

James L. Holly, M.D.

A follow-up from the 1970 AAMC Planning Meeting

June 28, 2017

Darrell G. Kirch, MD,
AAMC president and CEO,

Dear Dr. Kirch:

Today I had occasion to read your June 27th address entitled, “Improving the Transition to Residency.” After reading your address, I read several other presentations by you, as well as reading about your illustrious history of service to healthcare, medical education and the AAMC.

I thought you might be interested in a small piece of AAMC history. The following link gives more information about how I came to be involved with the AAMC and where that involvement led: [Letters - OSR Address December 2, 1971, Addenda Election, Auditorium, Distinguished Alumnus](#). The following is extracted from this link.

In the Spring of 1970, at the Student American Medical Association (SAMA - renamed American Medical Student Association, AMSA, in 1975), the first Chairman of the OSR was elected. The first national meeting of the OSR was held in December 1971. The above link includes the address I delivered at that meeting followed by an addendum that explains the history of my involvement with the AAMC, the OSR and UT Health San Antonio.

“In 1968, the AAMC passed a resolution calling for the development of mechanisms for student participation in the affairs of the AAMC. In 1969, the Assembly adopted an addition to the bylaws, creating the OSR. At the 1969 AAMC Annual Meeting, the OSR was created with the following intentions: to facilitate the expression of students' ideas and views, to incorporate students into the governance of the AAMC, to foster the exchange of ideas among students and other concerned groups, and to facilitate students' action on health care issues.

Past Chairs - From the AAMC website

1971-1972 Larry Holly University of TX-San Antonio

As a result of this I:

1. Attended the AAMC's 1970 Strategic Planning session at Airlie House in Virginia
2. Attended the AAMC/AMA Annual Education Meetings in Chicago each January
3. Served on the Executive Committee of the AAMC for two years, as a voting member
4. Was the first medical student to be a voting member of an accreditation site visit which was at Cornell Medical College in New York City.
5. Voted on the accreditation of UT Health San Antonio Long School of Medicine twice while I was a student.

Dr. Kirch, my career did not follow formal academic health education but the principles I learned from my school of medicine and from the AAMC's leadership have guided me for the past 47 years. The following is a 2016 comment from Dr. Bill Henrich the President of UT Health San Antonio:

“April 22, 2016, Larry,

“I read the attachment ([OSR Address December 2, 1971, Addenda Election, Auditorium, Distinguished Alumnus](#)), and enjoyed every word. It is clear your compass has been set on truth from the start, and that, in the end, it is the wisest path to follow. I admire the courage it took to stand up for Dr. Pannill to the Chancellor, and I appreciated hearing how meaningful your defense of him was to him.

“Your devotion to our School of Medicine and to the highest standards of professionalism began early in your career, and continues today. The approach you have informs the actions you have taken with your practice. SETMA reflects your values, your tireless efforts to avoid ‘bad medicine’. Your example is meaningful to everyone touched by your approach: your patients, their families, your partners, your family, and, your alma mater. I count myself among most fortunate to have had our paths cross. You are an inspiration to me and to us.

“With great respect, admiration and devotion, Bill

“William L. Henrich, M.D., MACP
University President
University of Texas Health Science Center San Antonio
Professor of Medicine, School of Medicine
Division of Nephrology”

Dr. Kirch, I have had the privilege of personally knowing two great medical educators, Dr. Carter Pannill, the founding Dean of UT Health San Antonio Long School of Medicine and Dr. William Henrich. The following is a link to my 1971 report to the Council of Deans: [Letters -](#)

[OSR Chairman Report to Council of Deans 1971](#). At the end of this link there are links to other materials relevant to the OSR, the AAMC and me.

The following link is a brief introduction to my medical practice, a multispecialty group, which I founded in 1995 after twenty years of solo practice:

[Accreditations - A Brief Summary of SETMA's Achievements, Advances, Awards and Accreditations](#). In addition to adopting electronic patient records and management in 1998 and becoming accredited by all four national agencies as a patient-centered medical home, SETMA hosts senior medical student and residents in a PC-MH Externship. (the syllabus can be reviewed at: [Senior Medical Student Externship - SETMA's MS4 Patient-Center Medical Home Selective Syllabus](#)).

The Role of the AAMC

As I approach my 74th birthday and certainly as I have entered the last decade of my medical career, the capstones have been the honor of being name a Distinguished Alumnus of my beloved School of Medicine ([Presentations - Dr. Holly's Acceptance Address for the 2012 Distinguished Alumnus Award University of Texas Health Science Center San Antonio School of Medicine](#)), and of my undergraduate school, Northwestern State University, Natchitoches, Louisiana, and lastly to my wife of 52 years and me being name as members of the Aesculapian Laureate Society of UT Health San Antonio ([In The News - The Aesculapian Laureate Society](#)).

Without doubt, the expanding of my vision for medicine, medical education and the transformation of healthcare began with my exposure to the AAMC in 1970 and in the following years. The investment the AAMC made in this one student, I think, has produced worthy dividends. I hope you judge the same.

Thank you for that.

Sincerely yours,

James (Larry) Holly, M.D.
C.E.O. SETMA
www.jameshollymd.com

Adjunct Professor
Family & Community Medicine
University of Texas Health San Antonio
The Joe R. and Teresa Lozano Long School of Medicine

Clinical Associate Professor
Department of Internal Medicine
School of Medicine
Texas A&M Health Science Center