



Annual Meeting

**Minutes**

Tuesday, October 2, 2018  
8:00a.m. to 10:00 a.m. PST  
San Diego Convention Center

**List of Attendees (Partial)**

- Edward Shaheen- Incoming Chair
- Hartmut Gross- Outgoing Chair
- Alison Haddock- Board Liaison
- Jeffrey Davis- Staff Liaison
- Ryan McBride- ACEP Staff
- Laura Wooster- ACEP Staff
- Judd Hollander
- DJ Apakama
- Jason D'Amore
- Jill Griffin
- Aditi Joshi
- David Garvey
- Todd Crocco
- Christopher Russi
- Francis Guyette
- Bryan Balentine
- Mark Friedman
- Sean Bender
- Timothy Peck
- Daniela Gerard
- Mark Meredith
- Peter Greenwald
- Brandan Carr
- Shoma Desai
- Claritza Rios
- Sulieman Wazeesud-Dih
- Matthew Nipe
- Heeyoung Wang
- Casey Green
- Ben Shives
- Brian Skow
- Darrell Carter
- Tommy Mason
- David Ng
- Stephen Karas Jr.
- Eric Bean

- Sean Siler
- Michael Baker
- David Ernst
- Ian Leber
- Madeline Andrew (aka Kivela)
- Neal Sikka
- Mansoor Khan
- Matt Kaufman
- Jaron Christianson
- Cai Glushak
- Alex Chiu
- Don Powell
- Matt Rill

### **Chair' s Welcome & Introductions**

Dr. Hartmut Gross kicked off the meeting and turned the reins over to Dr. Edward Shaheen, the incoming Section Chair. Dr. Shaheen thanked Dr. Gross for his commitment and service to the Section and presented him with a plaque. Dr. Shaheen then went through the agenda and gave a quick overview of the Section and its growth over the last few years. The section has grown from 100 members in 2011 to 248 in 2018. He then introduced the EMRA representative. Dr. Aditi Joshi is the current EMRA liaison, and Dr. Zach Jarou is the current EMRA representative. Dr. Jarou could not make the meeting, so Dr. DJ Apakama attended in his place. Dr. Shaheen then thanked the meeting's sponsor, Bravado Health, and introduced Ms. Susan Pasley from Bravado Health.

### **Bravado Health: "Healing Technology With a Human Touch"**

Ms. Susan Pasley than gave an overview of Bravado Health and went through a powerpoint describing Bravado's product Ayva. The powerpoint is found [here](#).

### **Board Update**

Dr. Alison Haddock, the Section's Board Liaison, gave an update. She said that ACEP is committed to advocating for the expansion of telehealth services at the federal, state, and local levels. She said that numerous ACEP committees and sections are actively discussing and engaging in issues related to telehealth and that ACEP expects that this Section will be responsible for coordinating these efforts going forward.

### **Council Report**

Dr. Shaheen provided an update on the Council elections that occurred the weekend prior to the meeting. Dr. Vidor Friedman was ratified by the Council as the new ACEP President. The Council debated some resolutions on Saturday and Sunday and then voted in a new President-Elect (Dr. Bill Jaquis) and two new Board members (Dr. Tony Cirillo and Dr. JT Finnell). Dr. Shaheen reported that numerous Board members were approached and the topic of Telehealth was discussed. Board members appeared receptive to learning more about Telehealth and expressed some understanding of the

importance of Telehealth in the future of Emergency Medicine. Dr. Paul D. Kivela, the now Immediate ACEP Past President, reported that it has been projected that as much as 60% of emergency medicine in the future will not take place in the emergency department illustrating the significant impact that telehealth will have on our specialty and society.

## **Elections**

### ***Section Name Change***

The Section voted in favor of changing the Section's name from the *Emergency Telemedicine Section* to the ***Telehealth Section***. There was some debate about whether the new name "Telehealth" would cover everything related the expanded use of remote technological services and digital health or whether other words should be added to the title to try to capture all of these services. In the end, the Section believed that a shorter title was preferable and that these modalities were included within Telehealth.

Dr. Shaheen will now send a memo to the Board asking it to approve the name change.

### ***Updating Guidelines***

Dr. Shaheen obtained approval from the Section to update some current Section guidelines that need updates. He expects to form a committee or task force in the next few weeks to help him make these changes. One of these changes will be to create a process to remove someone in a Section leadership position if he/she is no longer active in the Section or adequately performing the duties of the position.

