



February 25, 2014

Dear APPD Member,

Now that one of the busiest recruitment seasons is over and we are looking towards springtime weather and our [upcoming meeting in Chicago](#), the APPD Board of Directors (BOD) wanted to share with you a brief update. APPD recently conducted a member-wide survey and during a 2 ½ day board meeting last month reviewed the survey results as part of planned discussions regarding the major activities and strategic plans of APPD and its new governance structure. Survey respondents represented 106 Coordinators, 95 Associate Program Directors, 123 Categorical Program Directors, 54 Fellowship Program Directors, 42 Fellowship Coordinators and 109 Other Key Faculty. Thanks to all of you who took the time to complete the survey and to contribute towards continuing to make APPD such an incredible organization!

We would like to share with you key aspects of the Board meeting discussions:

1. Review of member-wide survey – Overall themes from all of our members:
  - High satisfaction among all membership types with work of APPD
  - Request for further engagement and increased communication regarding opportunities for participation and leadership
  - Request for changes in technology for [APPD ShareWarehouse](#) and other communications
2. Task Force updates – the BOD reviewed and revised the current governance and structure of all Task Forces, focusing on ways to increase the Executive Committees' and Board's functioning to serve the membership.
3. Annual Meetings:
  - Fall Planning Committee – the BOD developed a plan to continue the process of expanding the APPD Fall Meeting planning process. This expansion will include engaging others in the planning process, with selection of speakers chosen based on specific content area expertise. This process began two years ago with the newly structured fall meeting and will continue to evolve.
  - Spring Planning Committee – the BOD is in the process of developing a plan, to begin implementation for the 2015 meeting to engage more members in the planning.
4. The BOD worked on updating the comprehensive APPD Policies and Procedures Manual to assist in further defining the structure and functioning of the overall governance and to optimize the participation and productivity of the organization.
5. All APPD liaison organizations and support to other organizations were reviewed and discussed, with specific attention to alignment with APPD's mission.

6. Review of status and functioning of major efforts were reviewed with the following products requested:
  - APPD LEAD - report will be forthcoming
  - APPD LEARN - [APPD LEARN FAQ 2 25 2014](#)
7. The three Executive Committees were reviewed (Coordinators, Associate Program Directors, and Fellowship Program Directors). Increased education, guidance, structure, and support was identified for this new (and refined) aspect of the APPD governance. Specific programming for all Executive Committee members is planned for the APPD Spring Meeting.

This is an exciting time of growth and diversification for APPD! We are so impressed with the talent and dedication of our new Executive Committee leaders and continue to be impressed with the passion and energy of our Task Force leaders, LEAD Council and Cohorts, Regional Chairs, and members. Thank you for your input – we are looking forward to seeing each of you at the [2014 APPD Spring Meeting in Chicago!!](#)

Sincerely,

Patricia Hicks, MD, MHPE  
President, APPD