

## From President Lightfoot Report From the AOA Business Meetings



Summer 2015, hopefully, has been enjoyable for all of us. Despite our very busy and hectic schedules, I hope everyone has taken some

time for rest and relaxation with family and friends. Last month, I attended the AOA's Annual Business meetings in Chicago with President-elect John Bulger, DO and Brian Donadio and Tim McNichol of our staff. Not a whole lot of new issues were on the agenda. The AOA and its specialty colleges are moving forward with the single accreditation system for graduate medical education. AOA-accredited training programs that do not submit an application for ACGME pre-accreditation by July 1, 2016 will need to notify their sponsor-

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September 30-October 4 in Tampa, FL

## “Guidelines and Controversies” Is 2015 Convention Theme



The 2015 ACOI Annual Convention and Scientific Sessions will take place Sept. 30-Oct. 4, in Tampa, FL. ACOI Board of Directors member, Samuel K. Snyder, D.O., will chair the program and has selected the theme of “Guidelines and Controversies” for the education sessions.

The Convention will kick off on Wednesday, Sept. 30 with a three-hour vascular medicine

symposium. A Subspecialist-level cardiology seminar will follow later that afternoon. A keynote lecture by Danielle Ofri, MD, is scheduled for Thursday morning. Dr. Ofri is a physician, teacher and writer, who is medicine’s leading proponent of the power of story—and of literature—to improve the practice of medicine. Her most recent book is entitled, *What Doctors Feel* and her talk will center on “Healing versus Curing.” An additional keynote is planned for Friday morning, featuring Caroline M. Clancy, MD, the interim Undersecretary for Health in the Veteran’s Administration. Dr. Clancy, who is the former Director of the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, will speak on quality assurance and patient safety.

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## Highlights of the 2015 ACOI Membership Survey

The ACOI conducts a membership survey every two years to provide members with an opportunity to comment on the College’s services and performance in meeting their needs. The most recent survey was conducted this spring. All Active members were invited to participate in the survey, which was completed electronically. This year, 836 members responded, representing 25.7 percent of those eligible. The results of the survey are used by the Board of Directors and staff as part of the ACOI’s continuous strategic planning process. The following are some of the highlights of the member responses.

From a demographic perspective, the ACOI membership is approximately 69 percent male and 31 percent female. The percentage of female members is gradually increasing as the number of women attending osteopathic medical school grows. The average age of the membership--- 48.3 years--- is trending slightly younger. Approximately 47 percent of members are employed in group practice settings; 29 percent by hospitals and 10.5 percent are in solo practice. About 23 percent practice office-based general medicine; 26 percent

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**2015 Convention Materials Inside!**



## American College of Osteopathic Internists

*In Service to All Members; All Members in Service*

### MISSION

*The mission of the ACOI is to advance the practice of osteopathic internal medicine. Through excellence in education, advocacy, research and the opportunity for service, the ACOI strives to enhance the professional and personal development of the family of osteopathic internists.*

### VISION

*The ACOI seeks to be the organization that osteopathic internists think of first for education, information, representation and service to the profession.*

### VALUES

*To accomplish its vision and mission, the ACOI will base its decisions and actions on the following core values:*

- LEADERSHIP for the advancement of osteopathic medicine*
- EXCELLENCE in programs and services*
- INTEGRITY in decision-making and actions*
- PROFESSIONALISM in all interactions*
- SERVICE to meet member needs*

### 2014-2015 OFFICERS

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## Letter from the President

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ing OPTI, the AOA and specialty college, residents and all trainee applicants. Such programs will not be permitted to accept new trainees who cannot complete the program by June 30, 2020. For internal medicine, I speak for the College in hoping that all of our programs remain viable and seek Osteopathic recognition. I urge programs to reach out to the ACOI Council on Education and Evaluation, Brian Donadio and the OPTIs if you have any questions.

There were a number of new health care policies adopted by the AOA House of Delegates. These include: Responsible Antibiotic Stewardship; Support for Ending the Ban on Sperm Donation by Gay Men; Increased Mental Health Resources for Students and DOs; and Expanding Laws to Protect Physicians against Violence. The full text of these and other approved policies is available on the AOA website.

The ACOI extends a warm welcome to new AOA President John W. Becker, DO. We hope to address with the President concerns on behalf of our dedicated members at the next ACOI Board of Directors meeting, which will take place immediately prior to the Annual Convention and Scientific Sessions in Tampa, FL. I feel strongly that the unique attributes of this profession and College should be branded, celebrated and marketed in such a way as to show what makes our profession distinctive. Those attributes will be defined not only by what we say and do, but by how we go about proving them! I'm delighted to have heard that research dollars have been committed by the AOA for this purpose. Dr. Becker also spoke of increasing advocacy at the state and federal levels. He also emphasized how we could all promote Osteopathic awareness.

This year's ACOI Annual Convention and Scientific Sessions will be held at the beautiful bayside city of Tampa, Florida at the Marriott Tampa Waterside Hotel. Samuel K. Snyder DO, FACOI, program chair, has put together a fantastic program which will address Guidelines and Controversies. I can't think of a more important theme. It is applicable to general internists and subspecialists, since we are constantly challenged to practice evidence-based medicine within guidelines from the scientific literature. I encourage each and every one of you to come to this meeting and bring your families. Susan Stacy and the ACOI staff have put together a wonderful list of social activities from fine dining, tours, dolphin encounters, to fun walks and runs which will promote fitness and wellness to you and your family in the spirit of the ACOI.

A final thought for this month: the ACOI and the American Osteopathic Foundation jointly will be honoring an outstanding internal medicine resident of the year at our meeting in Tampa. I'm very excited and pleased to have been a part of selecting this year's recipient. So, again, I look forward to seeing you there!



