



Candidate Platform Statements



Candidate Platform Statements

AAEM does not endorse any statement made by candidates and specifically rejects anticompetitive statements.

The nomination period for AAEM's upcoming elections has ended. All individuals running for an open seat on the board of directors have been identified, and the race has begun. Presented here for the benefit of all full voting, emeritus and Young Physician Section (YPS) members of AAEM are the formal platform statements of each of the candidates.

The elections will be held immediately following the Candidates Forum scheduled during AAEM's 18th Annual Scientific Assembly, February 8-10, 2012, at the Hotel del Coronado in San Diego, CA. Although balloting arrangements will be made available for those unable to attend the Assembly, all voting members are encouraged to hold their ballots until the time of the meeting. The Forum will allow members the opportunity to question candidates directly about their vision of the association and its place in the specialty of emergency medicine. The responses offered in this session, in addition to the platform statements offered here, will provide members with the information they need to make intelligent and informed decisions.

AAEM's democratic election process is just one of the many things that make our organization unique among medical specialty societies. Please carefully review the information presented here, and make your arrangements to join us in San Diego for the Forum and final elections.

Full voting, emeritus and YPS members not planning to attend the Scientific Assembly should return their completed ballot to the AAEM office in the enclosed envelope by Friday, February 3, 2012. Those attending the San Diego conference should remember to bring their ballots with them for voting after the special Candidates Forum to be held on Thursday, February 9, 2012, from 12:30pm to 2:00pm.



William T. Durkin, Jr., MD MBA FAAEM

Candidate for President

Nominated by Leslie Zun, MD MBA FAAEM

Membership: 1994-2011

Disclosure: Nothing to disclose at this time

AAEM Vice President 2010-2011

AAEM Secretary-Treasurer 2004-2006, 2008-2010

AAEM Board of Directors 2007-2008

California Chapter of AAEM 1999-2011

USAAEM Member 2006-2011

USAAEM Board Liaison 2007-2011

Common Sense Author 2008, 2010-2011

Education Committee 2007-2011

Finance Committee 2010-2011

Operations Management Committee (OMC) 2008-2011

Practice Management Committee, Chair 2010-2011

MEMC-Speaker 2011

Scientific Assembly-Speaker 2009, 2011

Scientific Assembly-Moderator 2009-2011

I would like to thank those who have nominated me, and all of you who have encouraged and supported me during my time of service to the Academy. As I assume the office of President, I will continue to rely upon your support and advice.

In addition to my 28 years of experiences in the field of emergency medicine, I am a founding member of the Academy, have served for 7 years on the board of directors, 2 terms as Treasurer and, most recently, as Vice President. During my time with the organization I have served on many committees, helped write many of our initial policies, founded USAAEM, and co-founded CalAAEM. During my time as your Vice President, I did the following:

- Started the Practice Management Committee
- Member of the executive committee of the MEMC ensuring its profitability
- Represented the Academy on the ENA Staffing Guidelines Committee, Emergency Medicine Stakeholders' Committee
- AAEM's delegate to the Emergency Medicine Action Fund
- Facilitated the inauguration of the Pacific Emergency Medicine Conference (PEMC)
- Served on the Finance Committee, Education Committee
- Chair of the business track at this year's Scientific Assembly
- Assisted members who called the Academy with issues about their contract or employment status
- Along with Dr. Zun, began an outreach to hospital administrators at the AHA meeting

Things have changed since our founding in 1993; CMG's continue to gain market share at the cost of democratic groups, more emergency physicians are showing less entrepreneurial spirit and opting to become employees of hospitals. The macro economic environment is changing and no one really knows what to expect in the coming two years. These issues need to be recognized and we must be able to develop plans to assist our members if we are to remain relevant and become the preferred EM organization.

There will be a refocus on our core mission and values and more attention paid to the community emergency practitioners. There is a perception among many that we are primarily an academic organization. That perception needs to change. We advocate for independent democratic groups but have done very little to provide members support and avail them of opportunities to form such groups and discover contracts up for bid. This needs to improve. Due process rights are something few physicians have right now; we need to continue to help change that.

Our education programs are second to none. I plan to continue them and explore ways to make them more available. Our leadership in international EM will continue as we improve the offerings we have and look for other partnership opportunities.

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Candidate Platform Statements



William T. Durkin, Jr., MD MBA FAAEM — continued

I would like to explore ways to reach out to the other groups with whom we work such as hospital administrators, nurses, PA's, NP's.

