

Michigan Chapter GOVERNOR'S NEWSLETTER

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

Spring 2006

Ruth B. Hoppe, MD, FACP
Governor, Michigan Chapter

THE GOVERNOR'S CORNER

I am honored to have been selected as the next Governor of the Michigan Chapter of the ACP. Our Chapter has had many fine leaders over the years: just recall **Boy Frame, Ray Murray, Jan Rival, Park Willis, Ernie Yoder**, and as well, leaders from the now-merged Michigan Society of Internal Medicine: **Kathy Upton, Dick Wakulat, Remington Sprague**. I hope to prove worthy of the confidence you have expressed and as well, hope that the next four years can be one of continued growth of good things for the Chapter, and continued involvement of internists of all 'stripes'.



There is no dearth of issues for us to consider: continuation of our strong scientific and educational traditions, policy development on behalf of patients, proposed changes in internal medicine training, advocacy for practicing internists, increasing a performance orientation to competency determination and to practice, universal health care insurance, malpractice reform, and on and on. Amidst very busy professional and practice lives, we must save time for these wider issues, and especially for nurturing those who come behind: our Associate members and those medical students contemplating careers in internal medicine. These individuals are our future and we must seek new ways to involve them and support them in their nascent career interests. There is much to do and no Chapter Governor can do it alone: I will need your help and hope you will do all you can to make our Chapter one of the best. Let me hear from you!

I look forward to serving you and the Michigan Chapter in the months ahead and to meeting many of you at our upcoming meeting in Traverse City on September 21-24. The theme for the meeting is *"Building for the Future: A Michigan Chapter Responsive to Practice and Education."* Unfortunately, the scheduling of this meeting, set long ago, conflicts with the Jewish holiday, and I know that will prevent some of you from attending. For that I can only offer my sincere apologies and pledge that this will not happen again. For those of you who can attend, I hope you will enjoy the modified meeting format that is described elsewhere in this newsletter. Also, please let us know if you would be willing to serve as a Mentor for our medical student guests. We would like to match internists with students who have expressed particular interests. Send Marty Muth an email (muthm@msu.edu) expressing interest and describing your practice and any special focus you might have. See you in September!

THE 2006 MICHIGAN CHAPTER SCIENTIFIC MEETING: ATTENTION PRACTICING INTERNISTS

The early schedule for the 2006 meeting, set for September 21 -24, 2006 in Traverse City, has already come out. If you missed it, check it out at our chapter website (acponline.org/chapters/mi/). Although we run the largest chapter meeting in the country, we think we have room for improvement and this year's schedule reflects some changes.

Highlights include:

- Updates in Cardiology, Endocrinology, Nephrology and Hypertension, Rheumatology
- Meet the Professor and Professors-in-Action sessions
- Office Enhancements for the Practicing Internists

- Boy Frame, Park Willis and James Hall Lectures on the 2nd Genome Project, Electronic Health Records and Pay-For-Performance, respectively
- Preventing Malpractice Claims
- Town Hall Meeting with a report from ACP National
- SEP-Based Learning Session for Recertification hosted by Henry Ford Health Systems faculty

MEET YOUR NEW CHAPTER LEADERS

With the transition in Governors, the Michigan Chapter Office has moved to East Lansing on the campus of Michigan State University. **Ruth Hoppe, MD, FACP** is the new Governor, taking office in April, 2006, to serve through March, 2010. Marty Muth will serve as the new Chapter Assistant for this same period of time.



