

from disadvantaged backgrounds for admission as clinical students to several participating schools. A $\Omega$ A has proposed making the school eligible to apply to for student research fellowships, the Medical School Service Project Awards, and visiting professorships. We will work with the new dean to develop this project.

## Long Range Planning Committee and Membership Committee

The deliberations of these committees are interrelated. In the short-term,  $A\Omega A$  faces a compelling need to increase the numbers of members who pay dues. Tracking new student members over the years following their graduation is difficult. Continuing efforts to increase the percentage of students who choose to pay lifetime dues will be made.

In the long-term, the important issues include: • What are the impact and value of AΩA-funded programs to the chapters and their medical schools?

• How can newly elected students be made to understand the need to continually support  $A\Omega A$  both by paying dues and remaining active in their local chapters so that future generations will have the opportunity to benefit

from A $\Omega$ A programs?

• Should  $A\Omega A$  seek a greater role in medical education at schools in areas such as medical economics, ethics, and professionalism?

- Should A $\Omega$ A develop a commitment and voice in health policy?

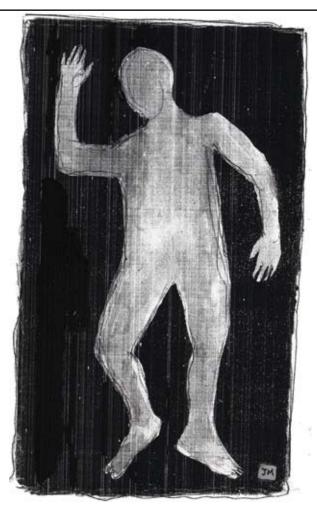
• Should  $A\Omega A$  consider collaborating with agencies such as the NIH, the Red Cross, specialty societies, and the AMA to develop joint projects that would give greater visibility to the society?

• How can the web site contribute to the goals and mission of the society?

The board will hold a two-day retreat in the fall of 2007 to discuss its strategy and course of action for the twenty-first century. A survey will be developed to send to A $\Omega$ A students to measure their perceptions of A $\Omega$ A, the value they assign to membership in the society, and things about it that they would change.

Edward D. Harris, Jr., MD Executive Secretary

Ann R. Hill Administrator



## The Code

"An arrest!" (Shoplifting?) (Embezzlement?) (Rape?) (Murder?)

"No, an arrest." Cardiac arrest. The final detention.

Unless, With our tools and toys And potions and noise We can coax his tired heart Out of its early retirement.

His eyes, barely seen under sagging lids, Seem oh-so-weary ("Let me go") His limbs are limp.

His body, thin, warm, vibrant-seeming still, Has not received the message That what he was has fled:

Dead.

Paula Lyons, MD

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