



Governor's Message

This spring has been a busy, exciting and challenging time for ACP and for our Iowa Chapter. The focus this spring has been on health care reform and your ACP has been very influential in shaping legislation introduced in the House by **Representative Allyson**

Schwartz (D-PA), H.R. 2350, Preserving Patient Access to Primary Care Act. This bill includes most of ACP's top priorities for health care reform and it has received backing from the Board of Regents and intense lobbying on the part of ACP members during Leadership Day on Capitol Hill May 20. Our delegation met with senior staff in **Senator Grassley's** office; as the ranking member of the Senate Finance Committee **Senator Grassley** will play a key role in writing health care reform legislation. ACP executive vice-president **John Tooker** was invited to the special White House forum on health care reform in May; ACP was the only physician organization invited to participate. ACP's influence is strong and can get stronger with your support. It is easy to follow current developments on the ACP advocacy website (acponline.org/advocacy) and sign up for the Advocacy Newsletter (see below). You will enjoy the interactive blog by ACP Senior Vice-President for Government Affairs and Public Policy at TheACPAdvocateblog@acponline.org.

The Iowa delegation for Leadership Day was led by **Mark Purtle** (Des Moines) and **Peter Reiter** (Ottumwa) and included **Chris Dyer** (Davenport), **Steve Joyce** (Sioux City), associate **Sadia Ashraf-Benson** (Des Moines), student members **Jon Van Der Veer** (Des Moines University) and **Austin Baeth** (University of Iowa), and myself. .

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*Iowa Chapter Delegation
 Mark Purtle, Jon Van Der Veer,
 Sadia Ashraf-Benson, Christopher
 Dyer, Richard LeBlond, Peter Reiter,
 Steven Joyce, Austin Baeth*

We met with the legislative staffs of all five Congressmen and both Senators. Everyone is interested in promoting health care reform, especially options for increasing incentives for primary care. The challenge is finding the money and the political will to make substantive changes. Your Senators and Congressman need to hear your opinions as well as ours. Since both houses of Congress plan to present legislation before the August recess, it is important that hear from you now



Iowa Delegation on front of capitol building

The other issue affecting both the national ACP and our Chapter is the current economic crisis. ACP has found it necessary to trim its budget by over \$4 million which has required curtailing some programs, rethinking our top priorities and, unfortunately, laying off staff at the Philadelphia headquarters. The Board of Governors is looking at substantial changes to the way we do business in order to make us more efficient and to decrease the expense of the twice yearly meetings. The Iowa

Chapter continues in good financial condition. The finance committee will meet this summer to review our budget, discuss chapter dues and meeting registration fees and project our finances for the next couple of years. Our goal is to use your chapter dues to best advantage in support of Iowa internal medicine physicians, residents in our two training programs and especially students with interest in internal medicine.

We had another excellent Chapter Scientific Meeting in Iowa City March 27 and 28. The scientific sessions introduced an interactive audience participation tool that helped to get the audience participating in the presentation. We will plan more extensive use of this tool next year. The meeting was well attended by Members, Associates and Students. The Friday afternoon reception honored our 2009 Laureate Award winners **Barbara Muller, MD, FACP** of Cedar Rapids and **Mark Purtle, MD, FACP** from Des Moines. The Chapter Excellence Award was given to **Robert A. Sedlacek, MD, FACP** of Cedar Rapids.



Laureate Award winner Barbara Muller and Governor LeBlond



Laureate Award winner Mark Purtle and Governor LeBlond



Chapter Excellence Award Winner Robert Sedlacek and Governor LeBlond

The Chapter welcomed six new fellows this spring: **Kenneth Adams** (Fort Dodge), **Frank Ado** (Sioux City), **Steven Hallberg** (Ames), **Emmanuel Sarpong** (Clarinda), **Joe Szot** (Iowa City), and **Jeanne Smith** (Iowa City) who at age 92 is likely our most senior member to attain fellowship. Dr. Smith was a faculty member, leading educator and advocate for women in medicine for more than 50 years. We are pleased to have had this opportunity to recognize her. The Chapter additionally welcomes three new fellows this summer: **Mark Belz**, (Des Moines), **Christopher Dyer** (Davenport), and **Devendra Wadwekar** (West Des Moines).

Now it's your turn. Promotion to fellowship is an honor and there are several pathways that make the process more expeditious than in the past. Go to <http://www.acponline.org/membership/join/fellowship/> and review the criteria and the application process. Many of our members—recognized leaders in their medical communities—already meet the criteria and only need apply. Dr. Sarpong and I marched at Convocation this year where he was recognized as FACP. I would like to march next year in Toronto with a large class of fellow Iowans.

