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## From the Governor's Desk



### Greetings fellow ACP members!

It is a pleasure to begin serving as your state ACP governor for the next four years. Many thanks to outgoing governor Alan Forker, MD, MACP, who directed our chapter with distinction. Following in his footsteps will present no small challenge, but fortunately there is much tradition to build upon. This includes the aforementioned leadership (along with past national presidents Dr. Sara Walker and Dr. David Fleming), a strong chapter foundation with a history of multiple Evergreen Awards (national recognition of outstanding chapter efforts), and a stable and able executive director in the person of Pat Mills.

Our state chapter's challenge moving forward will be to maintain what is valued by current members (including a first-class annual CME meeting at Lake of the Ozarks), while at the same time attracting new members in an environment that is increasingly competitive, specifically in reference to time and money. We have a wide range of colleagues: from trainee to late career physician, from generalist to sub-specialist. Physicians join ACP for a variety of reasons and their perspective on 'value' differs. Fortunately we offer something for everyone in terms of benefits. The following is just a partial list of the 'value' ACP provides a career internal medicine physician:

#### **EDUCATION:**

- National IM meeting (discounted up to \$200)
- MKSAP (discounted up to \$200)
- ACP Smart Medicine (free): A more concise online version of 'UpToDate'

## ABIM RECERTIFICATION:

- MOC ACP Navigator website (free): An easy tool that helps navigate the process.
- MOC modules (either free or discounted)
- MOC Exam Prep Courses (discounted)
- MKSAP (discounted up to \$200)

From a fiscal standpoint, membership dues deliver a lot of bang for your buck. Perhaps as important but underappreciated: Membership with ACP provides an opportunity to get involved with organized medicine at a state or even national level. 'Networking' outside our hospitals, universities, or practice groups through an ACP committee or meeting offers both a professional and personal benefit that can be invaluable and lifelong.

As the rest of this newsletter attests, we have a lot going on at the state level. If you are interested in getting more involved, please don't hesitate to contact myself or Pat Mills ([BurnsR@health.missouri.edu](mailto:BurnsR@health.missouri.edu) and [pmills@msma.org](mailto:pmills@msma.org)). I hope to see many of you at the September meeting!

## Chapter Meeting 20.75 CME Hours including 3 ABIM MOC Modules



Register Now!

DATE: September 17-20, 2015

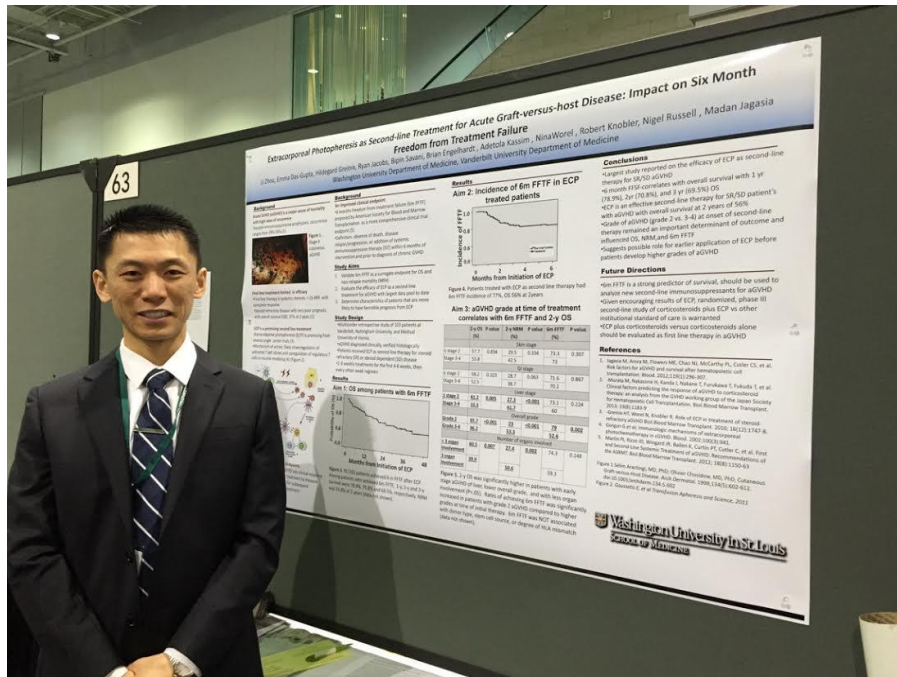
LOCATION: Tan Tar A Hotel

[Meeting Program and Registration Page](#)

The Missouri Chapter 2015 CME meeting will offer 3 ABIM SEP modules (2014 Update in Internal Medicine (COQ); 2014 Update in Hospital Medicine (83Q); and 2014 Update In Geriatric Medicine (B1Q)) as part of its 20.75 hours of CME. The program starts Thursday, September 17 and concludes Sunday, September 20. Can't attend the entire weekend? No problem; there are multiple registration options to choose from. The meeting features an all-star lineup of speakers and topics; please see [www.missouriacp.org](http://www.missouriacp.org) for details.

In addition to the scientific program, your chapter Laureate Awardee, Bridget McCandless, MD, FACP, will be recognized Friday night along with eight ACP Clerkship and ACP Physical Diagnosis medical student awardees. On Saturday afternoon the poster contest for one hundred residents and students will determine who goes to IM16 in Washington D.C.

