

# Oregon Chapter GOVERNOR'S NEWSLETTER

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

Winter 2006

Robert A. Gluckman, MD, FACP  
*Governor, Oregon Chapter*

## GOVERNOR'S CORNER



Over the holidays, I watched a bit of college football. It was a great season for Duck fans and they can be proud of their final ranking. I also read that the World Health Organization ranked the US health care system 33rd in the world, below Costa Rica and 2 slots above Cuba. All of us feel proud of the quality work we perform, but we can't escape the fact that our health care system is failing to meet the needs of our people at a cost the country can afford. The reasons for our health care system's low ranking are complex, but the lack of universal coverage and the low emphasis on primary care are clearly two important factors.

This year, Barbara Starfield published an article in *Health Affairs* that documents better health outcomes in communities with higher generalist/specialist ratios. Although specialist expertise is essential in the management of many specific conditions, their impact on overall patient health is limited when the care lacks coordination with a well-trained generalist. Thus, the dramatic decline in interest in generalist careers is of particular concern. In *Academic Medicine*, Garibaldi, et al. published a survey documenting a 66% reduction in interest in generalist careers among internal medicine residents from 1998-2003. Newton, et al document that lifestyle and income are of increasing importance when students choose careers. Over the last 15-20 years, despite the advent of the Resource Based Relative Value Scale, the income gap between specialists and generalists has widened. Expanding access to health care will require a sufficient supply of well-trained generalist physicians and thus it is essential that reimbursement for physician services be reformed to narrow the current income gap between specialist and generalist physicians.

Three key factors contribute to the lower reimbursement for internal medicine services and the ACP is active, both locally and nationally in advocating reimbursement reform.

The first factor is the low value placed on cognitive services. As discussed in ACP's request for a review of the work relative value units (WRVU's) for evaluation and management (E&M) codes, even the simplest procedures and diagnostic test interpretation are valued at a much higher level than cognitive-based office visits. For example, simple laceration repair and the interpretation of a knee film are valued 70% higher for the same unit of time than E&M codes. The American Medical Association/Specialty Society Relative Value Scale Update Committee (RUC) is currently conducting this review and I have first hand knowledge of ACP's fierce advocacy for internists in this process.

A second important factor contributing to lower reimbursement for primary care services is that the current E&M codes do not account for the increased care coordination and work between office visits provided by general internists when compared to other specialties. The current WRVU's for an E&M code assumes a fixed percentage of work performed beyond face-to-face patient contact across all visit codes and all specialties. The management of complex, chronic illness would be more effective, efficient, and less costly if more care was provided via telephone and E-Mail, in addition to office visits. Our specialist colleagues must (and I believe many do) recognize the increased work performed by generalists between patient visits. Reforming our health care system requires reimbursement for these services.

The ACP is working hard to develop policies that speak directly to these issues. The position paper "The Advanced Medical Home" and the report "The Impending Collapse of Primary Care Medicine and Its Implications for the State of the Nation's Health Care" were recently posted on the ACP website. I encourage you read these, so you can increase your understanding and awareness of the ACP's advocacy efforts for practicing internists.

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## **ANNUAL OREGON CHAPTER SCIENTIFIC MEETING RECAP**

**Claudia Leonard, MD, FACP**

The annual Oregon Chapter Scientific Meeting was again a success. The Associates' competition was a highlight as always. Please note that CME credit of one hour is granted for attending the oral presentations. We heard timely discussions of Quality Issues in Medicine and the Pay for Performance models that are certainly coming down the pike. There were talks on acute coronary syndromes, end-stage renal disease and the overlap between the two, "Cardio-Renal Dilemmas". All the speakers were excellent, and we thank them for their work. I greatly appreciate all the members of the planning committee, and special thanks are given to those of you who filled out the evaluation forms; the feedback is invaluable to helping plan future meetings. Hopefully everyone found time to reconnect with old friends and colleagues, as this is one of the most important aspects of the annual meeting. Please mark your calendars for the upcoming **2006 Scientific Meeting, November 2-4**. We will be in Eugene again, and Mary is working on getting healthier food choices back. Look forward to seeing you then.

