

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Agenda for the Board of Directors meeting at 5:00 p.m., Wednesday, February 17, 2010, at Glen Ellyn Bank and Trust, 500 Roosevelt Road, Glen Ellyn.

1. **Minutes.** Approve minutes of the Wednesday, October 21, 2009 Board of Directors meeting [attached]. **ACTION**
2. **2010 Board of Directors.** The list of members of the 2010 DuPage County Medical Society Board of Directors is presented for information [attached]. **INFO**
3. **Membership Applicants.** The following applicants are presented for acceptance to membership as follows:

For Active status: **ACTION**

Eric Gabriel, MD, Internal Medicine, Elmhurst
Medical School - Universidad Central Delcaribe, Puerto Rico, 1990
Residency - Rosalind Franklin, North Chicago, 1990-93
Organization - Elmhurst Clinic

For Student status: **ACTION**

Kelly Marie Brady
Midwestern University, CCOM, Downers Grove, 2013
Travis James Rump
Midwestern University, CCOM, Downers Grove, 2013

Since the last Board meeting, the Executive Committee has accepted 13 applicants; that approval must be ratified by the Board of Directors.

For Active status: **ACTION**

Bruce Donenberg	Emergency Medicine	Westmont
Dennis L. Galinsky	Nuclear Oncology	Winfield
Bryan W. Lapinski	Orthopaedics	Downers Grove
Linh N. O'Connor	Surgery	Elmhurst
Stephen G. Ruby	Pathology	Burr Ridge
Michael Saad	Emergency Medicine	Westmont
Cathy Jo Tschannen	Emergency Medicine	Westmont

For reinstatement, Active status: **ACTION**

Carrie E. Nelson	Family Practice	Wheaton
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For Student status:

ACTION

Stephanie S. Kim	Midwestern University, CCOM, Downers Grove, 2013
Melissa J. Lee	Midwestern University, CCOM, Downers Grove, 2013
Katie Lynn Lloyd	Midwestern University, CCOM, Downers Grove, 2013
Tracey M. Stepanek	Midwestern University, CCOM, Downers Grove, 2013
Kaleigh Suhs	Midwestern University, CCOM, Downers Grove, 2013

4. **Membership Report.** January 31 was the formal drop date for non-renewing members. Paid membership stands at 502 (compared to 512 at this time a year ago). Currently 97 physicians who were members in 2009 remain unpaid for 2010 (compared to 70 at this time last year). The list of currently non-renewed members is presented for review [attached]. **ACTION**

5. **Liability Reform Law Found Unconstitutional.** The Illinois Supreme Court on February 4, struck down the state's 2005 medical liability reform law, saying it violates separation of powers by allowing lawmakers to interfere with a judge's ability to reduce verdicts. The Court ruled 4-2, with one justice (Thomas) not participating in the decision. **INFO/DISCSN**

The Court's action finding caps unconstitutional invalidated the whole statute because the original legislation contained an inseparability clause.

Illinois State Medical Society president, James L. Milam, MD, called the ruling "profoundly disappointing" and noted the irony that the decision comes at the same time that federal legislators are seeking ways to expand access to care and contain costs. "Medical liability reform is a proven solution on both these fronts," he said.

Justice Lloyd Karmeier, in a dissenting opinion joined by Justice Rita Garman, raised the idea of health courts and suggested they could be the future solution to the medical liability problem. The General Assembly might, he wrote, "abolish civil actions for medical malpractice completely and replace them with a claims system comparable to the one it has established for workers compensation." DCMS has long advocated the exploration of an alternative health courts model.

6. **Resolutions.** Four resolutions are presented for Board action in advance of the ISMS Annual Meeting [attached]: **ACTION**

#1 ASTC Overnight Stay

#2 ASTC Privileges and Hospital Privileges

#3 ASTC (Ambulatory Surgery Treatment Center) Privileges and Hospital Privileges

#4 Disaster Preparedness

Additional resolutions, without the DCMS endorsement, may be put forward by individual delegates up to the March 8 submission deadline imposed by ISMS.

7. **ISMS Annual Meeting.** The 2010 ISMS Annual Meeting will be held April 23-25, at the Crowne Plaza, Springfield. DCMS holds 10 delegate seats for this year's meeting. INFO

8. **Medicare Physician Payment Cuts.** An unprecedented 21 percent Medicare physician payment cut was to take effect January 1, but late last year Congress delayed the adjustment until the start of March. With time again running out, Congress still has failed to permanently repeal the flawed sustainable growth rate (SGR) formula. INFO

CMS officials express confidence that Congress will act to prevent the March cuts, but probably with another stop-gap measure, not a permanent solution. In unveiling its proposed budget for FY 2011, the Obama Administration advocates setting aside \$371 billion over a decade to pay for the cost of preventing Medicare pay cuts under the sustainable growth rate formula. That funding level would only be enough to turn annual reductions into rate freezes, not to fund reimbursement increases.

The American Medical Association continues to stress that members of Congress need to hear from physicians on the issue. Doctors are urged to call the AMA's toll-free grassroots hotline at 800.833.6354 for an easy way to tell legislators about the need to permanently resolve the SGR problem.

9. **ISMS Unveils Legislative Action Hub on Website.** Responding to a suggestion from the DCMS Governmental Affairs Committee, the Illinois State Medical Society has created a Legislative Action Hub on its website to help members track issues, ISMS actions, and recent votes in the Illinois General Assembly. The site may be accessed through the following link: www.isms.org/govtaffairs/hub/Pages/default.aspx. INFO

10. **2010 Rates for Copying Medical Records.** Since 2001, Illinois law has dictated maximum rates physicians and hospitals can charge patients for copying their medical records. Each January the rates are adjusted. Visit the DCMS website, dcmsdocs.org, for a link to the Illinois State Medical Society's *Medical Record Fees Under HIPPA and Illinois Law* guideline document. INFO

11. **DuPage County Health Department.** Rashmi Chugh, MD, medical officer for the DuPage County Health Department, and Lanny F. Wilson, MD, a member of the Board of Health, will report on local public health matters. INFO

12. **ISMS Trustees' Report.** ISMS District 11 Trustees, Christopher A. Barbour, MD, and Lanny F. Wilson, MD, report on Illinois State Medical Society issues. INFO

13. **Next Scheduled Meeting.** The next scheduled meeting of the Board of Directors is the Society's annual meeting, planned for Wednesday, October 20, 2010. The session will again precede the Vendor's Fair, dinner and Annual Meeting program. INFO

14. **Other Matters.**