

AAP Program for Academic Leadership (PAL) February 19-21, 2026

Education Curriculum (Puerto Rico Convention Center)

~ Most PAL sessions will be in ROOM 101-A/B ~

Thursday, February 19

Time	Location	Topic	Presenter(s)
		Breakfast on your own	
8:00am-9:15am	PAL ROOM 101-A/B	Welcome and Introduction of PAL Leaders; Education Curriculum overview; PAL Cohort Introductions; Warm-up exercises	John Chae, Dixie Aragaki, Bill Bockenek, Gary Clark
9:15am-9:30am	Transit	Change of scenery...	
9:30am-10:30am	Ballroom A	AAP Plenary Session: DeLisa Lecture: Innovative Neurotechnology Approaches for Advancing Neurorehabilitation. <i>(+PAL 20th ANNIVERSARY Presentation)</i>	Friedhelm Hummel; <i>Mike O'Dell, Gary Clark</i>
10:30am –11:00am	Exhibit Hall	Break/Networking in Exhibit hall/Transit	
11:00am-12:30pm	PAL ROOM 101-A/B	PAL Session #1: MEDICAL STUDENT EDUCATION - Adult learning theory and Building leaders in the UME realm	Nethra Ankam, Leslie Rydberg
12:30pm – 1:30 pm	Exhibit Hall	Lunch and Learn/Network	
1:30pm-2:30pm	PAL ROOM 101-A/B	PAL Session #2: Meet the ABPMR and ACGME PM&R RRC	Carolyn Kinney (ABPMR), Jeff Johns (Chair ABPMR), Alex Moroz (RRC)
2:30pm-3:30pm	PAL ROOM 101-A/B	"SPILL THE TEA" Coffee break with past presidents & distinguished members	Invited Guests
3:30pm – 4:45pm	PAL ROOM 101-A/B	PAL Session #3: DEAN & CHAIR PANEL - Navigating the P's of Academics: People, Politics, Productivity, and Promotion.	Jim McDeavitt, Janna Friedly, Ross Zafonte, Cheri Blauwet
4:45pm- 5:30pm	PAL ROOM 101-A/B	PAL Education QI Projects, Timelines & Guidelines, Discuss/Pitch QIP ideas Debrief of 1st day	Chris Garrison/Jim Sliwa (4:45-5:15pm) Chae, Aragaki, Bockenek, Clark
5:30pm-6:30pm	Expo Hall B	Poster Gallery Reception	Networking
6:30pm-8:00pm	Expo Hall B	President's Welcome Party	Networking

RESTORE ENERGY

Friday, February 20

Time	Location	Topic	Presenter(s)
		Breakfast on your own	
8:00am - 9:15am	PAL ROOM 101-A/B	PAL Session #4: Residency/Fellowship Program Director Panel: Optimizing the Educational Environment	Miguel Escalon, Tracy Friedlander, Michael Fredericson
9:15am-9:30am	Transit	Change of scenery...	
9:30am –10:45am	Ballroom A	AAP Plenary Session: The Psychology of Courage and Inaction: Strategies for Fostering an Ethical Bystander	Catherine Sanderson, PhD, Christopher Visco, MD
10:45am –11:00am	Exhibit Hall	Break/Networking in the Exhibit Hall/Transit	
11:00am –12:30pm	PAL ROOM 101-A/B	PAL Session #5: Tough Conversations - Delivering Effective Feedback	Mike Mallow, Sandra Hearn
12:30pm – 1:30pm	Exhibit Hall	Lunch and Learn/Network	
1:30pm-3:00pm		PAL BREAK! - free time to attend other sessions, self-reflect, exercise, talk to loved ones, catch up on emails, network, power nap, etc....	
3:00pm-3:30pm	EXPO Hall	Break/networking in the Exhibit Hall/Transit	
3:30pm – 4:45pm	PAL ROOM 101-A/B	PAL Session #6: Beating "Burnout" by Getting "Fired Up"! Maintaining morale and Optimizing engagement in an Academic Environment	Monica Verduzco-Gutierrez, DJ Kennedy, Chloe Slocum
4:45pm – 5:00pm	PAL ROOM 101-A/B	Debrief of Day #2	Chae (Lead), Aragaki, Bockenek, Clark
5:00pm – 6:30pm	Expo Hall B	Poster Gallery Reception	Networking
6:30pm – 9:00pm	Ballroom B	Networking, Poster viewing, Bites/Beverages, Grand Rounds QI Project Presentations 20th Anniversary of PAL Tribute	PAL Participants/Faculty/Mentors; PAL Alumni; Invited Guests Mike O'Dell and Gary Clark to host 20th Anniversary Celebration PAL alumni "testimonials"

RESTORE ENERGY

Saturday, February 21

Time	Location	Topic	Presenter(s)
7:30am – 9:15 am	Ballroom A	AAP Awards presentations, Senior PAL Class Graduation, Member Caucus, and free Breakfast!	AAP President et al
9:15-10:00am	Ballroom A	RMSTP Plenary or Check out of hotel/Break	
10:00am-11:30am	PAL ROOM 101-A/B	PAL Session #7 (Physician) Educators Got Talent!	<p>Host: Bill Bockenek</p> <p><u>Celebrity Contestants:</u> Team <u>PM&Rgghh</u>: Jim McDeavitt and Monica Verduzco-Gutierrez vs Team <u>Dual Diagnosis</u>: Gerard Francisco and Amanda Harrington</p> <p><u>Celebrity Judges:</u> Becca Dutton, Holly Pajor, Ben Seidel, Surprise Guest Judge</p>
11:30am-12:00pm	PAL ROOM 101-A/B	Review of PAL course, and final debrief Reminder of PAL Education Projects, Timelines & Guidelines and Wrap-up	Chae (Lead), Aragaki, Bockenek, Clark
12:00pm		END OF PAL COURSE. Go MINGLE, ENJOY LUNCH, LEARN MORE - and SAFE TRAVELS!	

COLOR CODE KEY:

Events highlighted in light blue are **MANDATORY PAL ACTIVITIES**

Green events are **STRONGLY ENCOURAGED** AAP sessions/activities

Non-highlighted agenda items are for **transit/free time**