
Oklahoma Chapter Newsletter

August 2023



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Hello From the Governor's Office!

**Rhett Jackson, MD, MACP
OK-ACP Governor**

I hope everyone is staying as cool as possible as we soldier through the summer. As we wrap up summer vacations and ready the kids to return to school, it is time to start looking forward to the Annual Scientific Meeting of the Oklahoma Chapter of the ACP. This year, Dr. Salar Faiazi has put together an outstanding agenda addressing the increasing challenge of managing behavioral health problems faced by internal medicine physicians in both the inpatient and outpatient settings. An already high prevalence of mental health issues has been increased by the recent pandemic and our meeting will address some of the most common challenges faced by the office practitioner as well as the hospitalist.



We are especially excited to welcome Dr. William Fox, FACP, as our keynote speaker. Dr. Fox is a highly regarded Fellow of the ACP and a recipient of multiple

awards including the American College of Physicians Virginia Young Internist of the Year award in 2010, the Paul Florentino Volunteerism Award in 2013, and the Richard Neubauer Advocate for Internal Medicine Award in 2014. Dr. Fox is a past Chair of the ACP Board of Governors and is currently Chair-elect of the Board of Regents of the American College of Physicians.

Details of the meeting, which will be on the University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center campus in Oklahoma City September 29-30, are located elsewhere in this newsletter and will be emailed to you as well. I hope to see each of you there for two days of education and camaraderie. In the meantime, enjoy the rest of your summer and stay cool!

Oklahoma Chapter In-Person Scientific Meeting September 29 & 30

Salar Faiazi, MD
Chair, Program Committee

Plan now to attend the 2023 ACP Oklahoma Chapter's Annual Scientific Meeting entitled "Updates on Mental and Behavioral Health for the Internal Medicine Physician." Dr. Salar Faiazi is serving as the program chair and Dr. Rhett Jackson is overseeing as Governor of the ACP Oklahoma Chapter.



The meeting will occur in-person on Friday, September 29th and Saturday, September 30th located in the Children's Hospital in Oklahoma City.

This meeting continues to be the largest meeting of internists in Oklahoma and attracts physicians and trainees from private practice, university faculty, fellowship, residency, and medical school. The meeting has been approved for 8 hours of AMA PRA Category 1 Credit(s)™ from the American College of Physicians as well as 8 hours of MOC credits. We are excited about our panel of speakers presenting new and relevant topics under a particularly timely theme.

To attend, you must register in advance. Registration is free for Residents, Fellows, and Medical Students. For ACP Members, registration is \$175; For non-members, it is \$200. You can access the meeting hub for registration, the meeting agenda, and other information at the following link:

[Oklahoma Chapter 2023 Annual Scientific Meeting | ACP Online.](#)

Join us for an Early Career Physician Meet and Greet Special Event

As part of the Chapter's commitment to fostering professional development and networking opportunities, the Oklahoma Chapter is excited to offer an exclusive Early Career Physician "Meet and Greet" being held in conjunction with the Oklahoma Chapter's Annual Scientific Meeting in Oklahoma City!

This casual and informative event will be held Friday, September 29th from 7:30 to 9:30 at a place to be determined in Oklahoma City. The event is designed specifically for early career physicians providing a unique platform to connect with colleagues and share experiences. Whether you're just starting your medical journey or looking to further enhance your career, this event promises to offer valuable insights and connections.

Details on the location of the event as well as RSVP information will be sent to Early Career Physicians soon by e-mail. Questions? Contact Early Career Physicians Co-Chairs [Ryan Yarnall](#) or [Salar Faiazi](#).

Call for Abstracts for Oklahoma Chapter Resident Competition

The Oklahoma Chapter is also inviting Residents/Fellows to submit abstracts for consideration of acceptance at the Annual Scientific Meeting being held September 29 & 30. We will be evaluating six different categories as shown below:

- Basic Research
- Clinical Research
- Quality Improvement/Patient Safety
- High Value Care
- Physician Well-Being and Professional Fulfillment
- Clinical Vignette

The Chapter will also select abstracts for oral presentations to be delivered on the final day of the meeting. We ask that you limit your submissions to no more than two per category. The deadline for submission of abstracts is **Monday September 18th, 2023**. We are accepting pieces that were previously submitted to Stewart Wolf Day, thus if you had a piece you would like to resubmit to ACP, please do so.

