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A M E R I C A N  
O S T E O P A T H I C  
A S S O C I A T I O N

# The Single GME Accreditation System: Progress in Implementation of the Memorandum of Understanding, ACGME, AOA, AACOM

## AOA Annual House of Delegates

July 21, 2017

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Chief Executive Officer  
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ACGME International



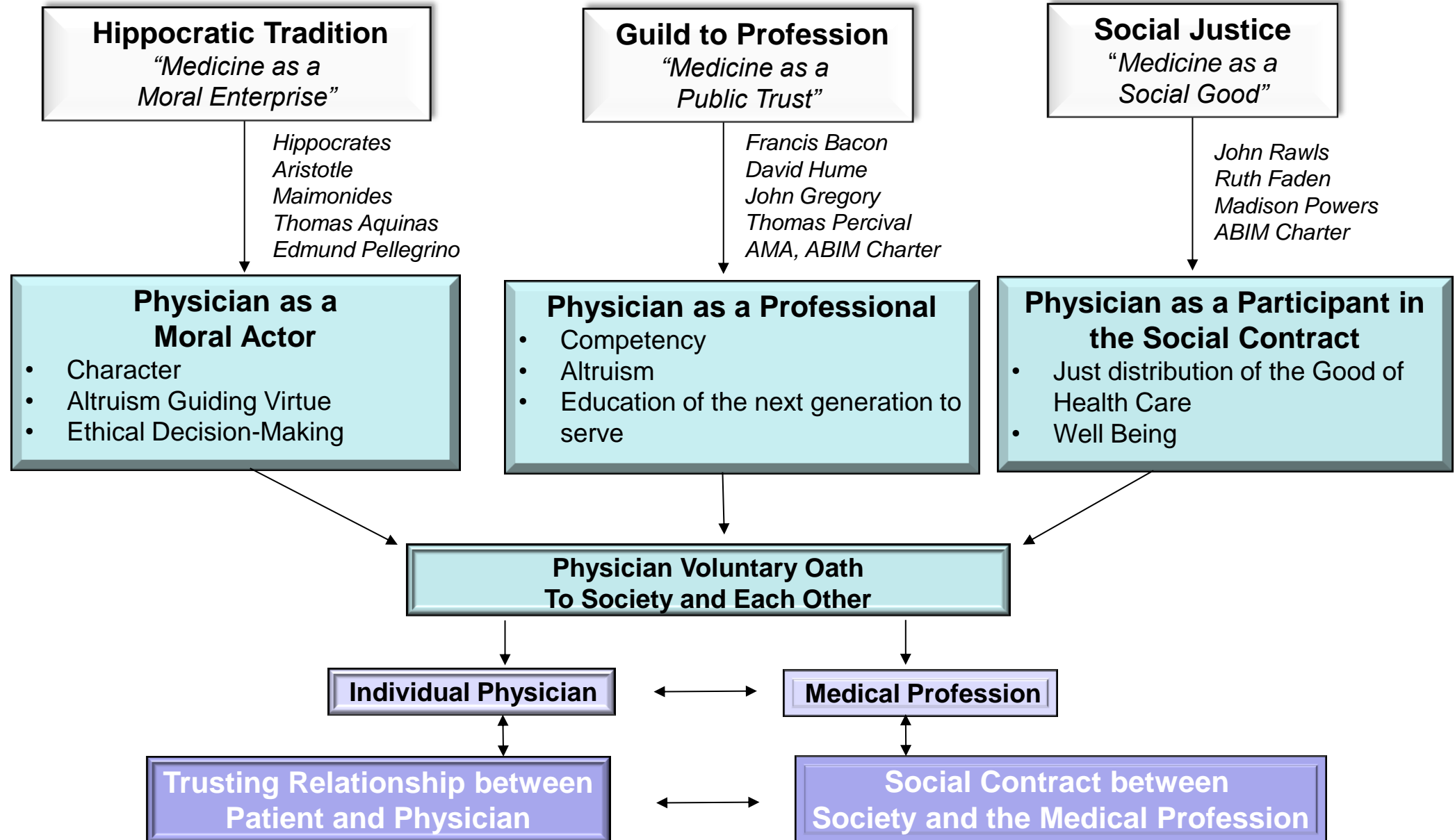
# Disclosure

- Full Time Salaried by ACGME
- Professor of Medicine and Physiology  
Sidney Kimmel College of Medicine  
Thomas Jefferson University  
Senior Scholar, Department of Medical Education  
College of Medicine  
University of Illinois at Chicago
- No conflicts of interest to report



