



ADVANCING EMERGENCY CARE 

# Steering Committee Conference Call April 30, 2023

# Minutes

Speaker Kelly Gray-Eurom, MD, FACEP, called to order a conference call meeting of the Council Steering Committee of the American College of Emergency Physicians at 8:09 Eastern time on Sunday, April 30, 2023.

Steering Committee members present for all or portions of the meeting were: Eric Blutinger, MD, MSc, FACEP; Melissa Costello, MD, FACEP, vice speaker; Emily Fitz, MD, FACEP; Kelly Gray-Eurom, MD, FACEP, speaker; Vik Gulati, MD, FACEP; Carlton Heine, MD, PhD, FACEP; Amanda Irish, MD; C. Ryan Keay, MD, FACEP; Alexander Kirk, MD, FACEP; Phillip Luke LeBas, MD, FACEP; Marc Mendelsohn, MD, FACEP; Diana Nordlund, DO, JD, FACEP; Bing Pao, MD, FACEP; Christopher Sampson, MD, FACEP; Matthew Sanders, DO, FACEP; Gary C. Starr, MD, FACEP; and Thomas Sugarman, MD, FACEP.

Other members and guests present for all or portions of the meeting were: Stephen H. Anderson, MD, FACEP; L. Anthony Cirillo, MD, FACEP; J. T. Finnell, MD, FACEP, vice president; Deborah Fletcher, MD, FACEP; Jeffrey Goodloe, MD, FACEP; Alison Haddock, MD, FACEP; Sanford Herman, MD, FACEP; Christopher Kang, MD, FACEP, president; Gabor Kelen, MD, FACEP; Rami Khoury, MD, FACEP; Heidi C. Knowles, MD, FACEP; Chadd Kraus, DO, FACEP; Aaron Kuzel, DO; Michael McCrea, MD, FACEP; Harry Severance, MD, FACEP; James Shoemaker, MD, FACEP, secretary-treasurer; and Aisha Terry, MD, FACEP, president-elect.

Staff present for all or portions of the meeting were: Adriana Alvarez; Mary Ellen Fletcher, CPC, CEDC, CAE; Robert Heard, MBA, CAE; Sonja Montgomery, CAE; Leslie Moore, JD; Jennifer Moulton; Sandra Schneider, MD, FACEP; Susan Sedory, MA, CAE; Sam Shahid, MBBS, MPH; and Jessica Vaughn.

## Minutes

The minutes of the January 31, 2023, Steering Committee meeting were approved as written.

## Officer and Staff Reports

### Speaker

Dr. Gray-Eurom welcomed everyone and thanked them for their participation and commitment to the College. She then announced the 2023 Council awards recipients:

Council Meritorious Service Award – Gary R. Katz, MD, MBA, FACEP

Council Horizon Award – George RJ Sontag, MD

Council Teamwork Award – Pain Management & Addiction Medicine Section

Council Champion in Diversity & Inclusion Award – Adetolu Odufuye, MD, FACEP (posthumously)

**Council Curmudgeon Award – John D. Bibb, MD, FACEP**

Dr. Gray-Eurom announced the 2023 candidates:

President-Elect: Jeffrey M. Goodloe MD, FACEP  
Alison J. Haddock, MD, FACEP  
Ryan A. Stanton, MD, FACEP

Speaker Melissa W. Costello, MD, FACEP (unopposed)

Vice Speaker      Kurtis A. Mayz, JD, MD, MBA, FACEP  
Michael J. McCrea, MD, FACEP  
Larisa M. Traill, MD, FACEP

Board of Directors: William B. Felegi, DO, FACEP  
Robert J. Hancock, MD, FACEP  
Chadd K. Kraus, DO, DrPH, CPE, FACEP  
Abhi Mehrotra, MD, MBA, FACEP  
Henry Z. Pitzele, MD, FACEP  
James L. Shoemaker, MD, FACEP

Dr. Gray-Eurom reminded the Steering Committee of the June 6, 2023, Resolution Preparation Session that will be held virtually and the various meetings that will be held on Friday, October 6, 2023, Philadelphia.

### **Vice Speaker**

Dr. Costello reported on her service on the Finance Committee as the speaker's designee.

### **President**

Dr. Kang expressed his appreciation to the Steering Committee for their leadership. He discussed several challenges ACEP is facing and the priorities he is addressing for the remainder of his year as president. He announced that a Practice Essentials course will debut at ACEP23.

### **President-Elect**

Dr. Terry discussed the priorities she will address during her year as president. She reported on recent meetings she has attended and building relationships with other organizations.

### **Executive Director**

Ms. Sedory highlighted key successes of the College and the challenges ahead for ACEP in addressing member needs. Staff are working to further refine personalization of membership value for members and adapting education needs and delivery methods. She urged everyone to reinforce with colleagues everything that ACEP does for all emergency physicians.

