

## July 2021 Newsletter



### Governor's Update

It is hard to believe that we have come to the end of the year -- definitely one for the record books. There are certainly many things that we will be more than happy to leave behind, but there are also a ton of things that we carry with us.

I was on an ACP Committee call the other day, and the ice-breaker was each person sharing the “silver lining” from the time under the intense pandemic. Everyone was able to readily identify things that they learned through the last year that we want to carry forward – appreciation for those closest to us, awareness of blooms on plants and trees, a sense of community that came from being in and around home so much, and a recognition that, as physicians, we had weathered something together. Everyone’s experience was different, but the weight of the time was felt and shouldered by all.

I have always been proud to call the ACP my professional home, but one of the “silver linings” for me is recognizing how much support the ACP provided during this time. I am particularly proud of our Delaware Chapter, and the leaders on the Governor’s Advisory Council (GAC) that pressed forward with activities without missing a beat!

Hopefully, you experienced them for yourself, but if not you can read below about our Annual Meeting, Quality Improvement Symposium, Town Halls, Medical Student networking, and educational events that seamlessly moved virtually. We also had in-person Women in Medicine retreat and a community service event that brought our Chapter together in service.

We are already at work planning for the upcoming year – looking to increase our representation across the state and with our colleagues in SGIM, SHM, MSD, and DAFP; exciting growth in Internal Medicine with the Bayhealth residency program; and of course our Governor-Elect election that will take place in the fall.

I hope you will choose this year to increase your engagement in ACP and our chapter activities. Also please reach out to me or to our GAC leaders to get more involved or with ideas to continue to improve our chapter.

Thanks,

Dan

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## **ACP Delaware Events Recap**

### **Virtual Annual Chapter Meeting**

**February 6, 2021**

**Melissa D. Morgan-Gouveia, MD, FACP**  
**Chair, 2021-22 Annual Chapter Meeting**

The Delaware ACP Chapter's 2021 Annual Scientific Meeting was held virtually on February 6, 2021. We had a very successful meeting with 89 registered attendees and 22 resident and medical student posters.

This year's virtual meeting included a fantastic lineup of speakers. Dr. Christine Laine, Editor in Chief of the *Annals of Internal Medicine*, gave a literature update. Dr. Terry Horton discussed the pandemic's impact on substance abuse. Dr. Tabassum Salam led a panel on Telehealth, including Drs. Janine Jordan, Susan Levy, and Sajid Noor. Dr. William Short presented on evaluating emerging data in the management of COVID-19. Medical student Praneeja Matta and residents Dr. Daniel Egan and Dr. Nicholas Jennelly gave oral abstract presentations.

The Chapter's 2021 Award winners included:

- **Laureate Award:** Gregory A. Masters, MD, FACP



- **Lang Award:** John Donnelly, MD, FACP



- **Hospitalist Award:** Heather Ragozine-Bush, MD, FACP



Congratulations to all award winners and thank you to the planning committee for a great virtual meeting!

We are already starting to plan for next year's event and hoping to be able to have an in-person meeting! So, **SAVE THE DATE** for the 2022 Annual Chapter Meeting scheduled for Saturday, February 5, 2022, at the John Ammon Center in Christiana Hospital.

### **ACP Virtual Leadership Day**

**May 25-26, 2021**

**Selvam J. Mascarenhas M.D FACP CHCQM-PHYADV  
Chair, Health, and Public Policy Committee**

The Delaware ACP Delegate had a chance to take part in the ACP's Leadership Day. We were updated on ongoing healthcare policy issues in Washington DC and had the opportunity to engage our Representatives in Congress on these issues. Dr. Debbie Zarek, Dr. Dan Elliott, and Dr. Justin Eldridge discussed policy in areas of primary care with regards to reimbursement, care coordination, diversity and inclusion, administrative burden, and drug cost. Dr. Selvam Mascarenhas and Dr. Deepak Vedamurthy addressed workforce issues

related to immigration policy and physician wellness. Dr. Chelsey Johnson discussed policy issues that would reduce debt to physicians in training, and the need to address the physician shortage by expanding GME positions. Despite the virtual platform, members of the Delegate had a great experience and enjoyed our discussions with our Representatives in Congress.

### **Women in Medicine/Wellness Retreat**

**Hilton Hotel, Newark, DE**

**May 22, 2021**

**Himani Divatia, DO, FACP**



What a wonderful opportunity occurred on May 22nd when the ACP DE Chapter Women in Medicine committee hosted an incredibly rejuvenating and resilience-building retreat for ACP WIM. After this past long year, all were able to gather outdoors and spend time focusing on developing the next version of themselves. The day started with a barre class from Cycology202 beaming with powerful music and female physical mental and emotional strength! Following this, the group engaged in a deep and formative conversation around developing their leadership journey as a woman in medicine, led by Ms. Amy Stengel, director of the University of Delaware Women's Leadership Initiative. The morning rounded out with a powerful discussion on wellness during times of crisis by Dr. Mark Mason, well-being specialist with the ChristianaCare Center for WorkLife Well-Being. The connection, compassion, and camaraderie beaming from the day were brighter than the sun shining over Newark. Thanks, ACP, WIM retreat was a win! Looking forward to next year with new topics and more friends!

## **QI Symposium (Virtual)**

**May 27, 2021**

**Gretchen Rickards**

Our 2nd annual Delaware ACP Resident QI Symposium was a great success! The fully virtual event showcased 23 quality improvement projects representing the work of 63 residents and over 15 faculty mentors. Topics included healthcare disparities, patient engagement, blood pressure management, preventive screenings, vaccination practices, and other pressing national and local issues. The event's top prizes went to Dr. Stanley Cheng (best oral presentation) for his project entitled, "Penicillin-allergy no more: A pilot QI project in de-labeling  $\beta$ -lactam allergies in a select group of surgical patients," and Dr. Hiba Sayed, Dr. Ushma Vadher, and Dr. Catherine Teskin (best poster) for their project, "A resident-led interdisciplinary quality improvement initiative to enhance osteoporosis screening in an urban clinic." We are hopeful to return to an in-person format next year and look forward to the inclusion of residents from the state's newest internal medicine residency program, Bayhealth! Congratulations to all of the residents who presented work at this event and thank you to the many project mentors, abstract judges, and event judges who contributed.

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## **Save the Date**

**2022 Annual Chapter Meeting – LIVE!**

Saturday, February 5, 2022

John Ammon Center, Christiana Hospital

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## **News from the Field**

**COVID hospitalizations in Delaware down to less than 20**

*Delaware Public Media*

To view click [HERE](https://www.delawarepublic.org/post/covid-hospitalizations-delaware-down-less-20) (<https://www.delawarepublic.org/post/covid-hospitalizations-delaware-down-less-20>).

**To fully vaccinate children against Covid-19 by the time school starts, many parents must act now**

*CNN*

To view click [HERE](https://www.cnn.com/2021/06/28/health/covid-vaccine-school-start-wellness/index.html). (<https://www.cnn.com/2021/06/28/health/covid-vaccine-school-start-wellness/index.html>)

**There are at least 200 known cases of the Delta Plus coronavirus variant worldwide.**

**Here's what we know**

*CNN*

To view click [HERE](https://www.cnn.com/2021/06/25/health/delta-plus-variant-explainer-intl-hnk-scn/index.html). (<https://www.cnn.com/2021/06/25/health/delta-plus-variant-explainer-intl-hnk-scn/index.html>)

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## **Governor's Advisory Council (GAC)**

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