Society of Pediatric Cardiology Training Program Directors
Fall 2017 Meeting at the American Academy of Pediatrics Meeting
September 15, 2017, 12:45 – 1:45 PM
Henry Clarke Room, Marriott Marquis

Attendees:
Lowell Frank – Children’s National Health System (DC); David Brown – Boston Children’s; Laurie Armsby – Oregon Health Sciences University; Puja Banka – Boston Children’s; Antonio Cabrera – Texas Children’s; Rupali Ghandi – Advocate Children’s; Peter Bartz – University of Wisconsin; Rajesh Shenoy – Mt. Sinai; Shubhika Srivastava – Mt. Sinai; Mark DeBrunner – Children’s Hospital Pittsburgh; Tyler Harris – Children’s Hospital Pittsburgh; Eric Ebenroth – Riley Children’s (Indianapolis); Marcus Schamberger - Riley Children’s (Indianapolis); Jeff Vergalos – University of Virginia; Troy Johnston – Seattle Children’s; Michael Carr – Lurie Children’s; John Breinholt – University of Texas – Houston; Gina Baffa – Nemours/DuPont Hospital (Delaware); Julie Glickstein – Columbia University/Children’s Hospital of New York; Andy Blaufox – Cohen Children’s Medical Center; Sonal Owens – University of Michigan; Thomas Chin – Penn State; Hao Hsu – University of Nebraska; Sadia Malik – University of Texas Southwest-Dallas; Eudice Fontenot – University of Arkansas/Arkansas Children’s; Maria Serratto – University of Illinois Chicago; Shawn Bativala – University of Mississippi; Rob Ross – Children’s Hospital of Michigan–Detroit Medical Center; Dan Rowland – Nationwide Children’s; Grace Kung – Children’s Hospital of Los Angeles; Daphne Hsu - Children’s Hospital of Montefiore; Joshua Kurtz – Medical University of South Carolina (fellow liason); Jill Shivapour – Rainbow Babies (phone); Chris Rausch – University of Colorado (phone)

I. SPCTPD Board Election and Award
Recognition of 2015-2017 SPCTPD Board:
President: David Brown (Boston Children’s Hospital, Boston)
Vice-President: Antonio G. Cabrera (Texas Children’s Hospital, Houston)
Secretary/Treasurer: Lowell Frank (Children’s National Health System, Washington, DC)
Past-President: Shubhi Srivastava (Mt. Sinai, New York City)
CoPS Representative: Robert Ross (Children’s Hospital Michigan, Detroit)

Dr. Brown announced the results of the SPCTPD election and thanked all of the outstanding nominees.

The 2017-2019 SPCTPD Board:
President: Antonio G. Cabrera
Vice-President: Lowell Frank
Secretary/Treasurer: Laurie Armsby (Oregon Health Sciences University, Portland)
Past-President/CoPS: David Brown
The SPCTPD honored Dr. Shubhi Srivastava with an award in gratitude of her tireless work and contributions on behalf of the Society as an officer and board member 2011-2017.

II. Our new Fellow Liaison:
Dr. Brown introduced Dr. Joshua Kurtz, a second year pediatric cardiology fellow at the MUSC, who was selected from a pool of outstanding candidates as the first Fellow Liaison to the SPCTPD. Dr. Kurtz will serve a two year position on the Fellow Resource Development Committee, assisting with SPCTPD initiatives. This position provides trainees an opportunity to develop expertise in medical education and is provided a $500 travel stipend to attend the AAP-SPCTPD meeting.

III. The Pediatric Cardiology Specialty Review Course
Dr. Armsby and Dr. Serratto presented details of the upcoming PCSRC, to be held August 13-17th, 2018 in Chicago. The faculty is a dynamic group of outstanding medical educators, and the course has been re-designed to incorporate a range of educational resources and strategies. These include shorter presentations, morning and afternoon practice question exercises, test taking strategies, study guide materials, and a course review book.

The Planning Committee (M. Serratto, L. Armsby, D. Brown, A. Cabrera, S. Menon, V Thorne, J. Whitener) welcomed a new rotating position for a junior faculty member. The first faculty to hold this position on the Planning Committee is Christina Ronai, MD MEd, an Assistant Professor at Oregon Health Sciences University.

