

**ACP Louisiana Chapter Council Meeting Minutes**  
**October 8, 2016**

A chapter council meeting of the American College of Physicians (ACP), Louisiana Chapter, was held on Saturday, October 8 at noon at Masala's Restaurant in Lafayette

**Council Members Present:** Lee Engel, MD, FACP, Governor  
Luis Alvarado, MD, FACP  
Michael Alvarez, MD  
Mark Blackwelder, MD, FACP  
Karen Blessey, MD  
William Davis, MD, FACP  
Shaminder Gupta, MD, FACP  
Jay Shames, MD, FACP  
Shane Sanne, DO

**Committee Members Present:** David Borne, MD, FACP

**Council Members Absent:**

Venkat Banda, MD, FACP, Vince Cataldo, MD, FACP, Richard Deichmann, MD, FACP, Ronald George, MD, FACP, Shane Guillory, MD, Philip Haddad, MD, FACP, Frank Incaprera, MD, MACP, Gunjan Kahlon, MD, Sandy Kemmerly, MD, MACP, Fred Lopez, MD, MACP, Angela McLean, MD, FACP, Geraldine Menard, MD, FACP, Janice Nugent, MD, FACP, Charles Sanders, MD, MACP, Gary Smith, MD, FACP, Ulla Ule, MD, FACP, G. Nicholas Verne, MD, FACP

**Call to Order**

Dr. Engel called the meeting to order at 12:05 P. M. He welcomed everyone and asked for introductions around the table.

The March 11, 2016 Governors Council Meeting Minutes were approved.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**I. Treasurer's Report –**

Dr. Engel provided the Treasurer's Report in Dr. Deichmann's absence. He also provided a 5 year income/expense projection.

Dr. Blessey asked if the Chapter has ever considered bringing in a financial planner to discuss investing as a potential option for the non-operating funds. After Council discussion, a suggestion was made to contact a financial planner(s) to find out if they could recommend any secure investment options to increase earnings. The need to determine how much to keep in the operating account versus how much to invest was discussed. It was brought up that Capital Bank may have financial advisors who can assist. Dr. Engel said he would speak to Dr. Deichmann about finding someone to look into investing.

Mrs. Thompson reported that the advisors being used at another organization she manages provided a 12% increase from last year to this year from funds invested. She said she would be glad to get their names and contact information to the Council for investigation.

Council members stated that they would like an opportunity to use funds to encourage more participation from residents and fellows.

The Council unanimously approved the Treasurer's Report.

## **II. Resident/Fellow Committee Report –**

Dr. Lee Engel reviewed the written report (appended) from Dr. Shane Sanne.

## **III. Medical Student Committee –**

Dr. Lee Engel reviewed the written report (appended) from Dr. Shane Guillory.

## **IV. Health and Public Policy Committee (HPPC) –**

Dr. Borne reported that important issues in 2016 will be the Presidential Election. He said it would be a good idea to send someone from the Chapter to meet with the Louisiana State Medical Society (LSMS) prior to the state legislative session and to be sure that a representative from the Chapter attends the LSMS annual meeting.

Dr. Alvarado stated that the LSMS will meet to discuss 2017 legislative issues. He said their goal is to advocate for physicians being in the lead of Healthcare treatment teams. Dr. Alvarado reported that one of the wins by the LSMS at the 2016 legislature was to defeat the nurse practitioner expansion scope bill. He also mentioned that a Louisiana Senator had a child born with a problem and tried to eliminate the malpractice cap which the LSMS also defeated in this past session. Dr. Alvarado told Council members that the LSMS provides Leadership Training in case anyone would be interested in applying to participate.

Dr. Borne mentioned that Dr. Sarah Candler, who (recently relocated) worked on the HPPC committee and attended Leadership Day representing LA ACP has made national news. He also reminded everyone that the Chapter can bring issues to the ACP and ask for support in state related issues. He said they (ACP) may have policy or a position statement that can share with the Chapter.

## **V. I Raise the Rates –**

Dr. Engel said the goal of the program is to raise the adult immunization rates in Louisiana. He told Council members that information about the I Raise the Rates QI projects for residents was disseminated to all Program Chairs. He also reported that a webinar training session by Dr. Robert Hopkins took place with participating program directors on September 6th.

Dr. Engel reported that the ACP has some great vaccination slides being used to educate physicians about ways to talk to their patients about needed immunizations. He also said that some residents and faculty are competing to see which group has greater success getting patients to have their shots. It was stated that there is also a program in the EPIC system that automatically pulls up the request for the doctor to ask the patient about immunizations. MACRA will also include asking the patient if they have been immunized.

Dr. Borne passed out buttons for the program.

**VI. Nominating Committee –**

Dr. Jay Shames reviewed written reports (attached). He said the committee will need to meet to nominate replacements for Drs. McLean, Kahlon, Hebert and Alvarado who are ineligible for another term. He said that the goal is to nominate members using ACP guidelines. The process requires calculating the number of members within geographic locations to determine the applicable number of members within those locations and using percentages that assure the ethnic and gender balance within the Council. He said another item that needs future consideration is the percent of leaders who are in private practice versus the employed practice setting.

