

Save The Date: 2027 Annual Meeting

Join key leaders from independent academic medical centers around the country at Connecting Education to Exceptional Patient Care 2027 Annual Meeting. Our conference theme of ***The Future of Leadership is Human: Intention, Innovation, Impact*** will be delivered by outstanding, nationally recognized speakers in an atmosphere of networking and dialogue you won't find at any other national meeting. Key topics will include humanism, leadership, systemic wellbeing, and artificial intelligence in medical education.

Kathleen Reeves, MD, FAAP, will provide the keynote address. Dr. Reeves is the President and CEO of The Arnold P. Gold Foundation, the leading national

nonprofit organization that champions humanism in healthcare. She is also an adjunct faculty member at the Lewis Katz School of Medicine at Temple University. Her specialties include human connection in healthcare, ethics, trauma informed care, substance misuse, urban health, healthcare professions education, and health equity.

Our conference will be held at the magnificent **Loews Ventana Canyon Resort in Tucson, Arizona**. One of the nation's first natural resorts, Ventana Canyon sits on almost 100 acres of the Sonoran Desert, a region known for its serene beauty and amazing cacti. With an average of 350 clear nights a year, Tucson is known as the astronomy capital of the world. Visit <https://www.loewshotels.com/ventana-canyon> for a virtual tour and more information. Our conference rate is \$279/night.

On-line registration will open in late October. Register by January 15th, and you will receive a 10% discount. Save the date now and plan to attend!



Kathleen Reeves, MD, FAAP



Loews Ventana Canyon Resort - Tucson, Arizona

2027 Annual Meeting
April 8th – 10th
Loews Ventana Canyon Resort
Tucson, Arizona

Plenary Speakers Confirmed:

Laurinda Calongne, EdD
President and Founder
Stand Strong Strategies

Gregory Makoul, PhD
Faculty of Medicine
Yale School of Medicine and
Founder, Wisdomics

Neil Mehta, MBBS, MS
Associate Dean for Curricular
Affairs, Cleveland Clinic
Lerner College of Medicine
of Case Western Reserve
University

Zeina Nabhan, MD
Associate Dean, Graduate
Medical Education
Indiana University School
of Medicine

Melvin Speisman, MD,
Founder and President
American College of
Artificial Intelligence

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National Initiative News

The third meeting of National Initiative X will be held virtually on October 9th. This meeting will focus on the *Macro Environment Approach: Supporting the Clinical Learning Environment and Seeking Input from Others*. Team leaders or their designees are required to attend, and all team members are encouraged to attend as schedules and budgets allow. To learn more about the meeting and register, visit: <https://aiamc.org/event/66>

The meeting will include a highly interactive exercise regarding unintended consequences and ample time for storyboard presentations in small cohorts. The fourth and final meeting of NI X will take place April 9-10, 2027 in Tucson.



Call For Nominations: AIAMC Annual Awards

Nominations are now being accepted for the AIAMC Annual Awards program, with the deadline for receipt of completed applications by **November 16, 2026**. The [Ethel Weinberg, MD Award](#) is presented to an AIAMC individual member who best exemplifies the energy and commitment of our founder. The Alliance [Innovation Award](#) is presented to an AIAMC institutional member who best exemplifies creative and innovative approaches to medical education and research. Nomination forms for the National Initiative Impact Award were sent to each NI participating institution via direct email.



We encourage and look forward to your submissions. To view prior winners, visit <https://aiamc.org/member-recognition> We look forward to honoring the winners at our April 9, 2027 awards dinner in Tucson!

Last Call for Abstracts and Posters

The medical education community is invited to submit an [abstract](#) and/or [proposal](#) for the AIAMC 2027 Annual Meeting, to be held April 8th – 10th at the Loews Ventana Canyon Resort in Tucson, Arizona.

[Poster Abstracts](#) should support the conference theme of *The Future of Leadership is Human: Intention, Innovation, Impact* and includes an in-person staffing requirement on Saturday morning. [Breakout sessions](#) must also support the conference theme and have a hands-on workshop format that provides practical tips and will be 75 minutes in length. [Abstracts](#) and [Proposals](#) are due **no later than September 15, 2026**, and all submitting presenters will be notified of the selection committee's decision in mid-October. We encourage you to submit a proposal and look forward to seeing you at the meeting!