Ruth describes herself as a “de-differentiated hematologist” having functioned as a general internist for her entire career, following medical school at the University of Michigan and training at Wayne County General Hospital and the University of Maryland. “My first job was as a primary care residency program director, and that allowed me to see that I was a generalist at heart”. Most of her career has been at the College of Human Medicine at MSU where Ruth has served as Internal Medicine Residency Program Director, General Medicine Division Chief, Director of Clinical Skills Instruction, Associate Dean for Academic Programs, and Senior Associate Dean. A part-time practice as a general internist was a constant feature of Ruth’s other academic duties. In 2004 Ruth retired as Professor of Medicine, Emeritus, but soon thereafter was asked to plan and direct a new Learning and Assessment Center on the MSU campus. This work goes hand-in-hand with Ruth’s long association with the National Board of Medical Examiners (NBME), for whom she now serves as a consultant. The Assessment Center at MSU, which opened in March 2006, utilizes human and nonhuman simulations in service of formative and summative assessment of learners in the four health professions colleges at MSU (Human Medicine, Nursing, Osteopathic Medicine and Veterinary Medicine). “Educational accountability through assessment is here to stay. My associations with these other health professionals has re-emphasized for me how much in common we have, and how our products are enhanced by working together.”



Marty Muth has had longstanding connections with medical education and with internal medicine in particular. Marty began her career at Michigan State University in the Department of Medicine of the College of Human Medicine. She worked with many longstanding ACP members including Park Willis, Ray Murray and Ved Gossain. In 1996 Marty joined the Office of Academic Programs in the CHM and provided administrative support to Ruth Hoppe in her role as Senior Associate Dean. In 2004 she moved to the CHM dean's office, again providing administrative support to the dean. Marty just completed her 25th year at Michigan State and she is delighted to now be working for the American College of Physicians Michigan Chapter.

**The new Chapter Office address is
 A631 E. Fee Hall, Michigan State University,
 East Lansing, MI 48824
 Phone Local: 517-353-9548
 Toll Free 800-247-2485
 Fax: 517-353-9604
 Email: muthm@msu.edu**

OTHER CHAPTER LEADERS

Our bylaws call for presentation of a slate of Officers and Council Members by the Nominations/Bylaws Committee at least one month prior to the annual meeting. At our business meeting on September 24 we will vote on these nominations (additional candidates may be proposed from the floor). Along with this process, over the early summer, Dr. Hoppe will be reviewing the status of standing committee membership as well as status of District Representatives. By the end of September we intend to have the new Chapter leadership established. Pending this **Sean Kesterson, MD** and **Ben Diaczok, MD, FACP** agreed to serve as Program Chairs for the fall meeting.



**Ben Diaczok, MD, FACP and
Sean Kesterson, MD
2006 Scientific Program Co-Chairmen**

Chapter Standing Committees include the following:

Scientific Program Committee
Finance Committee
Health and Public Policy Committee
Program Directors - Community-Based Teaching Committee
Associates Council
Medical Student and Clerkship Directors Committee
Awards Committee
Committee on Public Relations and Communication

The Michigan Chapter needs your help and input. Please consider participating in Chapter committees. If you are interested in serving on a Chapter Standing Committee or running for District Representative, please contact **Marty Muth** at the Chapter office or **Ruth Hoppe** by email (hoppe@msu.edu).

OUR ASSOCIATES SHINE



**Ruth Hoppe and Rebecca
Daniels accepting award**

On May 5, 2006 William Beaumont Hospital hosted the Michigan Chapter's annual spring Associates Meeting, held at the Eli Broad MSU Conference Center in Troy Michigan. **Mike Barnes, MD, FACP**, Program Director and Chief Residents **Roxana Dronca, M.D.** and **Justin Trivax, M.D.** put in long hours of planning that paid off in one of the best Associates meetings in memory, attracting over 200 attendees. The highlight of the day were the 150 posters and oral presentations by residents from 11 programs. Winners in Case, Research, and Quality Improvement categories were selected. First place winners include: **Rebecca Daniel** (St. Joseph Ann Arbor), **Peter Burke** (Providence), **Abraham Vinu** (Oakwood), **Roja Ramisetty** (Providence), **Thomas Vanhecke** (Beaumont) and **Vikas Veeranna** (Sinai-Grace).

