

#### **Governor's Newsletter**



George D. Everett, MD MS MACP, President/Governor Ankush Bansal, MD FACP FACPM SFHM, Governor **SPRING 2023** 

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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



George D. Everett, MD MS MACP FL Chapter ACP President/Governor

We can finally begin to see ourselves and others again as we edge into a world with declining risks of viral transmission. We can all agree on one thing: it's been a long, hard slog and it isn't over yet. The political, medical, and social ramifications of COVID-19 are still evolving. We have all learned multiple lessons about coping with the pressures of rapid changes in our surroundings. We have counseled innumerable people about the safest procedures to be followed in the present and soothsaying about the future. We would all like to take a break from the conversation. We might take solace by the Persian adage "This too shall pass" which has been translated into many languages and was a favored saying of Abraham Lincoln, who knew a little bit about turmoil and conflict. This wisdom applies to both good and bad situations. I would add a corollary that predictions about when this shall pass are the conjectures of the impatient. Let's all patiently hang in there together with our ACP compatriots and maintain the compassionate, scientific, and humble elements of

our profession.

We have exciting news. The American College of Physicians Board of Governors is meeting in Orlando, Florida, from October 12 -14, 2023. Dr. Bansal and I, and our new Governor-elect, Elisa Sottile, will be attending the meeting. Hopefully, a hurricane will not upend the meeting as it has in the recent past. It might be helpful to many of you to better understand the administrative structure of the ACP. I must confess that I didn't fully understand it myself before election to Governorship. Each of the 85 chapters of the ACP has an elected Governor, except that in Florida, we are the world's largest chapter and get 2 governors. The Governors meet twice yearly to help guide the direction of the College and to make your voice heard by the College. The final decision-making body of the ACP is the Board of Regents who consist of officers and elected members. Dr. Jason Goldman, past Governor of Florida ACP is a member of the Board of Regents. The Board of Governors advise the Board of Regents.

The annual residency match is just around the corner and will likely be available by the time of this newsletter. We hope to see as many as possible of our state's more than 40 Internal Medicine residencies at our Chapter meeting on March 25. This meeting has grown exponentially as the expansion of undergraduate and graduate medical education has taken place in Florida over the last 15 years. The medical school population in Florida has also grown at a blistering pace.

Continued on page 2

#### President's Message continued

We welcome participation by all medical schools in Florida in our chapter meetings. Feel free to reach out and encourage membership in the ACP to all of your Internist colleagues.

Finally, remember that the ACP is first and foremost about your education and your advocacy. The Medical Knowledge Self-Assessment program, now in it's 19<sup>th</sup> edition, is available for you to keep your knowledge current. Also, the ACP National meeting is April 27-29, 2023 in San Diego. You can go and learn about the many advances in medical care, get hands-on ultrasound training, see old friends, meet with the Governors and cheer on our Doctor's Dilemma team from Orlando Health.



#### **CALL FOR ARTICLES**

We are currently accepting submissions for our "Women in Medicine" series for future publications. Featured members may be medical students, residents or practicing physicians. Articles should include a photograph of the featured member.

Please send to:
BWare@floridachapteracp.org or
DMoerings@floridachapteracp.org

#### IMG SECTION

An IMG section is in development under the guidance of cochairs Daniel Bendetowicz, MD FACP and Luis Isea, MD. The goal is to gather IMG's; including residents and practicing physicians for mentorship and to create a self-sustaining group for exchange of information and resources. An annual in person meeting and virtual meetings are planned. Stay tuned!

Interested members please email: DoctorBen@DoctorBen.net



#### **FMA ANNUAL MEETING:**

July 28—30, 2023 Hyatt Regency, Orlando, FL

Plans are taking shape for the FMA Annual Meeting July 28—30 in Orlando. We are proud to honor and support Past FL Chapter Governor and ACP Regent Jason Goldman, MD FACP as the incoming FMA President. We also support FL Chapter Governor Ankush K. Bansal, MD FACP FACPM SFHM in his campaign for Vice Speaker of the FMA.

