



Ohio Chapter  
2007 Evergreen Winner

## In This Issue

2007 ACP Leadership Report .....	1
"Save the Date" Reminders .....	3
Supporting Your Chapter through Chapter Dues .....	3
ACP Information for Young Physicians .....	4
ACP Benefits of Special Interest to Young Physicians .....	4
Advocacy .....	4
Ohio Tobacco Quit Line .....	5



## 2007 ACP Leadership Day Report

Over 320 attendees from 41 states and the District of Columbia, including nearly 100 Associates and Medical Students converged on Washington, DC on May 15 and 16 for Leadership Day. Attendance increased from 267 last year, underscoring the importance of this event to the College's advocacy agenda.

The Ohio Chapter of ACP was represented by 9 members, including 2 Associates and 1 Medical Student. Our delegation included Drs. **Chris Allen** (ACP Council of Associates), **Kim Bates** (Chair of ACP Council of Young Physicians), **David Bronson** (Chair of the ACP Board of Governors, Past Governor of the Ohio Chapter), **Robert Crook** (Associate); **Helen Koselka** (Chair of the Ohio ACP Health and Public Policy Committee), **Murli Manohar**, **Mark Mayer** (ACP Ohio Governor), **Renate Thomas**, and Medical Student **Jacqueline Coloe**. We advocated for Internal Medicine and our patients during congressional visitations.

The meeting began 5/15/07 with welcomes by ACP Leadership, including Dr. **Bronson**, followed by a presentation by **Robert Doherty**, head of the ACP Governmental Affairs and Public Policy office. He reviewed the political environment in Washington, and priority issues supported by ACP. These include

relief from projected SGR Medicare reimbursement cuts; Pay-for-Reporting extension/improvement; efforts to expand Health Care Access (including the HEALTHCARE Act, introduced by **Representatives Kaptur** and **LaTourette** from Ohio, and the Health Partnership Act, introduced by **Senators Voinovich** of Ohio and **Bingaman** of New Mexico); reauthorization of the State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP); Health Information Technology legislation; Appropriations (VA, NIH, Title VII); and support for debt relief for our students and trainees. Incentives for physicians to adopt health information technology, combined with relief from SGR cuts and adoption of Geriatric Care Management together form ACP's strategy to foster adoption of the Patient-Centered Medical Home. Reform of Medicare GME is being sought, though political prospects are poor for this during the current year. Liability reform on a national level will probably not occur in the current political environment.

Two panels of congressional staffers addressed the conference attendees in the afternoon. The first of these panelists reviewed potential legislation to address physician payment and quality of care. They discussed MedPAC recommendations/alternatives for short-term and long-term fixes to the SGR formula for physician payment under Medicare; and covered aspects of the Medical Home model. They also

discussed the PQRI (Physicians Quality Reporting Initiative).

The second panel discussed Health Information Technology (HIT) legislation. The main bill supporting incentives for adoption of HIT by physicians has been introduced by Representative Gingrey.

Several awards were given at dinner May 15, including the Key Contact of the Year, which went to Robert McLean of Connecticut. The dinner speaker was **Norm Ornstein**, resident scholar at the American Enterprise Institute. He discussed the climate for health care, and how prospects were good for meaningful reform in the next few years.

On the morning of May 16, key members of Congress addressed the ACP physicians at the Rayburn House Office Building. The first speaker was **Michael Burgess**, representative from Texas. He discussed legislation he is developing, and will soon introduce, aimed at providing loan forgiveness and tax relief for physicians providing service in areas of need; potentially one solution to the rising debt burden that is helping divert students and residents away from primary care. The second congressional speaker was **Marcy Kaptur** of Ohio. Dr. **Mayer** introduced her. She detailed her plans to introduce the HEALTHCare Act into the House of Representatives along with **Steve LaTourette** later on May 16. This is health care access legislation based on ACP's seven year plan to provide access to uninsured Americans. Dear colleague letters were circulated for attendees to take with them on their Hill visits later in the day, asking congress members to cosponsor this bill.

