Constitution and Bylaws Committee

Recommendations for Revisions to the Society’s Constitution and Bylaws

Eau Claire- Dunn- Pepin County Medical Society
Wednesday, January 6, 2016

Presented by: Alan Schwartzstein, MD,
Chair of Constitution and Bylaws Committee

Our Charge

• Ensure the integrity of the Society's Constitution and Bylaws (C&B) by periodically reviewing the documents and recommending appropriate amendments to meet the changing needs of the organization and promote effective governance.

• Develop and recommend solutions for resolving conflicts among the documents and promote the conformity of county medical societies’ governance documents with those of the Society.
Constitution and Bylaw Committee (CBC) Members

- Alan I. Schwartzstein, MD (Chair)—District 2
- John J. Beck, MD—District 6
- Barbara A. Hummel, MD—District 1
- Colin R. Kennedy—Student, UWSMPH
- Lowell H. Keppel, MD—District 1
- Casey A. Melcher, MD—Resident
- Wendy L. Molaska, MD—District 2
- William E. Raduege, MD—District 4
- Jamie L. Schneider—Student, MCW
- Michael M. Miller, MD, FASAM, FAPA (ex officio)
- Jay Gold, MD, JD, MPH (ex officio)

Our Task

- Primary
  - Review Areas of the C&B related to membership and member representation in the House of Delegates (House).
  - Recommend revisions to the membership areas of the C&B that are inclusive of all physicians, provide members equal representation and are in the best interest of the Society and its members as a whole.

- Secondary
  - Review non-membership related areas of the C&B and recommend appropriate revisions.
Our Approach to Developing Recommendations

• Sought Guidance, Input, and Support of the Membership Committee on Membership Related Revisions to the C&B
  o Created CBC/Membership Committee Subcommittee
    ▪ Thoughtfully considered concerns expressed by membership regarding membership representation.
    ▪ Explored various options for updating membership provisions of the C&B.
    ▪ Prepared recommendations on membership related areas of the Bylaws for the Membership Committee and CBC.
    ▪ Membership Committee Supportive of Subcommittee’s Recommendations

• Reviewed, Discussed and Acted on Recommendations of the Subcommittee and Membership Committee

• Reviewed, Discussed and Approved Non-Membership Related Revisions

Our Goals and Focus

• Our Goals
  o Equity
  o Inclusiveness
  o Harmonization
  o Flexibility/Nimbleness

• Our Focus
  o Bylaws, Ch. I, Sections 1-3: Membership
  o Bylaws, Ch. II, Sections 1-4/Ch. VI, Section 3.B.1 and 3C.1.: House of Delegates Representation
Our Most Significant Recommendations

- Membership Representation in the House of Delegates
- Membership Classifications
- Application for Membership
- Membership Eligibility

Membership Representation in the House of Delegates

- Goals: Equity and Inclusiveness
- Establishes Equal Representation Structure—Ch. II, Sec. 4.
  - Regular Members—Represented through County Medical Societies, or if there is no Active CMS by the County—Ch. II, Sec. 4.A.
  - Resident/Fellow Members—Represented through Resident/Fellow Section—Ch. II, Sec. 4.B.
  - Student Members—Represented through 2 Medical Student Sections—Ch. II, Sec. 4.C.
Membership Representation in the House of Delegates (continued)

- Establishes Uniform Formula for Determining Representation—Ch. II Sec. 4/Ch. VI, Sec. 3
  - Regular Members—Ch. II, Sec. 4.A.
    - 1 Delegate & 1 Alternate Delegate for each 40 members, or majority fraction thereof.
  - Resident/Fellow Section Members—Ch. II, Sec. 4.B./Ch. VI, Sec. 3.B.1.
    - 1 Delegate & 1 Alternate Delegate for each 40 members, or majority fraction thereof.
  - Medical Student Sections Members—Ch. II, Sec. 4.C/Ch. VI, Sec. 3.C.1.
    - 1 Delegate & 1 Alternate Delegate for each 40 members, or majority fraction thereof.

Membership Classifications

- Goal: Inclusiveness and Harmonization
- Streamlines Membership Classifications—Ch. 1, Sec. 3
  - Inclusiveness
    - Focuses on engagement in professional activities related to the practice of medicine and eliminates direct care requirements—Ch. I, Sec. 3.A.
    - Creates new Physician Spouse/Domestic/Partner/Significant Other classification—Ch. I, Sec. 3.E.(2).
  - Harmonization
    - Updates definition of Young Physician to be consistent with AMA definition—Ch. I, Sec. 3.A.(3).
    - Eliminates outdated or unused classifications (e.g., Associate, Scientific Fellow).
    - Clarifies rights and privileges of Supporting Members (Out-of-State Physician and Physician Spouse/Domestic Partner/Significant Other)—Ch. 1, Section 3.E.
    - Physician Group member is comprised of individual members—Ch. I, Sec. 3.B.
Application for Membership

- Goals: Harmonization, Flexibility/Nimbleness
- Updates Membership Application Language—Ch. I, Sec. 2.
  - Harmonization: Removes Language Inconsistent with Current Practices
  - Flexibility/Nimbleness: Provides Society Ability to Modify Membership Application Process as Needed

Membership Eligibility

- Goal: Inclusiveness
- Modernizes Membership Eligibility Requirements—Ch. I, Sec. 1
  - Focuses on MD/DO Degree and Engagement in Professional Activities Related to the Practice of Medicine
  - Eliminates Wisconsin Licensure Requirement
Other Recommendations of Importance

• Goal: Inclusiveness, Harmonization, Flexibility/Nimbleness, Editorial

• Inclusiveness—Examples
  o Specialty Sections: Expands recognition to include specialties and subspecialties recognized by the American Board of Medical Specialties—Ch. VI, Sec. 2
  o Add Designated Resident/Fellow and Student Representatives Nominating Committee—Ch. II, Sec. 8

• Harmonization—Examples
  o Recognize CBC’s Status as a Committee of the Board, its Composition and Charge—Ch. IV, Sec. 7.D.
  o Update Disqualification Language to Reflect Membership Revisions—Ch. I, Sec. 6
  o Create Uniform Terms for Delegates/Alternate Delegates—Ch. VI, Sec. 2.A.
  o Modify Elect/Select/Appoint/Designate Language to Reflect Current Practices—Throughout

Other Recommendations of Importance

• Flexibility/Nimbleness—Examples
  o Enable CMSs to Go “Inactive” Without Society Involvement—Ch. V, Sec. 5
  o Allow Pilot Membership Programs—Ch. VIII, Sec. 1

• Minor Editorial Revisions—Examples
  o Uniform Capitalization, Punctuation and Terminology—Throughout
  o Remove Duplicative Language (e.g., Board determines dues annually for all classes of members—Ch. VII, Sec. 1)
  o Delete Outdate References. (e.g., Alliance, Council on Mediation and Peer Review).
Next Steps

• Complete Member Briefings on Recommendations
• Review and Act on Member Feedback
• Finalize Recommendations
• Present Recommendations to the Society’s Board
• Society’s Board Acts on Recommendations
• Recommendations of Society’s Board Advance to the House for Consideration and Action
• House Acts on Recommendations

Thank You

Have Questions or Additional Feedback, Please Contact

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