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President's Message

Lisa Maurer, MD, FACEP

If you're reading this newsletter thinking, "Sure I'm a WACEP member, but that doesn't really impact my daily grind," this President's Message is for you!

Over the course of 2017, the WACEP board, led by Bobby Redwood as President, brought amazing structure and focus to our activities, ensuring that our resources are being used to help our patients, our profession and our physician workforce. Building on the excellent content now established, I intend to focus this year on the theme of our Spring Symposium: Building Connections. I hope to connect members to the value that already exists and may not be taken advantage of, and to connect with underrepresented members to ensure our work reflects what you value.

Our average member is a pit doc like me, and on last year's membership survey, you told us you want WACEP's priority to be advocacy above all else. We listened: our top advocacy issues are to 1) improve the care for our patients with psychiatric emergencies by decreasing their length of stay in the ED and 2) improve reimbursement for emergency care by our Medicaid department. What's more, our organization is working to increase outpatient treatment for our patients struggling with opioid addiction, leading a multispecialty group of physicians advocating to restore medical malpractice caps, and ensuring Wisconsin regulators have a fair reimbursement system in place for our patients forced onto narrow-network insurance plans.

But for the average pit doc, we may represent your practice with our advocacy issues, but does the diversity of the WACEP Board of Directors represent you? We have a great opportunity to broaden the scope of the voices in our leadership, and this year we will be actively looking to do so. Case in point: all members are welcome at Board meetings, and in fact, I would LOVE for you to come. Please consider joining us on March 14 from 3-5:30 pm just before the Spring Symposium kicks off. [Read more.](#)

Call for Nominees! WACEP Distinguished Service Award

New in 2018, the WACEP Distinguished Service Award will annually recognize a WACEP member who has demonstrated exceptional service to Wisconsin ACEP and/or made a significant contribution toward the advancement of emergency medicine in

Submit a News Story for the Website



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Wisconsin. Nominees must be a member of WACEP. Entries are due no later than February 12. [Submit a nomination](#) today!

WACEP Spring Symposium - Register Today

Approved for up to 9.0 *AMA PRA Category 1 Credits*[™], the WACEP 2018 Spring Symposium & 26th Annual Wisconsin Emergency Medicine Research Forum will take place on March 14-15, 2018 at The Edgewater in Madison.

Conference highlights:

- *Simulation Workshop: Managing your Worst Day in the ER
- *Pediatric Pain Management Update
- *Telemedicine Update
- *Ketamine and the Awake Intubation
- **#OrlandoUnited*: Coordinating Medical Response to the Pulse Nightclub Shooting

See conference details and [register online](#) today!

Last Call to Sign Up for Doctor Day 2018

Be a part of the advocacy process and make your voices heard! Join other WACEP at Doctor Day in Madison on January 30, 2018. A group of members will meet up for dinner the night before, and WACEP will host a policy primer at 8:00 am on January 30th prior to the official opening remarks of Doctor Day. [Sign up today](#).

Wanted: Success Stories on Opioid Use and End-of-Life Care

ACEP wants to recognize innovative and successful approaches to managing two of the most vexing issues facing emergency departments across the country: end-of-life care and opioid use.

ACEP's Leadership and Advocacy Conference in May 2018 will feature a day-long Solutions Summit in which select success stories in these areas will be highlighted. Any physician or emergency department that has developed a new approach to better address these problems is encouraged to submit their story. Some of the successes submitted will be recognized in the Summit program. A few who submit notable success stories will also be given an opportunity to present live at the Summit. [Read more](#).

Donate to the Emergency Medicine PAC

Your membership with WACEP and ACEP shows your commitment to the advancement of our specialty. Now, we ask for your support of the Wisconsin Emergency Medicine PAC to protect the future of emergency medicine in our state. Learn more and [donate online](#).