# Traditions Contributing to the American Concept of Professionalism

Nasca, T.J. Viewpoint. Professionalism and its Implications for Accountability in Graduate Medical Education in the United States. JAMA. 2015. 313(18):1801-1802. Graphic available at [www.jama.com](http://www.jama.com)



# Single GME Accreditation System

- AOA, AACOM, and the ACGME have completed Year 3 of a 6.5-year historic transition to a Single GME Accreditation System
  - 24 months of a 60 month accreditation journey
- Begun in February 2014 with Memorandum of Understanding, and scheduled to be completed in July 2020
- Creates a unified graduate medical education system - the essential phase of the formation of specialist physicians - in the United States



# Key Factors in Transition

- Codifies Osteopathic Medicine in GME
  - Inclusion of Osteopathic Principles and Practice into the fabric of ACGME governance and accreditation activities
  - Intentionally preserves osteopathic identity and history
- Does not impact other dimensions of both physician traditions:
  - The osteopathic tradition (i.e., COMLEX, AOA board certification, and COCA-accredited Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine)
  - The ACGME structure and the other dimensions of the allopathic tradition (i.e., NBME, ABMS board certification, and LCME-accredited Colleges of Medicine)



# Benefits to the Public

- Assures that the method for evaluation and accountability for competency of physicians graduating from GME programs is consistent across all programs
- Eliminates unnecessary duplication of accreditation
- Coordinates activities related to funding and policy
- Places leadership of osteopathic and allopathic medicine together in the same room to address key challenges facing the profession and public, for example:
  - ACGME Member Organizations
  - Coalition for Physician Accountability
  - National Academy of Medicine Action Collaborative on Clinician Well-Being and Resilience



# Benefits to Medical School Graduates

Provides all US medical school graduates with the opportunity to:

- Enter a uniform GME pathway to practice medicine
- Seek admission to any residency or fellowship program
- Progress from residency to fellowship without repeating training
- Demonstrate achievement of common milestones and competencies as they enter practice





# What have we accomplished?

- New governance structure achieved through Bylaw changes
- Nominees elected to ACGME Board of Directors and its key committees
- New ACGME department created and staff added
- Nominees appointed to 21 existing Review Committees
- Nominees appointed to the Osteopathic Principles Committee and Osteopathic Neuromusculoskeletal Medicine Review Committee
- Joint GME Operations Committee and Education Committee meetings (AOA, AACOM, and ACGME)
- Outreach and communication ongoing by ACGME and AOA



# AOA and AACOM Nominated ACGME Board Members – 3 Year Anniversary!

- Clinton Adams, DO, MPA, FACHE  
President and Chief Executive Officer,  
Rocky Vista University
- David A. Forstein, DO, FACOOG  
Fertility Center of the Carolinas,  
Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology
- Karen J. Nichols, DO, MA, MACOI, CS  
Dean,  
Chicago College of Osteopathic Medicine at Midwestern University
- Gary L. Slick, DO, MACOI, FACP  
Medical Director and Chief Academic Officer,  
Osteopathic Medical Education Consortium of Oklahoma (OMEKO)



# New Committees

- Requirements, applications, and Milestones have been written, proposed, and approved for both:
  - Osteopathic Principles Committee
  - Osteopathic Neuromusculoskeletal Medicine Review Committee
- Numerous programs have already achieved Osteopathic Recognition
  - Allopathic and Osteopathic
- Osteopathic neuromusculoskeletal medicine programs have been accredited, with more in the application process



# Year 2 of 5 in Accreditation Transition to a Single GME Accreditation System

- Significant success in creation of a collaborative culture
  - Welcoming of new Review Committee members
  - Embracing of new Board members
  - Continued highly effective function of the Operations Committee
  - Success of combined and coordinated educational efforts
- Significant success in achieving Initial Accreditation by Sponsoring Institutions and Programs in many specialties



# Active Participation and Leadership

## Key Policy Development Participation:

- Common Program Requirements
  - Phase 1 – Completed revision of Section 6
  - Phase 2 – Underway, with revision of Sections 1-5 expected for public comment in late Fall, 2017.
- Sponsoring Institution 2025
  - Strategic Direction for Institutional Requirements - report in Fall, 2017

## Key Governance Participation:

- Monitoring Committee
- Requirements Committee
- Chair of Governance Committee
- Executive Committee