The FL ACP Chapter delegation responsibilities include Reference committees and the House of Delegates which help to determine Medicine's priorities for the coming year.

For those interested in serving as a FL ACP Chapter delegate, please contact Executive Director Dawn Moerings in the Chapter Office at <a href="mailto:DMoerings@floridachapteracp.org">DMoerings@floridachapteracp.org</a> by May 5, 2023.

# REGIONAL POSITIONS ON THE GOVERNORS' ADVISORY COUNCIL

If you are interested in serving on a committee and/or the Governor's Advisory Council, please email your curriculum vitae and statement of interest to the Florida Chapter at <a href="mailto:DMoerings@floridachapteracp.org">DMoerings@floridachapteracp.org</a>
by August 1, 2023.

Active members in good standing may be eligible to serve as a region representative in the upcoming election cycle. Please note election to the Council is for a three-year term, although, no member may serve in the same capacity as a Council member for more than two full terms.

Should you have any questions, please call the chapter office and/or send an email to our Executive Director Dawn Moerings at DMoerings@floridachapteracp.org

# GOVERNORS MESSAGE



Ankush K. Bansal, MD FACP FACPM SFHM Governor, FL Chapter ACP

Happy New Year, Internal Medicine Physicians!

While 20<sup>th</sup> century sci-fi themes about 2023 haven't exactly come true according to schedule, I couldn't imagine the growth of medicine and technology in 2023. Telemedicine. Remote patient monitoring. Personalized medicine. Directed therapies for cancer and autoimmune diseases. CAR-T-cell therapy. And now, nascent

artificial intelligence such as ChatGPT. This may indeed be the start of a Golden Age in Medicine. We are fortunate to have some of the most innovative and brightest researchers and physicians right here in Florida, many of them Internal Medicine physicians. While these advances have tremendous promise for patients and our ability to customize treatments for patients with better efficacy and reduced adverse events, they also place increased burden on us to learn about new therapies, manage more complex treatments, evaluate the utility and validity of tests and treatments, and educate our patients. Medical and "medically-adjacent" technology can also be a boon or burden. I was recently at the annual Consumer Electronics Show (CES) in Las Vegas. For the first time, there was a section on Health Technology. Tech companies are increasing their presence in the medical space – sleep trackers, urine testers, and strangely enough software using your computer's camera to determine your diabetic and cardiovascular risk. Many of these products will not pan out and get FDA approval. However, the difference now is that these companies are targeting patients directly instead of augmenting physicians' abilities to care for our patients. Whether or not you see this is as a good thing, we as physicians will have to learn about these technologies, the questions our patients will ask (grumbling about Dr. Google may soon seem quaint), and other new treatments and approaches to preventing, maintaining, and treating disease and unhealthy habits. That is why I was proud to see over 200 attendees at our well-received and positively-rated Annual Scientific Meeting in October 2022 in Ft Lauderdale where we learned about new therapies, new ways of thinking about medical care, and controversial topics that are affecting our patients now. Gratitude to our many Florida and out-ofstate internal medicine leaders and experts who spoke at the meeting. Special thanks to all those, particularly Dr. Claudio Tuda, who put together our inaugural POCUS workshop, a tremendous success.

One of my goals for my term as Governor is inclusion. I am happy to report that the Chapter has just created an International Medical Graduate (IMG) committee and a Women in Medicine (WIM) group. I am also passionate about wellness in

our profession. That is why I am excited about the work that our Wellness Committee has done over the last year and the activities planned for this year. Please reach out to us if you are interested in any of these groups.

