

Michigan Chapter GOVERNOR'S NEWSLETTER

ACP
AMERICAN COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS
INTERNAL MEDICINE | *Doctors for Adults*

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Ernie L. Yoder, MD, PhD, FACP
Governor, Michigan Chapter



FROM THE GOVERNOR'S CORNER

Happy New Year! I hope everyone enjoyed healthy and happy holidays. Our Scientific Program and Governors Advisory Committees have been hard at work reviewing input obtained at the 2003 Fall Meeting and planning for the May 7, 2004 Associates Meeting and the September 2004 Scientific Meeting in Traverse City.

The ACP Board of Governors (BOG) continues to establish national and chapter goals and to take action on key issues. BOG resolutions sent to the Board of Regents address quality of care, prevention and health improvement (Periodic Health Examinations, Chronic Disease Awareness, Obesity Treatment, Addiction Warnings on Tobacco Packaging, Support for the WHO Convention on Tobacco Control), improving communication (Electronic Communication, Member Input for Policy Priorities), promotion of continued professional development, facilitating advancement to fellowship (Application Reform), patient safety (Firearms in Health Care Facilities), and advocacy (Unified Voice for Internal Medicine and Subspecialties, Publicizing Priority Legislative Issues, Tort Reform/Malpractice Insurance Reform, and Establishment of a Political Action Committee).

2004 Goals for the Michigan Chapter include development of programs to encourage Quality Improvement activities in our hospitals and residency programs, promotion of Evidence Based Practice, growth in chapter membership, facilitation of Associate Advancement to Membership and Member Advancement to Fellowship, greater participation in advocacy efforts, increased involvement of subspecialists in Chapter and Scientific Meeting activities, increased participation of medical school faculty in Chapter and Scientific Meeting activities, and achieving Michigan Chapter recognition through Evergreen and Chapter Excellence Awards. The council also seeks to increase involvement of longstanding fellows at the Annual Meeting. All members who have been fellows for 25 or more years will be invited to attend and to receive recognition during the 2004 Annual Scientific Meeting.

The Michigan Governors Advisory Council has established criteria and standards for judging Quality Improvement and Evidence-Based Practice projects, and has established these as two new categories for abstract submission to the Annual Michigan Associates Meeting. If this activity is successful, the Quality and Evidence categories will be retained for the Annual Scientific Meeting. The Council hopes to be able to document increased resident participation in these activities and to focus more meeting activities on quality and patient safety endeavors.

SAVE THE DATE

2004 ACP Annual Session, April 22-24, New Orleans, LA

2004 Michigan ACP Associates Meeting, May 7, 2004

2004 Michigan ACP Annual Scientific Meeting, September 16-19

LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD



Park Willis, MD, MACP

On 9/18/03, the Michigan Chapter of the American College of Physicians awarded its first Lifetime Achievement Award to Dr. Park Willis. Dr. Willis is recognized throughout Michigan as a knowledgeable, well-rounded cardiologist who was a teacher and mentor for several generations of Michigan Internists. His dedication to the ACP has been remarkable as an active member, Fellow, Chapter Governor, and Master of the College. Absolute honesty is a fundamental characteristic of his research and professional relationships. Dr. Willis also served his country well, and is a veteran of the Korean War, achieving the rank of Rear Admiral in the U.S. Navy. Dr. Willis is a remarkable human being and we are all proud to have called him a friend and colleague. Dr. Jan Rival, past Michigan Governor, has proposed creation of the “Dr. Park Willis Lifetime Achievement Award” along with an endowed, annual lectureship to be delivered at the Annual Michigan Scientific Meeting.

CONGRATULATIONS TO LAUREATE AWARDEES



**2003 Laureates: John R. Ebright, Hugh Gunner Deery II,
Paul D. Stein, Michael H. Zaroukian**

CONGRATULATIONS NEW FELLOWS

Elected in July 2003

Yehia I. Elsafy - Port Huron
Muhammad Y. Karim - Farmington Hills
Irene S. Kazmers - Birmingham
Jerome E. Seid - Grosse Pointe Woods
Gregorio U. Tan - Kalamazoo

CONGRATULATIONS ASSOCIATE ABSTRACT COMPETITION WINNERS

Congratulations to Robert Pensler, MD, Henry Ford Hospital (Clinical Vignette) and Daryl Hutchinson, MD, St. John Hospital (Research) for their winning presentations at the 2003 Annual Scientific Meeting.

ANNUAL SESSION, APRIL 22-24, 2004 NEW ORLEANS

Make the most of the Annual Session and your visit to New Orleans. In addition to the Scientific Sessions, arrive early to take advantage of the Pre-Session Course offered April 20-21. Then take some time to enjoy the city and the incredible variety of activities available.