### ***Chair-Elect***

The Section voted to name **Dr. Aditi Joshi** as the Section Chair-Elect. Dr. Joshi ran against Dr. Eric Bean and Dr. Deborah Ann Mulligan. There were no additional nominations from the floor when a call was made before closing nominations prior to the voting. All three candidates gave a short speech prior to the vote (Dr. Mulligan had not attended in person and provided a short video that was played at the meeting).

### ***Councilor***

Dr. Alex Chiu will be the new Councilor. Dr. Chiu was the Alternate Councilor at this year's Council meeting. According to the Section bylaws, the Alternate Councilor from the previous year will become the Councilor the following year.

### ***Alternate Councilor***

Dr. David Ernst will be the new Alternate Councilor. Dr. Ernst ran unopposed and no other nominations were provided at the meeting. There were no nominations from the floor when asked prior to closing nominations for the position. He was confirmed to the position by a majority of showing of hands from the members present.

## ***Secretary and Newsletter Editor***

Dr. Jason D'Amore was nominated by a section member from the floor during open call for nominations. There was a second. There were no further nominations from the floor and the nomination window was closed. He ran unopposed and will be the new Secretary and Newsletter Editor. He was confirmed to that position by a majority of showing of hands from the members present.

## **Telemedicine Advocacy**

Mr. Jeffrey Davis, the Section's staff liaison and the Director of Regulatory Affairs at ACEP, provided a short overview of recent Congressional and regulatory actions regarding telehealth and discussed current advocacy efforts that ACEP is engaging in to get new telehealth codes for emergency medicine reimbursed by Medicare. He expressed his openness to hearing from Section members about their ideas about the College's telehealth advocacy strategy.

## **Metrics White-Paper**

Dr. Shaheen provided a short overview of a [white paper](#) that the Section drafted called "Defining Emergency Telehealth: A systematic review of the literature to describe the practice of unscheduled acute care through telehealth." Dr. Shaheen thanked the authors of the paper and said that the paper should be officially published shortly. The section members who authored the paper were determining what publication might be the best one to publish the paper.

## **Chair's Vision of the Section's Future**

Dr. Shaheen then discussed his vision for the Section, including how to add value to the Section's members, value to the College, and value to patients. He said that he would like to form committees and/or task forces to work on key areas, such as research, practice guidelines, lobbying and legislative reforms, fund raising, entrepreneurial support or networking and membership engagement. He said that he believes that telehealth is the future of emergency medicine and that the Section, and the College's advocacy, should grow significantly over the next few years.

Dr. Shaheen then led the Section through a robust, engaging discussion on four main proposals:

- 1) Request ACEP to issue an official statement of support of telehealth research for unmet needs of emergency medicine
- 2) ACEP establish Telehealth Section administrative funding to aid in addressing the gap in telehealth research
  - a) Research staff for continued literature search to identify gaps in research and help direct needed research
  - b) Material allocated to lobbying for increased funding dedicated to Emergency Telehealth Section by NIH, CMS, and other organizations
- 3) ACEP to allocate 1.5 FTE to lobby for increased emergency telehealth funding allocation by NIH, CMS, Congress and other organizations
- 4) ACEP allow Sections to have option to have and control their own budgets
  - a) Section leadership may fund raise as seen fit for their own account

- b) Section leadership, via chair or a designated committee i.e. appropriations, allocates use of such funds
- c) Funds remain in Section's account until used without expiration
- d) ACEP maintains veto authority to deny use of funds if use is inconsistent with ACEP's charter or mission.
- e) Will better serve sections and their membership
- f) Should increase College membership and retention of members by better addressing the interests and desires of members lessening the chances that members will search elsewhere

Section members agreed with creating a resolution to present before the Council next year to support telehealth research. A vote was taken and a majority approved Dr. Shaheen to convene a taskforce to help draft the resolution(s).

There was some discussion about how to best engage in advocacy and research efforts to maximize the use of the College. Dr. Judd Hollander, for example, talked in detail about some of the projects he has undertaken and said that we did not want the Section to "re-create the wheel." Dr. Brendan Carr, who is an advisor to the Assistant Secretary of Preparedness and Response at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), offered to help serve as a liaison to HHS. Dr. Michael Baker, Dr. Alex Chiu, and others also shared their ideas.

### **Thank you and Wrap Ups**

Dr. Shaheen thanked everyone for coming and for expressing their ideas. He then talked about some upcoming lectures at Scientific Assembly, including a few by Dr. Judd Hollander. He also listed some lecture ideas for 2019. Finally, he thanked the meeting's sponsor, Bravado Health, one more time, along with the Section's staff liaison, Jeffrey Davis.

The next annual meeting will be in Denver, Colorado from October 27- 30, 2019.