# Challenges and Opportunities in Years 3, 4 and 5

- Support programs and sponsors as they adapt to a different process of accreditation
  - Structure and Function
    - AOA Consultation Service
    - ACGME Executive Directors
  - Accreditation Process Advice/Support
    - ACGME Executive Directors
- Solve unique challenges as they arise
- Implement the next phase of governance expansion (2018 expansion of the ACGME Board of Directors)
- Debunk myths and overcome biases



# Summary

- Tremendous progress has been made in achieving our shared goals while preserving our respective strengths
- All elements of the MOU have been successfully implemented (consummation in 2020)
- The ACGME is stronger than before through inclusion of osteopathic colleagues, values, culture, and approach to patient care
- Now on the threshold of creating a national GME system that places residents and patients first



# Personal Commitment

Continue to  
“Under-Promise,  
and Over-Deliver”





The only place  
where success  
comes before work...  
  
is in the dictionary.

Donald Kendall



“The Future ain’t  
what it used to be!”

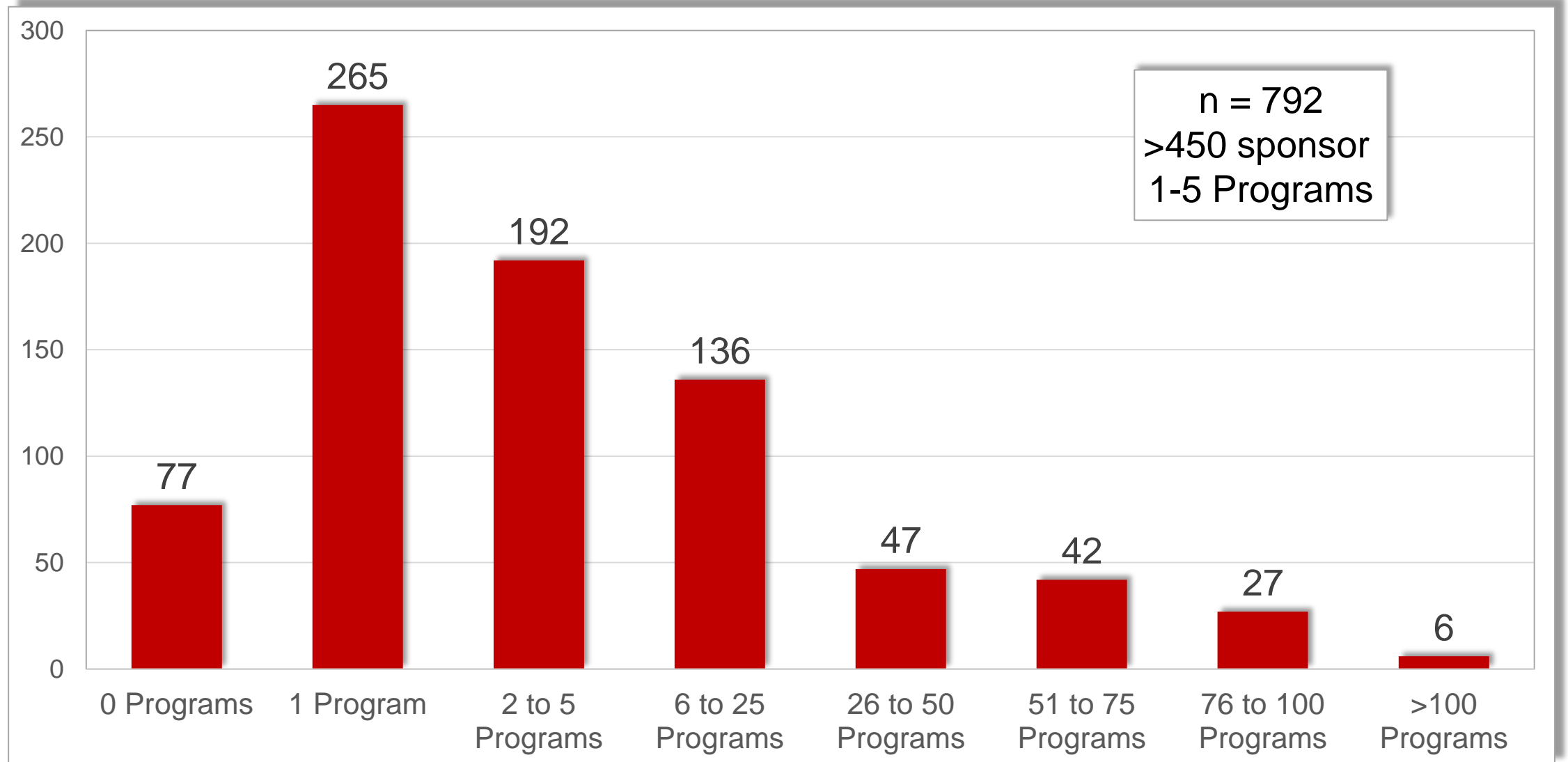


Yogi Berra

Philosopher, New York Yankees Catcher



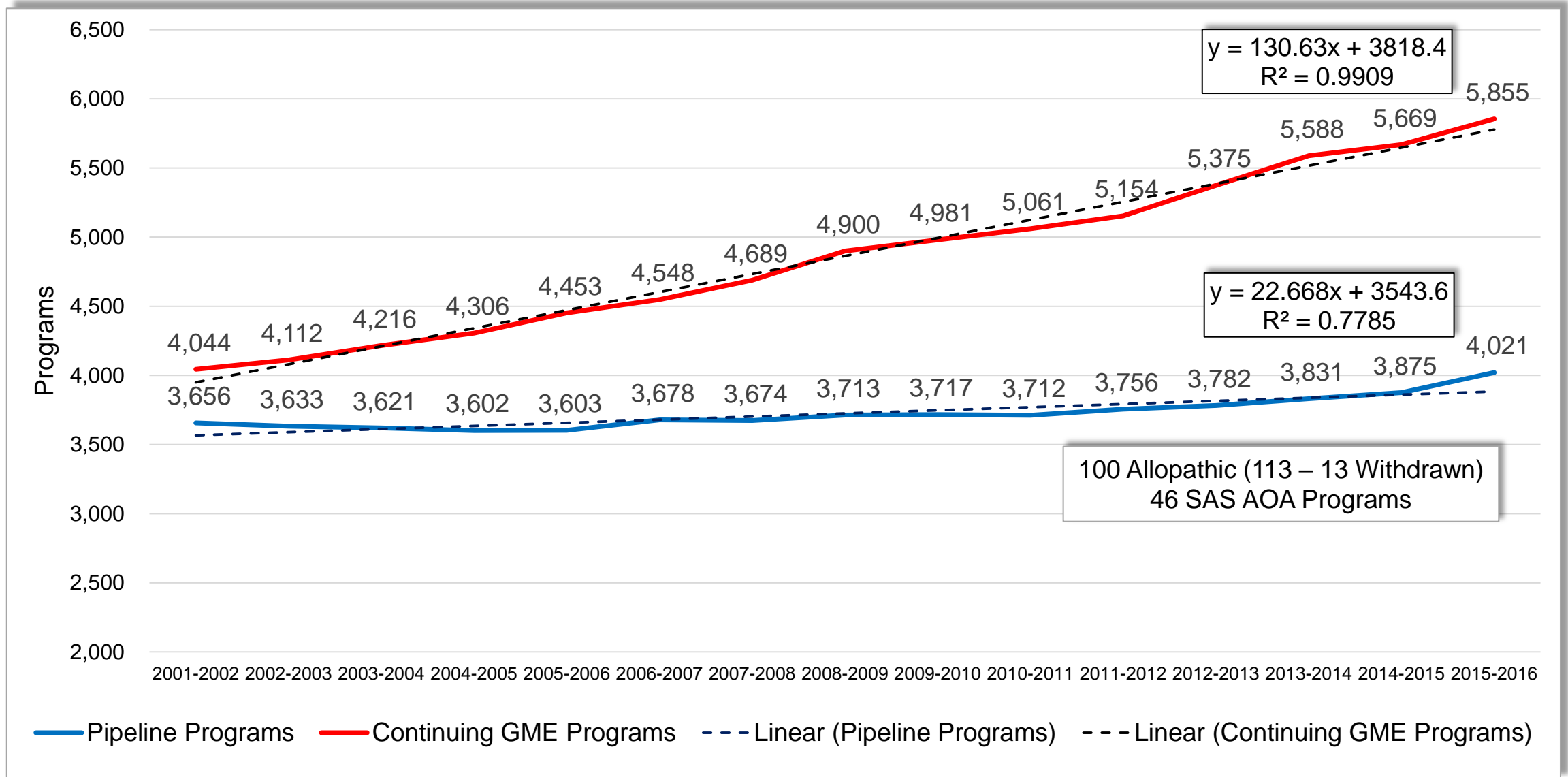
# ACGME Accredited Sponsoring Institutions by Number of Sponsored Programs



Source: GME Community through ACGME Accreditation Data System  
ACGME Data Resource Book 2015-2016. Figure E.3.



