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American College of Physicians
Leading Internal Medicine, Improving Lives

Wisconsin Chapter

2022 AWARDS

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LAUREATE AWARD



The **Laureate Award** is the highest distinction bestowed on a physician and honors ACP Fellows and Masters, who have demonstrated their abiding commitment to excellence in medical care, education, research and service to their community, their Chapter, and the College. Awardees are generally Fellows or Masters, with a long history of excellence and peer approval in the specialty of internal medicine. Additionally, they should have served the College with distinction or in some clearly definable manner.

Dr. **Noel N. Deep, MD, FACP** was born and raised in Hyderabad, India. After his undergraduate

medical education at Osmania Medical College, Hyderabad, India, he completed his Internal Medicine Residency at the Rosalind Franklin University of Health Sciences/ The Chicago Medical School in 2000. Board certified in Internal Medicine, and Hospice and Palliative Medicine, he is a practicing internist with Aspirus Medical Group in Antigo since 2000. He also serves as Chief Medical Officer for Aspirus Langlade Hospital, and Regional Medical Director for Aspirus Medical Group. He has served on the Aspirus Langlade Hospital Board of Trustees since 2006 and was Chief of Staff of that institution for several years. In recognition of his involvement in medical student education, he is an Assistant Clinical Professor of Medicine at the Medical College of Wisconsin.

He has been actively involved in organized medicine including the ACP, Wisconsin Medical Society, and the American Medical Association, with innumerable contributions to each of these organizations. However, all this began with the big bang of his election as ACP Fellow in 2007, after being a Member since 2000. His service to the ACP Wisconsin chapter followed in many roles: member and Chair of the Young Physicians committee, Membership committee, Awards committee, Hospitalists committee, Chair of the Chapter Scientific Program [8 years], Secretary, Governor-Elect, and Governor of the Chapter. At the national level, he has served as a member and chair of the Council of Young Physicians, member of the Board of Governors and Board of Regents, Vice-Chair of the Ethics, Professionalism, and Human Rights Committee, Parliamentarian, member of the Chapters Subcommittee, Immunization Committee, and the ACP Services Political Action Committee Board. He has been recognized as a top reviewer for the Annals of Internal Medicine and serves as a member of the Abstract Review Board. He has served as faculty at the national ACP meeting and provided editorial review of ACP publications. He represented the ACP as the international ambassador to the Colombia Chapter and the Colombian National Internal Medicine Society's annual meeting. He has been a member of the Wisconsin Delegation to the ACP's Leadership Day in Washington DC for many years. For his contributions

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in the latter role, the national Richard L. Neubauer Award for advocacy was bestowed on him. He is a member of the Editorial Board of Internal Medicine News.

His involvement with the Wisconsin Medical Society includes serving as Chair of the Young Physicians Section, member of the Membership Committee, House of Delegates, Board of Directors, and President of the Medical Society. He served as President of Langlade County Medical Society for several years. He serves on the Medical Society's Honoring Choices Wisconsin Steering Committee working towards promotion of Advance Care Planning. He is also a member of the Wisconsin Medical Society Foundation's Board of Directors serving currently as the Vice-President of the Foundation. He has represented the WMS at Wisconsin Hospital Association's task forces to improve patient safety. He also volunteers as a member of the Wisconsin Council on Immunization Practices.

As an active member of the American Medical Association, Dr. Deep has represented the ACP at the AMA House of Delegates since 2008. Serving as the current Chair of the AMA's Council on Science and Public Health, he has served on both related and unrelated reference committees and task forces. As a regular attendee at the AMA's National Advocacy Conference in Washington, DC, he has been spotlighted in the AMA's Membership Moves Medicine campaign.

Dr. Deep is an elected member of the Unified School District of Antigo Board of Education. While his accomplishments are noteworthy, what makes them a superb juggling act is that Dr. Deep has the unique distinction of having all these accomplishments within a span of 15 years while maintaining a busy comprehensive Internal Medicine practice in rural Wisconsin and fulfilling his responsibilities as a husband and father.

