Happy December to all of you! I hope you are enjoying the sunny, snowy days as much as I am (and if not, I suggest indulging in hot cocoa, sitting by a fire, doing puzzles of any sort, and listening to music to help cheer you up!). As my kiddos have been preparing their Christmas lists, I’ve been making lists of all of the wonderful people we have recently celebrated in our own Iowa ACP Chapter. At our recent Iowa ACP Chapter meeting in October, we had the chance to recognize and thank some truly amazing physicians and humans.

Dr. Steven (“Steve”) Joyce was awarded the prestigious Chapter Excellence/Lifetime Achievement Award. This award is a mark of honor and recognition of achievement for a senior physician who has been a faithful member of our chapter and who has made major contributions to the field of internal medicine in the state of Iowa. Dr. Joyce has served his patients, colleagues, and the Iowa ACP for many years. He always has insightful and brilliant commentary on a wide range of topics in healthcare and beyond. He is witty, funny, and a genuinely amazing human being.
We also had the opportunity to present the ACP Laureate Award to two winners this year. The Laureate award recognizes physicians in Iowa excelling in scholarship, teaching, innovation, and service. The two winners this year are Dr. Leatrice ("Lea") Olson and Dr. Katherine ("Katie") White. Dr. Olson has served the people of Iowa for over 39 years as a physician, educator, and residency director. Her patient care has been focused on patients who are often forgotten and marginalized. Dr. White has served her patients at the Veteran's Administration and University of Iowa and has focused on education for many students and residents. Congratulations to Drs. Olson and White!

We also had an incredibly competitive Doctor's Dilemma competition! The University of Iowa-Des Moines Internal Medicine Residency program won the title! It was a nail-biter with a tie in scoring at the end of the final Doctor’s Dilemma question, the Des Moines team won with the most correctly answered questions! A big congratulations to them and best of luck at the national competition in April. We will be there cheering you on!
Our annual Clinical Vignette Competition was well attended and exciting. We had 5 presenters this year - one resident from each Internal Medicine residency program and one student from the University of Iowa College of Pharmacy. I would like to thank our judges: Drs. Steve Joyce, Brent Buhr, and Fnu Deepika. I know it was a difficult task to pick the winners. Our top winner this year is Dr. Alex Paschke, from the University of Iowa Internal Medicine Residency Program, for his presentation of “Poetic Mystery”! He will present a poster at the National ACP Poster Competition this spring.

We also celebrate our inaugural meeting of the Women in Medicine Committee. We were excited to see over 20 women in attendance and hope to continue to meet to serve
the needs of women in Internal Medicine in Iowa.

In November, we had the great fortune to hear from Dr. Brent Buhr and Samantha Maley of the People’s Clinic in Waterloo, IA. Dr. Buhr and Sam presented an amazing case and taught us about culturally competent care. If you missed it, here’s a link to see this fantastic presentation!

*** And, if you are interested in presenting a case, please reach out to me!

Upcoming Events

And now, we have the chance to look ahead to 2024! We have many activities planned for the new year and hope that you can join us - both virtually and in person. Below we have activities listed:

**Member Mondays**
Iowa ACP will begin featuring our members each Monday on our social media channels and we want you to be next! This is open to all members including students and residents. We want to get to know you and show off who our members are and what they love about medicine and doing in their spare time.

**Click here to complete the form.**

**Contract Negotiation webinar**
January 17, 2024, 6:00 PM
How do you know what you are worth? What's in a normal contract? How do I know if I have leverage? Kyle Claussen, CEO of Resolve, will join us to discuss the most problematic issues in physician contracts, including:

- Compensation
- Call Coverage
- Maternity Leave
- Non-competes
- Side Gigs
- Intellectual Property
- Private Equity Buy-outs
- & More

Bring your questions and start your career off the right way.

Register here.

How to Write a Personal Statement Hosted by Dr. Katherine Harris
February 6, 2024, 5:30 PM

Join us for a webinar designed specifically for medical students like you. This webinar will provide you with all the necessary tools and guidance to write a compelling personal statement that truly reflects your passion, dedication, and unique qualities. Whether you're just starting to draft your personal statement or looking for ways to improve what you've already written, this webinar will provide valuable insights.

Register here.

March 23, 2024
Social Gathering sponsored by the Early Career Physician, Wellness, and Women in Medicine Committees
This will take place in Des Moines in the early afternoon, more information to follow!

Finally, I feel like I cannot discuss the New Year without bringing up the fact that the Iowa ACP Chapter is co-sponsoring a resolution this year! No, this is not a New Year's resolution, but a proposal that asks ACP to take a position or take action. The ACP Iowa Council strongly supported this resolution, which I worked to draft with other Chapter Governors. The resolution is asking ACP to study the exploitation of International Medical Students and International Medical Graduates trying to obtain clinical experiences and letters of recommendation from US physicians and hospitals and take a stand against these predatory practices. We are in the process of submitting this resolution and I will keep you all updated.

I wish you all the happiest of holidays and look forward to connecting with you soon!
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