



Illinois Southern  
Region

*"The Downstate  
Dialogue"*

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#### **2018 Laureate Award recipients**

The ACP Illinois Southern Chapter bestowed the highest honor, the Laureate Award, to two members on 9 November 2018. The honorees were Holly Rosencranz, MD, FACP, and John Flack, MD, MACP.

The Laureate Award is designed to honor those Fellows and Masters of the College who have demonstrated, by their example and conduct, an abiding commitment to excellence in medical care, education, and research, and service to their community, their chapter, and the ACP.



#### **Winners announced from Resident/Student Day competitions**

Your ACP chapter conducted **Resident/Student Day on 8 November 2018**. Residents and medical students competed for cash prizes or travel stipends. The competition was fierce with many excellent presentations. The judges selected the following people as the winners.

First place prize for a medical student poster: **Alex Matelski** from the University of Illinois at Peoria. The title of his poster was, "A case of immune-mediated necrotizing myopathy due to anti-HMG-CoA Reductase antibodies."

First place for a resident's clinical vignette poster: **Pallavi Pradeep**, MBBS, from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. The poster title was, "To B, or not to B."

Second place for a resident's clinical vignette poster: **Pallavi Pradeep**, MBBS, from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. The poster title was, "An unusual case of sudden paralysis."

Third place for a resident's clinical vignette poster: **Tulika Chatterjee**, MD, from the University of Illinois at Peoria. The poster title was, "A lesion: not just skin deep."

First place for a resident's quality improvement poster: **Abdisamad Ibrahim**, MD, from the Southern Illinois University. The poster title was, "Open access scheduling for routine and urgent appointment to cardiology clinic."

Second place for a resident's quality improvement poster: **Muhammad Junaid**, MD, from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. The poster title was, "Decreasing the rate of inappropriate ordering of nuclear medicine stress testing."

First place for resident's oral clinical vignette: **Felicia Couri**, DO, from the University of Illinois at Peoria.

Second place for resident's oral clinical vignette: **Sana Grover**, MD, from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

Third place for resident's oral clinical vignette: **Sriteja Yarlagadda**, MD, from the University of Illinois at Peoria.





### **Doctor's Dilemma winners**

The Doctor's Dilemma competition generated excitement during the Resident/Student Day. The victors represented the University of Illinois at Peoria. Team members were Anjali Desai, DO, and Mohamed Said, MD, and Saqib Walayat, MD. The Peoria team will travel to Philadelphia to compete in the global championship during the annual ACP meeting: IM 2019.



### **Illinois Downstate 2019 Governor Election**

In 2019, your ACP chapter will elect a new governor to serve from May 2021 through April 2025.

A nominating committee will receive and review nominations and then prepare a ballot for the election. The Chair of the Nomination Committee is Janet A. Jokela, MD, MPH, FACP, FIDSA. Please look for more information on nomination soon.

The major duty of the Governor is to represent the members of her/his ACP Chapter. The Governor communicates with members and solicits the opinions of members. Then the Governor conveys the will of the ACP members to the Board of Governors and Board of Regents.

The Governor is responsible for the administrative functions and finances of the ACP Chapter. The Governor performs her/his duties with the advice of the Governor's Advisory Council.

The person who wins the election in 2019 will be called the Governor-elect designee from the date of election until 24 April 2020. Then, the winner of the election becomes the Governor-elect from 25 April 2020 until 30 April 2021. The Governor-elect will become the Governor from 1 May 2021 through April 2025.

If you have questions about the role of Governor, please contact me via e-mail: [jfgraumlichuicomp@gmail.com](mailto:jfgraumlichuicomp@gmail.com)

### **ACP Encourages Members to Comment on Draft Recommendations about the Future of MOC**

The Continuing Board Certification: Vision for the Future Commission, established by the American Board of Medical Specialties (ABMS), has [released its draft report](#) for [public comment](#). The report includes the Commission's key findings and recommendations, and will be open for public comment until Tuesday, January 15, 2019 at 11:00 p.m. CST.

Feedback collected during the public comment period will help shape the Commission's final report and recommendations on future continuing certification (maintenance of certification) programs. The final report will be submitted to the ABMS Board of Directors in February 2019.

The ACP encourages you to review the draft report, submit comments and share this information with colleagues.