He has been recognized for his contributions at the state and national levels with several awards including the inaugural Kenneth Viste, Jr, MD Young Physician Award from the Wisconsin Medical Society, Young Internist of the Year Award from the Wisconsin ACP, Excellence in Medicine national award from the AMA, Physician's Recognition Award with Commendation from the AMA, Walter MacDonald national Young Physician Award from the ACP, Addis Costello Internist of the Year Award from the Wisconsin ACP, Wisconsin Medical Society's Presidential Lifetime Membership, and the aforementioned Richard Neubauer national Award for Advocacy from the ACP.

Dr. Deep and his wife, Dr. Lakshmi Deep, also an ACP Fellow, live in Antigo, Wisconsin, and are blessed with two children, Nikita, and Nathan.

The ACP Wisconsin Chapter takes great pleasure in conferring on Dr. Noel N Deep, MD, FACP the award of Laureate of the Wisconsin Chapter in recognition of his dedication and outstanding contributions to the science and art of medicine and improving the health of people of Wisconsin.

ADDIS COSTELLO INTERNIST OF THE YEAR AWARD



Brian Hilgeman, MD is the 2022 recipient of the **Addis Costello Internist of the Year Award** that honors a Wisconsin physician whose work addressing the socioeconomic aspects of medicine exemplifies and extends the legacy of Dr. Addis Costello, a Milwaukee physician who worked tirelessly to address socioeconomic hurdles associated with the delivery of healthcare.

Dr. Hilgeman is a graduate of the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health and following his residency training in

Internal Medicine at Hennepin County Medical Center in Minneapolis, Minnesota, he came to Milwaukee to begin a career dedicated to the service of Milwaukee's most vulnerable and underserved communities.

Dr. Hilgeman has been practicing for ten years at the 16th Street Community Health Center and the Froedtert General Internal Medicine Clinic where he focuses on the care of some of Milwaukee's most medically complex and marginalized patients. Dr. Hilgeman was appointed to the faculty at the Medical College of Wisconsin in 2016 and quickly was identified as a leader and innovator. Using his passion for serving the most challenging patients, he helped lead a Froedtert-MCW partnership that successfully conceptualized, designed, and implemented an innovative program for high-risk discharges from Froedtert Hospital using community health workers to provide health education, patient activation, and medical assessment through video visits and other outreach.

In 2020, Dr. Hilgeman led a team to create a new Complex Care Program to serve the most medically complex and socially disadvantaged patients in Froedtert's General Internal Medicine Clinic which was a massive undertaking that overhauled care delivery at the health system's largest internal medicine clinic. The impact of the program is still under study; however, the underlying principle is a focus on identifying and addressing the key social determinants of health that result in the adverse health outcomes and disparities that are prevalent in Milwaukee.

Dr. Hilgeman has been the recipient of many teaching awards by MCW and UW, inspiring medical students and young internists to choose

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a career dedicated to the underserved. In addition, Dr. Hilgeman has embarked on a robust quality improvement and clinical research program in collaboration with MCW's Center for the Advancement of Population Science.

His nominator states that "Wisconsin ACP will be honoring a young physician who is an inspiration to his colleagues and a compassionate caregiver for his patients."

COMMUNITY-BASED PHYSICIAN AND MENTOR AWARD



Guirish Agni, MD is the ACP Wisconsin Chapter 2022 recipient of the **Community-based Physician and Mentor Award**. This award recognizes an outstanding community-based practitioner of internal medicine and mentor who has demonstrated a commitment to the mentoring of learners outside of the major teaching centers.

Dr. Agni is a graduate of the University of Delhi in New Delhi, India and completed residency in multiple hospitals in the United Kingdom and fellowship at the Southern

Illinois University School of Medicine. He is employed at SSM Health clinic in Stoughton, WI and has an incredible track record of more than 2 decades of volunteer service, most recently serving as an outstanding preceptor to first and second year medical students in the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health's Phase 1 Preceptor Program. This program longitudinally partners first and second year medical students with a physician preceptor where they practice communication and exam skills and learn about health systems.

Students have written many wonderful comments about Dr. Agni, indicating that he is an outstanding teacher and role model. They appreciate the time he takes to teach, providing concrete suggestions on history-taking, physical exam, and presentations. Dr. Agni also encourages independence and ensures the student feels involved in each patient encounter. The following student remarks exemplify the feedback he receives from learners year after year:

"Dr. Agni is a wonderful mentor that nurtures student to be independent and adaptable. I have learned so much from him over the past year and half. Knowledge ranging from the disease process to the resources to help patients live their best life. Thanks to his mentorship and guidance, I'm excited for the next phase of my education."

