Position Description:
Women’s Advocacy Coordinator, 
Gender & Sexuality Action Committee

Updated 12/11/2019

Action Committee overview: Gender & Sexuality

The Gender & Sexuality (GS) Action Committee is responsible for executing AMSA’s programming and advocacy efforts in issues of gender & sexuality by (1) ensuring equal access within health care and within medical education for women and for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, intersex (LGBTQIA+) persons, and (2) supporting the training of medical students to become excellent health care providers for women and for LGBTQIA+ persons. Toward these goals, the GS Action Committee advocates for policies that will improve the health or health care access for everyone including LGBTQIA+ persons, and develops programming that will improve the training of medical students in the care of women and LGBTQIA+ patients. Additionally, GS supports all women, LGBTQIA+, and ally medical students by fostering a safe and inclusive environment, providing leadership opportunities, and advocating for their rights.

Women’s issues include but are not limited to reproductive health and rights, sexual health, intimate partner violence, sexual assault, representation of gender in research, disparities in health between men and women, and promoting and recognizing women in medicine. LGBTQIA+ issues include but are not limited to a need for medical education reform, sexual health, healthy relationships, trauma-informed care, structural and physical violence against LGBTQIA+ community, marriage and adoption equality with regard to patient rights, intimate partner violence, disparities in health within the queer and intersex community, promoting and recognizing LGBTQIA+ people in medicine, and inclusion and equitable access in health care.

Position description

The Women’s Advocacy Coordinator is responsible for executing AMSA’s advocacy efforts in issues of women’s health and women in medicine. Women’s issues include but are not limited to reproductive health and rights, sexual health, intimate partner violence, disparities in health between men and women, and promoting and recognizing women in medicine.
As a national Advocacy Coordinator, the Women’s Advocacy Coordinator will fulfill the general duties and responsibilities of a national Advocacy Coordinator as described further below.

In addition to the general duties of a national Advocacy Coordinator, specified responsibilities include:

- Contact, consultation, and collaboration with the Gender & Sexuality Policy Coordinator to identify areas for women’s health advocacy.
- Maintaining partnership with American Medical Women’s Association and Physicians for Reproductive Health in advocacy efforts.
- Serving as or working with AMSA’s representative on Professional Student Coalition for Reproductive Justice (PSCRJ).

Term and transition

The term of an Action Committee coordinator is one year, **beginning on May 11, 2020, and ending April 30, 2021.** Before the term begins, however, a transition period starts immediately after the coordinator is selected and notified. During this transition period, the incoming coordinator will work closely with the outgoing coordinator to learn about the position and the work of the committee or team.

Coordinators are overseen by the chair of their Action Committee. In addition, they will be supported by the Vice President for Leadership Development (VPLD) and the Vice President for Program Development (VPPD).

Common responsibilities for Action Committee Advocacy Coordinators

Advocacy Coordinators work to design, develop, and execute various elements of AMSA’s advocacy. Advocacy includes—but is not limited to—grassroots organizing, awareness campaigns, membership engagement and mobilization, and contacting policymakers. Particularly in their content area, they will develop and use skills in advocacy to:

- **Continue sustaining projects** and create new advocacy projects.
- **Identify gaps in physician training** as opportunities for advocacy.
- **Promote advocacy opportunities** to membership.
- **Assess the effectiveness of AMSA advocacy** and areas for improvement.
- **Collaborate with members, leaders, or staff** in the development of AMSA advocacy.
- **Maintain relationships with partnership organizations** for AMSA, and identify or connect with new partners, particularly toward collaborative advocacy efforts.
• Engage members regularly in advocacy efforts.
• Support members in their own advocacy efforts.

Advocacy Coordinators are national leaders of AMSA. In their committee's content area, they will develop and use skills in leadership to:

• Represent AMSA's mission and work to our members, our partners, and the public.
• Work effectively and responsibly with members, leaders, and staff.
• Build the organization by refining our principles and operations, inspiring members and leaders, and strengthening AMSA’s presence.

Advocacy Coordinators serve as content experts for AMSA. Particularly in their content area, they will develop and use skills in research and communication to:

• Build knowledge in their content area, including past/current events, up-to-date terminology or practices, resources, experts, AMSA's principles, etc.
• Document knowledge for the reference of members, leaders, or staff.
• Provide consultation for members, leaders, or staff.
• Assess AMSA’s principles and work to update them as needed through processes outlined in AMSA’s Constitution, Bylaws and Internal Affairs document (CBIA).

Additional requirements and responsibilities

• Priority is given to medical student applicants.
• AMSA membership is required.
• Establish and maintain contact with the leader's own local AMSA chapter. Attempt to attend both the chapter's tabling events, initial recruitment meetings, and subsequent chapter activities.
• Work with other national leaders in the competition to recruit new members. Individual recruitment of at least five new members during the leadership year is strongly encouraged.
• Submit a mid-year report by November 15, and the end-of-year report by April 1. A coordinator's reports are submitted to the chair of their committee. This report should document work accomplished for the committee's Week of Action, engagement with leaders, any chapter officers, and AMSA members.

• Required meeting attendance
  ○ Committee meetings (virtual), typically one or two per month
  ○ Building on Foundations national leadership training and planning meeting, June 18-21, 2020 (in-person, location TBA. Date subject to change.)
  ○ Travel, hotel, and food are provided for mandatory in-person meetings with some restrictions.
  ○ For coordinators, attendance at the Annual Convention, February 4-7, 2021 (in-person, Washington, D.C.) is strongly encouraged but not mandatory.