



## EDITOR'S LETTER

by David Kramer, MD FAAEM

As the AAEM board of directors (BOD) meets at the SAEM Annual Meeting, I am reminded of the obligation and commitment that we have to all of you. We all have at least one boss; some of us have many. Those individuals we report to are usually easy to identify. If you are not sure who your boss is, you likely have a problem at work. We work for our boss. In addition, we all have many customers or clients. Ask yourself, "who do I work for?" At the hospital, I work for my Chair, the hospital's Office of the President, my patients, my residents, my faculty and the Director of Medical Education (I'm sure I have forgotten some and apologize to them). At home, I work for my wife and children.

Guess what. I also work for you. All of us on the AAEM BOD work for you—our organization's members. We are just like your elected government officials except we (hopefully) are not beholden to any special interests. The only lobbyists

who matter to us are you. Our goals are simple. We want to uphold the tenets of AAEM and respond to our membership's needs. I hope we do our job of representing you well. If we do not, you should let us know. Every one of you has a voice and a mechanism to get that voice heard. This newsletter is your voice. You can contribute to it in two ways: articles and letters to the editor (me). If you have issues or concerns that you feel are not being addressed by your BOD, please let us know. We really do care. We have a fiduciary responsibility to the organization, and we do need to be fiscally responsible. But none of that precludes us from entertaining new ideas. Ultimately, we are here to serve you and are honored that you have placed your faith in our ability to do so. So voice your opinions, and submit your thoughts. Feel free to e-mail them to me at [CSeditor@aaem.org](mailto:CSeditor@aaem.org). We look forward to sharing them with all your AAEM colleagues.



when minutes count

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### AAEM Mission Statement

The American Academy of Emergency Medicine (AAEM) is the specialty society of emergency medicine. AAEM is a democratic organization committed to the following principles:

1. Every individual should have unencumbered access to quality emergency care provided by a specialist in emergency medicine.
2. The practice of emergency medicine is best conducted by a specialist in emergency medicine.
3. A specialist in emergency medicine is a physician who has achieved, through personal dedication and sacrifice, certification by either the American Board of Emergency Medicine (ABEM) or the American Osteopathic Board of Emergency Medicine (AOBEM).
4. The personal and professional welfare of the individual specialist in emergency medicine is a primary concern to the AAEM.
5. The Academy supports fair and equitable practice environments necessary to allow the specialist in emergency medicine to deliver the highest quality of patient care. Such an environment includes provisions for due process and the absence of restrictive covenants.
6. The Academy supports residency programs and graduate medical education, which are essential to the continued enrichment of emergency medicine, and to ensure a high quality of care for the patients.
7. The Academy is committed to providing affordable high quality continuing medical education in emergency medicine for its members.

### Membership Information

Fellow and Full Voting Member: \$365 (Must be ABEM or AOBEM certified in EM or Pediatric EM)

\*Associate Member: \$250 (Associate-voting status)

Emeritus Member: \$250 (Must be 65 years old and a full voting member in good standing for 3 years)

International Member: \$125

AAEM/RSA Member: \$50 (Non-voting status)

Student Member: \$50 (Non-voting status)

\*Associate membership is limited to graduates of an ACGME or AOA approved Emergency Medicine Program

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