



## Governor's Update

*IOWA ACP GOVERNOR, KATHERINE I. HARRIS, MD, FACP*

Happy Fall to everyone. In Iowa City, “Fall” has a larger meaning - that of college football! To me, it is the environment that stands out the most - the joy of getting people together, celebrating common interests, and cheering for our team. Although our medical world is a bit more tame, we are quite similar to the tailgaters in my neighborhood. We love getting together, talking about weird, wacky, and wonderful cases, and cheering for each other when we figure out a difficult diagnosis. On the wards and in the clinics, we are cheering for our patients-always helping and hoping that their health and lives will be on the upswing.

The month of September is significant not only for the start of college football, but for the designation of being Women in Medicine Month, created to recognize the growing number of women in the medical profession. In internal medicine, the percentage of women is around 40%. In looking over data provided by the AAMC, one of the steadiest movements across medical fields has been the rise of women - from about 28.3% in 2007 to around 36% over the last couple of years. I’m happy to announce that our ACP Iowa Chapter has started a new Women in Medicine group, led by Dr. Rachael Dirksen, and we plan to host our first gathering on Friday, October 6th over the noon hour at the Progress in Internal Medicine meeting! [Register for the WIM luncheon here.](#)

In meeting with the wonderful members of the ACP Iowa Council, the message that came across is that we want to get together, see each other, and connect more. So, that is what we are working on. One way to get together is to attend the [Progress in Internal Medicine meeting!](#) This is a conference sponsored by ACP, SHM, UIHC, and the College of Pharmacy and is taking place on October 5 and 6th (no coincidence that this is preceding Homecoming weekend in Iowa City!). We will have our annual ACP business meeting and have some fun events throughout this meeting - an Awards ceremony honoring members of ACP, the ACP Clinical Vignette competition, where one resident from each program will present a fascinating case to win

a trip to the national meeting, the Doctor's Dilemma competition, where residents from each of the 4 residency programs in Iowa compete in a Jeopardy-style game to go to the national competition, and a new event, Stump the Professor, where a resident will present a challenging case and we get to hear a Master Clinician walk us through their thought process!

After the Progress meeting, we want to keep the connections going. Dr. Brent Buhr and Sam Malley, NP from Waterloo will be hosting a webinar on an interesting disease in a unique patient population (Details to come!). What brings internal medicine physicians together more than cool cases, right? We will see how this goes and I would love to have anyone interested in talking about interesting cases that they are seeing present in any format they like. Please reach out and let me know if you would be interested!  
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I hope you all have a wonderful Fall and hope to see you soon, whether you are connecting with others at the Progress in Internal Meeting or tailgating!