### **Call for Fall 2019 Board of Governors Resolutions**

Are you concerned about a practice or clinical issue or have an idea you'd like to suggest? If so, you might consider submitting a resolution to your Governor or chapter council.

Initiating a resolution provides ACP members an opportunity to focus attention at the ACP national level on a particular issue or topic that concerns them. Participating in the Board of Governors resolutions process provides the ACP grassroots member a voice and allows you to shape College policy that impacts the practice of internal medicine. When drafting a resolution, don't forget to consider how well it fits within [ACP's Mission and Goals](#). In addition, be sure to use the College's 2018-2020 Priority Themes to guide you when proposing a resolution topic.

Not sure how to begin drafting a resolution? Researching the College's position on an issue can give you a start. Visit the ACP Online [homepage](#) and click the "[Advocacy](#)" link in the right-hand, top margin to access ACP policy positions, read about recent ACP advocacy activities, or search ACP's library of policies and recommendations. Visit your [chapter website](#), too, and click the link under "Advocacy" to access Electronic Resolutions System (ERS) where you can search past or proposed resolutions. A copy of the resolutions process is available on the ERS which furnishes more details on formatting resolutions, as well the process for submission, review, and approval.

Members must submit resolutions to their Governor and/or chapter council. A resolution becomes a resolution of the chapter once the chapter council approves it. If effecting change interests you, the deadline for submitting new resolutions to be heard at the Fall 2019 Board of Governors Meeting is **March 25, 2019**.

Share your good idea with us. Draft a resolution.

### **Recent resolutions adopted by the ACP Board of Regents**

Resolutions initiated by ACP members and endorsed by a chapter council and the Board of Governors become ACP policy when adopted by the Board of Regents. The ACP Board of Regents met in November 2018 and acted on the following resolutions.

#### **Adopted and referred for implementation**

- Measuring the Association between Medicare's Nonpayment Policy and the Injurious Inpatient Falls Outcome Addressed by the Hospital-Acquired Conditions (HACs) Initiative
- Promoting the High Value Provided by Primary Care Internists
- Petitioning to Change Tramadol from DEA Schedule IV to Schedule III
- Improving Reimbursement for Cognitive Services
- Reimbursing Tetanus Vaccinations for Better Patient Care
- Developing ACP Policy Opposing the Requirement for Ninety-Day Prescribing in Order That Prescriptions be Covered by Insurance Companies
- Advocating for Immunity from Federal Prosecution for Patients and Physicians in States That Allow Use of Medical Marijuana

#### **Adopted as amended and referred for implementation**

- Modifying the ACP BOG Resolutions Process to Include an Electronic Vote Count and Summary of Dissenting Opinions
- Developing ACP Policy Calling for Transparency and Community Learning Towards Physician Suicide Prevention

#### **Adopted as a reaffirmation of current ACP policy**

- Energizing the Patients Before Paperwork Project
- Calling Upon the ACP to Publicly Support the Consensus Statement Recently Prepared by a Collection of Medical/Health Care Associations Requesting Improvement in the Prior Authorization Process
- Seeking Legislation to Require Medicare Advantage, Medicaid, and Commercial Insurers Pay for Advance Care Planning

#### **Referred for Study**



- Establishing a Council of Independent Practice Internists
- Paying for Physician Performance rather than Patient Performance

### **Illinois Chapter Annual Scientific Meeting**

Your American College of Physicians - Illinois Chapter – recently hosted the annual Scientific Meeting on November 9-10, 2018, at the Embassy Suites Riverfront Hotel and Conference Center, East Peoria, Illinois. Attendees obtained points for Continuing Medical Education (CME) and Maintenance of Certification (MOC). Many thanks go to **Vidya Sundareshan MD, MPH, FACP, FIDSA**, for her leadership as Program Chair of the Education Committee. Dr. Sundareshan and her committee created an outstanding program.

Meeting attendees gave high marks to the Clinical Skills Ultrasound Workshop. The course director, Peter Phan, MD, FACP, trained attendees in Point-of-Care-Ultrasound.

Another popular session was called “Toast of New Orleans: Highlights of ACP IM 2018.” The speakers were Schuyler Stone, MD, and James Kumar, MD, MS, FACP, FHM.

