

Summer 2023

E- Newsletter

## Governor's Message



Dear Members of the Louisiana ACP Chapter,

I hope you enjoy reading about the wonderful things happening with our chapter in this edition of the newsletter. As we joyously approach Summer, I can't help but reflect fondly on the activities this Spring has brought us. Both our State Chapter Meeting and the National Meeting in San Diego gave us the chance to enhance our knowledge, reconnect with colleagues and meet new IM physicians who share our common goals for patient care and the medical profession. Our advocacy events are helping influence lawmakers on important policies that hope to reduce the administrative burdens in our practices and help our patients better access the care they need and deserve.

As the hot summer weather builds, we also enter Hurricane season. I pray we all make it through safely and securely. I encourage all to review your personal and professional plans soon so that we are as prepared as we can be should storms come our way.

Please make time to visit a few of the ACP website links at the end of the newsletter. Your membership in ACP brings with it a wide variety of resources for professional and personal fulfillment. In particular, ACP now offers a full suite of free CME to accomplish all 8 hours of the new DEA substance use training requirement!

I hope you all find time for relaxing with family and friends this summer season. As always, stay safe, stay hopeful and stay connected with ACP!

## 2023 Annual Scientific Meeting



The Annual Meeting was held as a hybrid meeting on March 3-4, 2023 at the LSU Medical Education & Innovation Center (MEIC) in Baton Rouge. In total, there were 95 people who registered for the meeting, with about 20% attending virtually. This was the biggest meeting the Chapter has had since 2020! The LSU MEIC welcomed all of the attendees, it was a great venue for the Annual Meeting. A very special thank you to Shellee Harvey, from Dr. Johnson's office at the MEIC, who made sure that we had everything we needed in place for the meeting and without whom the event would not have been as smoothly executed.

The educational content was outstanding! Friday was full of fantastic presentations in cardiology, mental health, primary care, nutrition, nephrology, endocrinology and rheumatology. Saturday morning rounded out the educational content of the meeting with geriatrics, population health and an overview of the tools available from ACP to enhance learning.





On Friday evening there was a lovely rooftop cocktail reception at the MEIC to honor the three 2023 Louisiana Laureate Award winners, Roderick V. Clark, MD FACP, Robert J. Quinet, MD FACP and Mohammed S. Sarwar, MBBS FACP.

The Chapter held a **food and fund drive** to support the Greater Baton Rouge Food Bank. Thank you to all who participated, the donations were greatly appreciated! This is a small way that the Chapter can have an impact on the community in which the Annual Meeting is held.



Mohammed Sarwar, Roderick Clark, Angie Johnson and Robert Quinet



Wartelle Castille, Murthy Muthuswamy  
and Lee Engel



Roderick Clark and Tina Benoit-Clark

## **Governor's Advisory Council**

The Annual Business Meeting was held on Friday, March 3 during the lunch hour of the Annual Scientific Meeting. The new Council members were presented by the Nominations Committee and the slate was accepted.

Congratulations and Welcome to Tamika Webb-Detiege, Praneet Iyer, Aaron Ackley, Ashley Ingolia and Murthy Muthuswamy who were each elected to a first term on the Governor's Advisory Council.

## **2023 Resident and Student Meeting**

The 2023 Resident and Student Meeting was held on February 4, 2023. Though the meeting highlights were covered in the Winter Newsletter, there have been some exciting developments to share.

The Mystery Case winner, Hirrah Sajjad, was able to travel to San Diego to represent the Louisiana Chapter in the National Poster Competition. The Chapter provided monetary support to Dr. Sajjad to help offset the cost of her trip. The 2022 Jeopardy Winners, LSU - Shreveport, also travelled to San Diego to represent the Louisiana Chapter in the National Doctor's Dilemma Competition. More details and pictures will follow in the IM 2023 recap!

The 2023 Resident and Student Abstract Flipbook of this year's submissions is available for viewing, has been published by The Louisiana State Medical Society and has been added to the Chapter website.

# **Excellence in Internal Medicine Awards**

Each year the Louisiana Chapter recognizes an outstanding student at each medical school that chooses to participate. These students were chosen and recognized by their institution. Each winner is presented with a certificate and \$500 check from the Louisiana ACP Chapter. The Chapter wishes each of you the very best in the next steps of your career.

## **Congratulations to the 2023 winners of the Excellence in Internal Medicine Award!**

Hannah Logan – LSU Shreveport

Jonathan Rizner – Tulane

Caroline Ann Bergeron – LSU New Orleans

## **Strategic Planning**

As may be recalled, member input was solicited last year by the Chapter leadership to shape and direct the future goals of the Chapter. The Governor's Advisory Council named three goals which drove the survey that was distributed to the membership, which were (1) sustainable budgeting, (2) membership growth and engagement and (3) meeting planning. A Task Force was formed to review the feedback from the membership survey and begin to develop plans to achieve and address the previously set goals. The Task Force presented ideas and made suggestions to the Governor's Advisory Council at the October 15, 2022 Strategic Planning Meeting in Baton Rouge, which resulted in a robust conversation. The Governor and the Executive Director took the ideas and discussion points from the meeting and began to develop a strategic plan. This plan includes priorities, goals and action steps for the active Chapter Committees with metrics to measure success of each goal. The new Strategic Plan provides a framework for the Chapter, Committees and Members to visualize the actions that will be taken to grow the Chapter membership and engage the members in meaningful ways while planning meetings in a fiscally responsible way and maintaining a sustainable budget.

