

# EXECUTIVE REPORT

Henry Annan, CFMS President-Elect  
Annual General Meeting Report  
September 22<sup>nd</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup> 2017, Ottawa, Ontario



## I. DESCRIPTION OF POSITION

The CFMS Past-President works alongside the CFMS President to understand the responsibilities of President, to develop his or her strategic vision for the organization, and to begin to connect with our partners and stakeholders.

## II. MEETINGS ATTENDED

Date	Meeting	Location
April 23 – June 27, 2017	One-on-one calls and meetings with current CFMS board members	Various
May 8, 2017	CFMS Presidents' Meeting	Teleconference
May 10, 2017	CFMS Board Meeting	Teleconference
May 29, 2017	Ontario Medical Student Association (OMSA) Co-Chairs	Teleconference
June 10 – 12, 2017	Federation of Medical Regulatory Authorities of Canada (FMRAC) Annual Meeting	Winnipeg, MB
June 23, 2017	MD Financial Management	Teleconference
June 25, 2017	President of the Fédération Médicale Étudiante du Québec (FMEQ)	Teleconference
June 25, 2017	CFMS Strategic Plan consultation from Presidents' Roundtable	Teleconference
July 4, 2017	CFMS Resolutions Working Group	Teleconference
July 5, 2017	President of Resident Doctors of Canada (RDoC)	Teleconference
July 7 – 9, 2017	CFMS Summer Board Meeting	Calgary, AB
July 9, 2017	CFMS Strategic Plan consultation from CFMS Wellness Committee	Teleconference
July 11, 2017	CFMS Strategic Plan consultation from Global Health Programme Representatives	Videoconference
July 19, 2017	CFMS Strategic Plan consultation from CFMS Representatives Roundtable	Teleconference
July 20, 2017	CFMS Strategic Plan consultation from Government Affairs & Advocacy Committee	Teleconference
July 20, 2017	CFMS Resolutions Working Group	Teleconference
July 24, 2017	OMSA Co-Chairs	Teleconference
July 27, 2017	CFMS Strategic Plan consultation from Presidents' Roundtable	Teleconference
August 10, 2017	AFMC Residency Matching Committee (ARMC) Technical Subcommittee	Teleconference
August 10, 2017	Post Graduate Medical Education Governance Council (PGME-GC)	Teleconference
August 12, 2017	CFMS Strategic Plan Meeting	Videoconference

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August 20 – 23, 2017	Canadian Medical Association (CMA) General Council	Québec City, QC
August 20, 2017	FMEQ and IFMSA Québec	Québec City, QC
August 20, 2017	MD Financial Management	Québec City, QC
August 21, 2017	President and CEO of the Association of Faculties of Medicine of Canada (AFMC)	Québec City, QC
August 22, 2017	CEO of the Canadian Resident Matching Service (CaRMS)	Québec City, QC
August 23, 2017	CMA Board Meeting	Québec City, QC
August 24, 2017	ARMC Technical Subcommittee	Teleconference
August 26 – September 20, 2017	One-on-one calls and meetings with current CFMS board members	Various
August 30, 2017	ARMC Meeting	Teleconference
September 6, 2017	ARMC Technical Subcommittee Meeting	Teleconference
September 11, 2017	Fall CaRMS/Learner Meeting	Ottawa, ON
September 21, 2017	CMA Board Meeting	Teleconference
September 21 – 24, 2017	CFMS Annual General Meeting & 40 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration	Ottawa, ON

## III. PRIORITIES AND PROJECT AREAS

- **CFMS Human Resources and Operations Strategic Plan 2017 – 2022**

Under the leadership of current past-president, Dr. Anthea Lafrenière, the process of writing the CFMS Human Resources and Operations Strategic Plan 2017-2022 began in 2015 with broad feedback from both internal and external stakeholders. This signifies the most consultative process that our organization has ever undertaken. As president-elect, I was a member of the writing task-force which was struck over the summer of this year. My focus was primarily on the improvement of committee and general assembly efficiency as well as enhancing board structure and regional representation. Additionally, I played an active role in soliciting and incorporating feedback from various roundtables over the summer into the final document. The strategic plan as is currently proposed, while non-binding, makes key recommendations that will enable the CFMS to institute the infrastructure necessary for it to grow in scope without compromising efficiency. The document will be presented for adoption by the General Assembly at the 2017 AGM in Ottawa, in celebration of our 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

- **CFMS Resolutions Working Group**

In response to concerns from our members about the format of the resolution sessions at our general meetings, a task force was struck and chaired by VP Government Affairs, Sarah Silverberg and me. The group comprised CFMS national officers, external representatives, medical society presidents and members of the CFMS Committee on Health Policy. A survey of general membership identified key perceived flaws in our organization's resolutions submission and adoption processes.

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The Resolutions Working Group synthesized this information and developed a set of recommendations that it hopes will improve the resolutions experience for all members. This work will continue into the 2017-2018 year as the group will begin to explore better definitions for document types, adoption of “Emerging Issues” forums among others.

