ACP American College of Physicians Leading Internal Medicine, Improving Lives | South Dakota Chapter



Governor's Message

Eric Larson, MD, MACP

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Greetings to you all! I hope you are having a good fall and enjoying the changing of the season. It is certainly a special time of year for us in South Dakota.

Our annual South Dakota ACP meeting at the Lodge at Deadwood was another wonderful opportunity to learn, connect, and celebrate the accomplishments of our members. We were fortunate to welcome outstanding national and local speakers who provided valuable educational sessions and thoughtful discussion throughout the meeting. Dr. Suzie Kane, who has presented at our last few meetings, has already agreed to come back for 2 talks next year. She is a leader at Mayo Clinic, Rochester and has been a phenomenal teacher for us at our state meetings.

One of the highlights was our largest-ever medical student poster competition, featuring 17 presentations. Congratulations to the two student winners who will represent South Dakota at the National ACP Internal Medicine Meeting next spring in Los Angeles. We were also pleased to have eight resident presentations, with one resident winner to present in Los Angeles. A highlight is seeing the engagement of membership with the student and resident poster judging. The dedication of our members modeling real enthusiasm for the profession is a pleasure to see.

Of course, a South Dakota ACP meeting would not be complete without Dr. Lamfer's Medical Jeopardy competition with two resident teams facing up against a brave group of attendings. In a result that surprised absolutely no one, the residents once again came out on top but the attendings had a very strong showing.

Planning is already underway for next year's meeting, which will return to Deadwood October 7 & 8, including our chapter dinner at Jake's in the Midnight Star. We hope to see many of you there. We will be assembling the Chapter Meeting planning committee now and if you are interested, please reach out to me or Cherise.

I want to remind all of you that have been members of the ACP for over 3 years to consider Fellowship. The process of becoming a Fellow is not difficult, and it provides recognition for what you are doing now, with your dedication to the field of internal medicine.

As you are looking into the year ahead, consider making time in your schedule to attend the National Meeting in LA April 15-17. The national meeting is always a great event and we will also have a combined North and South Dakota get together. Last year in San Franscisco this was a great hit.

I also want to thank our new Executive Director, Cherise Dunn. Cherise is doing a fantastic job for us and has spearheaded getting our social media presence going. Please consider following us on your favorite social media platform and check out some of the highlights of our chapter activities.

Thank you for all you do for your patients, your communities, and our profession.

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2026 Chapter Award Winners



Laureate Award
Jennifer Williamson, MD, FACP

Early Career Physician of the Year Award Stephen Neabore, MD, FACP





Teacher of the Year
Kelly Evans-Hullinger, MD, FACP

2026 Chapter Award Winners



Hospitalist of the Year Award
Dawn Hill, MD, FACP

Resident Leader Award
Anna Myrmoe , MD





Medical Student Leader Award
Thomas Ebrahem

[Link to full Awards Brochure]

Chapter Meeting Poster Winners

First-place winners in each category will represent the chapter at the national meeting in April.



Residents

1st Haddaya Umar - PGY2

2nd Maheera Farqoori – PGY2

3rd Robert Kowitz – PGY2



Students – Clinical Vignette

1st Michael Frick – MS3

2nd Jerrod Fedorchik – MS2

3rd Grace Jacobs – MS4



Students – Research

1st Jillian Stamp – MS3

2nd Victoria Moe – MS3

3rd Delram Moradpour - MS3

Membership Committee

"75 AND STRONGER TOGETHER"

Jennifer Williamson, MD, FACP
Jennifer.Williamsonmd@gmail.com



Our South Dakota Chapter of the American College of Physicians marked a major milestone recently with the 75th Annual Scientific Meeting on October 1–2, 2026, at The Lodge at Deadwood.

What a wonderful meeting it was!
Faculty, residents, and students gathered for two days of high-quality education, networking, and recognition under the theme of fostering excellence in internal medicine.

As Membership Chair, I was especially encouraged by the strong turnout and engagement across all career stages.
This was only possible because of the collective efforts of our members-YOU..

Our chapter's receipt of the Gold Level Chapter Excellence Award further underscores this.
Our membership is what keeps us moving onward,upward and forward.

To continue this path of excellence,we need to continually grow our chapter .
Please encourage colleagues(internists and specialists)who have not yet joined or who can advance to Fellowship to connect with the chapter —we look forward to building on this energy in the year ahead.
Seventy-five years strong -and with your continued engagement ,we will only grow stronger together.

Membership Enrollment or Renewal Link

Residency Update

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The USD SSOM Internal Medicine residency program is off to another outstanding academic year. All 27 residents took the ACP ITE exam this fall and once again the program performed at the 90th percentile or higher for the 11th year in a row. Our PGY2s attended the SD ACP Chapter Meeting in Deadwood, SD. We had an outstanding collection of posters again. The resident first place poster was “When Cellulitis isn’t Cellulitis: Giant cellulitis -like sweet syndrome mimicking necrotizing fasciitis” by Dr. Haddaya Umar, etc. The residents and the faculty again competed in a friendly competition during the Doctor’s Dilemma. The program is starting residency interviews in late October and will continue until end of December. Once again, we are impressed with the candidates that have applied. Several of our PGY3s have completed interviews for the fellowship match and will be awaiting fellowship match day in early December.

The program would like to thank the SD ACP chapter for allowing us to be part of the annual meeting, the Avera and Sanford Health systems for all their support, and all the many faculty members that work with our residents each day.

Residency Program Information

Upcoming SD ACP Events

Dec. 12 IM Graphic Book Club - Information Link
Feb. 2 Physician Advocacy Day in Pierre - Information Link
April 15-17 National ACP Meeting - Los Angeles
May 11-12 Leadership Day - Washington DC

Heading to the National ACP Meeting in April?
Watch for information from the Chapter regarding our joint reception with ND at Tom's Watch.
Connect with fellow members, network, and enjoy a great evening together.





SD ACP Annual Meeting
October 7 & 8
The Lodge at Deadwood, Deadwood, SD
Registration opens May 2027

NEW COUNCIL MEMBER

Dr. Kathyayini Tappeta



The new Diversity Leader for our chapter.

Please join us in welcoming Dr. Kathyayini Tappeta as the new Diversity Leader for our chapter! Dr. Tappeta, an internist at Monument Health, brings a wealth of experience in research, clinical care, and leadership. We're excited for the perspective and dedication she'll bring to this role.

COUNCIL MEMBERS

Eric Larson - Governor
Michael Wilde - Governor Elect Designee
Tim Ridgway - Treasurer
Rob Allison - Immediate Past Governor
Jennifer Williamson - Membership
Dawn Hill - HPPC
Daryl Goh - Early Career Physician
Kathyayini Tappeta - Diversity Leader
Cathy Leadabrand - Hospitalist
Jennifer Hsu - Awards
Nick Thielen - Dean of SSOM Appointee
Randall Lamfers - Residency Assistant Director
Jenna Gassman - Wellness Champion
Kelly Evans-Hullinger - SDSMA Councilor
Anna Myrmoe - IM Program Senior Rep
Thomas Ebrahem - IMIG Rep

As your South Dakota ACP Chapter Council, we are here to support and guide the work of our incredible members. Our shared commitment to advancing internal medicine, fostering professional growth, and advocating for our patients continues to drive us forward. We encourage all members to reach out with ideas, questions, or feedback to help us strengthen our chapter and its impact. Together, we will continue to lead, inspire, and build a brighter future for internal medicine in South Dakota.