The American College of Physicians has embarked on a rebranding of our specialty to improve the visibility and understanding of our important specialty to healthcare while combating confusion and misinterpretation. While "internist" is still a correct term, the public has been confused about what that means. Importantly, we are part of the backbone of the healthcare system, particularly primary care. We are not providers. We are not equivalent to nurse practitioners or other advanced practice providers. If the COVID-19 pandemic has not demonstrated the vital importance of primary care, including internal medicine, to healthcare in every community, then the last twelve months has shown what shortages in internal medicine physicians in many communities has done, including insufficient preventive care services and long wait times to see a primary care physician. Furthermore, there are predictions from industry analysts that primary care is declining, particularly among younger generations. We all know the importance of internal medicine for adolescents and adults, what lack of access and ongoing follow-up can lead to, the value we provide to the system in reducing hospitalizations, and the longitudinal relationships we provide our patients in their medical care. We are vital to the future of society. We are part of the solution to ensure primary care does not, in fact, decline.

That is why I.M. Proud to be an Internal Medicine Physician. That is why I.M. Proud to be an ACP member in Florida. That is why I.M. Proud to be part of the solution through organized medicine, lifelong education, mentorship, and professional relationships. I.M. Proud to be part of this Chapter and I.M. Grateful to all of you for entrusting me in being a leader of the Florida Chapter, the largest ACP chapter in the world.

I look forward to seeing many of you at our annual Residents Meeting in Orlando on March 25, 2023, where we showcase the incredible work our brilliant residents, fellows, and medical students do here in Florida through posters and Doctor's Dilemma. Additionally, please save the date for our annual Scientific meeting in Tampa from October 27 to 29, 2023.

Thank you all for the work you do, the patients you help, and the support you give each other here in Florida.

Ankush K Bansal, MD, FACP, FACPM, SFHM
Governor: Florida Chapter, American College of Physicians
Vol Clinical Asst Professor of Medicine:
Florida International University, Wertheim College of Medicine

# EARLY CAREER PHYSICIANS



Jose R. Valery MD FACP Early Career Physician Co-Chair

I am excited to introduce myself as the new Co-chair of the Early Career Physicians Council (ECPC) for the ACP Florida Chapter. I am a primary care internist at the Mayo Clinic in Jacksonville, FL. I am honored to join such a talented and dedicated group at ACP and look forward to working with my Co-Chair Avan Armaghani, MD FACP.

An early career physician (ECP) is a physician member of ACP who is within 16 years of medical school graduation and who is not a medical student or resident/training fellow. Our primary focus as co-chairs will initially be to form a diverse Early Career Physician Council (ECPC) with representatives from across the state and from various practice types. With a diverse ECPC in place, we envision a dedicated group of individuals working together to serve as the voice for ECP members in our state.

Some of the focus area for our Council include:

•Enhancing professional development and fostering

educational opportunities for ECPs. This includes activities such as poster competitions at ACP meetings, collaborating on scholarly work, presenting at ACP meetings, and serving as judges for trainee abstract competitions and as coaches for the Doctor's Dilemma teams.

- Encouraging ECP involvement in College activities at both the local and national level.
- Increasing the value of ACP membership for ECPs.
   Providing practice management resources.

If you are interested in serving the ACP Florida Chapter on the Early Career Physician Council, please send us an email at <a href="mailto:valery.jose@mayo.com">valery.jose@mayo.com</a> with your CV attached.

We look forward to working with you!

Sincerely,
Jose Raul Valery, MD, FACP
FL Chapter ACP Early Career Physician Co-Chair
Assistant Professor of Medicine, College of Medicine
Assoc. Program Director, Internal Medicine Residency
Community Internal Medicine
Mayo Clinic
valery.jose@mayo.edu

#### FL CHAPTER WELLNESS CHAMPIONS UPDATE

Following the ACP FL Chapter meeting in October, the Wellness Committee has hosted a virtual Holiday open house in December. We appreciate everyone who attended! We are looking forward to meeting many of you during the Chapter Resident and Medical Students Meeting in March. We will be setting up the traditional wellness table (stop by for chocolates!) and arranging for some meaningful discussions.

Our current goal is to find small and easy ways to engage and discuss topics related to our wellbeing as physicians, without creating extra tasks for everyone. We will be launching a series of short virtual lunchtime chats on a variety of topics, led by experts in the field. Look out for emails and zoom links. If you have a topic you are interested in hearing about or talking about, please reach out!