# government RELATIONS

Timothy McNichol, JD

## House and Senate Are in Recess

The House and the Senate are in recess for the month of August for a district work period. Congress is scheduled to return the second week of September. Upon its return, Congress will have a number of critical issues waiting for its consideration, including ongoing budget negotiations to fund governmental functions and to ensure that government remains open for business.

## Legislation Addressing Observation Status Approved

The Senate recently approved legislation to require notification of observational status. The House had previously approved the legislation. Under the legislation sent to the President for signature, a hospital or critical access hospital with an agreement with the Secretary of Health and Human Services must give each individual who receives observational services as an outpatient for more than 24 hours an adequate oral and written notification of their status within 36 hours after beginning to receive the services. The notification must explain the patient's status as an outpatient and the possible implications of the status, among other things. President Obama is expected to sign this legislation into law.

## President Nominates Slavitt as Permanent head of CMS

Acting Administrator for the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), Andrew Slavitt, has been nominated by President Obama to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Administrator Marilyn Tavenner in January 2015. Acting Administrator Slavitt has been with CMS since June 2014. His nomination now goes before the Senate Finance Committee, where it is expected to be challenged. Senate Finance Committee Chair, Orrin Hatch (R-UT) has raised concerns with regard to Slavitt's past role as an executive vice president at UnitedHealth Group, Inc. A confirmation hearing and vote has not been scheduled to date.

## New Data Released through Open Payments Program

According to new data released by CMS, there were \$6.49 billion in financial transactions between drug and medical device makers, physicians and teaching hospitals in 2014. The data released by CMS shows that 607,000 physicians and 1,121 teaching hospitals received transfers of value in 2014. The Open Payments Program was created under the Physician Payment Sunshine Act included in the Affordable Care Act (ACA) to promote transparency. Concerns continue to be raised about the accuracy of the data made available to the public as well as the brief timeline in which reported entities have the opportunity to review and challenge reported data. Refinements to the program are almost certain to continue. Additional information about the Open Payments Program is available at <https://www.cms.gov/openpayments/>.

## CDC Report Shows Drop in Uninsured Rate

According to a report released by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), the percentage of uninsured adults (18 to 64 years of age) dropped from 20.4 percent in 2013 to 16.3 percent in 2014. The report goes on to find that 36 million Americans of all ages lacked insurance in 2014 (11.5 percent). Coverage was attained by 5.9 million adults under the age of 65 through health insurance market places established through the ACA. In addition, the report noted that the percentage of uninsured adults decreased more in states that expanded coverage under the Medicaid program. Additional information on the report's findings is available at [www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov).

## House Approves Legislation Advancing Personalized Care

The House recently approved the "21st Century Cures Act." This legislation is intended

to modernize and personalize health-care, support research and streamline the healthcare system to deliver better, faster cures to patients. According to one of the law's original sponsors, "This bill is about making sure our laws, regulations, and resources keep pace with scientific advances." To this end, the legislation includes increased funding for the National Institutes of Health and provisions to advance widespread interoperability among federal agencies to advance the goals of the legislation. In a statement of administrator policy, the White House signaled support for the bill with the need for continued work with Congress to advance strategies to prevent and cure diseases and expand health. Similar legislation is being drafted in the Senate. Action in the Senate is not scheduled at this time. The ACOI will continue to monitor the progress of this and similar legislation. The concepts contained in the legislation enjoy significant bi-partisan support increasing the chances that legislation can be sent to the President for enactment.

## Home Medical Practice Demonstration Program Extended

The President signed into law legislation extending agreements under the Medicare Independent at Home Medical Practice Demonstration Program for two years. As a result, practices will be able to participate in the program for a total of five years. The program is testing a service delivery model designed to reduce costs and enhance the quality of care for patients with multiple chronic conditions. As recently reported, the program saved over \$25 million in its first three years while meeting quality benchmarks. According to CMS, the demonstration program saved an average of \$3,070 per Medicare beneficiary while still paying incentive payments to participating practices. The demonstration program was first established under the ACA. As a result of the early success of this program, it is certain to be closely monitored with the possibility of further expansion to increase Medicare savings and improve patient care for Medicare beneficiaries with multiple chronic conditions.

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# coding CORNER

Jill M. Young, CPC, CEDC, CIMC

The ACOI Coding Corner is a column written by Jill M. Young, CPC, CEDC, CIMC. Ms. Young is the Principal of Young Medical Consulting, LLC. She has over 30 years of experience in all areas of medical practice, including coding and billing. Additional information on these and other topics are available at [www.acoi.org](http://www.acoi.org) and by contacting Ms. Young at [YoungMedConsult@aol.com](mailto:YoungMedConsult@aol.com).

The information provided here applies to Medicare coding. Be sure to check with local insurance carriers to determine if private insurers follow Medicare's lead in all coding matters.

## October 1st ICD-10 Transition Nears

With the introduction of legislation in Congress and prior postponements, I was beginning to wonder if the transition to the new International Classification of Diseases, 10th Edition, Diagnosis and Procedure Codes (ICD-10) was ever going to happen. Following a recent joint announcement by the American Medical Association (AMA) and the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), it appears all but certain that the transition to ICD-10 will take place on October 1.

In the joint statement, CMS and the AMA outlined a transition plan over the next few months that will include the release of webinars and other educational materials to help providers make the transition from ICD-9 to ICD-10. In addition to the release of educational resources, CMS has agreed to name an ICD-10 ombudsman to help physicians and providers with issues that arise out of the transition to the new code set.

As outlined in the joint statement, it appears that for the first 12 months of ICD-10 use there will be an allowance for a degree of non-specificity. Specifically, as part of the transition to ICD-10 coding, CMS may not deny claims billed under Medicare Part B that use a wrong ICD-10 code so long as the code is in the right category. Similarly, there will be no penalty under quality reporting programs for use of an incorrect code that is from the correct category. You can learn more by visiting <https://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Coding/ICD10/Clarifying-Questions-and-Answers-Related-to-the-July-6-2015-CMS-AMA-Joint-Announcement.pdf>.

