



Illinois Southern  
Region

*"The Downstate  
Dialogue"*

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#### **New Master of the American College of Physicians**

Congratulations to Andrew J. Varney, MD, from Springfield. Dr. Varney was promoted to the rank of Master of American College of Physicians during the IM 2019 Convocation in Philadelphia.

Masters of the American College of Physicians make up a small group of highly accomplished physicians who have been selected because of personal character, positions of honor, contributions toward furthering the purposes of the ACP, eminence in practice or in medical research, or other attainments in science or in the art of medicine. MACP is one of the highest honors bestowed by ACP and we are proud to have a new MACP in our chapter.

In addition to his ACP award, Dr. Varney recently received a grant award from the Alliance for Academic Internal Medicine (AAIM). AAIM fosters educational innovations in academic internal medicine through a grant program. The Innovation Grants Subcommittee selected Dr. Varney's project for a monetary

award. The title of his project is, *“Quality improvement project to create a safer workplace for residents and staff.”*

### **New Fellows of the American College of Physicians**

Congratulations to the following Members of our chapter who were promoted to the rank of Fellow of the American College of Physicians during the Convocation in Philadelphia on Thursday, 11 April 2019:

- Melissa Cox, MD, FACP, Lincoln
- Carlos E. Nolasco, MD, FACP, Springfield
- Kingsley Onyemere, MD, FACP, Urbana
- Peter Phan, MD, FACP, Peoria
- Moni Roy, MD, FACP, Peoria



In addition, we wish to congratulate the following Members who were promoted to the rank of Fellow of the American College of Physicians in the recent past:

Abigail Adams, FACP, Champaign	David W. Koh, FACP, Bloomington
James K. Adams, FACP, Peoria	Paul G. Malcharek, FACP, Edwardsville
Osama Alsara, FACP, Champaign	Anu V. Mani, FACP, Danville
Vikrampal S. Bhatti, FACP, Chatham	Roger S. McClintock, FACP, Rochester
Kathy M. Bottum, FACP, Springfield	Michael S. McNear, FACP, Jerseyville
Subramanyam Chittivelu, FACP, Peoria	Rajiv N. Patel, FACP, Mount Vernon
Meghna Desai, FACP, Springfield	Rama Poola, FACP, Springfield

Vamsi K. Emani, FACP, Peoria	Davendra P. Ramkumar, FACP, Champaign
Matthew D. Jager, FACP, East Peoria	Sriya K.M. Ranatunga, FACP, Springfield
Jaydev Jani, FACP, Normal	Cortney N. Rosser, FACP, Hoopston
Japhia H. Jayasingh-Ramkumar, FACP, Champaign	Parthasarathy Srinivasan, FACP, Galesburg
Norman R. Johnson, FACP, Peoria	Rehman I. Usmani, FACP, Peoria
Anuradha Kantamneni, FACP, Bloomington	Karen C. White, FACP, Champaign

Promotion to FACP connotes national recognition of an ACP member's dedication to the internal medicine profession, and acknowledges involvement and leadership within your community.

### **ACP Illinois Southern Chapter wins Chapter Excellence Award**

I am proud to report that your ACP Illinois Southern Chapter received the Chapter Excellence Award during the IM 2019 annual meeting in Philadelphia. The award recognizes ACP chapters that successfully meet the standards for managing a chapter. The Chapters Subcommittee of the ACP selects the winners. In order to receive the Chapter Excellence Award, chapters must meet 21 criteria of excellence.

### **ACP honors Quality Improvement Champions from Illinois**

Members of our ACP Chapter received honors during a reception for Quality Improvement (QI) Champions at IM 2019 in Philadelphia. The champions were Jennie Hsu-Lumetta, MD, FACP, from Carle Clinic, and Narain Mandhan, MD, FASAM, FACP, medical director at Kirby Medical Center in Monticello.

