

## SEASON'S GREETINGS FROM CAIR!

Dear Members,

As 2010 draws to a close, allow me to reflect on CAIR's work in the past few months. We elected our new Board and appointed our Committees' membership and Liaison Representatives at the end of September. I can assure you that all of our resident volunteers have your interests at heart and work hard on your behalf.

In October, CAIR hosted a thoughtful session at the Family Medicine Forum in Vancouver entitled **Medicine in a Global Context: Getting outside your comfort zone**, featuring Dr. Ian Bowmer, Major David McQueen and our own Dr. Rob Doyle. Click [here](#) to read feature articles on each speaker, or to download the full summary. We are already making plans for next year's International Conference on Residency Education and Family Medicine Forum.

In November, the CAIR Board met in Toronto and set its priorities for this year. Expect to see in the coming months the results of this planning, including PGME review, resident wellbeing, and global health.

Also in November, CAIR held another successful **Accreditation Workshop** in Edmonton, and we're busy planning the next one, to be held in Manitoba on Monday, January 31st, 2011. Mark your calendars!

We hope that many of you will be able to take some time over the holiday season to rest, relax, and visit with loved ones. And we wish you the very best for the coming year.



Sasha Ho Farris Nyirabu, MD  
2010-2011 CAIR President

## WINNERS OF THE 2010 CAIR AWARDS

CAIR is pleased to announce that **Dr. Rishi Gupta**, PGY5 Ophthalmology at the University of Ottawa, is the winner of the 2010 CAIR Dr. Joseph Mikhael Medical Education Award. The winner of the 2010 Dr Derek Puddester Resident Wellbeing Award is **Dr. Keith Wycliffe-Jones**, Director of the University of Calgary's Department of Family Medicine. The 2010 Awards will be presented as part of the next Board meeting on February 12th, 2011.

## WHAT'S NEW: EDUCATION & PROFESSIONALISM (EPC)

CAIR's Education and Professionalism Committee met in-person in November to discuss national educational issues and establish priorities. Identified issues for action were introduced by residents across Canada and by CAIR liaison representatives who sit on the committees of our medical education stakeholder organizations including the Royal College, the College of Family Physicians, the Association of Faculties of Medicine of Canada (AFMC), Canadian Resident Matching Service (CaRMS), CAPER (Canadian Post MD registry), CAIMPD (Canadian Association of Internal Medicine Program Directors), CAME (Canadian Association of Medical Education).

Some of the important topics prioritized this year include: the recognition of General Internal Medicine as a new subspecialty, the written before oral pilot in Pediatrics and Internal Medicine, collaboration with the Royal College on the development of strategies for lifelong learning, the Future of Medical Education postgraduate project, harmonization and professionalism.

## BREAKING NEWS:

The Royal College Council has voted unanimously to approve **GIM as a subspecialty of Internal Medicine**. Click [here](#) for more details.

## THE FUTURE OF MEDICAL EDUCATION POSTGRADUATE PROJECT

The AFMC, the CFPC, le Collège des médecins du Québec (CMQ) and the Royal College have undertaken a review of postgraduate medical education in Canada. The goal is to establish whether the structure, content and processes of the current system are designed for the best possible outcomes to meet current and future societal needs.

The FMEC PG Project is presently in the evidence-gathering and consultation stage. The CAIR Board was consulted in early Fall 2010 and our representatives sit on the FMEC PG steering committee and FMEC scientific committee.

In order to further contribute the resident point of view on the FMEC PG Project, we would like to hear from you! How do you envision the ideal or most optimal postgraduate medical education and training system in the year 2030? Please send in your views to us at [cair@cair.ca](mailto:cair@cair.ca).

CAIR's working group will consolidate this in the form of aggregate and/or anonymous data and will be used to inform the working group's response to this national project currently underway. For further information on the FMEC PG Project click [here](#).

## ADVOCACY & POLICY (APC) UPDATE

In 2009-10, CAIR identified a broadening of its international presence as a strategic priority. In

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doing so, one gap that was identified was the lack of a cohesive international voice for junior physicians. In contrast, medical students have organized and represented themselves via the International Federation of Medical Student Associations (IFMSA) for the past sixty years.