Perhaps the biggest challenge is getting more of you involved. You can start right now by reading the candidate statements and voting. We have so many very talented and hard working members of the emergency physician community. I would like to have many of you become more involved in helping us to grow and become more relevant to the current practice environment. Take part in a committee, organize a state chapter, and encourage your colleagues to join the Academy, give a talk to a local training program or another EM group on the benefits of being a member. Let us know what you think we can do to better serve our members and add value to membership. I am asking all of you to work with me to help make your Academy the best organization in EM.



Mark Reiter, MD MBA FAAEM

Candidate for Vice President

Nominated by Howard Blumstein, MD FAAEM; Robert McNamara, MD FAAEM; Larry Weiss, MD JD FAAEM

Membership: 2002-2012

Disclosure: Financial interests – Emergency Excellence, owner; Medscape, consultant

Current or prior service to other organizations – Past AMA Councillor, Delegate; past Medical Society of New Jersey Board Member

AAEM Secretary-Treasurer in 2010-2011

AAEM Board of Directors 2009-2010

AAEM/RSA Board Liaison 2008-2009

AAEM YPS Board Liaison 2007-2008

AAEM Associate Member Representative 2006

AAEM Services Board of Directors 2006-2011

AAEM YPS 2008-2012

AAEM/RSA–Immediate Past President 2006-2007

AAEM/RSA–President 2005-2006

AAEM/RSA–Vice President 2004-2005

Common Sense Author 2006-2007, 2009-2010

Academic Affairs Committee 2008-2011

Academic Affairs Committee Board Liaison 2010

Board Certification Task Force, Co-Chair 2006

EM Practice Committee 2006

EMTALA Committee 2006

Finance Committee, Chair 2010-2011

Operations Management Committee (OMC) 2008-2010

Operations Management Committee Board Liaison 2011

Practice Management Committee 2010-2011

MEMC–Speaker 2009, 2011

MEMC–Track Chair 2011

MEMC–Abstract Moderator 2011

Scientific Assembly Speaker 2008 (Resident Track), 2009, 2011

Recipient–Resident of the Year Award, 2006

I am pleased to accept the nomination for Vice President of AAEM. Over my past seven years on the AAEM Board, I have worked hard to promote AAEM's mission for our members. As your AAEM Secretary-Treasurer, I helped to ensure that your dues dollars were used effectively to serve the Academy's mission. In this role, I have also been part of the Executive Board for the past two years, where I have been heavily involved in the ongoing activities of AAEM. I have had the opportunity to work directly with many of our members who have contacted the Academy for assistance. I am also proud of the accomplishments of the new Practice Management Committee (which develops resources for democratic groups) and the new Finance Committee (which advises the Board on investing cash reserves), both of which have been created based on my suggestions.

I promise to keep our membership well-informed of the great work being done by the Academy. I will continue to strongly advocate for you on core issues such as workplace fairness and defending the value of board certification. I will continue to promote our excellent educational offerings. I am committed to developing new opportunities for our membership to become active in the Academy. I firmly believe in the AAEM mission and hope to have the opportunity to continue to serve you as your Vice President.



Kevin Rodgers, MD FAAEM

Candidate for Secretary-Treasurer

Nominated by Howard Blumstein, MD FAAEM; Robert McNamara, MD FAAEM; Mark Reiter, MD MBA FAAEM

Membership: 1999-2011

Disclosure: Nothing to disclose at this time

AAEM Board of Directors 2002-2008, 2011-2013

AAEM/RSA Board Liaison 2005-2008

Common Sense Author 2006-2008

AAEM/RSA's *Emergency Medicine: A Focused Review*

of the *Core Curriculum*, Author

Education Committee 2005-2011

Education Committee, Chair 2006-2010

Scientific Assembly Subcommittee, Co-Chair 2008-

2011

Scientific Assembly Subcommittee 2011

ACCME Subcommittee 2005-2011

ACCME Accreditation Review 2007, 2011

Academic Affairs Committee 2005-2008

Tort Reform/Malpractice Committee 2007-2008

MEMC–Track Chair 2005, 2007

MEMC–Speaker 2005, 2007, 2009, 2011

CEMC–Speaker 2009

Oral Board Review Course–Examiner 2008-2011

Oral Board Review Course–Director 2001-2011

Scientific Assembly–Speaker 2005-2011 (2008, 2010, 2011 Student Track

Speaker)