We appreciate all of you and are looking forward to meeting as many of you as possible in-person at upcoming meetings. Your Wellbeing Champions, Ola, Elisa and Luis

For more information please contact one of the following:

Luis Isea, MD Luis.IseaMercado.MD@adventhealth.com

Olga Karasik, MD FACP Olga.Karasik@ucf.edu

Elisa Sottile, MD FACP Elisa.Sottile@jax.ufl.edu

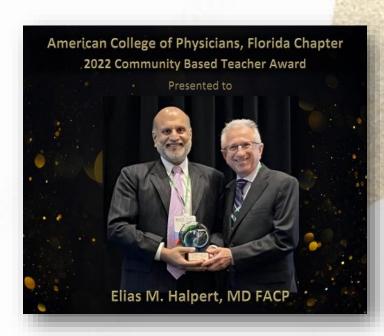
Dawn Moerings DMoerings@floridachapteracp.org

# FLORIDA CHAPTER SUPERSTARS











# FLORIDA CHAPTER SUPERSTARS

























Make plans to attend the ACP Internal Medicine Meeting 2023.

<u>CLICK HERE</u> to Register for ACP's premier Internal medicine meeting on April 27—29, 2023 and support local members. ACP will offer an experience that continues our tradition of excellence, delivering scientific content from expert faculty to keep you current across the spectrum of internal medicine.

We would like to shine a spotlight on this year's Florida Members who are serving as faculty:

## FLORIDA SPEAKERS AT IM 2023

Leyla Aponte, MD FACP & Jason Goldman, MD FACP Practical Approaches to Increasing Immunization Rates

Thursday, April 27, 2023 at 11:00 a.m.

Vivian Obeso, MD FACP & Ross Scalese, MD FACP Cardiac Murmurs: Benign or Serious Thursday, April 27, 2023 at 1:30 p.m. & 2:45 p.m. Friday, April 28, 2023 8:00 a.m.

Chrisandra Shufelt, MD FACP Clinical Pearls: Women's Health & Infectious Diseases Thursday, April 27, 2023 at 11:00 a.m.

Natalia Solenkova, MD PhD, FACP IMGs in the U.S.: Increasing Diversity and Improving Access to Care Thursday, April 27, 2023 2:45 p.m.

N. Lawrence Edwards, MD MACP How Is an Internist to Treat Gout? Friday, April 28, 2023 at 2:45 p.m.

Steven Cohn, MD MACP Office-Based Preoperative Evaluation Thursday, April 27, 2023 at 4:30 p.m.



#### FLORIDA CHAPTER RECEPTION

THURSDAY, APRIL 27, 2023 8:00—9:30 p.m.

MARRIOTT MARQUIS SAN DIEGO MARINA MARRIOTT GRAND BALLROOM, SECTION 8

JOIN YOUR FLORIDA COLLEAGUES AT THE
FLORIDA CHAPTER RECEPTION TO BE HELD DURING THE
INTERNAL MEDICINE MEETING ON
THURSDAY, APRIL 27, 2023 AT 8:00 P.M.
THE RECEPTION WILL HONOR OUR NATIONAL AND
CHAPTER AWARD WINNERS AND OUR NEW
MACPS AND FACPS

CLICK HERE TO REGISTER FOR THE RECEPTION

#### FL CHAPTER DOCTORS DILEMMA TEAM



Team Members from Orlando Health will represent the FL Chapter In the National Doctors Dilemma Competition on Thursday, April 27th at IM 2023

# 2023 CALL FOR AWARD NOMINATIONS

#### Florida Chapter American College of Physicians Outstanding Member Awards

Nominations for Awards due on or before August 1, 2023.

#### **Nomination Requirements:**

Nominees must be active members of the Florida Chapter, American College of Physicians. All submissions must include candidate's curriculum vitae, and a letter of nomination that includes a detailed statement of their activities for which he or she is being nominated, and any other pertinent information.