### **Amended Resolution 25(22) Advocacy for Safe Access to Full Spectrum Pregnancy Related Health Care**

Dr. Gray-Eurom reminded the Steering Committee of their discussion during the January 31, 2023, Steering Committee regarding the Board's deferred action on Amended Resolution 25(22) Advocacy for Safe Access to Full Spectrum Pregnancy Related Health Care. The Board requested the Emergency Medicine Reproductive Health & Patient Safety Task Force to review the third resolved, determine if any revisions were needed, and provide a recommendation to the Board regarding any suggested revisions that do not alter the intent of the resolution. The Steering Committee reviewed the proposed revisions at the January 31, 2023, meeting and agreed that the recommended revisions were consistent with the Council's intent. The Board adopted Amended Resolution 25(22) Advocacy for Safe Access to Full Spectrum Pregnancy Related Health Care with additional revisions as recommended by the Emergency Medicine Reproductive Health & Patient Safety Task Force on February 2, 2023:

RESOLVED, That ACEP affirm that: 1) abortion is a medical procedure and should be performed only by a duly licensed physician, surgeon, or other medical professional in conformance with standards of good medical practice and the Medical Practice Act of that individual's state; and 2) no physician or other professional personnel shall be required to perform an act violative of good medical judgment and this protection shall not be construed to remove the ethical obligation for referral for any medically indicated procedure; and be it further

RESOLVED, That ACEP support the position that the early termination of pregnancy (publicly referred to as "abortion") is a medical procedure, and as such, involves shared decision making between patients and their physician regarding: 1) discussion of reproductive health care; 2) performance of indicated clinical assessments; 3) evaluation of the viability of pregnancy and safety of the pregnant person; 4) availability of appropriate resources to perform indicated procedure(s); and 5) is to be made only by health care professionals with their patients; and be it further

RESOLVED, That ACEP oppose ~~the criminalization or mandatory reporting of reproductive health-related patient concerns~~ statutory provision of criminal penalties for any medically appropriate care provided in the emergency department and additionally oppose mandatory reporting with the intent (explicit or implicit) to prosecute patients or their health care professionals, which includes, but is not limited to, care for any pregnancy, pregnancy-related complications, or pregnancy loss; and be it further

RESOLVED, That ACEP specifically oppose the ~~criminalization~~, imposition of penalties, or other retaliatory efforts against patients, patient advocates, physicians, health care workers, and health systems for receiving, assisting, or referring patients within a state or across state lines to receive reproductive health services or medications for contraception and abortion, and will further advocate for legal protection of said individuals; and be it further [this was previously the last resolved]

RESOLVED, That ACEP support an individual's ability to access the full spectrum of evidence-based pre-pregnancy, prenatal, peripartum, and postpartum physical and mental health care, and supports the adequate payment from all payers for said care; ~~and be it further~~.

~~RESOLVED, That ACEP oppose the criminalization, imposition of penalties, or other retaliatory efforts against patients, patient advocates, physicians, health care workers, and health systems for receiving, assisting, or referring patients within a state or across state lines to receive reproductive health services or medications for contraception and abortion, and will further advocate for legal protection of said individuals.~~ [moved to 4th resolved]

It was moved THAT THE STEERING COMMITTEE ACCEPT THE AMENDED LANGUAGE OF AMENDED RESOLUTION 25(22) ADVOCACY FOR SAFE ACCESS TO FULL SPECTRUM PREGNANCY RELATED HEALTH CARE AS ADOPTED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS ON FEBRUARY 2, 2023. The motion was adopted.

There were concerns expressed about the third resolved opposing mandatory reporting as it relates to other state laws pertaining to mandatory reporting of other things such as child abuse.

### Annual Meeting Subcommittee

Dr. Keay presented the subcommittee's report on their assigned objectives.

The subcommittee reviewed the format and topics from previous Town Hall meetings and provided suggestions for the 2023 Town Hall meeting topic. The subcommittee supports the current format of the Town Hall meeting that includes a pro/con debate of various aspects of an issue by high-level speakers/content experts followed by a period of Q & A. The subcommittee suggested the following topics for consideration:

#### The Future of EM in a broken healthcare system

- What happened in the match?
- Scope of practice? Will AI/technology replace medicine?

#### Workforce/environment

- How to create a palatable work environment.
- How do we continue to love the work we do?
- Independent Dispute Resolution/No Surprises Act/Billing Changes
- Providing mental health for us and them in a world with no services.
- Pediatric access – what's the future for our kids?

The Council officers will make the final determination about the format, topic, and speakers for this year's Town Hall meeting this summer.