I welcome your feedback and suggestions for improving our chapter and getting more of the 500+ internists—generalist and subspecialist—who are not members to consider joining us in support of our patients, students and associates training to be internists, and all of us in practice.

At this time of unprecedented change in our health care system, membership and participation are more important than ever. We need to help plan the future for our patients and our profession or someone else will do it for us.

ASSOCIATE CLINICAL VIGNETTE COMPETITIONS

In February, Clinical Vignette Competitions were held in the Bean Conference Room at the Carver College of Medicine in Iowa City and in Thompson Auditorium at Iowa Methodist Medical Center in Des Moines. First and second place winners from each residency program were invited to present their vignettes at the Iowa Chapter Scientific Meeting in March. First place winners were: **Katherine Burns**, DO, Des Moines and **Oussama Lawand**, MD, Iowa City. Second place winners were: **Ravinder Kumar**, MD, Des Moines, and **Hakimi Shinkai**, MD, Iowa City. Additionally, **Ravinder Kumar**, MD, and **Paden Hendrickson**, MD, both of Des Moines, were selected by the ACP Abstract Review Board as National Poster Finalists to present their abstracts at the Internal Medicine 2009 National Meeting in Philadelphia on April 23-25.

COUNCIL OF YOUNG PHYSICIANS

Last spring a Council of Young Physicians was formed by appointment of the Governor. The first of its kind in Iowa, it was formed to increase involvement of younger physicians in Iowa within the larger purposes of ACP and to revitalize the image of internal medicine practice in all of its forms to practicing physicians, residents, and medical students.

Founding members include:

Chris Dyer, Chair, internist and nephrologist from Davenport

Christie Reimer, hospitalist, Internal Medicine, Carver College of Medicine, Iowa City

Steven Joyce, internist and pediatrician, Sioux City

Sadia Sait, internist, Ottumwa

Tyler Schwiesow, hospitalist, Des Moines

Brenda Buikema, hospitalist, Iowa City

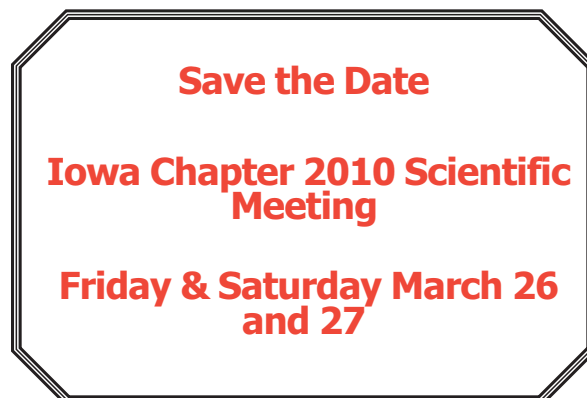
The Council coordinates small meetings around Iowa with general and subspecialty internists discussing interesting cases, reviewing ACP resources and activities, and sharing professional collegiality. Two "On-the-Road" Meetings, the first in Davenport on October 25, 2008 and the second in Ottumwa on January 22, 2009 were enthusiastically received. **Chris Dyer** stated that "the talks were engaging, discussion lively, and everyone commented that they learned something. It's very encouraging to all to see other internist at work, particularly other subspecialty internists getting out beyond their respective organs". Membership to this group is growing and welcome. The group also gets together in the evening during the annual Chapter Scientific Meeting. Please contact **Christopher Dyer, MD**, with questions, medicsinger@hotmail.com.

PARTICIPATE IN ACP'S RECRUIT-A-COLLEAGUE PROGRAM!

The American College of Physicians and the Iowa Chapter encourages its members to help strengthen the voice of internal medicine by recommending ACP Membership to colleagues. By becoming ACP Members, your colleagues will enrich their clinical knowledge and skills and have access to the wide variety of professional assistance that you enjoy as part of your membership.

To thank you for your dedication to our organization, ACP offers dues incentives to members that recruit new members through the Recruit-a-Colleague program. In addition, successful recruiters have the chance to win a trip to the annual Internal Medicine meeting that includes registration, airfare (up to \$500), and hotel accommodations.

To learn more about the Recruit-a-Colleague program, please visit <http://www.acponline.org/recruitacolleague>.



