It's been a very full spring. Internal Medicine 2007 was another resounding success for ACP and its members. The wonderful city and surroundings of San Diego notwithstanding, the energy and enthusiasm of the 7000 plus physicians (of the 10,000 attendees) at this year’s annual session was palpable during the opening ceremony, at convocation, and during the individual learning sessions that I attended. Our reception, co-hosted with Arkansas and Oklahoma, was packed and busy with the energy and networking of friends and colleagues reuniting and was even more energized by the 21 Missouri medical students and several residents who attended this year.

This year was also made special by recognizing Missouri’s eight new ACP Fellows from around the state and our new Master in the College, Mike Perry—well done colleagues!

Our chapter was also recognized at the leadership awards luncheon earlier in the week by receiving both an Evergreen Award for innovative chapter development activities and the annual Chapter Excellence Award—well done Pat and Anne! Our chapter was also recognized at the leadership awards luncheon earlier in the week by receiving both an Evergreen Award for innovative chapter development activities and the annual Chapter Excellence Award—well done Pat and Anne! Indeed, Missouri was again recognized this year for having consistently strong leadership (at least to this point), an ever growing and energetic membership, and a national presence as one of ACP’s strongest chapters.

As usual the week at annual session began with Board of Regents (BOR) and Board of Governors (BOG) meetings Monday through Wednesday before the scientific session began Thursday morning. This was my second BOG meeting and I must tell you that it was great reconnecting with my "freshman" class of 2011, comprised of 22 Governors elect that officially became governors of their respective chapters at close of the 2007 session. Our group joins with the other four governor classes, the BOR, and ACP leadership, in being commonly charged with innovative ideas and renewed enthusiasm for securing the future of internal medicine. We also recognize the looming challenges that must be confronted and the changes that must occur in health care in this country if that future is to be secured and if we are to ensure safe, equitable, and cost effective health care for every citizen.

These issues were addressed again May 15-16 during Leadership Day in Washington, DC, where a contingent of Missouri members (two "older" members, two residents, and three students) joined over 300 ACP members and associates from around the country. We were there to meet face-to-face in the Hill offices of our senators and representatives to discuss key health policy issues, such as replacing the dreaded Medicare SGR cuts that we face each year with positive updates, supporting initiatives to improve quality and coordination of care for patients through a patient-centered medical home, the future of primary care, and improving access. Several bills are being considered to address these concerns and I think...
our voices were collectively heard by Missouri representa-
tives and senators from both parties. Having students and
residents present made a particular difference in getting
their attention as to the crisis that this country is facing in
sustaining primary care and expanding health care access.

There is much to do, but I am confident that ACP has
the people in place to do it. Our seasoned and savvy veter-
ans are in lock step with an expanding core of young,
bright, and energetic student members and resident associ-
ates who know what it takes to promote effective change.
The time is right to reaffirm the values that represent our
profession, by promoting safe, timely, effective, equitable,
evidence based, and patient-centered care-the
mantra to guide us in the hard decisions to come. The
challenge is there and I look forward to joining you in the
fray of making good change happen.

**Missouri Chapter Meeting**

The annual meeting of the Missouri Chapter of the
ACP - Updates in Internal Medicine will be held at Tan
Tar A September 27-30. This meeting which regularly
presents stellar lectures has been accredited for 21.5 hours
of Category 1 CME. Drs. Richard Burns and Warren
Lovingier, program chairs, who are replacing Dr. Dan
Goodenberger, the new department chair at the
University of Nevada, have worked diligently to provide a
quality learning experience at this meeting.

The Missouri Chapter is continuing its tradition of
varied subspecialty updates and the Saturday afternoon
breakout sessions. The following groups: APDIM;
Hospitalists; Chief Residents; and Students will each be
meeting on Saturday to discuss issues of mutual impor-
tance. Medical Jeopardy, a new feature, will have students
and residents competing for a trip to the national competi-
tion in 2008. Here is the program for September:

**Updates in Internal Medicine**

**Thursday, September 27, 2007**

- 7:30 Vaccination update - Gordon Christensen, MD
- 8:30 Amyloidosis: My experiences as a patient
  Richard L. Neubauer, MD, FACP
- 9:30 Adjourn