If you have been waiting for a sign that ICD-10 will be implemented on October 1, 2015, consider yourself on notice. If you have not started preparing, it is imperative that you do so immediately.

## Membership Survey

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are hospitalists and 16.6 percent practice both office and hospital medicine. Subspecialists make up 34.5 percent of the membership.

ACOI members report that income is trending up for 22.9 percent; is flat for 33.8 percent and trending down for 26.6 percent. The average ACOI members sees 95 patients per week.

Eighty-one percent of the respondents rated the value of ACOI membership as very or somewhat valuable. They cited education programs/CME, training and knowledge, belonging to a professional association, personal satisfaction/professional development and networking as the most valuable reasons to belong. Approximately 94 percent of members visited the ACOI website one or more times in the past year. Nearly 70 percent read at least half of the *ACOInformation* newsletter every month. Approximately two-thirds of the membership had contact with the ACOI staff in the past year and 91.9 percent rated the staff performance as excellent or good.

The ACOI leadership is very grateful to those members who took the time to participate in the survey. As part of the process, the survey company---ResearchUSA---selected three participants' names at random to receive \$100 American Express gift cards. The members selected were: **Dana Planer, DO**; **Jonathan Bodine, DO** and **Cara Ruggeri, DO**.

## Have You Moved?

Keep us updated.

If you have recently made any changes in your address, phone number or email, please notify the ACOI.

[www.acoi.org](http://www.acoi.org)

# Why Supporting the ACOI Generational Advancement Fund Is Important.

*(This is one in a series of interviews with ACOI members who are strongly committed to the College and why they believe it has made a difference in their lives. This series is presented by Barbara L. Cicone, CFRE, Development Counsel to ACOI.)*



Please meet **Scott Spradlin, DO, FACOI**, Chief Medical Officer of Local and Regional Services of Aetna Health Insurance Company in St. Louis, MO. Dr. Spradlin has been an Active member of the ACOI since 1994. He has participated in the ACOI's Visiting Professor Program, lectured for the ACOI Board Review Course, Hospital Medicine Update, Annual Convention and Scientific Sessions and has served on the ACOI Government Affairs Committee.

**Ms. Cicone:** Tell me why you have dedicated your time and talents to the ACOI.

**Dr. Spradlin:** It has been an honor and a privilege for me to serve in the various aspects of the ACOI. It

is important to me to try and give back something to an organization that has given a platform for my continuing medical education and made my training as an Osteopathic Internist a reality. I wanted to be part of making our CME events cutting edge for our College.

**Ms. Cicone:** How can the ACOI continue to serve its members in the future?

**Dr. Spradlin:** The ACOI leadership needs to continue to be the voice of the physicians who make up the College and reflect their challenges. The ACOI needs to continue educating physicians with the focus on reimbursement strategies and changes and how these strategies and changes relate to health-care outcomes and the dynamics of the evolving health care landscape. I think if the ACOI can focus on providing the continuing medical education that encourages physicians' active interest in health care outcomes and the connection to value-based reimbursement strategies, then the physicians that make up the College will be well informed and forward thinking. This pathway will support physicians increased engagement and more active participation instead of merely being a "member of" the organization.

**Ms. Cicone:** In addition to sharing your time and talents with the ACOI, you regularly donate your speaker honoraria back to the College. Tell me what motivates you to financially support the ACOI.

**Dr. Spradlin:** I donate my speaker honoraria because I believe it complements my support of the ACOI with its future needs. I am passionate about the dynamics of health care and the need for an exchange of ideas and perspectives from other physicians. The ACOI is an ideal platform to accomplish this exchange. My hope is that my passion will affect other members of the College to continue this process.

**Ms. Cicone:** What can the ACOI do to encourage other ACOI members to give?

**Dr. Spradlin:** Our discussion thus far has been on an environment that promotes active participation and promotes leadership by example. This is a tradition of medicine, which has always been led by see one, do one, teach one. If members feel they are being accurately represented they will participate without hesitation. The value must be delivered and realized, and then the monetary support will follow. Always remember from where you come and remember whom you represent, and the legacy will continue.

## How to Make a Gift to the ACOI

You can make a gift to the ACOI in one or more of the following ways:

- At the time you register for educational meetings and the 2015 Annual Convention
- At the 2015 Annual Convention
- Donate a speaker honorarium
- At the time you renew your dues
- On the ACOI Website – Make a Gift to ACOI Page

# Generational Advancement Fund Honor Roll

The ACOI is most grateful to those members and others who contributed \$100 or more in our last fiscal year to the Generational Advancement Fund. Donations are used to further the ACOI's efforts on behalf of osteopathic medical students and residents. The funds support the Visiting Professor Program, Resident Textbook Program and provide grants to student medicine clubs to attend the ACOI Convention. More than \$70,000 was contributed toward these efforts. (Please note: this list does not include hundreds of members who contributed \$25 as part of their dues renewal).

