



## Florida College of Emergency Physicians 2014 Board Candidates

### Damian E Caraballo, MD - Tampa



I believe in order for FCEP to grow in influence and improve membership, we should strategically focus on recruiting four key demographic groups: graduating residents, physicians in the Panhandle, Orlando-area Physicians, and South Florida physicians.

The most obvious group to recruit is graduating Residents. Most new Emergency Physicians don't have the time, money, or motivation to become immediately active in FCEP. We need to get residents involved in conferences such as EM Days and Symposium by the Sea early in Residency, and keep them involved throughout residency to maintain interest through graduation. Working with ACEP to incentivize new graduates to join (e.g. reduced/free first-year membership for active and contributing members) would benefit membership. Expanding the scope of the Inaugural FCEP Leadership Academy would also empower younger physicians to become involved.

The second group to focus on involves physicians in areas near Tallahassee. These members would be of the utmost importance during Session, given the difficulty of getting members living south of I-10 over to Tallahassee on short notice. The first place to start is by tapping in to our vast network of physicians to find potential leaders in the Panhandle. I think we should open up some of the meetings during EM Days to non-FCEP members, even let them go on a few meetings with the State Representatives to illustrate the importance of advocacy. Teleconferencing committee meetings in Tallahassee would also help keep these physicians involved in FCEP.

With the new building soon to open in Orlando, this would be prime time to recruit the 3rd group-Orlando-area physicians. I think having an open house where we could recruit non-FCEP physicians would be beneficial. Given the proximity to FCEP's office, anyone in the greater-Orlando-area has an advantage in making a difference in FCEP. Something as easy as an open-house or a social event might open the door to finding new, motivated physicians.

The fourth group I think we should aggressively target is the largest demographic, and that is Emergency Physicians in the greater South Florida area. Due to the distance from Orlando and lack of Residency Programs, I feel we are not maximizing our potential influence in Florida's most populous region. I think the best way increase interest would be to teleconference our meetings at a set location. We could try to solicit the services of Dr. Bern or find a proactive, FCEP-friendly group in South Florida to telecast from one of their offices/campuses. Because we will be there in August, this would be a prime time to start talking to physicians in South Florida to see if any of them are willing to take the lead in advocating for what is one of the most influential areas of the state.

The time is now to take advantage of technological advances-we must maximize teleconferencing, perhaps even open up "satellite" branches of FCEP to ensure physicians in key strategic areas are being heard. An empowered physician will be an active physician--through strategically focusing our efforts, we can recruit a new generation of physicians which will enable FCEP to maximize our influence and propel positive change through Emergency Medicine advocacy.

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## Dagan P. Dalton, MD, FACEP - Orlando

Emergency Medicine must lead the way in the Emergency Department. In the words of Don Knotts: "Let me clarify this!" Historically, the Emergency Department and Hospital Administration have not seen eye-to-eye on a number of key issues. This potential for discord is increasing, as there is an ever increasing emphasis on patient volume and flow, patient satisfaction scores, core measures, re-admission rates, etc., etc., etc. But we must set the tone as we come to the table to discuss these and related topics.



Emergency Medicine must lead the way in the Emergency Department. And that necessitates involvement. We need every Emergency Physician involved to the extent that time and circumstances reasonably allow. We must all be involved both locally (our hospital - see above) and state-wide (FACEP - see below).

FACEP is a mentoring program. Look at the national leaders and experts in Emergency Medicine. Many of them are right here, in our own state, attending FACEP meetings - while publishing and teaching and being honored nationally. Seriously, I cannot begin to name all of our hometown heroes. But you have already met some or many of them at our State meetings. These experienced Emergentology experts have learned to get to the table early, be heard and be respected. Again, FACEP is a mentoring program, beginning with association with these leaders and experts.

The Florida College of Emergency Physicians needs to pull even harder to bring more Emergency Physicians together, and let the mentoring begin. This type of association we enjoy in Florida is unique and invaluable and woefully under-utilized. All FACEP Committees should look at ways to attract members through their areas of special interest. Greater membership and association and mentoring must continue to be a priority of the College. We can do more, and we will.

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## Robyn Hoelle, MD, FACEP - Gainesville

FACEP has championed the specialty of Emergency medicine in several ways over the past few years. Our patients, EMS providers, physician members, EM nurses, residents and medical students have benefited from the college's advocacy, education, and vigilance. I have worked on the board to build mentorship and educational opportunities for medical students as I believe it is imperative to attracting the best and brightest of our state to our specialty. The Florida Medical Student Mentor Database is finalizing this summer and our committee has increased medical student networking and communication across the state.



While we have been successfully building programs for students, I believe FACEP understands and needs to continue to advocate for our core members: the practicing EM providers. Navigating Tallahassee and DC is daunting, our board and liaisons take the lead to identify EM-relevant

legislation and then to advocate for you and your patients! FCEP continues to expand our capacity to provide education opportunities with our brand new facility opening this fall. We have increased CME and experiential CME courses available to providers this year in partnership with EMF. Our annual conference, free to members provides networking, CME and a town hall to discuss the implications of the Affordable Care Act of EM, all of which are germane to ED provider's practice and unavailable elsewhere. A need has been identified to continue to provide a Florida-based Board review course and the board is currently exploring the possibility. FCEP and the board will continue to be involved in all of these areas and look for more ways to support you, the EM provider!

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## Adrian Tyndall, MD, FACEP - Gainesville

The Florida College of Emergency Physicians (FCEP) is the preeminent Emergency Medicine Organization in our State. We have evolved to become one of the most influential State Chapters in ACEP, and a continued philosophy of collaborative leadership and representation is the key to FCEP remaining the leading voice for Emergency Physicians in the State of Florida. The key strategy to maintaining robust membership involves active engagement. FCEP must constantly reinvigorate efforts to reach out to individual members as well as small and large group practices, demonstrating how, with collective participation through FCEP, Emergency Physicians can be a powerful force for change, but also can fulfill the critical responsibility of being a vital advocate for patients who account for more than 8 million visits to our Emergency Departments every year. Whether it is the tremendous successes with engaging our State Legislators at EM days in Tallahassee to help change policies affecting the patients we take care of, or the expansion of creative educational offerings - Symposium by the Sea (SBTS) as an example- as a means of developing a one stop destination for continuing medical education for all emergency care providers, FCEP demonstrates how the remarkable efforts of active members can be truly inspiring. FCEP must also continue to engage students and residents who aspire to become part of the emergency care work force of the future. In strengthening the pipe line of future physicians within our State, FCEP will have an indomitable and lasting influence on the future of Emergency Medicine everywhere. There is no doubt that with this form of engagement, the return on investment will be the retention of loyal members for many years. Through FCEP, The Emergency Physicians in our State can move forward and achieve together.



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## Jill Ward, MD, MS - Orlando

FCEP is the premier EM organization in Florida, and encouraging new membership should be targeted at two areas: Targeting new graduates and inclusion of Mid-Levels. The CPC is an excellent way to involve residents, but from my experience EMRAF involvement is limited, and participation weak at times other than the annual Symposium. EMLRC is key to expand educational possibilities, and involvement of program directors in



involvement of semi-annual or quarterly events, as well as mid-year career lectures or other educational lectures. Providing support from the residencies for activity in these events is key and helps keep FCEP in the mind of residents as they go out and start their careers. As well, allowing MLP education as a team approach with FCEP, as these are our co-workers in the ED. I know FCEP already has begun this, and expansion of opportunities should be furthered. As well EM PA and NP residencies are popping up all over the state, integration with these programs should be considered for membership and educational possibilities.

**Ballots must be completed by July 25, 2014.**  
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