

Governor's Newsletter



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Fall/Winter 2025 Governor's message.....

The Power of Speaking Up for Our Patients

As the year draws to a close, it's the perfect time to reflect on what it means to be both a healer and an advocate. As physicians, we are entrusted with the sacred duty of caring for patients—not just through diagnosis and treatment, but by raising our voices on their behalf. Speaking up ensures that every patient, regardless of background or circumstance, has access to quality, equitable, and evidence-based care.

Every conversation with a policymaker, every effort to clarify evidence for the public, and every instance in which we defend the integrity of our profession is an act of advocacy. Our responsibility extends far beyond the clinical setting; it includes the moral obligation to build a healthcare system that is fair, accessible, and just.

This year, the Ohio Chapter of the American College of Physicians was recognized as one of the top five chapters nationwide for our grassroots advocacy during the August 2025 congressional recess. This recognition reflects our collective commitment to championing vital initiatives such as telehealth expansion and continued support for the National Health Service Corps, both of which play critical roles in advancing access to care for our patients across Ohio and beyond.

Advocacy, however, is not an isolated event—it's a way of living our professional values. It means being the voice for those who cannot speak, addressing the inequities that undermine patient outcomes, and working together with respect and empathy to promote lasting change.

Celebrating Leadership and Excellence

We are thrilled to share that Dr. Ellen Gelles has been named a Master of the American College of Physicians (MACP). This is a tremendous honor that recognizes her lifelong dedication to excellence in clinical care, education, mentorship, and service to the College. Please join us in extending our warmest congratulations to Dr. Gelles for this remarkable achievement!

In addition, our chapter is holding elections for the next Governor-elect. We are privileged to have two phenomenal candidates—Dr. Glenn Solomon, MACP, and Dr. Ellen Gelles, MACP. Your voice and participation are vital. Please take a few minutes to cast your vote and support the continued leadership and growth of our chapter.

We also want to share that the ACP Ohio Chapter has once again been recognized with the ACP Chapter Gold Excellence award. The award recognizes truly extraordinary chapters that surpass excellence in chapter management. To achieve the Gold Level of the Chapter Excellence Award, chapters must meet 19 Bronze criteria, 17 Silver criteria, and complete multiple Gold-level activities. Criteria include such activities as holding a volunteerism/community service activity, participation in advocacy activities, holding numerous stand-alone meetings, having revenue sources outside of dues and meeting registration fees, implementing a strategic plan, implementing a formal recruitment and retention plan, measuring outcomes, and conducting various activities for Medical Students, Residents, and Early Career Physicians.

We want to express our sincere gratitude to all our members for their engagement, participation, and enthusiasm. Especially, we want to recognize all our Governor's Advisory Council members.

Engage and Lead: Opportunities for All Members

As we continue to nurture the next generation of internal medicine leaders, we invite members to apply for the at-large positions on the following ACP Ohio Councils:

- Council of Early Career Physicians
- Council of Resident and Fellow Members
- Council of Student Members

These positions offer an extraordinary opportunity to influence the national activities programming, contribute to advocacy efforts, and shape the future of internal medicine beyond Ohio. We encourage all interested members to express their interest and become part of these dynamic teams.

Looking Ahead: 2025 Annual Chapter Meeting

We are eagerly preparing for our 2025 Annual Chapter Meeting, where we will celebrate education, collaboration, and leadership across our community. This year's meeting will feature sessions on clinical updates, advocacy, and innovation in internal medicine. As always, it is a joy to see the incredible leadership of Dr. Kate Schmidt and the extraordinary scientific committee; the agenda is spectacular. And this year, we are honored to have Dr. Jason Goldman, the current President of the American College of Physicians, as our special guest; Dr. Goldman is one of the strongest voices currently supporting evidence and excellence in patient care.

We will also proudly recognize our 2025 Chapter Awardees, including two exciting new honors—the Woman of the Year Award and the Early Career Physician of the Year Award. These awards celebrate the diversity, excellence, and engagement of our membership at all levels and highlight our ongoing commitment to inclusivity and leadership development across generations and backgrounds.

Please join us in celebrating our colleagues' achievements and the collective spirit that defines our chapter's success.

In Gratitude

I remain deeply grateful for your commitment to your patients, your colleagues, and our shared mission. Together, we are not just practicing medicine—we are shaping the health of our communities and the future of Internal Medicine. Let's continue to speak up, stand firm, and lead with compassion.

Moises Auron, MD, FAAP, FACP, SFHM, FRCP(Lon), FRCPCH

Governor, ACP Ohio

Thank you to our Governor's Advisory Council

We extend our sincere appreciation to the members of our Governor's Advisory Council for their ongoing leadership, insight, and support. Your guidance plays an essential role in shaping our chapter's initiatives and advancing our mission. Thank you for your time, dedication, and commitment to excellence.