Michael Adornetto, DO, FACOI  
Christopher Alvarado, DO  
Carol Ash, DO  
Barbara Atkinson, DO, FACOI  
Gerald Blackburn, DO, MACOI  
Michael Bojarski, DO  
Diane Brzezinski, DO, FACOI  
John Bulger, DO, FACOI  
Paul Bulow, DO, FACOI  
Martin Burke, DO, FACOI  
Robert Cain, DO, FACOI  
Kenneth Calabrese, DO, MACOI  
George Caleel, DO, MACOI  
Annette Carron, DO, FACOI  
Janet Cheek, DO  
Timothy Chen, DO  
David Chesner, DO, FACOI  
Robert Chilton, DO, FACOI  
Michael Clearfield, DO, FACOI  
James Clouse, DO, FACOI  
Kevin Combs, DO  
Gary Cornette, DO, FACOI  
William Cove, DO  
Margaret Davenport, DO, FACOI  
Tarra Deiter-Enright, DO, FACOI  
Robert DiGiovanni, DO, FACOI  
Brian Donadio, FACOI  
Jozef Dzurilla, DO  
Thomas Essex, DO, FACOI  
Mitchell Forman, DO, FACOI  
Scott Girard, DO, FACOI  
Vikranth Gongidi, DO, FACOI  
Robert Good, DO, FACOI  
Debora Goodrich, DO, FACOI  
Rick Greco, DO, FACOI  
Roy Harris, DO, FACOI  
Clark Headrick, DO, FACOI  
James Heddleson, DO  
Leonard Hock, DO, MACOI  
Phillip Jackson, DO  
Robert Juhasz, DO, FACOI  
Joanne Kaiser-Smith, DO, FACOI  
Catherine Kerschen, DO, FACOI

Jennifer Khelil, DO  
Benjamin Kinnear, M.D.  
Victorija Laucius, DO  
Judith Lightfoot, DO, FACOI  
Sara Liter-Kuester, DO, FACOI  
Anthony Malcoun, DO, MACOI  
Michael Mann, DO, FACOI  
Elaine Martin-Stomel, NP  
Daniel Maxwell, DO, FACOI  
Donald McMullin, DO, FACOI  
Timothy McNichol, JD  
Michael Menolasino, III, DO, FACOI  
John Mueller, DO  
Donald Nelinson, PhD  
Karen Nichols, DO, MACOI  
Michael Opiari, DO, MACOI  
Charles O'Toole, DO, FACOI  
Anthony Ottaviani, DO, MACOI  
Edward Polashenski, DO, FACOI  
Deborah Jane Power, DO, FACOI  
Alice Premaza-Mueller, DO  
John Prior, DO, FACOI  
Laura Rosch, DO, FACOI  
Frederick Schaller, DO, FACOI  
Jonathan Simmons, DO  
Sidney Simon, DO, FACOI  
Carmen Skinner, DO, FACOI  
Thomas Smith, M.D.  
Samuel Snyder, DO, FACOI  
Scott Spradlin, DO, FACOI  
Susan Stacy, FACOI  
Robert Stomel, DO, FACOI  
David Susser, DO, MACOI  
John Sutton, DO, FACOI  
Mia Taormina, DO, FACOI  
Megan Thomas, DO, FACOI  
John Uslick, DO, MACOI  
Wilfred Vanderroest, DO, FACOI  
Amita Vasoya, DO, FACOI  
Brian Walsh, DO, FACOI  
Larry Wickless, DO, MACOI  
Kevin Wietecha, DO, FACOI  
Winter Wilson, DO, FACOI

## Annual Convention

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Members are reminded that the AOA's three-year CME cycle comes to an end on December 31. The requirements for 120 overall CME credits and 50 specialty credits in internal medicine must be met by that time. The ACOI Convention provides up to 37.25 credits in internal medicine. In addition, the convention will provide all of the sessions required for those who maintain a Florida license.

The host hotel for the 2015 Convention is the Tampa Marriott Waterside Hotel & Marina. The hotel features luxurious accommodations and an unbeatable location in the heart of Tampa. Guests will enjoy easy access to the city's most exciting attractions, including Amalie Arena, the Straz Center for the Performing Arts, the Florida Aquarium, the Port of Tampa and Raymond James Stadium, home of the Buccaneers. The hotel is just nine miles from Tampa International Airport (TPA), and a variety of upscale shops and restaurants are also within close reach. Guest rooms feature modern decor, luxurious bedding, LCD TVs and gorgeous views of the harbor. There are five on-site restaurants, a full-service spa, outdoor pool and state-of-the-art fitness center.

The 2015 Convention also will include a variety of clinical topics on the latest developments in internal medicine and all of the subspecialties. Numerous offsite activities and networking events are planned. The Convention provides opportunities for enjoyment for the whole family. This year's Welcome Reception will be an interactive experience at the Florida Aquarium, which is a short walk from the Tampa Marriott.

Registration materials are available at [www.acoi.org](http://www.acoi.org) and in the newsletter. Early registration discounts expire on Sept. 9.

## New Members Welcomed

The ACOI Board of Directors and staff welcome the following members whose membership applications or changes in membership status have been approved by the Credentials Committee and Board of Directors.

### Active Members:

Rajiv P. Amesur, DO	Paul He, DO	Gina M. Stefanelli, DO
Mallory A. Balmer-Swain, DO	Ross A. Heil, DO	Joseph M. Strobel, DO
Pamela M. Brandt, DO	Esther S. Hoffman, DO	Jacob J. Sutton, DO
Kelly Buerger, DO	Adam M. Karpman, DO	Jantira T. Thomas, DO
Christopher K. Byrd, DO	Yelena E. Kier, DO	Meghan M. Timmerman, DO
Kristy A. Calland, DO	Rahul Mahapatra, DO	Matthew A. Tucker, DO
Thomas R. Drames, DO	Nathan A. Miller, DO	Charles J. VandenBerg, DO
Emily W. Drechsel, DO	Kelly M. Noyes, DO	LaVerne VanDeWall, DO
Minerva M. Ellis, DO	Purvi R. Patel, DO	Kavitha T. Waggoner, DO
Bucky A. Ferozan, DO	Angela Rivers Saunders, DO	Thomas E. Waggoner, DO
Jeremy M. Gaspar, DO	Benjamin R. Ruckman, DO	Christopher B. Wills, DO
Eric J. Groen, DO	James H. Skorczewski, DO	Liz M. Wilson, DO
	Evan D. Staszewski, DO	