Scientific Assembly–Pre-Conference Course Speaker 2005-2006, 2010

Scientific Assembly–Photo Competition Judge 2007-2009

Scientific Assembly–Open Mic Judge 2006, 2009

Scientific Assembly–Morbidity & Mortality Judge 2010–2011

Written Board Review Course–Speaker 2005-2011

Midwest Medical Student Symposium–Speaker 2007-2008

Recipient–Joe Lex Educator of the Year Award, 2009

Recipient–Program Director of the Year Award, 2005

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Candidate Platform Statements



Kevin Rodgers, MD FAAEM— continued

“Leadership is the capacity to translate vision into reality.” —Warren G. Bennis

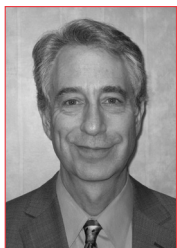
“Effective leadership is putting first things first. Effective management is discipline, carrying it out.” —Stephen Covey

During the Candidate Forum at the Scientific Assembly last year, candidates for the BOD were asked if they envisioned becoming the AAEM President in the future. I answered that question with a resounding yes. Running for Secretary-Treasurer is the first step of that journey. I believe that successful leadership of AAEM first requires complete comprehension of the inner workings of the organization as well as hands-on experience at the executive level. The Secretary-Treasurer position will provide me the opportunity to gain that foundation and a chance to begin to lead the organization to which I've dedicated my service.

I have lived my life with the belief that there is no greater calling than service to others. When I became involved in AAEM in 1997, I believed that it was the best organization in Emergency Medicine through which I could advocate for my patients, my colleagues and my specialty. Today I believe this more than ever and thus my decision to seek an opportunity to serve and lead AAEM at an even higher level.

Successful leaders are both managers and visionaries. I seek to embrace and nourish the thriving components of AAEM while concurrently looking to the future for new opportunities that will enhance our growth and impact. Change must be embraced, not feared, for change is the product of a keen vision. But future thinking and managerial skills alone are not enough. To insure success, they must be laced with passion, work ethic, integrity, people skills and experience. I believe I have the “right stuff” to get the job done. Twenty years of serving and leading AAEM, CORD and SAEM committees and task forces has honed those personal attributes and leadership skills. AAEM is well known for its dedicated, enthusiastic leadership that has grown the organization into a powerful voice for Emergency Medicine. I promise you nothing less!

My goals for the organization have not changed but are more imperative than ever. As an educator, I believe we must maintain, enhance and expand our educational opportunities by developing more online resources for CME. As a Program Director, I clearly recognize that the success of our organization is dependant upon aggressive recruitment and utilization of the talents of our residents and medical students. They are our future! As an EM specialist, AAEM needs to develop state chapters in EVERY state throughout the country. This is the primary answer to preserving the academic integrity of our specialty and crushing any attempts by BCEM/AAPS to gain recognition through state medical boards. Finally, I am equally interested in seeking out opportunities to establish cooperative ventures with SAEM, CORD and ACEP. Although the mission statements and goals of each of these organizations are different, I believe that we must maintain strong relationships and excellent communication with each of these organizations in order to develop and protect the practice of Emergency Medicine into the future. As we face central issues such as ACOs, the unfunded EMTALA mandate, tort reform, and workplace fairness, a united front when feasible, is more powerful than that provided by individual entities.



Leslie Zun, MD MBA FAAEM

Candidate for Secretary-Treasurer

Nominated by William T. Durkin, Jr., MD MBA FAAEM; Mark Langdorf, MD FAAEM; Larry Weiss, MD JD FAAEM

Membership: 1993-2011

Disclosure: Current or prior service to other organizations – ACEP Practice Management Committee, ICEP Board of Directors

Personal interests—AAEP Board of Directors

AAEM Board of Directors 1998-2002, 2011-2013

Common Sense Author 2011

Academic Affairs Committee 2009-2010

Education Committee 2011

Operations Management Committee (OMC) 2008-2010

Practice Management Committee 2010-2011

MEMC—Speaker 2009, 2011

Scientific Assembly—Speaker 2007, 2011

Written Board Review Course—Speaker 2007-2009

Recipient, David K. Wagner Award, 2011

I am running for the Secretary-Treasurer of the American Academy of Emergency Medicine to ensure that the organization continues its role as a leader in Emergency Medicine. As a founding member and prior & current board member, I am concerned about the direction of the organization. It is essential that AAEM has explicit plans to meet the needs of the membership for the future of our specialty.