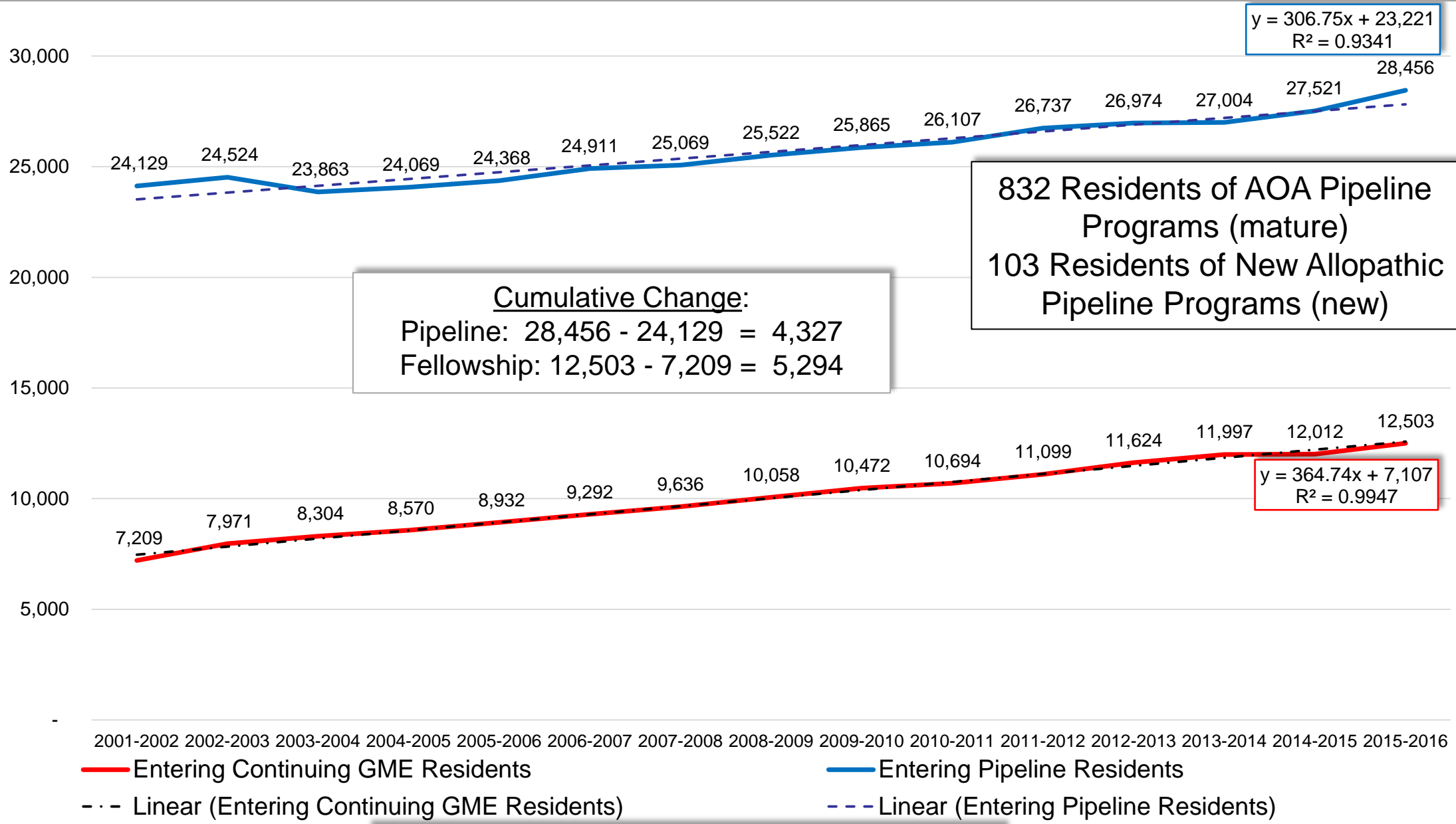
# Pipeline and Continuing GME (Fellowship) Programs



Source: GME Community through ACGME Accreditation Data System  
ACGME Data Resource Books 2001 through 2016



