

Dear Colleagues,

I hope my message finds each of you doing well during these summer months of 2021. I know the resurgence of COVID-19 cases with Delta variants has become an issue of concern. It has been a challenging time for all, and I thank each of you for your ongoing dedication to your patients.

There have been numerous updates in the past several months, which I'll briefly recap.

ACP Board of Governors & IM2021

Firstly, the Spring 2021 Board of Governors meeting, followed by ACP Internal Medicine 2021 virtual experience meeting, occurred in April 2021. The upcoming Fall 2021 BOG meeting will take place September 23-25, 2021.

At the conclusion of ACP's business meeting on May 2, 2021, I officially stepped into the role of Chair-Elect, Board of Governors of ACP. My colleague and friend, and the MA ACP Chapter immediate past Governor, Dr. George Abraham, MD, FACP, FIDSA, also stepped into the ACP President role. Dr. Judy Melin, who was elected as my successor, has officially stepped into the role of Governor-Elect of the MA ACP Chapter, and she and I will work closely together over the forthcoming year to prepare her to step into the Governor role next year.

Needless to say our Chapter is very well represented at the national ACP level, and I continue to exert my efforts to represent each of you as Massachusetts ACP Chapter members to the best of my ability. Please continue to reach out, you can contact me at our chapter email: maacp2@mms.org. Please also avail yourself of our member forums <https://www.acponline.org/forums/chapters> and you can also find me on social media, @MAACPGovernor (Twitter), on Facebook, and on Instagram (@maacpgovernor).

I hope many of you had a chance to participate in the internal medicine virtual experience meeting in April 2021, it was an extraordinary accomplishment to have an all-virtual meeting and by most accounts, it was superbly successful, with wonderful educational content, opportunities for live Q&A, and networking, with hardly any technical glitches.

Chapter Committees and Councils

Our various committees and councils for our Chapter continue to be very active, with our newly formed **JEDI (Justice, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion) Committee**, led by Co-Chairs Drs. Chris Estiverne and Suzanne Martin, planning to undertake more activities shortly. I'm very pleased to announce that our **Council of Student Members** will now be led by new Chair Ki Jung Lee, from Tufts Medical School. I want to thank Abraham Lin, recent graduate of University of Massachusetts Medical School, for his steadfast leadership of this Council over the preceding few years, and we are thankful that Abraham will be staying in Massachusetts, and in particular, in Internal Medicine, for his residency, and we look forward to his future contributions to our Chapter.

Our **Council of Resident/Fellow Members**, led by Dr. Prarthna Bhardwaj, continues its efforts in planning for resident & fellow oriented programming for our upcoming Annual MA Chapter meeting.

Our **Council of Early Career Physicians**, under the leadership of Co-Chairs Drs. Katie Jobbins & Stephanie Titus, and Co-Chair-Elect Dr. Ryan Quarles, have launched some exciting engagement efforts, such as the Virtual Social Hour and Journal Club.

The **Nominations Committee**, led by Dr. Michael Rosenblum, continues its crucial efforts in examining the processes by which our chapter's leadership and Governors Council members are selected.

The **Awards Committee**, led by Dr. Judy Melin, did a wonderful job with submissions of numerous confidential nominations of MA ACP Chapter members for various national ACP distinctions and awards, in the past several months.

Finally, the **Leadership Development for Women in Medicine Committee**, sponsored some programming and “Zoom mentoring” in June 2021, and this committee has some upcoming activities planned in the Fall of 2021. Please keep an eye out for newsletter emails and other programs in upcoming weeks.

Please stay tuned for more specific email notifications about the various upcoming activities from our Chapter’s Committees and Councils.

ACP Policy News

Here are some updated ACP policy news:

- Our MA ACP Chapter has been actively supporting Representative Andy Vargas’ bill, H.2411 An Act relative to vaccines and preventing future disease outbreaks
- ACP national statement on COVID-19 vaccine mandates for health care workers:

<https://www.acponline.org/acp-newsroom/major-health-care-professional-organizations-call-for-covid-19-vaccine-mandates-for-all-health>

- ACP national statement on masking in schools:

<https://www.acponline.org/acp-newsroom/acp-says-masks-should-be-required-in-schools>

ACP National News

You can keep up to date with ACP national news here: <https://www.acponline.org/more-acp-news>

Deadlines

In the meantime, a few deadlines for you to note:

Thursday August 19, 2021, 11:59pm

- Deadline for MA ACP Chapter Resident/Fellow and Student Members for Abstract submissions for the MA ACP Chapter Poster Competition <https://forms.acponline.org/webform/massachusetts-chapter-abstract-form>
- Deadline to submit a CONFIDENTIAL nomination for the **Helen Taussig Award for Outstanding Contributions to Advancing the Careers of Women in Medicine and the Massachusetts ACP Chapter Award for Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Access to Care Award** (more details in the July 30, 2021 “email blast” message from me)

Monday August 23, 2021

- **Deadline to volunteer for joining our MA ACP Chapter’s Health and Public Policy Committee** (more details in the “email blast” sent to all Chapter members on Friday August 13, 2021) <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2021HPPC>

Friday August 27, 2021

- Deadline for MA ACP Chapter Members to submit your input on the Resolutions that will be discussed at the Fall 2021 ACP Board of Governors meeting <https://www.acponline.org/forums/chapters>
- More details here: <https://www.acponline.org/acp-newsroom/fall-2021-bog-resolutions>

MA ACP Chapter Meeting - October 16, 2021

Please note and save the date that our Annual Chapter Meeting will be Saturday, October 16, 2021. Currently, we are cautiously proceeding with plans for an in-person meeting, though we continue to monitor the COVID-19 situation closely. Attendees will be required to attest to COVID-19 vaccination status, and masking requirements will follow mask guidance at the time of the meeting. Regardless, please do save the date and we are very excited for the possibilities of this conference. The focus will be on JEDI issues and anti-racism, along with more typical clinical content and legislative updates, as well as a physician well-being activity. Registration details and finalized program is upcoming soon.

Abstract/Poster Competition - deadline August 19

Finally, a there was a recent meeting with our **MA ACP Chapter Council of Resident/Fellow Members**, who are actively planning for the Poster Competition and other programming for our Chapter.



Prarthna Bhardwaj

These are amazing young physician leaders of our Chapter, and I want to thank them for their active engagement, during these challenging times with our current pandemic.

Stay safe and healthy everyone, and as always, please feel free to reach out to me for your thoughts, suggestions, feedback, and comments (maacp2@mms.org, or @MAACPGovernor on Twitter, Facebook, and @maacpgovernor on Instagram).

Warmest regards,

Handwritten signature of Elisa Choi, MD, FACP in black ink.

Elisa Choi, MD, FACP, FIDSA (She/Her/Hers)

Internal Medicine / HIV Medicine / Infectious Diseases

Governor, Massachusetts ACP Chapter

Chair-Elect, Board of Governors - American College of Physicians (ACP)

Executive Committee, Board of Regents - American College of Physicians (ACP)

ACP Representative - AMA House of Delegates

Massachusetts ACP Chapter Health and Public Policy Committee - Past Co-Chair & Current Member

Social Media:

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"Like" the MA ACP Governor Page on **Facebook:** [MAACPGovernor](https://www.facebook.com/MAACPGovernor)

Website: [ACP Massachusetts Chapter](https://www.acp.org/massachusetts)

Social Media:

"Like" Massachusetts ACP Chapter on **Facebook** - [American College of Physicians, Massachusetts Chapter](https://www.facebook.com/AmericanCollegeofPhysiciansMassachusettsChapter)

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