



impact. Messaging included: rheumatology is the best, most interesting, most flexible medical subspecialty; it is academically interesting; patient function is improved; and the therapies are interesting and new. Students reported: “I didn’t know how the field was expanding and how flexible the job prospects are” and “It sounds very interesting and with the possibility of good job opportunities.” They are

also swayed by the long-term relationships with patients and the intellectual challenge of the diseases.

It was helpful to be able to reference a document that was written by and for medical students, entitled “Insights into Physician Workforce Trends in Ontario” (omsa.ca/sites/default/files/page/24/omsa_hhr_guide_2016.pdf). It rates rheumatology as having excellent job prospects.

Participation in OMSW continues to be a valuable opportunity to reach medical students early in their careers and let them know that rheumatology is an excellent career choice, as we all know it to be.

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Update From the Communications Committee

By Dax G. Rumsey, MD, FRCP(C)

Hear ye! Hear ye! The CRA Communications Committee has an exciting year ahead! Our vision is to facilitate optimal and fluid communications between the CRA and its members, among members, and between the CRA and various other stakeholders, including industry, allied health professionals, patients and families, and the general public. In line with the 2018 CRA Board’s priorities for our committee, some of our goals for 2018 are to:

1. Disseminate guidelines via our new (and improved) CRA Website.
2. Develop strategies to encourage community rheumatologists to apply for CIORA grants and, thus, become more involved in research.
3. Implement a new feature of the eNewsletter called ‘Who’s in the Rheum?’ wherein we interview different rheumatologists across the country so that we can get to know each other better.

4. Finalize the ‘History Page’ on the CRA website, working with various rheumatologists and a professional writer.
5. Expand the CRA Communications Committee. We are always looking for new physician members! We will also look to include an allied health professional(s) and plan to invite a patient/parent representative to be involved in select meetings/in a certain capacity.

We are a small but vibrant and engaged committee and invite others to join the fun!

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