Florida Chapter will notify both the nominator and awardee following the Awards Committee meeting. This year's Awards Ceremony will be held live on October 28, 2023 at the Governor's Reception during the Chapter's Annual Scientific Meeting the weekend of October 27-29 at the Grand Hyatt, Tampa Bay. For questions and/or more information, please contact Dawn Moerings in the Chapter office at (904) 355-0800 or by email <a href="mailto:DMoerings@floridachapteracp.org">DMoerings@floridachapteracp.org</a>.

One of the goals of the Florida Chapter American College of Physicians is to "recognize excellence and distinguished contributions to internal medicine." As a way of achieving this goal, the Chapter offers the following awards. If you know a Florida ACP member deserving of recognition, please consider submitting a nomination for one of the Chapter Awards.



#### 🗡 Florida Chapter Laureate Award:

Laureate Award is the most prestigious award given by the Chapter. It honors Fellows or Masters of ACP 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, and their chapter of the American College of Physicians. A candidate must be long-standing and loyal supporter of the College who have rendered distinguished service to the Florida Chapter and have upheld the high ideals and professional standards for which the College is known. A candidate must be a Fellow or Master of the College for at least ten to fifteen years. The Laureate winner will be announced during the Florida Chapter Annual Award Reception.



#### 🗡 Florida Chapter Internist of the Year Award:

A physician who has demonstrated outstanding leadership and dedication to the clinical practice of internal medicine.

Consideration should be given to the totality on an individual's career. Typically, awardees will have spent at least a decade of service to their profession and to the American College of Physician, though this is not a prerequisite.



#### 🗡 Florida Chapter Early Career Physician Award:

A physician who is in practice for 16 years or less from medical school graduation, highly respected by his/her colleagues for outstanding clinical and leadership skills, and who has been a role model in the community. This individual should have distinguished themselves in service to patients, the physician community, and the community at large. The awardee should be an educator to patients and the overall medical community as well as an active member of ACP who has contributed meaningfully to the efforts of the chapter.



#### Florida Chapter Community-Based **Teacher Award:**

A physician who has demonstrated outstanding leadership and who has contributed to the education of medical students, residents, and fellows as an office-based internist.



#### 🗡 Florida Chapter Outstanding Teacher of the Year Award:

A physician who has demonstrated outstanding leadership and dedication to medical education.



#### 烤 Florida Chapter Outstanding Contributions to Advancing the Careers of Women in Medicine Award:

The Florida Chapter American College of Physicians recognizes the accomplishments of an ACP Florida woman member for distinguished contributions to advancing the careers of women in medicine. This award recognizes an individual who has furthered the careers of women medical students, residents, and/ or physicians through mentoring and leadership development for the career advancement of women.



#### 💢 Florida Chapter Key Contact Award:

A physician who has made exceptional efforts in support of the Chapter's state and federal advocacy programs throughout the past year.



#### 🗡 The Tulisa LaRocca, MD Wellness Champion Award:

The Tulisa LaRocca, MD Wellness Champion Award recognizes an individual or a program whose focus on wellbeing and/or wellness efforts is innovative and extraordinary. Individuals may be recognized for his/her own training, achievements and dissemination of wellness concepts. These activities may be at a local, regional or other level. Individuals who participate in Chapter initiatives will be given special consideration, but those who have participated in national efforts are eligible and encouraged to share activities locally. Institutions may be recognized for their efforts towards developing programs that enrich the personal and professional lives of physicians and trainees. Institutions may also be recognized by submitting their blueprints for wellness programs and agree that dissemination of such programs is permitted and will serve our professional community while acknowledging the institution's pioneering efforts. The 2020 Inaugural award honored Dr. LaRocca life and was presented to her family.



#### Florida Chapter Service Award:

In Recognition of Meritorious Service to our State & the Medical Profession.



#### 💢 Charles K. Donegan Memorial Award:

In Recognition for Distinguished Community Service.



#### 🔀 Florida Chapter John G. Langdon Volunteerism in Medicine Award:

A physician, who has distinguished themselves in voluntary service in the area of medicine like a commitment to continuing education, which is an established tradition for internists and the College. The College considers volunteerism so important that it is a major criterion for advancing to Fellowship. Recognize a colleague who actively participates in community service and volunteerism.