Drs. **Bronson** and **Thomas** attended a press conference later in the morning of May 16, held by Representatives Kaptur and LaTourette as they announced the introduction of HR 2351, the HEALTHCare Act of 2007.

Our contingent from the Ohio ACP visited both of our Senators and 9 Representatives on 5/16. We had good discussions with staff of **Senators Voinovich** and **Brown**. Senator Voinovich came to the latter half of the meeting with his staff, and was especially interested in Jackie Coloe's discussion of the effect the student debt burden is having on specialty choice. We also met with staff of **Representatives Jones, Kucinich, Pryce, and Boehner**; and with **Representatives Kaptur, LaTourette, Regula, Schmidt, and Tiberi**. Most seemed receptive to our agenda. We advocated for providing relief from projected SGR cuts in Medicare reimbursement, and a phase-out of the SGR process; for improved access to care; for adoption of the advanced medical home to improve preventive and

chronic care, and ensure ongoing access to quality care given by Internists. We also advocated for debt relief for medical students and associates; for appropriations for Title VII, the NIH, and the VA; and for incentives for physicians to adopt HIT.

Overall, it was an excellent meeting. Members of the Ohio Chapter advocated well for Internists and our patients. This is one concrete example of the Chapter working for its members.

As we have for the past couple of years, we encourage members to become Key Contacts, and to communicate with your members of Congress. The more members hear from constituents, the more successful our advocacy efforts will be.

The ACP's web site makes this easy. Go to [www.acponline.org](http://www.acponline.org), and click on "Advocacy," then "Key Contact program." You can sign up online.

Once you are a Key Contact, when the Washington ACP staff judge that a key time for persuasion or vote is coming up, a legislative alert is sent (by email or fax) to each Key Contact. Tools on the web site make it quick and easy to respond. Simply go to [www.acponline.org](http://www.acponline.org), click on "Advocacy," then "LAC" (Legislative Action Center). You will be asked for your home zip code; your Representative and/or Senators automatically come up, and you can send them a letter if appropriate. Often, our Washington staff has drafted a letter. You can use it as is, or customize it to your needs. You can electronically sign the letter, then send it directly to the legislator's office.

**Helen Koselka, MD**

**Chair, Health and Public Policy, Ohio ACP**

**Mark Mayer, MD, FACP**

**Governor, Ohio Chapter of ACP**



*Ohio Chapter Delegates Helen Koselka, MD, FACP, Chair Health and Public Policy, Renate Thomas, State Representative Marcy Kaptur, (Middle) Robert Crook, MD, Associate Council, Ohio Chapter, Mark E. Mayer, MD, FACP, Governor, Ohio Chapter.*

## News Conference Announcing the Healthcare Act of 2007



*State Representative Marcy Kaptur, Renate Thomas, MD, FACP and State Representative Steve LaTourette, and David L. Bronson, MD, FACP Chair, Board of Governors.*

### "Save the Date" Reminders

#### **Annual Chapter Scientific Meeting, October 12, 2007**

The fall ACP Ohio Chapter Scientific meeting is shaping up to be an outstanding venue for learning, networking, and experiencing the unique strengths of Internal Medicine. The theme of our program for the October 12, 2007 meeting in Columbus will be "Access and Innovations."

-Our College representative, **Kathy Weaver**, a Regent of ACP, has devoted much of her professional career to helping solve problems faced by the un- and under-insured. She will share lessons learned from past efforts to improve access to health care, and will discuss emerging initiatives.

-For the first time, we will introduce a session on Innovations in Practice. We held a competition among Ohio ACP members in March; during the October 12 meeting, we'll have several of these Ohio ACP members describe their best practice solutions. This session will feature brief presentations by doctors in practice on solutions to practice challenges, and lessons learned; with a chance to interact with the presenters afterwards.

-The meeting will also feature Internists at their best, solving diagnostic puzzles; this will occur in an interactive Meet the Professor session, with audience participation via an audience response system.

