

AAP Leadership Conference Recap

The AAP Leadership Conference was held August 4-7, 2022. AAP leaders from chapters, committees, councils, and sections returned in person to Itasca, Illinois, home of the AAP headquarters. Attendees from our chapter included Chapter President Dr. Grant Christman, Chapter Vice President Dr. Melissa Ruiz, Section on Early Career Physicians Representative Dr. Christine Thang, Chapter Treasurer Dr. Mitchell Goldstein, National Nominating Committee Chair Dr. Edward Curry, Chapter executive director Dr. Tomas Torices, and needless to say, AAP President Dr. Moira Szilagyi.



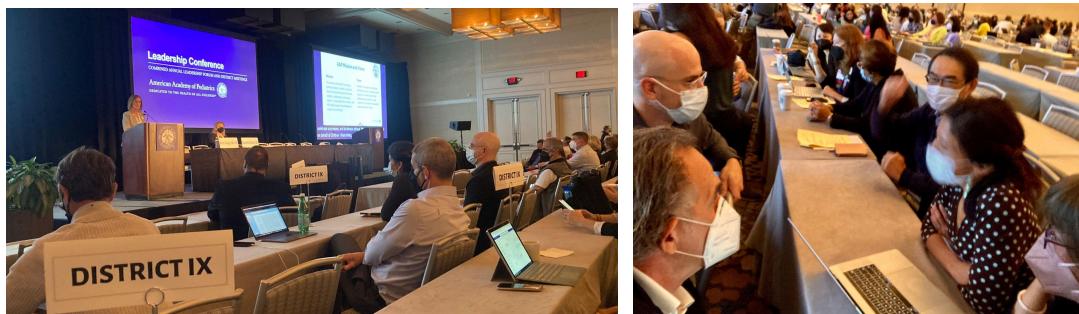
“Attending the AAP Leadership Conference is an energizing and humbling experience, particularly as an early career pediatrician. To be surrounded by pediatrician leaders across the country reminds me that these are my people, my community, my professional home. Everyone had a unique perspective to share and yet common priorities as you see from our top 10 resolutions. For those just starting their journey in pediatrics (looking at the medical students, residents, fellows, and early career pediatricians), consider the AAP to be your home! Early career pediatricians are those less than 10 years out from training.” Dr. Christine Thang (Photo on left. Middle)

The Section on Early Career Pediatricians (SOECP) works to meet the needs of this stage of pediatricians balancing work-life integration while advancing the field of pediatrics. SOECP currently has openings for leadership positions so please reach out if interested! Contact: cthang@mednet.ucla.edu



“This was my first time attending the Annual Leadership Conference in person, as it has been held virtually for the past two years. For me, the highlight of the conference was being able to meet other AAP leaders in person, particularly those of our chapter and the other California chapters. We had the opportunity to talk about our experiences and share ideas for chapter development and advocacy. I also participated in excellent workshops on incorporating equity, diversity, and inclusion in chapter strategic planning, and on addressing the problem of race-based medicine in clinical practice guidelines. Addressing inequities and structural racism, which impact our patients and member pediatricians, is a priority for national AAP and for me personally as a chapter leader.” Dr. Grant Christman

Pictured above, from left: Dr. Sharon Pham (AAP-CA4), Dr. Nikki Webb (AAP-CA1), and Dr. Melissa Ruiz and Dr. Grant Christman from Chapter 2.



Left: AAP President Dr. Moira Szilagyi delivers the president's address on Friday, August 5, 2022. Right: Leadership from chapter 1 (John Takayama), chapter 2 (Tomas Torices, Grant Christman, and Melissa Ruiz), and District IX Chair Yasuko Fukuda during a workshop discussion.

The following are the [top 10 resolutions](#) from the AAP leadership Conference, which will be referred to areas of the Academy with related expertise for review and potential action:

1. Supporting Pediatrician Advocates Experiencing Adversity
2. Equitable Access to Quality Healthcare for Patients with Public and Private insurance
3. Inclusion of Administrative Costs in Chapter Grant Opportunities
4. Expanded Education and Training on Transgender Care
5. Labeling of Sexually Transmitted Infections (STI) Screening on Explanation of Benefits (EOBs) to Support Adolescent Confidentiality
6. Alleviating Childhood Poverty Through Tax Credit Policies
7. Promote Sustainable Staffing Models for Pediatric Physicians and Their Healthcare Teams
8. Combatting Censorship: Promoting Open Access to Books and Information for Children and Adolescents
9. Improving Training for and Management of Pediatric Behavioral Health Crises in the Emergency Room Setting
10. Incorporating Environmental, Social and Governance Principles in the AAP's Investment Strategy



(Image) Pediatricians Representing all chapters raise their red cards in support of a resolution.



AAP National Nominating Committee Chair (and past AAP-CA2 President) Edward Curry, MD, FAAP presenting the 2022 candidates for AAP President Elect.



Night view of the AAP Headquarters in Itasca, IL.