

West Virginia Chapter GOVERNOR'S NEWSLETTER

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

Spring 2003

J. Gregory Rosencrance, MD, FACP
Governor, West Virginia Chapter

MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR

It is a privilege to have been elected to serve as your Governor for the next four years for the West Virginia Chapter of American College of Physicians. I would like to encourage open communication among all members of the ACP and I look forward to hearing your thoughts and ideas. Please feel free to email me at grosencrance@hsc.wvu.edu or phone me at (304) 347-1315 if you have any questions, ideas or concerns that you may have regarding the ACP on a national or state level.

We just recently concluded our State Chapter Meeting at Glade Springs Resort, which was held May 1st through May 3rd. It is always invigorating to see old and new colleagues as well as interacting with the Fellows, Residents and Medical Students who are in attendance. New Fellows of the American College of Physicians from the West Virginia Chapter were Dr James Abraham, Dr. James Gaal and Dr. Rakesh Vohra. A new Master of the American College of Physicians from West Virginia was Dr. Derrick Latos.



**Greg Rosencrance,
MD, FACP, Governor
of West Virginia**



**Dr. Stephen Smith receiving the
Laureate Award, presented by
WV Chapter Governor Greg
Rosencrance**

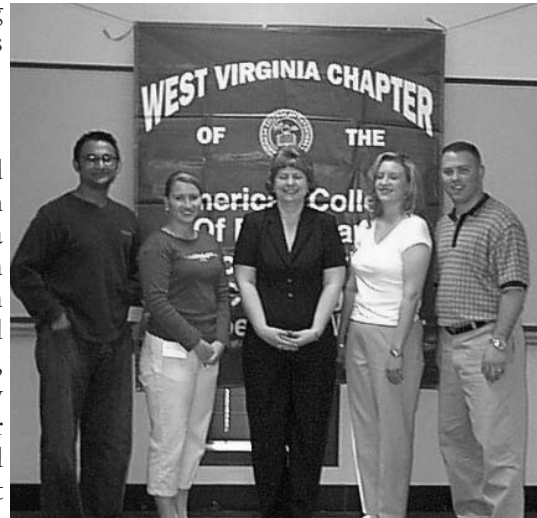
Dr. Stephen Smith was the recipient of the West Virginia Chapter Laureate Award. This award honors those Fellows or Masters of the College who have demonstrated by their example and conduct and abiding commitment to excellence in medical care, education, or research and in service to their community, their chapter, and the American College of Physicians. Dr. Smith is a Clinical Assistant Professor of Medicine, West Virginia University School of Medicine. He graduated from WVU School of Medicine in Morgantown, West Virginia and completed his residency at WVU Charleston Division in 1980. Currently, he is in private practice in Buckhannon. Dr. Smith is an outstanding physician who leads by example. He has made many valuable contributions to health care in our state. He has been involved in a number of activities related to ACP. He has served as a member on the Governor's Advisory Council and brings excellent insights regarding practice issues. He has played a pivotal role regarding health and public policy issues as a member of the West Virginia Chapter Health and Public Policy Committee. He has also served as a Chairman of the Membership Committee. His enthusiasm and quest for lifelong learning make him an excellent role model for house staff and students. He has provided leadership in his hospital by serving as a Chief of Staff on six different occasions. Dr. Smith is also very

active in providing education regarding health issues to the community and civic groups. He has also participated in several hear telethons. Dr. Smith always goes the extra mile in whatever he undertakes. We were pleased to present him with the 2003 Laureate Award.

Winners of the Clinical Vignette categories include Dr. Rameez Syeed from Marshall in the Cardiology, Endocrinology GI category, Dr. Kristy King from WVU Morgantown in the Pulmonary category, Dr. Heather Hixenbaugh from WVU Morgantown in the Hemoc/Rheumatology category, Dr. Brett Faulknier from WVU Charleston /CAMC in the Neurology /Psychiatry/Nephrology category. There was a tie for first place in the Infectious Diseases category between Dr. Shashida Bashir and Dr. Shehzad Parviz, both from WVU Morgantown.

The winner in the research category was Dr. Christopher Epling from Marshall University. All of the presentations by the Associates were well received.

The Medical Jeopardy Competition was once again a success and very well organized under the Leadership of Dr. Lynn Goebal from Marshall, Dr. Shelly Nuss from WVU Morgantown and Dr. Shelda Martin from WVU of Charleston. The Medical Student competition was won by WVU Morgantown. Once again the WVU Charleston Medical Jeopardy Team won first place in the Associates Medical Jeopardy Competition. This team is composed of Dr. Terri Cook, Dr. K.J. Rehman, Dr. Brett Faulknier and Dr. Melissa Lester. They are ably coached by Dr. Shelda Martin. This was the second year that the WVU Charleston Team has won the Associates Medical Jeopardy Competition and they will represent the State Chapter at the National Competition in New Orleans.



