

What is the WVSMA-MSS?

The Medical Student Section of the West Virginia State Medical Association (WVSMA-MSS) is an organization of students from the different medical schools in WV that come together with the goal to educate fellow students on upcoming medical legislation policies and provide means to advocate. This goal is similar to that of the WVSMA which is to “advance health and promotes quality and safety in the practice of medicine in West Virginia by representing the interests of patients, public health, and physicians.”

What is an update on the WVSMA-MSS?

On August 20-22nd, six members (3 from Marshall, 3 from WVU) attended the WVSMA House of Delegate’s Annual Meeting at the Greenbrier. At this event the Delegate and Alternate Delegate engaged in state legislative initiatives that may pertain to medical student while giving input on restructuring of the WVSMA Bylaws. The other attending members revamped our own MSS Bylaws and attended talks about fields of our interest. The MSS’s Governing Body’s positions were determined to be:

Chair – Patrick Thomas
Chair Elect – Ankur Makani
Treasurer – Joseph Chirico
Secretary – William Hickman

What is the plan?

The WVSMA-MSS will have monthly meetings about a variety of topics including reducing barrier to feminine hygiene products, harm reduction legislation, and **MAT**. In early February, the advocacy work begins when the WV legislation releases the list of policies being voted on in the upcoming sessions. We plan to meet with the legislators overseeing these policies to give our input about the future of medicine in our state.

What opportunities are there for you?

1. Delegate and Alternate Delegate for the MSS to the WVSMA House of Delegates at the Annual Meeting at the Greenbrier.
2. Councilor
3. Bylaws Committee Member
4. Executive Committee Member
5. WESPAC – medical student member
6. Publications Committee member