

MINUTES
Federation of Pediatric Organizations
January 22, 2008

PRESENT: Theodore C. Sectish, MD, Executive Director
Peter Szilagyi, MD, Chair, APA
Jean Bartholomew, Administrator

AAP: Errol R. Alden, MD
Renee Jenkins, MD
Robert Perelman, MD
ABP: James A. Stockman, MD
Aaron L. Friedman, MD
AMSPDC: Marianne E. Felice, MD
APA: Kenneth B. Roberts, MD
APPD: Susan Guralnick, MD
Robert McGregor, MD
APS: Alan H. Jobe, MD
William Hay, MD
SPR: Phyllis Dennery, MD
Mark R. Schleiss, MD
AAP Staff: Karen Hendricks, JD
NACHRI: Larry McAndrews
NICHD: Duane Alexander, MD

1. Call to order

Dr. Szilagyi called the meeting to order 8:00 am.

2. Executive Director's report

Dr. Sectish, the Executive Director of FOPO, included in the agenda, a summary of his activities since the September 2007 FOPO meeting. He has been working with FOPO members via conference calls to launch and implement elements of the strategic plan. Re: GME funding, a conference call is scheduled for January 24 with Bob Dickler of the AAMC, Aaron Friedman, and Ted Sectish.

Dr. Sectish requested that all Task Force leaders consider what resources they anticipate will be needed for moving forth the elements of the strategic plans, whether costs should be articulated, whether conferences/meetings should be externally or internally funded or a combination of both, and whether funds should be solicited from philanthropic organizations.

The Task Force on Women in Pediatrics will meet 15 months from now at the time of the PAS meeting in Baltimore. They have had a number of conference calls, but really need to meet in person to discuss issues that have been identified. The activities of the Task Force on Women in Pediatrics have focused on part-time training and employment and the issue of day care. It has divided its work into several subgroups – part-time training, part-time as junior research faculty, part-time as clinician-educators, and day care. It was pointed out that perhaps the name of the Task Force should be changed to say “Task Force on Women in Academic Pediatrics” since the members of the task force are all situated in academic centers. The name of Colleen Craft was offered as a practicing pediatrician and member of the AAP to add to the Task Force. Dr. Roberts pointed out the need to be explicit in titles if this is to be out there to the public: GME to GME funding, TF on Women in Academic

Pediatrics (need to think more broadly than academics). The Task Force on Women in Pediatrics discussed the many issues to be covered and noted the fact that it is difficult to break down the many issues in the private sector and the fact that they differ from those in academic centers. The Task Force spent a great deal of time determining what to include and what not to include. Dr. Felice will make Dr. Stanton aware of the discussions at today's meeting. Dr. Stanton will be invited to the September 8, 2008, FOPO meeting. Dr. Sectish referred attendees to the summary on the work of the task force.

The FOPO Web site has not been updated since the end of 2006. It is planned for the Web site to be more useful and contain elements to move forward the strategic elements. A proposal has been received from Captus and is being reviewed by IT staff at the ABP for assistance in how to proceed.

There will be an article in J Peds in the AMSPDC section that gives an overview of the FOPO strategic plan. The J Peds article could attract others to offer their assistance on the FOPO initiatives.

Efforts will be expended in the coming months to continue momentum for the strategic plans and to think about resource needs for FOPO budget.

3. Minutes of the September 24, 2007 FOPO Meeting

The minutes were approved with one minor revision. (APA → AAP in section #6).

4. Financial Summary

A. Financial Statements FY07-08

Dr. Sectish noted certain annual expenditures such as the website hosting, support services from the AAP and the ABP, meeting costs, and some travel expense has not yet been incurred or paid for in this fiscal year. In addition, the costs associated with the strategic initiatives have not yet been identified in each initiative.

B. Draft budget FY08-09

A draft budget was prepared for review at this time. A 3% factored increase in dues was included, but there is the need to discuss strategic initiatives that could change the budget. A final proposed budget will be amended to reflect anticipated expense in the proposed fiscal year and will be sent out electronically for approval.

One specific budget item that was discussed in principal was the issue of meeting expense. For an example, if the working group on increasing GME funding was to host a national meeting for a total expense of \$50,000, what options are there to fund these meeting costs?