I plan to bring my experience as a hospital chief operating officer and president for a 200 bed hospital, MBA training and knowledge as a healthcare consultant to the position of AAEM Secretary-Treasurer. On the AAEM board of directors, I have ensured that the organization gets in front of hospital administrators so that they will understand the benefits of independent, democratic groups, developed an AAEM consulting service to provide assistance to hospital administrators who want to engage an independent, democratic group and produced educational information about the benefits of these groups. This goal was met by exhibiting at the American Hospital Association Leadership Summit last July. As a member of the board, I have reinforced the necessity of fiscal responsibility and accountability for all of AAEM's revenue and expenses. I also serve on the AAEM education and practice management committees and on the medical advisory board of US Army Medical Department in the Chicago area. I chair the Department of Emergency Medicine at Chicago Medical School and Mount Sinai Hospital, a Chicago ED serving the needs of an inner city community.

As Secretary-Treasurer, I will ensure that the organization continues to serve its members in a focused and responsible manner. Specifically, I plan to pursue the following activities at the board level:

1. Development of a strategic plan to help direct the organization to meet the needs of the members
2. Get in front of hospital administrators concerning the benefits of independent democratic groups
3. Promote and support the right of due process for all emergency physicians

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Candidate Platform Statements



Leslie Zun, MD MBA FAAEM — continued

4. Review all financial documents to ensure fiscal responsibility so that the organization can continue to serve its members
5. Continue to focus the board on essential needs of the members including:
 - a. Support for independent, democratic groups
 - b. Represent emergency physicians to government agencies
 - c. Assist physicians in obtaining and maintaining hospital contracts
 - d. Provide cutting edge national and international emergency physician education
 - e. Encourage membership in AAEM and support EM residents and students

Thank you for your time and support.



John B. Christensen, MD FAAEM

Candidate for At-Large Director

Nominated by William T. Durkin, Jr., MD MBA FAAEM

Membership: 1994-2011

Disclosure: Current or prior service to other organizations – Cal/ACEP Reimbursement Committee, Cal/ACEP Healthcare Reform Workgroup

California Chapter of AAEM Board Member 2011

California Chapter of AAEM 2001-2011

Recipient, AAEM James M. Keane Award, 2003

"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."

AAEM Mission Statement Number 5 has been the heart of my professional life. Emergency Medicine has witnessed the systemic and systematic exploitation of many of its individual practitioners more than any other specialty in modern medical history. I've spent major segments of my 35 years in community-based EM practice struggling to right the wrongs posed by EM contract management groups and large hospital systems. Those struggles began in 1978 with legal action to break a restrictive covenant imposed by one of the original large CMGs in California to allow formation of one of the first democratic EM groups in the state.

In 1998 I led others to challenge the eighth largest hospital system in the country as it attempted to coerce over 500 emergency physicians and ultimately several thousand hospital-based physicians into a corporate-controlled fee splitting arrangement. I spearheaded the 4-year strategic planning and forensic financial analysis that drove the largest legal action in EM's history centering on the fair market value of EM management services. The suit, ACHP v. CHW, cited violations of state and federal anti-kickback statutes and the state bar against the corporate practice of medicine. AAEM was a signatory on the amicus curiae brief that tipped the balance and led to the dissolution of the management scheme at the heart of the historic declaratory relief action. Physicians' professional autonomy and incomes were preserved at CHW sites across the state, and other hospital systems were dissuaded from attempting similar arrangements.

More recently, in Summer 2011, Catholic Healthcare West placed my ED group's contract out for competitive bid as part of a complex strategy to force a doubling of medical professional liability insurance limits and impose an asymmetrical indemnification clause. The process, staged as a classic "prisoner's dilemma," could ultimately result in a large increase in policy premiums for EM groups, and could spread to involve a majority of physicians across the state and lead to increased litigation. With AAEM's assistance and using a political network cultivated over many years, I was able to alert the California Medical Association's leadership, which wrote to CHW to decry the limit doubling and indemnification.

AAEM, Cal/ACEP, ACEP and the AMA have all followed CMA's lead in admonishing CHW to abandon its risk shifting strategy. The total direct and indirect costs of CHW's requirements, if adopted widely by other hospitals, could erase MICRA's \$9.5B estimated cost savings to the state.