## **COUNCIL OF YOUNG PHYSICIANS**

**Sima Desai, MD, FACP**

The Council of Young Physicians (CYP) has started off the year with great enthusiasm and several new projects. At the 2006 National Meeting, the CYP is sponsoring several courses of interest to many young, practicing physicians which include: Leadership Panel: How to be an Effective Leader, Part-Time Work, and Dual-Career Couples. We have already begun to plan for 2007 National Meeting with courses such as Understanding Coding and Billing and a two day seminar on the Business of Medicine. We look forward to seeing as many of you as possible in Philadelphia this year! The Council has participated in many other projects led by the ACP including the young physician's perspective on residency re-training and the subsequent years after residency as well as membership recruitment and retention. Each Council member is also a part of other ACP committees in an effort to include the perspective of young physicians. One critical area is the Licensing and Re-credentialing Committee who works directly with the ABIM in many areas including the recertifying exam administered by the ABIM. This is a work in progress and so I look to you for any comments or advice which I may pass onto the representative from our Council to this Committee. As part of outreach into the local chapters, I am also looking for comments on the re-certifying exam and whether members of this chapter would be interested in the ACP hosting a series of expert driven discussions on each of the modules of the re-certifying process? Currently, we understand most members are either doing these modules on their own or are meeting with small groups to go through the modules. Again, we would be interested in your thoughts so please email Mary Olhausen at [omary52@comcast.net](mailto:omary52@comcast.net) and let us know what you think.

## **KUDOS**

Portland Monthly Magazine "Portland's Best Doctors-2006" - Congrats to **James B. Reuler, MD, MACP**, for making one of the five most admired healers in Portland. Congrats also to the many ACP members who made the Top Doctor list in the various specialties.

Congratulations to the Oregon Chapter - recipient of the 2005 Chapter Excellence Award. The award is based on meeting a basic set of criteria for managing a Chapter and in addition, conducting at least six additional activities and completing an Annual Report at the end of each fiscal year. The College Rep will present Governors with a certificate of recognition at their next chapter meeting.

## **WELCOME NEW MEMBERS**

Linh D. Dao, MD - Portland  
Daniel S. Hagg, MD - Portland

James F. Manning, MD - Portland  
Claire E. Norton, MD - Salem

## ANNUAL SESSION 2006 - PHILADELPHIA, PA

Mary Olhausen

There's so much to see and do in Philadelphia - the site of the ACP Annual Session, April 6-8, 2006. This meeting offers many opportunities for learning - such as the more than 260 CME offerings presented by world-renowned faculty, Clinical Pearls Series, Learning Center/Clinical Skills Workshops, Meet The Professor, and Multiple Small Feedings of the Mind - to name a few!! Also see Associates' present their work (especially our own from Oregon!); learn about research advances, pay for performance, practice management, leadership, computers, and recertification; attend the annual ACP business meeting and exhibit hall. Attend several receptions and mentoring sessions. See Oregon Fellows participate in convocation ceremony. And check out the several Oregon residents and students who have been invited to present their work in the clinical vignette and research poster competitions. For more information contact the national ACP office at [www.acponline.org](http://www.acponline.org).

**While at Annual Session, all Oregon Chapter members are invited to attend the NORTHWEST REGIONAL RECEPTION, Friday, April 7, 2006. 6:00-8:00pm at the Philadelphia Marriott Hotel, Grand Ballroom - Salon J, 1201 Market Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Enjoy Hors d'oeuvres and wine. Greet & meet your colleagues.**

ACP's Council of Young Physicians is sponsoring a networking and mentoring breakfast at Annual Session 2006 in Philadelphia, on Friday, April 7, 2006, 7-9 a.m., in the Philadelphia Marriott. The breakfast will offer personal guidance that a young physician might seek from a more experienced mentor. Mentors will be seated at tables labeled by topic, and attendees can select tables of interest to them. A continental buffet breakfast will be served. If you are interested in attending, please contact Amy Allen Collins, Membership Development, at 800-523-1546, ext. 2692; [aallen@acponline.org](mailto:aallen@acponline.org).

