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SDRME -- NEWS

OCTOBER
1996

While most of us are now using e-mail, the traditional approach to communication, that you are now reading, will reach all SDRMEs. Below is an outline the agenda for the SDRME Fall meeting to be held during the upcoming AAMC Annual Meeting in San Francisco (with a view to encouraging you to attend that meeting), and a brief update on other SDRME activities.

Gordon Page
Secretary, SDRME
October 1996

SDRME Fall Meeting

The meeting will be held on **Saturday November 9, 2:30 - 6:00 pm** in the **San Francisco Hilton Hotel, Union Square 14**; the last hour of the meeting will be a reception. Y'all come -- to both activities that is.

Below is an preliminary outline of the agenda. You will see that the business component of the agenda is greatly compressed to permit discussion of a SDRME action plan, and of SDRME reviews and projects.

- 2:30** Introductions & Welcome **Mike Ravitch, President**
- guests, members new and old
 - highlights, 1996 Annual Meeting in Asheville
 - reports
 - Treasurer **Mike Brooks**
 - Membership Committee **John Shatzer**
 - Nominations Committee **Penny Jennett**
 - International Committee **Gordon Page**
- 2:45** SDRME Vision and its Fulfilment **John Littlefield**
- Members will self-select to join a discussion group on one of the four topics listed below. These discussions will build upon the discussions and reports from the 1996 Annual Meeting (see next section of this newsletter), to develop a SDRME "action plan" for the next two years.

- Group 1: Professional Development Needs (Self and Office)
Discussion facilitator: **Sheila Chauvin**
- Group 2: International Relationships
Discussion facilitator: **Chuck Dohner**
- Group 3: SDRME Visibility and Growth
Discussion facilitator: **Gwendie Camp**
- Group 4: Promoting Research
Discussion facilitator: **Sharon Krackov**

3:30 Group reports to plenary session

4:00 Break

4:15 Update from on-going research review projects **Mike Ravitch**

- **Geoff Norman's** Cognitive psychology review
- **Emil Petrusa's** SP review--status report
- **John Littlefield/Louise Arnold's** Professional behaviour evaluation review--status report

4:45 Update on projects of interest **Mike Ravitch**

- AAMC educational objectives project
- BME grant proposal project
- Centres for research in medical education
- SDRME WWW page

5:00 Adjourn to Reception

SDRME Vision -- Small Group Discussion Reports from the 1996 Annual Meeting

Small group brainstorming sessions were held at the 1996 Annual Meeting to define the direction and future initiatives of SDRME in four broad areas: professional development, international relationships, SDRME visibility and growth, and promoting research. These discussions built upon those initiated at the 1995 SDRME Annual Meeting, and produced the following recommendations which have been summarized by **John Littlefield**.

Group 1: Professional Development Needs (Self and Office)
Discussion facilitator and reporter: **Sheila Chauvin**

1. Develop and implement a mentor system that pairs experienced directors/members who are interested in being mentors with new directors/members requesting this resource.

2. Develop a directory of the membership that contains members names, contact information and their areas of interests and expertise.
3. Expand the Fall SDRME meeting to provide additional workshops and sessions to enhance the knowledge of skills of the membership in areas identified in the top ten list (see minutes, 1996 Annual Meeting).
- 4 Investigate options to expand the Fall meeting as it relates to the program for the AAMC annual meeting.
5. Investigate specific resources that enhance the change agent skills of members and understanding about the strategies to maintain and enhance the viability of medical education units.
6. Investigate ways in which SDRME can enhance the use of electronic mail for sharing information. Also, this task force could work to establish archives and reply only files on the SDRME listserv.

Group 2: International Relationships

Discussion facilitator and reporter: **Chuck Dohner**

1. Emphasize international medical education at the SDRME 1998 Annual Meeting:
 - send the meeting agenda to SDRME International Members in early Spring 1998 to encourage their attendance.
 - involve SDRME International Members in presentations at the 1998 Annual Meeting.
2. Inform all SDRME members about international medical education activities, conferences and meetings.
3. Present "State of the Art" research papers at the SDRME Annual Meeting to attract international members.
4. Conduct the an annual meeting outside the U.S.
5. Promote SDRME at international medical education meetings (e.g., luncheon meeting at the Ottawa Conference in Maastricht, June 1996).
6. Restructure the SDRME International Committee.