Through years of high-risk battles to preserve fairness and due process, I have learned much that could be useful to AAEM's Membership. With the myriad, complex uncertainties of healthcare reform and its potential negative impact on Emergency Medicine, advancing AAEM's Mission—especially Statement 5—is more important than ever. I would be honored to serve as an AAEM Board member to repay my debt of gratitude to the Academy in service to its members. The following timeless wisdom inspires the spirit of my commitment:

"A hundred times a day I remind myself that my inner and outer life depends on the labors of other men, living and dead, and that I must exert myself in order to give in the measure as I have received and am still receiving." —Albert Einstein

Education: Oakland University (B.S. Engineering Science, Student of Distinction)
 University of Michigan Medical School (MD)
 Residency Training: Internal Medicine (University of Michigan Medical Center)
 Board Certification: ABEM, ABIM
 Selected Professional activities: Assistant Clinical Professor of Community and Family Medicine, UCSF (1978-1982)

Practice management experience: CEO, CFO positions in independent local group (1992-2011)
 AAEM Charter Member (1994-present)
 Co-Founder and Director, Affiliated Catholic Healthcare Physicians
 Cal/AAEM founding Board Member (1999-2002, reappointed 2011-present)
 Institute of Management Accountants member



Candidate Platform Statements



David Lawhorn, MD FAAEM

Candidate for At-Large Director

Nominated by William T. Durkin, Jr., MD MBA FAAEM

Membership: 1995-2011

Disclosure: Nothing to disclose at this time

AAEM Tennessee State Chapter, President 2008-2012

Common Sense Author 2006

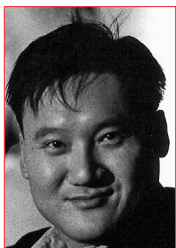
Practice Management Committee 2010-2011

Recipient—James Keaney Award, 2009

In 2009 AAEM awarded me the James Keaney Leadership Award for significant contributions to the AAEM Foundation and leadership within Emergency Medicine. My career path includes military service as a physician, chief resident of the Vanderbilt EM program, and many years as an ED physician in a smaller community hospital. As a result of my Army service as a physician with the 42nd Field Artillery Brigade during Operation Desert Storm, I was awarded the Bronze Star Medal for meritorious service. I appreciate the opportunity to continue to serve the members of AAEM.

I have been active in AAEM at the state and national level for many years since first joining AAEM in the early 90's. I have been the business director of our small democratic physician group and have had first hand involvement in all aspects of forming and implementing a new and very successful physician group. Dr. Andy Walker, a current member of the AAEM board of directors, has called our physician group "the best and most ethical emergency medicine group in Tennessee." For many years I have been giving lectures on the history and business of Emergency Medicine. I helped establish the Tennessee Chapter of our Academy and have been serving as the president of our chapter. In this role I helped protect emergency physicians in our state from restrictive covenants at the state legislative level. Emergency physicians remain the only physicians in the state of Tennessee not subject to non-compete clauses. At the moment I am helping to lead the struggle to achieve tort reform for emergency physicians and others who provide EMTALA-mandated care in our state. During the past year I have also been an active member of the newly formed Practice Management Committee of AAEM and have contributed to the marketing of your independent groups to hospital leadership across the country. My philosophy and focus tends to be on helping the independent EM physicians and democratic groups learn the ways to successfully establish themselves in a community and successfully compete against the contract management groups in the market place.

I would love to bring my experience and perspectives to the board as an at large member of the national board of AAEM to continue serving all of my fellow emergency physicians and this great profession. Please introduce yourself when you see me at the upcoming AAEM meeting in San Diego. I would love to meet you and hear about your experiences in EM. I would greatly appreciate your vote now.



Christopher C. Lee, MD FAAEM

Candidate for At-Large Director

Nominated by Larry Weiss, MD JD FAAEM; Joseph P. Wood, MD JD FAAEM

Membership: 1999-2000, 2002, 2007-2011

Disclosure: Nothing to disclose at this time

AAEM Board of Directors 2008-2010

Education Committee, Board Liaison 2010

Education Committee 2009-2011

International Committee 2008-2011

MEMC—Abstract Judge 2009, 2011

MEMC—Speaker 2009, 2011

MEMC—Abstract Moderator 2011

Scientific Assembly—Speaker 2011

Written Board Review Course—Speaker 2011

I believe management is doing things right and leadership is doing the right things. As you may be aware, I have served as a member of the AAEM Board of Directors for the three years from 2008-2011. It has truly been a great privilege and an honor to work with so many talented and dedicated people within this organization, and I am profoundly grateful for the opportunity to serve. At this time, I am seeking to serve—and have been nominated for—another term on the Board. Based upon my proven track record regarding membership advocacy and tireless dedication to professional excellence, I feel that I am eminently qualified to continue in a leadership position within the Academy and uphold its core values.

Emergency Medicine is not just a job to me—it is my passion and vocation in life. As such, I understand the sacrifices and hardships that are inherent in this type of career—the long hours away from family, working odd hours including holidays and weekends. I can also empathize with the challenges endured by physicians across the broad spectrum of the Emergency Medicine field.