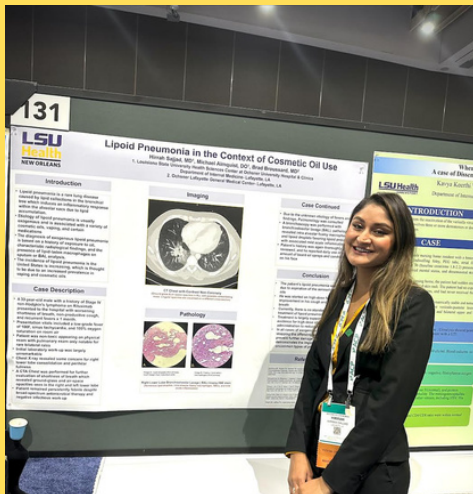




## Internal Medicine Meeting

The National Meeting in San Diego was the largest ACP meeting since 2019. Though this meeting was also offered as a hybrid, there was robust in person attendance and participation. The Louisiana Chapter had 101 Chapter members register to attend, only 14 of that total were through the virtual option!

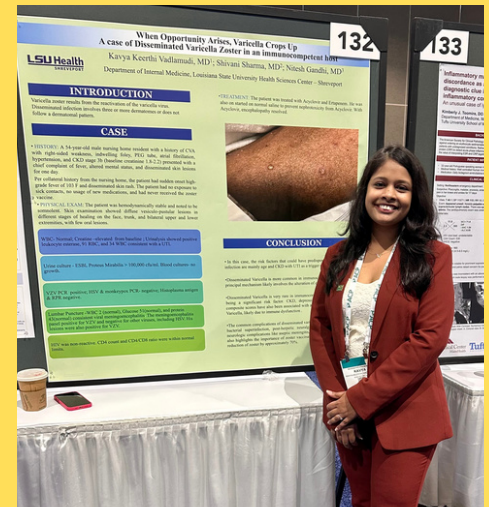
Chapter member, **Adrian Sequeira** presented an update in nephrology during the IM Meeting and **Hirrah Sajjad**, LSU - Lafayette, presented her award winning poster during the National Poster Competition. **Neev Patel**, **Dinesh Regalla** and **Kavya Vadlamudi**, LSU - Shreveport residents, had posters accepted for the National Poster Competition and were able to travel to San Diego to present their work.



**Hirrah Sajjad**  
LSU - Lafayette  
2023 Louisiana  
Abstract Winner



**Neev Patel,**  
**Karina Sulaiman**  
**and Dinesh Regalla**  
LSU - Shreveport



**Kavya Vadlamudi**  
LSU - Shreveport

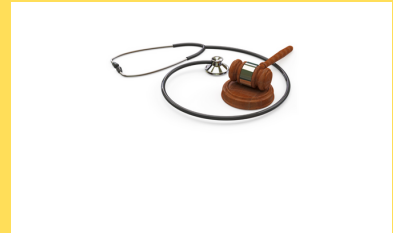
Our 2022 Louisiana Jeopardy team, LSU - Shreveport also travelled to San Diego to compete in the National Doctor's Dilemma. Team members, **Danya Ahmed, Anuj Thakre and Atlee Baker** (pictured below), were fierce competitors. They won their first round (Thursday) and semi-final round (Friday) to move onto the finals (Saturday). The team placed 3rd overall in the National Doctor's Dilemma Competition!



Convocation is a special ceremony each year. There were many fellows from across all of ACP who were eligible to participate this year. The Louisiana Chapter had 60 fellows who were eligible to be recognized and pinned during the 2023 Convocation Ceremony. Congratulations to the new Fellows who were able to attend the ceremony this year: **Ashley Ingolia, MD FACP and Miranda Mitchell, MD FACP pictured with Angela Johnson, MD FACP, Governor.**



## **Spring 2023 Resolutions**



The Board of Governors discussed the spring slate of Resolutions during the San Diego meeting. A summary of Board of Regents (BOR) actions on resolutions debated at the Spring 2023 Board of Governors (BOG) meeting is now available. The member comments added to the Resolutions survey is greatly appreciated. The feedback provided by you, the members, allows the Governor to speak on behalf of the Chapter and reflect the thoughts and opinions of the membership.