Group 3: SDRME Visibility and Growth

Discussion facilitator: **Bonnie Jones**; reporter: **Loren Williams**

1. Short term (1-2 years):
 - a. Present a poster presentation regarding SDRME at the IME exhibits during the annual AAMC meeting.
 - b. host a SDRME reception during the annual AAMC meeting.
 - c. develop a SDRME World Wide Web page:
 - abstracts of papers.
 - SDRME membership list.
 - reviews of research.
 - hot links to SDRME member home pages.

- SDRME Newsletters.
 - hot links to other organizations (e.g., AAMC, AMA).
2. Long term (3-4 years):
 - a. Initiate a jointly-sponsored conference to identify research issues in health professions education for the twenty-first century (build on previous conferences; assess forces impacting health professions education).
 - b. Establish an electronic database for current medical education journals:
 - develop a med ed research index (e.g., PBL, ambulatory education, standardized patients).
 - include a download mechanism.
 - link the database to the SDRME World Wide Web page.
 - c. Establish a World Wide Web "chat room" for research in medical education.
 - d. Develop a formal mechanism to continue collaborative conferences and commissioned research reviews.

Group 4: Promoting Research

Discussion facilitator: **Sharon Krackov**; reporter: **Marc Nelson**

1. Conduct research skills workshops (e.g., research design, survey design, statistics) for SDRME members and a broader audience.
2. Continue to commission research review papers.
3. Continue collaborative efforts to jointly-sponsor conferences.
4. Improve networking among SDRME members regarding research projects.
5. Encourage AAMC to increase the priority of lobbying for research in medical education.
6. Initiate strategies for informing the public about research in medical education:
 - develop an annotated list of medical education reports.
 - educate journal editors regarding educational research methods.
7. Encourage funding for medical education research:
 - share costs with another group to fund a medical student research stipend
 - develop a fellowship in medical education research (perhaps jointly with AAMC).
 - develop a list of medical education research funding sources.
 - SDRME could become the philanthropic arm of a foundation interested in medical education.
8. Present research works in progress at the annual SDRME meeting.
9. Develop a workbook for medical educators regarding methods for conducting research in medical education.

These recommendations will be discussed at the 1996 SDRME Fall meeting, with the goal of setting priorities and identifying an action plan for the next two years.

News and Dates in Brief

A Bouquet -- to **Emil Petrusa** and his secretary **Helen Woodlief** for the excellent organization, program and venue for the 1996 Annual Meeting in Asheville, North Carolina. The setting was superb and, in addition, the average rating of the general value of the meeting to participants, in their role as directors of medical education units, was 4.8 on a five point scale (and "5" was the good end of the scale) -- not bad Emil!

SDRME Survey -- if you haven't completed the SDRME Survey recently sent to you by **Mark Albanese**, please do so and return it to him ASAP.

Annual Meeting Reminder I -- to mark your calendars for the 1997 Annual Meeting in Santa Fe, July 12-15. The local SDRME planner is **Brownie Anderson**.

Annual Meeting Reminder II -- for those of you with a 1998 calendar, the 1998 SDRME Annual Meeting is July 9-11. It will be held in the Philadelphia area just prior to the 1998 Ottawa Conference in Philadelphia. These dates were chosen to encourage the participation of our international affiliate members, many of whom attend the Ottawa Conferences. Our local planner for the 1998 meeting is **Jon Veloski**.

NBME Research Program -- the deadline for submitting applications to the NBME Research Fund is November 15, 1996. Information on this program is available from **Deborah Kuhar** at the NBME (215-590-9657) or from the NBME home page (<http://www.nbme.org>).

Academic Medicine "In Progress" Articles -- the deadline for submitting "In Progress" (Reports of New Approaches in Medical Education) articles to **Academic Medicine** for its May 1997 issue is November 15, 1996.

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SDRME -- NEWS IN BRIEF!