Working so closely with AAEM leaders such as Doctors Larry Weiss, Howard Blumstein, Bill Durkin, Joseph Wood, Steve Hayden, Robert McNamara (and many others), I have gained tremendous insight on how to apply AAEM's principles in order to assist its members in overcoming the many obstacles faced in both academic and community hospital settings. In all of my work with the Board, I have always considered the welfare of the membership to be of paramount importance concerning all decision-making endeavors.

After my residency at NYU/Bellevue Hospital Center in New York City, I worked at Flushing Hospital Medical Center, where I served as the Associate Director of the Emergency Department, and Director of Medical Education and Research for five years. I am currently a faculty member in the Department of Emergency Medicine at Stony Brook University Medical Center, where I have served for the past seven years. In addition to my clinical responsibilities, I am very active in resident education, and a multitude of research efforts. I have published over 70 peer-reviewed articles and work as a reviewer for seven medical journals, including the positions of editor-in-chief for the *Journal of Korean American Medical Association* and section

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Candidate Platform Statements



Christopher C. Lee, MD FAAEM — continued

editor for the *Journal of Emergency Medicine*. I have given many lectures and presentations nationally and internationally. My academic interests include abdominal pain, trauma, and International Emergency Medicine.

I have also worked diligently for the past two years to create the Pan-Pacific Emergency Medicine Congress (PEMC), and I am happy to announce that the first PEMC is set to launch in October 2012 in Seoul, Korea. I am confident that it will be an invaluable educational experience for countless emergency physicians worldwide.

I believe that leadership is the capacity to translate vision into reality. If I am elected to serve a second term on the AAEM Board, I will continue to work proactively for the benefit of all AAEM members. I humbly ask for your vote and once again, thank you for continued support and for your utmost consideration in the upcoming election. God bless you.



Craig Norquist, MD FAAEM

Candidate for At-Large Director

Self-nominated

Membership: 2009-2013

Disclosure: Nothing to disclose at this time

AAEM YPS At Large Director 2008-2009

Common Sense Author 2010

Practice Management Committee 2010-2011

Immediately out of residency, I have had the pleasure, honor and responsibility of working in a democratic group. I have worked hard throughout my life, my education and my career, to find that the work never stops.

After my initial work in phase with my group, I immediately became involved in the leadership of the group, making it more in line with my ideals of what a democratic group could and should be. I served for 2 years as the human resources director, subsequently moving into a medical director position, opening up a brand new hospital. I currently serve as medical director at our second largest hospital.

In my short time with AAEM, I have served on their Practice Management Task Force, as well as written an article and letter to congress regarding payment language in the PPACA. I have fought to remove requirements of "merit badges of APLS/PALS" in the newly formed state pediatric emergency preparedness program. Within the hospital, I fight the same merit badge battle of ACLS requirements for sedation, ATLS requirements for trauma, etc.. I use the AAEM critical care certification as evidence that our emergency physicians are trained and appropriate providers of care in these instances, without the need for any additional training.

Democratic groups require constant stewardship and leadership to maintain the contract with the hospital or hospital system. Simply providing good care is not enough in these days of ever decreasing budgets and increasing demands. Additional time is required to shore up relations that are required to stabilize the contract. Participation, leadership, and input into many different committees that are important for all of the hospital, not just the emergency department, are important. Leading the hospital in measuring and reporting performance and quality, not waiting for Centers for Medicare Services or the hospitals to do it adds incredible value to your group. ED groups have been leaders in the rollout of EMR's or CPOE, and should be resources for other departments or the entire hospital in their installation and rollout. By starting your own call back system to get actual satisfaction data and make changes accordingly, you show your concern of patient satisfaction and willingness to be proactive.

Over the last several years, the threat of hospital employment working for a salary continues to grow. Especially in light of bundled payments and Accountable Care Organizations. While some argue this is preferred by the millennial generations, I hope that this is only because they haven't been witness to how great it is to be an owner and partner in a democratic group.

Many democratic groups do not have the resources or people to help them develop quality, callback or scribe programs. AAEM should be that resource and a source of information and strength for all groups, large or small, employed or independent. If elected to the Board of Directors of AAEM, I will strive to help all Emergency Physicians.



