After yet another long and brutal winter, the warm weather is more than welcome, particularly for those of us whose age made us less tolerant of the cold. In any event, I hope you will all be able to carve out some time to enjoy the sunshine. All work and no play etc...

This year has been a busy one for the ACP and for our Chapter. The annual chapter scientific meeting in February was held for the first time in the Ammon Education Center at Christiana Hospital. The medical student and resident poster competition and viewing was held on the Friday night before the Saturday meeting, allowing more time for the review and discussion. The wine and cheese kept everyone in good spirits. The meeting itself was a big success as well, with record attendance for the second straight year. Our representative from the ACP national office was Steve Weinberger, MD, FACP, Executive Vice President and CEO of ACP. Dr. Weinberger, a pulmonologist, updated the chapter regarding new ACP initiatives and reviewed interstitial lung disease. Other topics included a presentation of the ACP’s High Value-Cost Conscious Care initiative and a lively discussion of the controversies surrounding medical marijuana. We should all thank Kate Eldridge MD FACP and her committee for putting together a wonderful program. Planning is already underway for the next year’s meeting, with Cheryl Jackson MD FACP leading the program committee.

The ACP celebrated its centennial anniversary at the national meeting April 30th-May 2nd in Boston. The Delaware Chapter had a number of participants in the resident and student poster competition, and John O’Neill DO FACP gave presentations on practice transformation and implementing an immunization program. Virginia Collier, MD MACP, was honored at the Convocation Ceremony as the Delaware Chapter Centennial Legacy Awardee. Congratulate Ginger when you see her, if you haven’t already done so. Finally, the Delaware Chapter had a terrific reception organized by Ann Tennett, our Executive Director. Holding the reception with the chapters from D.C., Virginia, and Maryland, we ate “Mexican street food” at a nearby restaurant. Plan now to attend the next ACP national meeting, scheduled May 5th-7th 2016, in Washington, D.C. Newly-elected fellows are particularly invited, and will be inducted at the Convocation Ceremony.

Once again, Mansour Saberi MD MACP has put together a great program for the upcoming Lower Shores meeting in Rehoboth Beach on October 24th. This meeting offers a wonderful opportunity to combine a weekend at the beach with CME credits at a time when the weather is likely to be good but the crowds (and parking fees) absent. I hope to see a large turnout at the meeting in Rehoboth. Information regarding the program and the link to registration is on our website at: http://www.acponline.org/about_acp/chapters/de

Finally, I’ve asked Tabassum Salam MD FACP, our Governor-Elect, to write short pieces for this edition of the newsletter. Tabassum will discuss, well, whatever she wants to discuss.
A message from the Governor-Elect

It is a huge honor for me to launch my transition into the role of Governor of our wonderful Chapter. I want to thank everyone who has already supported me in a variety of ways as I start this journey.

I started an intensive immersion into the world of ACP Governors this past April. I had the privilege of attending the Board of Governors meeting held just prior to the Annual Scientific Meeting in Boston, MA. I am very grateful to our current Governor, Brad Slease, MD FACP for his guidance and direction as I learned about the structure of the Board of Governors, their roles and responsibilities and the various committees that tackle the important issues at hand. It was impressive to observe the vigor with which the Governors proposed, debated and eventually voted on policies that were initiated by their Chapter members. I was struck by the warmth and collegiality of the Governors, especially as even the neophyte members of my Governor class were warmly welcomed into the fold.

Most important for me, in this year of transition into the role of Governor, I made the most of the Chapter Strategic Planning Workshop. It was wonderful to absorb nuggets of advice from Governors and support staff from a wide variety of chapters - especially their frank sharing of their successes and disappointments as they tried innovative development ideas at their chapters. I discovered a rich list of Chapter Best Practices, and I plan to enlist the help of everyone in our chapter to ensure that we are applying them all.

This is going to be busy year for Brad and myself. I will continue to look to him for his tremendous ongoing support in helping me absorb the details of the transition. And another critical component of my growth will be to reach out to our chapter members and leadership for guidance and contributions to further nurture our chapter membership, energy and activities. A few topics that I hope to pursue are the achievement of work-life balance and preventing burnout in our chapter members, and the development and dissemination of practical and user-friendly formats for ongoing knowledge acquisition.

Please feel free to reach out to me with your thoughts, suggestions or comments.

Best wishes for a memorable summer,
Tabassum Salam, MD, FACP

Coming in August: A New Member Benefit

ACP and EBSCO Health are collaborating to focus on delivering the most current, evidence-based clinical decision support tool – DynaMed Plus™. As a result of this partnership, ACP members will receive free access to DynaMed Plus. This clinical decision support resource is updated daily and analyzed systematically through the lens of an expert editorial team, providing relevant information in an easy to digest format for fast implementation at the point-of-care.
DynaMed Plus will replace ACP Smart Medicine as a member benefit on August 3, 2015.

For more information, go to https://www.acponline.org/clinical_information/dynamed_plus/

ACP's Special Interest Groups

ACP’s Special Interest Groups provide members with opportunities to engage in discussions online, share ideas, and support one another professionally and personally.

Participate by joining as many groups as you would like, then connect with ACP members from all over the world with similar interests. Groups include:

ACOs, New Practice Models, African American Members, Caring for Adults with Developmental Disability, Clinical Problem Solving, Clinical Research, Emerging Technologies, Genetics and Genomic Medicine, High Value Care, Hospital Medicine, LGBT Health, Maintenance of Certification, Medical Students, MKSAP, Obesity Medicine, Perioperative Medicine, Physical Educators, Point-of-Care Ultrasound, Re-entry Physicians, Sex and Gender Specific Medicine, Small Practices, Volunteerism, Women in Medicine, Work/Life Balance, and Working Abroad

Join today at http://www.acponline.org/sigs

Interested in a topic not listed? Contact ACP at mbrdev@acponline.org to ask about forming a new group.

Clinical Guidelines for Cancer Screening

The College has released "Clinical Guidelines for Screening for Cancer: Advice for High-Value Care from the ACP". This was included in the May 19, 2015 issue of the Annals and can be found online at: https://www.annals.org/article.aspx?articleid=2294149