Note you must be logged into the ACP with your individual login in order to access and submit the form. Contact ACP Member and Product Support at 800-ACP-1915 (M-F, 9 a.m.–5 p.m. ET) if you have difficulty with your login.

Complete the submission form at this link:

<https://webforms.acponline.org/form/oklahoma-chapter-abstract-form>

ACP Fall 2023 Resolutions

Eight (8) resolutions will be considered at the Fall 2023 Board of Governors (BOG) Meeting. With the exception of Resolution 3-F23 which was accepted as a reaffirmation and will not be debated, please review the balance of the slate and then indicate your support or opposition by completing the [electronic response form](#) by August 30. **Note: You must be logged into your ACP Account to access this form.** Contact ACP Member and Product Support at 800-ACP-1915 (M-F, 9 a.m.–5 p.m. ET) if you have difficulty with your login.

Your comments will be forwarded to your Governor to be used as part of his/her testimony on behalf of the chapter. Any questions should be directed to Mary Giampietro, BOG Administrator at chapter@acpmembership.org.

Thank you for your input.

(NOTE: Proposed resolutions should be considered confidential information and are intended to be viewed by ACP members only. Under no circumstances should proposed resolutions be shared with the news media or social networking media, nor should they be shared with other individuals and organizations. Proposed resolutions do not represent ACP policy.)



ACP Leadership Day held May 23-24 in Washington DC

On May 24 ACP Leadership Day, Dr. Lyndsey Jones, Chair of the Legislative Advocacy Committee, along with Residents Shana Usiukiewicz, (OKC), and Brandon Quinn (Tulsa) advocated on Capitol Hill in Washington DC. Key policies of concern that directly impact internal medicine physicians and patients were addressed with U.S. Lawmakers.

These doctors had meetings with members of the Oklahoma Congressional Delegation and/or their healthcare policy advisors. Bills that were advocated for included the REDI (Resident Education Deferred Interest) Act, which would allow student loan interest-free deferment while in medical school or training. Policy addressing the physician workforce shortage with the Resident Physician Shortage Reduction Act of 2023, which would gradually raise the number of Medicare-supported GME positions by 2,000 per year for seven years.

Bills to improve patient access to care included the Safe Step Act (a bipartisan bill that would require group health plans to provide an exception process for any medication step therapy protocol to help ensure that patients can safely and efficiently access treatment), the Strengthening Medicare for Patients and Providers Act (to preserve access to care for Medicare beneficiaries by providing an annual inflation update equal to the Medicare Economic Index (MEI) for Medicare physician payment) & Kids' Access to Primary Care Act (aligns Medicaid reimbursement rates with Medicare payments for primary care services). Their voices and involvement as constituents guided the legislative process to support and aid in co-signing policies for the greater good of Oklahoma and the Nation's pulse of our healthcare.

Request for Legislative Connections

The Oklahoma ACP Chapter continues to request from our members if you have any connections or special ties with elected officials at both the state and national levels. If so, please provide the name of the elected official to OK-ACP Executive Director [Kathy Musson](#). The Chapter will use this information to ask you to reach out to them to express the Chapter's positions on any proposed legislation that pertains to the field of Internal Medicine. Thank you in advance for your membership and leadership in this avenue.

Help Your Chapter – Get Involved!

Our Chapter has several needs for volunteers to be on committees and serve the Chapter in other ways. Below, please find descriptions for some of our more pressing needs.

Communication’s Chair: Are you great with social media? ACP Chapters are encouraged to have some presence on Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, and Instagram. Not an extensive presence, just have an account and occasionally post and monitor activity. We would like to have an interested Chapter member champion this as Communication’s Chair, along with input from the Executive Director and Governor. The Communication’s Chair also attends the Annual Scientific Conference to take photos and help develop articles for social media and the Chapter’s Quarterly Newsletters. Interested? Please reach out to OK-ACP Executive Director [Kathy Musson](#) for additional details.

Membership Committee: We are always looking for physicians to be involved in our Membership Activities. Given the nature of its work, this committee benefits from new members who bring their own perspective to why they joined and how the chapter can acquire and retain members. If you are or think you might be interested in either of these opportunities, or would like to know more about other committees and councils in our Chapter, please reach out to OK-ACP Executive Director [Kathy Musson](#)