COVID continues to change the way we practice medicine and live as Internal Medicine specialists in our state. Members have retired, shifted practice locations, and found new ways to survive within their current models of care delivery. It has been way too long since we have seen each other. My hope is that we can come back to some version of what made us “US” very soon.

Since our last update, the physicians in our chapter have participated in our annual Leadership Day in Washington DC. I’d like to thank my HPPC chair Dr Kelly Evans-Hullinger for her leadership in that process. I and a few other brave souls also attended IM 2022, our national annual scientific meeting in Chicago in April. Both events were attempts to get back to “business as usual” and were a new look at advocacy and education in a pandemic. If you haven’t ventured far, I hope you become accustomed to the concept of the “new normal.”

Up next is our own state chapter scientific meeting in Pierre, built to be our first real meeting face-to-face since 2019. This marks the 4th time we’ve come to Pierre in my 25 years of attending our chapter meeting. Although Pierre still doesn’t have all its charm and grandeur in full bloom, I’m still thrilled to host this event in my hometown in my last year as Governor. I’m hoping to make this a revival of our old chapter energy as friends return to see one another.

We are fortunate to have a new twist to our meeting, the Sanford Scholar Series, featuring John Barry, author of “The Great Influenza”. We have a tradition of being the best small chapter in the country for good reasons. Let’s see if we can break a few attendance records.
Governor’s Message (continued)

National advocacy issues have become prominent in the last few months. ACP national has their voice and position statements that you can check out online. We will get a report from the ACP Regent on all these topics, and I hope for lively collegial discussion. Although the familiar resonant baritone voice of Bob Doherty won’t be heard for our Washington Update, the brilliant Shari Erickson will be taking the reins and bringing us up-to-date.

As always, I hope you are willing to reach out to me with any questions or concerns. We will be having our chapter’s strategic planning session this year to give Dr. Eric Larson our incoming Governor next year, a solid base and direction on where the chapter wishes to move. Our members are critical to the evolution of our chapter.

We will be exploring format changes in our annual meeting structure with our program committee. The biggest struggle our leadership faces is a lack of participation on committees. We need to work on our diversity and want to be inclusive. We have amazing members who have the energy and passion to build our chapter. Please volunteer to be a part of that process. We want to be valuable to our members of all ages, practice styles, and career paths.

Hope to see you soon in Pierre!

REGISTER NOW FOR SEPTEMBER 21-23 ANNUAL SCIENTIFIC MEETING -
https://vaminc.regfox.com/2022-sdacp-annual-meeting

Stay COVID Free!!!
Highlights from 2022 IM Meeting in Chicago
Our USD SSOM 2022 Class of Medical Students are off to IM residency now with 12 graduating students from this spring starting their programs across the country. There are two students staying at USD SSOM and the rest leaving to various institutions from University of Vermont, to the University of Washington, and the University of Michigan and throughout the Midwest.

Preliminarily in the Class of 2023, it appears that just under 10 of our medical students will be applying for residency in internal medicine this year. They are a competitive group and will likely take residencies throughout the Midwest with some likely staying at USD SSOM.

The department continues to host Grand Rounds and in association with the Sanford Scholars Series is able to host not only our excellent South Dakota Faculty but speakers from across the country. Our keynote speaker at the SDACP meeting, John Barry, author of The Great Influenza, is part of this series.

**Medical Student Jackson Shriver representing SDACP at the 2022 IM meeting poster session**
We had an outstanding fellowship match with all four of our residents interested in a fellowship matching. We had two residents go into Cardiology (Mayo Clinic and University of Nebraska), one into Pulmonary-Critical Care (Einstein Medical Center), and one into Gastroenterology (University of West Virginia). We are equally excited to have four residents staying in South Dakota to practice, with two residents going into Primary Care and two into Hospitalist Medicine.

At our graduation in May, the residents selected Dr. Mamoon Ahmed for the Faculty Teaching Award. Dr. Swaminathan Perinkulam Sathyanarayanan received the Dr. John L. Boice Scholarship (for leadership, interest in research, and interest in academic medicine). Dr. Touba Naim received the Humanism Award and Dr. Ugur Kucuk received the resident teaching award.

Congratulations also to Dr. Ugur Kucuk as the resident winner at the National ACP’s poster competition in Chicago in April.

We are looking forward to another great academic year and look forward to seeing everyone at the SDACP annual meeting in September.

Thanks to all our outstanding faculty, USD SSOM, SDACP, Avera, and Sanford for their support and commitment to the IM residency program.
Thank you to all our ACP of South Dakota members who participated in advocacy at the local, state, and national levels this year!

Our committee was quite active during the South Dakota Legislative session in 2022, partnering with the South Dakota State Medical Association and other advocacy groups on some key legislative issues. A bill to grant physician assistants the ability to practice medicine independently was ultimately defeated, and bills to soften vaccination requirements also failed to pass. South Dakota has many physicians to thank for the important work done this year in our state.

