



Governor's Message

Annual Chapter Meeting

The 2008 annual meeting of the North Dakota Chapter of the ACP was held in Grand Forks on September 26. We had a good turn-out and an excellent slate of speakers. The national President of the ACP, **Dr. Jeff Harris**, was our guest. He updated everyone on the goals and initiatives of the ACP during these stressful times.

We have not yet set a time or date for the 2009 meeting, but it will likely be held in Grand Forks or Fargo during the month of September.

Chapter Awards: The poster competition at this year's annual Chapter meeting brought more than a dozen entries. The Chapter awarded \$1000 in prizes to the winners, **Drs. Mohan Vupadyayula, Prabhu Udayakumar, and Mirza Baig**. Our judges admitted having a very hard time choosing from the many great entries.

Laureate Awards were presented to **Dr. Don McIntyre** of Rugby and **Dr. Nick Neumann** of Bismarck. Both men are icons in internal medicine practice and teaching in North Dakota, and both have contributed to our State's culture in many ways - and they continue to do so.

This year, for the first time, our Chapter presented an award for community service. The recipient was **Bruce Furness**, former mayor of Fargo and currently CEO of North Dakota WSI. It would be difficult to find a more deserving recipient for the Community Service Award.

Another first for our Chapter was a grant to the University of North Dakota College of Nursing (CON) to conduct a diabetes prevention program among Native Americans attending and teaching at UND. The CON will also conduct a training program for Native American students to take back to the various reservations in our State. Our award of \$5000 was matched by another \$5000 from the Dakota Medical Foundation. We are all excited about the opportunity to develop this partnership with the College of Nursing.

Call for Nominations

Our Chapter's Nominations Committee will accept nominations for the 2009 awards between now and June 1, 2009. We are looking for nominations in the following categories:

- **Laureate Award** - for physicians who have made significant and lasting contributions to the practice and teaching of medicine in North Dakota.
- **Community Service Award** - for individuals or groups who have made outstanding contributions to the life and culture of North Dakota.
- **Community Grant** - for individuals or groups who wish to do something unique to promote public health in North Dakota. Up to \$5000 will be awarded for the best application (see prospectus on next page).

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Grant Opportunity: The North Dakota Chapter has reserved \$5000 to be awarded to students, residents, practicing physicians, or other health care professionals or organizations who want to do something special and different to address unmet health care needs of the citizens of our State. Examples of projects might include:

- service to indigent populations
- service to high risk groups
- public health projects
- novel approaches to health care

Applications whose scope can be magnified with matching funds from other sources are encouraged. Applications should be addressed to me at jbrosseau@altru.org, and should include:

- a description of the problem being addressed
- a synopsis of efforts currently available to meet the problem
- a timeline for the project
- a budget
- a plan for outcomes analysis

The winning project will be announced at the time of our next Chapter meeting.

Election of the Next Governor

The Chapter Governor serves for one year as Governor-Elect and four years as Governor. Although it is a long-term commitment, everyone who has served as Governor has found it very rewarding. My term as Governor will be up in 2011. The election of the next Governor should take place in the Fall of 2009. We need two nominees. The person elected will serve as Governor-Elect from 2011 to 2012 and as Governor from 2012 to 2016.

If you would like to put your name forth for this office, or if you would like to nominate someone else, you may do so at any time. Several people have already indicated an interest. Also, ACP headquarters will send a solicitation memo out to the voting membership March 2009 asking for nominations. Please keep a look out for that mailing. (Please note: the voting membership consists of Masters, Fellows, Members, and Associates with an elect date of 2 years or more.)

There is, of course, some work involved in being Governor, but it is also a tremendous honor to represent your State in this fantastic organization. It's also a lot of fun! ACP covers all the Governor's expenses for travel to and from committee meetings, as well as registration fees for ACP-sponsored CME events (such as Internal Medicine 2009).

Membership in the ACP

We must make every effort to recruit new members to the ACP. If you know of someone who should be a member, please put them in touch with me. If they join up you will be eligible for a discount on your annual dues through the Recruit-a-Colleague Program of the ACP (see below). In addition, the next few physicians who become Members will receive a \$150 check from the North Dakota Chapter to help cover the cost of their first year's dues.

Recruit-a-Colleague Program

The American College of Physicians and the North Dakota 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.

As an incentive, ACP offers dues reduction to members who recruit new members through the Recruit-a-Colleague program. In addition, successful recruiters have the chance to win a trip to Internal Medicine 2010 in Toronto that includes registration, airfare (up to \$500), and hotel accommodations.

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

Advancement to Fellowship

Last year we had six Members advance to Fellowship. That's a single-year record for our Chapter. There are several more applications in the hopper already for Fellowship in 2009. My goal is to see at least another 5 North Dakotans become Fellows this year. (I'm optimistic, because four have already applied!)