Welcome New Members

The AIAMC warmly welcomes **Cleveland Clinic Florida Market** and **St. Mary's Medical Center to our membership**. Cleveland Clinic Florida sponsor 178 residents in 26 residency programs and has 32 medical school affiliations. St. Mary's Medical Center sponsors 36 residents in one residency program and is part of the CommonSpirit network in California. AIAMC now sponsors 639 programs and 8,288 residents and represents nearly 35,000 licensed beds. We also have 126 affiliation agreements with 84 medical schools.





SPOTLIGHT

ON OUR VENDOR PARTNERS

My Evaluations: Bronze Sponsor

What Are Your APEs Trying to Tell You?

Building a Year-Round Framework for APE and AIR

Every Program Evaluation Committee reviews data. Annual Program Evaluations are completed, action plans are documented, and the Annual Institutional Review follows.

But an important question often goes unasked:

What happens between one review cycle and the next?

The strongest institutions don't view continuous program improvement as an annual event. PEC conversations continue throughout the year. Action plans evolve. Educational priorities shift. New trends emerge. The opportunity isn't creating more meetings or collecting more data—it's organizing educational information so meaningful patterns become visible before APE and AIR preparation begin.

When assessment quality improves, program discussions become more focused. When educational information is easier to interpret, Program Directors, PECs, DIOs, and GME leadership spend less time gathering data and more time making informed decisions that support trainees, faculty, and institutional priorities.

At MyEvaluations, we believe technology should strengthen educational conversations, not replace them. We empower institutions by transforming educational information into actionable insight that support Continuous Educational Improvement throughout the year.

Because the most valuable question isn't whether your APE is complete. It's whether your APE has already begun.



2027 Vendor Partner Packets Now Online

The call for 2027 vendor partners is now live. To learn more and to register, visit <https://aiamc.org/partners>. AIAMC members who recommend NEW vendor partners that register to participate will receive a FREE 2027 Annual Meeting registration: a value of \$935!

Partnership Program



The AIAMC Partners Program is designed to cultivate a meaningful relationship between our members and the companies that sponsor AIAMC educational outreach programs. Partner support is critical to our ongoing ability to develop and present substantive programs with knowledgeable faculty in central and appealing locations.

**Thank you
to our vendor
partners!**

If you would like to be a vendor partner with AIAMC, contact Kimberly Pierce Burke, Executive Director, by e-mailing kimberly@aiamc.org.

Pierce Burke to Retire in 2027

Dear Members of the AIAMC Community,

It is with bittersweet emotions that I share with you my plan to retire on May 1, 2027. We will post the Executive Director job opening next spring, and I will serve in a part-time advisory capacity until my successor is named and onboarded.

For the past twenty-three years, it has been my absolute honor to serve as your Executive Director. This chapter in my life has not been a job or even a careerit has truly been my life's calling.

I am immensely proud of the growth we have accomplished together. In the early days, it was common for people to say to me, "AIAMC: who is that?!?" Now we are well known and respected nationally, with AIAMC members serving on the ACGME's Institutional Review Committee, advisory boards for the American Medical Association, and other committees and task forces too numerous to mention. Our National Initiatives certainly placed us on the map, and since 2007, we have led more than 1,650 individuals from seventy-two hospitals and health systems in making and sustaining change that measurably improved the quality and safety of patient care. Our focus on developing resident physicians as leaders has been a force that will be felt for many years to come. Just last week, I met a member who shared that she participated in a National Initiative during residency training. She stayed on as an attending physician following graduation and is now the DIO of that AIAMC-member institution (insert joyful emoji here)!

Our 2027 Annual Meeting in Tucson will be my last in-person connection as your Executive Director. I do hope you will attend and allow me to make one more memory with you. What truly makes the AIAMC so special is its people; is YOU. My heart soars when I hear a member say, "these are my people; this is my community." THAT sentiment is the warmest memory and success that I will take with me as I embrace this next exciting chapter of my incredibly blessed life.

With deepest gratitude,



AIAMC Mission Statement

To serve as a learning organization of independent academic medical centers through the application of innovative education and scholarship that drives exceptional patient care.

AIAMC Vision Statement

To be the leader in achieving exceptional health and well-being outcomes for the communities we serve through medical education and scholarship.

The Alliance of Independent
Academic Medical Centers
PO Box 35756
Canton, OH 44735

Alliance Update is a bi-monthly, members-only publication provided by the Alliance of Independent Academic Medical Centers (AIAMC).

Please send news submissions to Kimberly Pierce Burke, Executive Director, by e-mailing kimberly@aiamc.org or by calling 330.497.8332.

Follow us on social media!



In our next issue:

- Breakout Sessions and Posters Selected for Annual Meeting
- 2027 Calendar Check
- National Initiative Update