More than 260 sessions provide comprehensive coverage of Internal Medicine, the subspecialties, and issues in practice management and health policy. Whatever your learning style or educational interest, the Scientific Program offers something for you.

- Refresh your clinical skills
- Apply what you learn to your practice
- Network with peers and leading experts

After a hard day of work and learning, take some time to explore the city. Enjoy the jazz-influenced music - the heartbeat of New Orleans - as well as its world famous food and hospitality. New Orleans also offers French and Spanish influenced architecture and many museums and art galleries.

Don't miss out! Begin your plans now for Annual Session 2004. This is a trip you will not want to miss.

ACP PROMOTES NEW PATIENT INFORMATION WEB SITE

MEDLINEplus is a joint project of the ACP Foundation and the National Library of Medicine (NLM). Entitled "Health Information Referral Project," the NLM and the ACP seek to promote consumer usage of MEDLINEplus by encouraging physicians to refer their patients to the site where reliable health care information resides.

In March 2003 the Iowa and Georgia Chapters commenced the first pilot program to increase physician awareness of MEDLINEplus. Participating College Members were provided with:

- Posters for examination room walls
- Bookmarks for waiting rooms
- Customized Information Prescription pads
- Health records cards

Evaluative data thus far gathered include pre- and post-surveys, patient focus groups, and telephone interviews, and indicate patients view MEDLINEplus as a user-friendly resource. The ten most requested topics are cholesterol, high blood pressure, diabetes, nutrition, exercise, Alzheimer's disease, osteoporosis, arthritis, cancer, and coronary disease. Topics are presented in plain English, with availability of a Spanish version. Please review these materials at:

www.MEDLINEplus.gov

ACP RESOLUTIONS

The ACP Resolution Process provides the opportunity for individual members and chapters to influence the policies and direction of the College. At the Fall 2003 ACP Board of Governors Meeting held in Traverse City, Michigan, 21 resolutions were approved and sent on to the ACP Board of Regents for approval and action. A complete list of BOG resolutions may be viewed on the ACP website, but selected resolutions are listed below.

Resolution 3-F03: Facilitating Electronic Communications

RESOLVED, that the Board of Regents support the development of web-based programs, including a web-based version of Governors Office Software (GOS), that will facilitate the collection and dissemination of information and ease the workload of Governors in managing their chapters; and be it further
RESOLVED, that the Board of Regents makes the collection and maintenance of member e-mail addresses a priority when allocating College resources.

Resolution 11-F03, Chronic Disease Awareness

RESOLVED, that the Board of Regents work through its Chapters, Committees, and Councils to promote the message that control of chronic illness must be a top priority for policy makers; and be it further
RESOLVED, that the Board of Regents identify selected chronic diseases for which its resources and energies may be devoted in working with other professional and public entities in implementing interventions to retard the progression of established diseases.

Resolution 15-F03, Firearms in Health Care Facilities

RESOLVED, that the Board of Regents adopt the position that health care facilities should create a safe environment for medical professionals, visitors, patients, and employees; and be it further
RESOLVED, that the Board of Regents advocate for legislation that makes it illegal to carry firearms into any health care facility, other than security and law enforcement personnel.

Resolution 16-F03, Publicizing Priority Legislative Issues

RESOLVED, that the Board of Regents make a concerted effort to publicize its priority legislative issues in concert with subsequent Leadership Day programs; and be it further
RESOLVED, that the Board of Regents emphasize the public benefit of these priority legislative issues.

Resolution 17-F03, Member Input for Policy Priorities

RESOLVED, that the Board of Regents, when formulating policy priorities, consult the ACP membership, through its chapters and governors, in the interest of a mutual exchange of viewpoints.

Resolution 22-F03, Cigarette Packages to Carry Prominent Addiction Warning

RESOLVED, that the Board of Regents encourage the passage of legislation requiring that cigarette packages carry labels that warn of nicotine addiction in addition to existing health warnings; and be it further
RESOLVED, that the Board of Regents recommend that the label occupy 50% of the package surface in order to be easily noticed by consumers.

Resolution 23-F-03,

Support for the WHO Global Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (FCTC)

RESOLVED, that the board of Regents lobby for the US Government to join and support the Global Framework Convention on Tobacco Control, (FCTC), as developed by the World Health Organization; and be it further
RESOLVED, that the Board of Regents encourage the international ACP Governors to lobby their countries' governments to join and support the FCTC, as developed by the WHO.

