



Arkansas ACP Chapter Staff

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Governor's Commentary

As I reflect on the week of Internal Medicine 2008, I am refreshed with the energy of over 10,000 of our colleagues, residents and students who attended this wonderful meeting. Scientific sessions, clinical skills workshops and a variety of other sessions -again- reinforce the value of our organization to Internists.

I visited with two of 'our own' Masters - **Bill Golden** and **Taylor Prewitt** - as they participated in the scientific sessions and collegiality of the meeting. Convocation gave me the opportunity to congratulate **Ray Hall**, representing the NEA Clinic Charitable Foundation, in receipt of the ACP Loveland Award- in national recognition of their program to intervene in the lives of overweight children and their families. **Robert White** of Paragould and **Paul Vellozzo** of Jonesboro joined me in walking into Convocation in recognition of their earned Fellowship in the College. I had the pleasure of interacting with a collegial group of Arkansas, Oklahoma and Missouri Internists and students at our combined reception after convocation.

Omar Atiq (Pine Bluff), **Clark Fincher** (Searcy), **Steve Johnson** (Fayetteville) and I had the opportunity to meet with the Health Liaisons for all of the Arkansas Congressional and Senate delegation; and to visit with **Congressman Berry**, with **Congressman Boozman**, and with **Senator Pryor**. We were able to discuss the potential disaster upcoming for Medicare patients in Arkansas if the SGR cuts [scheduled to go into effect in July] are not averted... We received assurances from each of our elected representatives (or their staff) that they would vote to avert these cuts. We were also able to discuss other ACP proposals including the Patient Centered Medical Home and debt relief for medical students which we hope will help avert the looming collapse in Primary Care. These were also received positively- although the challenge of paying for these advances, in our current climate of balanced income and expenditures in the midst of a war, will be difficult to meet.

My discussions with other Fellows, Members, Students, Governors and Regents from around the country continue to reinforce my confidence that ACP maintains a strong leadership role in its 3 missions: Patient care, education and advocacy. I encourage all of you to join me- get involved or stay involved- and reap the benefits of ACP membership!

'Bob' Hopkins, MD, FACP, FAAP
Arkansas Chapter ACP Governor
Little Rock

HELP WANTED...

--WANTED: Internists, Associates and Students willing to write letters, make phone calls, send e-mails and otherwise continue our Advocacy efforts with our elected representatives at the state and national level. [e.g. Become a KEY CONTACT]

The SGR issue is not likely to achieve a permanent fix in the next year, so continued advocacy to reach this ultimate goal will be needed. Securing the future of Primary Care, funding the Advanced Medical Home, Medical Liability Reform, and many other issues need our involvement...

--WANTED: Internists and Specialists interested in mentoring students, residents and postgraduate fellows. Academics, private practitioners, generalists and specialists are all welcome!

Mentoring these up-and-coming Internists will improve our chances of keeping them in Arkansas (as practicing Internists and Internal Medicine Sub-specialists).

--WANTED: ACP Members interested in developing and/or reviewing proposed resolutions. Resolutions are reviewed and debated at each ACP Governors Meeting prior to being forwarded to the Board of Regents for Action or to develop ACP Policy. I would love to have YOUR input in this process to allow me to better represent you, the Internists of Arkansas.

--WANTED: Membership advocates interested in reaching out to nonmember internists around the state.

ACP offers tremendous value in educational resources, practice resources and advocacy for you and your patients. Our strength in representing our specialty and our patients is greater the more of us that are involved in our efforts.

--WANTED: Associates, Students and Young Physicians interested in leadership roles in ACP at the state and national level.

You are our future, we want to help you to grow in the Internal Medicine profession!!

--WANTED: Internists to participate in our state meetings, as judges for the Associate presentations and posters, as presenters of scientific topics, and as recruiters of non-member internists to join us in discussions and learn of the value of ACP and the Arkansas chapter. This 'cross pollination' that we can offer each other helps our ability to practice cutting edge medicine and enriches our personal growth.

If you are interested in any of these -or other-opportunities in our chapter, please e-mail me or **Nicole Parker** at arkacp@yahoo.com.

Arkansas ACP Calendar

July 1, 2008	Deadline for 2008 nominations for ACP Masterships and National Awards
August 1, 2008	Deadline for Associate, Fellow, and Student poster topic submissions
August 15, 2008	Nominations Deadline for Robert Shields Abernathy Laureate Award
September 25, 2008	Associate and Student Poster Presentation UAMS, Internal Medicine Grand Rounds, Little Rock, AR
September 18-20, 2008	Fall ACP Governor's Meeting
October 9, 2008	Arkansas ACP Fall Governor's Council Meeting, Rogers AR

October 10-11, 2008	Arkansas ACP Fall Scientific Meeting "Enhancing Internal Medicine 2008 " Embassy Suites, John Q. Hammons Center, Rogers, AR
March 2009	[Date and time TBA] Arkansas ACP Spring Governor's Council Meeting, Little Rock, AR
April 18-19, 2009	George Ackerman, Arkansas ACP Reading Retreat Red Apple Inn
April 23-29	Internal Medicine 2009 Philadelphia, PA
October 2009	[Date and time TBA] Arkansas ACP Fall Scientific Meeting, Hot Springs, AR

