

**Upcoming Events**

**West Virginia Chapter Meeting**  
**October 16-18, 2008**  
**Waterfront Place Hotel**  
**Morgantown, WV**

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**Governor's Corner**

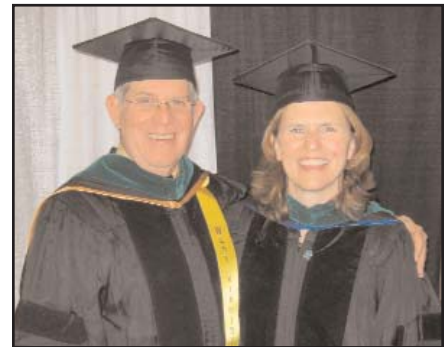


Dear Doctor,  
 Greetings from the  
 American College of  
 Physicians,

The many wonderful shades of green that adorn our beautiful mountains and remind us, as we enter the summertime, what a beautiful place it is in which we live and work.

Your local chapter and particularly your program committee chaired by **Dr. Shelly Nuss** is very busy preparing for our West Virginia Chapter meeting this fall. The meeting will be in Morgantown at The Waterfront Place Hotel, October 16, 17 and 18th ending at noon on Saturday the 18th. Please make your plans to attend and reserve your rooms early, as you know rooms are at a premium in Morgantown (Waterfront Place Hotel, 304-296-1700, [www.waterfrontplacehotel.com](http://www.waterfrontplacehotel.com)). Be sure to mention that you are with the West Virginia ACP Chapter to obtain a preferred rate. We have a fine program planned. **Dr. Scott Litin** of Mayo Clinic will be our principal speaker and **Dr. James W. Stackhouse**, ACP Regent and an internist from North Carolina, will be the College Representative. On Thursday immediately, preceding our meeting, **Dr. Derek Latos** has planned a nephrology meeting and you are welcome to take part in that meeting as well. This is a wonderful opportunity to increase your CME credits.

Internal Medicine 2008, held in Washington DC this May, was a very successful meeting. The scientific sessions were excellent and even with all the responsibility as your Governor, I was able to attend several sessions and found them very informative and helpful to my practice. It was very nice to see many of you there. We have two new Fellows in



our chapter, **Dr. Charin L. Hanlon** of Charleston and **Dr. Arif R. Sawari** of Morgantown. Dr. Sawari also received the Herbert S. Waxman Award for Outstanding Medical Student Educator. So you see, our chapter was well represented.

Leadership Day took place on Wednesday, May 14 and as your Governor, I visited the offices and met with the legislative liaisons of **Senators Robert Byrd** and **John D. Rockefeller** and **Representatives Nick Joe Rahall**, **Allen Mullahan** and **Shelly Moore Capito**. I also met personally with Representative Capito. In each meeting I discussed the critical importance of reversing the planned 10% cut in medicare payments and the need to correct the

flawed sustained growth formula. Emphasis was placed on the importance of improving payments for primary care physician services. Furthermore, I asked each of them for their support for the funding of pilot programs for the development of the patient-centered medical home. As you know, the patient-centered medical home is a concept strongly promoted by the ACP to improve the quality of care and the compensation for primary care services.

The ACP is our professional home (a broader description is provided in this newsletter). I encourage you to be involved in College activities and to take advantage of the many resources the College provides for your benefit. Best wishes and hope to see you Morgantown this Fall.

Sincerely yours,

**Charles "Skip" Turner, MD, FACP**  
**Governor, West Virginia Chapter, ACP**

## **Patient-Centered Medical Home**

*The Patient-Centered Medical Home\** ("medical home") is a model of care that puts the needs of the patient first. The medical home is the base from which health care services are coordinated to provide the most effective and efficient care to the patient. This includes the use of health information technology, the coordination of specialty and inpatient care, providing preventive services through health promotion, disease management and prevention, health maintenance, behavioral health services, patient education, and diagnosis and treatment of acute and chronic illnesses.

### The Medical Home Treats the Whole Person

At the center of the medical home is a personal physician who partners with the patient to coordinate and facilitate medical care. Each patient has an ongoing relationship with a personal physician trained to provide first contact, continuous and comprehensive care. The medical home is responsible for providing for all the patient's health care needs or taking responsibility for appropriately arranging care with other qualified professionals. The personal physician leads a team of individuals who collectively take responsibility for the ongoing care of patients.

### Patient-Centered Care Puts the Needs of the Patient First

The medical home puts the needs and desires of the patient first by creating an environment where patients have a relationship with a doctor who knows them, their medical history and their family. Practices advocate for their patients to support the attainment of optimal, patient-centered outcomes defined by the planning process

driven by a compassionate partnership between physicians, patients, and the patient's family. The medical home does not restrict patient access to services - rather it helps ensure that the right patient receives the right services at the right time.

### Patient-Centered Care Places Emphasis on Quality and Safety

Quality and safety are the hallmarks of the medical home. Evidence based medicine, health information technology, and clinical decision support tools guide decision making to support patient care, performance measurement, patient education, and enhanced communication. Ensuring the coordination and comprehensive approach of the medical home model over time will improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the health care system and ultimately improve health outcomes.

### The Medical Home is a Better Health Care Delivery Model

Studies from across the globe have validated the medical home delivery model. Examples from the U.S. Veterans Administration (VA) medical care system transformation, Denmark and other areas indicate that patient-centric models of care result in lower hospitalization rates, lower rates of death for heart disease, cancer, and stroke, and reduced rates of medical errors - which has also shown to improve quality, increase patient satisfaction, and cost efficiency.

