



President's Report

Lauren Diercks, MD



Hello SAEM Residents and Medical Students,

Welcome to all the new interns and medical students joining the Emergency Medicine community! My name is Lauren Diercks, MD, and I am honored to serve as your SAEM RAMS President for the 2026–2027 year.

My primary goal this year is to continue enhancing your experience as a RAMS member. I'm excited about the opportunities ahead, including helping trainees navigate the upcoming ACGME changes and expanding our mentorship program to better support residents and medical students across the country.

Most importantly, I want you to know that the RAMS Board takes our role in your professional development seriously. We are committed to helping you become outstanding academic emergency medicine physicians by providing meaningful educational resources, networking opportunities, mentorship, and leadership experiences. If you're interested in becoming more involved with SAEM or RAMS, I'd love to hear from you. Please feel free to reach out at RAMSPresident@SAEM.org.

We had the opportunity to meet so many of you at the SAEM Annual Meeting in Atlanta, and many of our current initiatives were inspired by those conversations. I wanted to share a few updates and opportunities that came directly from our conversations.

1. Get Involved with SAEM

SAEM offers numerous ways to become engaged through committees, academies, and interest groups where you can connect with peers, contribute to the specialty, and grow as a leader.

Academies and Interest Groups are free to join with your SAEM membership, and you can enroll in any that interest you by [adding it to your SAEM account](#).

SAEM Committees also welcome resident and medical student participation. Committee applications open each August and close in October for terms beginning the following May. If you're interested in serving on a committee in the interim, email Governance@saem.org to get started. Learn more about SAEM Committees [here](#).

2. Mentorship

One of the most common requests we hear from members is for more mentorship opportunities. We're excited to share that RAMS and SAEM are working behind the scenes to launch a centralized mentorship program that will better connect residents and medical students with mentors across academic emergency medicine.

The program will launch through SAEM ConnectED, our new members-only online community. Stay tuned- we're excited to share more details soon!

3. SAEM ConnectED Is Live

Have you activated your SAEM ConnectED account yet? Our new members-only community is your hub for networking, discussions, events, and collaboration with colleagues across SAEM. If you haven't received your activation email from ConnectED@saem.org, please contact ConnectEDsupport@saem.org. Be sure to check out our [quick video tour](#) and [Step-by-Step User Guide](#) to start exploring everything ConnectED has to offer. To access SAEM ConnectED, you must be a member of SAEM and [logged in to your account](#).

4. ACGME Changes

The Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME) has officially announced the [Emergency Medicine program requirements](#) that will take effect in July 2028. The updated requirements introduce new competencies that reflect the skills emergency physicians need in today's

practice, including palliative care, physician well-being, conflict management, and providing care in resource-limited environments. In addition, the ACGME Board did not approve a change to standardize emergency medicine residency programs at four years. Instead, additional data will be collected through a forthcoming pilot initiative before any decision is made regarding residency program length.

To help residents and medical students understand these important changes, the SAEM RAMS Board developed a new resource, [Top 10 Essential ACGME Revisions](#). This quick-reference guide compares the current requirements, proposed changes, and final accepted guidelines, while highlighting what these updates mean for trainees. It provides an easy-to-understand overview of the most significant revisions so you can stay informed and prepared.

As the premier academic emergency medicine organization, SAEM RAMS is committed to supporting trainees throughout this transition. The RAMS Board is actively partnering with the SAEM ACGME Task Force to identify where residents and medical students will need the most support and to develop educational resources that help prepare you for these evolving expectations.

5. Residency Applications

To everyone applying for residency this year- good luck! This is an exciting milestone, and RAMS is here to support you every step of the way.

Be sure to explore the [RAMS ResidencyCAS Information Hub](#), which includes resources designed to help you navigate the application process. We're also partnering with representatives from CORD's Application Process Improvement Committee (APIC) to host an interactive ResidencyCAS Q&A webinar for this application cycle. The session is intended for applicants who have already reviewed the basic ResidencyCAS resources and are looking for practical guidance as they prepare to submit their applications. Panelists will answer common questions, discuss important deadlines and updates, share lessons learned from ResidencyCAS's first application cycle, and provide live answers to your questions. Participants are encouraged to submit questions in advance to help shape the discussion.

Register today- we look forward to helping you navigate the application process with confidence!

6. Welcome to Our New Interns

To all the new interns beginning residency, welcome! We are so excited to have you as part of the RAMS community.

You have been through so much in your journey, weathering uncertainty with STEP 1 pass/fail, ResidencyCAS, and ACGME changes. Through it all, you've demonstrated resilience, adaptability, and determination. Congratulations on reaching this exciting milestone.

As you begin residency, please know that RAMS is here to support you every step of the way. Our mission is to help you succeed not only as exceptional physicians, but also as future educators, researchers, advocates, and leaders in academic emergency medicine.

We encourage you to take advantage of the many resources available through RAMS and SAEM, including [wellness initiatives](#), [POCUS education](#), [palliative care resources](#), and our popular [research learning series](#) covering statistics and research fundamentals.

It is truly an honor to serve as your RAMS President this year, and I look forward to connecting with many of you throughout the coming months.

Keep an eye out for future [President's Reports](#), where I'll share updates on the work of the RAMS Board, upcoming opportunities to get involved, and resources designed to help you make the most of your SAEM membership.

Our goal is simple: to help you become an outstanding academic emergency medicine physician who will shape the future of our specialty.

I look forward to working alongside you as we continue to strengthen our community and advance academic emergency medicine together.

Best,

Lauren Diercks

SAEM RAMS President