ACP Regent **Faith Fitzgerald, MD, MACP** was the luncheon keynote speaker who addressed the Future of Internal Medicine. **Dileep Kumar, MD, FACP** again organized Doctor's Dilemma competition and winning teams from William Beaumont Hospital, Providence Hospital, DMC/Wayne State and Sinai-Grace Hospital will move on to the finals to be held at the fall meeting in Traverse City on Thursday evening, September 21.



THANK YOU DR. BARNES, RESIDENT'S, FACULTY and PROGRAM DIRECTORS for your efforts in making this day a success. Next year's Associates Day will be hosted by Michigan State University on May 11, 2007.

- VISIT OUR CHAPTER WEBSITE -
<http://www.acponline.org/chapters/mi>

MICHIGAN CHAPTER REPRESENTATIVES GO TO WASHINGTON

On Tuesday and Wednesday, May 16-17, the ACP met in Washington D. C. for Leadership Day. 264 attendees from 42 states and the District of Columbia, including 46 Associates and 29 medical students, made the trip to articulate the College's advocacy agenda to legislators. **Agron Ismali, MD** and **Joseph Weiss, MD, FACP** represented the Michigan ACP in visits to Representatives **Peter Hoekstra** and **Sander Levin** and Senators **Debbie Stabenow** and **Carl Levin**. The themes for this year were: reforming the dysfunctional health care payment system, recognizing the value of primary care, introducing the Advanced Medical Home, and cautioning congress on its rush to embrace Pay for Performance. Dr. Weiss reports "These meetings were friendly but intense. The vision of the ACP is beyond what congressmen and their legislative assistants usually see. The Michigan delegation focused on preparing legislators for the bills coming tomorrow for implementing ACP's advocacy of today. Michigan ACP leaders can gain no better idea of how democracy works and ACP leadership functions than by participating in Leadership Day." I agree: next May the Michigan Chapter hopes to involve more of its leaders as well as some Associate members and medical students in participating in Leadership Day - it is not too early to start recruiting from our chapter membership for this important event. Please contact **Marty Muth** if you wish to attend.

ADVANCING ADVOCACY FOR ACP MICHIGAN: FORWARDING RESOLUTIONS TO THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS

Twice yearly at its fall and spring meetings, the ACP Board of Governors considers resolutions that have been forwarded from the various Chapters. It is through these resolutions that part of the advocacy agenda of the College is formulated. Examples can be found at the ACP website: http://www.acponline.org/governors/announcements/call_Fall06.

The Michigan Chapter has not had a process to formally propose such resolutions to the BOG. We are trying to change that by adding a business meeting to our annual meeting in September. Members, attending or not, are encouraged to submit resolutions to the Chapter Office in writing before the start of the meeting. These will be discussed at our business meeting in September and then forwarded to the Council for further discussion and ratification. Ratified resolutions will be forwarded on to the BOG. Please contact **Marty Muth** if you wish to propose a resolution. Your proposal should be succinct and contain sufficient background for us to understand the context. Ideally, you should be present to participate in discussion.

CONGRATULATIONS TO MICHIGAN'S NEW ACP FELLOWS!

Since January 2006, 14 members of the Michigan Chapter were recently elected to Fellowship in the ACP. These include: **John Frohna, Jacob Ninan, John Weisenreider, Brian Schroeder, William Herman, James Jeffries, Quresh Khairulla, Pratibha Modi, Scott Crader, Vijil Rahulan, Nitin Golechha, Steven Newman, Carl Hammerstrom, Jr., and Shiva Rau**. Fellowship in the College is an honor. It is a mark of esteem from colleagues who recognize accomplishments and achievements over and above the practice of medicine. These individuals have distinguished themselves and their institutions through their service to internal medicine and to the ACP. Congratulations all!