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### GOVERNOR'S CORNER *continued from page 1*

The third, and perhaps the most troubling, factor contributing to low generalist income when compared to our specialist colleagues, is the rise in physician entrepreneurism. Specialist physicians own specialty hospitals, ambulatory surgery centers, diagnostic-imaging centers, and infusion centers. A paper by Ginsburg and Grossman in Health Affairs documents how current reimbursement and variable profitability of some services drives increased use of these services. Unfortunately, evidence that health is improved by overuse of these highly profitable services is lacking. The incentives must change and medicine must lead the way.

To address the above issues, I have co-authored with Allan Goroll, MD, Governor of the Massachusetts Chapter, a resolution to present at the ACP Spring Board of Governor's Meeting. This resolution explicitly calls for funding for cognitive and case management services. It further states that redistributing resources from low risk, low complexity procedures and diagnostic tests is required to achieve this goal. I will introduce a similar resolution at the Spring Meeting of the Oregon Medical Association (OMA) House of Delegates for presentation to the AMA. Although this is potentially divisive, it is necessary if we are to maintain an appropriate balance of generalist and specialist physicians to optimally meet the health needs of the public.

I ask each of you to help support this resolution and the ACP's advocacy efforts. What can you do to help? If you are a member of the OMA, contact your delegates and let them know it is vital that they support this resolution. When our specialist colleagues needed our support on tort reform, generalists stood with them. Now, we need them to stand with us and support the efforts to provide the resources necessary to provide the care coordination required by patients with complex medical problems. We must engage our colleagues, as the dramatic decline in interest in primary care careers no longer allows us to avoid discussing these important issues. In addition, please inform your internal medicine colleagues who are not ACP members of the College's strong advocacy on behalf of internists and encourage them to join the ACP. I hear that some current and former ACP members feel internal medicine lost its advocacy voice when the ACP and ASIM merged. As a member of the Board of Directors of the ACP Services, Inc. Political Action Committee and future member of the Health and Public Policy Committee, I assure you this is not the case. Our advocacy efforts are stronger with more members and no other physician organization speaks for the needs of internists and our patients as strongly as the ACP. Please respond to the Recruit-A-Colleague Program through the web at: [http://www.acponline.org/college/misc/recruit\\_colleague.htm?hp](http://www.acponline.org/college/misc/recruit_colleague.htm?hp) and encourage your colleagues to join the ACP.

Ensuring an adequate supply of well-trained primary care physicians is necessary if we have any hope of expanding access and improving quality at a reasonable cost. Please support these efforts. After all, no one cheers, "We're #33".

## ASSOCIATES' ACTIVITIES

**Sima Desai, MD, FACP**

The Associates' Council, for the last several years, has been chaired by **Timothy Thunder**, MD. Tim is stepping down from these duties and we welcome **Stephanie Halvorson**, MD to take over the reins of Chair of the Associates' Council. As past chair of the Council, I would like to thank Tim for his undying enthusiasm for the Associates' Council. He has worked tirelessly for the Council and the local Chapter is grateful for his efforts. We wish him well in his future endeavors. Stephanie is from OHSU, recently serving as a Chief Resident and now a teaching faculty. Stephanie has been a great advocate for residents and will be a wonderful addition to the continued success of the Associates' Council. Tim will remain on the Council to assist Stephanie in the transition for the remainder of the year.

The Associates' Council held their annual "Fall Mixer" in September and is now in the middle of their "Career Workshops". These are well attended and provide a host of opportunities for Associates to find out about practice opportunities, CV's & interviewing, negotiating a contract, and malpractice issues.