Dr. Hsu-Lumetta and Dr. Mandhan completed a successful QI project on atrial fibrillation. Their co-champions were Corinne Kohler, MD, FAAFP, of Frances Nelson Health Center in Champaign, and Karen Wiarda, DO, of Carle Heart & Vascular Institute in Mattoon.

ACP Advance provided the downstate IL Atrial Fibrillation champions with training and support to conduct Quality Improvement (QI) projects. The QI goals were to promote identification of risk factors for atrial fibrillation (AF) and use of anticoagulation at 4 healthcare sites in Central Illinois. As a result of QI work, the clinics increased documentation of CHADS-VASc scores in the Electronic Medical Record and increased screening for obstructive sleep apnea and thyroid disease. In addition, ACP and Heart Rhythm Society (HRS) provided a grant to the IL AF champions to conduct 3 AF screening and education events that served more than 300 participants at risk for AF at Carle Clinic in Champaign. The IL AF project in Champaign was one of 5 sites nationwide and was featured in the Heart Rhythm Journal.

Dr. Hsu-Lumetta says that it is possible to make QI into a family event. During an atrial fibrillation screening and education event, Dr. Hsu-Lumetta worked alongside numerous volunteers including her children, Hailey, Lauren, Andrew, and Justin.



Reception for Quality Improvement Champions during ACP IM 2019 in Philadelphia. Pictured, from left to right, are James Graumlich, Narain Mandhan, Jennie Hsu-Lumetta, Susan Hingle, and Hailey Lumetta.

### **Seeking nominations for the Governor-elect**

In 2019, your ACP chapter will elect a new governor to serve from May 2021 through April 2025.

A nominating committee will receive and review nominations and then prepare a ballot for the election. The Chair of the Nomination Committee are Janet A. Jokela, MD, MPH, FACP, FIDSA, Susan T. Hingle, MD, MACP, and Jean L. Holley, MD, FACP.

The major duty of the Governor is to represent the members of her/his ACP Chapter. The Governor communicates with members and solicits the opinions of members. Then the Governor conveys the will of the ACP members to the Board of Governors and Board of Regents.

The Governor is responsible for the administrative functions and finances of the ACP Chapter. The Governor performs her/his duties with the advice of the Governor's Advisory Council.

The person who wins the election in 2019 will be called the Governor-elect designee from the date of election until 24 April 2020. Then, the winner of the election becomes the Governor-elect from 25 April 2020 until 30 April 2021. The Governor-elect will become the Governor from 1 May 2021 through April 2025.

If you have questions about the role of Governor or if you want to nominate someone, please contact me via e-mail: [jfgraulichuicomp@gmail.com](mailto:jfgraulichuicomp@gmail.com)

### **MKSAP Live Online Study Hall**

The “MKSAP Live Online Study Hall” started a new series of webinars in January 2019. Every Tuesday evening, a webinar facilitator works through a series of MKSAP 18 questions on a specific topic. The webinar is open to ACP members anywhere in the world who want to work on MKSAP problems in a collegial, online environment. Register [HERE](#).

### **Women in Medicine**

The Women in Medicine Committee of your ACP chapter has been busy. Plans are underway for a statewide summit for Women in Medicine. Please look for an announcement and call for registration in the near future.

ACP Chapter members who would like to serve on the Women in Medicine Committee, please contact me via e-mail: [jfgraumlichuicomp@gmail.com](mailto:jfgraumlichuicomp@gmail.com)

The ACP seeks to increase the proportion of women who advance to Fellowship in the ACP. If you are interested in advancement to Fellowship in the ACP, please contact me via e-mail: [jfgraumlichuicomp@gmail.com](mailto:jfgraumlichuicomp@gmail.com)

### **ACP for Early Career Physicians**

The ACP encourages Early Career Physicians to apply for advancement to Fellowship in the American College of Physicians. If you want to learn more, please contact me via email: [jfgraumlichuicomp@gmail.com](mailto:jfgraumlichuicomp@gmail.com)

