How to Build Your Local Resident and Fellow Section (RFS)

A Boots-on-the-Ground Grassroots Approach to Member Engagement
Authors & Disclosures

No disclosures.

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Purpose

- Review current member involvement in our local Resident and Fellow Section (RFS) chapter.
- Analyze barriers to member attendance of local and national ACR meetings.
- Discuss methods of increasing medical student, resident, and fellow engagement in our local RFS chapter.
Methods

Recruitment

Active recruitment of fellows, residents, and medical students to join the local RFS chapter during the past 4 years included:

- Annual RFS dinner with relevant presentations by local and national ACR leaders
- Residency program visiting lectures by ACR leaders
- In-person engagement by residency program ACR champions/site representatives
- Quarterly social events
Methods
Recruitment Analysis

- Online 13-question survey distributed to all radiology, radiation oncology, and medical physics training programs in Arizona
- Survey goals:
  - Determine involvement in the ACR and/or RFS
  - Assess current perception of the RFS
  - Analyze barriers of future participation in the ACR and/or RFS
- Survey distribution: 191 medical students, residents, and fellows
- Survey response rate: 61 respondents (32%) representing 73% (8/11) targeted programs
Results
Survey Demographics

Table 1. Survey Respondent Levels of Training

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Level of Training</th>
<th>No. of Respondents</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PGY-7 or above</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PGY-6</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PGY-5</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PGY-4</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PGY-3</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PGY-2</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PGY-1</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medical Student</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

No. of Respondents (N=61)
## Results

### Survey Findings

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Survey Question Examples</th>
<th>% (No.)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Respondents aware of ACR</td>
<td>96% (59)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Respondents aware of RFS</td>
<td>83% (51)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Had attended an annual ACR meeting</td>
<td>17% (10)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Had attended an annual state RFS meeting</td>
<td>43% (26)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Respondent had been engaged by local leadership</td>
<td>43% (26)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Respondent had been engaged via a residency program guest lecture</td>
<td>39% (23)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Results

RFS/ACR Involvement

RFS and ACR Meeting Attendees

- State RFS Meeting
  - 2014: 15
  - 2017: 28
- Annual ACR Meeting
  - 2014: 4
  - 2017: 8

[Image of people]
Results

Survey Findings

- 36% (4/11) of programs sent members to the ACR annual meeting; all 4 represented programs having ACR champions/site leaders

- Primary reasons for not attending an ACR annual meeting included lack of support for travel and time off (40%: 24/61) and lack of awareness of the meeting (37%: 23/61)
Results

RFS/ACR involvement

- Annual state RFS meeting attendance increased 87% from 15 trainees in 2014 to 28 in 2017, while annual ACR meeting attendance increased 100% from 4 in-training members in 2014 to 8 in 2017
Table 2.

What factors would potentially increase your likelihood of participating in the RFS section of the ACR at a local level (please select all that apply)

- More in person RFS engagement at my institution from my peers (residents and fellows): 48.21%
- More in person RFS engagement at my institution from my faculty: 44.64%
- More emails or online correspondence (facebook, twitter, instagram, blogs) from the resident and fellows section: 17.86%
- More support/funding for activities and meetings: 60.71%
- More frequent state chapter meetings or activities: 33.93%
Conclusions

- Regular and ongoing engagement with medical students, residents, and fellows is imperative to increase and maintain participation in local state chapters and in the ACR.

- Locations with program champions and those which provide support with funding and allocated time are more likely to have higher meeting attendance and are more likely to participate in the ACR in the future.
Future Directions

- Designate an ACR program champion at each GME institution

- Obtain more support and funding from our programs to send residents/fellows to ACR Annual Meeting in Washington, D.C., possibly by establishing a travel fund with contributions from local programs to be matched by ARS
Future Directions

- Promote participation and networking in the annual Arizona RFS section meeting, held the same weekend as the ARS annual meeting
- Continue to have regular meetings of the Arizona RFS, with open invitation to new participants from all state residency and fellowship programs
- Promote events to include multiple programs in attendance, with special guest speakers, thereby increasing camaraderie and visibility of the section