

American Academy of Physicians' Associates

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December 19, 1972

*Newsletter
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SUBJECT: Update on Academy activities

Paul S. Toth
Duke University

Clara Vanderbuilt
Montefiore Medical Center

I am writing to update you on Academy activities and to notify you of two upcoming meetings of the Academy. I have enclosed a Secretary's Newsletter which will brief you well on most Academy activities.

I will not comment on the many issues discussed in the Newsletter but would like to detail some important developments. We have actively sought affiliation with groups representing "organized medicine" and have initiated communication with the American Medical Association, Association of American Medical Colleges, American Hospital Association, Office of Education (HEW), American Society of Internal Medicine, American Academy of Family Physicians, American Academy of Pediatrics, and the Colleges representing OB/GYN, Physicians, and Surgeons. On behalf of the Academy I have repeatedly approached the A.M.A. for "formal recognition" requesting input in the Joint Review Committee, site visit teams, and a special "super committee" termed the Ad Hoc Advisory Committee on Physician's Assistants formed to advise the Council on Health Manpower. To date I have been told that I will be invited to attend the Advisory Committee meeting as an observer and that Physician's Assistants in the near future would be invited on the site visit teams. The A.M.A. has, in essence, recommended that we change our name from Associates to Assistants and merge with the American College of Physicians' Assistants.

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Following A.M.A. advice and after being approached by representatives of the American College of Physicians' Assistants I established a special committee chaired by Mr. Paul Moson (President-Elect) to investigate and review: (1) the Academy's objectives, (2) how inclusive should the Academy be and by what mechanisms, (3) necessary by-law changes to promote such a change, (4) necessary changes in "structure" to promote the change and handle the increased administrative workload, and (5) the feasibility of merging with the American College of Physicians' Assistants. The College is composed primarily of surgical, urologic, and orthopedic Physician's Assistants, and we are actively and seriously discussing the feasibility of a merger with them.

Aside from the aforementioned this letter also serves to notify you of two upcoming meetings:

1. On Saturday February 3, 1973, the Academy Board of Directors has called a regular meeting of the Academy beginning at 12:00 noon (with lunch) and ending by 5:00 p.m. There will also be a Board of Directors meeting on February 2, 1973, from 1:00 p.m. through 4:00 p.m. and on February 3, 1973, beginning promptly at 10:00 a.m. and lasting to 12:00 noon at which time lunch will be served and following which the open regular meeting the Academy will take place. The Board meetings scheduled for the afternoon of February 2, and the morning of February 3 are called to discuss many issues including the proposed merger, the annual meeting, and our effort in continuing medical education. The regular meeting of the Academy was called to discuss and vote upon: (1) proposed by-law changes including the exclusion of the prerequisite that Fellow - members be registered; (2) to change the name of the Academy to the American Academy of Physicians' Assistants; and (3) the proposed merger with the College. The Board meeting scheduled for the morning of February 3 and the open regular meeting of the Academy scheduled for that same afternoon will be held at the Montefiore Medical Center (211 East 210th St., Bronx, New York) in the Moses Conference Room (Moses Research Building, 2nd floor). The Board meeting scheduled for the afternoon of February 2 will in all probability be held at the Roosevelt Hotel in Manhattan but this is not final and you shall receive further notice regarding this meeting.

As always if you plan to attend this meeting it will have to be at your own expense for the Academy has no money for perdiem, travel, and etc. We would welcome your input at this meeting but in comparison to the upcoming annual meeting of the Academy to be held in April 1973 I think it would be more important for you to attend the annual meeting of the Academy then.

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However, if you plan to attend and are arriving by air we would suggest you land at LaGuardia Airport (Kennedy-second choice). For lodging we suggest the Roosevelt Hotel (a hotel where we shall receive reduced rates; phone 212-686-9200) or the Americana Hotel (a more expensive and luxurious hotel; phone 212-581-1000). Both hotels are located in Manhattan and when making reservations at the Roosevelt Hotel please notify the management that you are an Academy representative.

It is important that if you plan to attend this meeting that you notify me in writing by January 12, 1973. Also, if you wish to have tickets to any shows, plays, and etc., you should contact Ms. Clara Vanderbilt (Montefiore Hospital - 212-920-4321; home 212-798-7180).

2. You are invited to participate in the annual meeting of Academy to be held April 14, 1973, at the Sheppard Air Force Base in Wichita Falls, Texas. The Academy meeting will be held, as usual, in conjunction with the Fifth Annual Conference on Physician's Assistants. This year the Annual Conference will be co-sponsored by the Association of Physician Assistant Programs and the Academy with the Air Force Physician's Assistant Program as our host. The National Annual Conference will begin Wednesday evening April 11, 1973, (hopefully with an opening address by Dr. Edmund Pelligrino) and will end on Friday April 13. The Academy Annual Meeting then will follow on April 14, 1973. Also planned is the day of continuing medical education for graduate Physician's Assistants to be held the day of April 11 preceding the kickoff of the National Conference. I sincerely hope you will be able to attend the Annual Meeting of the Academy and time permitting the Annual Conference but again this will have to be at your own expense.

Before closing I would like to emphasize one point. The purpose of this letter and the enclosed Secretary's Newsletter was to update you on the Academy's activities. It is not necessary nor mandatory for you to attend the February

Board meeting of the Academy in New York. The Annual Meeting of the Academy scheduled for April 1973 in comparison is much more important, and I hope to see you then. In the meantime if I can provide you with any detailed information regarding the sum of our activities please do not hesitate to contact me.

TRG/cs

Enclosure