The subcommittee reviewed the implementation actions on 2020-2022 resolutions and concurred that the actions taken are consistent with the Council's expectations. Updates to the implementation action on the resolutions can be accessed on the ACEP website by all members. <https://www.acep.org/what-we-believe/actions-on-council-resolutions/>

The subcommittee provided suggestions for questions that should be considered to use as survey questions during the Council meeting:

- Tie questions to the Town Hall topic.
- Do you use AI systems in the ED?
- Where do you practice clinical emergency medicine? (List various settings instead of asking how many clinical hours do you work. For example, urgent care, telehealth, EMS, addiction medicine, etc.)
- What makes you want to continue practicing emergency medicine? (clinical, camaraderie, non-clinical, patients, population health focus, financial, etc.)
- Availability of pediatrics or other specialty care.
- What do you think is the impact of the 2023 Match on emergency medicine? (positive, negative, neutral)

The Council officers will determine the final survey questions this summer.

The subcommittee reviewed the draft 2023 Council meeting agenda and supported moving the executive director's report to the first day of the Council meeting before recessing to the Reference Committee hearings and moving the EMF and NEMPAC reports to the second day morning before discussion of the Reference Committee reports. It was noted that video reports for EMF and NEMPAC could be played as the Council meeting goes into a break and could be played on demand through the Council meeting website.

### **Bylaws & Council Standing Rules Subcommittee**

Dr. Heine reported that the subcommittee was scheduled to hold a virtual meeting on April 4, 2023, to discuss their assigned objectives. The meeting was cancelled because there were no revisions to the Council Standing Rules identified by the Steering Committee or subcommittee members. Additionally, there were no Bylaws or Council Standing Rules resolutions that had been submitted for the 2023 Council meeting (at that time) for the subcommittee to review.

### **Candidate Forum Subcommittee**

Dr. Gray-Eurom presented the subcommittee's report on their assigned objectives. The majority of the subcommittee's objectives will be completed this summer and during the 2023 Council meeting. The subcommittee will meet immediately following this Steering Committee meeting to finalize the candidate written questions and to review the assignments for moderators, coordinators, and door monitors. The subcommittee will meet 4:30 – 6:00 pm in Philadelphia on Friday October 6, 2023, to review the format for the Candidate Forum, finalize questions for the Candidate Forum, and meet with the candidates.

### **Council Horizon Award**

Dr. Gray-Eurom led a discussion regarding the eligibility criteria for the Council Horizon Award and reviewed the history of the award. There was consensus to retain the current eligibility criteria of the first five years of service to the Council, consider service as a councillor only (i.e., do not include alternate councillor service), and do not include any gap years in Council service when determining the first five years. For example, an individual served as a councillor 2017-20, did not serve in 2021, and served again in 2022. The time is calculated based only on the years actually served. The eligibility criteria will be updated to reflect the Steering Committee's discussion and will be used by the 2024 Council Awards Committee to determine the 2024 award recipient.

### **Board Action on Three 2023 Resolutions**

Dr. Gray-Eurom informed the Steering Committee about three resolutions that the Board of Directors will discuss at their meeting later today:

1. Substitute Resolution 61(21) Advocating for a Required Emergency Medicine Experience at All U.S. Medical Schools – The Academic Affairs Committee revised the "Guidelines for Undergraduate Education in Emergency Medicine" policy statement to address the resolution.

2. Amended Resolution 74(21) Regulation by State Medical Boards of All Who Engage in Practice of Medicine – The first resolved resolution was assigned to the State Legislative/Regulatory Committee to develop a policy statement. The committee developed a proposed new policy statement “State Board of Medicine Regulation of Non-Physician Practitioners Practicing Medicine.” The second resolved was assigned to the AMA Section Council on Emergency Medicine to develop and submit a resolution to the AMA as directed in the resolution. The AMA Section Council is recommending that the Board rescind its decision to adopt the second resolved and overrule it instead. If the Board approves the recommendations to rescind its previous decision and overrule the second resolved, the vote and position of each Board member must be reported to the Steering Committee and the Council.
3. Amended Resolution 57(22) Recognized Bodies for Emergency Physician Board Certification – The Academic Affairs Committee revised the “ACEP Recognized Certifying Bodies in Emergency Medicine” policy statement as directed in the resolution.

### Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Council Steering Committee is scheduled for 6:00 pm, Friday, October 6, 2023, at the Philadelphia Marriott in Philadelphia, PA.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:53 am Eastern time on Sunday, April 30, 2023.

Respectfully submitted,



Kelly Gray-Eurom, MD, MMM, FACEP  
Council Speaker and Chair



Melissa W. Costello, MD, FACEP  
Council Vice Speaker and Vice Chair