- **Meetings with Internal and External Stakeholders**

Since my election in April, I have been spending time establishing relationships with many of our external stakeholders. I have had the privilege of representing our organization at the Federation of Medical Regulatory Authorities Annual General Meeting as well as at the Canadian Medical Association General Council. These were both unique opportunities to meet with other stakeholders and share my vision for our organization during my tenure. In addition, I spent time attending teleconferences by our various CFMS committees, speaking with past and present members of the CFMS executive board as well as some of our representatives to external committees. This was in order to be further apprised of activities going on within our organization and to better understand how our members can be better supported in their endeavours.

- **Celebrating 40 years of the CFMS**

As the CFMS celebrates 40 years of representing, connecting and supporting Canadian medical students, I was able to take a lookback at all our accomplishments over the years. I joined the AGM planning committee, assisting our chair and general manager in ensuring that our 40<sup>th</sup> meeting will be a most memorable event. I have been involved in efforts led by University of Saskatchewan student, Evan Mah, to consolidate information surrounding the history of our organization and thus update the organizational timeline on our website. I also spearheaded the #CFMS40 Twitter campaign which highlights 40 “wins” for Canadian medical students in the past year alone as result of CFMS advocacy, initiative or collaboration.

## IV. FOLLOW UP, VISION, GOALS & RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THIS POSITION

- **Unmatched Canadian Medical Graduate Crisis**

With the number of unmatched Canadian medical graduates increasing at an ever-alarming rate, unmatched students will be the number one priority during my tenure as president. As president-elect, I have already joined the AFMC Residency Matching Committee and its technical subcommittee to brainstorm possible solutions to the growing crisis. The CFMS has also a prospectus for unmatched graduates, which we will be presenting at the AGM. It will be important for the CFMS to continue to be involved in conversations with key stakeholders at all levels as we work together to curb this national crisis. Finally, as we focus on systemic solutions to the issue, it is equally as important that those students that went unmatched feel supported by their schools and certainly by our organization. Our organization will be steadfast in our support of our unmatched

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colleagues as we continue to advocate for formal institutional supports and feedback from programs.

- **Implementation of CFMS Human Resources and Operations Strategic Plan 2017 – 2022**

Assuming adoption of our Strategic Plan at the 2017 AGM, my tenure will focus on ensuring that infrastructure is put in place to facilitate implementation of many of the key recommendations. At 40 years, this is a wonderful opportunity for our organization to look inward and the forward, while making the necessary adjustments that will allow us to grow sustainably without compromising our ability to fulfill our core mandate.

- **Increasing Member Engagement**

There is room to define and then improve CFMS member engagement. This year, I will be looking to evaluate our current communications strategy and ways we can better use social media to reach our membership. There is also a role that can be played for those members more intimately involved with our organizations such as our CFMS representatives and presidents to communicate CFMS activities to their students. I would like to explore how we can better support our members in these roles. Moreover, our website continues to be underutilized, further hampering our ability to reach members directly. Methods of increasing membership sign-ups will be explored over the year. Formal assessment of member engagement will also be key in order to track our progress in this area longitudinally.

- **National Wellness Survey**

The CFMS undertook a national wellness survey approximately two years ago. Admittedly, the rollout of survey results is far behind schedule. I am pleased to announce that a final manuscript is close to submission and preliminary results have been presented at the CCME conference and the Canadian Conference on Physician Health this year. In order to help speed up the process of data release, outgoing president, Dr. Franco Rizutti, has agreed to take over the wellness project and focus his past-presidency on this file. The CFMS will continue to work with medical society presidents to identify key data that will be helpful in their advocacy efforts and how best to share them. It is my hope that not only will there be a formal release of wellness data well before the end of my tenure, but that meaningful school-level data will be made available to schools.

- **Global Health Programme**

The Global Health Programme continues to be the largest and most active CFMS portfolio. The CFMS will continue to support grassroots initiatives by our members. In addition, the IFMSA August Meeting 2018 will be hosted by IFMSA-Québec in Montréal thus presenting an opportunity for CFMS members to gain greater exposure to the IFMSA. We are currently in conversations with IFMSA-Québec and the FMEQ on how best our organizations can collaborate on this event.

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- **CFMS Government Advocacy**

Similarly, our Government Affairs and Advocacy portfolio has made great strides over this year in expanding its mandate beyond national and provincial lobby days. This is now time for us to develop an advocacy strategy to ensure that the gains we have made on specific files are not lost as we focus on different projects year to year. In addition, we will be hosting a second, smaller lobbying campaign at the federal level on a yet to be determined topic.

## V. REFLECTIONS & CONCLUSIONS

It is uncommon for the CFMS president-elect to come from outside the CFMS executive board. It has thus been a very steep learning curve trying to understand our relationship with external organizations and seeing the organization from a management perspective. However, the transition has been seamless thanks to the overwhelming support of outgoing president, Franco, immediate past-president, Anthea and our general manager, Rosemary. I have already had the opportunity to form relationships with many of the key stakeholders in the medical education community and advocate on behalf of medical students nationally. I am keen to begin my term as president, focusing on relationship-building, membership empowerment and ensuring that our organization maintains its status as the unequivocal voice of the Canadian medical student. I am always available via phone, email or social media to hear from members and I encourage you to reach out to share concerns or ideas and to provide feedback or suggestions. Happy birthday CFMS!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Henry Annan". Below the signature, the name "Henry Annan" is printed in a smaller, sans-serif font.

M.D. Candidate (2018), Dalhousie University, Canada  
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