-**Michael Barr**, from the ACP Center for Practice Innovation, will give us a synopsis of 30 small practices

being studied in the ACP pilot to help improve quality in small practices, and implement aspects of improved access

and chronic care. He and Dr. **Warm** from Cincinnati will give us a glimpse of the future of the Patient-Centered Medical Home.

-There will be updates on new diabetes therapies and immunizations. How to be a "Big Shot" to your patients - learn about the new vaccinations and Learn how and when to use the new medications including sitagliptin and exenatide

-Poster and oral abstract presentations by winners of the medical student and associate competitions will involve our physicians-in-training.

-We will hold our Town Hall, providing you a chance to share your questions and wisdom with state and national ACP leaders.

-**Jeff Weise** from Tulane will discuss the medical and human lessons learned in the wake of Hurricane Katrina. Leadership Lessons in the Wake of Hurricane Katrina

-We will honor our laureates, master teachers, and exceptional volunteers for their outstanding achievements.

We are excited about our upcoming program. Mark your calendars for October 12. Get together with your ACP colleagues; let's make our practices and professional lives better!

#### **-Associates and Medical Student Members, Thursday, October 11, Columbus**

Plan to join us for the Chapter's Quiz Bowl, Thursday, October 11, 2007

#### **-Medical Students, Thursday, October 11, Columbus**

Plan to attend The Ohio Chapter 2nd Annual Medical Student Internal Medicine Summit, Thursday October 11, 2007. Additional information and to register will appear in the annual meeting registration materials.

#### **-Associate Council Annual Ohio Chapter Raffle, October 12, Columbus**

Participate by buying raffle tickets for medical text books, gift certificates, and sports tickets during the Annual Chapter Meeting. The proceeds help to support the efforts of the Ohio Association of Free Clinics. To learn more visit the [ohiofreeclinics.org](http://ohiofreeclinics.org).

To donate items, to purchase tickets, or to participate on the committee contact Robert Crook, MD, Associate Council, Chair, Raffle Committee.  
[Rcrook02@yahoo.com](mailto:Rcrook02@yahoo.com)

## Supporting Your Chapter through Chapter Dues

The Ohio Chapter plays an essential role in the local internal medicine community by providing needed programs and services.

- Collegiality through chapter meetings and other activities
- Locally delivered educational courses and workshops
- Programming for students, residents and young physicians to help develop a new generation of leaders
- Advocacy at the state and local level on issues of importance to internists

Please support your chapter by sending your chapter dues of \$60 along with your national dues. You will be contributing to both the national and local success of ACP. (Witness the recent Washington DC congressional visitations by ACP Ohio members).

Your dues statement from ACP looks different this year; it was reconstructed to meet legal requirements. The chapter dues line is offset.

If you have not yet paid dues, you may renew online ([acponline.org](http://acponline.org)), via phone or mail invoice. Make sure you include chapter dues.

If you already paid national dues online, but forgot to check Ohio Chapter dues, you will have difficulty (or be prevented from) going back to pay chapter dues online. You may pay chapter dues by phone or mail (or use either as vehicle for national AND chapter dues):

Pay by phone with your credit card by calling Customer Services, 800-523-1546, ext. 2600, M-F, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. ET.

Or request an invoice to be mailed or faxed to you by calling Customer Services, 800-523-1546, ext. 2600, M-F, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

Thank you for your chapter dues -- it is through your financial support that we can deliver valuable programs and services to members of our chapter. Our advocacy and educational missions depend upon dues support!

## ACP Information for Young Physicians

ACP defines a young physician as a physician member who is within 16 years of graduating medical school and who is not a Medical Student or Associate Member of ACP.

ACP strives to enhance the professional development and quality of life for young physicians. From education, practice assistance, mentoring and networking, to local and national representation, ACP provides programs, products, and services of interest and value to young physicians.

