



ACADEMIC PEDIATRIC ASSOCIATION

Leadership in education, research, patient care, and advocacy

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Happy summer! I hope everyone has taken or is taking some time off. We thank all of you for submitting your annual reports. The content of these will be added to your SIG webpage so it contains up to date information. We are still awaiting a few remaining reports, so if you have not yet submitted, you will hear from Laura or me shortly. We are also hoping to add which SIGs each member belongs to his or her personal log-in page.

We'd like to take this opportunity to announce that the Newborn Nursery SIG has changed its name to Newborn SIG. We also welcome two new SIGs, the Pediatric Hospital Medicine Leadership SIG, and the Interdisciplinary Pediatric Researchers SIG. The former group is targeted as a gathering place for division chiefs, fellowship directors and others with hospital leadership roles. The latter aims to convene non-physician researchers who are APA members.

Our major initiatives for SIGs for the upcoming year are SIG mentors, and a more explicit inclusion of networking activities as part of SIG programming. A call has gone out to all APA members who are former board members, or are faculty members in either the full professor or emeritus membership categories. You will be hearing from Laura soon with names of senior level APA members who are interested in serving as a mentor for your SIG. This program is voluntary, so don't feel compelled to accept the offer if you don't want to. At PAS 2018, the SIG mentors will have ribbons, and will be expected to attend the SIG program. Ideally the mentors should be well established scholars in your SIG's interest area, and should be able to help with connecting SIGs to potential speakers, research and education collaborators, and to funding opportunities.

As you plan your SIG program for PAS 2018, please consider including a networking activity during the session. This would be some dedicated time for attendees who do not know each other to forge new connections. Last year's APA membership survey found that networking opportunities are rated as one of the most important benefits of APA membership.

The fall, in-person board meeting takes place in mid-October. Please be in touch with me at Alison.v.holmes@hitchcock.org with any items you think the board should know about either for one of our monthly meetings or at the longer fall meeting.

Sincerely,

Alison Volpe Holmes, MD, MPH
APA Chair of Regions and SIGs
Vice-chair of Pediatrics for Education
Associate Professor of Pediatrics and of The Dartmouth Institute
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