If you have an idea you'd like to suggest to ACP, consider submitting a resolution to Angie Johnson or the Louisiana ACP Chapter. The ACP has a Call for Resolutions twice each year for the Fall Board of Governors Meeting and the Spring Board of Governors Meeting. The Board of Governors (BOG) Resolutions Process was instituted in 1985 as a means for the ACP membership to have formal input to the Board of Regents (BOR), the policymaking body of the College. A resolution reflects grassroots voice of ACP. A resolution is a proposal that asks the ACP to take a position and/or an action. Any ACP member can submit a resolution to his or her ACP Governor for consideration by the local chapter council. A resolution consists of at least one directive ("Resolved clause") accompanied by supporting statements ("Whereas clauses"). If you have a proposal, please review the Resolutions Guide and bring it to the Governor. The deadlines to submit a Resolution for consideration are typically in May for the Fall BOG meeting and December for the Spring BOG meeting.





## Advocacy

Celeste Newby and Ashley Ingolia represented the Louisiana ACP Chapter at White Coat Wednesday on May 17. This yearly event is held in conjunction with the LSMS and Physician's Coalition of Louisiana as an opportunity for physicians to meet with local legislators to discuss proposed bills relevant to the care of patients and the profession of Medicine.

The LSMS is very active in advocating for physicians and the profession. If interested, you are encouraged to consider membership with LSMS and both the ACP PAC and LAMPAC (political advocacy committees). Contact Dr. Newby or Dr. Ingolia with any questions or if you are interested in joining the chapter's Advocacy committee. Please don't hesitate to reach out to your local representatives to voice your opinion.

Two pieces of legislation specific to prior authorization were introduced during the most recent legislative session and both bills passed.

**HB468 by Rep. Thomas Pressly** provides uniform timelines, true peer to peer review criteria and a guarantee of payment when appropriate. This bill is waiting for action by the Governor.

**SB188 by Sen. Jeremy Stine** requires insurers to file annual reports detailing metrics related to prior authorization and utilization management with the Louisiana Department of Insurance and publish to their website a list of all items and services subject to prior authorization. This bill is also waiting for action by the Governor.



HB468 discussion



Louisiana physicians at the  
Capitol for 2023 WCW



## 2023 ACP Leadership Day

The Louisiana Chapter had an excellent delegation comprised of 3 medical students, 1 resident and 2 practicing physicians who participated in ACP Leadership Day this year. The cohort had connections to many districts in our state, providing knowledge and experience of healthcare in both urban and rural settings. The delegation had productive meetings with members of the Louisiana Senator and Representative Offices, and advocated for ACPs National healthcare priorities, including:

- Physician Compensation for the Value of Care Provided
- Reforming Step Therapy Protocols
- Primary Care and the Physician Work Force



Louisiana Chapter members in attendance were **Connor Bennett (VCOM)**, **Hayden Guidry (LSU NO)**, **Angela Johnson**, **Tejaswi Kalva (Willis-Knighton)**, **Celeste Newby** and **Mallory Robicheaux (LSU BR)**.



## **Chapter Bylaws**

In March 2021 it was announced that the Chapter Bylaws were undergoing a revision. The purpose of the revision was to update the language to reflect the current workings of the Chapter, including options for holding meetings and votes on a virtual platform, defining an additional seat on the Council for a Northshore representative, and adding a Diversity, Equity and Inclusion statement. The revision, legal review and changes requested by the ACP were submitted in the final form in January 2022. The bylaws then waited on the Board of Regents (BOR) agenda for approval. The Louisiana Chapter Bylaws were approved on June 6, 2023 and now reflect the revisions that were set forth in March 2021.



## **ACP Resources**

### **I.M. Emotional Support Hub**

### **Financial Well-being**

### **Telehealth Resources**

## **Integrating Behavioral and Mental Health into Primary Care**

### **Independent Practice Resources**

### **Substance Use Disorder Education**

\*Beginning on June 27, 2023, the DEA will require one-time attestation of training on management of substance use disorders (SUDs) prior to renewal of a DEA registration.



# Get Involved

## Committees

Looking for ways to get involved? There are many places that your time and talents can be used in the Chapter! The **Membership, Early Career Physician, Advocacy, and Nominations Committees**, to name a few, are looking for new members to join. If you have a particular interest, contact Sarah Wardrop and get plugged into the Chapter!

### Upcoming Dates

#### **2024 Resident Student Meeting**

January 2024

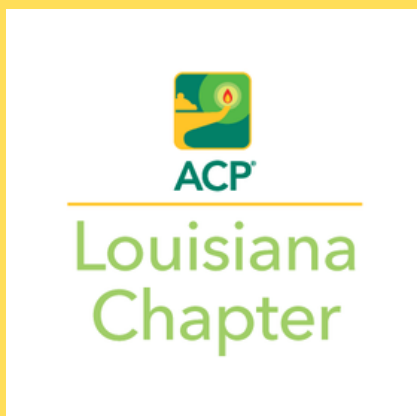
#### **2024 Annual Scientific Meeting**

March 2024

#### **IM2024**

April 18-20, 2024

Boston, MA



### Stay Connected

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