Governor’s Letter

“Silent Cal” Coolidge was a man of few words, whose presidency is likely as obscure to you as the novels of Thomas Hardy, the existence of which served chiefly to facilitate my slumber in college literature class. His philosophy that “(t)he words of a President have an enormous weight, and ought not to be used indiscriminately” seems quaint by present standards yet causes a certain yearning. He also said

“Nothing in this world can take the place of persistence. Talent will not; nothing is more common than unsuccessful men with talent. Genius will not; unrewarded genius is almost a proverb. Education will not; the world is full of educated derelicts. Persistence and determination alone are omnipotent. The slogan Press On! has solved and always will solve the problems of the human race.”
Our capacity for persistence will be tested as we enter what will certainly be a challenging next wave of SARS-CoV-2 and the annual influenza epidemic.

And while Cal’s saying is inspiring for those of us without talent, genius, or a brilliant education, it has limits as a guide for long-term problems, the outcome of which is not entirely under our control. It’s also worth remembering that those who were warriors as well as those who coped by “keep(ing) calm and carry(ing) on” paid a price in what we now recognize as PTSD.

As aptly put by my fellow Governor, Lacy Hobgood of North Carolina:

“When I talk to non-physicians about my professional life since March 2020, I usually tell them ‘I am not a hero, but the work is heroic.’ A hero is selfless, a genuinely good person, someone willing to risk his or her own life to save another. The key to heroism is service to others in need; a concern to defend a moral cause, knowing there is personal risk.”

All this is a prelude to saying that, as you continue your heroic work in what is perhaps the most noble of professions, you must engage in self-care as well. Eat well, rest, and exercise, and don’t neglect to nourish your spirit – whether through religion, the arts, or giving of yourself to worthy causes. Dr. Fariha Shafi and the Wellness Committee are planning what we hope will be useful contributions in this regard – more to come soon.

Apropos of that, you may be interested to read Dr. Shafi’s recent contributions –

https://www.kevinmd.com/blog/post-author/fariha-shafi


For those of you who are interested in giving back, one such opportunity is to become engaged in the College at a national level and meet new and interesting people thereby. The call for interest in serving on national committees goes only to the Regents, Governors, current committee members, and others who have previously expressed interest. However, there are many opportunities available to members who are interested in parish and perhaps developing as leaders. You may review the opportunities and express your interest here.

For this and other opportunities including volunteerism, you should complete your member engagement profile.

If you’re interested in engaging with members from around the country who share common interest, another opportunity is to
participate in member forums.

Among the more active and interesting committees are:

- Women in Medicine
- Physician Well-being and Satisfaction
- Early Career Physicians
- Physician Educators
- Hospital Medicine
- Obesity Medicine

but there are many more.

I’d like to take the opportunity to congratulate William Fogarty, MD, MACP, on his election to Mastership in the College. Well-deserved, Bill!

Caption: Dr. Fogarty is pictured second from left. He has been very active in the Missouri ACP chapter and attends the Missouri ACP Advocacy Day each year and serves as a team leader.

We have quite a crop of new Fellows in 2020. Those elected by the standard route include:

- Rachelle Leonardo FACP
- Rita Friedrichs FACP
- Wanda Terrell FACP
- Kavita Jadhav FACP
- Julie Gammack FACP
- Gary Singer FACP
- Ehab Kaiser FACP
- Michael Fuller FACP
- Nikhil Kumar Organti FACP
- Damien Ricklis FACP

In response to a new College initiative to appropriately recognize outstanding women members, the following were elected directly
upon nomination by the Governor.

- Keniesha Thompson FACP
- Tracy Norfleet FACP
- Jill Moormeier FACP
- Amy Joseph FACP
- Barbara Jost FACP
- Karen Winters FACP
- Geetha Maddukuri FACP
- Amber Deptola FACP
- Janet McGill FACP

Congratulations to all!

Finally, we received notice that our chapter received the Silver Chapter Excellence Award. Even better, we missed Gold by only one criterion. That is easily remedied, and we are confident that we will qualify for Gold next year.

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**HPPC Efforts Featured in ACP Publication**

The article below was recently featured in an ACP publication regarding advocacy efforts of Chapters, and we want to share it with you in case you didn't see the publication.

Missouri ACP held our first Advocacy Day event in 2018, and have held a successful event in each subsequent year. The chapter's Health and Public Policy Committee (HPPC) selects legislative priorities each year based on feedback from our members. Our members were supportive of Medicaid Expansion, but with a Republican controlled legislature that was outspoken about not
passing Medicaid Expansion, we knew we had to walk a fine line on this issue. The HPPC decided to make it a legislative priority but not refer to the issues of concern as Medicaid Expansion, instead we talked about “maintaining Medicaid.”

Each year members have walked the halls of the Missouri Capitol building talking with their legislators about the importance of healthcare to Missourians, opposing work requirements, drug testing and block grants. As part of our Advocacy Day efforts we provide leave behind documents for each legislator we visit so they have a reference to what was discussed and contact information in case they need to further discuss the issues.

When it looked like Missouri would finally have a good chance of getting Medicaid Expansion on the 2020 ballot, many of our members became involved in the statewide campaign. Several testified at hearings and walked door-to-door to get signatures. After the Governor of the State of Missouri saw how quickly the efforts to support Medicaid Expansion were growing in Missouri he moved the issue from the November ballot to the August ballot.

