

## Program Highlights

The 2015 APHMG Annual Workshop and Special Interest Groups (SIGs) meetings took place from May 6-8 in Clearwater, Florida. A summary of the workshop program is available [here](#).

2015 APHMG Annual Workshop and Special Interest Groups Meetings, Clearwater, Florida

### **Plenary Session I: Competencies: Where Did They Come From and How Can we Make Them Work for our Students, Residents and Lab Trainees**

**Speaker:** Stanley Hamstra, PhD, ACGME

Dr. Hamstra is from the ACGME and provided an overview of competency-based education. He focused on the initiative of ACGME with resident education using competencies and described the rationale for competencies, how to assess competencies and the challenges presented, and the need to develop expertise in teaching related to competency. He reviewed the assessment strategies and the outcomes measures that are important in these initiatives. He used the residency programs as an example but discussed more broadly implications for all levels of education.

### **Plenary Session II: Dare to Care: Demystifying the Approach to Problematic Medical Professionals**

**Speaker:** Sandra Frazier MD, Assistant Dean of Professional Development, University of Alabama

Dr. Frazier is the Assistant Dean of Professional Development at the University of Alabama and works in the Professional Development Office. She used several cases and an interactive format to discuss the challenges of giving feedback specifically for individuals who are not performing to expectations. Her cases spanned many situations including student, resident, fellow and faculty feedback situations. She covered a framework for identifying and addressing problematic behavior, defined feedback and its pivotal role in the development of others, and discussed communication strategies to begin difficult conversations. She provided a framework of acronyms and formulas to help in the feedback process. She also listed several references that are useful in these situations.

### **Plenary Session III: Incorporation of Clinical Trials and Therapeutics in Clinical Genetics and Medical Genetics Training Programs**

**Speakers:** Bruce Korf MD, PhD, University of Alabama  
Susan Sparks MD, PhD, Genzyme

In this session Dr. Korf introduced the ideas and concepts with examples of mechanism-based treatment of genetic disorders. He then reviewed the principles

of clinical trials. He spoke about his experience specifically with the neurofibromatosis clinical trials consortium to provide some specific examples from the concepts of his talk.

Dr. Sparks talked about her experience as a researcher and now working for Genzyme in developing registries and treatment protocols.

**Plenary Session IV: Economics of Clinical and Lab Genetics Services in the Current Health Care Climate**

**Speakers:** Marc Williams MD, Director, Genomic Medicine Institute, Geisinger Health System

David Flannery MD, Medical Director, ACMG

***The United States' Healthcare System: Evolution vs. Intelligent Design?***

***Implications for Genetic Services*** Marc Williams MD, Director, Genomic Medicine Institute, Geisinger Health System

Dr. Williams provided an overview of the history of health insurance in the United States. He explored the implications of the current insurance system for genetic services focusing on Medicare and Medicaid. He reviewed the Affordable Care Act and its implications for genetic services. There was a discussion about ways to move forward with education at the local, state and national level.

***You Say You Want A (Genomics) Revolution, But Who's Going To Pay (and How?)***

David Flannery MD, Medical Director, ACMG

Dr. Flannery discussed the lack of patient outcomes data from genomic testing - that payers want to know not only that genetic tests will change management but also change outcomes. He recommended Modern Healthcare electronic newsletter: <http://www.modernhealthcare.com/> as a good resource.

He compared Physician compensation and production data such as MGMA (only 17 geneticists) and AAAP. Univ. Healthcare Consortium Faculty Practice Solutions Center (FPSC) has data on 37 geneticists but 100 academic medical centers are members. There is a new specialty called Clinical Genetics and he is trying to make sure that their cFTE info is accurate.

**Plenary Session V: Genomic Medicine Training Opportunities in Medical Education**

**Speaker:** William Scott, PhD, Professor of Human Genetics and Vice-Chair for Education, University of Miami

Dr. Scott presented a detailed review of the conception, planning and implementation of a Masters of Science in Genomic Medicine program within the

four year medical school curriculum at the University of Miami. The details of how the program was integrated within the four years was presented and some of the details of the curriculum delivery itself. He presented data on the resources required for such a program including faculty input as well. He reviewed some of the feedback and experience from the first groups in this program and the interest that would support a larger program for more students.