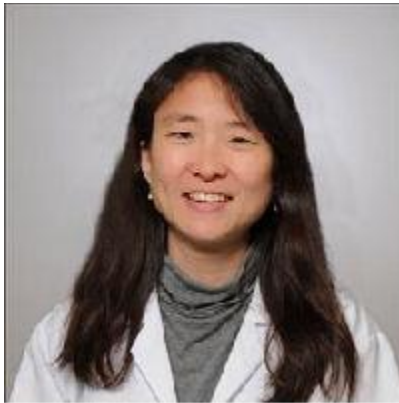


Governor's Newsletter – April 2022

Elisa Choi, MD, FACP, FIDSA



Dear Colleagues,

April is here, and with it, the arrival of spring, though for all of us living in Massachusetts, we know that this is no guarantee against inclement weather, so keep your winter gear handy. Were you in Massachusetts on April 1, 1997, date of the infamous “April Fool’s Day Blizzard”? This unexpected snowstorm set records for snowfall accumulation and has even garnered its own Wikipedia entry. For those who were not in Massachusetts then, here is a throwback reminiscence:

<https://boston.cbslocal.com/2022/04/01/april-fools-day-blizzard-25th-anniversary-1997-boston-massachusetts-weather-wbz-tv/>

“25 Years Ago, April Fools’ Day Blizzard Buried Massachusetts In Historic Snowstorm”

We are resilient, in Massachusetts, April Fool’s Day blizzard or not, and that resiliency will carry us through the forthcoming uncertainties of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, as we continue our efforts managing the Omicron variant BA.2, which per the CDC accounts for nearly 73% of circulating COVID-19 in New England.

You can keep up-to-date with COVID-19 via ACP’s resources:

“COVID-19 Information for Internists” -

<https://www.acponline.org/clinical-information/clinical-resources-products/coronavirus-disease-2019-covid-19-information-for-internists>

This month also bring numerous cultural observances and is a holy month for many. I wanted to wish “Ramadan Mubarak” to all our Chapter members who are observing Ramadan this month, “Chag Pesach Sameach” to all who celebrate Passover, a “Happy Easter” to those who observe, and a “Happy New Year” to those in our South Asian and Southeast Asian communities who celebrate the new year this month (New Year’s is observed in mid-April in Cambodia, Laos, Thailand, Myanmar, Sri Lanka, Nepal, and numerous regions in India.).

Last month, March, was Women’s History Month, and in that spirit, I wanted to reintroduce everyone to the incoming Governor of our Chapter, Dr. Judith Melin. This is the first time in the history of our Massachusetts ACP Chapter that there has been a Governor and Governor-Elect who have been women.

As you can see from Dr. Melin's bio, she is exceedingly well-qualified for this role, and she will be a superb Governor for our Chapter. Dr. Melin will start her term as Governor in May 2022.

I will continue to remain involved with our MA ACP Chapter and plan to support Dr. Melin's efforts as she transitions into the Governor role. I will step into a national ACP leadership role, in May 2022, as I have been elected to serve as the Chair of the ACP Board of Governors.



Governor-Elect Dr. Judith Melin, MA, MD, FACP

Medical School Education: Yale Medical School

Post-Doctoral Training: University Hospital, Boston Medical Center

Board Certifications: Internal Medicine

Present Employment Position: Internal Medicine, Beth Israel Lahey Health

ACP Chapter and Leadership Activities: Governor's Council 2016-2020; Member, Chapter Awards Committee 2017, Chair, Chapter Awards Committee 2018-2020 [Massachusetts physicians received the highest number of national awards of any ACP Chapter in 2018]; Course Co-Director, Adult Immunization Update 2019; Inaugural Recipient, Helen Taussig Award for Outstanding Contributions to Advancing the Careers of Women in Medicine 2019; Judge, Doctor's Dilemma Competition Annual Chapter Meeting 2017; Poster Judge, Annual Chapter Meeting 2015-2019; Leadership Development Group, Women in Medicine 2019 & 2020; Presentation, Approaches to Population Health: Immunizations for Your Patients 2019; Panelist, Opportunities and Challenges in Immunization 2019; Presentation, Letters of Reference - Conveying Meaning with Clarity, Resident Career Fair, Annual Poster Day 2019; Presentation, Letters of Interest - Writing to Express Your Interests, Resident Career Fair, Annual Poster Day 2019; Table Leader/Moderator, Women in Medicine, Annual Chapter Meeting 2019; Table Leader, Annual Chapter Meeting 2017