The Associates' Competition was held at the Chapter's annual scientific meeting, November 3 in Eugene, OR. We had a record number of outstanding presentations - 52 total (6 oral, 41 clinical vignettes, and 5 research posters). We want to thank our Judges for their hard work with the competition: Drs. **Jeffrey Harris, Kathleen Weaver, Paula Ciesielski, Walter Stamm, Dan Mangum, Martin Jones, Lynn Bentson, and David Woo.**

### **Congratulations to the winners from the November 2005 Associates' Competition:**

<b>Paula Muegge, MD</b>	1st Place Oral Competition "Governor's Submission" Oral Presentation presented as a poster at Annual Session		
<b>Patricia Michaels, MD</b>	2nd Place Oral Competition Trip to Alaska Chapter Meeting		
<b>Meghan Bost, MD</b>	3rd Place Oral Competition		
<b>J. Stone Doggett, MD</b>	1st Place Research Poster "Governor's Submission" Poster presented at Annual Session		
<b>Karyn Ofa, DO</b>	2nd Place Research Poster	<b>Madison Macht, MD</b>	2nd Place Clinical Vignette
<b>Michelle Sanders, MD</b>	1st Place Clinical Vignette	<b>Honora Englander, MD</b>	3rd Place Clinical Vignette

## MEDICAL STUDENTS

**Mary Olhausen**

Medical student, **Tami Atkinson**, leads the 1st & 2nd year Internal Medicine Interest Group (IMIG) with loads of enthusiasm, along with faculty mentor, David Kagen, MD!! The year started off with the annual Interest Group Fair where Internal Medicine/ACP had a booth, and led right into the year-long IMIG Lunchtime Talks with various speakers and topics. So far this year students have been provided information on equipment & books, caring for the uninsured, sub-specialty choices, 3rd year medicine clerkship expectations, case presentations & write-ups workshop, away rotations and a session about membership and benefits of ACP. Ward Walks were popular with Internal Medicine residents at OHSU. Students just completed their Clinical Skills Elective (heart/lung exams, EKG, phlebotomy, physical exam, & social work) and are now planning an Internal Medicine Jeopardy Dinner with residents. Cover The Uninsured Week is just around the corner and IMIG, along with several other OHSU student groups, are in the planning stages to provide another remarkable on-campus event. Two medical students have been invited to present their research posters at Annual Session in April - **Tami Atkinson** and **Jaspreet Dhoot**. Congrats to both of these students and we look forward to your presentations!

## AWARDS/FELLOWSHIPS/MASTERSHIPS

**Fellows were recommended by the Credentials Subcommittee and approved for election by the Board of Regents. Our recent FELLOWS include:**

Lynn Bentson, MD, FACP - Albany  
Gordon Johnson, MD, FACP - Portland

Ruth Medak, MD, FACP - Portland  
Michael McClung, MD, FACP - Portland

Each year Oregon ACP honors internists for their contributions to teaching and community service with the Howard P. Lewis Awards. 2005 awards were presented in November at the Oregon ACP Annual Scientific Meeting. This year we honored an internist for teaching and a non-internist for service. See page 5-6 for these awards.

## **ADVOCACY/PUBLIC POLICY**

**Robert Gluckman, MD, FACP**

The Oregon Academy of Family Physicians developed a set of Principles for Universal Access and Coverage. The Chapter's Health and Public Policy Committee discussed these principles and feels they are consistent with the values of our members. However, the committee invites the members to review the principles below and comment by E-Mail to Dr. Gluckman at [robert.gluckman@providence.org](mailto:robert.gluckman@providence.org)

### **PRINCIPLES FOR OAFP UNIVERSAL ACCESS AND COVERAGE**

#### UNIVERSALITY

There must be universal access and coverage for the state's citizens to a basic level of health care.

#### CONTINUITY

Continuity of coverage promotes continuity of care, which improves quality and leads to better health.

#### FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

It is society's obligation to provide sufficient resources to finance a basic level of care for all members of that society. Funding must be explicit and the system must be economically sustainable.

#### AFFORDABILITY

##### **Affordability For Individuals And Families**

No one should be expected to contribute so much to their insurance that they either cannot pay for the other basic necessities of life or not afford access to health services.

##### **Affordability And Sustainability For Society**

Affordability will be determined through the political process and economic decisions made by individuals, families, and employers. Mechanisms will be needed to control inflation and use.

The coverage strategy should strive for cost effectiveness, simplicity, and administrative efficiency.

#### DEFINING "THE BASIC BENEFIT PACKAGE"

There must be a process to determine what constitutes a "basic" level of care.