David Vega, MD FAAEM

Candidate for At-Large Director

Nominated by Mark Reiter, MD MBA FAAEM; Larry Weiss, MD JD FAAEM

Membership: 2004-2011

Disclosure: Current or prior service to other organizations – York County Medical Society, President

AAEM Board of Directors–YPS Director 2009-2010

AAEM YPS Board Liaison 2009-2011

AAEM Young Physicians Section Taskforce, Chair 2005-2006

AAEM YPS–Immediate Past President 2008-2009

AAEM YPS–Founding President 2006-2008

AAEM YPS 2006-2010

Editor of *Common Sense* 2009-2011

Common Sense Author 2006-2011

Co-Editor and Contributing Author for *Rules of the Road for Young Emergency Physicians*, 2009

Founding Editor of Ask the Experts for Medscape/AAEM 2008-2009

Education Committee 2008-2011

Oral Board Review Course–Examiner 2007-2009

Scientific Assembly–Photo Competition Judge 2009

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Candidate Platform Statements



David Vega, MD FAAEM — continued

As specialists in emergency medicine, our ability to provide patients with the best in emergency care is constantly being challenged. Issues such as the corporate practice of medicine, unbalanced government regulations, and attempts to undermine the value of board certification create a need for an organization that will consistently stand up for what is right. AAEM is that organization. No other group so clearly supports board-certified specialists in emergency medicine and their patients than the Academy. I wholeheartedly believe in the principles upon which AAEM was founded. I would be proud to continue serving this organization as a member of the board of directors.

I am an active clinician and Associate Program Director at York Hospital, a community teaching hospital in York, Pennsylvania. I have been an active member of AAEM since 2004. As an associate member of AAEM, I served as chair of the Young Physicians Section (YPS) taskforce. With significant support from Antoine Kazzi, president of AAEM at the time, we successfully established the Young Physicians Section. I then served as the founding president of the section and eventually served two terms on the main AAEM board of directors as the YPS Director. During this time, I also had the opportunity to serve as chief editor of *Rules of the Road for Young Emergency Physicians* along with co-editor and AAEM past-president Tom Scaletta.

I have been a member of the education committee for several years, through which I have particularly enjoyed serving multiple times as a photo competition judge and lecture moderator at AAEM's Scientific Assembly. I have also enjoyed volunteering with AAEM's oral board review course on several occasions. Additionally, I was the founding editor of AAEM's "Ask the Experts in Emergency Medicine" series on Medscape. I am currently the editor of *Common Sense*, a position I began in 2009, having taken over for the outstanding previous editor, David Kramer. Recently, I was also appointed co-chair of AAEM's Social Media Taskforce.

It has been a true pleasure to be involved with AAEM in these various ways over the years. As a member of the board of directors, I look forward to the opportunity to continue increasing my service to the Academy and helping to guide the organization as it continues forward. As a specialty, we need careful vigilance as our autonomy and ability to provide the best in emergency care face challenges from many directions. AAEM has a strong history of not wavering in its fight for the fair treatment of the specialist in emergency medicine. I ask that you give me your vote so I can help AAEM continue firmly in this direction as it continues into the future.



Joanne Williams, MD FAAEM

Candidate for At-Large Director

Nominated by William T. Durkin, Jr., MD MBA FAAEM

Membership: 1994-2011

Disclosure: Nothing to disclose at this time

AAEM Board of Directors 2008-2012

California Chapter of AAEM Board Member 2011

California Chapter of AAEM 2001-2011

AAEM/RSA *Rules of the Road for Medical Students*, Author

AAEM/RSA *Rules of the Road for Medical Students*, 2nd Edition, Author

Caribbean Emergency Medicine Congress—Speaker 2009

MEMC—Speaker 2007, 2009, 2011

MEMC—Track Chair 2009, 2011

MEMC—Abstract Moderator 2011

Scientific Assembly—Preconference Speaker 2009-2010

Scientific Assembly—Moderator 2009-2011

Scientific Assembly—Open Mic Judge 2010-2011

Scientific Assembly—Photo Competition Judge 2010

Education Committee 2005-2011

International Committee 2006-2011

Minority Affairs Committee 2009-2011

Operations Management Committee (OMC) 2008-2010

Women's Interest Group 2008-2011

I am a founding member of the American Academy of Emergency Medicine. I have been active on the Education, Mediterranean Emergency Medicine Congress and the International Emergency Medicine Committees. This past year I have become a member of the Academy's Womens' Interest Group. I have also served on the Academy's Board of Directors for the past four years.

I have served many years on the Board of Directors of the California Chapter of AAEM. I have served as its Secretary-Treasurer and now am a Member-at-Large. For the California Chapter, I have directed several Scientific Assembly preconference courses including "Pain Management and Care of the Terminally Ill." The Medical Board of California accepted that pre-conference for fulfillment of AB487 that became law in California through Business and Professions Code Section 2190.5. I have also directed preconference courses entitled "Trauma Resuscitation for the Community Doc" and "Children are Not Little Adults! – Pediatric Emergencies."

