



THE MEDICAL, EDUCATIONAL, AND SCIENTIFIC FOUNDATION OF NEW YORK, INC.
865 Merrick Avenue, Westbury, NY 11590
516-488-6100 • Fax: 516-488-2188

MESF Report to the MSSNY House of Delegates

May 21, 2022

SUMMARY: MESF had a productive year, setting ourselves up for much more ahead. We held a successful Women's Leadership Conference in October 2021. In addition, we elected a new Board of Directors and Officers. Moreover, we began work on grants for future action and growth on a variety of matters that will help educate and advance the cause of physicians and medicine.

DISCUSSION:

Women's Leadership Conference

MESF had received a \$150,000 physicians' leadership grant from the Physicians' Foundation in 2020. The plan for Fall 2021 was two in-person leadership training sessions, one near LaGuardia airport on LI and the other at the Otesaga resort in Cooperstown. Due to COVID, the events were canceled just weeks before the scheduled event.

In their place, a dedicated team worked to put together a three-session set of programs on Women's Leadership in October 2021. The team including Drs. Rothberg and Litvack, along with MSSNY staff members Pat Clancy, Miriam Hardin, Melissa Hoffman and Cayla Lauder worked with MESF Director Tom Donahue and consultant Jon Chilingirian, PhD.

The three sessions featured Jon Chilingirian, PhD acting as facilitator for the series that occurred on October 16, 23 & 30, 2021 beginning at 8 a.m. and going until after 11:30 AM. The program was open to all women physicians, including residents and medical students. The sessions included:

- **Saturday October 16 (8am-11:30 am): "*Albany, Women Physicians and Their Legislative Impact.*"** This session included presentations by Patricia Clancy, MSSNY's Senior Vice President/ Managing Director of Public Health and Education; Bonnie Litvack MD, MSSNY Past President, Chair of MESF; and the Honorable Deborah Glick of the NYS Assembly and the Honorable Andrea Steward-Cousins, Majority Leader of the New York State Senate.
- **Saturday, October 23 (8am-11:30 am): "*How Do CEOs and Medical Administrators Deal with Women Physicians?*"** This segment focused on a presentation by Jon Chilingirian PhD on effective clinical leadership for

women physicians. In addition, Dr. Gittels presented on what women physicians need to know to effectively operate in a male dominated health care world. This segment also included a presentation by Linda Clark MD, Chair of MSSNY's Health Equity Committee who discussed diversity in the medical field and issues facing physicians of color.

- **Saturday, October 30 (8 am-11:30 am): “Wellness and Women Physicians.”** This segment focused on the challenges women physicians face they advance in their medical education or medical practice—while faced with family and other life stressors. Stress and burnout, which impacts women with greater frequency and severity, was discussed at length in this segment. This segment included a presentation by Jo Shapiro MD of Brigham and Women's Hospital who addressed on peer-to-peer relations. Carol Bernstein MD from Einstein School of Medicine talked about gender differences in burnout. In addition, Frank Dowling, MD reviewed his experience with MSSNY's peer-to-peer (P2P) program and the importance of women reaching out to a peer to discuss those life stressors.

The complete set of three programs was accredited for 9 hours of continuing medical education credits. The three sessions were attended by a total of 126 physicians and six non-physicians.

Election of Board of Directors and Officers

MESF began to set our administrative house in order by taking an important step forward in electing a new set of physician leaders as Officers and members of the Board of Directors. On March 9, 2021, the MSSNY Council, acting as sole corporate member of MESF, elected the following individuals to a set of three staggered terms:

Board of Directors

Class I: One Year Term

Rose Berkun, MD
Brian Murray, MD
Sandhya Malholtra, MD
William Valenti, MD

Class II: Two Year Term

Arthur Cooper, MD
Gina Delsalvio, MD
Janine Fogarty, MD
Paul Pipia, MD
Malcolm Reid, MD

Class III: Three Year Term

Linda Clark, MD
Joshua Cohen, MD
Carmen Rodriguez, MD
Charles Rothberg, MD
Jocelyn Young, DO

Officers

President: Charles Rothberg, MD
Vice President: Linda Clark, MD
Secretary: Jocelyn Young, DO
Treasurer: Brian Murray, MD

Staff

Troy J. Oechsner, Acting Executive Director

Possible Action Items Ahead

The MESF Officers and Board will be considering a number of action items in the coming months. Among those potential action items include:

- Administration of Current Grants, including the Physicians Foundation Leadership grant; the Physicians Foundation Practice Transformation Initiative grant; the Peer-to-Peer (P2P) grant from Pfizer and MLMIC.
- Current Proposals for Empire Foundation, including Digital Education; Volunteer Education and Leadership Development; Diversity, Equity and Inclusion; Strategic Planning; and a Telehealth Referral Service.
- Some ideas to explore for new grants include: Research and proposed best practices for regulation of insurers regarding Network Adequacy jointly with the consumer coalition, Health Care All New York (HCFANY); Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Best Practices in Medical Schools in cooperation with the Association of Medical Schools in NY (AMSNY); Combating Misinformation; Cannabis Education; and Creating Physician Profiles (with an IT expert).