Congratulations to the WVU Charleston Division winners of the Associate Jeopardy Competition. Winners two years in a row!

In closing I would like to thank and congratulate Dr. Rhashida Khakoo for her superb leadership of the West Virginia Chapter of the ACP. Dr. Khakoo and the chapter were presented with two Evergreen Awards for recognition of the HSTA program and the Teaching Extravaganza Programs for the past year.

As a reminder, the next chapter meeting will not be held until the fall of 2004 at a date and site yet to be chosen. The Advisory Council was interested in exploring Stonewall Jackson State Park as a meeting site and this will be explored. Annual Session for 2004 will be April 22-24 in New Orleans. I hope to hear from you prior to the time, but if not I will look forward to seeing you in New Orleans.

REGENTS TAKE ACTION ON SPRING 2003 RESOLUTIONS

At the April 5, 2003 Organizational Meeting of the Board of Regents, Dr. Jeffrey Harris, Chair, Board of Governors, presented for discussion and vote fourteen (14) Spring 2003 Resolutions from the Board of Governors, along with recommendations for their referral and implementation. [Click here](#) for a summary of the BOR's actions.

If you need additional information regarding the Spring 2003 Resolutions, please contact Alison Dufner, BOG Administrator at (800) 523-1546, ext. 2716, or adufner@acponline.org.

Call for Resolutions Members have until June 18 to submit resolutions to be heard at the October Board of Governors meeting.

ADVISORY COUNCIL

The Advisory Council voted unanimously to become part of the "Mentor Recruitment Process", the vote was also unanimous to become members of the Health Care Coalition.

REGENTS APPROVE NAME CHANGE:

The Regents approved a resolution to change the College's name back to "American College of Physicians" and adopt a new logo with the corporate tag line, "Internal Medicine Doctors for Adults". College leaders believe this tag line will help better identify the College's membership for the public.

The Regents cited two main reasons for the name change. First, American College of Physicians-American Society of Internal Medicine is cumbersome. Reporters have objected to the name's length, and some have been confused by the current moniker. Although ACP-ASIM was meant to denote a merged organization, some have referred to the College as ACP and ASIM, indicating two separate organizations.

The Board of Governors developed the name change resolution after more than a year's efforts to create a new corporate identity for the College that would work best for members. For more on the decision-making process, see "Regents to take final vote on new name for ACP-ASIM", in the October ACP-ASIM Observer.

The new name and logo was officially rolled out at the 2003 Annual Session in San Diego.



WEST VIRGINIA WINS EVERGREEN AWARD

The West Virginia Chapter created two unique educational Programs that have expanded over several years.

First the Chapter teamed up with the West Virginia University Health Sciences Center to hold a four-event "Learning Extravaganza". The program provided fun learning opportunities for faculty, students and incorporated innovative technology.

The chapter also developed a program in conjunction with West Virginia University's Health Sciences and Technology Academy to interest rural and minority high school students in health care careers. Students attended chapter meetings where they could participate in skill-building exercises, select a mentor and attend social functions with internists.



Dr. Sarah Walker presenting Dr. Rashida Khakoo, former WV Chapter Governor and Dr. Greg Rosencrance, WV Chapter Governor with the Evergreen Award.

GOVERNORS DISCUSS ATTRACTING YOUNG PHYSICIANS, MORE

From the May ACP Observer, copyright © 2003 by the American College of Physicians.
By Phyllis Maguire

SAN DIEGO- At their meeting during Annual Session, the Governors made several recommendations to the Board of Regents on issues including attracting young physicians to internal medicine, recertification and physician advocacy. Here is an overview of those recommendations and the actions the Regents took later in the week:

* **Attracting medical students and residents.** Several recommendations discussed how the College can encourage more medical students and residents to choose careers in internal medicine and participate more in ACP activities.

One recommendation urged the Regents to provide free Annual Session registration to Associates who actively participate in the meeting. Rashida A. Khakoo, FACP, outgoing Governor for the West Virginia Chapter, supported the recommendation, but expressed concern about costs. Chapters typically pay for all of their Associates' Annual Session expenses, she said, and some small chapters are already hard-pressed to cover the costs of residents' airfare and hotels.

Frederick E. Turton, FACP, Governor for the Florida Chapter and Chair-elect of the Board of Governors, pointed out that many financially strapped teaching hospitals were no longer sending Associates to Annual Session because teaching programs can't afford expenses including registration.

The Regents referred the resolution to the College's Finance Committee and Council of Associates for further study.