- Option #1 would be to plan and budget for the entire meeting costs (space, catering, and all travel costs for participants) as a FOPO expense. This option would create increases in dues and expense for FOPO based on the number of meetings hosted in any given fiscal year.
- Option #2 is for FOPO to underwrite some of the meetings costs, such as meeting space and av rental, travel expense for invited experts, and a dinner. Each member organization would pay for their representatives to attend the meeting. This option would substantially reduce the meeting expense on the operational budget and thereby reduce fluctuations in dues during fiscal years when multiple meetings are hosted and be easily accommodated each member organization's budget.
- Option #3 is to find external sources of funds from foundations, organizations, societies or institutions with a commitment to a particular strategic initiative. This option is not mutually exclusive with Options #1 and #2 and could offset expense in either option.

It was generally agreed that Option #2 would be the preferred approach for working groups as they plan national meetings in each of the strategic initiatives. If FOPO is to sponsor a portion of the meeting, then members would be expected to cover their own expenses, the cost per meeting is estimated to be roughly \$10,000 per meeting.

5. Strategic Plan

Because FOPO members change on a somewhat regular basis, especially the Presidents of some of the organizations, representation on Working Groups must have some longevity and continuity. Many FOPO members have a long-term representative as well as the President of each. Each member organization should consider who could be a regular representative on these initiatives and be appointed for a period of time, perhaps 5 years to provide for continuity on the working groups. The task force group is to identify who will be long-term representative.

Progress on six initiatives

A. Leadership Academy

Dr. Perelman briefly summarized discussions to date and the fact that one conference call has been held. Members of the task force are Drs. Friedman, Guralnick, McGregor, Perelman, and Roberts. Suggested additions to the task force are Drs. Tina Cheng, Gil Liu, and Laurel Leslie. Dr. Liu has accepted and the other two will be asked if they would like to participate.

Their thoughts are to inventory and catalogue within pediatric organizations/community re leadership skills, encourage collaboration among pediatric organizations, find out and track those who have been trained and attempt to determine what has happened to them since the training, and ask whether their aspirations have been realized. There is the need to engage all organizations and engage younger folks as well.

Roughly 450 individuals have gone through the Pediatric Leadership Alliance. The metrics to measure outcome are included in many areas automatically. It was suggested adding leadership training to medical school curriculum.

The APA is already tracking its participants in the APA Leadership Conference.

This group will be working in concert with group on moving into leadership positions. The idea would be compared to getting a master's level in leadership by setting up a "farm" system for leaders to seek this type of leaderships and to allow pediatrics to have an impact on global as well as local issues.

B. Global Child Health Priorities

Dr. Alden reported on a recent conference call with Drs. Judith Palfrey, Bob Armstrong, Bonnie Stanton, and Ted Sectish. An inventory of national activities will be assembled by use of a questionnaire to determine who is doing what so efforts are not duplicated. Dr. Sectish will prepare the survey that will first go to FOPO member organizations, then more broadly.

Individuals were identified to be added to the initiative and Dr. Bill Keenan was one. Others will also be considered.

Many programs are encouraging residents to do something nationally. It remains to be determined the benefits of such an experience. It was noted that the experience should be continuous to be beneficial, but when it becomes continuous it may also become service oriented. There is a need to think through this Dr.

Stockman noted that this initiative would coincide well with R3P innovative approach to programs (individuals are able to obtain waivers from RRC). Funding for a summit meeting could be substantial.

- C. Position Statement re: “Health Insurance for All Children and Youth in the United States”
Drs. Szilagyi and Alden, and a number of others have been working on the position statement for FOPO to present as an advocacy for universal health for all children. The position statement should not confuse what has already been done, but should serve as “added” value and include other organizations that have been involved in efforts of this type. This position statement should be launch in a way that will get it the attention it needs and it should not to be competitive or confusing, but integrative

Ms. Hendricks stated that the Public Policy Council discussed this statement during the January conference call and could be the talking point for the forum in May at PAS.

To be able to use this statement soon, especially during an election year, it needs to get out in the public view very soon. Dr. Sectish will work with AAP staff and the Access committee chair to help prepare this statement for dissemination to FOPO members within the next month. FOPO administrative staff will attempt to be more diligent re: reminders of the status of a position statement at any time and set a deadline for responses from member organizations.

The membership approved content in the position statement as it now stands. The legislators need to be reminded that children need to be in the equation re: health insurance.

ACTION: A motion was made and seconded to approve the Position Statement as it is currently worded. The vote 7- Yes and 0-No. The unanimous vote carried.

A recommendation was made to draft a presentation plan for the Position Statement by March 1st with Dr. Sectish working closely with the AAP Washington Office Staff and the AAP Access Committee. This plan will be circulated to all FOPO Board of Directors by March 1st.