#### Florida Chapter Gary F. Izzo Memorial Resident Scholarship Award:

Established by the Florida Chapter ACP in memory of Gary F. Izzo; FPIC Vice President of Marketing and a personal friend to many Florida Chapter members; who devoted his life to improving the medical profession. The award is presented to a resident who, despite all the other pressures of being a resident, advocates to improve the practice of internal medicine.





# Florida 2023 ANNUAL Chapter Scientific Meeting

OCTOBER 27—29, 2023



#### **MEETING HIGHLIGHTS:**

- Internal Medicine & Subspecialty Lectures
- State Mandated Course:

**Prevention of Medical Errors** 

- Resident & Medical Students Program
- Residents & Medical Students Poster Competition
- Doctors Dilemma Competition

REGISTRATION & HOTEL RESERVATION INFORMATION COMING SOON





Temitope Akinjogbin, MD FACP	Jacksonville	Adithya Mathews, MD FACP	Lutz
Leyla M Aponte, MD FACP	Tampa	Olger Nano, MD FACP	Pembroke Pines
Lyle W Baker, MD FACP	Ponte Vedra	Tathagat Narula, MBBS FACP	Jacksonville
Jyothsna P Bandaru, MD FACP	Wildwood	Sarbagya Pandit, MD FACP	Lutz
Lorena Del Pilar Bonilla, MD FACP	Weston	Brian H Ramnaraign, MD FACP	Gainesville
Jordan M Bromberg, MD FACP	Stuart	Jorge A Restrepo, DO FACP	Orlando
Gregory M Brown, MD FACP	Leesburg	Aneta T Rusek, MD FACP	Micanopy
Maja Delibasic, MD FACP	Cape Coral	Anu Sharma, MD FACP	Gainesville
Beatrice Deshommes, MD FACP	Greenacres	Lisa A Shenkman, MD FACP	Wimauma
Joseph H Etienne, MD FACP	Boca Raton	Anita R Sikha, MD FACP	Davie
Allison P Ferrara, MD FACP	Orlando	Philip N Styne, MD FACP	Orlando
Kunal Gawri, MD FACP	Miami	Angelica Torres Morales, MD FACE	Boca Raton
Joseph Geffen, DO MPH FACP	Winter Garden	Jerome J Tuitt, MD FACP	Jacksonville
Prasanth Gogineni, MD FACP	Parkland	Jose R Valery, MD FACP	Jacksonville
Lilit Karapetyan, MD FACP	Tampa	Touqir Zahra Zahra, MD FACP	Boca Raton



# JOIN OUR MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Our Chapter is looking for new, energetic members for our Membership Committee! We welcome internists of all ages, specialties, and regions within the chapter. Participating in the committee is a great way to serve our chapter and help build our local internal medicine community while gaining leadership ex-

perience. Members of the committee are responsible for implementing chapter recruitment and retention initiatives to improve member satisfaction, improve diversity, and ultimately increase the chapter membership.

Our goal is to keep expanding our diverse membership, reaching out to potential members from all backgrounds, from residents to practicing physicians. We would love your input and collaboration on our upcoming initiatives.

Join our committee and help us keep growing our beloved chapter!

If you are interested in serving on the committee or would like to obtain more information, please contact me at luis.iseamercado.md@adventhealth.com or Dawn Moerings at <a href="mailto:dmcenage-united-uni

Luis Isea Mercado, MD Membership Chair Luis.iseamercado.md@adventhealth.com

# The Florida Chapter would like to thank the following FOR THEIR SUPPORT OF THE CHAPTER'S PROGRAMS:

# **SPONSORS**







# **EXHIBITORS**





























# **UPCOMING NEWS**

#### Watch for upcoming news on these and other topics:

- Annual Scientific Meeting Information
- Call for Abstracts for October Poster Competition
  - Resident & Medical Student Workshop
    - Resident & Medical Students News
      - Chapter Member Benefits
        - Health Policy/Advocacy



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