Another recommendation directed the Regents to work with academic internal medicine organizations to improve financial counseling for students and residents, and to design financial management services. The recommendation calls for the College to advocate for adequate public medical school funding to reduce debt and to stop schools from levying midyear or retroactive tuition increases.

The Regents adopted the recommendations to reduce financial burdens for students and residents. The Governors also recommended that the Regents direct College staff to analyze available data on medical students' declining interest in internal medicine as a career, and to use that analysis to take steps to reverse the decline. The Regents adopted the recommendation and will implement it as part of a larger reform package to revitalize the profession. (For more, see "ACP leaders seek ways to revitalize internal medicine.")

*** Recertification.** The Governors recommended that the Regents establish set points in time to evaluate and report on the progress being made by the Liaison Committee on Recertification. The group gives College and specialty society representatives a chance to provide input on the American Board of Internal Medicine's recertification process.

Richard L. Neubauer, FACP, Governor for the Alaska Chapter (which co-sponsored the recommendation), said the move would reassure internists who want to see changes in the recertification process. "Many internists may be waiting to see if this new input procedure will yield results," he said.

Anne Winkler, FACP, incoming Governor for the Missouri Chapter, agreed. She pointed out "defining

set points may help members see the process going forward."

The Regents adopted the recommendation.

*** Advocacy.** The Governors made several recommendations to promote physician advocacy. One recommendation asked the Regents to update the ACP Online Legislative Action Center to help members contact their state legislators about proposed health care-related legislation. The Regents forwarded the recommendation to the Health and Public Policy Committee for further study.

Another recommendation directed the Regents to facilitate cooperation between chapters and state medical societies to support resolutions in the AMA's House of Delegates that advance the College's agenda. The Regents adopted this recommendation.

And another recommendation urged the Regents to develop an annual award to be given each year at Annual Session to recognize members for their advocacy efforts. J. Marc Shabot, FACP, outgoing Governor for the Texas Southern Chapter, pointed out that physician advocacy provides not only educational benefits but also patient benefits.

The Regents forwarded this recommendation to the Awards Committee for further study.

*** Mastership.** The Governors recommended that the College no longer limit the number of Masterships it awards each year. If cost concerns stand in the way of conferring more Masterships, some Governors concluded, the College should explore ways that honorees or chapters could share some of the costs associated with the Mastership process. Several Governors said that limiting the number of Masterships inevitably excludes well-qualified candidates from receiving the award.

The Regents forwarded the recommendation to the Awards Committee for further study.

*** Durable medical equipment advertising.** The Governors recommended that the Regents advocate for stricter government oversight of durable medical equipment advertising, as well as for legislation requiring advertising to include Medicare guidelines for medical necessity coverage.

The Regents adopted this recommendation.

*** National Health Service Corps funding.** Finally, the Governors recommended that the Regents advocate for full and continuing funding for the National Health Service Corps to help provide an adequate workforce in health professional shortage areas.

The Regents adopted the recommendation.

NEW ACP PATIENT EDUCATION PROGRAM

The American College of Physicians is developing a new comprehensive Patient Education Program for our members. In the first phase of the program, the College is partnering with Vitality Communications/StayWell to publish a series of ACP Special Reports. These are patient education brochures focusing on specific health problems commonly treated by Internists. The preliminary listing of Special Report topics include:

Diabetes
Obesity
Peripheral Vascular Disease
Stroke
Hypertension
Cholesterol
Anxiety & Depression
GERD HIV

Asthma
Allergies
COPD
Arthritis
Irritable Bowel Syndrome
Overactive Bladder
Osteoporosis
HRT
And More....

Highlights of the program:

*The content of each ACP Special Report has been reviewed and approved by ACP Scientific Policy Staff and will provide patients with valuable educational information from trusted sources.

*ACP Special Reports feature approved scientific guidelines that have been written in easy to understand English. Each attractively designed ACP Special Report clearly and succinctly presents treatment and management details that the patient must follow to counter the effects of the disease, condition or health problem. ACP Special Reports furnish additional references to trusted sources both in print and on the Web. Finally, the role of the Internist in helping patients to combat their health problem is explained with URL reference provided to the Doctors for Adults Web site.

*ACP Special Reports will be distributed free to ACP member physicians who request them. No pharmaceutical advertising is included in the ACP Special Reports, but the underwriting cost for the development, printing and distribution of the ACP Special Reports will be provided through unrestricted educational grants from leading pharmaceutical companies.

Order your ACP Special Reports now. ACP Special Reports will be shipped to you as soon as they become available.

ACP- KEEPING YOU CONNECTED

Help us keep you up-to-date on the latest College news and important happenings in internal medicine! Please take a moment to provide ACP with your email address. ACP will not sell or share your e-mail address.

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<http://www.acponline.org/chapters/wv>