With the issue going before Missouri voters three months earlier than anticipated, Missouri HPPC decided to take some action, but needed to do so quickly. One Missouri ACP member, Bridgette McCandless, MD, FACP, was very involved in the statewide efforts and has been for many years. The HPPC asked her to join a conference call to provide more information and to answer questions on the Missouri efforts. After the discussion with Dr. McCandless the committee decided to pull together resources and create a webpage on this issue, along with sharing information with our members.

A Medicaid Expansion webpage was developed with information on how members could get involved, voting information, absentee ballot concerns, and several resources for members to access on the impact and facts of the issue in Missouri. We included information on voting as there was a lot of misinformation about absentee ballots and the changes to voting because of COVID-19. We then sent information out to our members via email and social media posts directing them to the newly created web page.

Additionally, Missouri was seeing a spike in requests for absentee ballots and the current pandemic caused some concern about having notaries available. Missouri ACP Governor, Daniel Goodenberger, MD, MACP, asked Washington University if they would allow their campus notaries to be available to notarize absentee ballots for their physicians and staff and they agreed.

(Medicaid Expansion passed on August 4 in Missouri by 53 percent of the votes).
New Council Members

Missouri ACP had three open positions on the Council, and seven candidates who applied for those positions. We are excited about the response of these individuals and will encourage everybody to get involved with Missouri ACP committees, and run again in the future.

We want to congratulate our new Missouri Governor Council Members, Drs. Amber Deptola of St. Louis, Nurbanu Pirani of Kansas City, and Justice Arhinful of Springfield.

Dr. Amber Deptola

Dr. Nurbanu Pirani

Dr. Justice Arhinful

Missouri Chapter Scientific Meeting Recap
More than 100 physicians registered to attend the annual Missouri Chapter Scientific meeting held virtually throughout the month of October. Registrants earned up to 16.75 CME hours, including two ABIM SEP modules, and MOC credits.

We want to extend a special thank you to all our speakers and committee members for working with us as we transitioned from an in-person meeting to a virtual event. We received positive feedback from attendees about the content and the event overall.

Also, if you haven't, please visit the Virtual Exhibit Hall and reach out to the exhibitors to thank them for their support.

*Please save the dates for our next conference September 9-12, 2021, at Margaritaville Lake Resort, Osage Beach.*

**Need CME credits?** The Missouri Chapter Scientific Meeting, with the exception of the ABIM SEP modules, was recorded and is still available for purchase. Purchasing the conference now will provide you with up to 12.75 CME credits. You can purchase this through the Missouri ACP website or the ACP store. Credits are available for 6 months following the last date of the meeting, so you have until spring to sign up, watch and claim your CME.

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### 2020 Missouri Poster Competition Winners

Sticking with the theme, all things virtual in 2020, Missouri ACP made the decision to transition our annual poster competition to a virtual event. All participants were asked to submit a 5-minute annotated PowerPoint presentation of their poster. Poster judges were then provided links to the online videos, and sent a digital score sheet. Thank you to the judges, participants, residency programs and medical schools for working with us on this effort to go virtual, we wouldn't have been successful without you!

The top three winners are listed below for each category, and the winning videos can be viewed on the Missouri Chapter Conference Hub for those that registered for the conference.

**Resident CV**
First Place: “An Unusual Case of Chronic Cough: Broncho-Esophageal Fistula,” Zain Raza, WUSM
Second Place: “Symptomatic’ Pauses on Cardiac Telemetry,” Shiyang Zhang, WUSM
Third Place: “Do Not Disregard Immune Checkpoint Inhibitors: A Case of Severe Steroid Resistant Immune-Mediated Colitis,” Wilfor Diaz Fernandez, Mercy

Resident QI/HVC/Pt Safety

First Place: “Quality Improvements Strategies to Improve Pneumococcal Vaccination Rates in a Resident Clinic,” Ojaswi Tomar, St. Mary's
Second Place: “Calling Attention to Hepatic Steatosis in a CT Scan Impression is Associated with Increased Recognition of NAFLD in Primary Care,” Luis Hernandez, WUSM
Third Place: “HPV Vaccine Rate Improvement,” Aireen Agulto, MU

Resident Research

First Place: “Rural Urban Differences in Antibiotic Prescribing for Uncomplicated Urinary Tract Infection,” Abbye Clark, WUSM
Third Place: “Association of Food Environment and Cardiovascular Mortality,” Janelle Fried, UMKC

Student CV

First Place: “Non-typhoidal Salmonella Mycotic Aortic Aneurysm after Pneumonitis and Bacteremia,” Margaret Wieser, MU
Second Place: “Get That SGA Off The DKA,” David Cheung, SLU
Third Place: “A Case Report of Autoimmune Necrotizing Myopathy,” , MU

Student Research

First Place: “The Impact of Accounting for Poverty on Financial Penalties in a Federal Value-Based Payment Program,” Sukruth Shashikumar, WUSM
Second Place: “Neurological Outcomes in Cardiac Arrest Patients with Non-shockable vs. Shockable Rhythm Treated with Targeted Temperature Management,” Gopika Hari, WUSM
Third Place: “rfA2Z's Role in Escherichia Coli Growth & Intestinal Invasion,” Adnan Islam, UMKC

Early Career Physician

First Place: “Ketorolac - First Do No Harm,” Paul Hansen
Member Mondays

Missouri ACP would love to highlight our members weekly as part of an effort to connect virtually with each other. We ask that our members take a few minutes to complete our Member Monday online form, and include a photo of yourself (preferably of you doing something you enjoy!) We will then select members to begin highlighting on our social media channels each Monday.