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Greetings to ACP members in Downstate Illinois:

Congratulations to Dr. Agamah

Our ACP member and colleague from Springfield, Illinois, won a national award: the **Oscar E. Edwards Memorial Award for Volunteerism and Community Service**. The winner is **Edem S. Agamah, MD, FACP**. The award honors the memory of Dr. Oscar E. Edwards, former Governor and Regent of the College. The Edwards award is bestowed upon an ACP Medical Student Member, Resident/Fellow, Member, Fellow, or Master who has initiated or been involved in volunteer programs, or has provided post-training volunteer service. Volunteer work must have been done as a physician or medical trainee and be medically related. Dr. Agamah won the award because of his outstanding work as a volunteer in Ghana and in Central Illinois.

Our ACP Chapter is 2020 Chapter Excellence Award-Gold Level Winner

I am pleased to announce that our ACP Illinois Southern chapter is in receipt of the Gold Level of the 2020 Chapter Excellence Award! The award recognizes truly extraordinary chapters that surpass excellence in chapter management. We are in the company of 34 other outstanding

chapters. In order to achieve the Gold Level of the Chapter Excellence Award, chapters must meet twenty-one Bronze criteria, fourteen Silver criteria and multiple Gold level activities. Criteria include such activities as having a legislative action plan or agenda, holding multiple stand-alone meetings, implementing a strategic plan, implementing a formal recruitment and retention plan and measuring outcomes, conducting various activities for Medical Students, Residents and Early Career Physicians. I would like to extend a special thanks to those chapter members who assisted us in all of these endeavors! For their hard work and dedication, we received this award.

ACP Statements Supporting Science and Expertise

ACP joined other professional organizations to support scientific, data driven decisions, and public health officials during the COVID pandemic.

- On September 27, ACP joined close to 100 other organization representing physicians and other clinicians, public health experts, scientists, patients, and other advocates, urging FDA Commissioner Hahn and Director Marks of the Center for Biologics Evaluation and Research to ensure that a COVID-19 vaccine is only authorized or licensed when it meets the Food and Drug Administration's (FDA's) existing high standards of safety and efficacy. https://www.acponline.org/acp_policy/letters/joint_letter_requesting_cov...
- On August 27, ACP again expressed public support for the use of science, based on the best available evidence, in the fight against COVID-19 and emphasized that public health agencies should not be subjected to pressure or be influenced to issue policies that are not based on evidence and expert recommendations of their own scientists. <https://www.acponline.org/acp-newsroom/acp-supports-the-use-of-science-t...>
- On July 14, ACP issued a statement supporting the use of scientific expertise, based on the best available evidence, in the fight against COVID-19 and urging national, state and local officials to heed the advice and information from leading experts. This statement included explicit support for Dr. Anthony Fauci, who received Mastership from ACP, in his effort to help stop the spread of COVID-19. <https://www.acponline.org/acp-newsroom/acp-supports-the-use-of-scientifi...>

Historical Perspective of Medical Education for Black Physicians in the U.S.: A Presentation by Ryan Mire

ACP Board of Regents member, Ryan D. Mire, MD, FACP, provides a detailed history of medical education for Black physicians in the United States and the racial disparities physicians faced throughout several important time periods. The presentation can be viewed [here](#).

Register for ACP Illinois Virtual Internal Medicine Chapter Meeting

The 2020 scientific meeting of the ACP Illinois Northern and Southern Chapters will be online-only. More schedule information for the half day meeting coming soon. Registration is OPEN!

The meeting date is December 4th, 2020.

Register for the meeting [HERE](#).

I wish to thank the Chair of the Education Committee, Vidya Sundareshan, MD, MPH, FACP, FIDSA, and all of the committee members for their expertise and sage advice as we implement an online meeting format.

New Zoom Background Containing ACP Logo and I.M. Proud Imprint

Zoom virtual backgrounds have become extremely popular and you have access to a new background featuring the ACP logo and I.M. Proud imprint.

Download the image to either your desktop or to your iPhone photo library.

NOTE: The ZOOM app for Android phones doesn't support custom virtual backgrounds.

Watch this [short video](#) detailing how to change your Zoom virtual background on your desktop.

How to change your Zoom background on the iOS mobile app (compatible only on iPad, and iPhones 8 or higher).

1. Download background image file to your Photo Library
2. Download the **Zoom app** for **iOS** to your **iPhone** or iPad.
3. Open the **app**, sign in and join a meeting.
4. Tap the three dots at the bottom right to open the More menu. (3 dots ...)
5. Tap **Virtual Background**.
6. Select one of **Zoom's** defaults, or upload one of the college backgrounds from your Photo Library. (Tap the + sign)

[Download Zoom Background](#)

For questions, please contact [Julie Sikora](#).

ACP, AAFP Release New Guideline for Treatment of Non-Low Back Pain from Musculoskeletal Injuries in Adults

ACP and the American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP) have published an [evidence-based guideline](#) in *Annals of Internal Medicine*. The guideline provides clinical recommendations based on current best available evidence of the benefits and harms of non-pharmacological and pharmacological management of acute pain from non-low back, musculoskeletal injuries in adults in the outpatient setting, taken in context of costs and patient values and preferences. This guideline does not address non-invasive treatment of low back pain, which is covered by a separate ACP guideline that has also been endorsed by AAFP.