Attendees gave high ratings to the Women in Medicine Initiatives. The success of the session can be attributed to the outstanding speakers: Janet Jokela, MD, MPH, FACP, FIDSA; Vidhya Prakash, MD, FACP, FIDSA; and Suja Mathew, MD, FACP



### **MKSAP Online Study Hall Webinar Series**

MKSAP Online Study Hall is open to ACP members anywhere in the world who want to work on MKSAP problems in a collegial, online environment. Tune in Tuesday nights at 8:00 CT starting January 8th, 2019! Each week our hosts reveal a new “episode” of MKSAP 18, preparing you for boards over the next two years. This is an opportunity to prepare for recertification in a weekly casual, collegial, online setting. It’s free for ACP members\*, but you must own MKSAP 18. More Information [HERE](#). [Reigster HERE](#).

Because of the success of the study hall, our Illinois Southern Chapter agreed to co-host the webinar series. We seek two ACP members who would be willing to facilitate one webinar each. Facilitators receive a complimentary copy of MKSAP 18. In addition, facilitators receive the honor of leading an educational seminar in front of a nationwide audience. If you want to be considered for selection as a facilitator of “MKSAP Live Online Study Hall,” please contact me via e-mail: [jfgraumlichuicomp@gmail.com](mailto:jfgraumlichuicomp@gmail.com)

### **Women in Medicine**

There was a mentoring breakfast for Women in Medicine on Saturday, November 10, 2018. The mentoring breakfast was part of the Annual Scientific Meeting of the American College of Physicians Illinois Chapter at the Embassy Suites Riverfront Hotel and Conference Center, East Peoria, Illinois. One of the action items from the mentoring breakfast was a plan to create the Women in Medicine Committee for our ACP Chapter.

The purpose of the Women in Medicine Committee is to advise the Governor’s Advisory Council of ACP Illinois Southern Chapter on programs, products, and services that will:

- Enhance professional development for ACP members who are Women in Medicine
- Foster their involvement in Chapter and College activities
- Increase the value of ACP membership and Chapter membership for Women in Medicine
- Align activities to benefit Women in Medicine with the strategic plan of the ACP chapter
- Enhance leadership development for ACP members who are Women in Medicine

ACP Chapter members who would like to serve on the Women in Medicine Committee, please contact me via e-mail: [jfgraumlichuicomp@gmail.com](mailto:jfgraumlichuicomp@gmail.com)

The ACP seeks to increase the proportion of women who advance to Fellowship in the ACP. If you are interested in advancement to Fellowship in the ACP, please contact me via e-mail: [jfgraumlichuicomp@gmail.com](mailto:jfgraumlichuicomp@gmail.com)

### **ACP Policy and Advocacy**

Your ACP is organized so that members, through their elected Governors, can participate in the national conversation about policies that affect our patients and our members. The process starts with a resolution that undergoes debate by the Board of Governors. Resolutions approved by the Board of Governors then go to the ACP Board of Regents for final action.

I invite members to work with our Health and Public Policy Committee to craft our own resolutions or refine the resolutions proposed by other ACP chapters. Please contact me via e-mail if you want to participate in the resolution process. ([jfgraumlichuicomp@gmail.com](mailto:jfgraumlichuicomp@gmail.com))

### **ACP for Early Career Physicians**

Our ACP chapter has a strategic goal to increase the engagement of early career physicians in the chapter. We chartered the Early Career Physician (ECP) Committee to create the infrastructure for activities and programs focused on ECP members.



The Governor's Advisory Council endorsed the appointment of the following members to the ECP Committee:

- **Waqas Azhar, MD, representing Chatham**
- **Thomas Bayer, MD, representing Belleville**
- **Manasa Kandula, MD, representing Peoria**
- **Michael Kuhlenschmidt, MD, representing Urbana**
- **Manajyoti Yadav, MD, representing Peoria**

I thank the new committee members for their interest and their commitment to serve other Early Career Physicians. There are still a few more open seats on the ECP Committee. If you are interested, please contact me via email ([jfgraumlichuicomp@gmail.com](mailto:jfgraumlichuicomp@gmail.com)).

The ACP encourages ECP members to apply for advancement to Fellowship in the American College of Physicians. If you want to learn more, please contact me via email ([jfgraumlichuicomp@gmail.com](mailto:jfgraumlichuicomp@gmail.com)).

