



# Faculty Scholarly Activity and Psychiatry Grand Rounds: The Need for a Meeting of the Minds

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## Introduction:

Grand Rounds are a venerated tradition in graduate medical education. Invited speakers provide a cross-pollination of knowledge to residents and faculty while supporting coverage of myriad educational milestones. In a world of increasingly digital education, Grand Rounds also contribute to a community culture within hospital departments.<sup>1</sup>

Grand Rounds benefit presenters in equal measure. Academic faculty require opportunity to share scholarly work, with promotion frequently linked to this activity.<sup>2</sup> Such opportunity may be challenging to find.

Missing from this equation is a centralized resource for hospital departments and external faculty to connect for Grand Rounds experiences.

This study tested the acceptability and feasibility of using a Program Director's Listserv to:

1. Identify and recruit Psychiatry Grand Rounds speakers for a community based academic hospital
2. Provide scholarly opportunity for AADPRT listserv members

## Background:

In 2018 Advocate Lutheran General Hospital (ALGH) in Park Ridge, IL implemented a change in Grand Rounds oversight. Responsibility was transitioned to the hospital's Residency Program Directors, who were deemed best suited to identify the educational needs of their departments. Each program was provided with:

- a budget
- a schedule of dates and times for use of the hospital auditorium
- administrative support to assist with organizational aspects, such as speaker reimbursement and lecture hall technology

No resources for identifying Grand Rounds speakers were provided.

## Methodology:

On April 3, 2018 a single email was submitted to the professional listserv of the American Association of Directors of Psychiatry Residency Training (AADPRT). With brevity and humor the Program Director compared her situation to on-line dating, and extended the following invitation to other AADPRT members:

*Community hospital in Suburban Chicago seeks Grand Rounds speakers to present on a 2<sup>nd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of any month. The ideal individual is enthusiastic about their topic, will include a clinical vignette, and can integrate evidence based information into their topic when applicable. Grand Rounds are held from 11:00 am to noon, followed by lunch with the residents for Q & A. A stipend is provided.*

Respondents were contacted via a separate email and a list of interested Grand Rounds speakers was generated.

## Results:

48 (6.5%) of AADPRT's 731 listserv members responded to the post within one week (Table 1):

- 38 expressed interest in presenting Psychiatry Grand Rounds
- 3 expressed interest in obtaining a list of potential speakers for their own programs

Table 1 – Listserv responses 1st week

Response Type	Frequency
Interest in providing Psychiatry Grand Rounds	38
Recommendation of a specific colleague	4
Request for data on Grand Rounds speakers	3
Offer of good luck/advice	2
Offer to forward email to colleagues	1

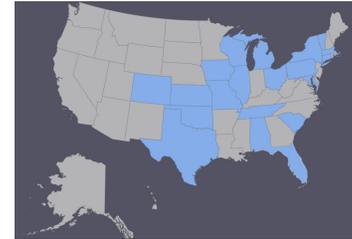


Figure 1 - Geographic distribution of interested speakers

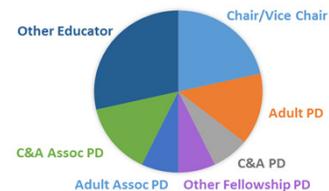
The 38 AADPRT members who expressed interest in providing Psychiatry Grand Rounds were distributed across 20 different states (Figure 1).

15 were contacted and invited to present. Selection was based upon Grand Rounds topics which best met the educational needs of ALGH residents and faculty. The number of speakers invited was limited by the number of Grand Rounds dates available.

- 12 AADPRT members accepted and were scheduled
- 3 AADPRT members cited insufficient funding and/or scheduling conflicts and declined
- 2 additional Grand Rounds speakers were recruited from the single listserv post: one through recommendation of a specific colleague, and another via an AADPRT member forwarding the post to a peer

The professional roles of the scheduled Grand Rounds speakers were varied and are detailed in Chart 1.

CHART 1 - PROFESSIONAL ROLES OF GRAND ROUNDS SPEAKERS



## Conclusion:

- A single email posted on the AADPRT listserv led to the successful scheduling of 14 Grand Rounds speakers within just 8 days.
- AADPRT members demonstrated enthusiasm for providing Psychiatry Grand Rounds at an external institution – and a willingness to travel a significant distance in order to do so.

## Discussion:

The AADPRT listserv was a highly effective vehicle for recruiting Psychiatry Grand Rounds speakers for an individual institution.

- While the urban location of the institution may have contributed to the number of responses, the vast majority of speakers came only for the day and did not remain in the city for personal time
- The presence of a stipend may have provided additional incentive, however the amount was modest and enough to cover airfare only.

On a larger scale, a listserv is likely to be an inefficient means for matching academic psychiatrists with Grand Rounds opportunities.

## Future Direction:

The robust interest among AADPRT members for providing Psychiatry Grand Rounds at an outside institution warrants the creation of a centralized database to organize these opportunities.

## References:

1. Wachter, R. (Internet). 2010. How to Make Your Medical Grand Rounds Thrive. MedPage Today. Available from: <https://www.kevinmd.com/blog/2010/01/medical-grand-rounds-thrive.html>
2. Hatler, J. and Lovejoy, F. 2000. Scholarly Activities Recorded in the Portfolios of Teacher-Clinician Faculty. Academic Medicine, 75(6): 649-652.