CDIM Guiding Principles

1. Name

The name of the group shall be known as the Clerkship Directors in Internal Medicine (hereinafter referred to as “CDIM”).

2. Purpose

CDIM is the organization of individuals responsible for teaching internal medicine to medical students.

CDIM is a founding member of the Alliance for Academic Internal Medicine, Inc. (hereinafter referred to as “AAIM” or the “Alliance”). AAIM was originally created as a consortium of five academically focused specialty associations representing departments of internal medicine at medical schools and teaching hospitals in the United States and Canada. In addition to CDIM, the founding members of AAIM are the Association of Professors of Medicine, the Association of Program Directors in Internal Medicine, the Association of Specialty Professors, and the Administrators of Internal Medicine. As the central financial, legal, and regulatory entity, AAIM’s bylaws establish the structure of CDIM and supersede any article in these guiding principles where there is a conflict.

3. Mission

CDIM promotes excellence in the education of medical students in internal medicine by developing, implementing, and disseminating ideas for curriculum, evaluation, research, administration, and career development.

4. Membership

The AAIM bylaws authorize each founding member in the Alliance to define its own membership criteria.

Membership in CDIM is offered to departments of internal medicine from qualifying institutions that train medical students in internal medicine. Individuals in key positions related to medical student education as outlined below represent these departments.

Qualifying institutions are:

- Liaison Committee on Medical Education (LCME)- or Committee on Accreditation of Canadian Medical Schools (CACMS)-accredited medical schools with a department of internal medicine.
- Community teaching hospitals with an Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME)- or Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada (RCPSC)-
Individuals may become a member of CDIM via their department or independent of their department. Departments of internal medicine at institutions outside of the United States, Canada, and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico may be included by action of the CDIM Council. Whenever possible, these departments should be from an institution approved by a comparable accrediting entity for qualifying institutions. Individuals from an institution without a department of internal medicine must apply for individual membership through the AAIM Membership Committee.

**Member Categories**

*Physician/Non-Physician Educators*

Individuals who teach or have responsibility for teaching internal medicine to medical students shall be designated as physician/non-physician educators. Such individuals may include:

- Internal medicine clerkship director
- Internal medicine subinternship or acting internship director
- Chair or director of a department of internal medicine or other designated individual responsible for the internal medicine student programs
- Directors of courses designed to build fundamental skills in history taking, communication, and physical examination
- Directors of advanced clinical rotations in internal medicine (i.e., electives)
- Directors or co-directors of multidisciplinary and/or primary care clerkships;
- PhD and non-physician educators
- Persons no longer in the aforementioned categories who retain membership with the consent of their department chair
- Former officers of the association.

*Education Administrators*

Individuals who do not have responsibility for teaching internal medicine to medical students but support the programs that teach internal medicine to medical students shall be designated as educational administrators. Such individuals may include:

- Clerkship administrator, coordinator, or other non-physician assistant to medical student programs
- Others nominated by the department chair who fulfill major support roles for internal medicine student training.

There may be an unlimited number of physician/non-physician educators and education administrators from a qualifying institution.
5. Meetings

There shall be at least one regular meeting for the benefit of CDIM members annually. Educational programs, workshops, seminars, and virtual programs will be developed through support of the CDIM Council as a benefit to members.

6. Governance

CDIM shall be overseen by a council (CDIM Council). The CDIM Council reports to and is delegated its authority by the AAIM Board of Directors. Duly elected officers and councilors shall constitute the CDIM Council. The business and affairs of CDIM shall be managed by the council as outlined in the AAIM bylaws. The officers of the council shall consist of the President, President-Elect, Past President, and Treasurer. There will be nine councilors. In addition, the council shall include the appointed chair(s) of the association’s standing committees. There shall not be fewer than thirteen council members (officers and councilors). The council also includes the Chair of the CDIM Clerkship Administrators Advisory Council as an ex officio voting member. No council member may hold more than one office at any one time. The council will meet at least quarterly, either in person or by conference call.