As a step toward creating a platform for residents on the international stage, CAIR and IFMSA collaborated successfully for the formation of a junior physicians sub-group within the World Medical Association (WMA), at its General Assembly meeting in Vancouver (Oct 13-16, 2010). This junior doctors' body will facilitate discussion at the WMA on issues of interest to trainees including global health, safe working hours, post graduate training and physician migration.

CAIR is currently working in concert with the IFMSA to develop a mandate and governance structure for this junior physician committee, as well as planning for its first meeting at the WMA's next General Assembly in Montevideo, Uruguay (12-15 Oct, 2011).

### NEWS FROM MEMBER OUTREACH (MOC)

It has been a year since the relaunch of the website, which has given us the opportunity to see what areas on the site work and what can be improved. These changes will be implemented in the next couple of months. We are also pursuing the option of putting video on the CAIR website.

The MOC is presently reviewing and updating CAIR's information package and presentations in preparation for the spring meetings with 4th year medical students.

After a successful pilot this past summer, the call bags will again be distributed to all new residents at their orientation.

**Please note that the date for the 2011 CAIR Annual General Meeting has been changed. The AGM will take place in June. Details will follow.**

### WHAT'S HAPPENING ACROSS CANADA?

In November, CAIR hosted a meeting of the Executive Directors Management Council at the Hilton Lac-Leamy in Gatineau, Québec. This was the first opportunity for some new Eds to meet their counterparts face-to-face. The agenda focused on information-sharing. There were presentations on the current work of CAIR's major management committees, followed by the opportunity for all participants to contribute updates on their areas of responsibility and to discuss common strategies for approaching key issues. It was highly successful, and something CAIR plans to continue on a long-term basis, with at least two face-to-face meetings a year.

#### Newfoundland & Labrador

Negotiations are making slow progress, with binding arbitration in place for salaries only. Memorial University recently underwent a full CFPC/Royal College survey.

#### The Maritimes

PARI-MP launched an Anti-Bullying Campaign in partnership with other health care associations, targeting all health workers. Posters are now displayed around the hospitals with the heading "Bullying, Not in our workplace" with a picture of residents, physicians, the CEO of the main teaching hospital and the Dean of Medicine. The campaign will continue throughout the year, since the poster lists resources for employees.

#### Ontario

In November the Ministry of Health and Long Term Care's Resident Loan Interest Relief Program for Ontario residents was officially launched. Residents training in Ontario who have federal/provincial/territorial student loans can apply to the program and have all of their interest deferred until they start practice provided they will stay in Ontario to practice for 5 years on graduation.

#### Manitoba

Contract negotiations are underway; the PARIM executive will meet with Doctors Manitoba to discuss contract changes that will be an enhancement for resident members. The new St. Boniface General Hospital Lounge was opened in mid-November. Also, the new PARIM website will be launched soon.

#### Saskatchewan

The Saskatchewan residents recently welcomed Dr. Runtga and Dr. Jamison, who are heading up the Western portion of the FMEC-PG Project. It was a successful and insightful town hall meeting and the residents were excited to participate. PAIRS is pleased to announce that Kristin Johnson has been hired as their new Executive Director.

#### Alberta

Alongside its seasonal activities and PARAdime Charity Drive, PARA is already deep into preparations for its busy new year, including the full Accreditation survey of the University of Alberta in February. As well, PARA continues to prepare for arbitration of the remaining outstanding articles in the Alberta Resident Physician Collective Agreement.

#### British Columbia

Similarly to several other regions. PAR-BC is currently in negotiations. They are also busy working on professional development opportunities for Board members, and planning visits to UBC's distributed medical education sites.

### RESIDENT AWARENESS MONTH

February 2011 is Resident Awareness Month across Canada, with the 10th Annual National Resident Awareness Day falling on Tuesday, February 22, 2011. Help us celebrate the multifaceted role residents play in Canada's healthcare system. Stay tuned for more about CAIR's Resident Awareness activities!