The criteria used in this process must be publicly debated, reflect social values, and consider the common good of society.

The best clinically relevant research evidence should be used to the extent feasible in defining benefit packages.

#### PAYMENT SYSTEMS

The health care distribution system must offer incentives to use effective and appropriate services and procedures rather than those of marginal or unproven benefit. The distribution system must avoid creating incentives for over treatment.

### **HOWARD P. LEWIS DISTINGUISEHED SERVICE AWARD:**

**Mary A. Olhausen, Executive Director - Oregon Chapter ACP**

Mary has been employed by the Oregon Chapter for nine years - Dr. **Jim Reuler** hired her in 1997 at the beginning of his term as Governor. She then served for Dr. **Stephen Jones**, and now current Governor, Dr. **Robert Gluckman**. Each Governor brings new ideas and style to the Chapter - Mary's experience in so many facets of managing the Chapter keeps the continuity of activities going, from Governor to Governor. As well, Mary's expertise in attention to detail and follow-up are evident in our well-run Chapter Meetings, committee meetings, and various tasks related to Chapter management. Mary enjoys attending Annual Session each year and participates in a "Chapter Ex Directors Best Practices" meeting developed by her and several other Chapter Ex Directors. Outside of work, for both ACP and Internal Medicine Department at OHSU, Mary's passions are sailing, skiing, and spending time with her family.

**CHAPTER WEB SITE:**  
**[www.acponline.org/chapters/or](http://www.acponline.org/chapters/or)**

## HOWARD P. LEWIS DISTINGUISHED TEACHING AWARD

**Thomas G. DeLoughery, MD**

**Tom DeLoughery** is a native Hoosier who graduated from Indiana State University in 1981 (one year after Larry Bird) and the Indiana University School of Medicine in 1985. He did his internship at the University of California-Irvine before traveling to Oregon where he finished his Internal Medicine residency and Hematology/Oncology Fellowship. He is currently an Associate Professor of Medicine and Pathology in the Divisions of Hematology/Oncology and Laboratory Medicine at the Oregon Health & Science University. His clinical interests are in Hemostasis and Thrombosis, subjects he has written on extensively. He has won numerous teaching awards and has been invited to give educational lectures at the national meetings of American Association of Blood Bankers, American Society of Hematology, American Society of Clinical Oncology, American College of Rheumatology, American Society of Pediatric Hematology/Oncology and the Society for Critical Care Medicine. In 2001 we was one of two hematologist asked to lecture by National Institutes of Health in Vietnam. He also has an interest in hematologic aspects of Sport and Travel and is on the Board of Directors of the Wilderness Medicine Society. Tom's hobbies are running, reading, and enjoying his family. His one oddity is that he follows ever single move Bob Dylan makes.

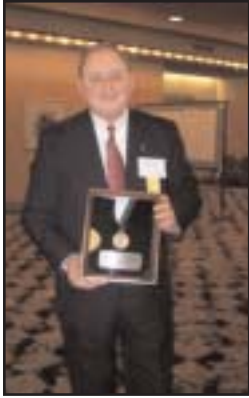
## LAUREATE AWARD

The Oregon Chapter was pleased to present the Laureate Award to **Emil J. Bardana, MD, FACP** at our annual chapter meeting in November 2005. Dr. Bardana is a long-standing and loyal supporter of the College, and has rendered distinguished service to the Chapter, and has upheld the high ideals and professional standards for which the College is known. The Laureate Award honors those Fellows or Masters of the College who have demonstrated by their example and conduct an abiding commitment to excellence in medical care, education, or research, and in service to their community, their Chapter, and the American College of Physicians.