MAY 1996

While paper-based communications within SDRME are becoming less frequent, an allegiance to tradition and to the fact that not all members are linked by e-mail has encouraged us to prepare a newsletter. So read on -- below is information on the SDRME Annual Meeting in July and on a less formal get-together at the Ottawa Conference in June, the latter being held in Maastricht, The Netherlands. Also provided are brief reports on recent SDRME events, SDRME International Affiliates, a new Society for Research in Medical Education, some new journals, and on resources available to us via e-mail and the internet.

Accompanying this newsletter is the report of the 1994 Membership Survey prepared by **Mark Albanese** (an enormous task for which Mark deserves considerable thanks), and the minutes (thanks to **Michael Brooks**) of the October 1995 SDRME Business Meeting held in conjunction with the Association of American Medical Colleges Annual Meeting in Washington DC.

Gordon Page
Secretary, SDRME

1996 SDRME Annual Meeting -- the SDRME "Event of the Year"

The 1996 Annual Meeting will be held in Asheville, North Carolina, USA, July 21-24 1996. An information and registration package has been sent out by **Emil Petrusa**, our esteemed current President. **Emil** is also the host for this year's meeting, and he appears to have met the challenge to match the venue (and hopefully the weather) provided last year by **Chuck Dohner** at Orcas Island.

The meeting offers a formally planned program each morning with afternoons left free for informal or recreational activities of your choice. And it will present the best possible opportunity you will ever have to meet and become better acquainted with a wonderful group of colleagues with similar interests and responsibilities for medical education research and development. In addition, you will be visiting an extremely beautiful area.

SDRME Get-to-Gether at the 1996 Ottawa Conference
Maastricht, The Netherlands: Thursday June 27, 12:30 - 2:00 pm

The 1996 Ottawa Conference will be held June 25-28 in Maastricht, The Netherlands. Through the courtesy of the conference organizers and **Cees van der Vleuten** (an SDRME International Affiliate), a lunch meeting has been arranged for SDRME members on Thursday, June 27; 12:30-2:00 pm. The location is not decided yet, but it will be conveyed via e-mail prior to the conference and posted in the Conference registration area.

One of the purposes of the lunch meeting will be for SDRME International Affiliates and North American members attending the Ottawa Conference to become acquainted. A major goal of the International Committee of SDRME is to foster opportunities for formal and informal international exchanges, and for joint projects that bridge borders and continents. The meeting at the Ottawa Conference is seen as a step toward the fulfilment of these goals. Please join us at the luncheon if you are attending the Ottawa Conference and, if you have suggestions for or wish to add specific items to the agenda, contact **Gordon Page** (gpage@unixg.ubc.ca)

SDRME Annual Meetings for 1997 and 1998 -- MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

Your SDRME Executive Committee may at times appear (with some accuracy of judgement on your part) to be a mildly disorganized group but, in terms of the planning for future Annual Meetings, the homework has been done. For 1997, we will return to Santa Fe, New Mexico, July 12-15. And for 1998, the Annual Meeting will be in the Philadelphia area, with dates adjacent to those of the 1988 Ottawa Conference: these latter dates are not yet announced, but will likely be in late June. Meeting at the time of the Ottawa Conference will hopefully permit more International Affiliates to attend the 1998 Annual Meeting.

International Affiliates

SDRME established an International Affiliate membership category in 1994. Since then, 19 individuals from outside North America have joined the Society in this capacity. The establishment of this new category reflects the belief that those of us in North America, with major responsibility for medical education R&D, have a great deal to learn from our international colleagues and can presumably offer something to them. Expanding beyond North America of course increases the challenge of effective communication and collaboration. Three international affiliates were able to attend last year's annual meeting and it is hoped that more will be able to attend this year. Current International Affiliate members are identified on the SDRME membership list (the latest version dated December 1995 is available from **Louise Arnold**). Please advise **Gordon Page** of additional people who may be interested in becoming International Affiliates.