IV. Revision of the SPCTPD Bylaws
The Bylaws were last revised April 2012. The following minor updates were proposed:

a. The SPCTPD Past-President will become the CoPS representative during their 2 year term.
b. The SPCTPD will nominate a 2nd CoPS representative from the membership
c. The current SPCTPD president signs the NRMP match agreement
d. The Vice President writes/distributes the newsletter
e. Sub-committees may be formed by the Board, but will not be enumerated in the Bylaws to avoid repeated Bylaws revisions
f. A position description of the Fellow Liaison position will be incorporated

The proposed updates to the SPCTPD Bylaws were passed by a unanimous vote.

V. New Fall Match Update
Pediatric Cardiology has officially joined the Fall Match! At this point all pediatric subspecialties are now following the fall match schedule. The rough timeline for 2018:
July 15: Applications available to programs
August - November: Interviews
Late November: NRMP Rank List Deadline
Mid-December: Match results

VI. The new, updated, interactive SPCTPD Website (www.SPCTPD.org)
A significant amount of effort has gone into the redesign of the SPCTPD website. In addition to newsletters, important events and membership information, some of the new features include:
a. All 59 of the pediatric cardiology fellowship programs are identified
b. There are links to the website of each program
c. There is a complete registry of all current pediatric cardiology fellows (>500), including the contact information and area of interest of each fellow
d. Allows for targeted communication of opportunities, fellowship positions, job openings, transfer of research projects, etc

All training program directors were asked to keep their training website updated. Also, if you would like to send a message using the fellow email registry you are asked to contact an officer of the SPCTPD who will bring the request to the SPCTPD Board for discussion and approval.

The website will require on-going maintenance to ensure that it remains current and useful. Jennifer Cookingham at Boston Children’s provided a significant amount of administrative support over the past year and was given compensation of $1000. The Board and membership expressed its gratitude to Ms. Cookingham for her outstanding work and agreed to extend this arrangement for the current AY 2017-18. Ms. Cookingham is available to provide assistance with posts or site updates:
Jennifer.cookingham@cardio.chboston.org

V. Treasurer’s Report

The treasurer’s report has been reformatted as a budget to allow for better projection of incomes and expenses as well for planning purposes.
VII. Delayed July Start Date

CoPS, the AAPD and other groups strongly recommended a delayed July start date for Fellowships beginning July 2017. The program directors present discussed how this recommendation was handled at their institutions and what issues arose.

Some programs gave fellows the option of starting July 1 or July 7th. Other programs “officially” started the fellows on July 1 so that their paycheck and insurance coverage began on this date, but the work assignments were delayed to July 7th. The issues programs reported included:
- Graduating fellows were asked to stay beyond July 1
- Programs that relied on 2nd and 3rd year fellows to cover the service had difficulty with duty hour violations
- Some programs bought Cobra medical insurance proactively for all starting fellows
- Other programs were prepared to purchase Cobra medical insurance retroactively if a new fellow required medical treatment during the gap week
- Dr. Ross reported from CoPS that the government has amended the requirement that foreign graduates (J-1 visa) have “no interruption in training” to allow for the delay in start date.

VIII. CoPS Update
Dr. Ross reported that CoPS was responding to the many complaints received about the Maintenance of Certification (MOC) requirements. Their goal is to make MOC II and IV more accessible. They are also advocating for MOC IV credits being awarded for work performed by Program Directors. Pediatrics is piloting a board recertification process involving correctly answering 20 questions per year, in 4 out of 5 years. CoPS is exploring the possibility of making this available to subspecialty boards. Finally, the CoPS website (http://www.pedsubs.org/about/index.cfm) has useful information related to medical education and training. There is also a twitter account and anyone interested in posting a tweet may contact Dr. Ross who will forward it to the CoPS Media Committee.

