Best practices and innovative ideas from the 2023 award winners are also captured and promoted in FMIG programming resources on the AAFP website and throughout the Network.

Applications for the 2024 Program of Excellence awards will open this spring and close on April 30, 2024. The 2024 winners will be announced at the FMIG Awards Breakfast at the 2024 National Conference.

FMIG Network National Conference Workshops

Each year, the FMIG Network student leaders work with AAFP staff to plan National Conference workshops for FMIG leaders and members. At the 2023 National Conference, the FMIG Network hosted the inaugural FMIG Leadership Summit. The summit was a great success with over 175 attendees. The FMIG Network will host the summit again at the 2024 National Conference but will shorten the length of the programming to better serve the attendees.

The FMIG Leaders will also contribute to the following events at the National Conference.

FMIG Leadership Welcome: In this session, students will learn about the different leadership opportunities found within the AAFP, from local and state chapters to nationally elected positions.

FMIG Annual Celebration and Awards Breakfast: During this fun event, the 2024 Program of Excellence recipients will be announced. Your FMIG national leaders will put on a celebration featuring VIP guests. Come to this event to have a good time!

Underrepresented in Medicine Discussion Group: AAFP liaisons to SNMA and LMSA help plan and host a gathering of students from minoritized groups. This year's networking event will include discussion on microaggressions and encouragement to pursue leadership opportunities for residents

and students, including involvement in the AAFP resident and student congresses.

FMIG/SNMA Collaboration

At the 2024 SNMA Annual Medical Education Conference (AMEC), Jenny Davis represented the AAFP and hosted a family medicine panel that had 50 student attendees. Additionally, she and AAFP staff hosted an exhibit and engaged with over 175 students and had 33 students sign up for AAFP membership.

FMIG/LMSA Collaboration

Alvaro Cortez will attend 2024 LMSA National Conference in Los Angeles in September 2024 as a representative of the AAFP and contribute to family medicine programming for the conference. He is currently in the process of developing a family medicine panel and contributing to a primary care panel to help students understand the differences in primary care careers. Additionally, he and AAFP staff will host an exhibit to interact with students interested in family medicine.

FMIG Network Social Media Presence

Throughout the year, AAFP staff and FMIG Network leaders use Facebook, Instagram and X (formerly Twitter) to share stories about family medicine and reach out to medical students, family medicine faculty advisors, and others involved in medical education during conferences and on a regular basis.

Currently, about 4,200 people “like” and 4,500 people “follow” the FMIG National Network Facebook page. AAFP communications and marketing staff post multiple updates per week on the channel.

The AAFP recently rebranded @aafp_fmig to @futurefamilymed as the official account for AAFP student related post. This change is to better reflect the work the AAFP does to engage with students throughout the pathway to family medicine. This account is managed by the AAFP communications and marketing department. FMIG Network leaders have also established their own X presences. As of April 2024, @futurefamilymed had 8001 followers.

Primary Care Leadership Collaborative

The Primary Care Leadership Collaborative (PCLC) is a leadership program sponsored by the AAFP with support from Intend Health Strategies that is designed for medical students in family medicine interest groups who are passionate about advancing primary care and improving the health of their communities. PCLC teams meet virtually throughout the year and in person at National Conference to take their leadership to the next level through skill-building workshops and long-term, team-based coaching support, then use what they learn to design and act on a community project.

The current cohort listed below completed their time in the program on April 14, 2024.

- Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine
- Georgetown University School of Medicine
- George Washington University School of Medicine and Health Sciences
- University of Kansas, Wichita School of Medicine
- Northeast Ohio Medical University
- Pacific Northwest University College of Osteopathic Medicine
- Quinnipiac University Frank H. Netter MD School of Medicine
- University of Iowa Roy J. and Lucille A. Carver College of Medicine
- University of New Mexico School of Medicine
- University of North Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine
- Windsor University School of Medicine

- Wright State University Boonshoft School of Medicine

The AAFP will be using this next year to evaluate the program and redevelop the program's tools. Because of this, we will not be recruiting a new cohort this spring.

FMIG Well-being Champion Program

The AAFP was awarded a Health Resourced and Services Administration (HRSA) grant to support "Physician Health First: Building Resiliency Interactionally During Graduate Education (BRIDGE)." Goal three of the grant included the development of an FMIG Well-being Champion Program. The program provides selected champions with training to produce and facilitate workshops at your medical school on wellness-related topics that are designed to help students build the critical skills needed to create a culture of well-being and overcome the challenges of education.

