



2017-2018
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May 10, 2017

Dear ARAS Members:

At our October meeting in 2016, the ARCS Executive Committee began a discussion in regards to changing the name of our organization that would better characterize the role of our members in their training programs.

The term “administrator” was selected to align us closer to our certification board TAGME (*training administrators of graduate medical education*), and better defined our role as one of a more decision-making, professional one.

The term manager was discussed, but feedback from our research project and other sources, indicated if we went with manager many of our members could not use that to help advocate for an internal title change due to institutional policies around how a manager is defined. As an example, at one institution Human Resources cannot allow that title unless you have 4 direct reports, which have to be non-physician employees.

The name change was presented to the Executive Board of the Association of Program Directors in Surgery at the October meeting. After discussion, the APDS Executive Board voted unanimously to approve the *Association of Residency Administrators in Surgery* as our organization’s new name.

We are now in the process of updating our Website and other social media sites to reflect this change. Note: The website will take a little longer due to the detail of work that will be required. Notices and messages will continue to be updated in the meantime.

As we begin our next 30 years as an organization, I hope we can affect change in the way GME and Human Resource Departments view and recognize our leadership positions in our residency programs. Your ARAS Executive Committee will continue to be your advocate.

This year we have made so many advances. ARAS Executive Committee will continue our work to advance and promote this wonderful community of professionals.

Sincerely,

S. Darlene Norton, C-TAGME
President, Association of Residency Administrators in Surgery
2017-2018

SDN:2017-2018 ARAS Executive Committee

Mission Statement: The ARAS is an organization established as an educational resource, a method for encouraging the exchange of ideas, and a support network for persons in the position of managing surgery residency programs.