

ACP

AMERICAN COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS
INTERNAL MEDICINE | *Doctors for Adults*

June 17, 2013

Meet the Council

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Executive Director

Greetings to all NH ACP members! I began my 4th and final year as your ACP governor in April. I've learned a lot about the ACP over my tenure. The ACP is not just about the Annual meeting and the Annals of Internal Medicine, although these are the attributes that drew me to the institution. The value of ACP membership to all internists – general, hospitalist and specialists – is membership in an organization that advances evidenced based care and advocates for policy that helps our patients.

I am particularly impressed with the thoughtful discussions of the Board of Governors resolutions. These grass roots proposals from state ACP chapter are discussed for adoption by the ACP national organization: your voice can become National ACP policy! This April, NH submitted an amendment charging the Board of Regents to back efforts to make the EHR communicate information between physicians more effectively (not be a data dump). The resolution received unanimous approval from the Board of Governors and is being studied by various College committees for incorporation into national policy. Heady stuff! We can make a difference.

As the practice of internal medicine becomes more pressured and undervalued (which I feel acutely at DHMC), it is refreshing and rejuvenating to connect with internists throughout the country to celebrate internal medicine – the intellectual challenge, the sublime connection with our long term patients and the future to come: it **will** be better.

Send me an e-mail with your thoughts. Recruit a colleague to the ACP.
Lin.A.Brown@hitchcock.org



Leadership Day



Seven NH members attended the ACP leadership day in Washington DC from May 21-22. We had the opportunity to advocate four different issues with the NH members of Congress after being briefed on them during a whole-day session.

A top priority remains to repeal the evergreen Sustainable Growth Rate. Each year Congress patches the problem without fixing it. This year physician payments would be cut by 24% on January 2014. Chances for a permanent fix are better than ever. For one the SGR is on "sale". The Congressional Budgetary Office estimates the cost of a permanent repeal at 139 Billion, down from 245 Billion last year. The ACP has endorsed a bipartisan House bill that would repeal SGR, stabilize payments for 5 years, with updates for all physicians and incentives for primary care. During this transitional period more effective reimbursement models would be tested and implemented by 2019. A similar framework for a GOP bill was circulated in the house and the ACP had the opportunity to testify and suggest improvement during a hearing in April.

Like last year the ACP advocates funding of workforce programs as outlined in the Affordable Care Act, expanding and improving GME in terms of better planning towards needs and broadening the financial burden with inclusion of other payers beside Medicare.

Tort reform remains a priority. The ACP favors Medical Courts, with specialized judges experienced in medicine and has developed a framework for legislation that would finance and test pilot programs.

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NHACP/VTACP Joint CME Meeting

Save the Date

October 25, 2013

Hanover Inn, Hanover, NH

Key note: High Value, Cost-Conscious Care: Wasting the Buck Stops Here: Steve Weinberger, MD

Major changes in the evaluation and treatment of sleep apnea: Joseph DellaValla, MD

Stump the Professor: Timothy Lahey, MD;
Jonathan Luri, MD, Mark Levine, MD

Perspectives on Healthcare and Lifestyle-The Future of Mobile Health: Ethan Berke, MD, MPH;
Andrew Campbell, MD

Lunch with networking, town hall and posters

Transition of Care After Hospitalization: Julius Yang, MD, PhD

Workshops

- 1- Peri-operative Management: Gretchen Twork, MD
- 2- Wound Care: Hyperbaric Medicine Jay Buckley, MD
- 3- Strategies for Prescribing Opioids: Improve Care, Reduce Risk: Molly Rossignol, DO
- 4- Bedside Ultrasound for the Internist: Justin Krawitt, MD, assisted by Tiffany Milner, MD and John Dick, MD

Awards/town hall

Special Resident Track: TBA



Leadership Day cont.....

The courts would provide fair compensation, reduce litigation time reduce malpractice liability costs.

The ACP also asks Congress to repeal the sequestration. All NH members of Congress agreed that the sequestration is the worst and dumbest way to reduce the deficit.

Our delegation had the opportunity to meet with both Senators in person and to discuss the issues with the aides of our House members. We all now have a better understanding of the nitty-gritty of health care policy and the tedious legislative process. Some of us remain in contact with the staffers and will be resources for questions as they may arise. Without question the ACP has earned a great reputation of being an advocate for meaningful reform of the US health care system with the priority to improve care for every patient by increasing quality, promoting evidence-based medicine and suggesting a multitude of cost cutting measures.

We hope that next year other members will seize the opportunity to represent the College on Leadership day 2014.

Oiver Herfort, MD

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Renew Your Membership

ACP's new membership year begins on July 1. To renew your membership today, simply login to your ACP account to access your 2013-2014 dues statement.

[Renew Here](#)

Do you have a mentor, chief resident, colleague, or peer deserving recognition? A person who challenges you to work at your highest level and constantly inspires those around him or her? The Awards Committee of the American College of Physicians invites your assistance in recognizing the accomplishments of distinguished individuals and organizations through the College's awards and Masterships program. The College offers 20 awards and a number of Masterships to recognize outstanding contributions in the practice of medicine, teaching, research, public service, leadership, and medical volunteerism.

Step 1: Visit www.acponline.org/awards to review the various awards ACP offers to recognize accomplishments in leadership, teaching, volunteerism and service, advocacy, medical humanities, and contributions to ACP.

Step 2: Identify a qualified nominee (see website for exclusions).

Step 3: Collect support letters from four others who feel strongly about your nominee. With few exceptions, almost anyone* can write nomination and support letters, even a patient.

Step 4: Submit your nomination letter, four supporting letters, a brief biographical sketch of the nominee and the nominee's curriculum vitae by July 1 at www.acponline.org/nominations.