Governor's Advisory Council Members:

At-Large

Dr. Debra Leizman

Dr. Mani Askari

Dr. Richard Wardrop

Dr. Stephanie Zaugg

Dr. Katherine Schmidt

Dr. Mehool Patel

Dr. William "Chad" Cook

Dr. Vara Janamanchi

Ex Officio

Dr. Craig Nielsen (*Immediate Past Governor*)

Dr. Timica Campbell

Dr. Nayan Agarwal

Dr. Austin Fredrickson

Dr. Kevin Goist

Dr. Perry Lin

Dr. Estrelita Dixon

Dr. Doug Federman

Dr. Dean Bricker

Chair

Dr. Keith Armitage

Dr. Andrea Sikon

Dr. Mehool Patel

Dr. Rama Mallampali

Dr. Tracy Schaub

Dr. John Byrd

Dr. Basil Akpunonu

Dr. Glen Solomon

A Reminder to Vote in the Ohio Governor Election

Election Opened September 26, 2025

A reminder to vote for our next Chapter Governor! The Governor serves as the official representative of the College for the chapter, providing a link between members at the local level and leadership at the national level.

This year we have two superb candidates running for Governor-elect, Ellen J. Gelles and Glen D. Solomon. I want to acknowledge and thank them both for their enthusiastic and dedicated work on behalf of our Chapter.

Learn more about their background and experience by reviewing their biographies and candidate statements on our [Chapter's Website](#).

The election ends November 7, 2025. [Members can vote online](#). The ballot includes your ACP Member Number and unique Election Passcode that is required to cast a vote.

Please note the following to ensure a smooth voting process:

- Eligible voters are MACPs, FACPs, Members, and Resident/Fellow Members with an election date of 9/1/2023 or earlier.
- ACP partners with Survey & Ballot Systems (SBS) to conduct the election.
 - You may need to check the spam/junk folder for your ballot materials
- The subject of the ballot email will be "Vote Now! ACP 2025 Governor-elect Election Voting Information."
- The sender will be Julie Sinkoff, Coordinator BOG Relations
- Ballots were sent electronically around September 26, 2025.

For replacement ballots, print ballot requests, and election customer service, e-mail support@directvote.net or call 866-909-3549, Monday - Friday, 9:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. ET. For general election information, contact [Julie Sinkoff](#), Coordinator, BOG Relations, by email or call 215-351-2699.

Council of Students Members Appoints New Board Members

We are pleased to introduce our newly selected Council of Student Members for the Ohio ACP Chapter. After a thorough review and discussion of all applications, we have appointed six outstanding medical students representing Cleveland Clinic, Case Western, NEOMED, and the University of Toledo.

- Eno-obong (Blessing) Udoh
- Julie Centofanti
- Sejal Gunaratnam
- Ayush Thakur
- Michael Komarovsky
- Anuhya Kanchibhatla

We are confident that these students will bring valuable insight, energy, and leadership to the chapter and are excited for their contributions to advancing ACP.

UPCOMING EVENTS

2025 Annual Scientific Meeting: LAST CHANCE TO REGISTER

The 2025 ACP OH/USAF Annual Chapter Meeting will be held on Thursday and Friday, November 6th & 7th, 2025 at the Hilton Columbus Downtown.



New!

The ACP Ohio Volunteerism Committee, led by Dr. Jayne Barr, has launched an on-site effort to give back to area children and teens through the donation of preventative health items.



NEW LOCATION

The Annual Chapter meeting is moving locations to the Hilton Columbus Downtown. (Located across from the Greater Columbus Convention Center)

Agenda Highlights

Doctor's Dilemma ®
Resident and Medical Student Poster Competitions
Applied AI in Healthcare
Advancing to ACP Fellowship
Updates in Women's Health



UPCOMING EVENTS



FROM ONE-TO-ONE TO ONE-TO-MANY CARE: MASTERING THE SCIENCE AND PRACTICE OF DIGITAL HEALTH AND AI



**ASHISH ATREJA, M.D., M.P.H.,
F.A.C.P., A.G.A.F.**

Digital Health and AI Innovation Leader |
Physician Executive | Intrapreneur | Cofounder
and CEO, GenServe.AI



In this webinar, we will:

Identify systemic barriers in U.S. healthcare delivery that contribute to workforce burnout, access disparities, and inefficiencies in care coordination.

Explain core scientific and implementation principles of how digital health and AI technologies enable scalable, one-to-many models of care to address workforce shortages and enhance patient reach.

Evaluate real-world use cases of AI-powered care models and extract transferable strategies applicable across clinical specialties and practice settings.

**NOVEMBER 14, 2025
12:00 PM EST**

REGISTER NOW

Questions? Please contact Chrissy Gedeon, ACP Ohio Executive Director, at cmgedeon@outlook.com.

Are you familiar with Advocates for Internal Medicine Network (AIMn)?

This program is for ACP members interested in participating in federal advocacy. It is designed to help members engage with their federal lawmakers on policy issues important to ACP and internal medicine, using a platform that is user-friendly.

As key issues approach the decision-making stage on Capitol Hill, the College emails legislative updates and alerts to AIMn members, who are called Advocates.

Legislative alerts include all of the necessary information (including sample messages that can be easily personalized) to make informative contacts with members of Congress, and ACP staff is always available to provide support and answer legislative questions.

It's simple, fast, and effective.

Sign up [here](#).