Advance to FACP

Do you seek promotion to the rank of Fellow of the American College of Physician? Learn how at <https://www.acponline.org/membership/physician-membership/acp-fellowship>
For more information, send an email to FACP@acponline.org

Call for moderators for MKSAP Online Study Hall

Our chapter is a co-host of the MKSAP Online Study Hall with the ACP Illinois Northern Chapter. There are open positions in the calendar during the next year for ACP IL members who would like to lead sessions as moderators. The role of moderator is akin to presenter or facilitator. If you are interested in the application process, please contact Colleen Keeku, colleenkeekuacp@gmail.com.

ACP for Early Career members

ACP Council of Early Career Members Nominations

The ACP Council of Early Career Physician Members is seeking nominations for 2021-2022. Deadline November 1st. More info here: <https://acpinternist.org/weekly/archives/2020/09/22/6.htm>

ACP for Resident/Fellow members

ACP Resident & Student Day goes online

Thank you to the residents and fellows who submitted your abstracts for the poster and clinical vignette competitions. Judges have reviewed the abstracts, and competitors are submitting their final posters now. Winners will be announced soon.

Many thanks go to Dr. Manasa Kandula, MD (Peoria) and Dr. Harini Rathinamanickam, MD (Springfield). They organized the poster and clinical vignette competitions.

ACP Council of Resident Members Nominations

The ACP Council of Resident/Fellow Members is seeking nominations for 2021-2022. Deadline November 1st. More info here: <https://acpinternist.org/weekly/archives/2020/09/22/6.htm>

Successful Midwest virtual fellowship panel in August 2020

Your ACP ILS chapter was a co-host for an online panel discussion with fellowship program directors from throughout the Midwest. Program directors answered questions submitted by senior residents who are applying for sub-specialty fellowship training.

ACP Anti-Racism in Medicine Discussion Group

The Student/Resident Student Committees invite residents to join the online discussion Anti-Racism in Medicine. Each session will be associated with a short reading, video, or story, and will include time to reflect on the material and discuss perspectives on how we may stand against racism in medicine. The expert facilitator for October is **Josune Iglesias, MD, FACP** and we are honored to discuss an article "[Taking Black Pain Seriously](#)" with author **Oluwafunmilayo**

Akinlade, M.D. The date of the online article/book club is October 21, 2020.
[REGISTER HERE](#)

ACP for Medical Students

ACP Resident & Student Day goes online

Students, thank you for submitting your abstracts to compete during ACP Resident & Student Day. The judges are reviewing your abstracts and winners will be announced soon.

ACP Council of Student Members Nominations

The ACP Council of Student Members is seeking nominations for 2021-2022. Deadline November 1st. More info here: <https://acpinternist.org/weekly/archives/2020/09/22/6.htm>

ACP Anti-Racism in Medicine Discussion Group

The Medical Student Committee invites students to join the online discussion Anti-Racism in Medicine. Each session will be associated with a short reading, video, or story, and will include time to reflect on the material and discuss perspectives on how we may stand against racism in medicine. The expert facilitator for October is **Josune Iglesias, MD, FACP** and we are honored to discuss an article "[Taking Black Pain Seriously](#)" with author **Oluwafunmilayo Akinlade, M.D.** The date of the online article/book club is October 21, 2020.

[REGISTER HERE](#)

ACP and DynaMed® Free ACP Member Access Extended to 2023

DynaMed, a valuable benefit of ACP membership, is a leading evidence-based decision-support tool for use at the point of care. ACP continues to work closely with DynaMed editors to help make DynaMed the best comprehensive clinical content resource for internists. As of August 2020, ACP has peer-reviewed the Overview and Recommendations section of over 300 of the most highly-used internal medicine topics by ACP members.

DynaMed also includes many features to ensure the best possible user experience, including:

Ease of Access Use your ACP login credentials to quickly access DynaMed on your desktop or through the free mobile app.

Comprehensive Content, Guidance You Can Trust Rigorous, evidence-based methodology for content development; robust systematic literature surveillance with frequent updates; and clinical expertise that both complements and clarifies the evidence provide guidance you can trust.

Personalized Experience Easily follow clinical topics relevant to your interests by setting up customized alerts.

Earn CME/MOC CME and MOC are automatically tracked within your account as you use DynaMed.

Access DynaMed today at [acponline.org/dynamed](https://www.acponline.org/dynamed).

Call for news items

Do you have good news about your recent award, promotion, or volunteer experience? Please share your stories with your colleagues in the ACP Illinois Southern Chapter. Send your news items to me so I can include them in the Downstate Dialogue: jfgraumlichuicomp@gmail.com

Save-the-Date

- Every Tuesday at 8:00 PM Central Time: Webinar MKSAP Live Online Study Hall
<https://www.acponline.org/about-acp/chapters-regions/united-states/illinois-chapter/news-meetings>
- October 21, 2020, Medical Student Online Discussion Group: Anti-Racism in Medicine
- December 4, 2020 [Illinois Virtual Internal Medicine 2020](#) Meeting

Sincerely,
Jim

James F. Graumlich, MD, FACP
Governor, Illinois Southern Chapter
American College of Physicians