TIME SAVING TOOL IS NEW ACP MEMBER BENEFIT IN THE CLINIC SLIDE SETS

In the Clinic slide sets are an educational tool to accompany Annals of Internal Medicine's In the Clinic feature. In the Clinic provides practical, evidence-based overviews of common clinical conditions. It also offers evidence-based answers to frequently asked questions about screening, prevention, diagnosis, therapy, and patient education and provides physicians with tools to improve the quality of care.

Each slide set contains about 25 slides that summarize the content of the related In the Clinic issue. Readers can use the slide sets for personal education or to facilitate teaching clinical topics to others. The slide set can be used in an upcoming presentation, as presented or customized by integrating personal slides to expand or contract your presentation as warranted. Use of In the Clinic slides will provide you with a valuable time-saving tool for use whenever or wherever needed.

Slide sets will be free to ACP members and in the near future will also be available to paid individual subscribers. Slides will soon be available for the following topics: Smoking Cessation, Type 2 Diabetes, Peripheral Arterial Disease, Insomnia, Low Back Pain.

In the Clinic slide sets can be viewed from annals.org (www.annals.org/annalsslidesets/).

Help Recruit Medical Students and Residents for ACP Membership!

ACP is currently in the midst of two major recruitment programs, one for medical students and one for Associates. The Internal Medicine Interest Group Sponsorship Program (IMIG) and the Recruit-a-Resident Program reward medical schools and residency programs that recruit their students and residents to become ACP members.

Medical schools that participate in the IMIG Sponsorship Program will receive funding from ACP to use toward their club activities. Participating schools will receive \$300 in funding in September, and have the opportunity to earn additional funding based on their ACP membership numbers as of December 31. At the close of the program, schools with less than 30% ACP student member participation receive an additional \$1 per student member. Schools with 30% or greater participation will receive \$2 per student member. Total sponsorship for an individual IMIG cannot exceed \$1,000 (including the \$300 initial funding.) To participate in the program, eligible schools must complete the online application located at <http://www.acponline.org/imig>, by August 1, 2009.

The Recruit-a-Resident (RaR) Program rewards residency programs that recruit 90% or more of their categorical residents for Associate membership. All of the Associates must be members in good standing. Residency programs that reach the 90% goal by December 31, 2009 will receive free educational products from the College. This year's rewards include, 2009 MKSAP® Update for Residents, an interactive product featuring more than 100 multiple-choice questions from MKSAP 14 Self-Assessment Updates. The program will test your knowledge of recent changes and best practices in internal medicine. In addition, each resident will receive handouts from Internal Medicine 2009, which include content from the meeting sessions. For details about the Recruit-a-Resident program, please visit http://www.acponline.org/residents_fellows/resources/recruit_a_resident/.

We would sincerely appreciate your help in encouraging the schools and programs in your chapter to participate in these programs.

If you have any questions or would like additional information, please contact **Katie Buell**, Coordinator, Membership Programs and Services at kbuell@acponline.org or by calling 800-523-1546 ext. 2611.

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



Edited by the College's Washington, DC Governmental Affairs Division, the ACP Advocate is a bi-weekly, e-newsletter created to provide ACP members with news about public policy issues affecting internal medicine and patient care. Here are highlights from some recent issues:

Latest on Health Care Reform, New ACP Policies on Primary Care (May 1, 2009)

In this issue:

Budget Compromise Allocates Money to Avert Near-Term Physician Payment Cuts; ACP Proposes Primary Care and Payment Reforms; Senate Finance Committee Roundtable Discusses Primary Care; ACP Calls for Routine HIV testing

Opportunities for Physicians Available Through Economic Stimulus (April 17, 2009)

In this issue:

Requirements for Stimulus Funding Remain Uncertain; Stimulus Aids Health Professions Training Programs; Financial Incentives Ignite Healthy Behaviors

Health Reform Dialogue and What ACP Has Been Up to in Washington, (April 3, 2009)

In this issue:

Health Care Stakeholders Identify Common Ground; ACP Member to Lead Health IT; ACP President Outlines Health Reform Priorities; Two courses at Internal Medicine 2009 to Feature Distinguished Policy Experts

KEY CONTACT PROGRAM

ACP's continued success on Capitol Hill greatly depends upon year-round grassroots support from the College's over 5,000 Key Contacts. Key Contacts communicate with their members of Congress on issues of importance to medical students, internists and their patients, and report the results back to ACP.

To enroll as a Key Contact, ACP members are not required to have existing relationships with their members of Congress. ACP gives them the tools necessary to develop and maintain relationships. The program is open to all membership categories.

Enroll in the Key Contact Program\

http://www.acponline.org/advocacy/key_contacts/enroll/