REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT

It has been an honor to serve as your President during this important year in the life of the OAFP. We’ve had transitions in both staff positions, and while our new staff have been busy learning the ropes, the work of the organization has not slowed down.

First, some internal restructuring has enhanced our efficiency. We have re-launched the Commission on Education, which was instrumental in planning this meeting you have all been enjoying. Our program features an impressive mix of speakers from all over the state on topics that our planning committee identified as important. More details about this can be found in the Report of the Commission on Education.

The position of External Affairs Director has been enhanced with the inauguration of the Commission on External Affairs. This very active group of members has been at work advising staff and our lobbyist as we work to advance our latest legislative efforts toward primary care transformation. The Commission also assisted the Speaker and Vice Speaker in reviewing submitted resolutions in preparation for our Congress. More about their work this year can be found in their Report.

Finally, this year saw the creation of a Board for the Oregon Family Physician PAC. We launched a PAC fundraising matching campaign in the summer of 2018, and raised funds to be able to give away nearly $5000 to Oregon candidates in key districts and incumbent legislators on key committees. Looking outside our walls, the OAFP has continued its robust advocacy work while building new partnerships. We aligned with our primary care colleagues at the Oregon Pediatric Society and the Oregon Chapter of the ACP to publish statements and letters to the editor promoting smart vaccine policy in October, and in favor of sensible gun policy in November. That collaboration continues this spring as legislation to tighten vaccine exemptions travels through the legislature.

In December, we also sent a letter urging ICE to follow its own policies regarding providing needed health care for undocumented persons being held in Sheridan.

We alerted the AAFP to a concerning flyer from an Oregon health insurer, that seemed to encourage patients to access their carrier-provided telemedicine tools before consulting their primary care provider. In December, AAFP sent letters to the carrier explaining the concerns it raised for family physicians, and a similar mailing from the carrier in April had a much more reasonable message, centering physicians in their communications.
Our AAFP Delegates carried five resolutions forward to the AAFP Congress of Delegates, and we had success in getting the national Congress as follows:

- Our resolution supporting measures to decrease Maternal Mortality in the US was amended and adopted on the floor of the Congress
- Our resolution recommending removal of the Risk Evaluation and Mitigation Strategy (REMS) Categorization on Mifepristone was adopted
- Our resolution on reducing gun violence was reaffirmed as current policy
- Our resolution on patient access to Personal Health Records was reaffirmed as current policy
- Our resolution proposing that Clinic Managers be offered affiliate membership was not adopted

Thank you for entrusting me with the office of this Presidency. It has been both a full and a gratifying year.

Robyn Liu, MD, FAAFP
OAF President 2018-2019