"Education College" as a Pipeline to Develop Emergency Medicine Academicians

The editor’s pick for this issue of Academic Emergency Medicine Education and Training is an article by Dr. Benjamin Schnapp et. al. entitled, A Ten-Year Program Evaluation of an Emergency Medicine Scholarly Track in Education Using a Qualitative Approach. As an emergency physician who has dedicated her career to advancing emergency medicine through expertise in medical education, I found this article provocative. Each year, I observe fewer and fewer senior residents electing to pursue academic careers when pondering their future emergency medicine careers. In this study, the authors share their 10 years of experience within “Education College” in their residency program. Many residency programs have designed similar tracks, but this is the first, to my knowledge, that has been studied, and whose participants published about their experience. Approximately one-third of the residents who participated in this program’s education track went on to a career in academic medicine. A key component of the program was teaching the fundamentals of education theory and collaboration on scholarly projects, along with leadership skills.

If you’d like to see more of your residents choose an academic path after graduation, you may want to reach out to residency programs that have developed tracks such as this and learn from their successes. It would be great to see more outcomes-based research on the track concept in emergency medicine residency programs. Is this the answer to growing the pipeline of academicians?

Best Wishes,
Susan Promes MD, Editor
AEM Education and Training