*\* The medical home is consistent with recommendations made by a number of professional societies such as the American College of Physicians, American Academy of Pediatrics, the American Academy of Family Physicians, and the American Osteopathic Association*

## **ACP Awards and Masterships: Nominate your Heroes, Mentors, and Colleagues**

The Awards Committee of the American College of Physicians invites your help in recognizing the accomplishments of distinguished individuals and organizations through the College's awards and Masterships. Nominations are now open for the 2008-09 awards cycle, which will end with the College's bestowing eighteen awards and approximately 40 Masterships during the Convocation ceremony at Internal Medicine 2009. These awards recognize outstanding contributions in the practice of medicine, teaching, research, public service, leadership, and medical volunteerism.

The updated Awards and Mastership Booklet contains criteria for the College's honors plus instructions for writ-

ing nominating and supporting letters. Please note that a minimum of five detailed supporting letters and a curriculum vitae (or equivalent) with full bibliography are required for nominations to be considered. The deadline for materials is July 1, 2008. In keeping with ACP's Diversity Policy, the Awards Committee requests that nominators consider a wide array of outstanding candidates including women, underserved minorities, other ethnic groups, and international members and colleagues.

Please note that only ACP Fellows may be nominated for Mastership, and that Masterships as well as awards are competitive—that is, the most outstanding are selected by comparison. Both Mastership and awards nominations should be handled confidentially, and individuals should not self-nominate.

For questions and for information about the status of nominations submitted previously, please contact the staff liaison to the Awards Committee, **Martha Cornog**, at [mcornog@acponline.org](mailto:mcornog@acponline.org), 800-523-1546, ext. 2696, or direct at 215-351-2696. For printed copies of the Awards and Masterships Booklet, please contact **Meghann Williams**, Coordinator, Awards-Convocation and Diversity, at [mewilliams@acponline.org](mailto:mewilliams@acponline.org), ext. 2714, or direct at 215-351-2714.

## College Launches Leadership Program

The College has launched a new leadership development program that will unroll over the next three years. The Leadership Enhancement and Development (LEAD) program is designed to help young Fellows in particular cultivate leadership skills they can use in any setting.

The first elements of the program are now in place. The CME portion will be available at IM 2008. A pre-course entitled Essential Competencies for the Emerging Leader will be offered on Wednesday, May 14, 2008. You can register online at [http://www.acponline.org/meetings/internal\\_medicine/2008/attendees/course\\_listings/emer\\_lead.htm](http://www.acponline.org/meetings/internal_medicine/2008/attendees/course_listings/emer_lead.htm), or by calling 800-532-1546, ext. 2600. Several other courses will also focus on leadership skills such as negotiating, managing change, making presentations, and serving in the government. Watch for these in the IM 2008 Final Program.

A second component, online mentoring, is also underway. Experienced leaders are available in the LEAD discussion group to explore a variety of leadership challenges with members. The "challenges" will be announced every two weeks in the ACP Internist Weekly. Go to [http://www.acponline.org/education\\_recertification/resources/leadership\\_development/challenges/](http://www.acponline.org/education_recertification/resources/leadership_development/challenges/) to join the dis-

ussion now.

Another component of the program is chapter involvement. Find out how you can take an active roll in local chapter activities by calling your Governor to discuss the Five Pathways to Leadership Development at the Chapter Level, available at [http://www.acponline.org/education\\_recertification/resources/leadership\\_development/chapter\\_activities/](http://www.acponline.org/education_recertification/resources/leadership_development/chapter_activities/).

Those who meet five out of seven criteria within any three-year time period will be eligible for a LEAD Certificate of Completion ([http://www.acponline.org/education\\_recertification/resources/leadership\\_development/certificate/](http://www.acponline.org/education_recertification/resources/leadership_development/certificate/)).

An overview of the whole program can be found at [http://www.acponline.org/education\\_recertification/resources/leadership\\_development/](http://www.acponline.org/education_recertification/resources/leadership_development/).

## Congratulations to Arif R. Sarwari, recipient of the Herbert S. Waxman Award for Outstanding Medical Student Educator



**Dr. Sarwari** is currently Associate Professor of Medicine and Associate Program Director for Internal Medicine at the Robert C. Byrd Health Sciences Center in Morgantown, West Virginia. He has an innovative style of teaching and an impressive ability to explain difficult concepts in a very simple manner. He serves as a role model and mentor for what an outstanding medical student educator should be. Dr. Sarwari has been the recipient of numerous teaching awards, and is the author of over 60 publications and presentations. He is an active member of the ACP West Virginia Chapter and was an invited speaker at our meeting in 2002. He gives clinical correlation sessions to second-year medical students, and lectures to third-year students during medicine rotations. Despite his demanding clinical, administrative, and research responsibilities, medical students are his top priority. Dr. Sarwari serves on the board of directors for Caritas House, a program for helping people who are infected with HIV.

Visit the chapter website at

[www.acponline.org/about\\_acp/chapters/wv](http://www.acponline.org/about_acp/chapters/wv)

**Kudos to the Associates who Represented the West Virginia Chapter at Internal Medicine 2008  
Associates Poster Competition**



***Jeopardy Team***

*Coach: Charin Hanlon, MD, Team: Nicholas Young, MD, Faisal Hayat, MD, Barry Mitchell, MD*