



Illinois Southern
Region

"The Downstate
Dialogue"

October 1, 2015

Dear Downstate Illinois ACP Members,

There is a lot happening in your Illinois ACP Chapter, and nationally at the ACP. Here are some of the exciting updates:

Governor-elect Election

In case you missed last week's message, it is already time to vote for your next ACP Downstate Illinois Governor. Those eligible to vote include Masters, Fellows, Members, and Resident/Fellow Members with an election date of 9/1/2013 or earlier. As you know, 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. The new Governor-elect will serve for one year and assume the position of Governor in April 2017. We have two superb candidates who are running for Governor-elect, **Rajesh Govindaiah, MD, FACP** from Springfield, and **James F. Graumlich, MD, FACP** from Peoria. I want to acknowledge and thank them both for their dedicated and enthusiastic work on behalf of our Chapter over the years. To learn more about their background and experience, please see their candidate statements on our [Chapter's website](#). Members can vote online or by mail-in ballot now through November 9: you must use the ballot that was mailed to you with your ACP Member Number and Election Passcode. For replacement ballots and election customer service, e-mail support@directvote.net or call [866-909-3549](tel:866-909-3549). For general election information, contact [Evelyn James](#), Governor Election Coordinator, [215-351-2699](tel:215-351-2699).

Resolutions

Thank you to those of you who shared your opinions regarding the Board of Governors 2015 Fall Resolutions. Looking ahead, if there are issues or concerns that you would like our Chapter and the ACP to address, please contact [Carlotta Rinke, MD, FACP](#), Chair, ACP Illinois Health and Public Policy Committee. And for more information about ACP advocacy, and ACP positions and policies, explore [ACP Advocacy](#).

ABIM Task Force Report Assessment 2020

The ABIM has asked the ACP and other professional societies for feedback on its [ABIM Task Force Report Assessment 2020](#). If you have not seen this, please take a few moments to review it. Admittedly,

the report is long, but it includes a very helpful 3-page Executive Summary. The ACP Education and Publication Committee (EPC), chaired by our Downstate IL Chapter Member and ACP Regent **Susan Hingle, MD, FACP**, will provide ACP's perspective on the report. The EPC seeks our input, including opinions regarding the proposal for several low stakes evaluations replacing the 10-year exam, customization for physicians with a focused practice, and thoughts on future directions for maintenance of certification, and any other thoughts. The turn-around time is quick: [please send me your comments by Thursday, October 8](#)—thank you.

ACP IL Downstate Webinars

Our next ACP Downstate IL webinar, “*How to Say No*,” will take place on Wednesday evening, October 21, at 6:30-7:30 PM, and will be given by **Rebecca Andrews, MD, FACP**, Chair, ACP Early Career MD Council—you may register [here](#). Thanks also to Illinois ACP Chapter Early Career MDs **Cathy Cheng, MD, FACP** and **Sean Greenhalgh, MD, FACP** who presented their “*Finding Joy in Medicine*” webinar on September 8, which was excellent. If you missed it, you may view it on our [Chapter's vimeo site](#). Both of these webinars are part of our Leadership series for Early Career MDs, and all other interested members. For more resources for Early Career MDs, please see the [Early Career MD Corner](#) on the ACP website.

Student Loan Repayment

ACP has signed an agreement with the Social Financing, Inc., (SoFi) to make a low-interest student loan refinancing program available to ACP member physicians. As part of this new member benefit program, SoFi is offering ACP physician members an additional 0.125% rate discount when they refinance through the ACP Program Portal at sofi.com/ACP. Physician borrowers can save on average \$30,000 and may take advantage of a range of options to optimize their monthly payments. This new benefit may be of significant value to our Early Career MD members who we know struggle to pay off burdensome medical school loans. If you have questions, please contact [Rebecca Moore](#), Director, ACP Membership Development, [\(215\) 351-2693](tel:(215)351-2693).

Fall 2015 IL ACP Meetings

We have two exciting ACP Illinois meetings coming up: first, please save the date for our **2015 ACP Downstate IL Students and Residents Day in Peoria** at the Jump Trading Simulation and Education Center, scheduled for **Friday October 30**. Watch for registration information on our website. The day includes a morning poster competition for students and residents, a noon CME plenary on “Quality Improvement Across the Academic Medicine Continuum” given by **Teresa Lynch, MD, FACP**, multiple simulation training sessions for students and residents, terrific breakout sessions, and of course, the Clinical Vignette Competition and exciting Doctor’s Dilemma. We are looking forward to a fun, educational, and inspiring day—hope to see you there. Thanks to **James Graumlich, MD, FACP**, **Karthik Ragnathan, MD**, and **Elsa Vazquez Melendez, MD, FACP**, for planning and hosting this event. And second, the statewide [ACP Illinois 2015 Chapter Meeting](#) is scheduled for **Friday and Saturday, Nov. 13 and 14 in Chicago**, at the University Club. The planning group has organized an exciting and educational meeting. Hope to see you there too!

Save the Dates!

Every Tuesday evening, 8:00 pm, [MKSAP Live Online Study Hall](#), for recertifying ACP Illinois members and medical residents from 'elite' programs (90% or more residents are registered ACP members).

Wednesday, October 21, 6:30-7:30 PM, ACP Downstate IL Leadership Webinar: "How to Say No,"
Rebecca Andrews, MD, FACP, Chair, ACP Council Early Career MDs. Register [here](#).

Friday, October 30

ACP Downstate Illinois Students and Residents Day, Peoria. Poster Competition, CME Plenary, Simulations, Clinical Vignette Competition, and more. Watch for details!

Friday & Saturday, November 13 & 14

[ACP Illinois Chapter Scientific Meeting](#), University Club, Chicago. Hope to see you there!

[Internal Medicine 2016](#), Washington DC, May 5-7, 2016. Do not miss out!

Enjoy the beautiful fall weather, and I look forward to seeing you and everyone in Peoria on October 30 at our Students and Residents Day!

Best regards,

Janet

Janet A. Jokela, MD, MPH, FACP
Governor, Illinois Chapter Downstate Region
American College of Physicians