
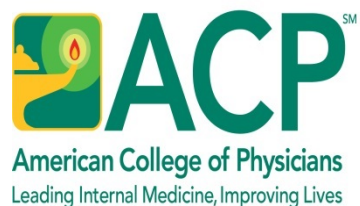


## Previous Winners

2000	Eduardo Gaitan, MD, FACP
2001	Kenneth R. Bennett, MD, FACP
2002	John F. Jackson, MD, FACP
2003	Harry Fulcher Jr., MD, FACP
2004	Larry B. Aycock, MD, FACP
2005	Van L. Lackey, MD, FACP
2006	Helen R. Turner, MD, FACP
2007	David I. Hirsch, MD, FACP
2008	Joe C. Files, MD, MACP
2009	Gilliam S. Hicks Jr., MD, FACP
2010	Jon M. Beall, MD, FACP
2011	Samuel H. Peeples, MD, FACP
2012	Richard D. deShazo, MD, MACP
2013	Shirley D. Schlessinger, MD, FACP
2014	Robert Brahan, MD, FACP
2015	Rathel Linwood "Skip" Nolan, MD, FACP
2016	Johnny B. Franklin, MD, FACP
2017	Daniel P. Edney, MD, FACP
2018	Dan M. Woodliff, MD, FACP
2019	Kimberly G. Harkins, MD, FACP
2021	Lillian Lien, MD, FACP
2022	Stanley Chapman, MD, FACP
2023	Margaret "Peggy" Miller Davis, MD, FACP
2024	Kent A. Kirchner, MD, FACP, FAHA
2025	Joseph S. Moak Jr, MD, FACP



# 2026 Mississippi Chapter Laureate Award



# Mississippi Chapter



## Otis Gowdy Jr MD, MACP

Otis Gowdy Jr. is a nephrologist with more than two decades of clinical experience and leadership in internal medicine and nephrology. A native of Meridian with deep roots in Gautier, he draws inspiration and grounding from both hometown communities.

Dr. Gowdy completed his residency in internal medicine and fellowship in nephrology at University of Mississippi Medical Center, where he also served as Chief Nephrology Fellow. Since 2005, he has been in private practice at the Internal Medicine Clinic in Meridian and has served as Medical Director for [Fresenius Medical Care](#) since 2009.

Throughout his career, Dr. Gowdy has held several influential leadership roles within the local medical community, including Chief of Staff at Anderson Regional Medical Center and Division Chair of Nephrology. He has also served on Mississippi's Nephrology State Task Force.

Beyond medicine, Dr. Gowdy is deeply committed to community service and civic engagement. In 2018, he was recognized as the NAACP Man of the Year for Meridian. His civic leadership includes service on the boards of the Meridian Museum of Art, the Lauderdale County Tourism Board, the Meridian City Planning

Commission, and the Mississippi Children's Museum Meridian Advisory Board.

Dr. Gowdy is also actively involved in historic preservation and downtown revitalization efforts in Meridian as President and CEO of The Holbrook Building LLC. His work in historic restoration inspired a series of talks and webinars entitled The Humanitarian's Journey, chronicling a physician's efforts to provide guidance, influence, and service within the community.

Dr. Gowdy has served the American College of Physicians and the Mississippi Chapter of the ACP for many years. As Chairman of the Chapter's Development Committee, he helped lead one of the organization's most successful chapter meetings through extensive vendor recruitment and engagement efforts. He later served as Governor of the Mississippi Chapter from 2021 to 2025. During his tenure, he served nationally on both the Awards Committee and the Mastership Committee. One of his proudest accomplishments was helping the Mississippi Chapter achieve the Silver Level designation in the 2024 Chapter Excellence Awards program. He also made a point to visit new residency programs throughout the state, where he enjoyed mentoring and connecting with the next generation of physicians in Mississippi. Dr. Gowdy especially values the close relationships formed with his 2025 Governor Class colleagues.

Above all, Dr. Gowdy is the proud father of two children, Bentley and Berkley. Anchored by a close family and supportive friends, he enjoys traveling and supporting his children's school and extracurricular activities.