

Speakers' Letter



Physicians Caring for Texans



Susan M. Strate, MD
Speaker



Arlo F. Weltge, MD
Vice Speaker

Jan. 4, 2019

Updated Feb. 8, March 14, March 28, April 12, April 26, and May 13, 2019 (See updates in red)

Ladies and Gentlemen:

We look forward to seeing you at the 2019 Annual Session of the Texas Medical Association House of Delegates in Dallas. Make sure to visit www.texmed.org/TexMed to register for the TexMed 2019 conference. Advance registration for TexMed 2019 closed May 11, but you may still register on site at the conference (see **Registration and Credentialing** in this letter for details).

We are providing the following information to help you plan for the meeting. Check the [House of Delegates webpage](#) for ongoing updates to this Speakers' Letter. The Speakers' Letter will be updated with additional election information on Feb. 8. Following that date, the letter will be updated as information is received; check the website frequently. If you have questions about any of the following items, email hod@texmed.org.

HOUSE OF DELEGATES SCHEDULE

The House of Delegates will meet at its 2019 Annual Session on May 17-18 at the Hilton Anatole in Dallas. The house will convene promptly at 8 am on Friday, May 17, in the Expo Hall, with reference committees to follow immediately after the house adjourns. Reference committee hearings will be conducted at the Hilton as indicated below. The house will reconvene promptly at 8:30 am on Saturday for elections, to act on reference committee reports, and to install the 2019-20 TMA and TMA Alliance presidents. Our goal is to finish business no later than noon on Saturday.

Reference Committee on Financial and Organizational Affairs
Reference Committee on Science and Public Health
Reference Committee on Medical Education and Quality
Reference Committee on Socioeconomics

Topaz Room
Governor's Lecture Hall
Senator's Lecture Hall
Sapphire Room

Handbook Distribution and Paper Copies

The [Handbook for Delegates](#) was posted on the website April 12. The [Supplement to the Handbook](#) was posted April 26. Late items received before last Friday, May 10, were posted on the website that day. The original *Handbook for Delegates* and the *Supplement to the Handbook* are available separately along with a combined document that contains both the handbook and supplement. The time to request a mailed copy of the *Handbook* has passed, but a limited number of hard copies will be available during the house meeting.

Resolution Deadline

Resolutions were due **Friday, March 8**, for posting on the TMA website and publication in the *Handbook for Delegates*. Resolutions submitted past the deadline but received by April 19 will be included within the *Supplement to the Handbook*. Items received after this date are "late items," and must

include a plea of urgency from the author and receive a two-thirds affirmative vote by the House of Delegates at the opening session to be considered. Follow [these guidelines](#) for writing and submitting resolutions. TMA staff are available to offer assistance; please email hod@texmed.org.

Mobile Website for Reference Committee Status

During reference committee hearings, members can use TMA's online Reference Committee Tracker to view the status of agenda items, read related documents, and know when reference committee hearings have concluded, all in real time. To use the tracker, visit <http://refcom.texmed.org> on your mobile device.

Registration and Credentialing

On-site registration for TexMed will be open from 8:30 am to 7:30 pm at the Hilton Anatole, Tower Lobby on Thursday, May 16. It will be open in the Expo Hall from 7 am to 6 pm on Friday and from 6 am to 1:30 pm on Saturday.

Delegates and alternate delegates should go to the registration desk to receive their badges. Badges will be used to credential delegates and alternate delegates on Friday and Saturday at sessions of the House of Delegates. The House of Delegates Credentials Table will be just outside the house meeting room. Delegates and alternate delegates whose names have not been reported to TMA prior to the annual session must be accompanied to the Credentials Table by an officer or executive of their society or caucus to be credentialed.

What to Do When

Most House of Delegates members are familiar with the "What to Do When" page, always the first page of the *Handbook for Delegates*. This page lists meetings of the house, reference committee locations, caucus meetings and locations, registration hours, and Reports Room location, among a few other meetings and events. The "What to Do When" page also is posted as a separate document on the [House of Delegates webpage](#) for easy access. Watch for updates to that page on the website.

