

Laureate Award

The Laureate Award honors Fellows and 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.

The recipient of this award shall bear the title **Laureate of the Alabama Chapter**.

This award shall be presented at the Annual Scientific Meeting. The awardee should accept the recognition in person, unless excused by the Governor. The awardee is to be nominated by a process that may originate from the Awards Committee or from any member of the Chapter. The nomination must document the attributes and accomplishments of the nominee.

The awardee should be a senior physician and Fellow or Master of long-standing, with acknowledged excellence and peer approval in the field of internal medicine. In addition, the awardee should have served the Chapter with distinction.

It is with distinct pleasure that this year the Alabama Chapter of the American College of Physicians presents the Laureate Award to Ross B. Vaughn, MD, FACP. Dr. Vaughn is a long-standing and loyal supporter of the College, has rendered distinguished service to the Chapter, and has upheld the high ideals and professional standards for which the College is known.

We salute and honour him on this occasion, and we wish him well in the future.

Wickliffe J. Many, Jr., MD, FACP
Governor, Alabama Chapter

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Alabama Chapter

Ross B. Vaughn, MD, FACP

Laureate Award
May 2013

"No person was ever honoured for what he received. Honour has been the reward for what he gave."

-Calvin Coolidge

Ross B. Vaughn, MD, FACP
2013 ACP Alabama Chapter Laureate Award



Dr. Vaughn has practiced internal medicine in Tuscaloosa since 1996. He has been an effective clinician, a valued teacher, and a consistent advocate for the timeless values of medicine. A native of Anniston, he was the first in his family to graduate from college, receiving his undergraduate education at UAB with Presidential Honors. He graduated AOA

from The University of Alabama School of Medicine, followed by medical residency and Chief Medical Residency at UAB, receiving awards for outstanding medical teaching. His role models have included Bob Lokey and Jack Trigg in Anniston, Alan Siegal at UAB, and John Burnum of Tuscaloosa, making his choice of internal medicine hardly a surprise.

On arriving in Tuscaloosa, Dr. Vaughn combined a demanding practice with a commitment to teaching as a member of the faculty of the College of Community Health Sciences, where he now serves as Associate Professor. He fills three months a year as ward attending in medicine and contributes regularly to the lectures and teaching conferences of the medical school. Dr. Vaughn has been a leader at DCH Regional Medical Center, where he has served on numerous committees and as Chair of the hospital's Department of Medicine. He has been active in his county medical society, serving as President on two occasions, and he has served in several capacities with the state medical association.

As an active and enthusiastic member of the College, Dr. Vaughn has made remarkable contributions. He has served as Board member and Vice President of the chapter and as Vice President and President of Alabama ACP Health Services. As chair of our state Health Policy Committee, he led the chapter's

focus on the Patient Centered Medical Home, developing a statewide pilot with Blue Cross Blue Shield of Alabama. He then established an NCQA-accredited medical home in his own practice group. He has represented the chapter in regular meetings with members of Congress and with ACP leadership. For his exceptional advocacy for internal medicine and our patients, Dr. Vaughn received the 2009 Chapter Advocacy Award. In 2012, he was awarded the National Top Advocate Award by the ACP.

Dr. Vaughn has made significant contributions to his church and community. He has been Youth Committee Chair, Deacon, and Elder of First Presbyterian Church of Tuscaloosa. In 2009 he was Volunteer of the Year of the Tuscaloosa County Preservation Society. He has been board member and capital campaign leader of Caring Days Alzheimer's Enrichment Center and a longtime board member of the DCH Foundation.

Ross and his wife Julie have been best friends since the second week of medical school. Julie, now a pediatrician, is a former six-time All-American gymnast at UA. Their 16 year-old son Bradley is an Eagle Scout and hunting partner to his dad, and 13 year-old daughter Meredith enjoys art, acting, and dance. Ross's interests include family travel, boating, gardening, the hunting of duck and upland birds, and the avid pursuit of Alabama football and gymnastics.

When describing the joy of medicine, Ross states, "I can't think of anything I enjoy more than seeing and discussing an interesting case with an enthusiastic student." As a consistent advocate for traditional physician-patient relationships, he says he believes that "no one takes better care of a patient than their own personal physician."