Emil "Bud" Bardana, MD, FACP was born in New York City in 1935. He received his B.S. in Biology and Philosophy from Georgetown University and his M.D. degree from McGill University where he was elected to the Alpha Omega Alpha honor society. Dr. Bardana completed a medicine internship at the University of California Moffitt Hospital in San Francisco, followed by three years in the US Navy, including one year with the Marines in Chu Lai, Viet Nam. He returned to Portland, where he served as both a resident and Chief Medical Resident in Internal Medicine at OHSU. Following his Chief Residency, he completed an Immunology fellowship at OHSU and a 2-year research fellowship at the University of Colorado and National Jewish Hospital in Denver. Dr. Bardana returned to Oregon and joined the OHSU faculty as an Assistant Professor of Medicine in the Division of Allergy and Immunology. He rose steadily and quickly to full Professor and served as the Vice Chair of the Department of Medicine from 1984 to 1994, and as the Chief of the Division of Allergy and Immunology from 1985 to 2000. Dr. Bardana served as Governor of the Oregon Chapter of the ACP from 1981 to 1985, and received the Chapter's Distinguished Service Award in 1985. Notable to this chapter meeting, Bud was an early and enthusiastic supporter of the development of the Annual Associate's Competition. In addition to his work with the Oregon ACP Chapter, Dr. Bardana has served on numerous national task forces and advisory committees, including the National Institutes of Health, the National Academy of Sciences, and the Center for Disease Control, to name a few. He has held numerous regional, national and international leadership positions in prominent organizations including the ACP, the American College of Chest Physicians, the American Academy of Allergy, Asthma and Immunology, the American Board of Allergy and Immunology, as well as president of the American College of Allergy, Asthma and Immunology in 2000-2001. Dr. Bardana has authored nearly 200 original scientific articles, reviews, case reports and book chapters, publishing in a wide range of prestigious journals including Science, the New England Journal of Medicine, JAMA, Surgery, Neurology, the American Review of Respiratory Diseases and Academic Medicine. He has served on the editorial boards of all the major journals in allergy and immunology and serves as editor-in-chief for AllergyWatch. Despite Bud's accomplishments as a scholar and leader in medicine, he remains to this day an active clinician and consultant, one repeatedly identified among the "Best Doctors in America". He has been generous in supporting and mentoring his junior colleagues, who themselves have now assumed important local and national leadership positions. Bud has served as an abiding example of excellence in research, patient care and service, and he has inspired those around him to excel as well. His contributions to internal medicine in Oregon will be enduring.

Awards, honors, volunteer work, article published?? We want to hear from you and about you--please email Mary Olhausen, [omary52@comcast.net](mailto:omary52@comcast.net), items of interest.

## PICTURE GALLERY



**Emil J. Bardana, MD,  
FACP  
2005 Laureate Award**



**Honora Englander, MD  
3rd Place Clinical Vignette  
2005 Associates Competition**



**Thomas G. DeLoughery,  
MD, 2005 HP Lewis  
Distinguished Teaching  
Award**



**Meghan Bost, MD.  
3rd Place Oral  
Competition. 2005  
Associates'  
Competition**



**J. Stone Doggett, MD  
1st Place Research Poster  
2005 Associates' Competition**



**Madison Macht, MD  
2nd Place Clinical Vignette  
2005 Associates' Competition**



**Karyn Ofa, DO  
2nd Place Research Poster  
2005 Associates' Competition**



**Patricia Michaels, MD  
2nd Place Oral  
Competition  
2005 Associates'  
Competition**



**Mary A. Olhausen  
2005 HP Lewis  
Distinguished Service Award**



**Paula Muegge, MD  
1st Place Oral  
Presentation  
2005 Associates'  
Competition**



**Michelle Sanders, MD  
1st Place Clinical Vignette  
2005 Associates' Competition**

## UPCOMING DATES

April 6-8, 2006	ACP Annual Session, Philadelphia, PA
April 20-21, 2006	Internal Medicine Review Course, Portland, OR
May 16-17, 2006	ACP Leadership Day on Capitol Hill
November 2, 2006	Infectious Diseases Society of Oregon Meeting, Eugene, OR
November, 2-4, 2006	Oregon Chapter Scientific Meeting, Eugene, OR
April 19-21, 2007	ACP Annual Session, San Diego, CA
November 15, 2007	Infectious Diseases Society of Oregon Meeting, Eugene, OR
November 15-17, 2007	Oregon Chapter Scientific Meeting, Eugene, OR
May 15-18, 2008	ACP Annual Session, Washington DC

## HOW TO REACH US:

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