To qualify for Fellowship, you must meet the following criteria:

- Certification in internal medicine or neurology
- Professional activity in internal medicine or neurology
- Two years' experience in medical practice or academia
- An active medical license in good standing
- ACP Membership for two years
- Evidence of continuing professional development
- Teaching, hospital committee work, and/or community service

There are actually four pathways to Fellowship:

- The Published Academician
- The Physician with Multiple Certifications or Advanced Degrees
- The Active ACP Member
- The Senior Physician

The ACP has made it very easy to advance to Fellowship, and almost everyone should qualify via one of the pathways. I can send you an application form, or you can request one from the national office at www.acponline.org/. Just complete the application form, attach a letter indicating your wish to advance to Fellowship, and send it to me.

I have made an "executive decision" that our Chapter will award \$150 to the next 20 individuals who either

- apply for advancement from Membership to Fellowship, or;
- apply for Membership in the ACP for the first time.

So far 4 individuals have taken me up on this offer. If you or someone you know is interested in this offer, let me know. I am anxious to spend the money before the end of 2009.

Internal Medicine 2009

The world's greatest medical meeting, Internal Medicine 2009, will be held in Philadelphia April 23-25, 2009. More than 12,000 physicians from all over the world attended Internal Medicine 2008 in Washington, D.C. The national meeting offers something for everyone, and 2009 will be a great year to visit the City of Brotherly Love.

Announcing a New Publication from the ACP

All physicians may be interested in a timely new publication from the ACP, *Electronic Health Records, Second Edition*, by **Jerome H. Carter, MD, FACP**. This fully revised new edition continues to help even the most technology-challenged reader master key concepts of the EHR. Features of the new edition include:

- a new section on implementation planning
- new chapters on decision support, informatics standards, and project management
- information on evaluating and selecting systems
- clinical decision support
- numerous tables, diagrams, and figures to make important information easy to understand

To view the table of contents, a sample chapter, or further ordering information please visit: www.acponline.org/ehr

More on the Patient Centered Medical Home (PCMH)

ACP and The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) continue to work together to implement the PCMH. They currently envision a two-tiered structure:

Tier 1 requirements include:

- discussing with patients the role of the medical home
- establishing written standards for patient access
- using data to identify and track patients
- using integrated care plan
- providing patient education and support
- tracking tests and referrals

Tier 2 requirements include:

- all the Tier 1 requirements, plus
- using an electronic health record (EHR)
- a systematic approach to coordinating facility-based and outpatient care
- regularly reviewing post-hospitalization medication lists
- 3 additional capabilities (e.g., e-prescribing, performance measures)

ACP maintains detailed information on the Medicare medical home demonstration project, as well as ACP's version of it (the PCMH). You will find this information at: http://www.acponline.org/running_practice/pcmh/. Check it out!

Do You Have a Memorable Moment In Teaching or Learning?

Can you recall an unforgettable moment when, as a teacher or as a learner, in medical school, residency or fellowship, you suddenly appreciated something about teaching or learning that you've never forgotten? These truly are Memorable Moments.

As part of a major series of books on teaching, which the ACP will launch in 2010, the series editor, **Jack Ende, MD**, will collect these 'moments' and include as many of them as possible in Book One of the series. These vignettes should be brief, no more than 1,000 words in length. Some will be serious; some will be funny. All should be meaningful. Taken together, these stories will comprise a tapestry of teaching and learning in internal medicine.

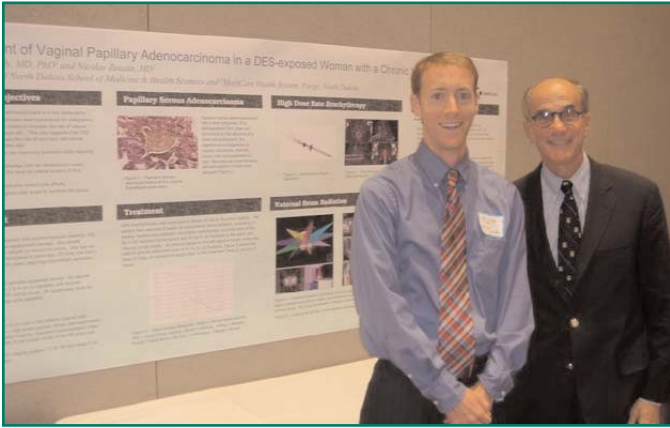
See a sample story at http://www.acponline.org/acp_press/memorable_moments/.

All submissions will be reviewed by the Book Series editor. Those selected for publication and commentary will include the author's identity, although anonymous submissions will be considered as well. Submit your Memorable Moment at http://www.acponline.org/acp_press/memorable_moments/submit.htm Submissions must be received before February 1, 2009.

Visit the Chapter Website at

www.acponline.org/about_acp/chapters/nd/

PHOTO GALLERY



ACP President Dr. Jeff Harris discusses a poster display with internal medicine resident Dr. Matthew McCurdy.



Dr. Roger Gilbertson, CEO of MeritCare, and Dr. Jim Brosseau present the Community Service Award to Bruce Furness.



Dr. Julie Blehm and Casey Ryan enjoy a laugh with award winners Bruce and Lorraine Furness and Dr. Don and Joann McIntyre.



Dr. Jeff Harris gets caught up in a conversation between Drs. Bill Newman and Nick Neumann.