### **ACP for Resident Members**

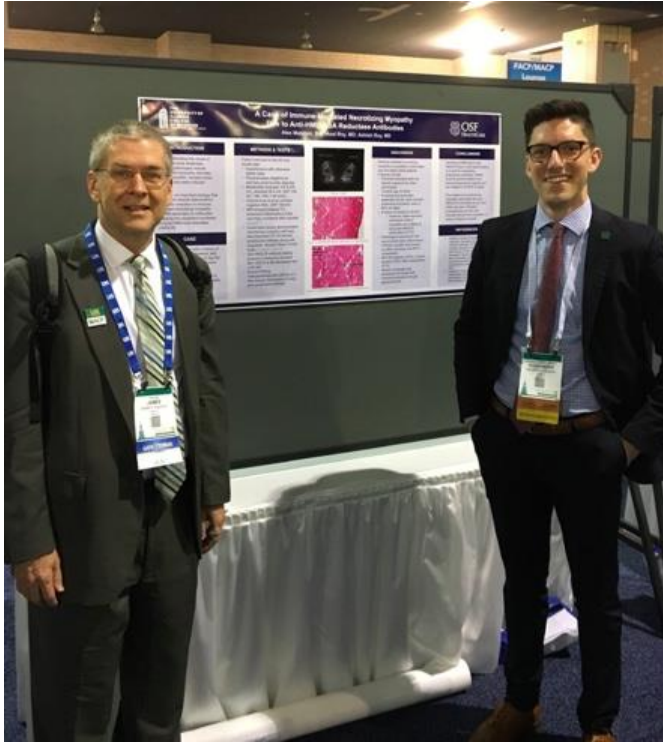
Your ACP Chapter had a great team of residents in the Doctors Dilemma competition during IM 2019 in Philadelphia. Team members were Anjali Desai, DO, Mohamed Said, MD, and Saqib Walayat, MD. During the first round of competition, the team played successfully and advanced to the semi-finals. Alas, our Doctors Dilemma team was stumped in the second round of competition.



The Doctors Dilemma team representing ACP IL Southern Chapter. Pictured (from left to right) are Dr. Saqib Walayat, Dr. Anjali Desai, and Dr. Mohamed Said. They are internal medicine resident physicians from the University of Illinois program at OSF Saint Francis Medical Center, Peoria.

#### **ACP for Medical Student members**

Congratulations go to Alex Matelski, medical student from the University of Illinois at Peoria. Alex received a travel award to present his poster during IM 2019 in Philadelphia. The title of his poster was, "A case of immune-mediated necrotizing myopathy due to anti-HMG-CoA Reductase antibodies."



Medical student poster competition at IM 2019 in Philadelphia. Pictured, left to right, are ACP Governor James Graumlich and medical student Alex Matelski

### **Call for News Items**

Do you have good news about your recent award, promotion, or volunteer experience? Please share your stories with your colleagues in the ACP Illinois Southern Chapter. Send your news items to me so I can include them in the Downstate Dialogue: [jfgraulichuicomp@gmail.com](mailto:jfgraulichuicomp@gmail.com)

### **Save-the-Date**

- Every Tuesday at 8:00 PM Central Time: Webinar MKSAP Live Online Study Hall
- 14-15 May 2019: ACP Leadership Day on Capitol Hill, Washington DC, 2019, at the Mandarin Hotel
- 25-26 October 2019: ACP Illinois Annual Scientific meeting, Hilton Hotel, Oak Brook, IL
- 12 November 2019: ACP Illinois Resident/Student Day at the iHotel in Champaign, IL
- 23-25 April 2020: Internal Medicine Meeting 2020 in Los Angeles, CA

Sincerely,

Jim  
James F. Graumlich, MD, FACP  
Governor, Illinois Southern Chapter  
American College of Physicians