Resolution 27-F03, Establishment of a Political Action Committee

RESOLVED, that the Board of Regents recommend that ACP Services, Inc. establish a Political Action Committee (PAC) that is financially independent of ACP, as required by law; and be it further
RESOLVED, that the Board of Regents recommend that the PAC agenda be consistent with the mission and goals of the ACP.

VOLUNTEER TO BE A KEY CONTACT

ACP depends on its 2,000 Key Congressional Contacts to communicate with their members of Congress on issues of importance to internists and their patients, and report back to ACP. Key Contacts do not necessarily have established relationships with their members of Congress. ACP gives them the tools necessary to develop and maintain such relationships.

As key issues approach the decision-making stage on Capitol Hill, the College sends out Legislative Alerts to Key Contacts, which include all of the necessary information to make informative contacts with members of Congress. ACP staff is always available to provide support and answer legislative questions.

Key Contacts report their contacts to the College by mailing or faxing a copy of their correspondence to the Key Contact Program, or speaking with the Associate for Grassroots Advocacy, or copying the Associate for Grassroots Advocacy on E-mails sent to members of Congress.

Key Contacts receive a periodic newsletter, the Capitol Key, updating them on important legislative issues. They can access more information on key issues on the ACP website. The College implemented the Key Contact Awards Program to recognize the hard work of members who go above and beyond the call of duty to contact their members of Congress. Each year, ACP selects a Key Contact of the Year and a Top Ten Key Contact Special Recognition Winners based on the quality and quantity of responses to Legislative Alerts.

ACP continually recruits new Key Contacts, especially where gaps exist in the program and a key member of Congress is not matched with a Key Contact. When joining the program, Key Contacts are asked to complete a survey that helps the College match them with their members of Congress and identify any special relationships they may have.

For more information on the ACP Key Contact Program, please contact: **Kathy Heabel** at **800-338-2746, x4532**, or by email at **kheabel@acponline.org**.

PATHWAYS FOR ADVANCEMENT TO FELLOWSHIP

ACP Members may advance to fellowship through one of four pathways.

1. **EMPHASIS ON WRITTEN MEDICAL COMMUNICATION**
 - a. Peer-reviewed journal publications (at least 2 after training is completed)
 - b. Combined with teaching, committee work, community service
 - c. CME activities as participant and teacher
2. **EMPHASIS ON SIGNIFICANT AND CONTINUING CERTIFICATION ACTIVITY AND TEACHING**
 - a. Re-certification
 - b. Subspecialty certification
 - c. MKSAP for score
 - d. Certificates of special competency
3. **EMPHASIS ON ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP IN THE ACP, ASIM, OR THE MERGED ORGANIZATION**
 - a. Usually 10 years participation
 - b. Substantial participation at the chapter or national level
 - c. May require fewer years in combination with pathways 1 and/or 2
4. **EMPHASIS ON DISTINGUISHED PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITY IN TEACHING, PATIENT CARE, OR PROFESSIONAL SERVICE OVER MANY YEARS**
 - a. Senior practitioners who have not been active in ACP or ASIM
 - b. Have gained prominence and respect for contributions to medicine in their communities
 - c. Contributions to education and scholarly work are highly valued

LEADERSHIP DAY 2003

If you are available to come to Washington for ACP Leadership Day, May 18-19, 2004, Dr. Joe Weiss, Chairperson of the Chapter Health and Public Policy Committee urges you to participate. "You will accomplish more than contributing to the ACP. Nothing compares to the energy and awareness you feel when you are not only reading about the American democratic process, but also serving as a participant."

Please contact the Chapter Office for further information. Phone: **(248) 849-4923; (800) 247-2485**; or by e-mail: **jdimarco@providence-hospital.org**.

NEW ACP WEB SITE IDENTIFIES EMERGING HEALTH CARE ISSUES

ACP members now have access to a web site that identifies emerging health care issues and anticipates trends over the next few years.

THE ACP Environment Assessment (EA) project identifies trends in the health care environment that are important to internal medicine and the College. The EA Web Site describes and documents important issues for consideration in the annual ACP strategic planning process. The web site also serves as an up-to-date information resource for ongoing medical/health issues and topics relevant to internal medicine.

The EA is formatted as a series of predictive statements accompanied by citations of evidence upon which the statements are based. Statements identify and describe important issues and predict the likely course of events in areas such as care delivery, the insurance industry, biomedical research, graduate and continuing medical education, technology in medical practice, physician workforce, a variety of professional and practice issues, public health, and the demography of the U.S. patient population. The project is updated annually.

View the ACP Environmental Assessment online at [**http://ea.acponline.org**](http://ea.acponline.org).