E-mail and Internet Resources

The electronic information transfer age is definitely upon us and an increasing number of medical education resources are now available through list serves on e-mail or through the world wide web. Some that have come to our attention are listed below. If you are aware of others, please let the membership know via our SDRME list server. If you are not listed on the server, or wish information about it, please contact **George Nowacek**, who we thank for establishing the list (gnowacek@gemini.mco.edu).

Two new e-mail and WWW resources known to us are:

Medical Education Online is a new electronic journal in medical education being produced at the University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston. **David Solomon**, PhD is the Editor. The journal's mission is to serve as "a forum for disseminating information world-wide on educating physicians and other health professionals." The first issue was put on the World Wide Web in April 1996 and can be accessed at <http://www.utmb.edu/meo>. The journal is seeking manuscripts and reviewers. Additional information is available through the web address or from our SDRME member in Galveston, **Gwendie Camp**, at martha.camp@utmb.edu.

DR-ED is a new electronic bulletin board housed at Michigan State University's Office of Medical Education Research and Development. Its purpose is to (1) promote discussion and development of scholarly activities related to medical education; (2) facilitate networking with colleagues nationally who share common interests or expertise related to medical education; (3) provide an electronic forum for disseminating information about funding and other resources related to medical education development and research interests.

To join the DR-ED listserv:

- 1) send an e-mail message to: listserv@msu.edu.
- 2) leave the subject line blank.
- 3) in the body of the message type: SUBSCRIBE DR-ED firstname lastname.
- 4) replace firstname lastname with your own first and last names and send the message.
- 5) within three-to-five days you will receive an automated response confirming your subscription. The confirmation may include additional instructions.

To remove your name from DR-ED, follow the procedure described above but, in the body of the message, type: SIGNOFF DR-ED firstname lastname.

New Journals

Advances in Health Sciences Education is new journal is being published in The Netherlands by Kluwer Academic Publishers. Volume 1 Issue 1 is now in press. The journal's editors are **Hank Schmidt**, University of Limburg, The Netherlands, and **Geoffrey Norman**, McMaster University, Canada. The goal of the journal is "to serve as an international forum for scholarly

and state-of-the-art research and development into all aspects of health sciences education." The journal is seeking contributions. Further information can be obtained from our fellow SDRME member **Geoff Norman** at norman@fhs.csu.mcmaster.ca.

Education for Health: Change in Training and Practice was formerly the *Annals of Community-Oriented Education* of the Network of Community-Oriented Educational Institutions for Health Sciences, and is now published by Carfax Publishing Co. in England. The first issue, March 1996, is now available. For further information, or to submit manuscripts, correspond directly with the journal's editor, Professor Charles E. Engel, Medical Education Unit, University College London Medical School, Windeyer Building, Cleveland Street, London W1P 6DB, United Kingdom.

SDRME/AAMC Workshop
Managing the Quality and Outcomes of Medical Education

On December 3-5, 1995, SDRME and the Association of American Medical Colleges' Group on Educational Affairs presented a Medical School Educational Leaders Professional Development Workshop, *Managing the Quality and Outcomes of Medical Education*, in Scottsdale, Arizona. Approximately 50 associate deans, department heads, program directors and other individuals with leadership positions in medical education, spent three intensive hard working days in large and small groups discussing and working through cases pertaining to issues of leadership, budgeting, continuous quality improvement, rewards, stimulating change, ambulatory settings, etc. The workshop was rated extremely highly by participants, and will likely be repeated this year (dates and place TBA -- further information available from **Brownie Anderson** at mbanderson@aamc.org). **Emil Petrusa** has also discussed organizing an abridged version of the workshop for SDRME's at a upcoming SDRME meeting.

Society for Research in Medical Education (SRME)

The Association of American Medical Colleges is in the process of preparing bylaws for a new *Society for Research in Medical Education* (SRME). The mission of SRME will be "to enhance the quality of research in medical education and to promote its application to practice." The principal criterion of membership in the society is being a senior author on at least one paper published in a peer-reviewed journal of medical education. There will also be associate and fellow membership categories. Additional information on SRME will be provided at the SDRME July Annual Meeting, or is available from **Gordon Page**, **Brownie Anderson**, or **Emil Petrusa**.