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ASE Announces First Cohort in Its New Leadership Academy

Durham, NC, October 11, 2018 – The American Society of Echocardiography (ASE) is pleased to announce that 14 members have been chosen to make up the inaugural class of the [ASE Leadership Academy](#). The Academy is a 24-month program that provides a unique opportunity for ASE members to increase their knowledge and develop a skill set that will help them throughout their careers. The concept for the program is to create a process to mentor and train potential leaders, ultimately creating a pipeline of emerging leaders with specific talents that would be helpful for ASE's committees and Board of Directors, and in serving in their own respective institutions.

In 2015, the ASE Board approved a five-year strategic plan that included a goal to enhance its dedicated and skilled volunteer workforce through mentorship and training. ASE's Governance Task Force was charged with developing this leadership program. The Task Force members envisioned a program that would include didactics, experiential learning, self-directed online learning, and access to ASE senior advisors. ASE has partnered with the American Association for Physician Leaders (AAPL) to provide much of the core online leadership training. AAPL provides education that is applicable to physicians as well as non-physicians who work in a clinical environment. This was a very important component for the ASE Leadership Academy because the participants are both physicians and allied health professionals.

The first cohort of 14 ASE members, representing all areas of ASE membership, were selected from a pool of over 50 very qualified and talented applicants. "The overwhelming interest for this program confirmed the need and desire for leadership training from our members in their early to mid-careers," said ASE Governance Task Force Chair Neil Weissman, MD, FASE, Chief Scientific Officer at Medstar Health, Washington, D.C. Dr. Weissman also serves as the Program Director of the new ASE Leadership Academy.

The Inaugural ASE Leadership Academy class includes:

1. **Kristen Billick, BS, ACS, RDCS, FASE**, Scripps Clinic and La Jolla Hospital, La Jolla, CA
2. **Ashlee Davis, BS, ACS, RDCS, FASE**, Duke University Medical Center, Durham, NC
3. **Enrique Garcia-Sayan, MD, FASE**, University of Texas, Houston, TX
4. **McKenzie Hollon, MD, FASE**, Emory Healthcare, Atlanta, GA
5. **Pei-Ni Jone, MD, FASE**, Children's Hospital Colorado, Aurora, CO
6. **Eric Kruse, BS, ACS, RDCS, RVT, FASE**, University of Chicago Medical Center, Chicago, IL
7. **Jimmy Lu, MD, FASE**, C.S. Mott Children's Hospital University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI
8. **Sharon McCartney, MD, FASE**, Duke University Medical Center, Durham, NC
9. **Akhil Narang, MD**, Northwestern Medicine, Chicago, IL
10. **Dermot Phelan, MD, PhD, FASE**, Cleveland Clinic, Cleveland, OH
11. **Lucy Safi, DO, FASE**, Hackensack University Medical Center, Hackensack, NJ
12. **Sangeeta Shah, MD, FASE**, Ochsner Heart and Vascular Institute, New Orleans, LA
13. **Jordan Strom, MD, MSc, FASE**, Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, Boston, MA
14. **Gregory Tatum, MD, FASE**, Duke Children's & Health Center, Durham, NC

About ASE

As the largest global organization for cardiovascular ultrasound imaging, the American Society of Echocardiography (ASE) is the leader and advocate, setting practice standards and guidelines. Comprised of over 17,000 physicians, sonographers, nurses, and scientists, ASE is a strong voice providing guidance, expertise, and education to its members with a commitment to improving the practice of ultrasound and imaging of the heart and cardiovascular system for better patient outcomes. For more information about ASE, visit [ASEcho.org](#) or ASE's public information site, [SeeMyHeart.org](#).

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