ACP National Activities: Fellowship 2015; Chapter Leader Network 2018-2020; Chapter Leader Workshop 2019; Attendee, Saving Promise and Harvard Forum on Domestic Violence Roundtable, Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health 2017

Other Appointments/Activities: Chair, Quality of Medical Practice Committee, Massachusetts Medical Society (MMS); Past Co-Vice Chair, Quality of Medical Practice Committee, MMS; Massachusetts Adult Immunization Coalition; Information Technology Committee, MMS; Physician Council, Massachusetts Health Quality Partners; Deputy Editor, Publications, UpToDate 2016-2019; Reviewer/Contributor, Publications on resuming clinical operations during COVID-19, MMS 2020; Presentation, Thought

Leadership Symposia, American Association of Physician Leaders; Grand Rounds and Presentations on immunizations, patient communication, algorithmic thinking in healthcare, and healthcare financing; Teaching, SGIM NE Poster Judge and mentor; Teaching residents; Mentoring physicians and students

Areas of Professional Interest and Expertise: Designing strategy, systems, and governance to improve quality and safety; Identifying physician interests and facilitating physicians' professional growth; Creating facile, innovative, practical solutions for clinical practice.

What inspired you to become an internal medicine physician: Studying science, opportunities to help people.

What has been a highlight so far about being a member of ACP and involved in your chapter: Wonderful colleagues committed to excellence.

What medical condition fascinates you most: As an internist, I am interested in any factors that have an impact on people's health.

If you were not a physician, what do you think your profession would be: Professor of Chemistry.

When you are not working as a physician, what hobbies or personal interests do you spend time doing: Mentoring faculty, former students, and staff. Music.

Committee and Council Activities

Our MA ACP Chapter has been busy since the last Governor's newsletter, with meetings of our Chapter's Nominations Committee (which is Chaired by Dr. Michael Rosenblum, MD, MACP, and is working on aligning the nominations process for new membership to Governor's Council with our Chapter's JEDI (Justice, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion) policy), our Chapter's JEDI Committee (which is Co-Chaired by Drs. Christopher Estiverne and Suzanne Martin, and which debriefed from the successful January and February virtual Book Club events, and started planning for future activities later this year), our Chapter's Annual Meeting Planning Committee (which is Chaired by Dr. Ryan Quarles), and our Chapter's Health and Public Policy Committee (which is Co-chaired by Drs. Zoe Tseng and Shela Sridhar). The MA ACP Chapter's ACP National Awards and MACP nominations Committee also met to start its important work for this year (chaired by Dr. Mary Lee, MD, MS, MACP).

I am pleased to report that our Chapter has formed an IMG (International Medical Graduates) Council, with its first meeting having occurred last month. Thank you to all the members of this exciting and important new Council, for all your engagement! Congratulations, and thank you to Drs. Faith Omede & Chinmay Jani, the newly appointed Co-Chairs of the MA ACP IMG Council.

I also want to thank the MA ACP Chapter's Governor's Council for their superb efforts in meetings recently where they reviewed and discussed the Resolutions which will be presented at the upcoming Spring 2022 ACP Board of Governors (BOG) Meeting, later this month. Our Governor's Council has continued its thoughtful and deliberate consideration of Resolutions, and they have represented our grassroots Chapter membership opinions very well. I will continue to represent our Chapter's and Governor's Council's positions at the upcoming Spring 2022 BOG Meeting, later in April.