As a Board Member, my concentration, among other things, has been and will continue to be on issues that impact the well being and future of all Emergency Physicians. Issues that affect the integrity of the specialty have been a Board of Directors focus for which I have been an active advocate for the members of AAEM. These include residency training now as the means to board certification in Emergency Medicine. The American Board of Physician Specialists (ABPS) feels otherwise. This body is pressuring state medical boards to accept their physicians' quest to advertise themselves as "board certified" in Emergency Medicine (and some other specialties) to the public. It is the ABPS' contention that residency training is not necessary for board certification in Emergency Medicine.

Individual and small contract groups are being "swallowed" whole by contract mega-groups. This is sometimes at the expense of the Emergency Physician in "the pit." Keeping jobs and contracts is of utmost importance. I have worked as a "pit doc" since 1984 and have seen this happen time and again over the years. As a member of the Board, I will continue to work with the Executive Committee and the Board to assist members who find their practices imperiled.

CONTINUED



Candidate Platform Statements



Joanne Williams, MD FAAEM — continued

A worrisome issue is lack of due process. Groups have sacrificed Emergency Physicians to save their contract. One would never have dreamed of becoming a “sacrificial lamb” based on a patient complaint! It has happened and can happen to any of us! Lack of due process is an ongoing problem. In this limited arena, I am able to give you just an overview of some of my concerns as a practicing Emergency Physician that I believe effect each and every one of us. As a Board Member At-Large, I will continue to champion resolution for issues that affect each member of the Academy’s future and the well-being of the practicing Emergency Physicians. We must protect our patients and we must protect the integrity of our specialty. We must respect and protect each other as we continue to strengthen Emergency Medicine as a specialty.



Michael Pulia, MD FAAEM

Candidate for YPS Director

Nominated by Brian Potts, MD MBA FAAEM

Membership: 2004-2012

Disclosure: Nothing to disclose at this time

AAEM YPS—President 2011-2012

AAEM YPS—Vice President 2010-2011

AAEM YPS—At Large Director 2008-2010

AAEM/RSA Board of Directors 2007-2008

Common Sense Author 2007-2011

AAEM YPS Editorial Committee, Co-Chair 2010-2011

AAEM YPS Events Committee, Chair 2008-2010

AAEM YPS Mentor Program 2009-2011

AAEM/RSA Advocacy Committee 2007-2008

AAEM/RSA Education Committee, Chair 2007-2008

AAEM/RSA Council of Emergency Medicine

Residency Directors (CORD) Representative 2007-2008

AAEM Education Committee 2008-2011

Government and National Affairs Committee 2010-2011

AAEM Membership Committee 2010-2011

Scientific Assembly—Moderator 2008-2009

Scientific Assembly—Photo Competition Judge 2010-2011

Scientific Assembly Planning Committee 2010

Midwest Medical Student Symposium—Chair of Planning Committee &

Moderator 2007; Speaker 2007, 2011

Scientific Assembly—Chair of Resident Track Planning Committee 2008

Scientific Assembly Photo Competition Contestant 2008, 2011

In these dynamic times for EM, there is only one organization clearly focused on preserving the integrity of the physician-patient relationship and the value of board certification, AAEM. For this reason, I have proudly served AAEM in leadership roles for the past 6 years and currently seek election to the board of directors as the Young Physician Section (YPS) Director. This position would be the capstone of my 4 years on the YPS board of directors. Moving up through the YPS board from two terms as an at-large member to Vice President and now president, I have an intimate knowledge of how the section works at each level and understand the type of organizational support YPS needs to grow. Determining the optimal approach to engage young physicians after residency is critical for the future success of the organization and our specialty. I truly believe YPS plays a pivotal role in that transition.

During my current term as YPS president, I have directed our board in making significant strides to improve the section and providing direction for future efforts. Some specific highlights include redesigning our website/Facebook page, transition to HTML emails, creating a new YPS slogan/logo, revamping the mentor program, updating our membership mailer, laying the foundation for a regional Midwest CME event in 2012, and administering a successful membership survey. Due to an excellent response rate, the membership survey has provided YPS with a wealth of information on the perceived value of our current offerings and specific ideas for future projects/lectures. This was all done to live up to our promise to enhance the value of YPS membership. I ask for your vote so I can represent you as the voice of YPS on the AAEM board of directors. In this role, I can best assure the continued growth and success of a section I truly believe in.