

April 11, 2011

Laura Burns
Bureau of Health Professions (BHPr)
Health Resources and Services Administration
Parklawn Building, Room 9-49
5600 Fishers Lane
Rockville, MD 20857

Dear Ms. Burns:

On behalf of the American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP), the Association of Departments of Family Medicine (ADFM), Association of Family Medicine Residency Directors (AFMRD), the North American Primary Care Research Group (NAPCRG), and the Society of Teachers of Family Medicine (STFM), we are nominating several individuals for the Advisory Committee on Training in Primary Care Medicine and Dentistry (ACTPCMD). We will be sending a separate letter with nominations to the Council on Graduate Medical Education.

We appreciate the opportunity to nominate a number of exceptional candidates for the ACTPCMD. Their curricula vitae and required forms are attached. Each of our nominees is eligible and would like to serve on the ACTPCMD. In addition, we would like to highlight some specific accomplishments of our nominees that would make them exceptional assets to ACTPCMD. They are included here in alphabetical order.

Suzanne M. Allen, MD, MPH

Dr. Allen is a physician whose leadership, insight and organizational skills have given her the opportunity to advance with remarkable rapidity in the academic setting. Initially trained within the US military residency program, Dr. Allen distinguished herself for her capacity to accept challenging responsibilities and convert them into success stories that fueled her expeditious advancement. Within three years of graduation she was already the co-director of a combined specialty residency program. Her experience as a pre-doctoral training coordinator allowed Dr. Allen to demonstrate her capacity for leadership such that she went directly into a vice-dean position within the prestigious University of Washington with responsibility for oversight of the complex, multi-state clinical educational enterprise known as the WWAMI Network.

Her role entails the triple responsibilities of Designated Institutional Officer of the Network, directorship for the regional AHEC, and vice-deanship for regional affairs. All this was accomplished within only 10 years of completing her faculty development fellowship. Clearly, her talent, work ethic and creative energy have been well appreciated by those overseeing her efforts. Dr. Allen is a member of the ACGME Review Committee for Family Medicine and is intimately involved in the design of evaluative metrics and milestones for graduate medical education in her discipline. Her position also provides her with a uniquely comprehensive perspective on graduate medical education in this nation, and in concert with her work with WWAMI, she would be a most valuable resource to this federal advisory committee.

Robert W. Beattie, MD

After many years in private practice, Dr. Beattie began a career in academic family medicine. He currently serves as the Chair of the Department of Family and Community Medicine at the UND School of Medicine & Health Sciences as well as an Adjunct Assistant Professor in the School of Public Health at the University of Minnesota. He is widely acknowledged for his expertise and has been called on to testify before national bodies such as the Medicare Payment Advisory Commission and the Senate Finance Committee. The past president of the North Dakota Medical Association, Dr. Beattie has demonstrated the ability to work across specialties. He has experience as a Title VII grant reviewer for HRSA, and his department is the home for the physician assistant program at UND. He is a member of the ND AHEC's advisory board which provides him with a unique perspective on the health professions training pipeline. Dr. Beattie is an active member of the ADFM, STFM, AAFP, the National Association of Rural Health, and many state and local associations and groups, and he would be a valuable addition to the ACTPCMD.

William G. Elder, Jr., PhD

Dr. Bill Elder has a wealth of experience regarding many facets of education, research, and clinical work that would fit in quite well with the work of this committee. He is an award winning professor in areas of teaching, educational innovation and curricular development, mentoring, and leadership. His areas of expertise are key topics of interest to this committee. He has extensive experience as principal investigator or co-investigator of many educational and research grants. He has developed curricula for integrating spirituality in medicine, complementary and alternative medicine, clinical protocol for domestic violence, as well as projects for leadership enhancement for medical students in rural tracks, telemedicine-based case discussion program for family medicine clerkship students in local and rural locations, and improvement of professionalism training and evaluation in association with forming a patient centered medicine course.

