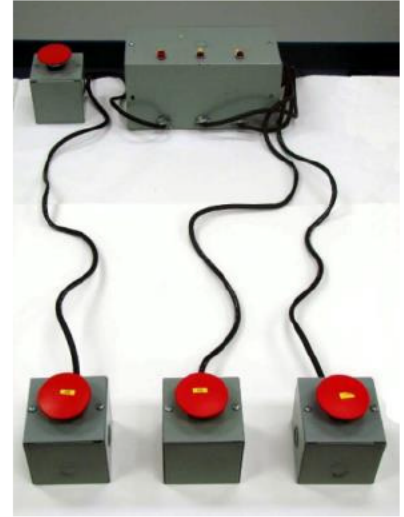


# First Physician Assistant Student Medical Challenge Bowl, 1991

**Background:** In 1990, Cynthia B. Lord, the Student Academy of the American Academy of Physician Assistants (SAAAPA) liaison to APAP (now PAEA), met with APAP board members Anthony A. Miller and Albert F. Simon to discuss how they might entice more students to attend the AAPA's annual conference. They came up with the idea to hold a Jeopardy-style, friendly competition that would match PA Program teams of three students, testing them on their medical knowledge. The objective was to provide students an organized event that would be both educational and fun.

With APAP's board approval and funding, the planners asked the faculty of APAP member programs to submit questions. APAP provided prizes (T-shirts) and secured space at the annual conference. A team of maintenance workers at Saint Francis College (now University) in Loretto, PA., built the first set of buzzers seen here. The first Medical Challenge Bowl took place at the 19th annual conference in San Francisco in 1991 with Walter A. Stein, director of the Brooklyn Hospital/Long Island University PA program, and Bill Finerfrock, AAPA's director of federal affairs, serving as the first moderators. Prior to the event, only a few teams had preregistered. So SAAAPA board members and their staff advisor began recruiting and registering additional teams; ending up with 13 teams for the inaugural event. The winning team was the Harlem Hospital/CUNY PA program (under the mentorship of program director William D. Stanhope). Over 200 individuals attended the first event (about double expectations). An estimated 2,000 people attended the 16th Medical Challenge Bowl which is now a mainstay of the annual conference.<sup>1</sup>



**Photographs:** We are fortunate that Cynthia Lord took and kept photographs of the first Student Medical Challenge Bowl event held during the 19<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference in San Francisco in 1991. We also appreciate her donating these photographs to the PAHx Society.



**Moderator Walter A. Stein asking Question**



**Moderator Bill Finerfrock asking Question**



**Faculty Cheerleaders, Laura Stuetzer, Emilia Leone, Lucy Szabo and Jim Hammond**



**Student Advisor with Sherry Stolberg and Laura Stuetzer in Background**



**Judges, Albert Simon, Mary Ettari, Paul Lombardo and Steven Shelton**



**Student Teams Consider Answer**

**Reference:**

1. Miller, A., Simon, A. and Lord, C. PA History ...The 1st Medical Challenge Bowl. **Advance for NPs & PAs.** 16:1, p.11, 2008. Accessed at <http://nurse-practitioners-and-physician-assistants.advanceweb.com/Article/The-1st-Medical-Challenge-Bowl.aspx>

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