



October 2020

We are pleased to announce that our chapter is in receipt of the Gold Level of the 2020 Chapter Excellence Award! The award recognizes truly extraordinary chapters that surpass excellence in chapter management. We are in the company of 34 other outstanding chapters. In order to achieve the Gold Level of the Chapter Excellence Award, chapters must meet twenty-one Bronze criteria, fourteen Silver criteria and multiple Gold level activities. Criteria include such activities as having a legislative action plan or agenda, holding a volunteerism/community service activity, holding multiple stand-alone meetings, having revenue sources outside of dues and meeting registration fees, implementing a strategic plan, implementing a formal recruitment and retention plan and measuring outcomes, conducting various activities for Medical Students, Residents and Early Career Physicians. I would like to extend a special thanks to those chapter members who assisted us in all of these endeavors! For their hard work and dedication, we received this award.

We continue to navigate the COVID-19 pandemic as the annual flu season approaches, the ACP, CDC, MS ACP and numerous other outlets continue to remind to the public that safety is still a top priority and the pandemic is far from over. Members are encouraged to continue to remind patients, colleagues, friends and family to practice social distancing, wear a mask, wash hands and go get the annual flu vaccine.

There are numerous factors that may be contributing to an overwhelming feeling of stress and burnout. The ACP website has a frequently updated [COVID-19 resource page](#). ACP has accumulated a significant resource library covering numerous topics, with a renewed focus on Well-Being. We encourage all Chapter Members to visit the website often and use the resources that are provided. ACP is advocating strongly for the IM field as new challenges arise.

In the spirit of focusing on Well-Being during this most unusual and difficult time, the Mississippi and Alabama Chapters are partnering to bring numerous local Chapters from across the country together on Wednesday, October 21st. The webinar, Beyond the Now: Strategies and Discussion on How to Plan Our Brighter Future, will feature an expert panel, open

discussion and breakout sessions. This event will be open to all ACP Members, Fellows, ECP, Residents and Students. Mark your calendars and watch your email and the MS Chapter social media for more information.

The UMMC ACP Resident's Council is hosting the annual UMMC/ACP Abstract Day on Thursday, October 29, 2020 to continue to promote scholarly and collegial activity throughout the state. This year's Abstract Day will occur mostly in an online format. The Abstract Submission Portal has closed and the Council thanks everyone who submitted an abstract! The judging of the abstracts will be done virtually. On Thursday, October 29th, the Council will host a one hour in person event that will feature selected oral presentations in a properly socially distanced manner.

The UMMC student interest group, ClubMed, continued its monthly meetings on a virtual platform on September 23rd. The Club invited a UMMC GI fellow to speak about his IM experience and his fellowship path. Be sure to follow the club on Instagram @clubmedummc for the October meeting date and other news and updates.

ACP has announced the IM2021 meeting, scheduled to be held in Orlando in the spring, will be a virtual meeting. Details will be available as the time approaches.

ACP is updating all of the State Chapter websites. The new website will have a fresh, new look with easier navigation to locate the information that is being sought out. The pages are being updated in the order of when the Chapter holds its Annual Scientific meeting.

Please take the time to log into your ACP account, if you have not already, and check that all of your contact information is current. Members are the only ones granted access to edit that information, including your email address.

Be sure to follow the Chapter on social media to see what the Chapter members are doing and for important dates, messages and reminders. The Chapter is on Facebook (@msacp), Twitter (@ms_acp) and Instagram (@acp_ms). Please email any news you would like to share with the Chapter and/or the membership to Mississippi.acp@gmail.com.