GOVERNOR'S NEWSLETTER
July 2015

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From the Governor's Desk

Summer is a time of transition for many in Navy Medicine, including our ACP chapter. I relieved CAPT Mark Dick as Governor at the end of Internal Medicine 2015. Many thanks to Mark for his service to the chapter during his four year term and for his willingness to continue serving the chapter as Membership chair.

A quick introduction: I have had mostly a clinical and academic career and I am currently on staff as a Rheumatologist at Walter Reed National Military Medical Center (WRNMMC). I completed Intern and Residency training at the former National Naval Medical Center in 2000 and served as Chief Resident for 1 year. I completed my Rheumatology training at the former Walter Reed Army Medical Center in 2006 and was elected as a Fellow of the ACP in 2007. I assisted with Navy ACP planning during my Chief year in 2000 and again as the scientific chair in 2009. I served as chapter treasurer from 2009 through the start of my governor elect year in the spring of 2014. LCDR Lynn Byars has taken over as Chapter Treasurer.

As I look back, the time from being chosen as the governor-elect designee to assuming office as your governor passed by very quickly. I still recall getting the ‘phone call’ from Mark a day or two after returning from overseas leave in 2013. Since that time I have been occupied with learning the ropes of chapter management and working with the skilled professional staff at ACP.

Thanks to everyone who sent me contributions for this newsletter. I hope you will agree there are many great things happening in our Chapter and in Navy Internal Medicine. I look forward to representing you at the national level for the next four years.

Internal Medicine 2015

The chapter had multiple members in attendance at Internal Medicine 2015. Special thanks to CDR Dan Seidensticker for spearheading the conference approval process with the assistance of LCDR Jami Peterson at BUMED. CDR Pat Young presented, “6 Keys to Managing the Cirrhotic Inpatient.” In celebrating ACP’s centennial, CAPT (ret) Angeline Lazarus was named the Chapter’s Centennial Award Winner in recognition of her service to our chapter and her lasting impact on our chapter’s viability.

We were fortunate enough to have 2 Doctor’s Dilemma teams competing in Boston. The first team, comprised of LCDR Amie Harvey, LT Derek Larson, and LT James Prim from Naval Medical Center Portsmouth represented Virginia for the second year in a row. The Navy All-Star team competed directly for the Navy Chapter and consisted of LCDR Richard Bower (NMCSD), LT Christa Eickhoff (WRNMMC), and LT Greg Condos (NMCP). Both teams faced stiff competition and unfortunately were eliminated in the first round. Congratulations to our residents who represented the chapter in this competition.
Photos from Internal Medicine 2015:

NMCP’s Doctor’s Dilemma Team

The Navy All Star Team

LT Ian Grasso (WRNMMC) presenting his project, “

Do Non-Benzodiazepine Sleep Aids affect the ECG Diagnosis of Sleep Apnea?”
Convocation: Outgoing Governor CAPT Mark Dick with Tiffany Cartner (left) and Adrienne Lopata (right)

Advancement to Fellowship

Membership is currently an important topic with ACP. Today’s associates and ‘Big M’ members are tomorrow’s Fellows of the ACP and our future chapter leaders. Since 1975, over 35,000 physicians have earned ACP Fellowship, a mark of distinction representing the pinnacle of integrity, professionalism, and scholarship for those who aspire to pursue careers in Internal Medicine.

Privileges of being elected to Fellowship include use of the letters FACP (Fellow of the American College of Physicians) in connection with their professional activities for as long as their membership remains current. Additionally, they have the right to vote, hold office, and sponsor applicants for Membership and Fellowship.

You only need to be a regular member of ACP for 2 years before you are eligible to apply for fellowship. Each applicant will need endorsement from 2 Fellows or Masters of the college as part of their application. One of the fun things I get to do as Governor is to review all the applications received by the ACP Credentials Committee. Please contact me if you have any questions about this process. Additional information is available through ACP Online: [http://www.acponline.org/membership/fellowship/](http://www.acponline.org/membership/fellowship/)

New Fellows

Congratulations to the following new Fellows elected from our chapter March 1, 2015.

