

IN THIS ISSUE

President and President-Elect Message  
Annual Meeting Update  
Building the DOCS Community  
Membership

2026 Silvestri Grant Recipient  
Join DOCS Slack Channel  
DOCS Admin Recruitment  
Upcoming Webinars

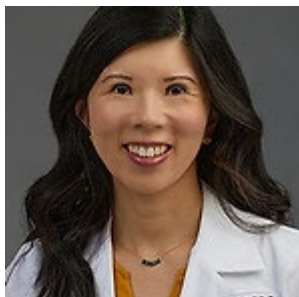
# Presidents Message

By: Katharine (Katie) Yamulla (President) and Christine (Steen) Tsai (President Elect)



Happy May fellow DOCS friends! Here is you're your Spring Update of all the exciting things going on in our wonderful DOCS orgination.

DOCS is in our 15th year, and there is a lot of momentum ushering in this anniversary year! We have a new recipient of the Ron Silvestri grant, which has grown to a 6,000 opportunity. (Up from the previous amount of \$3,000!) We have been introducing a DOCS Slack Channel for additional ways to collaborate; The program planning committee has determined our 2026 virtual line-up of webinars; We will be recruiting a part-time admin to help maintain our website, manage the listserv monitor the DOCS gmail account and navigate membership payments/receipts; The Regional Reps have been doing an amazing job starting the Clinical Skills Roundtable on our listserv!



**2026 Annual Meeting:** We hope you will join us for this year's meeting in Anaheim, CA, on Friday, November 6<sup>th</sup>. Poster submissions and workshop sign-ups will be out later this summer. Like last year, we will have a "wine-down" happy hour sponsored by DOCS at the end of the meeting. It was a huge hit last year, and we had the DJ stylings of our very own Deepu Gowda! This is an invaluable opportunity for us all to come together in person- let's get our numbers back up from last year!

As we mentioned in the last newsletter, we no longer have an active technology committee. If anyone is interested in rekindling that committee, please let us know! And finally, please be sure to renew your DOCS \$100 membership. If you have any issues, email [directorsofclinicalsills@gmail.com](mailto:directorsofclinicalsills@gmail.com). Membership Link: <https://www.directorsofclinicalsillseducation.org/membership>

Wishing you all the best,  
Katie and Christine

## Ron Sylvestri Grant Awardee

We are happy to announce the 2026 Grant awardee Katie Grogan, DMH, MA, NYU Grossman Long Island School of Medicine.

- Official Submission: Katie Grogan, DMH, MA; Emma Kozitzky, PhD, MPhil; and Caitlin Plovnick, MSLIS, MFA, for their proposal titled: "DRAWing Attention: The Impact of Reflective Art Workshops on Student Engagement with Plastinated Anatomy"

### Grant Rationale and Purpose

Directors of Clinical Skills Education (DOCS) supports scholarship in clinical skills education. This award is offered to support innovation in clinical skills education. Our goal is to foster scholarship across the medical education community by encouraging collaboration across institutions or medical disciplines.

### Grant Details

DOCS will award one \$6,000 research grant annually to be dispersed over a two-year period.

Awardees will present their completed project at an annual DOCS Meeting at the conclusion of the grant period.

## Regional Reps Corner

### Featured Member Spotlight

To further build our DOCS community, we are excited to introduce a *Featured Member Spotlight* series. Each month, we will highlight one of our members, showcasing their work in clinical skills education, their perspectives as educators, and areas where they are interested in collaboration. We hope this initiative will help us learn from one another, strengthen connections across institutions, and support shared scholarly and educational efforts.

## DOCS Awards Recognition (Trophy Room)

We would like to make greater efforts to recognize DOCS active members who receive recognition/awards in their areas of expertise. This month, that person is the Co-Chair of our Program Planning Committee, Dr. Lisa Bernstein.

Dr. Lisa B. Bernstein (98MR) was named the recipient of the **2026 Distinguished Medical Achievement Award** by the [Emory Medical Alumni Association](#). This award recognizes her exceptional contributions to medical education, research, and patient care, particularly within the Division of General Internal Medicine at Emory.

If you are an up-to-date paid member of DOCS, feel free to email me, Katharine Yamulla, at [katharine\\_yamulla@nymc.edu](mailto:katharine_yamulla@nymc.edu) to have your achievement listed in the next newsletter and in the new "Trophy Room" of the DOCS website.

## Program Planning Committee Updates: Webinars

Save the Date: Dr. Christopher Feddock, Vice President of Competency-Based Assessment for the NBME, will be presenting a DOCS webinar on National Clinical Skills Updates on Friday, August 7<sup>th</sup> at 12pm EST. A Zoom invite will be sent out shortly.

Other upcoming webinars, dates TBD: POCUS Showcase and DOCS Journal Club Showcase.

## Joining the DOCS Slack Channel

One thing we strive to do after a conference is to continue that sense of belonging, connection, and inspiration. Along that vein, **We are piloting DOCS channel on the Slack App** in order to facilitate continued conversations and relationships in a

way that might be more conversational than the Listserv. **The DOCS Listserv WILL still exist and have a role in our community**, but think of the difference between when you want to text someone (i.e. - Slack them) vs when you want to email them (i.e. - Listserv message).

**To join the DOCS Slack, please go to this link:**

[https://join.slack.com/t/docsdirectors-ibg1894/shared\\_invite/zt-3uiqu21wy~6wbz0fAD6jiHQ6juQPzPA](https://join.slack.com/t/docsdirectors-ibg1894/shared_invite/zt-3uiqu21wy~6wbz0fAD6jiHQ6juQPzPA)

Many of us use Slack already in our work/community organizations, but for those who don't (yet!), **what we love about it is that you can easily see everyone's name and DM them as well as start additional channels** that look more organized than it does in WhatsApp communities (our other contender).

## DOCS Admin Recruitment

DOCS is actively seeing a per-diem administrator to help monitor our Gmail, make website updates, manage membership lists/payments, etc. If you have an admin or coordinator at your institution that is interested, please email [katharine\\_yamulla@nymc.edu](mailto:katharine_yamulla@nymc.edu)

## DOCS Membership

**DOCS Membership-** In 2024, the Executive Council separated DOCS Membership Dues from the Annual Meeting Fee. If you purchased your \$100 membership via our website in the past year, you will get an automatic email reminder to renew. If you haven't paid your membership dues, you may do so by using this link:

<https://www.directorsofclinicalskillscourses.com/membership>

Speaking of the DOCS website- we are hoping to utilize that in more ways than in previous years. All archived webinars, posters, and other essential materials can be found in the "members only" portion of the website upon logging in. We will also create a "DOCS Trophy Room" to highlight member achievements (Joanne's idea!) and will provide a submission link for this opportunity. More to come-Stay tuned!