**Friday, September 28, 2007**

- 7:00 Continental Breakfast
- 8:00 Aortic Stenosis for the Internist
  Richard Whiting, MD, FACP, FACC
- 8:45 Current treatment of Insomnia
  Pradeep Sahota, MD, FAAN, FAASM, FAES
- 9:30 Break
- 9:45 The Shoulder: Form, Function, and
  Disease - Mark Adams, MD
- 10:30 Internal Medicine: A Brighter Future -
  Richard L. Neubauer, MD, FACP
- 11:30 Health Literacy: Communicating
  Effectively when Patients Don’t
  Understand David Fleming, MD, FACP
  & Karen Edison, MD
- 12:10 Lunch
- 12:15 Fellowship Tutorial
- 1:00 New Developments in Atrial Fibrillation
  Greg Flaker, MD, FACC, FAHA
- 1:45 Why We Still Need Insulin
  David Gardner, MD, FACE
- 2:30 Break
- 2:50 Approach To Acid Base Disorders: Fun
  With Urine - Barry Wood, MD, FACP
- 3:35 Barrett’s esophagus: Where do we stand in
  2007? John Marshall, MD
- 4:15 Hyper and Hypo calcemia
  William Clutter, MD
- 5:00 Adjourn
- 5:00 Posters
- 7:30 Reception & Banquet

**Saturday, September 29, 2007**

- 7:00 Continental Breakfast
- 8:00 Crystal Disease - Mark Jarek, MD, FACP
- 8:50 Washington Report: Key Health Policy
  Issues Concerning Internal Medicine -
  Rich Trachtman
- 9:40 Break
- 10:00 Leukemia/Lymphoma
  John DiPersio, MD, Ph.D
- 10:45 Pulmonary Hypertension: How should it
  be evaluated and when is it important? -
  Murali Chakinala, MD, FCCP
- 11:35 Chapter Business Meeting & Town Hall
- 12:15 Womens Health Lunch: Lessons Learned:
  A Comprehensive Best Practice Model -
  Sarah Holt, PhD, FACMPE
- 12:15 Hospitalist Lunch: Perioperative
  Medicine Antibiotic Prophylaxis for
  Surgical Procedures - William Salzer, MD
Dr. Winkler Visits UMC students

Dr. Anne Winkler traveled to Columbia to meet with a number of women medical students. She gave a lecture on women in medicine which focused on stories of the early days of women becoming physicians in the USA. Afterwards there was discussion on women in medicine today as well as discussion of the challenges facing women as physicians, as leaders and as working mothers. Dr. Winkler previously discussed women in medicine with students at Washington University School of Medicine and Kansas City University of Medicine and BioSciences.

Input Needed - Volunteer Award

Do you know of someone who should be recognized for their volunteer efforts? This is a difficult award because so many physicians give to their communities, but seek no recognition. Please send an email to pmills@msma.org to nominate a colleague for the Missouri Chapter Volunteer Award.

LEADERSHIP DAY 2007

REPORT TO THE CHAPTER

WILLIAM M. FOGARTY, JR., MD, FACP

Seven members of the Chapter traveled to Washington May 15th and 16th to be briefed by ACP staff and to meet with Members of Congress and their staff members on the issues confronting medicine in the Congress. The delegation consisted of David Fleming, MD, FACP – Governor; and William Fogarty, MD, FACP. Front row Brundha Balaraman and Kerry Massman.
William Fogarty, MD, FACP; Matt Reuter, MD - chief resident at St. John's in St. Louis; Mat Strasser, DO - resident at UMKC; Kerry Massman - UMC med student; and Brundha Balaraman and Manjool Shah both med students at Washington University.

Among the issues discussed were the impending cuts in Medicare reimbursement, the dysfunctional SGR formula, the plight of primary care, student indebtedness and its impact on the choice of a primary care career, health information technology (HIT) and the reauthorization of the S-CHIP program. Informative meetings were held with two Congressmen, Representatives Akin and Carnahan, and with staff from three other Reps as well as Senators Bond and McCaskill. As always, budget limitations color all discussions and limit what can be done to deal with the problems facing medicine.

It is important that more physicians get involved in contacting their congresspersons and work to develop relationships with them to allow our profession to have input into the legislative process. The well being of our patients and our profession depends on what happens in Washington and Jefferson City.