- LT Scott A Asakevich, MC USN FACP
- LCDR Joseph C Gresens, MC USN FACP
- Alexander J Kallen, MD FACP
- LCDR Andrew H Lin, MC USN FACP
- LT Jonathan D McDivitt, MC USN FACP
- LT Peter Z McIntyre, MC USN FACP
- LCDR Scott C Parrish, MC USN FACP
- LCDR Jami J Peterson, MC USN FACP
- LCDR Manish Singla, MC USN FACP
- CDR Cindy L Tamminga, MC USN FACP
LT Joyce Hall, incoming chief resident, provided the end of year update from NMCP:

As the 2014-2015 academic year comes to a close, the residents at Portsmouth Naval Hospital reflect on the year’s past and what’s to come.

Our annual Dining Out was a huge success—a true celebration to round out the successes of the year. LT Katherine Lee received the Internal Medicine Intern of the Year award. LT Jeffrey Moore received the Aequanimitas Award for the graduating senior who embodies the ideal physician, and LCDR Todd Hansen received the resident Teacher of the Year Award.

Internal medicine staff positions will be held by LT Joshua Bloomer and LT Samira Zamani at Naval Hospital Pensacola, FL; LT Christopher Boyer at Naval Hospital Great Lakes, MI; LT Amber Brittain at Naval Hospital Beaufort, SC; LCDR Todd Hansen at NMC Portsmouth, VA; LT Jeffrey Moore at Naval Hospital Twenty-nine Palms, CA, and LT Justin Stark at Naval Hospital Jacksonville, FL. LCDR Amie Harvey will begin her gastroenterology fellowship training at NMCSD.

Until then, our seniors look forward to their graduation ceremony on Friday June 19th on Hospital Point. CAPT (ret) Joseph Kennedy has graciously accepted his invitation to be the guest speaker at this year’s graduation ceremony.

We are excited to welcome our new house staff and incoming faculty over the next few months and look forward to another great year for Navy Medicine at Naval Medical Center Portsmouth.

LT Matthew Russell, outgoing chief resident, provided the following update from NMCSD:

Accomplishments for the academic year from Naval Medical Center San Diego include:

LT Brennan Shutt represented the Navy at the National Associate Competition and was selected as one of 10 National winners for his clinical vignette.

LT Danielle Leary also presented a clinical vignette poster at the National ACP conference.

LCDR Richard Bower, the NMCSD house staff council president, was a member of the Navy’s doctor’s dilemma team at the National ACP.

Several NMCSD residents will join Pacific Partnership 15. Graduating seniors LT Bob Olejnik, LT Isaac Iboa, and LT Brennan Shutt will embark on a medical mission aboard the USNS Mercy in Fiji. LT Phillip Perrinez and LT Christina Jamros, two rising seniors, will participate in the Mercy mission in the Philippines.

Naval Medical Center San Diego Internal Medicine residency will graduate 10 outstanding physicians at the end of the academic year. The NMCSD Internal Medicine Department proudly sends the class of 2015 to the following assignments:

LCDR Richard Bower will be the Regimental Surgeon at First Marine Regiment, First Marine Division, Camp Pendleton, CA.

LT Evan Butlin will begin fellowship in pulmonary and critical care medicine at NMCSD.

LT Frank Calisch will be a staff internist at Naval Hospital Pensacola.

LT Garrett Harp will begin pulmonary and critical care training at NMCSD.

LT Isaac Iboa will be an instructor at the Surface Warfare Medical Institute in San Diego and also an attending physician at NMCSD.

LT Bob Olejnik will join the staff at Naval Hospital Yokosuka, Japan.

LT Brennan Shutt will be a staff internist at Naval Hospital Camp Pendleton.

LT Joanne So-Major will join the faculty at NMCSD.
**LCDR Michael Villarroel** be the Senior Medical Officer at First Marine Special Operation Command, Camp Pendleton, CA.

**LT Jaime Gastwirt** is the next Chief of Residents at NMCSD.

As the academic year comes to an end, we want to recognize the superior achievements, leadership, dedication, and compassion demonstrated by this class of truly talented physicians. Best wishes and hearty congratulations to the graduates.

**LT Julia Chernigal, outgoing chief resident provided the following update from WRNMMC:**

2014-2015 has been a banner year for Team Walter Reed Bethesda Internal Medicine. Successes for our housestaff abound, with some notable achievements being a transition to a 4+1 block schedule and presentation at local and nation conferences such as Chest, APDIM, National ACP as well as many others.

**LT Nicholas Fiacco** presented data, at MD ACP and DC ACP, on our new 4+1 block schedule with astonishing results such as increased PCM/patient continuity. Marked interest from area DC Internal Medicine Programs has led LT Fiacco’s team to mentor other residencies to transition to this new academic schedule. Navy, Leading the Way!