Advancement to fellowship is an important step for all ACP members. There are several pathways designed for the multitude of careers in internal medicine: practice, research, education. Most IM Program Directors are eligible for Fellowship simply by their position (five years on the faculty is the principle requirement). To obtain further information about advancement to Fellowship and to download an application form, please consult the Membership section of ACP website (www.acponline.org) or contact **Marty Muth** in the chapter office (muthm@msu.edu)

MICHIGAN'S ACP GOVERNORS HOLD TOWN MEETINGS



During the winter Drs. **Yoder** and **Hoppe** attended two town meetings. The first was sponsored by **Dileep Kumar**, MD, FACP in Port Huron. Twenty-eight attendees came by to meet the Governors, to hear a presentation on Pay for Performance by Dr. **Kumar**, to hear news about new programs at the ACP, and to provide feedback to Drs. **Hoppe and Yoder** on how to improve the Michigan Chapter. A smaller meeting was held in March in Lansing, sponsored by **Ved Gossain**, MD, FACP with a similar agenda.

Over the course of her governorship, Dr. Hoppe intends to continue the town meetings in those regions where there is interest. In this way she can meet internists in the region, and get valuable feedback about what is on the minds of internists in Michigan, and how to make the Chapter most responsive to practicing internists. If you are interested in hosting such an event, please contact **Marty Muth** in the Chapter Office or Dr. Hoppe directly (hoppe@msu.edu)

MICHIGAN CHAPTER MEMBERSHIP

There are 7380 internists in Michigan (MD and DO), of whom 3544 are ACP members (includes Associate Members). This creates a 'market penetration' figure of 48%, 14th highest among all the states. We have captured 77% of all PGY-1, 2 and 3 residents, 11th highest among the states. But, we have captured only 13% of the medical students in Michigan, ranking 44th among the states.

SUPPORTING YOUR CHAPTER THROUGH CHAPTER DUES

Chapter dues are the backbone of local activities and vital to the success of our chapter. While we are provided some financial support from the national office, the chapter dues collected provide the majority of financial support for local activities. Educational meetings, mentoring programs for medical students, local Associates' research competitions, advocacy with state legislators and participation by chapter leaders in Leadership Day on Capitol Hill are just some of the activities supported by your chapter dues. Your chapter dues help support the cost of local staff and provide funding for new and existing chapter initiatives. When you receive your dues notices, please remember to include the chapter dues in your payment. You will be contributing to the success of many grass roots activities happening right here at home.

**Did you know that the ACP provides a dues adjustment for those individuals working part-time to raise a family? Check the ACP website, www.acponline.org for more information.*

ATTENDANCE AT OUR ANNUAL MEETING - WE NEED TO DO BETTER!

Our annual meeting in 2005 attracted 358 individuals, about equally represented by Members and Associates (144 and 184 respectively). There were 19 medical student attendees. The total attendance was 358, comparing favorably to the average attendance of 232 for other large size chapters. The previous year there were 407 attendees at our fall meeting.

These numbers represent only 9% of our total Michigan ACP membership, which means we need to focus on making our meeting more attractive to Michigan internists. This topic has been the subject of much discussion at recent Council meetings, and is one of the reasons for the town meetings that started this year (see elsewhere in this newsletter for a description of the town meetings).

Several suggestions for change have been made including consideration of:

- Moving the meeting to a more convenient downstate location, perhaps rotating it year by year
- Changing the programming of the meeting to address issues more of interest to practicing internists
- Changing the format of the meeting to make it more ‘valuable’ in terms of dollar expenditure, time away from practice and CME credit

In January, **Ruth Hoppe** asked **Martha Gray**, MD, FACP to chair a new Task Force on The Practicing Internist. Martha’s group includes **Elizabeth Warner**, MD, **Ted Coy**, MD, **Dileep Kumar**, MD, FACP, **David Vandenberg**, MD, **Jim Clinton**, DO, and **Naji Khairallah**, MD, FACP. This group has met twice already and made early recommendations that were incorporated into planning for the September 2006 meeting.

But, much more needs to be done and **WE WELCOME YOUR INPUT** and critical feedback. Please contact **Martha Gray** (pgray@umich.edu) or **Ruth Hoppe** (hoppe@msu.edu) if you have ideas.