Members of the 2023 Well-Being Champions Cohort:

- Megan Hanley, Albany Medical College, MS- 2
- Samantha Hicks, Charles Schmidt College of Medicine at Florida Atlantic University, MS-3
- Rabia Khan, Ross University School of Medicine, MS-4
- Rosalie Mattiola, University of South Florida Health Morsani College of Medicine, MS-4
- Blaise O'Malley, Sidney Kimmel Medical College at Thomas Jefferson University, MS-2
- Dana Shefet, East Carolina University, MS-3
- Evan Starr, Contributor, California North State University College of Medicine, MS-4
- Molly Stegman, Penn State, MS-2
- Randy Tsai, David Geffen School of Medicine, MS-2

Members of the 2022 Well-Being Champions Cohort:

- Halimah Hamidu-Egiebor, Central Michigan University College of Medicine, MS-3
- Lauren Hisatomi, California North State University College of Medicine, MS-2
- Khevna Joshi, Geisinger Commonwealth School of Medicine, MS-2
- Aryanna Thuraisingam, Campbell University, School of Osteopathic Medicine, OMS-2
- Joanna Bernatowicz, Geisinger Commonwealth School of Medicine, MS-2

Molly Stegman, Lauren Hisatomi, Aryanna Thuraisingam, and Samantha Hicks joined Adam Bradley, AAFP Program Strategist, for a presentation on how mentorship can support well-being at the 2024 Physician Health and Well-Being Conference in Scottsdale, AZ on May 8, 2024.

Any Subcommittee Work

My committee work included serving on the commission on education, subcommittee of student and resident issues and subcommittee of national conference planning. These roles allowed me to provide input on curricular and extracurricular initiatives that address the unique needs of medical students and residents.

Lessons Learned and the Value of Serving

Reflecting on this past year, the FMIG Network Team has seen many highlights- defined by transformation, empowerment, and an unwavering commitment to promoting the scope and value of Family Medicine. The months that followed were marked by significant milestones, such as, an increased in student memberships through our local FMIGs, conference exhibitions and through collaborative efforts with our regional coordinators and student liaisons. This has led to an increased in applicants for the Program of excellence award, grants and/or scholarships, but most importantly it has created stateside and international exposure to the scope of family medicine. We continue to prioritize our efforts in advocacy and championing the importance of diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) in healthcare and medical education. Our biggest accomplishment this year is reformatting the leadership summit to better serve the attendees and introducing the FMIG leadership welcome session to help students leverage their conference experience.

My committee work included, serving as a member to the commission on education, subcommittee of resident and student issues and subcommittee of national conference planning. Allowing my involvement in policymaking, promoting the interest of international medical students, and streamlining the AAFP leadership application process for medical students and residents. Serving on the various committees provided an abundance of opportunity for personal and professional development.

This year, I was fortunate enough to attend the Society of Teachers of Family Medicine (STFM) Conference to learn more from academic leaders committed to developing the family medicine workforce. Additionally, I served as a judge and panelist at the HOSA International Leadership Conference to empower our youth to become leaders in the global health community. Most importantly, I was able to address the shortage of family physicians through my involvement with the Family Medicine Champion curriculum training program to inspire the next generation of family physicians. The experiences obtain from my various roles with the academy have enriched me and it will certainly serve as a foundation for future successes.

To the devoted AAFP Medical Education Division staff, your commitment and guidance have been the foundation for the FMIG Network success. You have imparted me with knowledge, inspired my young mind but also helped me further develop as a leader, educator and physician. There are still many things to learn, however, this trial period provided me with the valuable experience needed to further explore the intersections between clinical medicine and public health.

As we look to the future, I encourage the incoming national coordinator to embrace change, be receptive to feedback, continue to learn and innovate in the pursuit of excellence. The knowledge, skills, values, and relationships that you will gain as a national coordinator will be tools that will help you navigate the path as a resident and future career as a family physician.

Note: This report was prepared by the resident or student representative(s) listed and includes their account(s) of the business conducted during their term. This is not an official record of business proceedings from the AAFP or any other entity. To find out more about the business of the AAFP, its congresses, commissions, and current policies visit aafp.org.