The SDACP is among numerous organizations supporting Medicaid expansion, an issue that will be on the ballot this November in the form of Constitutional Amendment D. We hope you will vote and encourage friends, neighbors, and your community to vote Yes to expand Medicaid in South Dakota.

In May, Arsalan Arshad (resident), Lane Blasius (medical student), and I traveled to Washington DC for ACP Leadership Day. This is the first visit to the Capitol we have had since 2019, and we had a great time. We met with aides for each of South Dakota’s elected representatives to advocate on key national issues including undergraduate and graduate medical education, prescription drug prices, public health funding, mental health funding, and physician payment reform. As always, we are grateful for the Chapter’s funding to send our trainees for an invaluable advocacy experience.
Early Career Physicians
Eric Chow, MD FACP
ecchow@gmail.com

This past spring on May 4th our ECPs gathered for our “Social Journal Club” event. This event occurred simultaneously in Rapid City and Sioux Falls during dinner. Each member brought their favorite journal article or practice changing update to the dinner event and shared it with their peers. In Rapid City, the topics discussed included how isopropyl alcohol could be more effective than oral zofran for control of nausea, empagliflozin use in HFpEF, negative predictive value of MRSA PCR nasal swab and the antiquated use of NPO after midnight for most procedures. In Sioux Falls, we reviewed SGLT2 inhibitors for CHF, physician well being and updated guidelines on C. diff. Our members expressed how they had a great time socializing with their peers and learning from each other.

Upcoming SDACP Events

August 29  12:00 pm Meeting with first year medical students - Vermillion

Sept 13   West River ECP Work/Life Balance Event
(details coming out soon in email)

Sept 19  East River ECP Work/Life Balance Event
(details coming out soon in email)

Sept 21-23  2022 Annual Scientific Meeting - Pierre, SD

Sept 29-Oct 1  BOG - Savannah, GA
The ACP is a diverse community of over 160,000 internal medicine specialists and subspecialists united by a common commitment to excellence in the practice of medicine. As the largest medical-specialty organization, its members can be found across the globe.

The Membership/DEI Committee is tasked with recruitment and retention of members to the ACP as well as ensuring that there is diverse and equitable representation of all. Physicians are busy professionals who can ill afford to waste time. So, the question is "What are the benefits of joining the ACP?"

A. Cultivation of Community
   The annual chapter as well as national meeting, provides an excellent opportunity for networking and for finding solutions to common challenges.

B. Continued Education
   ACP members have free access to reliable learning resources such as Annals of Internal Medicine, ACP Journal Club and ACP Observer. In addition, there are free online opportunities to obtain points towards Maintenance of Certification (MOC).

At the recently held annual ACP meeting in Chicago, a panel was convened to discuss what the ACP is doing to advance diversity, equity, and inclusion within the organization and throughout the profession.

The panel highlighted recent actions such as:
1. Removal of biased language and potential barriers to nomination for awards.
2. Establishment of an International Medical Graduate Task Force to better understand the needs of global membership.
3. Increased publication of DEI related articles and research in the Annals of Internal Medicine
4. Supporting gender equity in compensation and career advancement.
5. Supporting efforts to increase diversity in medical selection and education processes.
Membership/DEI (continued)

To paraphrase one of the panelists "to advance quality care to diverse populations, it is essential that we continue to build on existing DEI initiatives to increase diversity, equity and inclusion with our ACP community".

To build on these initiatives, we need to increase our active membership. As the slogan says, "Members Move Medicine". The Covid 19 pandemic has certainly placed a damper on our recruitment efforts. Emails and phone calls are useful tools of communication, but nothing trumps the personal pitch of meeting a colleague face to face. In fact, it was from a knock on my office door, and a past chapter president showing up "without invitation" that I was "invited" to the ACP.

It was an invitation that I accepted and have never regretted!

We invite you to become a member today by clicking on this link - https://www.acponline.org/membership

If you are an existing member and would like to help in recruitment and retention efforts please email Kris Rahm at krisrahm@me.com, as more hands are needed on deck as we sail into a brighter future.

Did You Know???

Did you know, that there are several ways to donate to funds to SDACP?

1) There is a place to donate when you pay your annual National and Chapter dues – https://store.acponline.org/ebiz/acp-pay-dues/paymentcode/paydues?_gl=1*1iqie99*_ga*MjY1NTkwNDguMTY0NjA2NzQ0NQ..*_ga_PM4F5HBGFQ*MTY1NjQ0NjcOC44NzuMS4xNjU2NDQ2NzUzLjl1&_ga=2.70667990.71225201.1656336811-26559048.1646067445

2) There is a place to donate when you register for our Annual Scientific meeting - https://vaminc.regfox.com/2022-sdacp-annual-meeting

3) There is a way to donate to our South Dakota communities (our Chapter will match up to $2,000) for #IM Proud to Serve My Community Program - https://vaminc.regfox.com/2022-sd-acp-impr oud-community-donations

ALL of these donations enable SDACP to continue to provide support for important membership events. THANK YOU for your support!