MEETING MINUTES

Dr. Alan Kliger, Chair of Medicine at the Hospital of Saint Raphael and tonight’s host, began the meeting by welcoming everyone.

Dr. Asghar Rastegar, Assoc. Chairman for Academic Affairs, gave a brief summary of the success of the 30th Annual YAHP Symposium, which was held November 2, 2006. There is a DVD available of the day’s events, and a copy was distributed to each Affiliate present at the meeting.

Dr. Rastegar provided an update on the planning of the next Annual Retreat, which will be held on either the last Wednesday in October, or the first Wednesday in November. He encouraged everyone to think of potential speakers and topics, as well as to give thought to the structure of the day. Dr. Rastegar urged all to think especially about a guest speaker, as he would like to make that decision by April.
Dr. Rastegar then discussed the elective rotations at Yale-New Haven Medical Center. He provided handouts which showed the current year’s rotations, and the rotation blocks for the coming year. He encouraged program directors and coordinators to attend the electives assignment process meeting that has been set up on Monday, February 26 (luncheon provided). This meeting has been going on for about 3 years and has made the entire process much smoother. While no web-based, real-time program is currently available to see what rotation slots have been filled or are still available, he is hopeful that this will be coming soon.

The floor was opened to questions or issues regarding the residency electives, and Dr. Jason Ouellette from St. Mary’s raised the concern over the sudden increase in parking (Air Rights Garage up to $9/day, as opposed to $40/month). Dr. Rastegar and Dr. Silvio Inzucchi will investigate further and respond. Dr. Ernest Moritz from St. Raphael’s asked about the availability of half-blocks, to which Dr. Rastegar replied that such issues are up to the individual sections. Dr. Cyrus Kapadia from Yale remarked that this is an issue he is addressing at the sectional level, as it impacts the Yale residents as well. Dr. Moritz also asked if Ophthalmology and Diagnostic Radiology were the only blocks available for the non-Internal Medicine rotations. Dr. Rastegar explained that these were the ones that were officially utilized by Internal Medicine residents; it is possible that other Departments may be able to arrange rotations on an *ad hoc* basis.

Dr. Silvio Inzucchi, YAHP Director, reminded everyone about the 6 hours of “curriculum consultation” available as part of the Level 2 contracts. This is a wonderful opportunity for a program to receive input on specific aspects of their curriculum on an as-needed basis. Several affiliates have already taken advantage of this. One opportunity would be for a mock site visit in preparation for an RRC evaluation. He encouraged the group to contact him directly to take advantage of this aspect of the contract.

Dr. Alan Kliger then presented information on the disease management program at the Hospital of Saint Raphael, and discussed its purpose, processes, and outcomes. This is a program which came about approximately 2 years ago, and has been quite successful in achieving its goal of quality care improvements in three disease areas which have been the recent focus of CMS: heart attack, heart failure, and pneumonia. Dr. Robert Nardino next presented statistics from a survey given to residents, which demonstrated their familiarity with the program and how it has affected their workload and education (generally favorably!). A lively dialogue followed, including debate on the role of education and discussion on changing the culture of a hospital.

The meeting was convened at 9:00 PM.

The next YAHP Dinner Meeting will be hosted by Danbury Hospital on Thursday, May 31. Invitations will be mailed and reminders sent via email.