12 Reflections...

By Nancy Swikert, MD, President, KMA 2016-17

If you get the chance to move up in Leadership in the Kentucky Medical Association, take it. You will have the time of your life. Serving the KMA members this past year was very rewarding. It is amazing what good

things are happening all over the state that most members never realize. LMS has been especially busy this year. Dr. Granacher and Dr. Tran have been in Washington, Frankfort and Lexington, advocating on behalf of Kentucky physicians to Kentucky legislators. EVP, Chris Hickey and staff, have facilitated several key LMS meetings to aid physicians in career choices, Opioid issues, CME, and burnout prevention.



One of the most pleasurable parts of serving as KMA President this year was working with medical students in Lexington and Louisville. KMA has spoken to over 250 medical students this year at UK and UL during a "Lunch and Learn" business tips series of workshops. Over 35 graduated from the Medical Student Outreach and Leadership (MSOL) program this year. The MSOL program is designed to promote community involvement, as well as to give students an opportunity to learn more about the political, social and economic issues



in the health care system. Also along these lines, is the new Medical Student Mentoring Initiative introduced by LMS this fall. I am very excited to have been assigned two UK medical students to mentor. This program should really help liaison practicing physicians with medical students to help with burnout prevention, leadership and the inner workings of organized medicine (the future leaders of LMS). If you would like to be a UK mentor, I am sure EVP, Chris Hickey and staff would love to hear from you.

Medicine in Kentucky took a giant step forward this year by passing legislation for the Medical Review Panel. Hopefully, this first step in tort reform will be helpful for further legislation changes in the future. Keep your ears open and read your newsletters for future information. Also passed, was legislation to help smokers to quit smoking by eliminating some of the barriers that existed before. Thanks to LMS and LMSA for their relentless pursuit of legislation to help physicians remain in practice and treat their patients with the best medical care possible. MACRA/MIPS also debuted this year with much help in explanation from the LMS and GLMS.

Yes, all in all, it has been a very successful year. But most of all, It has been a wonderful opportunity for me

to meet many of you in LMS and develop lasting relationships. We all share common goals and by working together, we achieve those goals quicker. I look forward to continuing to work with LMS, Dr. Granacher, Dr. Tran, EVP, Chris Hickey and new leaders in the near future.

Thank you for all you have done for the citizens of the Commonwealth this year.

~ Nancy Swikert, MD, President, KMA 2016-17



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