A. Officers and their duties

President. The President will serve a term of one year and shall engage the council to lead the general direction and promotion of CDIM. The President shall preside over the meetings of the council, shall be assisted by the other councilors and may seek aid, as needed, from other individuals. The President may, during the absence of any councilor, and with the exception of voting rights, delegate said councilor’s duties to any other councilor on an interim basis.

President-Elect. The President-Elect will serve a term of one year and at the end of one year assume the role of president. The President-Elect shall in the absence or incapacity of the President, perform the duties of the President. The President-Elect shall perform other such duties as may be delegated from time to time by the President; and shall otherwise function as a member of the council.

Past President. The Past President will serve a term of one year and shall in the absence or incapacity of the President and President-Elect, perform the duties of the President, and shall perform other such duties as may be delegated from time to time by the President; and shall otherwise function as a member of the council.

Treasurer. The Treasurer will serve a term of three years and shall serve as council representative to the AAIM Finance Committee. The Treasurer’s primary roles are to monitor the financial health of AAIM, and advocate for fiscally responsible decision-
making for AAIM. The Treasurer presents and advocates for the CDIM initiatives as recommended by the full council. The Treasurer will provide regular reports to the council on the work of the AAIM Finance Committee and the fiscal status of AAIM. The Treasurer will perform other duties as outlined in the Council Treasurer Job Description (Appendix 1).

Other Conditions

Should the current President or President-Elect cease to be an individual who teaches or has responsibility for teaching internal medicine to medical students, but remains in an academic medicine position, he/she is eligible to complete his/her elected term through Past President, subject to the approval of the council. In such case, the individual is afforded the full rights and privileges of an active member through the duration of his/her elected term.

Vacancies in any office arising from any cause may be filled by the council by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Council. Alternatively, the council may remove any officer at any time by an affirmative vote of the members at a duly called meeting of the membership. The council may remove any councilor at any time by an affirmative vote of (2/3) of the Council.

B. Councilors

CDIM Councilors will be current and active member of CDIM designated as physician/non-physician educators. There shall be a total of nine (9) councilors of which each serve a term of three years.

If an active member serving on the council in any capacity other than President-Elect, President, or Past President leaves their medical student educator position within internal medicine, but remains in an academic medicine position, he/she is eligible to complete their term, subject to the approval of the council. In such case, the individual is afforded the full rights and privileges of an active member.

Council Selection

An election is held annually for the President-Elect and three councilors. An election is held every third year for Treasurer. Each term is scheduled to begin the first day of the new fiscal year (July 1) following the election.

C. Committees

Nominating Committee and Elections. The President shall ensure a six (6) member Nominating Committee is appointed at the start of each fiscal year (July 1). The immediate Past President will serve as Chair of the Nominating Committee. The President will select two active members annually to serve on the committee for two years. The outgoing
nominating committee chair continues to serve as a voting ex-officio member. Only
physician/non-physician educators can serve on the nominating committee.

The Nominating Committee shall propose a slate of candidates consisting of the President-Elect and other council positions that may be eligible for election. All candidates must be current, active members of CDIM. Educational administrator members are not eligible for open officer or councilor positions. Candidates for president-elect and treasurer must have served as a member of council at the time or any time prior to the of nomination.

The nominating committee is responsible for selecting the recipients for the CDIM Awards for Excellence.

General Committee Participation. Membership on committees shall be open to all current members. The President, with the advice of the council, may appoint a series of standing and ad hoc committees to address issues important to academic internal medicine and related to the mission of CDIM.

The President, with the advice of the officers, will also appoint the chairs of the committees. Terms for committee chairs and members will generally be for two years, unless otherwise directed by the President. The President and council have the option to renew membership on a committee following the completion of a term.

7. Finances

CDIM is a founding member of AAIM. On an annual basis, a budget will be developed and submitted for approval by the AAIM Board of Directors. All requests for non-budgeted expenditures must be submitted to the AAIM Finance Committee for consideration. The AAIM Finance Committee will submit appropriate requests to the AAIM Board of Directors for approval. The CDIM representative to the AAIM Finance Committee is the current CDIM Treasurer.

On an annual basis the financial records of AAIM are subject to audit. The audit process is overseen by the AAIM Audit Committee. CDIM shall have at least one representative on the AAIM Audit Committee.