New Member Orientation

If you are a first-time TexMed attendee, new member of the House of Delegates, or just interested in an update on house procedures, plan to have a continental breakfast from 6:30 to 7:30 am on Friday in the Topaz Room. You'll have a chance to find out what to do at TexMed, and the speaker will be there to review House of Delegates procedures. *This program has been approved for 1 hour of AMA PRA Category 1 CreditTM.*

TMA Audit Trail

The Audit Trail is TMA's mechanism for tracking action items adopted or referred by the House of Delegates. After TexMed, adopted or referred action items are added to the Audit Trail and assigned to a TMA component for study or action. Prior to the next annual meeting, the Audit Trail is updated with the status of each item for reporting to the house. See the [Audit Trail Library page](#) on the TMA website.

TMA Policy Page

The [TMA Policy](#) page offers a searchable compendium of policies adopted by the house. Also included is a complete index of current and past TMA policy, as well as links to the TMA Audit Trail Library and current ethics opinions of the TMA Board of Councilors. The compendium is updated after each House of Delegates meeting; thus the current version includes all adopted policy through the 2018 Annual Session.

Wireless Capability at the Annual Session

Wireless internet access is complimentary for all attendees throughout the meeting space and Expo Hall. Access the "TexMed" wireless network and use password "texmed19." These instructions will be available onsite.

Conflict of Interest Policy

We remind you to disclose any financial relationship with any enterprises and organizations being debated if the relationship might influence your testimony.

TMA's Conflicts of Interest Policy is as follows: *295.011. Potential Conflicts of Interest, Disclosure of Affiliations, and Relationships with Business Entities*: The Texas Medical Association will foster exemplary relationships with all business entities in order to expedite better communications regarding quality, operations, global payment processes, transparency, and other issues unrelated to fees.

The TMA Board of Trustees and members of TMA standing councils will restate the policy of full disclosure of all financial remuneration from any business entity as that relationship could be considered a conflict of interest when these members represent the membership of the Texas Medical Association (Amended Res. 106-A-06; reaffirmed BOT Rep. 7-A-16).

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

If you wish to announce your candidacy or a candidate for election or reelection, please notify [House of Delegates staff](#) by **Feb. 8** for announcement on the website and publication in the *Handbook for Delegates*. **An updated Elections Chart will be posted following the Feb. 8 deadline for candidate announcements.** Candidate materials received after this date, but before close of business on April 19, will be posted online and published in the *Supplement to the Handbook*.

ELECTIONS

Office	Incumbent	Eligible for Election	Term of Position	Candidates Announced as of April 26
OFFICERS				
President-Elect	David C. Fleeger	No	2019-20	Diana L. Fite Harris
Speaker, House of Delegates	Susan M. Strate	Yes	2019-20	Arlo F. Weltge Harris
Vice Speaker, House of Delegates	Arlo F. Weltge	Yes	2019-20	Bradford W. Holland McLennan
Two Trustees*	Diana L. Fite Sue S. Bornstein	Yes Yes	2019-22	Diana L. Fite Harris Sue S. Bornstein Dallas Cynthia A. Jumper Lubbock
COUNCILORS				
District 3	Carlos Rizo-Patron	No	2019-22	Harry E. Hall
District 5	Donald J. Gordon	Yes	2019-22	Donald J. Gordon
District 6	Mario R. Anzaldua	Yes	2019-22	Mario R. Anzaldua
District 12	Roland A. Goertz	Yes	2019-22	Roland A. Goertz
District 15	Louis J. Kirk III	Yes	2019-22	Louis J. Kirk III
VICE COUNCILORS**				
District 3	Harry E. Hall	No	2019-22	Jack E. DuBose
District 5	K. Ashok Kumar	Yes	2019-22	K. Ashok Kumar
District 4	Vacant		2019-21	
District 6	Sandra Esquivel	Yes	2019-22	Sandra Esquivel
District 7	Vacant		2019-20	Jeffrey M. Apple

