

Pamela Bailey, Director at Large

My name is Pamela Bailey and I am a candidate for the position of the PAEA Director at Large. I have been a clinically practicing Physician Assistant for 24 years and have been teaching for 15 years. I believe that PAEA needs to address the rapid growth and increase in the number of PA programs. This will inevitably cause a great need for more PA faculty including Clinical Coordinators and Program Directors. There needs to be ways to increase the number of new faculty to the "World of Academia". There comes a time with the "Senior" faculty will be leaving clinical practice and leaving academia. Who will be replacing these people? Recruitment of new faculty and Program Directors will be an area of need.

Some ways to address the growth of new PA programs and the need for more faculty would be to create Mentorship Programs. Senior faculty could be recruited to mentor the newer faculty. Also, Senior Program Directors could mentor newer Program Directors. PAEA could keep track of these people so that people could be "matched up" with another person. The recruitment of more PA faculty could be addressed by perhaps letting AAPA know of new faculty positions and recruit from the clinically practicing PA's. Perhaps a New faculty workshop could be offered at the AAPA annual conference targeting the clinically practicing PA's.

Continuing to offer annually the New Faculty, New Program Directors and Clinical Coordinators workshops would help assist with the PA faculty shortage. The faculty should be able to teach the Y generation and new "millennium" students and address the recruitment and retention of diverse faculty and students. PAEA needs to create and develop ways of attracting graduates to become involved and consider teaching.

I would encourage "new blood" into the organization and strategize to increase the involvement of new and different people. New ideas from different and new people are necessary to keep a growing organization moving in the right direction. I would work on increasing the interest and involvement of the new graduates. Their ideas and energy may assist with the ever growing needs of PAEA.

I would encourage PAEA to continue to develop partnerships with other Health Care and education associations which could help strengthen PAEA. Making connections with clinically practicing PA's would be encouraged as they could assist with the Preceptor shortages across PA programs. Perhaps PAEA could create a place on the PAEA website to assist PA programs with a list of Preceptors as a benefit of being a PA program member.

With all of this, I would welcome the opportunity to become a PAEA Director at Large.