## Elections Set for October 4 in Tampa

Elections for seats on the ACOI Board of Directors and other leadership positions will take place on Sunday, October 4 at the conclusion of the 2015 Convention and Scientific Sessions in Tampa, FL. The ACOI Nominating Committee has nominated **John R. Sutton, DO**, for President-Elect and **Martin C. Burke, DO**, for Secretary-Treasurer. The Nominating Committee also approved four candidates for election to the Board of Directors. Incumbents **Michael A. Adornetto, DO, MBA**, **Robert A. Cain, DO**, and **Mitchell D. Forman, DO** are nominated for new three-year terms. **Robert T. Hasty, DO** completes the slate. Under the College's Bylaws, this year's President-Elect, **John B. Bulger, DO, MBA**, will be inaugurated as President for the 2015-2016 year at the conclusion of the elections. Biographical information about all of the candidates can be found in the July issue of this newsletter at [www.acoi.org](http://www.acoi.org).

The ACOI Bylaws provide a mechanism for the nomination of other candidates. Any Active member of the ACOI may nominate other qualified candidates by submitting the nomination to the Executive Director. Such nominations must be supported by the signatures of 30 Active members of the College; they must also include a brief statement of qualifications and must be received no later than 30 days prior to the date of the election. Further information is available from the Executive Director.

The Nominating Committee this year is chaired by **Rick A. Greco, DO**. Also serving are **Annette T. Carron, DO** and **Joanne Kaiser-Smith, DO**.



## PHYSICIAN LEADERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES Chicago, Illinois

The NBOME is seeking qualified individuals to join a team of dynamic leaders and a staff that is passionate about the NBOME's mission of protecting the public. We currently have two full-time physician leadership opportunities in our Chicago, IL office – Senior Vice President for Cognitive Testing and Chief Physician for Test Development.

The Senior Vice President (SVP) for Cognitive Testing reports directly to the NBOME President/CEO and is responsible for operational oversight of all aspects of cognitive testing at NBOME, including test development, psychometric operations, research, and test administration for the COMLEX-USA licensure examinations and other NBOME assessment products. The SVP also serves as the senior physician clinical content expert for the department.

The Chief Physician for Test Development (CPTD) reports directly to the SVP for Cognitive Testing and assists with leading test development and related initiatives for the COMLEX-USA licensure examinations and other NBOME assessment products. Coordinates with internal product teams and item writing leaders on exam item development and review, and serves as content expert in partnership with NBOME National Faculty subject matter experts to assist in test item and clinical case writing and editing, referencing, item review, key validation, and related quality assurance and improvement processes.

For more information on these opportunities and how to apply, please visit our website at [www.nbome.org](http://www.nbome.org).



## ACOI's 75th Anniversary Celebration Gets Underway

Osteopathic internists and subspecialists from across the country will gather September 30 through October 4 in Tampa, Florida to participate in the 2015 Annual Convention and Scientific Sessions. In addition to providing attendees with an outstanding array of didactic sessions and interactive learning opportunities, the gathering of internists will also mark the beginning of the ACOI's year-long 75th Anniversary celebration.

The California division of the American Society of Osteopathic Internists reorganized in 1942 to form the American College of Osteopathic Internists. In the 75 ensuing years there has been a great deal of change in the science and practice of medicine. A constant, however, has been and will continue to be, the commitment of ACOI members to their patients and the College. Because of this commitment, the ACOI has continued to grow to better meet the needs of the ever-evolving osteopathic internist. Over the next year, the ACOI will be celebrating the members who have made the ACOI what it is today and what it will be in the future. To assist in this celebration, you are encouraged to share any stories, photos or other information by contacting the ACOI directly at [75thanniversary@acoi.org](mailto:75thanniversary@acoi.org).

## PROFESSIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

**PROGRAM DIRECTOR, INTERNAL MEDICINE RESIDENCY PROGRAM - North Carolina.** Southeastern Health in Lumberton North Carolina is immediately seeking an Internal Medicine Residency program director to oversee the newest start-up in our state. The program director would be an employee of Southeastern Health with their full benefit package, while also serving on staff at Campbell University's Jerry Wallace School of Osteopathic Medicine, the 2nd largest medical school in the state. The Director would have teaching, administrative, and (potentially) clinical time as part of their job responsibilities. For more information, please contact Dr. Robert Hasty at 954-464-7227, email [hasty02@srmc.org](mailto:hasty02@srmc.org) or Joe Butler, III at (910) 272-3041, email [butler11@srmc.org](mailto:butler11@srmc.org).

**PROGRAM DIRECTOR INTERNAL MEDICINE - Southern New Jersey.** Large internal medicine program seeking a physician Program Director with a minimum of 5 years faculty experience and 3 years administrative hands-on academic work. Must be ABIM certified. Program has over 100 residents. This opportunity encompasses a full range of responsibility including supervising, teaching and evaluations as well as curriculum development. Hospital has over 10 residencies and fellowships and is part of a small hospital system. Both a hospitalist and primary care tract are offered. Subspecialty affiliation with Fox Chase. New Jersey is noted for its 130 miles of coastline and white-sand beaches, barrier islands, light houses and the Boardwalk. Wanda Parker, The HealthField Alliance, 203-778-3333, [healthfield@mindspring.com](mailto:healthfield@mindspring.com).

### Internal Medicine Core Faculty Opportunity

- Academic Partnership with Pacific Northwest University
- Accredited by the American Osteopathic Association
- OPTI West member
- Full time position
- .60 FTE outpatient practice at Skagit Regional Clinics - .40 FTE core faculty position instructing residents at Skagit Regional Clinics' Residency Clinic
- 26 FM and IM residents
- EMR
- Relocation assistance
- Experienced support staff
- BC in Internal Medicine
- Preference given to BC in NMM or CSPOMM
- We would like to start an NMM +1 program in the near future

Skagit Valley Hospital is a healthcare leader in Northwest Washington, providing advanced, quality and comprehensive services to the residents of our communities. Skagit Valley Hospital features private room throughout; from the Level III Trauma Emergency Department to the Family Birth Center the hospital offers a full range of surgical services, renal dialysis, advanced diagnostics, including CT, MRI and PET, and a spacious center for Sleep Studies.

