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Richard W. Burns, MD, FACP, ACP Governor
I'd like to extend a big THANK YOU for your continued support of the ACP by way of your membership. As important as all the tangible benefits are, your membership signifies an investment in our specialty and patients that can't be underestimated. If you have colleagues who are not members, please consider asking them to join or renew their membership if expired. The ACP has a generous ‘rewards' program that compensates the recruiter and Chapter for every new member signed up.

2016 has seen its share of drama, highlighted by the recent presidential election. What does this mean for the medical profession and internists in particular? A long bumpy ride without a clear destination, at least for the time being. It appears the new administration will be at odds with ACP positions on some very important issues, but there may also be mutual agreement on others, including the implementation and funding of CARA (Comprehensive Addiction and Recovery Act), improving access to mental health and telemedicine services, strengthening graduate medical education funding, and fixing the rising cost of prescription drugs. All of this is detailed in a recent letter from our ACP President Dr. Nitin Damle to membership back in November.

On the state level, another run at passing a Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (PDMP) is in the works, as Representative Holly Rehder filed House Bill 90 (Narcotics Control Act) earlier this month. Our ACP Chapter will strongly advocate for passage as before. If you are interested in advocacy on either a national or local level, consider signing up with the Advocates of Internal Medicine (AIM) network, or contact myself or Pat Mills to learn more about our Chapter Health and Public Policy Committee. The time investment is small but potential benefit substantial!

On the recertification front, it appears efforts made by the ACP and other groups are beginning to bear fruit. The ABIM has made official its plan to offer a new assessment option beginning in 2018. In addition to the 10-year exam, physicians can choose to take a ‘knowledge check-in’ every two years on their personal or office computer, or at a testing center. The ACP will also continue to work with the ABIM and other professional societies in creating another MOC pathway, based on the Medical Knowledge and Self-Assessment Program (MKSAP). In this scenario, the ABIM would remain the certifier, but a specialty group would attest to the member's successful completion of the society pathway. The initial pilot will involve the ACP, the American College of Cardiology, and the American Society of Clinical Oncology. If the program is deemed successful, it would be expanded to other internal medicine subspecialty groups.

For other Chapter updates and news please read on. I hope to see many of you in sunny San Diego in March for Internal Medicine Meeting 2017. Don't forget to stop by our Missouri Chapter reception for food and libations (free!), details to follow in the IM17 program guide.

Sincerely, Richard Burns, MD, FACP
Governor, Missouri ACP Chapter
Since September's CME meeting the Education Committee has been working diligently to produce another excellent program for the 2017 meeting. We have taken into account requests from attendees, speaker evaluations, and recent prior agendas to develop a program that meets the needs of our members and that presents a broad array of topics relevant to the practicing internist. One of the highlights of the 2017 program will be the president of the Lown Institute, Vikas Saini, MD, and the Right Care Alliance. Dr Saini will speak Friday afternoon Sept 15.

The 2017 chapter CME meeting will provide both category 1 CME credit and ABIM maintenance of certification (MOC) points.

Thomas M. De Fer, MD, FACP – Chair
Drs. Wooldridge and Buckhold
During the September chapter meeting medical students from the Internal Medicine Interest Groups at Missouri medical schools had a chance to quiz Internal Medicine Program Directors. Drs. Nickole Forget – Mercy; Megan Wren – Wash U; Fred Buckhold – SLU; Morey Gardner – St Mary's; and David Wooldridge – UMKC provided candid responses to the many questions asked about what to expect and what to look for during the residency search process. The Student Committee has begun making plans to repeat this event Sept 16 at Tan Tar A during the 2017 chapter meeting. Rimmy Garg and Rahul Maheshwari 2016 co-chairs have handed off their leadership roles to Stephanie Zhang and David Sanborn for 2017.

The MO ACP Chapter's Health and Public Policy Committee is gearing up for advocacy efforts in 2017. Given the outcome of last month's election, less is known about the future of health policy than we had expected. In Missouri, both tobacco tax initiatives were defeated so a tobacco tax increase will likely not receive much attention during the upcoming legislative session. Expanding Medicaid under the ACA is also likely to be a nonissue since the repeal of the ACA is a top agenda item for many leaders in DC. To the best of our knowledge, however, there will still be a coalition advocating for the creation of a state run, point of care access prescription drug monitoring program to help fight the ever growing epidemic of opioid abuse and overdose. This will be the chapter's top priority!