NEW CHAPTER LEADERS



Our Chapter is blessed with many younger individuals who, despite their very busy schedules, have volunteered to contribute to the work of our ACP Chapter. We would like to recognize their efforts and achievements and as well, introduce them to the wider membership. This newsletter features **Martha Gray**, MD, FACP and **Dileep Kumar** MD, FACP. Thank you both for your contributions to the Chapter!

My passion is people, serving people over time. That’s what I call clinical medicine. That’s what I do all day long and have done so for 25 years. I still love it.

Martha Gray, MD, FACP

When I finished medical school in 1980 at the University of Michigan I finished my residency in internal medicine nearby at our community hospital in Ann Arbor, Michigan. After 2 years working at Henry Ford Hospital as a staff internist I decided to find a job that allowed me more flexibility and efficiency: private internal medicine practice in Ann Arbor. I was my own boss and soaked up the business of medicine from my more savvy partners. I loved older folks and worked at several nursing homes so I was able to apply for the geriatric boards offered through the American Board of Internal Medicine, which I accomplished in 1990.

One of the challenges in Internal Medicine is keeping up clinically. Evidence based medicine is a key challenge but there are others. The business of medicine is often a bigger battle and the emotional turmoil of day to day practice requires us physicians to recharge ourselves for the day ahead in patient care, or as I call it, the psychology of human communication. Evidence based medicine doesn’t matter if you can’t motivate or communicate with your patients. The biggest battle is keeping up the pace and enthusiasm required by demanding patients, nonstop work hours and the game of medical practice: billing and bureaucracy.

Finding mentors for your practice is mandatory. ACP plays that role for me. Highly academic ACP has always been the place to ‘go to’ for scientific clinical medical approaches and more recently for guidelines and priorities of clinical practice. Now ACP is reaching out more to those practitioners like myself who live in an office and focus on complex patients over time. These patients’ problems do not fit cleanly into a solution met by clinical guidelines or specialty consult solutions. Life is getting more complex for patients and for doctors. Patients and their families ask more of us and perhaps, not realistically, we aim to please and help them. ACP is keeping up with this new need for clinical integration. Patients move quickly between various spaces of care; inpatient, extended care facilities, assisted living, and home then back to our outpatient office. Systems of care and data sharing are pivotal for communication, error avoidance, proper utilization, and liability protection. No practitioner today will

complain about boredom. Cognitively we need more time and quiet with technology to keep us efficient and integrated.

ACP is one place to look for information and systems that support all internists. Our new task force is charged to figure out what outpatient practitioners need to help them deliver the best care in the best way for their patients. Hospitalists are primarily internists and they play a huge role in patient care and without their input into our task force ACP will be incomplete in seeking out all the ways to serve physicians. ACP's goal is to offer programs and opportunities for researchers, academic faculty and residents, medical students, primary care internists, and hospitalists. Our task force hopes to unite all of these voices to better serve patients now and as medical care grows even more complex into the future.

P. Dileep Kumar, MD, FACP



Dr Kumar has several years of experience as an internist. Currently he works as a hospitalist in the Port Huron area. He has published about 90 papers in various peer reviewed medical journals and has presented several papers in various national and international conferences. Dr Kumar is a peer reviewer for several internal medicine and subspecialty journals. He has conducted 'Doctors' dilemma' competition for Michigan residency programs. He is also actively involved in various professional organizations.

He is actively involved in several hospital committees locally and acts as the secretary of the medical staff at Port Huron hospital. He organizes a community-journal club for internal medicine and subspecialty physicians.

DATES FOR UPCOMING CHAPTER MEETINGS

**SEPTEMBER 21-24, 2006
2006 SCIENTIFIC MEETING
GRAND TRAVERSE RESORT**

**MAY 11, 2007
ASSOCIATES MEETING,
MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY**

**OCTOBER 4-7, 2007
2007 SCIENTIFIC MEETING, RADISSON
HOTEL, KALAMAZOO**