Skagit Valley Hospital is home to the areas' only cardiac catheterization labs and offers advanced heart and vascular care.

Located in Mount Vernon, Washington in the heart of the beautiful Skagit Valley, 60 miles north of Seattle and 86 miles south of Vancouver, B.C. The area offers quick access to the San Juan Islands and the North Cascade Mountains; hiking, camping, biking, skiing right in your back yard! Endless water sports and mountain activities provide an amazing lifestyle. Bike to work! Close enough to all major metropolitan areas, enjoying all the best in world class sports and entertainment.

*Please visit us at*  
<http://www.skagitvalleyhospital.org>  
and <http://www.srclinics.org>.





# ACOI CONVENTION REGISTRATION FORM

<b>Full Name</b>			
<b>Preferred Name on Badge</b>		<b>AOA Number</b>	
<b>Mailing Address</b>			
<b>City</b>		<b>State</b>	<b>Zip</b>
<b>Work Ph.</b> ( )		<b>Cell Phone</b> ( )	
<b>Home Ph.</b> ( )		<b>E-Mail Address</b>	
<b>Medical Specialty/Subspecialty</b>			
<b>Preferred Name of Spouse/Guest on Badge</b>			
<b>Emergency Contact</b>			
<b>Relation</b>		<b>Telephone</b> ( )	

**NOTE: TO COMPLETE THE FORM BELOW, ENTER ALL REGISTRATION FEES FROM OPPOSITE SIDE. SEE REGISTRATION INFORMATION SHEET FOR COMPLETE EXPLANATION OF PROGRAMS AND FEES.**

## REGISTRATION PAYMENT

REGISTRATION.....\$ \_\_\_\_\_

SPOUSE REGISTRATION.....\$ \_\_\_\_\_

ON-SITE ACTIVITIES/OFF-SITE TOURS .....\$ \_\_\_\_\_

OFF-SITE TOUR FEE FOR NON-REGISTERED SPOUSE/GUEST.....@ \$35 x \_\_\_\_\_ = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

*If ordering tour tickets, a \$35 fee is required for each adult NOT registered for Convention*

**\*GAF (Generational Advancement Fund):** ACOI provides each resident and student in attendance with a medical textbook. The College also provides grants to medical students via their campus internal medicine clubs. Suggested Donation:  
\$1000   \$500   \$250   \$200   \$150   \$125   \$100   \$50   Other.....\$ \_\_\_\_\_

*\*Your donation to GAP may qualify as a tax deductible charitable contribution.  
 ACOI is a 501(c)(3) organization and no goods or services are provided in return for the contribution. A separate receipt will be provided for your records.*

TOTAL FEES ENCLOSED.....\$ \_\_\_\_\_

Online registration for the Tampa Marriott Waterside Hotel is available by visiting <https://resweb.passkey.com/go/ACOIAnnualConvention>

<b>Payment Method</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Check to ACOI <input type="checkbox"/> MasterCard <input type="checkbox"/> VISA	<b>Credit Card Security #</b>	
<b>Credit Card Number</b>		<b>Credit Card Exp. Date</b>	
<b>Name on Card</b>		<b>Signature</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> CHECK HERE IF BILLING ADDRESS IS SAME AS MAILING ADDRESS LISTED ABOVE. IF NOT, PLEASE PROVIDE BELOW			
<b>Billing Address</b>			
<b>City</b>		<b>State</b>	<b>Zip</b>

REGISTER ONLINE AT [WWW.ACOI.ORG](http://WWW.ACOI.ORG) or mail to: ACOI Office, 11400 Rockville Pike, #801, Rockville, MD 20852. Phone 301 231-8877, Fax 301 231-6099

**NOTE:** All registrations must be accompanied by a check for payment in full or appropriate credit card information. A processing fee of \$50 will be charged for cancellations received at any time. In order to obtain a refund, written cancellations must be received by Sept. 9, 2015. No refunds will be made after that date, but registration fees may be applied to a future ACOI education program.



**OVER**...More registration information on reverse side. Both sides must be completed for form to be processed. You may also register online at [www.acoi.org](http://www.acoi.org)

# Tampa ACOI 2015

Annual Convention & Scientific Sessions  
September 30-October 4  
Marriott Tampa Waterside Hotel

## ACOI CONVENTION REGISTRATION FORM

Please complete all areas on both sides of registration form. Payment must accompany all registrations. PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY!

Name \_\_\_\_\_ AOA Number \_\_\_\_\_

### REGISTRATION FEES

<b>REGISTRATION CATEGORY (please check appropriate box(es))</b>	<b>ON/BEFORE SEPT. 9</b>	<b>AFTER SEPT. 9</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> ACOI Member (Training completed PRIOR to 6/30/2010).....	\$745.....	\$795
<input type="checkbox"/> ACOI Young Internist Member (Training completed AFTER 7/01/11).....	\$645.....	\$695
<input type="checkbox"/> ACOI Retired/Emeritus Member.....	\$645.....	\$695
<input type="checkbox"/> Non Member Physician.....	\$945.....	\$995
<input type="checkbox"/> Resident/Fellow (List Training Institution).....	\$495.....	\$545
<hr/>		
<input type="checkbox"/> Resident Displaying a Poster (List Training Institution).....	\$295.....	\$345
<hr/>		
<input type="checkbox"/> Student (List Osteopathic College attended).....	N/C.....	N/C
<hr/>		
<input type="checkbox"/> Non-Physician Health Care Professional (RN, PhD, RD, etc.).....	\$745.....	\$795
<input type="checkbox"/> Florida Licensure Requirements Only.....	\$295.....	\$345
<small>(Florida Licensure Requirements Session is included with full Convention registration)</small>		
<input type="checkbox"/> Spouse/Guest Registration .....	\$125.....	\$175
<small>Spouse/Guest registration includes entry to the education sessions, daily continental breakfast, and all social events, including one ticket to the Opening Reception.</small>		