District 11	Vacant		2019-21	Brenda M. Vozza
District 12	Alisa M. Berger	Yes	2019-22	Alisa M. Berger
District 15	Cindy R. Porter	Yes	2019-22	Cindy R. Porter
TEXAS DELEGATION TO THE AMA				
Delegate	Diana L. Fite	Yes	2020-21	Diana L. Fite
Delegate	Gary W. Floyd	Yes	2020-21	Gary W. Floyd
Delegate	John T. Gill	Yes	2020-21	John T. Gill
Delegate	Robert T. Gunby Jr.	Yes	2020-21	Robert T. Gunby Jr.
Delegate	David N. Henkes	Yes	2020-21	David N. Henkes
Delegate	Jayesh Shah	Yes	2020-21	Jayesh Shah
Delegate	Lyle S. Thorstenson	Yes	2020-21	Lyle S. Thorstenson
Alternate Delegate	John T. Carlo	Yes	2020-21	John T. Carlo
Alternate Delegate	Robert H. Emmick Jr.	Yes	2020-21	Robert H. Emmick Jr.
Alternate Delegate	John G. Flores	Yes	2020-21	John G. Flores
Alternate Delegate	Steven R. Hays	Yes	2020-21	Steven R. Hays
Alternate Delegate	Jennifer R. Rushton	Yes	2020-21	Jennifer R. Rushton
Alternate Delegate	Sherif Z. Zaafran	Yes	2020-21	Sherif Z. Zaafran
Two Alternate Delegates	Vacant Vacant		2020-21	Matthew G. Brooker Bryan G. Johnson Ezequiel Silva III
Alternate Delegate	Theresa Phan***	—	2019-20	Theresa Phan
Alternate Delegate	Faith C. Mason***	—	2019-20	Faith C. Mason

*Trustee positions are “at large,” not slotted. TMA Bylaws provide that all nominees for trustee will be listed on a single ballot. If Dr. Fite is elected president-elect there will be a vacancy for an at-large trustee.

**As provided in TMA Bylaws, nominations for vice councilor positions are determined by district elections and confirmed by the House of Delegates. Should you have a nomination for vice councilor, please notify Ann Arnett, assistant to the Board of Councilors, at ann.arnett@texmed.org.

***Nominations are made by the Resident and Fellow Section and Medical Student Section.

Candidate Forum and Legislative Advocacy Session

The annual Candidate Forum at TexMed provides an opportunity for House of Delegates members to meet the candidates who are running for election. Candidates introduce themselves and field questions from members on a wide range of issues. The Candidate Forum will be Friday from 12:30 to 1 pm in the Sapphire Room, Tower Lobby level.

Immediately following the candidate forum, we will have a fun, interactive legislative strategy session. This session provides you an opportunity to interact with TMA’s chair of legislation and vice president of advocacy to discuss the implications of the current political climate from a legislative and policy standpoint.

All house members are welcome, and no preregistration is required. All members who attend the Candidate Forum through the end of the legislative advocacy session will be eligible to enter into a drawing for an Amazon gift card (must be present to win)!

Final Reference Committee Reports

Final reference committee reports will be available online Friday night as they become available, at www.texmed.org/HOD and at 6 am on Saturday in the West Wing Tower Lobby in your caucus meetings.

HOUSING

TMA has negotiated a special room rate at the Hilton Anatole (\$209 plus \$12 Resort Fee) for all TexMed

attendees. The resort fee includes complimentary self-parking for one vehicle, complimentary Wi-Fi in your guestroom, Jade Waters pool access, and more. The special room rate will be available until April 23, 2019, or until the room block is filled. Make your reservations early; we do expect the hotel to sell out during our conference. Book your room online at www.texmed.org/TexMedHousing.

EXHIBITS

Expo Hall

Please remember that the exhibitors and sponsors at the meeting represent 99% of TexMed revenue. We encourage you to browse through the Expo Hall whenever you can so we can continue having TexMed without a registration fee.

Portrait Studio – Get Your Professional Portrait Taken!

