November 21, 2014

Dear Downstate Illinois ACP Members,

As Thanksgiving quickly approaches, here are some exciting Fall updates:

**IL ACP State Scientific Meeting**
We enjoyed a fabulous statewide meeting in Champaign on Friday and Saturday, November 7 & 8. The morning kicked off early with a mentoring breakfast attended by Early Career Physicians including Naveed Adoni, MD, Harneet Bath, MD, FACP, Angela Bell, MD, FACP, Omar Khokar, MD, and Saad Muhammad, MD, together with many medical students. The opening plenary session, given by Cynthia (Daisy) Smith, MD, FACP, the national ACP Senior Educator leading the ACP’s High Value Care initiative, was next, followed by multiple other excellent speakers including Naveed Adoni, MD, Abraham Kocheril, MD, FACP, Janak Koirala, MD, FACP, James Kumar, MD, FACP, and Srinivasan Sattiraju, MD. At the Town Hall, Marie Brown, MD, FACP, IL Northern ACP Governor, Jack Ende, MD, MACP & ACP Regent, and I, addressed members’ questions, which was followed by an inspiring talk by Dr. Ende on the Characteristics of Effective Clinical Teachers. Afternoon breakout sessions were well attended, as were the ever-popular Clinical Vignettes and Doctors Dilemma competitions. Saturday’s Maintenance of Certification SEP modules provided more opportunities for learning and earning MOC credit. Additional participating faculty included Andy Arwari, MD, FACP, Jennifer Bussell, MD, FACP, Robert Cranston, MD, Jacqueline Fischer, MD, FACP, LaMar Hasbrouck, MD (Illinois Director of Public Health), Nikhil Kalva, MD, Kirk Moberg, MD, PhD, FACP, Carlotta Rinke, MD, FACP, Gary Rull, MD, FACP, Kevin Smith, MD, FACP, Omar Vargas, MD, FACP, and Karen White, MD. Special thanks and kudos to Larry Jennings, MD, FACP, Program Chair, and host for the Doctors Dilemma.

**IL Downstate ACP Member Award Winners**
We are most pleased to announce the 2014 recipient of our Chapter’s Laureate Award: Jacqueline Fischer, MD, FACP, University of Illinois College of Medicine—Peoria. She embodies the spirit of the Laureate Award: she has rendered distinguished service to her ACP chapter and community, and has upheld the high ideals and professional standards for which the ACP is known. Also, new this year is our Volunteerism and Community Service Award, which was awarded to Edem Agamah, MD, FACP, at SIU, for his international work in Ghana and with the SIU medical students. Congratulations to both Dr. Fischer and Dr. Agamah!
**IL Downstate Student and Resident Awards**

Our students and residents continue to impress and inspire all of us, as we saw at the Poster Competition on November 6, and the Oral Clinical Vignette and Doctor’s Dilemma Competitions on Nov. 7.

**Resident Poster award winners:**
- **Clinical:** First place: Moni Roy, MD—UICOMP. Second place: Miranda Edwards, MD—UICOMP. Third place tie: Ahmed Zohair, MD—UICOMP, and Sanna Nfn, MD—UIUC
- **Research:** First place: Manjusha Das, MD—SIU. Second place: Karthik Ragunathan, MD—UICOMP. Third place: Junzhi Lin, MD, SIU.

**Student Poster Winner:** Brian Lee—UICOMP

**Resident Oral Clinical Vignette Winner:** Furqan Rajput, MD—UIUC

**Doctor’s Dilemma Winning Team:** Urbana, Indrajeet Mahata, MD, Furqan Rajput, MD, Ravi Kodali, MD

**Outstanding Students:** Gregory Olson, Peoria; Christian McNeely, SIU; Michael Kuhlenschmidt, Urbana

**Outstanding Residents:** Emily Horvath, MD, Peoria; Dilini Reyhart, MD, Peoria, Med-Peds; Schulyer Stone, MD, SIU; Indrajeet Mahata, MD, Urbana. Congratulations to all! You are the future!

**Special Acknowledgements**

As you can imagine, the events above required a lot of planning, teamwork, and volunteers. Special thanks goes to our Faculty Judges. We also thank our Chief Residents at Peoria and SIU, Drs. Nasim Wiegley, MD, and Watcoun-Nchinda Pisoh, MD, and multiple Urbana residents including Preeshini Fernando, MD, Bismah Irfan, MD, Nova John, MD, Divya Raghavan, MD, Krishan Kartia, MD, and Karthik Ragunathan, MD, amongst many others. Thanks to students Adrienne Barry, PhD, Katie Lowry, Michael Kuhlenschmidt, Freddy Nguyen, and Carolina Soto, PhD. And none of this could have happened without Brenda Deaville, Tracey Johnson, and Lori Osterbur from Urbana, and Colleen Keeku, ACP IL Project Coordinator, and Donna Seawards, our Chapter’s Executive Director. Thank you team!

**Strategic Planning Retreat**

The leadership of your ACP Illinois Chapter is planning a Strategic Planning Retreat for late January 2015. If you have issues or questions you would like your chapter to explore at this retreat, please let me know. Tentative agenda items thus far include how to best meet the needs of our members, including early career internists, maintenance of certification needs, and advocacy related activities. Thank you!

**Webinars**

Your Downstate Illinois Chapter has some excellent webinars planned for you, as a benefit of your ACP membership. Watch for updates!

**Advancing to ACP Fellowship**

Now is a great time to advance to ACP Fellowship, and march at Convocation at Internal Medicine 2015 in Boston—click [here](#) for more information. Application materials must be in by December 31, do not delay!
Save the Dates!
Every Tuesday, 8:00 pm, MKSAP Live Online Study Hall, for recertifying Illinois ACP members; see here for more information.

Internal Medicine 2015 Boston, Centennial Meeting, April 30-May 2, see here for more info.
ACP IL 2015 Chapter Meeting, November 13-14, 2015, University Club, Chicago

Thank you, and best wishes for a wonderful Thanksgiving.

Warm regards,
Janet

Janet A. Jokela, MD, MPH, FACP
Governor, Illinois Chapter Downstate Region
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