Congratulations to New Fellows of the ACP:

Muhannad F. Al-Kilani-Sikeston
Benje Boonshaft-Frontenac
Qaiser Jawaid-Chesterfield
Rama G. Naidu-Town And Country
Marius Pacioianu-Sedalia
George A. Pagels-Lees Summit
Atif Shafqat-Saint Louis

"Our Student Stars"

A stellar group of MU-Columbia med students blew away almost all of the resident teams in the "jeopardy" competition at the ACP annual meeting in San Diego in April. Major kudos go to the president of the MU School of Medicine’s Association of Student Internists (ASI) Kerry Massman (M3) and other student leaders in ASI who made this happen. Kerry is also your new representative on the national ACP Council of Student Members.

There were two teams from MU in competition. Team 1 was comprised of Brian Fuller (M2), Blair Westerly (M2), and Ben Morrison (M4) taking first place in the student division and second overall, competing against some really tough resident teams from around the country. Team 2 was comprised of Laura Heseman (M4), Phil Hart (M4), and Sarah Smitherman (M3) and they battled to a very close second with Team 1 in the first round of competition. Major thanks also go to the MU Internal Medicine Dept. for providing matching funds with Missouri ACP in support of the 21 MU students who attended and for buying the meal that many faculty and all of the students shared Friday night to celebrate their performance. Missouri’s historic student presence at this year’s meeting received a great deal of national attention, and everyone I talked to is very impressed with what the Missouri is doing to promote student membership, especially in knowing that we plan to support student participation each year at both the national and state meeting for ACP. The students were very happy and felt incredibly supported-- it’s so nice to see unbridled joy.

Supporting Your Chapter Through Chapter Dues

You may have noticed that your dues statement from ACP looks a little different this year. Don’t forget to include payment of your chapter dues along with your ACP dues -- it is only through your direct financial support that we can deliver valuable programs and services to members of our chapter.

Your support allows us to offer local meetings with prominent experts focusing on timely clinical issues. National ACP leaders attend these meetings and report on the future of internal medicine and how ACP is representing your best interest. Your contribution also enables us to offer mentoring programs for medical students and local Associates’ research competitions. Additionally, your support enables our chapter leaders to participate in Leadership Day on Capitol Hill so that your voice is heard in Washington. Many of these activities are coordinated by unpaid volunteer leaders in our chapter. However, local staff support is critical to help manage the day-to-day operation of the chapter, special activities, and chapter meetings. Your chapter dues help support the cost of local staff, as well as funding for new and existing chapter initiatives.

When you receive your dues notice, please support your chapter by sending your chapter dues of $50 along with your national dues. You will be contributing to both the national and local success of ACP.

Visit the Chapter Website at www.acponline.org/chapters/mo
ACP Honors Outstanding Chapter Activities with Evergreen Awards

At this year's Internal Medicine Meeting, ACP presented fifteen Evergreen Awards to honor Chapters that created new programs that strengthened the chapter and increased member communication and involvement. Here is a brief description of the chapter's efforts.

Your Missouri Chapter received an Evergreen Award in the category of Membership Recruitment and Diversity. We were acknowledged for efforts to educate members and nonmembers about the rewards of being a member of the College, specifically reaching out to hospitalists, women physicians, residents, program directors, and medical students with our special sessions during the chapter meeting.

What Does a Yellow Wristband on a Patient Mean to You?

The Missouri Center for Patient Safety has launched Banding Together - For Patient Safety which establishes standardized guidelines for the use of red, yellow and purple wristbands for voluntary implementation by Missouri hospitals. Missouri is the eighth state in the nation to establish such guidelines.

The November 2006 survey of Missouri hospitals and nursing homes identified:

- 92 percent of hospital respondents and only a few nursing homes use colored wristbands
- 21 different clinical conditions are designated by no fewer than 29 different colors
  - The color yellow is currently used to designate at least nine different conditions
  - Red is currently used to designate at least seven conditions
  - Do not resuscitate is designated by at least seven different colors

In response, the Center is now implementing the following recommendations:

- Standardization of the use of wristband colors in hospitals - red for allergy, yellow for fall risk, purple for do not resuscitate
- Use of text on the wristband in addition to the color
- Development of policies to remove personal wristbands upon admission to the hospital

Hospitals wanting to implement the guidelines are to identify a champion for their hospital and provide that individual’s contact information to the Center for ongoing communication about roll-out of the project. Additional information about the project is available at www.mocps.org or 573-636-1014.