Steve Keithahn, MD, FACP – Chair

The chapter bylaws have been recently updated and sent to the ACP Board of Regents for final approval. Drs. Richard Burns, Anne Winkler, and Fariha Shafi comprised an ad hoc committee which made a recommendation to the chapter council that approved the changes. Additional details to follow when finalized.

The Missouri Chapter's Council of Residents and Fellows is working to achieve its tripartite mission of expanding membership among residents and fellows, providing supplemental educational opportunities to its members, and providing avenues to become involved in health policy and patient advocacy. This year we have invited speakers to different institutions to educate residents and fellows on contract negotiations and personal finance. A record number of residents presented individual research and clinical vignettes at our regional conference in September. Over the course of the next few months, we intend to take an active role in working with the Health & Public Policy Committee advocating for a Prescription Drug Monitoring Program and other patient-important issues in our state.
Missouri Internal Medicine Interest Groups and current ACP members continue to encourage medical students in our state to pursue careers in Internal Medicine. Through the support of ACP, 40 students from Missouri’s four medical schools were able to attend the annual ACP Conference in Tan-Tar-A this year. Recent events have included interest group meetings with physicians presenting on a wide variety of topics relating to both primary and specialty care. Other events have focused on the practice of humanistic medicine, enhancing patient experiences.
through quality improvement projects, and refining history taking and physical examination techniques. Student goals for the upcoming year include spreading interest in internal medicine as a career choice, increasing student ACP membership, and encouraging patient advocacy in a student capacity.

Stephanie Zhang and David Sanborn – Co-chairs

**Missouri Chapter Laureate Award**

*Beth Andes, MD, FACP pictured with Dr. Burns*

**Elizabeth Andes, MD, FACP** was recognized with the 2016 Missouri Chapter Laureate Award during the chapter CME meeting. This award honors those Fellows and Masters who have demonstrated by their example and conduct an abiding commitment to excellence in medical care, education, research, and service to their community, their Missouri Chapter, and the
American College of Physicians. Additionally, they should have served their chapter with distinction or in some clearly definable manner.

Wash U Wins Doctor's Dilemma

The Doctor's Dilemma team from Washington University School of Medicine/Barnes Jewish Hospital won the Missouri contest and will be representing the Missouri Chapter of the ACP at IM17 in San Diego.

Poster Contest: Residents & Students

The Missouri Chapter had 80 posters in three categories for the Resident competition and 20 in two categories for the Student competition. The first place winners in each category will compete at IM17 in San Diego. The results of the competition follow:

Clinical Vignette – Resident

Jordan Maryfield, MD; Wash U; A Rare Cause of Flank Pain: Klebsiella pneumoniae hypermucoviscous Psoas Abscess
Research – Resident

Yee-Shiuan (Andy) Chen, MD; Wash U; *Bacteroidales species mediate protection against Clostridium difficile infection by limiting access to colonic crypts*

Patient Safety & QI – Resident

Aniruddh Kapoor, MD; St Mary's; *Universal PHQ screening: a low cost, high-impact screening tool*

Clinical Vignette – Student

Ryan Morrow; MU; *Rapid Sodium Correction Can Lead to Tears*

Research – Student

Gaurav Anand; UMKC; *Pharmacological control of oxidative stress-mediated effects on endocannabinoid signaling pathways*

ACP Student Clerkship Awards

The ACP Clerkship Award honors medical students who have recently completed the third year of training and who performed meritoriously in their junior year clinical clerkships for General Internal Medicine.
Dr. Burns; David Pritchard – SLU; Charles Jones – MU; Luke Nayak – UMKC; and Ethan Tobias – Wash U

ACP Student Physical Diagnosis Awards

The ACP Excellence in Physical Diagnosis Award recognizes outstanding second year students based on their performance in Physical Diagnosis class.
The Missouri Chapter of the ACP in receipt of the 2016 Chapter Excellence Award! The award recognizes chapters which successfully meet the standards for managing a chapter. In order to achieve the Chapter Excellence Award, chapters must meet all basic criteria and ten optional criteria. Criteria include such activities as formulating an effective Governor's Council and committees, communicating frequently with membership, providing educational opportunities, recruiting and advancing members and celebrating membership through local awards.
Your Missouri Chapter has its own Facebook page. Find us at Missouri ACP and see the latest news fit to print or like.

Calendar

March 30 – April 1 - IM 17 San Diego  
Sept 14-17, 2017 - Missouri Chapter CME meeting Osage Beach  
April 19-21, 2018 - IM 18 New Orleans  
Sept 13-16, 2018 - Missouri Chapter CME meeting Osage Beach  
April 11-13, 2019 - IM 19 Philadelphia