Kudos:

NEA Clinic Charitable Foundation Jonesboro, AR	ACP Loveland Award Presented at IM 2008 Convocation
William Golden, MD, MACP Little Rock, AR	Chair Emeritus, ACP Board of Regents [Term completed 2008]
Steve Woodruff, MD, FACP Jonesboro, AR	2007 Robert Shields Abernathy Arkansas ACP Laureate Award
Robert White, MD, FACP Paragould, AR	ACP Fellowship
Paul Vellozo, MBBS, FACP Jonesboro, AR	ACP Fellowship
Rowland 'Todd' Stewart, MD, ACP Member Fort Smith, AR	New Members AR ACP Governor's Council
Stacy Zimmerman, MD, ACP Member Clinton, AR	

Visit the Chapter website at
www.acponline.org/about_acp/chapters/ar

NOMINATE YOUR HEROES

The awards committee is seeking your nominations for the Robert Shields Abernathy Arkansas ACP Laureate Award which is given annually to an internist who has trained, practiced and or taught in Arkansas and made a significant impact to our profession, specialty and patients. Last year's winner was **Dr. Steven Woodruff** of Jonesboro. The award will be presented at the closing banquet of the fall Arkansas ACP Scientific Meeting in Rogers. **Nominations should be sent to Dr. Hopkins [via e-mail or US mail] and must be received by August 15.**

Mastership is a competitive honor which is bestowed on Fellows of the college who have demonstrated superior accomplishments and service to the ACP. The nominated individual must have made notable contributions to Medicine- teaching, scientific, clinical and other contributions are considered. Individuals cannot self-nominate and only a limited number of masters are elected each year.

Other ACP Awards, the nomination process and requirements for these awards are outlined in the ACP Awards booklet, available on the internet at:

http://www.acponline.org/about_acp/awards_masterships/awards_masters.pdf

Arkansas ACP Fall Meeting: Enhancing Internal Medicine 2008

Our fall scientific meeting this year will be held at the Embassy Suites, Johns Q Hammons Center in Rogers on October 10-11. We are delighted to announce that the ACP College Representative will be **Jeffery Harris**, MD, FACP from Millwood, VA. Dr. Harris is the current ACP President and will be addressing the future of the college as well as discussing the issue of access to healthcare. We will also be joined this year by **Jonni McCrann** from the ACP Washington Office who will tell us a bit more about what Internists can expect from the 2008 national election.

Dr. Ryan Bariola will be mentoring another group of our Associate members in clinical case presentations. I am certain they will be to the same superb standard set in the past several years under the tutelage of **Dr. Rebecca Martin**.

Dr. Curt Hedberg, Program Chair, **Dr. Mony Fraer** and I have worked hard to put together a program that we hope will be of interest to General Internists and Internal Medicine Subspecialists with discussions on Implementing the Medical Home in a Small Practice, Diabetes Quality Improvement, Current Asthma Treatment, Medical Jeopardy and other topics.

Please block the dates on your calendar and plan to register for the meeting through the ACP On-Line registration process.

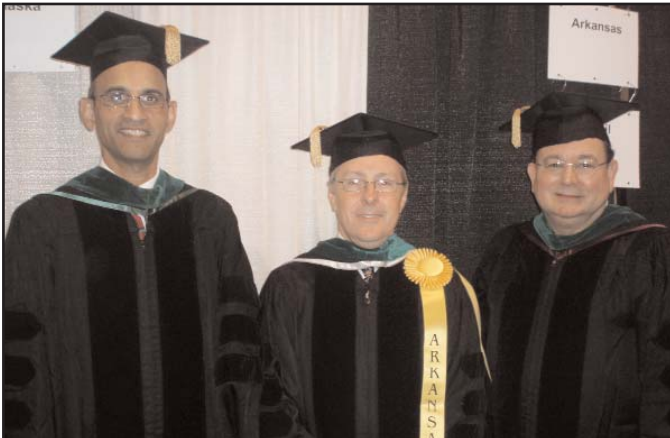
The Future of Internal Medicine in Arkansas

This May, UAMS graduated a new class of students who will move on to Internships around this country. 19 of these graduates will pursue training in Internal Medicine and 7 in Medicine-Pediatrics.

In June, the UAMS Internal Medicine residency and Medicine-Pediatrics residency will graduate 27 Internists: 15 will immediately enter fellowships, 3 will be chief residents, 1 will work with an IM subspecialist (prior to entering a fellowship the following year), 3 will practice General IM (or General Med-Peds) and 5 will practice Hospital Medicine. 20 of the 27 will remain in Arkansas for their work or future training...

July 1, the UAMS Internal Medicine residency will enroll 21 categorical residents (13 graduates of UAMS) and the Medicine-Pediatrics residency will enroll 4 residents (all UAMS graduates).

Photo Gallery



*Paul Vellozo, MBBS, FACP
Governor Robert Hopkins, MD, FACP
Robert White, MD, FACP
Prior to IM 2008 Convocation*

*Will and Hunter Hopkins
[Future Comedians] with
Ray Hall, MD, FACP
After receiving Loveland Award
at IM 2008 Convocation*