Once you've registered for TexMed, you'll receive a call from RCL Portrait Studio to schedule an appointment to get your professional portrait taken for the TMA online directory and public relations to use. This is a FREE service for the TMA online directory, but you also can purchase your portrait for personal use. Call (800) 951-8712 to schedule your appointment.

EVENTS

Networking Lunch in Expo Hall *sponsored by the Texas Beef Council*

Enjoy lunch while you chat with colleagues on Friday from noon to 1 pm. Pick up your lunch ticket at Registration.

Continuing Medical Education

- **TexMed Opening General Session Speaker** *sponsored by Texas Medical Liability Trust*
Wendy Swanson, MD, is a pediatrician, chief of Digital Innovation, and author of the [Seattle Mama Doc](#) blog for Seattle Children's Hospital. She works to bridge the gap between parents and doctors using digital media. As the first physician blogger for a U.S. hospital, Dr. Swanson helped lead the way for novel use of social and digital media in health care. She will speak on Friday, May 17, at 3:30 pm on How Technology is Transforming Health Care and the Physician-Patient Relationship. *This program has been approved for 1 hour of AMA PRA Category 1 Credit™.*
- **TexMed Closing General Session Speaker** *sponsored by Texas Prescription Monitoring Program*
Hear Lipi Roy, MD, an internal medicine physician board certified in addiction medicine as well as clinical assistant professor at the New York University Department of Population Health, give her talk, The Opioid Crisis: How Did We Get Here, and How Do We Get Out? Dr. Roy's mission is to educate and empower the public to make healthy decisions through nutrition, mindfulness, and addiction education. She speaks on Saturday at 1:30 pm. *This program has been approved for 1 hour of AMA PRA Category 1 Credit™.*
- **Friday and Saturday Hot Topics and Specialty Tracks**
Thanks to TMA physician volunteers and the support of Texas specialty societies, TexMed 2019 offers more than 80 hours of FREE CME opportunities for TMA members. Many of these programs are available outside of House of Delegates hours. As CME courses receive approval for credit, the TexMed website will be updated. Check out the [TexMed 2019 CME schedule](#) for track dates and times.
- **TMLT Discount**
Physicians who are insured with the Texas Medical Liability Trust may earn a 3% discount for completion of at least 2.5 hours of approved risk management lectures. This discount will be applied to the physician's next eligible policy period. A list of CME Programs approved for the TMLT

discount will be available on site.

Reception Honoring Louis J. Goodman, PhD

On Thursday from 5 to 6:30 pm at the Hilton Anatole Peacock Terrace, join the TMA Board of Trustees as they celebrate and recognize Dr. Louis J. Goodman's 32 years of service to the Texas Medical Association and the physicians of Texas.

Welcome Reception *sponsored by Texas Medical Liability Trust*

On Friday from 5 to 6 pm in the Expo Hall, enjoy wine and cheese with your friends, colleagues, and Dr. Swanson.

TMA/TMAA 2019-20 Presidents' Reception *sponsored by TMA Insurance Trust*

This year's honorees are 2019-20 TMA President David C. Fleeger, MD, Austin, and TMAA President Lisa Queralt, Fort Worth. The reception is Friday from 6 to 7 pm in the Topaz Room.

TMA Foundation 26th Annual Gala

The TMA Foundation's 26th annual gala, *BIG & BRIGHT!*, will transport you and your guests to the Texas State Fair of the 1930s-40s, an era of transformation and imagination for the Dallas-based and longest-running state fair in the nation.

More than 500 physicians, community and business leaders, and friends of medicine will enjoy a cocktail reception, seated dinner, and live music by The Party Machine Band. Proceeds from the gala – TMAF's largest annual fundraiser – support TMA charitable programs.

[Purchase advance tickets](#) now for \$250 each. Special tickets with VIP access and additional benefits are \$300. Sponsorships are available at various recognition levels. Dress is cocktail attire.

For information, contact TMA Foundation at (800)-880-1300, ext. 1664, or sean.dunham@texmed.org, or visit www.texmed.org.