Welcome Early Career Physicians!

The participation of early career physicians in the activities of the College is fundamental and your input is valued. As a globally engaged professional society, ACP embraces diversity, equity, and inclusion as key strategies for strengthening our organization. Unity is vital now more than ever as we face the COVID-19 pandemic together in 2020 – a time that signals fundamental shifts in how we are practicing medicine and caring for our patients and colleagues.

Your engagement, innovation, and leadership are catalysts for the growth and development of your local ACP chapters, the national organization, and the many communities we serve. With the current challenges facing the practice of medicine, your active participation will allow you to gain more insight and knowledge into the issues and enhance your opportunity to enjoy the practice of medicine.

The benefits of membership in ACP are many and diverse. The College is constantly keeping updated with current events, including offering a COVID-19 compilation of services and resources to meet the needs of our membership and the patients we serve. Additional benefits include access to Annals of Internal Medicine, MKSAP (Medical Knowledge Self-Assessment Program) discounts, free access to DynaMed, a variety of practice resources, as well as having the opportunity to understand the current physician payment system. ACP offers members the opportunity to develop leadership skills, earn CME, and earn a Certificate in Physician Leadership in hospital medicine or general internal medicine through the ACP Leadership Academy. In the advocacy arena, the College is actively working to address issues relevant to practicing physicians, such as developing a set of position papers envisioning a better U.S. healthcare system and promoting increased physician reimbursement and reducing administrative hassles to increase the joy of medicine. ACP provides guidance and resources that foster communities of well-being for internists to best serve patients and optimize professional fulfillment. Women in Medicine is an initiative that demonstrates ACP’s dedication to diversity, equity and inclusion.

The Council of Early Career Physicians serves as a resource for the College and provides an effective mechanism for addressing your concerns along with development of products and services. With seats on the Board of Regents, the Board of Governors, and major College committees, the Council is able to disseminate your ideas and concerns directly to the College's leadership and to the leaders in organized medicine.

Areas in which the Council is actively working include:

- Developing activities and pathways to leadership for early career physicians in state chapters and nationally.
- Addressing the needs of ambulatory and hospitalist physicians, as well as subspecialists, and ensuring that the process for maintaining board certification consists of varied channels for assessing performance.
• Increasing participation of early career physicians in advocacy for the state and direction of health care.
• Understanding and addressing the difficulties associated with establishing a career in internal medicine during both universal and unique professional and personal life transitions.
• Developing opportunities to showcase scholarly work in state chapters and nationally through an early career physician poster competition.

I invite you to engage in activities in your local chapter—participate as an annual meeting poster judge and abstract reviewer, network with your colleagues, and serve as a mentor and sponsor to students, residents, fellows, and peers. We need your creativity and innovation to continue thriving in Internal Medicine and maintaining the bright future that I see for our communities of practice.

The Council welcomes your input and we are committed to supporting early career physicians. Please feel free to contact me or other members of the national Council of Early Career Physicians so that we can best serve you.

Warm regards,
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