## ACP Benefits of Special Interest to Young Physicians

Among ACP's full offering of benefits for members, the College provides programs, products, and services that are of special interest to young physicians, including:

- Free assistance from ACP's Practice Management Center covering the full spectrum of business issues associated with running and working in a medical practice.
- Practical advice from the Handbook and the Pocket Guide to Selected Preventive Services for Adults.
- Access to an extensive national and local network of peers and mentors through the College's Mentoring Database for help when dealing with early career and work-life balance issues.
- Assistance with maintenance of certification and access to discounted educational courses like ACP's annual Internal Medicine meeting and local chapter and regional meetings.
- Opportunities to advocate for internal medicine and its subspecialties on issues such as reimbursement, pay for performance, and training redesign.
- Access to some of the most advanced electronic products and services for internists such as the Physicians' Information and Education Resource.
- For more information <http://www.acponline.org/cyp/benefits.htm>

If you are interested in participating on the Ohio Chapter Young Physicians' Committee please contact **Kim Bates**, MD. Currently, Dr. Bates participates on the Chapter Young Physician Committee and Chair Council of Young Physicians, Chair-Elect.

**Kimberly C. Bates, MD, Chair-elect**

**Specialty: Med-peds**

**E-mail: [kcbates01@yahoo.com](mailto:kcbates01@yahoo.com)**

## Advocacy

### -Sign-up to be a Key Contact

ACP's continued success on Capitol Hill greatly depends upon year-round grassroots support from the College's over 5000 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 now** in the Key Contact Program [www.acponline.org/hpp/advocacy/index](http://www.acponline.org/hpp/advocacy/index)

As key issues approach the decision-making stage on Capitol Hill, the College emails or faxes legislative alerts to Key Contacts. Legislative alerts include all of the necessary information (including sample messages that can be easily personalized) to make informative contacts with members of Congress, and ACP staff is always available to provide support and answer legislative questions. Visit the **College's Legislative Action Center** for more information. If you are enrolled as a Key Contact, simply logon using your email address and ACP as the password. If you are not a Key Contact, you will be required to register. Please use ACP as your password.

Key Contacts receive a periodic newsletter, **The Capitol Key**, updating them on important legislative issues. **Additional information on key issues** is available 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 at Leadership Day, ACP selects a Key Contact of the Year and the Top Ten Key Contact Special Recognition Winners based on the quality and quantity of responses to legislative alerts.

The College is continually recruiting new Key Contacts, especially where gaps exist in the program and a key member of Congress is not matched with a sufficient number of Key Contacts. When joining the program, members are asked to complete a short enrollment form that helps the College identify any special relationships they may have with members of Congress.

**For more information on the ACP Key Contact Program, please email [grassroots@acponline.org](mailto:grassroots@acponline.org).**

### -Legislative Action Center

ACP maintains the web-based Legislative Action Center (LAC), that allows members to respond easily to current ACP legislative alerts, identify their federal legislators, and compose a letter, e-mail, or a fax to their members of Congress. Talking points and sample letters that can be easily personalized are provided. The LAC also provides election information, Congress' schedule, tips on communicating with legislators, and media center. To Log on to the LAC, enter your email address and ACP as the password. If you prefer a different password, log on and select 'Edit Profile' on the grey menu box and type a new password in the 'Logon Info' field. If you need assistance logging on or using the LAC, please email [grassroots@acponline.org](mailto:grassroots@acponline.org).

**Ohio Tobacco Quit Line  
Order your Quit Kit today  
FREE to Ohio Healthcare Providers.**



[www.ohioquits.com/HCP/quit\\_kit.aspx](http://www.ohioquits.com/HCP/quit_kit.aspx)

Everything you need to refer your patients to Ohio Tobacco QUIT LINE

For all healthcare providers  
a complete package of resource materials.

DETAILED BROCHURE for healthcare providers.

PROVIDER'S POCKET GUIDE to carry with you.

OFFICE POSTERS for waiting and examination rooms.

CONSUMER BROCHURE for patients not yet ready to quit.

FAX REFERRAL FORMS to start the QUIT LINE referral process when patients are ready to quit. NRT DOSING CHART with an overview of nicotine replacement therapy options.

For all healthcare providers - an educational video on 800-QUIT-NOW that can be played in your waiting room (available in VHS or DVD)