**LT Christa Eickhoff, LT Benjamin Vipler and LT Jimmy Fisher** comprised the winning Maryland ACP Jeopardy Team 2015! Christa then traveled to Boston for National ACP to represent Walter Reed on the All-Star Jeopardy Team! Go Navy!

**LT Michael Dore**, once again spear-headed the second annual Iron-Med Academic Competition at a local USUHS recruiting event and took it on the road to Maryland ACP. Mike has passed the torch to **LT Alison Lane** who will ensure its longevity and success with her Army colleagues. Go Team!

This year we graduate 8 physicians who will travel near and far to care for our soldiers, sailors, airmen, and marines.

**LT Michael Dore** – Naval Hospital Guam as a staff internist

**LT Christa Eickhoff** – WRNMMC as a staff internist

**LT Jeffrey Eickhoff** – WRNMMC as a rheumatology fellow

**LT Christie Joya** – WRNMMC as an infectious disease fellow

**LT Donovan Mabe** – WRNMMC as a pulmonology critical care fellow

**LT Brian Park** – Naval Station Great Lakes as staff internist

**LT Tyrone Robinson** – WRNMMC as a staff internist

**LT Benjamin Vipler** – WRNMMC Chief of Medical Residents, 2015-2016

At the National Capital Consortium Graduation Ceremony held June 19, 2015 at Strathmore Hall in Bethesda, LT Dore and LT Lane led a strong contingent of Walter Reed Bethesda Internal Medicine Department Residents, Fellows, and Faculty receiving recognition as special awardees:

**LT Lane** received the Outstanding Intern Award, given for the Walter Reed intern among more than 90 peers judged to have the best academic performance, compassion for patients, and outstanding interpersonal skills.

**LT Dore** was voted by the intern class to receive the Lieutenant Neil Holland Award, presented annually to the Walter Reed house staff member who best exemplifies excellence in teaching and humanitarianism, ability as a clinician, instructor, counselor and mentor.

**LCDR Melissa Butts**, Rheumatology Fellow, received the General Graves B. Erskine Award, presented annually to one resident and one fellow demonstrating outstanding academic performance as determined by a selection committee.
CDR Timothy Whitman, Infectious Disease Program Director, was one of two faculty members selected to receive the Lieutenant General Claire L. Chennault Award, presented to teaching staff who best demonstrate overall excellence, professional medical expertise and personality traits of innovativeness, fairness, leadership and tenacity in the face of adversity.

We look forward to the successes, achievements and memories we make in the upcoming academic year! Fair winds and following seas.

News From the College

Maintenance of Certification

ACP leadership continues to engage the ABIM on meaningful changes to the MOC process. Efforts to achieve improvements in relevance, value, and transparency of MOC is a priority initiative for the college this year. The college also has multiple resources, some free of charge, to allow members to earn MOC credit.

Visit http://www.acponline.org/education_recertification/recertification/earn_moc_points/ to learn more.

During this period of changes to ABIM’s MOC process, I encourage all members to periodically check their status by logging on to the ABIM website. For additional information on the changes to MOC announced by ABIM can be found, please visit https://www.abim.org/maintenance-of-certification/moc-faq/default.aspx.

Special Interest Groups

ACP’s Special Interest Groups (SIGs) 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. Examples of available groups include:

Clinical Problem-Solving | Clinical Research | Emerging Technologies | Genetics and Genomic Medicine | High Value Care | Hospital Medicine | Maintenance of Certification | Medical Students | MKSAP | | Volunteerism | Women in Medicine | Work/Life Balance |

For more information, including a full list of SIGs, visit www.acponline.org/sigs.

ACP Releases High Value Care Screening Advice for Five Common Cancers

In a paper published in Annals of Internal Medicine, Screening for Cancer: Advice for High-Value Care From the American College of Physicians, ACP issued advice for screening average risk adults without symptoms for five common cancers: breast, colorectal, ovarian, prostate, and cervical. In a companion piece also published in Annals, ACP outlined a framework for thinking about the value of varying intensities of cancer screening.

Closing Thoughts

Please feel free to contact me with issues, comments or concerns. Planning for Navy ACP 2015 is just around the corner and I will publish more details in future email blasts. Save the date for the Internal Medicine 2016 in Washington, DC May 5-7, 2016. Best wishes for a safe and enjoyable summer!

Warm regards,
Mike

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