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Governor's Message



Thank you to **Molly Cooke** for a spectacular four years as Governor for the Northern California Chapter of the ACP. During this time we had three annual meetings without Pharma financial support and without having to charge any fees for the meeting. In addition the membership increased by 3 %, more committees were formed, and we have placed more members on national ACP committees. **Molly** is the Chair of the Board of Governors which gives her an automatic position on the Board of Regents. **Dr. Faith Fitzgerald** was reelected to another 3 year term as Regent so we have strong presence in the College. We were well represented at the ACP annual meeting, Internal Medicine 2009, with the UC Davis team competing in Medical Jeopardy and Vijay Tiwari from San Joaquin Medical Center was first runner up in the national poster competition.

Lucy Kalanithi, chair of our Associates Council, is a second year internal medicine resident at UCSF. She was a medical student representative to the ACP several years ago and now she is representing the West Coast on the national Associates Council. **Lucy** is spearheading increased resident activities, and she is helping us to groom a couple of medical students for national positions. (Read more about **Lucy** below.)

In March we met with other members, residents, and medical students from around the state for Sacramento Day. After a visit to the CMA headquarters and a briefing about CMA issues we learned about key issues for visits to our Assembly members and State senators. We had a very productive day and even had a couple of meetings in the governor's conference room. We hope more people will come next year. I am certain with enough advance notice we can find beds in Sacramento for those who will not be reimbursed. Washington Day is in May 2009 and several members will attend that as well.

The next couple of years, mostly 2009, will probably see dramatic changes in the way medicine is practiced in the U.S. and ACP has an important position at the table. Our previous president, **Dr. Jeff Harris**, has been to the White House twice since January to participate in meetings about health care reform. ACP's two top priorities in 2009 are 1) affordable healthcare for all and 2) to reverse the shortage of primary care providers. **Dr. John Tooker**, Executive Vice President for ACP, missed the first day of the Governors' meeting at Internal Medicine 2009 because he was testifying at a round table discussion at the Senate Finance Committee. For up-to-date information on what is happening in Washington you may subscribe to the Washington Newsletter at <http://www.acponline.org/advocacy/newsletter/> or sign up to the blog

ACP Services Awards George Meyer

We are proud to report that **Dr. George Meyer** has been named one of the Top-10 Key Contacts of the Year for 2008. Awardees will be recognized at the 2009 Leadership Day awards dinner on May 19 in Washington, DC. He has signed up the most new Key Contacts of anyone in the country.

The letter informing **Dr. Meyer** of his award reads, in part, "*Thank you for all you do for the College. The College's advocacy efforts could not be as effective as they are without advocates such as you.*"

For information on how you can get involved in the Key Contact program visit the web site at:

http://www.acponline.org/advocacy/key_contacts/ Or email **Kathy Matikonis** at acpcalifornia@aol.com.

Angie Chen Appointed to State Chapter Board of Directors

Dr. Angie Chen, an Associate member from Santa Cruz, was appointed to the Board of Directors of the California State Chapter of ACP Services. Here is her message to Associate members:

Dear ACP Associate Members:

I would like to introduce myself as your newly-elected Associate Board Member of the California Chapter of American College of Physicians Services. In this capacity, I am available to address any concerns you may have and will serve to represent your interests at the ACP state level.

As brief background, I am currently practicing internal medicine as part of a physician group through Dominican Medical Foundation in Santa Cruz, CA. My training includes an internship in psychiatry at California Pacific Medical Center in San Francisco; an Internal Medicine Residency at Santa Clara Valley Medical Center in San Jose; and a brief trial of Neurological Surgery Fellowship at UC Davis Medical Center in Sacramento. My undergraduate training was in Film & Television at New York University - quite a departure from what I am doing now.

My particular areas of interest include: Addiction Medicine as well administration of Suboxone therapy; physician's well-being issues including caring for the impaired physician; meditation and other non-pharmacological approaches to stress reduction; mental health services in primary care; and the promotion of primary care in medical schools, especially given the shortage we are facing and how that continues to impact health care costs.

Your input is always welcome and I look forward to learning from your experiences. Please feel free to contact me with your suggestions, ideas, concerns and your suggestions for how you can get involved. You can reach me at: yeshepalmo@sbcglobal.net.

Sincerely,

C.Y. Angie Chen, MD

Meet our new Legislative Consultant



Tom Riley has years of experience representing primary care physicians in Sacramento. We're fortunate to have him working with and for us.

Northern California welcomes new Fellows



L to R: Thiruvoipati Nandakumar, Redding; Edward Seegers, Oakland; John Wallace, Ft Bragg; Barbara Wismer, San Francisco; and Jatinder Marwaha, San Ramon, George Meyer, Governor

On Being a Doctor

Everyone has a story, and those from the medical profession, especially from physicians caring for patients every day are often very poignant and worth sharing.

We want to hear your stories and share them with your colleagues in the Northern California Chapter newsletter. So put your nascent literary skills to work and tell us, in 500 words or less, one of the highlights of your life as a physician. It can be a lesson learned or taught; a moment when you realized it is all worth the effort, etc...you get the idea.

Send your story in Word format to: ACPCalifornia@aol.com.