# Entering Pipeline Residents and Continuing GME Fellows over 15 Years

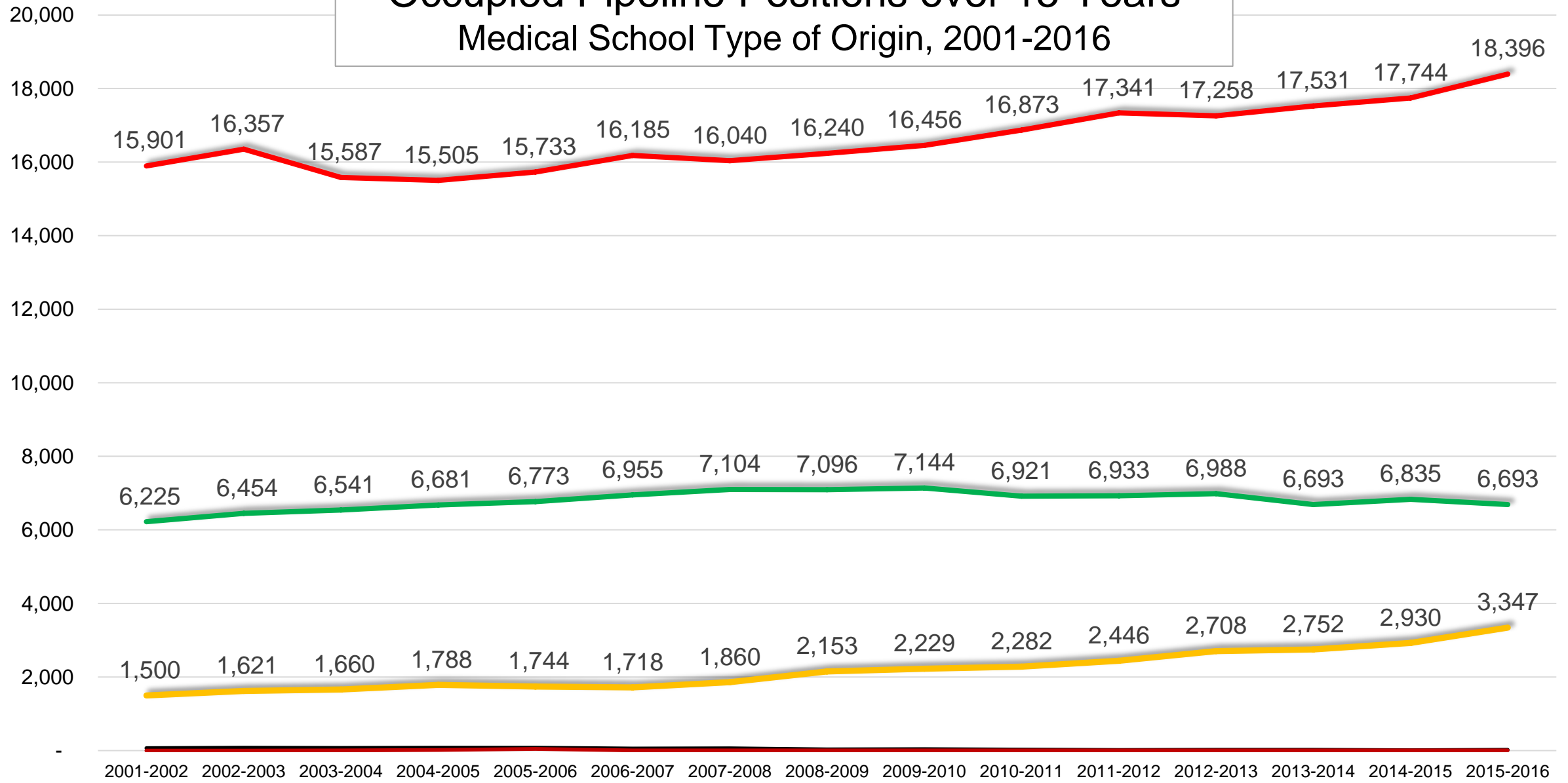


Source: GME Community through ACGME Accreditation Data System  
 ACGME Data Resource Books 2001 through 2016



# Occupied Pipeline Positions over 15 Years

## Medical School Type of Origin, 2001-2016



Source: GME Community through ACGME Accreditation Data System  
ACGME Data Resource Books 2001 through 2016

— US LCME-Accredited 
 — International Medical School 
 — Osteopathic Medical School 
 — Canadian Medical School 
 — US Medical School Unknown