He has been responsible for the design and delivery of behavioral science curriculum at the professional, residency, and predoctoral levels in department, community, and rural settings. He has been involved in residency training grants devoted to cultural competency, leadership and organizational development, and the psychosocial aspects of chronic disease. Dr. Elder served on the Title VII Advisory Committee for Interdisciplinary Community Based Linkages where he participated actively in several writing subcommittees demonstrating his ability to hit the ground running as a member of this committee. His professional work has devoted to collaborative primary health care. This expertise is essential as primary care practice moves more and more to team-based care and the patient-centered medical home model of practice and care. We believe Dr. Elder would be an exceptional and productive member of this committee.

Shou Ling Leong, MD

Dr. Leong is the Associate Vice-Chair for Education and Predoctoral Director and Professor of Family and Community Medicine at The Pennsylvania State University College of Medicine in Hershey. Honored by her colleagues in academic medicine for her leadership in advancing medical education, Dr. Leong recognized early on the need align medical education with health care reform transformation and proactively took steps to prepare to be an outstanding educator in the new competencies including the areas of population medicine, chronic care model, team-based care and health information technologies. She is the Principal Investigator for a \$1.46 million HRSA grant to develop and implement a PCMH Longitudinal Curriculum to teach population management, team-based care, care coordination, medication safety and self-management. As part of that grant, she led a curricular reform working group to develop a third year Patient-Centered Medical Home (PCMH) curriculum incorporating integration across clerkships and longitudinal experiences with students managing their panel of patients.

In addition to her leadership experience in medical education at Penn State, she is a proven leader of a multi-institutional effort dedicated to generation of web-based medical education, working with Information Technologists, other Family Physicians, Pediatricians, Internists, and Surgeons. The ACTPCMD would greatly benefit from Dr. Leong's service.

Paul Paulman, MD

Born in a small farming community in Nebraska, Dr. Paulman has spent his career promoting primary care and leading efforts to address rural health profession shortages. Dr. Paulman is the Assistant Dean for Clinical Education and Quality and a Professor in the Department of Family Medicine at the University of Nebraska Medical Center. He has been widely recognized for his work in predoctoral education and served with distinction on numerous committees for the Society of Teachers of Family Medicine (STFM). He served as Project Co-Director of the HRSA Family Medicine Curriculum Resource Project and has received several HRSA grants and contracts and participated in many of HRSA's predoctoral and residency grant review panels. He is also an alumnus of HRSA's National Primary Care Fellowship. Dr. Paulman has received many awards for contributions to academic family medicine, and his medical textbooks have been used in the U.S. and internationally to support family medicine training programs. Of note, he received the STFM Recognition Award, which honors STFM members or nonmembers for outstanding service to family medicine education. We believe that his experience in a variety of evaluation methods for benchmarking and performance appraisal will be quite valuable to the Advisory Committee.

Joanne Williams, MD, MPH

As an Assistant Professor, Clinical Track, Department of Family and Preventive Medicine at Emory University School of Medicine in Atlanta, Georgia, as well as the Director of Student Programs/Predocotoral Director there, Dr. Williams has been honored as an educator and regarded as a valued voice for health promotion in the community. She has served on two HRSA Predocotoral Education Grant review committees and seen first-hand differing review processes. Her long medical education career has given her a solid understanding of the evaluation of students, courses, workshops and programs. She also has an exceptional ability to reach out and form the teams from diverse backgrounds needed to support her efforts with special needs or projects. Dr. Williams has most recently served on the STFM Education Committee and was instrumental in developing a highly successful Conference on Medical Student Education for STFM. She would be a valuable addition to the ACTPCMD.

We appreciate the opportunity to offer in nomination these candidates for selection to serve on the Advisory Committee.

Sincerely,



W. Perry Dickinson, MD
President
Society of Teachers of Family Medicine




Roland A. Goertz, MD, MBA
President
American Academy of Family Physicians



Joseph Gravel, MD
President
Association of Family Medicine
Residency Directors



Jeannie Haggerty, PhD
President
North American Primary Care
Research Group



Richard Wender, MD
President
Association of Departments of
Family Medicine