Members of the Council or CDIM will not be compensated beyond the reimbursement of reasonable expenses for related travel or other business, as outlined in the AAIM Expense Reimbursement Policy, or otherwise gain financially from service in CDIM or AAIM.

8. Voting

A. All issues requiring a vote of the membership will be conducted by an electronic ballot. The total number of votes received shall constitute a quorum. Nominees for each council position who receive a simple majority of votes will be offered a position on the CDIM Council. For a vote taken on any other matter, except as otherwise provided in the
Guiding Principles, the matter shall be acted upon affirmatively according to the largest number of votes cast.

B. At all meetings of the Council and committees, a simple majority of the Council or committees shall constitute a quorum. If a vote is taken on any matter during a meeting, except as otherwise stipulated in the Guiding Principles, the matter shall be acted on affirmatively following a favorable vote by a simple majority of voting Council or committee members.

9. Amendments to Guiding Principles

Amendments to the guiding principles may be made in accordance with the following procedures:

A. Proposed amendments may be offered by any CDIM Council member.
B. CDIM Council will review proposed amendments and vote to make recommendation to the AAIM Board of Directors.
C. Proposed amendments will be submitted to the AAIM Board of Directors for review and approval.
D. The proposed amendment(s) will be adopted upon the affirmative vote of the AAIM Board of Directors.

Changes presented to CDIM Council: January 24, 2013
Changes approved by CDIM Council: January 24, 2013
Approved by AAIM Board of Directors: February 11, 2013
Effective date: February 11, 2013
Appendix 1

Council Treasurer Job Description

Position Title: Council Treasurer

The Council Treasurer (Treasurer) is elected for a three (3)-year term, or until a successor is elected and qualified. The Treasurer is elected by a majority of members polled by ballot each spring. Actual service may be less than three (3) years if the Treasurer is elected to another position on Council or resigns.

Requirements:

1. Financial management training, experience, or aptitude sufficient to fulfill the responsibilities.
2. Ability and willingness to devote the time necessary to learn and train in order to perform the necessary responsibilities.
3. General understanding of financial accounting for nonprofit organizations, specifically associations.
4. Ability to review materials provided in a timely manner.
5. A willingness to ask questions, even if this challenges staff or financial advisors.

Responsibilities:

1. Submit requests for financial resources to fund Council supported initiatives in accordance with the instructions of the Council in a timely manner.
2. Regularly report to the Council on the work of the AAIM Finance Committee and the financial health of AAIM.
3. Monitor the financial health of AAIM and advocate for fiscally responsible decision-making for AAIM.
4. Support the Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer in preparing the annual AAIM budget which the AAIM Finance Committee shall submit to the AAIM Board of Directors for approval.
5. Work with the AAIM Treasurer to develop fiscal policies and financial strategies for recommendation to the AAIM Board of Directors to ensure the financial integrity and sustainability of AAIM.
6. Actively participate in conference calls hosted at defined intervals with the other Council Treasurers to conduct the business of the AAIM Finance Committee.
7. Meet in person once per year with the other Council Treasurers to review and develop an AAIM Finance Committee recommended operating budget for approval by the AAIM Board of Directors.
Duties:

The primary purpose of the Treasurer is to serve as liaison to the AAIM Finance committee in addition to advocating for the initiatives supported by Council members. A treasurer has several important duties, including:

- Bank and investment account maintenance – Overseeing the selection of bank(s) and investment of excess funds.
- Financial transaction oversight – Is knowledgeable about who has access to the AAIM funds, and any outstanding bills or debts owed, as well as monitoring systems for keeping cash flow manageable.
- Budget development and monitoring.
  - Working with other leaders to develop the annual budget and fiscal philosophy;
  - Throughout the year, comparing actual revenues and expenses to what was budgeted.
- Financial policies – Ensuring the development, maintenance, and timely review of the organization's financial policies
- Reports.
  - Working with the Executive Vice President and the Chief Financial Officer to ensure that appropriate financial reports are made available to the Council on a regular basis.
  - Providing regular updates to the Council regarding key financial events, trends, concerns, and assessment of fiscal health.

These duties are executed with the support and assistance of the Executive Vice President and the financial staff.