#### **ACP for Resident Members**

Our ACP chapter has a strategic goal to increase the engagement of Resident/Fellow physicians in the chapter. We created the Resident/Fellow Committee as the infrastructure to implement new activities and programs focused on Resident/Fellow members.

The Resident/Fellow Committee can accommodate three additional members. Please notify me of your nominees ([jfgraumlichuicomp@gmail.com](mailto:jfgraumlichuicomp@gmail.com)).

#### **ACP for Medical Student members**

Our ACP chapter has a strategic goal to increase the engagement of medical students in the chapter. We created the Medical Student Committee as the infrastructure to implement new activities and programs focused on student members. The Governor's Advisory Committee endorsed the appointment of the following people to the Medical Student Committee:

- **Hanna Erickson, representing University of Illinois College of Medicine Urbana-Champaign**
- **Aliza Hasan, representing Southern Illinois University School of Medicine, Springfield**
- **Jonathan Day, representing Southern Illinois University School of Medicine, Springfield**
- **Alexander Matelski, representing University of Illinois College of Medicine at Peoria**
- **Asad Rauf, representing Carle Illinois College of Medicine, Urbana**

The Medical Student Committee can accommodate four additional members. I call upon ACP members to notify me of your nominees ([jfgraumlichuicomp@gmail.com](mailto:jfgraumlichuicomp@gmail.com)). Self-nominations are welcome, too. If you are a medical student member of ACP and if you would like to be a member of the Medical Student Committee, please send me your brief statement of interest.

**Make Your Voice Heard: Join ACP and the Physician Movement #ThisIsOurLane Responding to National Rifle Association over Policies**

ACP's [updated position paper](#) on reducing firearm-related injury and deaths in the U.S. recently published in *Annals of Internal Medicine* has received major national attention and sparked the physician movement #ThisIsOurLane on social media.

On Nov. 7, the National Rifle Association (NRA) tweeted a link to an article on their website opposing ACP's recently updated policy on firearms safety, telling physicians, "Someone should tell self-important anti-gun doctors to stay in their lane." ACP and *Annals* immediately responded directly to the NRA's tweet, asserting that physicians engaging in advocacy to reduce injuries and deaths from firearms, like any other public health risk, is precisely in their lane. The College followed up with a comprehensive social and earned media effort to get the message out widely to the public and the profession.

Reaction on Twitter was swift and overwhelmingly in support of ACP's policy, with ACP members and other physicians and healthcare professionals declaring, "This IS my lane." The hashtag [#ThisIsOurLane](#) is being used to tag tweets where physicians call attention to the impact of firearms violence on their patients. The ensuing viral 'twitterstorm' has resulted in nearly 1,000 additional physicians signing a [pledge](#) on the *Annals of Internal Medicine* website, formally committing to talking to their patients about guns whenever risk factors are present.

Make your voice heard, and help us continue to raise visibility around this issue. Encourage other ACP members and physician colleagues to join the conversation on social media using #ThisIsOurLane, and tag @ACPinternists and @AnnalsofIM, and sign the [pledge](#) on the *Annals of Internal Medicine* website, formally committing to talking to their patients about guns whenever risk factors are present.

### **Call for News Items**

Do you have good news about your recent award, promotion, or volunteer experience? Please share your stories with your brothers and sisters in the ACP Illinois Southern Chapter. Send your news items to me so I can include them in the Downstate Dialogue: [jfgraumlichuicomp@gmail.com](mailto:jfgraumlichuicomp@gmail.com)

### **Save-the-Date**

- Every Tuesday at 8:00 PM Central Time: Webinar MKSAP Live Online Study Hall
- 11-13 April 2019: Internal Medicine Meeting 2019 in Philadelphia, PA
- 14-15 May 2019: ACP Leadership Day on Capitol Hill, Washington DC, 2019, at the Mandarin Hotel
- 25-26 October 2019: ACP Illinois Annual Scientific meeting, Hilton Hotel, Oak Brook, IL
- 12 November 2019: ACP Illinois Resident/Student Day at the iHotel in Champaign, IL

Sincerely,  
Jim

James F. Graumlich, MD, FACP  
Governor, Illinois Southern Chapter  
American College of Physicians