"I really enjoyed working with Dr. Agni. It is clear he is very knowledgeable about clinical medicine and enjoys teaching. He made me feel like I was part of every patient interaction, and his sense of humor was appreciated. I really enjoyed my time with him and will use what I learned in the future."

His nominator states, "I am confident that Dr. Agni has affected the career trajectory of many students, given the obvious joy in caring for patients that he shares."

DISTINGUISHED INTERNIST OF THE YEAR AWARD



Laura Zakowski, MD, FACP is the 2022 recipient of the **Distinguished Internist of the Year Award**. This award honors a career of exceptional effort and contribution to the science and art of Internal Medicine.

Dr. Zakowski is a graduate of the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health (UWSMPH) and completed her internal medicine and chief residency at the Oregon Health Sciences University. She is currently a Professor of Medicine in the Department of

Medicine at UWSMPH and serves at the Vice-Chair for Education in the department where she provides oversight and mentorship to leaders of undergraduate, graduate and fellowship education.

Dr. Zakowski has served in several critical educational leadership roles, including course director for the school's "doctoring" course for more than 15 years, as well the inaugural Integrated Block Leader of the transformed ForWard Curriculum's 12-week Acute Care clerkship, an innovative integrated clinical block that includes inpatient internal medicine, psychiatry, neurology, and emergency medicine. This is the highest rated clinical block and students regularly comment on its outstanding quality and organization.

Dr. Zakowski also co-leads a national educational initiative through the Alliance for Academic Internal Medicine (AAIM) that has revised the guidelines for Internal Medicine curriculum for medical students. She regularly publishes and presents innovations at national meetings, focusing on the education of advanced clinical students and faculty.

Dr. Zakowski practices general internal medicine at UW Health-East clinic, where she provides primary care to a large panel of patients, receiving some of the highest patient satisfaction feedback. She has also regularly attended on the inpatient general medicine service at UW Hospital, teaching and role modeling for medical students and residents. Throughout her career, Dr. Zakowski has been the recipient of an impressive number of awards that support her excellence as an educator and physician, including department and school teaching awards, professionalism awards, humanism awards, as well as Best Doctors in America Awards. She has also received 2 ACP recognitions: Young Internist of the Year Award in 2000 and the advancement to ACP Fellowship in 2016.

EARLY CAREER INTERNIST OF THE YEAR AWARD



Christine Kolehmainen, MD, MS, FACP is the 2022 recipient of the **Early Career Internist of the Year Award**. This award recognizes the outstanding contributions of an early career internist in clinical practice, research and/or medical education.

Dr. Kolehmainen is a graduate of Michigan State College of Human Medicine and completed her internal medicine residency at the University of Wisconsin Hospital and Clinics. She earned her MS in Educational Leadership and Policy Analysis at UW-

Madison at the same time she completed her Advanced Fellowship in Women's Health at the William S. Middleton Veteran's Hospital.

Dr. Kolehmainen is the national Director of Education for VA's Office of Women's Health, while delivering primary care to women and precepting UW internal medicine residents. In her national leadership role, she ensures that VA clinicians deliver high-quality, equitable care for nearly 600,000 unique women Veteran individuals. She oversees the flagship training program, called the VA Women's Health National Mini-Residency, which trains more than 1,000 primary care doctors, physicians assistants, nursing practitioners, and nurses annually. The Mini-Residency is a three-day, face-to-face course designed to provide a practical, hands-on introduction to taking care of women Veterans. Dr. Kolehmainen's team also deploys ongoing curricula to help clinicians maintain their competencies and her program portfolio includes over 150 hours of asynchronous online education.

Dr. Kolehmainen has published research on how gender influences residents leading medical codes and has been awarded numerous small grants in medical education, resulting in multiple publications. She developed a workshop to help medical residents "Break the Bias Habit" which is now part of the second-year core curriculum in the UW residency program. Her work on the implicit bias curricula has been featured in ACP Hospitalist and in the New York Times.

