Dear Members,

I wanted to take this opportunity to share with you some Chapter Activities and to hope that you all get to enjoy some beautiful fall weather in RI (maybe with Chapter members!). See below for our first CHAPTER WELLNESS WALK.

National ACP Info:

Today, I finished the first-ever all-virtual Board of Governors Meeting (was to be in Savannah, GA) which was incredibly well done. We discussed resolutions, which may inform future ACP policy. We learned about innovative ways to engage membership (be on the lookout for opportunities to engage in the Chapter). I learned from Chapters about how to run effective virtual Chapter Meetings (just in case). As you probably know, the Annual National ACP Meeting will be virtual this year - we heard about it today and it sounds like it will be a truly fabulous educational meeting!

Below are important links to recent statements National ACP has made or joined, supporting scientific, data driven decisions and public health officials during the COVID pandemic.

- On September 27, ACP joined close to 100 other organization representing physicians and other clinicians, public health experts, scientists, patients, and other advocates, urging FDA Commissioner Hahn and Director Marks of the Center for Biologics Evaluation and Research to ensure that a COVID-19 vaccine is only authorized or licensed when it meets the Food and Drug Administration’s (FDA's) existing high standards of safety and efficacy. [https://www.acponline.org/acp_policy/letters/joint_letter_requesting_covid-19_vaccines_follow_existing_fda_standards_sept_2020.pdf](https://www.acponline.org/acp_policy/letters/joint_letter_requesting_covid-19_vaccines_follow_existing_fda_standards_sept_2020.pdf)

- On August 27, ACP again expressed public support for the use of science, based on the best available evidence, in the fight against COVID-19 and emphasized that public health agencies should not be subjected to pressure or be influenced to issue policies that are not based on evidence and expert recommendations of their own scientists. [https://www.acponline.org/acp-newsroom/acp-supports-the-use-of-science-to-stop-the-spread-of-covid-19-warns-against-interference](https://www.acponline.org/acp-newsroom/acp-supports-the-use-of-science-to-stop-the-spread-of-covid-19-warns-against-interference)

- On July 14, ACP issued a statement supporting the use of scientific expertise, based on the best available evidence, in the fight against COVID-19 and urging national, state and local officials to heed the advice and information from leading experts. This statement included explicit support for Dr. Anthony Fauci, who received Mastership from ACP, in his effort to help stop the spread of COVID-19. [https://www.acponline.org/acp-newsroom/acp-supports-the-use-of-scientific-expertise-to-stop-the-spread-of-covid-19](https://www.acponline.org/acp-newsroom/acp-supports-the-use-of-scientific-expertise-to-stop-the-spread-of-covid-19)
Closer to Home:

At our last Governor’s Council Meeting, we discussed connections among members and Dr. Yul Ejnes suggested a space for members to chat, ask questions, and connect with other members: [https://www.acponline.org/forums/rhode-island](https://www.acponline.org/forums/rhode-island). Please subscribe to Rhode Island.

The IMIG are seeking physicians who would be willing to allow medical students to shadow in the office for a morning or afternoon to get a glimpse into how great it is to be an internist! Please let Roni Phipps at riacpinfo@gmail.com know if you would like to participate.

We are always seeking Members who are in a position to advance to Fellowship. Those who have been members for 3 consecutive years are eligible. If you would like to be considered, please visit [https://www.acponline.org/membership/physician-membership/acp-fellowship](https://www.acponline.org/membership/physician-membership/acp-fellowship).

If you know of anyone who may be eligible, please email Roni Phipps at riacpinfo@gmail.com.

We have reinvigorated the Resident Council (co-chairs Rasan Cherala, Dany Debs, and Christelle Nzugang) and they are planning some interesting activities to engage resident members. They have begun brainstorming ideas about a local podcast for residents by residents. Stay tuned for further details.

Stay tuned also for details on Doctor’s Dilemma, which is being planned for later this fall.

Our Chapter Meeting is currently being planned for March 17 at the Alpert Medical School. Please save the date! We will be discussing pivoting if needed to become Virtual. We will keep you posted.

Start thinking about nominations for Awards for this year's Chapter Meeting. In addition to the Irving Addison Beck Laureate Award and Milton Hamolsky Lifetime Achievement Award, new last year, we had awards for Woman Physician of the Year and Resident/Fellow Recognition Award for Leadership. We will be requesting nominations in the early winter. If you’d like to participate on the Awards Committee in selecting award recipients, please let Roni Phipps know at riacpinfo@gmail.com.

Wellness Walk:

Finally, please join Dr. Jennifer Jeremiah (Wellness Committee Chair) and me as we lead a Wellness Walk on Saturday, October 17th at 10 am. We hope to bring members together from across the state to increase our sense of community, share ideas to mitigate burnout, and enjoy the outdoor experience RI has to offer. We have chosen Long Pond Trail in Hope Valley, RI, a 4.5-mile trail that receives great reviews and should be beautiful this time of year. For the first 25 people who sign up, we have ACP logo water bottles! Bring masks. If a lot of people come, we can hike in small groups to maintain safety and social distance. Please sign up with Roni Phipps at riacpinfo@gmail.com.
Please be well, stay safe, and please exercise your right to vote!

If anyone has any ideas how to advance the RI ACP Chapter, please email me at kmcgarry222@gmail.com.

Kelly

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ACP Governor, Rhode Island Chapter