Chapter Activities

On the activities front, the MA ACP Chapter's Council of Early Career Physicians held a virtual Happy Hour & Journal Club earlier in March, and the Chapter's HPPC sponsored the 7th annual Advocacy Day (held virtually this year again, due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic) on March 30, 2022, which also happened to be National Doctors Day. Both activities were very successful and well-organized. Thank you to the MA ACP Chapter's Council of Early Career Physicians Co-Chairs Drs. Ryan Quarles and Stephanie Titus, for your leadership. Thank you to the Co-Chairs of the virtual Advocacy Day planning subcommittee, Drs. Aisha James and Galina Tan, for your dedicated and comprehensive efforts to ensure a smooth event, and additional thanks to Drs. Zoe Tseng and Galina Tan, the virtual Advocacy Day moderators. As with anything related to the smooth operations of our Chapter's activities, endless thanks to our "Chapter MVP", our Chapter Administrator extraordinaire, Ms. Lynda Layer, CAE!

For more advocacy opportunities, see below details to register for ACP's annual Leadership Day, May 17-18, 2022, in Washington, D.C., where you can learn how to engage in legislative advocacy and also meet with your federal/national elected officials. More information and registration details are here, and detailed information below in this newsletter: <https://www.acpservices.org/leadership-day/what-leadership-day>

Match Day 2022

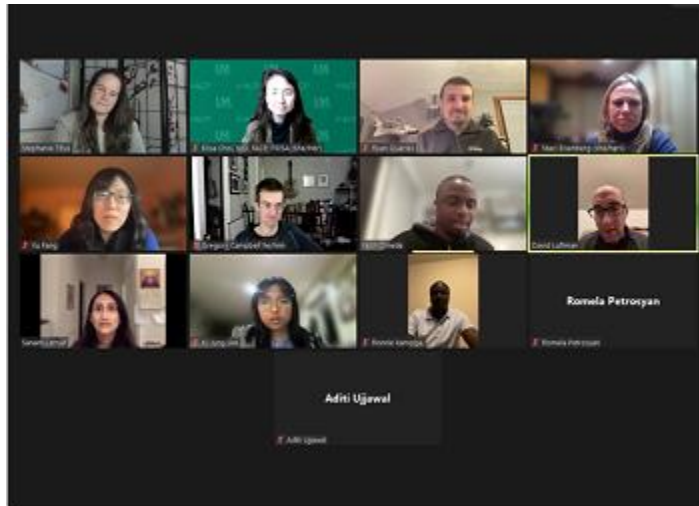
Congratulations to all who participated in the 2022 Residency Match! Here is an update from ACP national regarding Match Day this year, highlighting that Internal Medicine did very well this year. Looking forward to welcoming new Internal Medicine residents to the MA ACP Chapter, come July 2022!

"Internal Medicine Residency Match Sees Record High, Reflecting Essential Role of Internists"
<https://www.acponline.org/acp-newsroom/internal-medicine-residency-match-sees-record-high-reflecting-essential-role-of-internists>

MA ACP Chapter Health and Public Policy Committee's Seventh Annual Advocacy Day



MA ACP Council of Early Career Physician sponsored Virtual Happy Hour/Journal Club, with special guest, Annals of Internal Medicine article first author Yu Fang



First meeting of the MA ACP Chapter IMG (International Medical Graduates) Council



MA ACP Chapter Reception at 2022 ACP Internal Medicine Meeting

*The Governors of Massachusetts
and Michigan invite you to attend*



The Massachusetts and Michigan Chapters Reception

AT INTERNAL MEDICINE 2022

*Celebrating and honoring
our Award Winners, MACP, and Fellows*

NEW DAY & TIME
FRIDAY,
April 29, 2022
6:00 PM–7:30 PM

Chicago Marriott Marquis
2121 South Prairie Ave
Shedd AB - 2nd Floor



If you are planning to attend the **ACP Internal Medicine Meeting April 28-30, 2022**, be sure to stop by the **MA ACP Chapter Reception on Friday April 29, 2022, at the Marriott Marquis, starting at 6:00 pm.**

Chapter and national award winners, new FACPs, and new MACPs, will be recognized. Our MA ACP Chapter has continued to hold our reception jointly with the Michigan ACP Chapter, so this event will provide opportunities to network not only with other MA ACP members, but also ACP members from Michigan. I look forward to seeing you there!