### ON-SITE ACTIVITIES (please check appropriate box(es))

- Wednesday, Sept. 30 - 6:30 pm Welcome Reception ..... N/C
- Thursday, Oct. 1 - Noon - 1:00 pm Luncheon ..... N/C
- Thursday, Oct. 1 - 5:30-7:30 pm Alumni Receptions (Please check the appropriate box below) ..... N/C
- BOTSFORD    DMUCOM    MIDWESTERN/CCOM-AZCOM    MSUCOM    NOVA SOUTHEASTERN    PCOM    ROWAN
- Friday, Oct. 2 - 11:45 am - 1:00 pm Luncheon..... N/C
- Friday, Oct. 2 - 6:45 am Fun Run ..... N/C
- Saturday, Oct. 3 - Noon - 1:00 pm Luncheon: ..... N/C

### OFF-SITE TOURS (please check appropriate box(es))

- Thursday, Oct. 1 - 8:00 am - Noon Neighborhoods of Tampa ..... \$62
- Thursday, Oct. 1 - 9:00 am - 3:00 pm Museums of St. Petersburg/Salavador Dali Museum ..... \$120
- Friday, Oct. 2 - 10:00 am - 2:00 pm Strolling Ybor City Tour with Lunch ..... \$86
- Friday, Oct. 2 - 9:00 am - 4:00 pm Highlights of Sarasota/Ringling Museum ..... \$120
- Saturday, Oct. 3 - 8:00 am - Noon Airboats ..... \$97
- Saturday, Oct. 3 - 9:00 am - 3:00 pm Dolphin Encounter/Clearwater Beach ..... \$88

PLEASE NOTE: Check here if you plan to stay at the Marriott Tampa Waterside Hotel.

(Separate hotel registration is required. This does not register or guarantee a room at the hotel.)

Online registration for the hotel is available by visiting [resweb.passkey.com/go/ACOIAnnualConvention](http://resweb.passkey.com/go/ACOIAnnualConvention))

SPECIAL NEEDS: In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, every effort has been made to make this conference and activities accessible to people of all capabilities. Please list specific special assistance needed, or any dietary restrictions, or contact Susan Stacy at [susan@acoi.org](mailto:susan@acoi.org), 301 231-8877.



**OVER**...More registration information on reverse side. Both sides must be completed for form to be processed.  
You may also register online at [www.acoi.org](http://www.acoi.org)



Annual Convention & Scientific Sessions  
September 30-October 4  
Marriott Tampa Waterside Hotel

## **REGISTRATION INFORMATION**

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### **EDUCATION SESSION FEES**

Fees for the 2015 education sessions are based on ACOI membership status and length of time in practice. Active members (training completed prior to 6/30/10) pay \$745; Young Internists (training completed 6/30/09 or later) pay \$645; Emeritus and Retired members pay \$645; Residents and Fellows pay \$495 (\$295 for Research Contest entrants). Non-member Physicians pay \$945; Non-Physician Health Care Professionals may register for the ACOI member rate of \$745. Those registering only for the Florida Licensure Requirements session pay \$295. There is no charge for students. Spouse/guest registration is \$125. **These fees include a \$50 early registration discount, which applies until September 9, 2015. Registrations received after that date do not qualify for the discount.**

### **WHAT DOES REGISTRATION INCLUDE?**

Physician registration for the Convention includes entry to all education sessions, the Exhibit Hall, daily continental breakfast and luncheon symposia and one ticket to the Opening Reception. Luncheon seating is limited and will be held at the Convention Center, located next to the hotel. Spouse/Guest registration includes entry to the education sessions, daily continental breakfast in the Exhibit Hall, and all social events, including one ticket to the Opening Reception. (Due to limited seating, guests may not attend the luncheon symposia.)

### **HOTEL INFORMATION**

The Marriott Tampa Waterside Hotel is the headquarters hotel for the ACOI 2015 Annual Convention and Scientific Sessions. All educational and social events will take place there. ACOI has arranged a discounted room rate of \$175 per night (single/double). Additional local taxes apply. Early reservations are suggested as the hotel is likely to sell out and does not have to honor ACOI's discounted rates after September 9, 2015. Reservation information is available by calling 1-800-228-9290 or visit <https://resweb.passkey.com/go/ACOIAAnnualConvention>.

### **PAYMENT INFORMATION**

You may register online, by mail or fax for the ACOI 2015 Annual Convention and Scientific Sessions. Secure online registration is available through the ACOI website. Visit [www.acoi.org](http://www.acoi.org) and click on the convention registration link on the home page. You may also use the registration form in the Convention Packet to register by mail or fax. Payment may be by check payable to ACOI or charged on VISA or Mastercard. Complete the required information on the white Registration Form and mail, email to [susan@acoi.org](mailto:susan@acoi.org), or fax it to ACOI at (301) 231-6099.

