From the Governor

It has been a busy few months and it appears that our lives and activities continue to be guided by COVID-19. Having said that I am incredibly grateful that the CDC has recommended boosters for health care workers.

The ACP Board of Governor’s meeting concluded a couple of weeks ago and the College is working hard on so many fronts.

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**Annual Chapter Meeting**  
*Health Care Disparities: Closing the Gap*

Our 2021 Annual Chapter Meeting is October 22-23. We are meeting in person this year for two half days--starting Friday at noon and ending Saturday at 1:00. Committee Chair Dr. Ijeoma Uche has worked with the committee to develop a great faculty line up, including keynote speaker Dr. Darilyn Moyer, ACP’s CEO and Executive Director.

Our location, the Embassy Suites Tempe, follows CDC guidelines and all hotel staff have been vaccinated. Attendees will be asked to provide proof of vaccination and wear a mask.

Come meet with your colleagues in person and participate in a great educational event.

[Register here.](#)
Next Governor Election

It has been an honor to serve as your Governor- Time flies when you’re having fun or if you’re stuck in a pandemic!!!

It’s already time to vote for our next Chapter Governor. Those eligible to vote include MACPs, FACPs, Members, and Resident/Fellow Members with an election date of 9/1/2019 or earlier. 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 who are running for Governor-elect - Dr Markus and Dr Sullivan. I wanted to acknowledge and thank them both for their enthusiastic work on behalf of ACP. To learn more about their background and experience, see their biographies and candidate statements available on our Chapter’s Website. The election is taking place between October 1 and November 5. Members can vote online or by mail-in ballot. The ballot will be mailed to you and includes your ACP Member Number and Election Passcode that are required in order to cast a vote. ACP has partnered with Survey & Ballot Systems (SBS) to conduct the election, so you may need to check your spam/junk folder for your ballot. The subject of the ballot email is “ACP 2021 Governor-elect Election Voting Information”. We encourage you to add noreply@directvote.net as an approved sender so that your ballot arrives safely in your inbox.

Advocacy

We have heard from several of you regarding the chapter advocacy agenda. We have heard that you wanted the chapter to be more active in advocating for public health- we have sent out a statement on the importance of masks and vaccinations in schools.

ACP has led the way in advocating for climate change. It is important to note that climate change is not a partisan issue but one that will impact the health of our patients, communities, and the earth. Click on the above link for more information.

New Chapter Initiatives
I am excited to announce two chapter initiatives. Dr Narasa R Madam will be leading the Hospitalist Committee with Dr. Deb Banerjee co-chairing the committee.

Dr Omar Baqal will be relaunching the Resident Committee for the chapter.

Please join these two great groups!

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**Celebrating Diversity & Promoting Equity and Inclusion**

September was Hispanic Heritage Month and Women in Medicine month. Many of our members have actively promoted messages of inclusion and greater awareness and importance of recognizing and celebrating diversity.

Here are some great resources if you are considering launching a DEI initiative at your institution.

[https://www.acponline.org/about-acp/who-we-are/diversity-equity-and-inclusion](https://www.acponline.org/about-acp/who-we-are/diversity-equity-and-inclusion)

We are seeking members who are working on DEI initiatives to share best practices – please contact Executive Director Debbie Webber to share.

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**COVID-19 Resources**

National ACP and our chapter are working diligently on advocacy and education around the pandemic.

Below are some great resources:

- ACP is a founding member of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) National Volunteer COVID-19 Community Corps and HHS’s COVID-19 “We Can Do This” public education campaign.
- New resources are now available, providing timely and accurate information about the COVID-19 vaccines to share with patients, family, friends, or neighbors. A one-stop shop with videos, social media guides, tool kits, posters, and flyers are available at the [COVID-19 Vaccines Resources Page](https://www.acponline.org/about-acp/who-we-are/diversity-equity-and-inclusion) to help build vaccine confidence and increase COVID-19 vaccination uptake in your communities.
- Our Arizona chapter is partnering with the NIH Community Engagement Alliance (CEAL) against COVID-19.
- ACP member Christina Bergin MD is working on advocating for evidence based guidelines be adopted by Maricopa county. Here is the open letter: [Healthcare Worker Letter to Maricopa County Board of Supervisors](https://www.acponline.org/about-acp/who-we-are/diversity-equity-and-inclusion)

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**2021 Chapter Excellence Award-Gold Level Winner**
I am pleased to announce that our chapter is in receipt of the Gold Level of the 2021 Chapter Excellence Award! The award recognizes truly extraordinary chapters that surpass excellence in chapter management. We are in the company of 44 other outstanding chapters.

In order to achieve the Gold Level of the Chapter Excellence Award, chapters must meet twenty-one Bronze criteria, seventeen 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.
Happy Fall!

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