This award honors an internist who is practicing in the state of South Dakota and is within sixteen years of graduation from medical school. The recipient should demonstrate the ideals of the profession and maintain an active role in the activities of the SD ACP.

Josh Henderson practices traditional internal medicine in Mobridge, SD. Before pursuing his DO degree in Youngstown, Ohio, he graduated from South Dakota State University with a degree in rangeland management, following his love for the outdoors, ranching and farming. He worked for two years at the Brookings conservation office before returning to SDSU to pursue a degree in biology. The experience that he gained while at the conservation office has helped him develop a special bond with his patients, many of whom have spent some part of their lives in farming or ranching.

Dr. Henderson has been at Mobridge Regional Health and Clinics since 2009 and is currently the Chief of Staff. The medical center participates in the FARM (Frontier And Rural Medicine) program, and Dr. Henderson has been a mentor to many of these students. His most recent student shared, “I learned from watching you that it is good for physicians to be interested in their patients’ lives outside of medicine. You strike the balance between being a knowledgeable physician and relatable person very well. My time in Mobridge will forever be the bedrock of my medical education.”

Dr. Henderson is also active in his community. He sits on the Mobridge Youth Organization board and serves as Cub Scout master and rodeo doctor each year. Dr. Henderson and his wife Rose have two sons, Shane (9) and Wyatt (7). He enjoys spending time with his family and participating in outdoor activities, especially hunting!
Catherine C. Gerrish, MD FACP

Laureate Award

This award honors Fellows or Masters of the ACP who have demonstrated by their example and conduct an abiding commitment to excellence in medical care, education and service to their community, their Chapter, and the American College of Physicians.

Catherine Gerrish attended the University of South Dakota School of Medicine and completed her internal medicine residency at Case Western Reserve in Cleveland, Ohio, in 1981. Two years after residency, she moved to Watertown and has been a partner at the Brown Clinic for over thirty years.

Throughout her career, Dr. Gerrish has taken an active role in both the ASIM and the ACP. Leadership positions include secretary/treasurer of the South Dakota ASIM from 1995 to 1996 and vice-president from 1996 to 1998, when these two organizations merged. In addition, she has served as a session moderator at numerous meetings and shared cases and presentations on a variety of topics, challenging her colleagues to practice the full scope of internal medicine. Watertown and Dr. Gerrish hosted the scientific program in 1997 and 2008, and she chaired or co-chaired the program on both occasions.

Her leadership and community involvement extend beyond the ACP. Dr. Gerrish has served on multiple clinic and hospital boards and committees. She has been Chief of Staff at Prairie Lakes Hospital and currently holds a position on the hospital’s Board of Directors. She is also the current President of the Watertown district for the South Dakota State Medical Association.

Dr. Gerrish is married to Dr. Ed Gerrish, a surgeon, and they have two sons Ed Gerrish and his wife Leslie and Dr. Greg Gerrish and his wife Allison and granddaughter Gwen Catherine.

Tim M. Ridgway, MD FACP

Teacher of the Year

This award honors a member who exemplifies talent, enthusiasm, and professionalism in medical education. The recipient may demonstrate excellence in education at the medical student, graduate or continuing education level.

Tim Ridgway, native of Ravinia, SD, received an undergraduate degree from Augustana College in Sioux Falls before earning his MD degree from Sanford School of Medicine of the University of South Dakota. He then attended Mayo where he completed his residency in internal medicine and fellowship training in gastroenterology.

Since 1991, Sanford School of Medicine has benefitted from Dr. Ridgway’s gracious wisdom and outstanding leadership. Tim has been described as “the ultimate physician,” a “genuine advocate for medical students” and “a thoughtful, patient man”. He has been a popular teacher for medical students and residents. He teaches clinical correlations for Pillar-1 students and continues to serve as Councilor for South Dakota’s AOA chapter. He is known for writing very thoughtful letters of recommendations for students. Dr. Ridgway is former president of the South Dakota State Medical Association and is a Fellow of the American College of Physicians.

Dr. Ridgway also serves as Associate Professor, Dean of Faculty Affairs, and Executive Dean at USD Sanford School of Medicine where his responsibilities include coordination and engagement of the school’s faculty, directing faculty development activities, and serving as the Sioux Falls campus dean. In addition, he maintains an active clinical practice as director of endoscopy at the VA Hospital in Sioux Falls.

He and his wife, Mary Pat, have three children, Jack, Mariel and Claire, and they reside near Brandon, SD.