

Spring is here and I am looking forward to seeing you all at PAS and attending some great SIG programming.

1. I am hopeful that the \$500 per year for SIGs that you now have will allow for more SIG sponsored networking opportunities at PAS or other meetings with an APA presence. Last year a few SIGs held successful offsite events with appetizers and drinks in the early evening. If the \$500 is not spent near the end of the calendar year, please think about ways to spend it in 2019 for the 2020 PAS.
2. Don't forget to grab your APA SIG chair ribbon at the Baltimore Convention Center- Level 300, Pratt Street Lobby when you check in. Please remind SIG mentors to grab their ribbons.
3. Please try to take some opportunities at your SIG to discuss the benefits of APA membership. Many at PAS just walk into your SIGs due to the excellence of the programming, and this is an opportunity to engage with people who may benefit from APA programs and membership.
4. Please remind SIG attendees to fill out the SIG evaluation form on the meeting app. This will be the only way to get feedback on your programming.
5. SIG mentors will be joining you. This is our second year of the program, which is a way to help SIGs with networking and to keep senior APA members actively engaged in the organization. They will have "SIG MENTOR" ribbons. Please take a moment to welcome them publicly.
6. Many of you have a co-chair at the end of a term and should identify a new co-chair for the next three-year term either before or during this year's PAS. If you are unsure of someone's term is up, please ask laurat@academicpeds.org. If you know your new co-chair already, please let Laura know so the new co-chair can be invited to the SIG chairs lunch.
7. Region and SIG information for PAS will be stored on the website here: <http://academicpeds.org/healthCareDelivery/RegionSIG/facultyUploads.cfm>. You must login first to access this site. This site holds the list of current region and SIG chairs, an APA ppt template, the region and SIG handbooks, and a way to look up members in your region/SIG.
8. When you send out an announcement about SIG programming to the listserv, we plan on holding this information until we can collate all SIG announcements to be sent out April 15th.
9. Our lunch is at 11:30am Monday—looking forward to talking with you there. If you have new SIG co-chairs starting, please have them arrive at 11 am for orientation.
10. Invite your SIG's new members to the APA's **New Members and PAS First Timers Orientation**: All members are invited to this orientation on Saturday, April 27th from 7:00 am - 8:00 am in the Hilton Ruth room at the Hilton Baltimore hotel. Established members are invited to attend and serve as APA Ambassadors. APA Ambassadors will don a blue APA Ambassador ribbon and serve as references for APA new members and first time PAS attendees. These ribbons can be picked up at the Orientation or in the Convention Center.

Finally, my board term ends at this PAS. The Chair of Region and SIGs board position will sunset with my term as the board gets a little smaller in accordance with our new by-laws. I have really enjoyed

meeting, supporting, and working with all of you over the last three years. I know the APA has a great future because of the many dedicated leaders like our SIG chairs. The board member who will serve as a liaison and coordinator for SIGs and regions will now be the president-elect. For 2019-2020 this will be Latha Chandran. Dr. Chandran will attend the SIG lunch with me in Baltimore.

Sincerely,

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