

SEAMO NEWSLETTER

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2002 Nov 7

Staffing Update

The Faculty Staffing Office informs SEAMO of the following staffing changes, which occurred between October 23 and November 7.

A new GFT position in **Gastroenterology**, promised in 2001, has been successfully filled. Dr. Mark Ropeleski will begin in July 2003.

With the transfer of programs from the Kingston Psychiatric Hospital to Providence Continuing Care Centre / St. Mary's of the Lake Hospital, several former KPH positions in **Psychiatry** will be transferred from the hospital's global budget to SEAMO. On November 1, the director of the mood disorders program, Dr. Roumen Milev, was appointed to a GFT position in **Psychiatry**.

Governance and Accountability Review

In his external review of SEAMO governance and accountability, Charles Wright made recommendations concerning the governing Committee and its chair. These recommendations have now been accepted by the SEAMO Governing Committee. The change will formalize current SEAMO practice.

SEAMO's rules and regulations will make explicit that normally the Governing Committee shall select a chair from outside the SEAMO organization. The chair of the Governing Committee shall also serve as the chair of the SEAMO Signatories Committee. Lastly, on an annual basis, the Governing Committee will recommend to Signatories a stipend to be awarded to the chair of the Governing Committee.

Governors asked SEAMO chair Frank Norman to include these requirements in the rules and regulations currently being consolidated.

Annual Plan

The SEAMO Governing Committee on 2002 Nov. 7 approved the 2002-2003 Annual Plan for submission to the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care. This Annual Plan is part of SEAMO's contractual reporting requirements.

The Annual Plan identifies SEAMO's objectives for 2001-2002, and describes performance against these objectives. Further, the Plan identifies key objectives for 2002-2003. SEAMO is obligated to report performance against these objectives in the next Annual Plan.

Before the end of November, the Annual Plan will be posted to the SEAMO website <www.seamo.ca>.

Regional Physician Resources

SEAMO has been engaged in discussions with community hospitals with regard to how this Health Sciences Centre may assist in efforts to recruit and retain specialist physicians. These discussions have been complex and time-consuming. A part of the difficulty is the absence of an agreed framework, which would define the relationship between SEAMO, the region's community hospitals, the region's specialist physicians, and the Ministry of Health.

At its regular meeting, 2002 Nov. 7, SEAMO Governing Committee considered a framework, which might assist in discussions and make clear to the region's participants the underlying objectives for such arrangements.

Where SEAMO and its member organizations enter into a funding agreement with regional partners in order to assist in stabilizing physician human resources:

1. Any relationship between SEAMO, its member organizations, community hospitals, and specialist physicians must be a response to a locally-expressed wish for SEAMO's assistance.
2. Such arrangements must be in accordance with the principles and requirements of the funding agreement between the entities of SEAMO, the Ministry of Health, and the Ontario Medical Association.
3. The partnership must be explicitly academic. The provision of physician services by SEAMO and its member organizations provides a context in which future health professionals are educated and/or an environment in which research and scholarship are conducted.
4. For physicians currently on the attending staff of community hospitals, participation in alternative funding arrangements with SEAMO must be voluntary.
5. Any agreement between SEAMO and the region's hospitals and specialist physicians will require the express approval of SEAMO, its member organizations, the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care, and the Ontario Medical Association.
6. Before agreeing to any such funding arrangements, SEAMO will ensure that these arrangements are acceptable to the SEAMO clinical department involved.
7. Arrangements must be appropriately resourced to provide high-quality clinical service and to support the University's educational programs.
8. Regional physicians participating through SEAMO are expected to participate in the clinical and academic programs of the department through which they derive their funding, in the collegial management of the departments, and to accept rules established by the department through those processes.
9. Regional physicians participating through SEAMO are expected to participate fully in SEAMO's accountability processes. These include cooperation with SEAMO's reporting requirements, acceptance of the rules governing clinical role, and the allocation of resources to individuals based on rules determined within the individual's department.