IX. **Work Force Survey Update**
Dr. Brown reported that the first Work Force Survey, a collaboration of the SPCTPD, ACC, AHA and AAP, was completed in February 2015 and published in JACC and Progress in Pediatric Cardiology. The survey will be repeated every two years. Anyone interested in working with the sub-committee on survey revisions is asked to contact Dr. Brown: david.brown@cardio.chboston.org

X. **PREP-Cardiology**
Dr. Cabrera reported that PREP-Cardiology is now included in the AAP membership for fellows. It is hoped that this may encourage fellows to become more involved in the work and conferences of the AAP and the Section of Cardiology and Cardiac Surgery (SOCCS). Dr. Cabrera also reviewed the process of writing and editing questions for use in PREP. This activity is an excellent opportunity for clinician educators. Anyone interested in writing questions for PREP-Cardiology may contact Dr. Cabrera: agcabrer@bcm.edu or apply directly to the AAP through the twice a year RFP’s.

XI. **Fellowship Program Quality Metrics**
Dr. Frank reported that the sub-committee working on Quality Metrics developed a list of prospective metrics regarding the quality of training programs. Program Directors were then surveyed and the top four categories were identified.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Candidate Metrics</th>
<th>Responses</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fellow scholarly activity/scholarship training</td>
<td>71% (22)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Evaluation processes/timeliness</td>
<td>61% (19)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Clinical orientation/boot camp</td>
<td>42% (13)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Outpatient training experience</td>
<td>39% (12)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Early academic mentoring</td>
<td>29% (9)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Graduate performance</td>
<td>29% (9)</td>
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Workgroups will be assembled to work on the top 2-4 metrics: scholarship activity, evaluation process, clinical orientation and outpatient training. The next step is that the workgroups will analyze these metrics and present drafts to the SPCTPD for discussion. Anyone interested in engaging with these workgroups may contact Dr. Frank: LFrank@childrensnational.org

XII. **Subspecialty Pediatric Investigators Network (SPIN)**
The results of the SPIN EPA Survey-2 were reviewed. The SPIN EPA Survey asked questions about entrustment decisions for 7 common and 6 cardiology EPAs. 82% of cardiology Program Directors participated.

For the following EPAs the minimum level of entrustment by completion of fellowship for median PD responders was a level 3:
- EPA 1: application of the imaging skills required for all aspects of pediatric and congenital care
- EPA 2: care for patients who require catheter based interventions
- EPA 3: diagnosis and management of patients with arrhythmias and conduction abnormalities
- EPA 4: diagnosis, initial management and referral of children with advanced or end stage heart failure and/or pulmonary hypertension to experts for medical therapy, ECMO, VAD or cardiac transplantation.
- EPA 6: diagnosis and management of patients with acute congenital or acquired cardiac problems requiring intensive care

For the following EPA the minimum level of entrustment by completion of fellowship was a level 4:
- EPA 5: diagnosis and management of congenital or acquired cardiac problems

The upcoming SPIN Study will be a longitudinal evaluation of the required level of supervision (LOS) for pediatric fellows.

To complete this work participating program directors will be asked to complete scholarship EPA, milestones and LOS ratings for all fellows twice per year. The CCC will complete a LOS rating for fellows twice per year and Fellows will complete self-ranking twice per year. SPIN leadership is working on obtaining MOC credit for participating PDs. And all PDs who contribute are considered collaborators on all publications.

XIII. Dr. Cabrera’s Inaugural Statements
Dr. Cabrera led the assembly in thanking Dr. Brown for his exceptional leadership and many accomplishments during his term as President of the SPCTPD over the past two years.

Dr. Cabrera then shared his vision for his term as President:
- To expand the understanding of what our organization does and how it can help PD’s and Associate PD’s to advance their careers. In addition, to provide guidance on how to achieve promotion as a Clinician Educator
- To explore opportunities for recognition for educators who are members of the SPCTPD. A visiting professorship specifically to assist with educational matters and to foster collaboration amongst educators
- To reinforce and empower the QI: Task force (chaired by Lowell Frank) to spearhead QI initiatives
- This expansion will require for us to reconsider the contribution (dollar amount) that program dues make to the overall Society budget.

The next meeting of the SPCTPD will be held at the ACC meetings in Orlando, March 2018.

Respectfully submitted by Laurie Armsby, MD;
September 2017