AUA Staff Liaison: Andrea Oh

Chair: Arthur E. Tarantino, MD

Terms of Office: Chair 3-year term (non-renewable); Members 3-year term (renewable once)

Committee Makeup:
The Committee is comprised of approximately 8-12 members. Members are selected based on geographic distribution and expertise in content areas directly relevant to the AUA’s state advocacy priorities (e.g., telemedicine, medical malpractice). The Chair of the Public Policy Council serves as an ex officio member.

Mission Statement:
The Committee’s mission is to provide feedback to the Public Policy Council and staff on the continual refinement of the state advocacy agenda and its execution, provide advice and guidance regarding new opportunities for urology’s involvement; create and provide resources to assist in state advocacy; provide content knowledge, expertise, and support to state advocacy efforts when appropriate; communicate with fellow AUA members about issues critical to state advocacy and engage in appropriate action when needed.

Committee Meetings:
Annually attend the Urology Advocacy Summit (beginning March 2018), the fall Public Policy Weekend at the AUA headquarters, and participate in the quarterly conference calls or when requested. There is no per diem for committee members. Members will only be reimbursed for expenses, such as transportation and lodging for advocacy events for which they are specifically asked to represent the AUA.

Time Commitment:
Chair: 120 hours annually  
Member: 60 hours annually

Qualifications/ Responsibilities:
Chair: The Chair should be politically savvy and have knowledge of the U.S. political process, have existing relationships with legislators at the state level, and be willing to advocate for urology’s interests on a local level. The chair should show clear expertise in health policy areas, and the governing bodies that regulate medicine at the state level. Also, the Chair must be willing to attend the annual Urology Advocacy Summit in Washington, D.C., as well as engage fellow urologists and recruit grassroots physicians to advocate on behalf of the AUA’s legislative agenda and priorities.

Member: The State Advocacy Committee’s membership will be comprised of physicians representing diverse geographic and political interests. Members should have or be willing to develop relationships their respective legislators at the state level. Members should have an interest in public policy and understand the role state governments play in regulating medicine. Members must be willing to
engage fellow urologists and recruit grassroots physicians to advocate on behalf of the AUA’s legislative agenda and priorities.

Recent Accomplishments 2019

- The AUA attended the 2019 National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL) in Nashville, Tennessee. The AUA had a booth in the exhibit hall, where state legislators, legislative staff, and others interested in public policy could stop by to learn about the AUA and discuss state policies relating to urology. The AUA held discussions with more than 35 legislators and staff regarding our model legislation on prostate cancer screening coverage (while highlighting New York’s benchmark law). In preparation of NCSL, the SAC updated model legislation on prostate cancer screening coverage to remove non-screening related language.
- Sent a letter of support to Assemblyman Kevin Kiley for his introduction of ACR 111 which designated September 2019 as Prostate Cancer Awareness Month in California.
- Sent collaboration letters to over 30 state urological societies and to every state medical society, as well as those in U.S. territories (i.e., Guam, Puerto Rico and Virgin Islands). The letters reintroduce the AUA and express the AUA’s ongoing interest in working together whenever possible (AUA currently is in the process of scheduling in-person meetings and conference calls to update them on our priorities and to strategize on ways to collaborate in the future). To date, the AUA has held conversations with over 13 Medical Societies and 9 Urological Societies.