**VII. Membership Committee Report –**

Dr. Engel reported membership numbers from the ACP Chapter portal. He said that his goal as Governor is to reach out to members who qualify for fellowship. Dr. Engel said that it is a rewarding experience to receive recognition at the ACP Annual meeting during the convocation and he will be talking with potential members to increase LA ACP Fellow membership. He also thanked Dr. Davis for agreeing to Chair the Membership Committee.

Dr. Davis said as Governor he has worked with Dr. Deichmann to increase membership. He said he would like to reach out to past members to ask them to come back. He also said a survey to our members asking them if they are satisfied with what the Chapter is doing for them and to ask if what the best way to communicate with them may be a good thing to do. Dr. Davis also mentioned we should continue to use Face Book and other Social Media platforms to reach our membership. It was brought up that we also need to be sure Resident Program Chairs and Department Directors are sending a positive message to the residents and fellows in their respective programs and asking them to join.

**VIII. Laureate Award Update –**

Mrs. Thompson said that Dr. Thompson could not attend the meeting but asked that she take the time to solicit nominees for the award from Council members. Dr. Davis said that in the past there have been two Laureates awarded each year and that every effort is made to include a nominee from the Northern part of the state. Council members agree that it is a challenge to get nominations for the award. And that the Chapter will continue to seek out appropriate nominees for the award.

**IX. Creation of Standing Annual Meeting Committee**

Dr. Engel asked Council members if anyone was interested in serving on a Standing Annual Meeting Planning Committee. Dr. Gupta agreed to continue as chair. Dr. Engel said he will ask Dr. Johnson if she would consider serving. Dr. Borne volunteered to be on the committee.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**X. 2017 ACP Annual Meeting**

Dr. Engel stated that the LA ACP Chapter meeting will be held on March 9-11 at the Renaissance Arts Hotel in New Orleans and asked Council members to be sure and place the dates on their calendars.

## **Primary Care Resident Education Proposal/Chapter Development Proposal**

Dr. Engel said he and Dr. Blessey are planning to give presentations to the residency programs around the state to increase interest in primary care and to promote LA ACP membership. He said that while he was in Austin he spoke with the ACP if there is funding for this type of initiative. Dr. Engel said there is a grant that LA ACP can apply for these activities. Dr. Blessey said Lake Charles is having success promoting primary care in their program.

### **Creation of New LA ACP Committees**

To engage additional members and garner future leaders Dr. Engel suggested the creation of new committees, as follows: Advocacy, Chief Resident, Private Practice Primary Physician & Private Practice Hospitalists.

### **Review of ACP Board of Governors Meeting in Austin, TX**

Dr. Engel provided an overview from the Board of Governors meeting, as follows:

#### **Resolutions**

A resolution discouraging formation of a for profit medical school failed and the word discourage was replaced with the word monitor.

The resolution brought about any willing provider failed.

A resolution presented asking to develop/address gender pay gaps in the field of medicine passed.

The resolution asking ACP to update policy to study various practice models failed. This resolution was asking to advocate support to expand sustainability of physician wellness, i.e. stopping burn out and career satisfaction.

A resolution asking to modify the speed of the Board of Governors meeting failed.

The resolution requesting ABIM to accept CME credit by other legitimate providers failed. There was discussion that program CME does not typically address clinical knowledge.

#### **Physician Assisted Suicide**

Dr. Engel said there were discussions regarding Oregon and California getting legislation approved to provide it within their respective states. He also said that a survey shows 7 - 10 Americans support it. The outcome was there is no constitutional right to approve it and the Supreme Court allows individual states to deal with the issue.

#### **Maintenance of Certification**

Ongoing problems with MOC was discussed. Concerns about the knowledge assessment and the security of the exam were brought up. Also discussed was the exam's expense, the study guides are bad and physicians have to take time from their practices to do it.

### **ACP Chapter Support Initiative**

Dr. Engel said the committee who worked on revising chapter funding support presented plans for a new model. He said that there are now levels of support opportunity that can be achieved by Chapters. Dr. Engel said there is push back from the larger Chapters who may stand to lose funds based on the change in the resident activity funding. He said that mid-sized Chapters like LA ACP could gain as much as an additional \$1000 in funding.

### **ACP National Committee Opportunities**

Dr. Engel told Council members that there are 15-25 committee positions open at the ACP. He said they fly you in for meetings. He also said you can use a link on their website to self nominate.

### **Review LA ACP Diversity Initiative**

Dr. Engel reported that the Chapter should create a policy that provides for a Gold Standard in organizational diversity. It was suggested that there are Ethnic Medical Societies in Louisiana and their members/leaders should be asked to hold Chapter leadership positions.

### **XI. Internal Medicine 2017: San Diego California, March 30 - April 1, 2017**

Dr. Engel asked Council members to mark their calendars for the 2017 ACP Internal Medicine meeting.

### **Adjourn**

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 2:15 P. M.