Annual Sacramento Day



Representatives from the Northern California Chapter participated in the annual Sacramento Day visits to California's Capitol Hill. From left to right: George Meyer, MD; Darin Latimore MD; Molly Cooke MD; Assemblyman D. Jones, Lucy Kalanithi MD, Angie Chen MD, Anita Gaiind MD, Anne Cummings MD. Dick Thorpe MD; Missing: John Tysell

Save the Date: for Northern California's Annual Meeting: November 20-22

This year's educational program focuses on Genomics and Adult Medicine: Practical Applications for Primary Care. Recent advances in genomics are revolutionizing biomedical sciences and providing great promise for the future of clinical practice. The magnitude, scope and pace of discovery in genetics and genomic research are at unprecedented levels and continue to increase exponentially.

The care of patients seen in ambulatory care settings will increasingly depend upon an improved understanding of these advances in genetics and genomics in dealing with specific diseases. The role of internists in patient counseling and genetic testing will become an important daily function of primary care physicians in the 21st century practice of internal medicine. (Fontanarosa, Avard and Knoppers)

There will be talks on breast cancer, colon cancer, celiac sprue, asthma, and cystic fibrosis. We will also bring back the very popular and practical workshops on dermatology and joint injections. And in response to many requests, **Dr. Arthur Lurvey** will present a session on medical billing and coding. In addition, we will hear from **Bob Doherty** from the ACP Washington office, and **Tom Riley**, our lobbyist in Sacramento, who will tell us about health care issues in California.

On Friday, **Dr. Steve Roey** will conduct a leadership program for those interested in developing leadership skills and, of course, there will be the usual SEP offerings for those planning to take the recertification examination in internal medicine.

For our guests who are not participating in the educational programs, we have set up docent-led tours on Saturday morning at the Capitol (maximum 25 people) and the California railroad museum. There is no charge for the Capitol tour (limited to 25 people); there is a \$10 charge for the railroad museum. Transportation will not be provided.

The program follows. You'll receive the brochure in the mail in August, but you can check the ACP website for up-to-date information and registration. We are pleased to offer the meeting again at no charge to Northern California Chapter members.

Watch your mail for the meeting brochure and registration information. This year, again, we're able to offer quality educational programs to our members with no registration fees. Please plan to join us at the Radisson Hotel in Sacramento, November 20-22.

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA CHAPTER ACP 2009 PRELIMINARY PROGRAM

PRE-COURSE FOR MAINTENANCE OF CERTIFICATION-MODULE 1, 2, 3 – TO BE ANNOUNCED

FRIDAY, NOV 20

7 AM REGISTRATION/BREAKFAST

8 AM- noon SEP for Maintenance of Certification

8-5 Chief Residents Leadership Training
Kelley Skeff, MD, MACP

NOON Buffet Lunch

1.30 – 5:30 SEP for Maintenance of Certification

1:30-5:30 Leadership Seminar with Dr. Steve Roey (advance registration required)

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 21

7 AM **REGISTRATION/BREAKFAST/Meet committee chairs**

8 – 8:45 AM **KEYNOTE ADDRESS: GENOMICS AND MEDICINE**

Bruce Korf, MD
University of Alabama Medical School

8:45 – 9:15 AM **GENETICS AND BREAST CANCER**

Helen Chew, MD FACP
UC Davis Medical School

9:15 – 9:45 AM **GENETICS AND PULMONARY DISEASE**

Nicholas Kenyon, MD
UC Davis Medical School

9:45 – 10:15 AM **GENETICS AND GASTROENTEROLOGY (COLON CANCER and CELIAC SPRUE)**

Michael Lawson, MD

10:15 – 11 AM **BREAK/visit exhibits**

11 – Noon **PANEL DISCUSSION. ETHICAL AND SOCIETAL IMPLICATIONS OF THE IMPACT OF GENOMICS IN MEDICINE**

Discussants:

Helen Chew, MD FACP

Faith Fitzgerald, MD MACP

Nick Kenyon, MD

Bruce Korf, MD

Michael Lawson, MD

12:15 PM **AWARDS LUNCHEON**

TOWN HALL MEETING/COLLEGE REPRESENTATIVE/C-6 MEETING:

Robert Gluckman, MD, FACP, Board of Regents, Oregon Chapter

Robert Doherty Susan Sprau, MD, FACP, President, All California Chapter

2 PM **POSTER SESSION/JUDGING**

3.30PM **RESIDENTS - MEDICAL JEOPARDY**

6-8 PM **RECEPTION/CULTURAL ACTIVITIES/ENTERTAINMENT**
EXHIBITORS RAFFLE RESULTS ANNOUNCEMENT

SUNDAY NOVEMBER 22

7 AM REGISTRATION/BREAKFAST

8 AM CONCURRENT SESSIONS: DERMATOLOGY FOR THE INTERNIST

Julieta Gabiola, MD, FACP

ATHROCENTESIS/JOINT INJECTIONS

Joseph Melendres, MD

PRACTICE MANAGEMENT: CODING FOR SUCCESS

Arthur Lurvey, MD, FACP

9.30 – 10 AM BREAK

10 AM LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

*Susan Sprau, MD, FACP, President, All California Chapter
State: Tom Riley*

11 – 12:30 CONCURRENT SESSIONS (REPEATED)

12.30 PM ADJOURNMENT

**Visit the Chapter Website at
www.acponline.org/about_acp/chapters/ca**