- D. Child Health Research
Dr. M. Schleiss reported that a number of individuals had been identified (12-14) during a recent conference call. He will develop a questionnaire for the working group to lay out thoughts toward goal of having an informational meeting at the 2008 PAS, followed by a series of conference calls and review of key literature. Karen Hendricks will be included on this initiative and also have to involve a general pediatrician to be identified.
- E. GME Funding
Dr. Friedman reported that a conference call with Bob Dickler of the AAMC will be held on January 24 to begin discussions of GME funding.
- F. Pediatricians in Leadership Positions
Dr. J. Stockman reported that a list had been prepared after mapping out key organizations for potential leadership positions for pediatricians. The next step to externalize list and circulate to FOPO members for their input. In addition, he will be determining key pediatric leaders and tapping their knowledge base for information on the nominating process for the organizations identified. The goal is to identify individuals who can slide into these positions. No budgetary needs foreseen at this time.
- G. Task Force on Women in Pediatrics
A summary of achievements to date was included and was discussed earlier in the meeting.

6. St. Geme Award – Selection of 2008 recipient
Each member organization was asked to present on behalf of their nominee. Voting took place and each member organization was asked to prioritize the top 3 nominees. During the first round, the top three nominees were identified; on the second ballot, the three selected on the first ballot were again ranked and the two receiving the most points went onto the third ballot; on the third ballot, member organizations were asked to vote for only one of the two nominees.

Dr. M. Douglas Jones, Jr., was selected as the 2008 recipient of the St. Geme Award.

The FOPO Chair notified the awardee via phone and a letter will be sent to Dr Jones and the PAS on FOPO stationery.

7. Report on Office of Portfolio Analysis and Strategic Initiatives (OPASI)
Dr. Alan Krensky attended the FOPO meeting to provide a summary of what the new office, OPASI, is all about. He gave a POWERPoint presentation and distributed a handout of that presentation. His work is focused on “trans” institute, “trans” disease topics that create discoveries that more efficiently contribute to the innovation in science. FOPO attendees were asked to provide him with information on important areas of emerging scientific opportunities or rising public health challenges.

Reports

8. NICHD Update

Dr. Alexander said:

- His office was involved in most of OPASI roadmap activities
- Asked about suggestions for increasing visibility of children and specific focus on children
- NICHD is celebrating 45th anniversary and will honor Eunice Kennedy Shriver
- At the anniversary celebration, Dr. Cook will present the history of NICHD
- Renaming of NICHD celebration postponed until early March (due to illness of Mrs. Shriver)
- NIH had an increase of less than ½ percent, lost 12% purchasing
- NICHD will be able to fund to 15% instead of 17% (100 fewer grants) and priority is given to new investigators and K line applications
- NCS – funded at the requested level of \$1.13 million; in 2009 will need \$192 M; still need advocacy to push for NCS as funding considered annually
- Best pharmaceuticals for children act – broader charge and significant change for NICHD in dealing with these
- Clinical & Translational Service Award (CTSA) – emphasis in pediatrics – NICHD looking for ways to exploit this and establish pediatric network for research

9. Department of Federal Affairs

Ms. K. Hendricks summarized what has transpired in the 110th session of Congress and the primary focus was the re-election of a number of members of the House and Senate. 2008 appropriations supplement will provide funds for pandemic influenza; but funding will be considerably flat. A copy of her report was included in the agenda.

- A. 2008 PAS Meeting (2008 Elections – Forum) -- A session through PPC open to all attendees
B. Reauthorization of Title VII

Dr. P. Szilagyi shared a letter drafted by the APA in support of the Reauthorization of Title VII and asked all members to share this with their constituency and provide support for this effort. Anyone using the letter can add a sentence at the beginning, “in anticipation of”

10. NACHRI Update

Mr. Larry McAndrews spoke on behalf of NACHRI. He noted that:

- Challenges are considerable in terms of the President's budget
- He is concerned about cuts to GME
- Issues remain largely the same – trying to protect money at the children's hospitals
- NACHRI is conducting a search for replacement for Peters Willson who is leaving after 20 years because of family issues.
- Getting an entitlement is not very likely
- Reimbursement varies by hospital
- NACHRI has been working with Title VII supporters.

11. Fourth-year medical school

Dr. K. Roberts – APA, COMSEP, and APPD have been giving considerable thought to this issue. A question for the community.

Would this be a future FOPO task force? Should this topic be on the September agenda?

Next meeting: September 8, 2008

APPD – Chair, September 2008 and January 2009