Dr. Kolehmainen was recently appointed to the White House's Gender Policy Interagency Counsel and contributed to the recently released National Strategy on Gender Equity and Equality. She has recently earned the distinction of being an ACP Fellow and has been involved in the Wisconsin ACP chapter meeting as an abstract reviewer, poster judge, and leading a session on caring for women Veterans in the community.

HELEN DICKIE AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING WOMAN PHYSICIAN AWARD



Heidi Twedt, MD is the 2022 recipient of the **Helen Dickie Award for Outstanding Woman Physician**. This award is in memory of Helen Dickie, MD, MACP, a renowned clinician and Professor of Medicine at the University of Wisconsin who was the first Wisconsin Master of the College and honors an outstanding woman physician with a distinguished career in areas of exceptional patient care, medical education and/or research.

Dr. Twedt is a graduate of the University of Minnesota Medical School and completed residency training at University of North Dakota. She has also earned a Graduate Certificate in biomedical informatics from Oregon Health Sciences University. She is currently a Clinical Professor of Medicine at the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health. Dr. Twedt also serves as an Associate Chief Medical Information Officer (ACMIO).

Throughout her career as a primary care internist, quality care delivery and superb patient experience have been the core principles of her practice. Because of this, she was selected to be the inaugural Chief Medical Information Officer (CMIO) for Sanford Health. Dr. Twedt embraced the CMIO role to improve patient outcomes and experience both at the individual level and the population level.

As a clinical informaticist, Dr. Twedt has had a major impact on clinical care through the design, implementation, and analysis of information systems. She led the informatics design for improved colorectal cancer screening processes that completed an additional 20,000 screenings over two years, earning her previous employer the 2018 Organization of the Year Award from the National Colorectal Cancer Roundtable. She also designed and implemented clinical decision support tools to support the Choosing Wisely campaign as well as a standard note template across all medical specialties, reducing the cognitive burden and decreasing time spent in note authorship. In recognition of her transformative work, she was elected to Fellowship by the American Medical Informatics Association, and more recently honored with the 2020 Epic PACademy Award, selected by peer informaticists throughout the world.

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Dr. Twedt has also excelled in medical education, currently serving as the inaugural director of graduate programs in Clinical and Health Informatics and leads the interdisciplinary Clinical Informatics Fellowship, which welcomed its first trainees in July. She has developed a clinical informatics journal club and lecture series for the multidisciplinary applied informatics team and regularly mentors residents and PA students in her primary care practice.

Her nominator sums it up by stating that Dr. Twedt “has made unique contributions to medicine through her cutting-edge work as a clinical informaticist, one of the few women leaders in the field.”

SHARON HAASE ADVANCEMENT OF WOMEN'S HEALTH AWARD

Sojourner Family Peace Center is the 2022 recipient of the **Sharon Haase Advancement of Women's Health Award** that recognizes a physician, resident, student, lay person, or community organization that has made a significant contribution to the advancement of women's health.



Sojourner Family Peace Center was founded in 1975 and provides services to families affected by domestic violence in order to help them achieve safety, justice and well-being. It is the largest nonprofit provider of domestic violence prevention and intervention services in Wisconsin. The majority of their clients live in Milwaukee's poorest neighborhoods,

and most have an annual income of less than \$15,000 per year.

Sojourner works "to ensure the safety of victims of family violence and provide a pathway out of violence for victims and abusers through opportunities to make positive and lasting changes for themselves and their children."

Sojourner is the dedicated 24-hour Domestic Violence Hotline for the City of Milwaukee. They



Carmen Pitre, President

also have a 53-bed respite facility for women, children, and men who have experienced abuse or sexual assault, with co-located support services.

Physicians in the area know Sojourner Family Peace Center as THE go-to resource for any patients with concerns about domestic violence or sexual abuse. The community sees tremendous value in how Sojourner creates a safe space and community. They value how Sojourner has set up the living space to respect individuality, maintain privacy and yet cultivate connections between residents, while requiring shared contributions to cleaning and other home maintenance activities. The people who work there are dedicated and passionate and seek to understand the needs and perspectives of residents. They are patient and good problem solvers—a required skill given the diversity of needs of the residents.