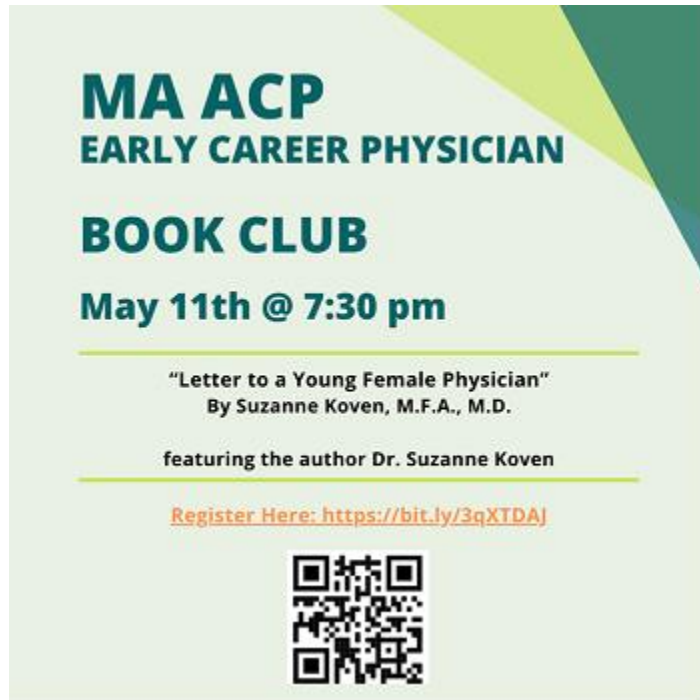
It is not too late to register for the 2022 ACP Internal Medicine Meeting. You can do so here:

<https://annualmeeting.acponline.org/>

SAVE THE DATES

For this upcoming MA ACP Council of Early Career Physician sponsored event, registration is open only to ACP members.

To register: <https://bit.ly/3qXTDAJ>



Leadership Development for Women in Medicine – June 1, 2022

Save the date for an early evening virtual event sponsored by our Chapter's Leadership Development for Women in Medicine Committee, with final topic and speakers to be announced, but with an ongoing focus on leadership development for women physicians, to "close the gap" in women in medicine leaders. More details to come!

MA ACP Chapter Annual Scientific Meeting – Saturday, November 19, 2022

Be sure to save the date for our MA ACP Chapter Annual Meeting – Saturday, November 19, 2022! As we continue to navigate the COVID-19 pandemic, the format is to be determined, though the hope will be for an in-person meeting, pandemic conditions permitting. More details to come but be sure to secure this date on your calendars. We will be hosting the ACP President, who at that time, will be Dr. Ryan Mire.

National ACP Updates

ACP Financial Profit Paper Wins the John A. Benson Jr., MD Professionalism Article Prize for Commentary

ACP's position paper [Financial Profit in Medicine: A Position Paper from the American College of Physicians](#), has won the [John A. Benson Jr., MD Professionalism Article Prize](#) for commentary, as

announced by the [ABIM Foundation](#). The prize recognizes the best articles written in peer-reviewed journals on pressing issues facing the medical profession in 2021.

ACP congratulates authors Ryan Crowley, ACP Senior Associate in Health Policy; Dr. Omar Atiq, and Dr. David Hilden and also the rest of ACP's Health and Public Policy Committee for their contribution to the paper. The paper considers the effect of the growth of corporate interests and influence in health care on patients, physicians, and the health care system, and make a set of recommendations for policies that can foster and sustain the patient-physician relationship.

Welcome and Congratulations to New ACP Fellows!

