Guide to Other Fun USIG Additions

(That Will Make Your USIG Totally Awesome!)

USIG Twitter Account

A twitter account is an excellent way to stay connected with USIG members. It’s a great way to promote your USIG’s activities and keep students up to date on ultrasound events at your institution without flooding your members’ inboxes. I highly recommend all USIGs have a twitter account for this reason. Plus, it’s a fun way to promote ultrasound and document all the good your USIG does!

Ultrasound Shadowing

Ultrasound shadowing provides students the opportunity to learn from physicians experienced with bedside ultrasound and gain their own hands-on experience. The ED and ICU are a good place to start when looking for ultrasound savvy physicians to shadow. Keep a list of physicians available for shadowing to pass down to future USIG leaders.

USIG Member of the Month

Highlight the activities of students who demonstrate dedication to learning bedside ultrasound or use ultrasound to benefit their patients. The Member of the Month does just this by recognizing outstanding USIG members for their accomplishments.

Ultrasound Grand Rounds

If your Emergency Medicine, Internal Medicine, or Critical Care Departments have any form of Ultrasound Grand Rounds or teaching sessions, join them! Ask if the USIG students can join in and be a part of the ultrasound community at your hospital. Not only will you and your USIG member learn something and help build a larger ultrasound community at your hospital, but you’ll also demonstrate that students are interested in learning ultrasound and help encourage your teachers to incorporate more ultrasound into the curriculum.

Case of the Month

The Case of the Month is a made up case where ultrasound improved patient care. Cases include resources to learn more about the featured ultrasound scan and a brief 4-5 question quiz based on the resources provided. One of the highlights of the Case of the Month is the associated contest. Prizes are given to randomly selected participants from the 100% correct quiz submissions. There is also a grand prize contest for students who submit 100% correct quizzes for the entire year. This is a really useful feature to promote ultrasound awareness and education among all medical students, not just your excited few USIG students, because the contest is open to everyone in your medical school. Email a link to the quiz to the class list serves and invite everyone to participate. To make your quiz use google forms. There is a way to get your quizzes to automatically grade themselves, so google how to do this to make your life easier! You can create a page on your USIG website specifically for the Case of the Month to feature it
and make finding them easier. Prizes don’t have to be expensive either, $10 to Starbucks for the monthly quizzes and $40 to Starbucks for the yearlong contest will be enough. See the SonoMojo Getting Resources for more information on how to fund this.

**Project Ultrasound**

Have your USIG members write a brief email to your main USIG email account each time they use bedside ultrasound to directly impact patient care or better learn concepts taught in their pre-clinical courses. Not only will you get an idea of how your USIG learners are using their skills and be proud of the impact your USIG is making in your institution, but you’ll also have a collection of anecdotes to provide your school administration to support ultrasound curriculum integration efforts.

**USIG Membership with Distinction**

This is a way of distinguishing and recognizing USIG members who have actively engaging in ultrasound education within the USIG. There are 3 categories of points: participation, scanning, and didactics. A total of 10 points must be earned from each category for a total of 30 points to meet distinction criteria and be recognized for this. Recognize this achievement on your website and at meetings each time someone new achieves 30 points. We also give members who meet distinction an ultrasound lapel pin to designate them as ultrasound students. This helps them stand out within the hospital as ultrasound knowledgeable students and makes it easier for them to introduce ultrasound into the conversation in their clinical learning environment. A full ultrasound distinction description can be found in SonoMojo’s USIG Toolbox.

**Ultrasound Honors**

Work with your ultrasound faculty to make an ultrasound honors group/elective. This will keep your more advanced ultrasound learners challenged and engaged in USIG. An honor elective is essentially a once a month seminar with your faculty advisor. Your faculty advisor will teach on a more advanced ultrasound topic. During the year, each student will give one 5-10 minute presentation and complete a yearlong ultrasound project of their choosing to advance ultrasound. Sample projects include developing new features of the USIG, creating an ultrasound curriculum specifically for global health students, a research project in bedside ultrasound, managing the USIG supervised ultrasound practice lab, etc.