CoPS Update:

- CoPS continues to work toward a common match date for the pediatric subspecialties. Only 2 subspecialties currently have their match in the spring (and one may be moving to the fall next year), the others are now in the fall.

- CoPS was invited to participate in the Federation of Pediatric Organizations (FOPO) meeting focusing on Maintenance of Certification (MOC) requirements. The meeting, held in February 2016, was an intense and open forum to discuss expectations for professionalism and professional self-regulation of MOC. Follow up from this meeting is pending.

- CoPS was asked by the ACGME to review accreditation requirements for resident duty hours; in January a 4 page document was submitted to the ACGME on behalf of CoPS. Based on this response, CoPS was invited to attend and present our viewpoint at the ACGME Congress in March 2016 that was organized to discuss resident duty hours. Further follow up is pending on this issue.

- At the CoPS 2016 spring meeting, held during the PAS meeting in Baltimore, presentations were made by several CoPS members/organizations and key stakeholders. Dr. Linda Althouse from the American Board of Pediatrics presented information regarding MOCA-Peds that will be implemented for general pediatricians next year and, if successful, for subspecialties 1-2 years later; Dr. Laurel Leslie also from the American Board of Pediatrics discussed surveying pediatricians including collecting workforce data.

- CoPS participated in a meeting sponsored by the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) and American Board of Pediatrics Foundation (ABPF) to discuss/consider the Global Health Initiative including new requirements as part of the training requirements for pediatric residents.

- Along with the Academic Pediatric Association (APA), Association of Pediatric Program Directors (APPD) and Council on Medical Student Education in Pediatrics (COMSEP), CoPS was again a co-sponsor of the Pediatric Educational Excellence Across the Continuum (PEEAC) conference held in September 2015. Members of CoPS lead sessions in this highly successful conference.
- The CoPS Fellowship Readiness Action Team has continued to work with the Association of Pediatric Program Directors (APPD) to improve residents’ preparedness as they transition to fellowship. Lists of potential electives and volunteer mentors (“Faculty Contacts”) are available on the CoPS website under each subspecialty description.
- CoPS continues to lead a charge for subspecialty graduate medical education to adjust the fellowship start date as trainees move from residency to fellowship. An Action Team with at least 11 other organizations involved has been collecting information and is now pushing forward with this movement, recommending a start date no earlier than July 7; supported most recently by the Association of Medical School Pediatric Department Chairs (AMSPDC).
- CoPS co-sponsored a webinar with AMSPDC to discuss the collaborative relationship of CoPS and AMSPDC, including a review of CoPS as an organization and its operation, common fall Match date for residents entering subspecialty pediatrics, Fellowship Start Date (moving to July 7 or later), participation in AMSPDC Pages in the Journal of Pediatrics, discussion of pediatric subspecialty descriptions on CoPS’ website, creation of a Scholarly EPA, workforce issues, and MOC.
- A subspecialty Workforce Action Team, in partnership with the ABP, is developing criteria and information upon which to base new workforce information; ongoing at this time.
- The Subspecialty Descriptions on the CoPS website updates are ongoing; activity in this section continues to increase. Each subspecialty representative has been asked to update their respective website.
- CoPS has continued its efforts to enhance its website by reorganizing material and adding new content. Activity has continually increased and exceeded 200,000 page views in the current year.
- CoPS is enhancing subspecialty communication through social media, specifically at this time working through FaceBook and Twitter.
- CoPS published its second article in J Peds.
- ACGME requested input into the Subspecialty Pediatric Program Requirements revision. Subspecialties have been asked to comment about various topics including the amount of protected time allocated during a fellowship, coordinator support (mandated?), competency-based curriculum, and the concept of a common pediatric subspecialty curriculum. CoPS representatives are working on these issues.
- Pediatric Hospitalists have joined the Council. The ABP recommended to the American Board of Medical Subspecialties (ABMS) approval for official status as a subspecialty with Board Certification; which is currently further being considered.