<https://www.acponline.org/membership/physician-membership/acp-fellowship/welcome-new-fellows>

Brian D W Chow, MD FACP

Lawrence A Churchville, MD FACP

Jatin Dave, MBBS FACP

Ankit Rohatgi, MD FACP

Shiv Sehra, MBBS FACP

Reham S Shaaban, DO FACP

ACP's Online CME & MOC Learning Center Adds Information on State-Specific CME Requirements



Wondering about MA CME requirements? You can now visit the [Online CME & MOC Learning Center](#) and click on the "State CME Requirements" tab to learn all about what you need to do.* Easily find content by specialty or search by subject, learning format, or product.

See What's New

Point of Care Ultrasound (POCUS) for Internal Medicine : POCUS 12 – PEARLS: An Ultrasound Physical Examination

Obesity Management Learning Hub: Obesity Management 2: Pharmacotherapy

X-Express: The ABCs of Prescribing Buprenorphine

[Access the Online Learning Center](#)

*Note: You must be logged into your ACP Online account to access this information.

Leadership Day 2022



Mandarin Oriental Hotel, Washington, DC May 17-18, 2022

As we look to 2022, we are making plans for an in-person event at the Mandarin Oriental Hotel in Washington, DC on May 17-18 for Leadership Day 2022.

Leadership Day enables the College to increase its presence on Capitol Hill and bring our issues of concern to U.S. lawmakers. ACP members will receive two days of in-depth briefings on the College's legislative priorities and an opportunity to meet with elected officials.

ACP members interested in participating in Leadership Day 2022 should contact me, your Chapter Governor, Dr. Elisa Choi, MD, FACP, FIDSA, at maacp2@mms.org, to let me know of your interest and to be included in the chapter delegation congressional meetings. A \$50 registration fee to attend Leadership Day will be charged to attendees at the time of registration, with the exception of medical students and Residents/Fellows in-training members. Attendance will be limited to ACP members only.

For more information about the Leadership Day 2022, go to: <https://www.acpservices.org/leadership-day/what-leadership-day>. If you have further questions, please contact Shuan Tomlinson via email (stomlinson@acponline.org) or at 800-338-2746, ext. 4547.

Update or Submit Your Application for the Public Service Loan Forgiveness (PSLF) Program

In 2021, the U.S. Department of Education released [executive actions](#) to ease the application and approval process for borrowers who want to take advantage of the federal Public Service Loan Forgiveness (PSLF) program, which forgives the remaining balance on direct loans after the borrower makes 120 qualifying monthly payments under a qualifying repayment plan while working full-time for a qualifying employer such as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, government organization and/or other not-for-profit organization that provides certain types of qualifying public service. Military service also qualifies. In addition, for many, their time in residency counts toward qualified employment, as the majority of training programs are in public or nonprofit 501(c)(3) hospitals.

A new limited waiver will help an estimated 550,000-plus borrowers who previously consolidated their federal student loans see their progress toward forgiveness grow automatically. Through the limited waiver, the Department of Education will be offering a temporary opportunity to give borrowers credit for prior payments they made that would not otherwise count toward the Public Service Loan Forgiveness program. Any prior payments made while working for a qualifying employer will count as a qualifying payment, regardless of loan type or repayment plan.

The waiver will run through Oct. 31, 2022, so current applicants should check in with the Department of Education [website](#) and make sure their contact information and other information are up to date. In addition, those who have direct loans but have not yet applied for the program can also apply by the Oct. 31, 2022, deadline.

Wishing all a safe, healthy, and wonderful start to the spring! Thank you for all you do for patients and for our profession.

Warmest regards,

Elisa Choi, MD, FACP, FIDSA (She/Her)
Governor, Massachusetts ACP Chapter

Social Media:

Follow MA ACP Governor on **Twitter**: [@MAACPGovernor](#)

Follow MA ACP Governor on **Instagram**: [@maacpgovernor](#)

"Like" the MA ACP Governor Page on **Facebook**: [MAACPGovernor](#)

Website: [ACP Massachusetts Chapter](#)

Social Media:

"Like" Massachusetts ACP Chapter on **Facebook** - [American College of Physicians, Massachusetts Chapter](#)

Follow Massachusetts ACP Chapter on **Twitter** - **ACP**