

APPD Research Task Force  
Spring Meeting 2005

Present:

John Co, Jerry Rushton, Linda Waggoner-Fountain, Robert McGregor, George Johnson, Ronald Bainbridge, Marc Majure, Heather McPhillips, Emmett Schmidt, Lyndon Key

1. After brief introductions, the task force spent much of the meeting discussing the draft Survey Policy developed by Jerry Rushton, Linda Waggoner-Fountain, and John Co. The aims of the policy are: (1) to improve the quality of research involving PDs, residents, and medical education; (2) to prioritize important issues and facilitate the process for important studies; and (3) to respect time constraints and make data collection more efficient. In addition of the policy statement, draft documents for both survey intake and review have been developed. Most comments from the group were favorable, although some did raise the issue of personal biases of survey reviewers regarding recommending surveys be distributed to the group or not. Some also raised concerns that this policy may deter people from surveying members and decrease research. Reassurances were given to people in attendance that researchers could elect NOT to undergo the survey review process, but that we felt that review of the surveys by some of the APPD membership PRIOR to distribution would enhance survey quality and response rate. The developers of the policy noted that surveys of residents are beyond its scope, but could be a future area for policy development.
2. Several attendees raised the issue of finding ways to encourage collaboration in education research. We discussed establishing a section on the APPD website where investigators could post their projects and solicit participation.
3. Attendees were also in support of devising a periodic survey of the membership that could be used for trending and inform policy in pediatric residency training.