## Internal Medicine 2015



In case you weren't in Boston for IM15 here's a brief update: David Fleming, MD, MACP completed his term as ACP President; Alan Forker, MD, MACP completed his four-year term as Missouri Governor; and Richard Burns, MD, FACP began his four-year term as Missouri Governor. , won Li Zhou, MD, Wash U ACP Resident Member first prize in the ACP IM15 Research Poster Competition in Boston. His poster was entitled, "Extracorporeal Photophoresis as Second-line treatment for acute graft-versus-host disease: Impact on six month freedom form treatment failure." **Congratulations Dr. Zhou!**

Start making plans for IM16, to be held in May 5<sup>th</sup> through May 7<sup>th</sup> in Washington, D.C. (<http://im2016.acponline.org/>).

## International Medical Graduates Update

Akwi Asombang, MD

Akwi Asombang, MD, Chair of the Missouri International Medical Graduates Committee, recently organized two meetings in Columbia: "Finding a Job: Post Training" and "Medical Billing, Coding and Reimbursements." Watch our website ([www.missouriacp.org](http://www.missouriacp.org)) and facebook page ([www.facebook.com/MissouriACP](http://www.facebook.com/MissouriACP)) for future meetings.

## Health & Public Policy Update

Steve Keithahn, MD, FACP, FAAP

It was an honor to serve this year as the chair of our chapter's Health and Public Policy Committee. I am grateful to our engaged and skilled committee members: Drs. Peggy Barjenbruch, Ernie-Paul Barrette, Richard

Burns, William Fogarty, Alan Forker, Warren Lovinger, Bridget McCandless and Mr. Nathan Nolan and for the support of our chapter's Council.

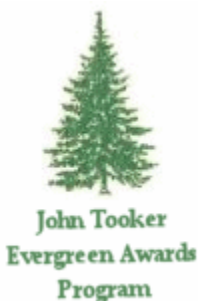
One of the lessons learned this year is that advocacy efforts require a long term strategy to be successful. No better example of this exists than the repeal of the SGR after 17 years of advocacy efforts by the ACP. Dr. Richard Burns, Dr Vicky Riyat and I were able to attend ACP Leadership Days to celebrate this success. We also met with legislators and their staff regarding restoring the Medicaid Primary Care Parity, extending the Medicare Primary Care Incentive Program, and reforming the Graduate Medical Education financing system.

Advocacy efforts at the state level were equally robust but less successful. A bill that would have created an effective prescription drug monitoring program for our state (Missouri is the only state without a PDMP) overwhelmingly passed the house and gathered support in the senate before dying in committee due to other agenda items and some late session drama. Hopefully, it can be quickly resurrected next session. Bills raising the cigarette tax were introduced but did not advance. And while Sen. Silvey banged the drum for Medicaid Expansion, both houses essentially shut down debate despite Kentucky publishing a white paper detailing the overwhelming success of the program in their state.

Looking ahead, the HPPC members will be meeting with lawmakers and developing the 2016 agenda and advocacy strategies over the next six months. We predict that our top three state advocacy issues will remain the 1) creation of a state PDMP 2) expansion of Medicaid under the ACA and 3) the increase of tobacco tax to fund health care programs.

Of note, the HPPC committee is currently recruiting chapter members willing to become key contacts by developing long term relationships with the federal or state lawmakers for their districts. Please contact me ([skeithahn@aol.com](mailto:skeithahn@aol.com)) if interested or if you have any suggestions for or questions about the HPPC.

## Missouri Chapter Wins ACP Evergreen Award



The ACP John Tooker Evergreen Awards Program provides recognition and visibility to chapters that have successfully implemented programs to increase membership, improve communication, increase member involvement, enhance diversity, foster careers in internal medicine and improve management of the chapter. The Missouri Chapter, along with the Florida Chapter, received a 2015 Evergreen Award for their initiative, *Florida & Missouri Chapters' Winning Collaboration on Their State Doctor Dilemma Competition*.

## Doctors Dilemma Update



The **Wash U Doctor's Dilemma Team** (Drs. Anu Godishala, Khoan Vu, and Ian Ross), coached by Dr. Emily Fondahn, won their first round match at IM15 before being eliminated in the second round. Wash U won the Missouri Chapter contest in September of 2014 and received an automatic entry into the national contest.

The **2015 Missouri DD contest will be Saturday, September 19 during the Missouri Chapter Meeting**. Teams from UMKC, MU, St Luke's Mercy, SLU and Wash U will compete to represent Missouri at IM16 in Washington DC.

## Resident and Fellow Council

This year marks the beginning of a re-invigorated resident and fellow council for our chapter. The main goal of the group is to engage in local programs, increase ACP's visibility, and remind young physicians of the benefits of ACP membership. The council provides a unique opportunity for networking and leadership for its members. We have already recruited eight members with representation from UMC, UMKC, SLU and Wash U. To learn more about our activities or if you are interested in participating, please contact Mayank Mittal or Patrick Mills ([mittalm@health.missouri.edu](mailto:mittalm@health.missouri.edu) or [pmills@msma.org](mailto:pmills@msma.org)).

## New Free Member Benefit- DynaMed Plus

DynaMed Plus™, new clinical decision tool, to be accessible to ACP members for free. Read more at: [https://www.acponline.org/clinical\\_information/dynamed\\_plus/](https://www.acponline.org/clinical_information/dynamed_plus/)

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