### **CANCELLATION POLICY**

Please note that refund requests must be made in writing to ACOI prior to September 9, 2015. A processing fee of \$50 will be charged for cancellations received at any time. **No refunds will be made after September 9, 2015, but unused registration fees may be applied toward a future ACOI education program.**

### **ACOI GENERATIONAL ADVANCEMENT PROGRAM**

Donations are requested to assist the ACOI in providing a medical textbook to each resident and student registered for the Convention. Textbook prices average \$100. In addition, the ACOI provides grants to representatives of the internal medicine clubs on the campuses of osteopathic medical schools to defray the cost of attending the Convention. All contributions are acknowledged in the printed program if received prior to the publication deadline. Suggested donation is \$100, but contributions in any amount are welcome. Your donation may qualify as a tax deductible charitable contribution. ACOI is a 501(c)(3) organization and no goods or services are provided in return for the contribution. A separate receipt will be provided for your records.

# CME CALENDAR

## ***Future ACOI Education Meeting Dates & Locations***

### **NATIONAL MEETINGS**

- 2015 Annual Convention & Scientific Sessions  
Sept 30-Oct 4 Marriott Tampa ..... Waterside Hotel, Tampa, FL
- 2016 Internal Medicine Board Review Course  
March 30-April 3 Renaissance Resort at SeaWorld, Orlando, FL
- 2016 Clinical Challenges in Inpatient Care  
March 31-April 3 Renaissance Resort at SeaWorld, Orlando, FL
- 2016 Residency Trainers Congress/Chief Resident/Emerging Leaders Training Program  
May 5-7 Westin Savannah Harbor Golf Resort & Spa, Savannah, GA
- 2016 Annual Convention & Scientific Sessions  
Oct 12-16 San Francisco Marriott Marquis, San Francisco, CA
- 2017 Annual Convention & Scientific Sessions  
Oct 15-19 Gaylord National Resort and Convention Center, Washington, DC
- 2018 Annual Convention & Scientific Sessions  
Oct 17-21 Orlando World Center Marriott, Orlando, FL
- 2019 Annual Convention & Scientific Sessions  
Oct 30- Nov 3 JW Marriott Desert Ridge Resort & Spa, Phoenix, AZ
- 2020 Annual Convention & Scientific Sessions  
Oct 21-25 Marco Island Marriott Beach Resort, Marco Island, FL

*Please note: It is an ACOI membership requirement that Active Members attend the Annual Convention or an ACOI-sponsored continuing education program at least once every three years. Information on any meeting listed here may be obtained from ACOI Headquarters at 800 327-5183 or from our website at [www.acoi.org](http://www.acoi.org).*

## **2015 Certifying Examination Dates & Deadlines**

### **Internal Medicine Certifying Examination**

Computerized Examination 200 Sites Nationwide  
September 10, 2015 - *Application Deadline: February 1, 2015*  
*Late Registration Deadline: April 1, 2015*

### **Subspecialty & Certification of Added Qualifications:**

Aug. 22, 2015 • Lombard, IL - *Application Deadline: April 1, 2015*  
*Late Registration Deadline: May 1, 2015*  
Cardiology • Clinical Cardiac Electrophysiology • Endocrinology • Gastroenterology • Geriatric Medicine  
Hematology • Infectious Disease • Nephrology • Oncology • Pulmonary Diseases • Rheumatology

### **Internal Medicine Recertifying Examination**

Computerized Examination 200 Sites Nationwide  
September 11, 2015 - *Application Deadline: April 1, 2015*  
*Late Registration Deadline: May 1, 2015*

### **Focused Hospital Medicine Recertification**

Aug. 22, 2015 • Lombard, IL - *Application Deadline: April 1, 2015*  
*Late Registration Deadline: May 1, 2015.*

### **Subspecialty and Added Qualifications Recertifying Examinations:**

Aug. 22, 2015 • Lombard, IL  
Cardiology • Clinical Cardiac Electrophysiology • Critical Care Medicine • Endocrinology • Gastroenterology • Geriatric Medicine • Hematology  
• Infectious Disease • Interventional Cardiology • Nephrology • Oncology • Pulmonary Diseases • Rheumatology  
*Application Deadline: April 1, 2015*  
*Late Registration Deadline: May 1, 2015*

*Further information and application materials are available at [www.aobim.org](http://www.aobim.org) or by writing to: Gary L. Slick, DO, MACOI, Executive Director, American Osteopathic Board of Internal Medicine, 1111 W. 17th Street, Tulsa, OK 74107, email: [admin@aobim.org](mailto:admin@aobim.org).  
**Exam date for Hospice/Palliative Medicine is October 18, 2015, to be held during the OMED Convention in Orlando, FL. Visit [http://www.aobim.org/WebPageStatic/PDF/CAQ\\_Hospice\\_and\\_Palliative\\_Medicine.pdf](http://www.aobim.org/WebPageStatic/PDF/CAQ_Hospice_and_Palliative_Medicine.pdf) for more information regarding this exam.**  
Contact the AOBIM at [admin@aobim.org](mailto:admin@aobim.org) for deadlines and dates for the **Pain Medicine, Undersea/Hyperbaric Medicine and Correctional Medicine** examinations.*

## **Government Relations**

*continued from page 3*

### **Washington Tidbits: Happy Birthday...Medicare and Medicaid at 50**

The movement began in 1945 when President Harry S. Truman declared, "Millions of our citizens do not now have a full measure of opportunity to achieve and enjoy good health. Millions do not now have the protection or security against the economic effects of sickness. The time has arrived for action to help them attain that opportunity and that protection." While the initial goal was to provide a universal national health insurance for all Americans, opposition dictated the narrowing of the effort. Nearly 20 years later Lyndon B. Johnson signed into law compromise legislation that provided coverage to a smaller sector of the population creating the Medicare and Medicaid Programs.

The Medicare and Medicaid programs provide a safety net for the elderly and low-income adults, children, pregnant women and people with disabilities. Over time, the legislation has been amended to expand coverage to new populations and include new services. Medicare has grown from 19.1 million beneficiaries in 1966 to over 55 million this year. Medicaid and the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) cover over 71.6 million people. With more than 10,000 people gaining eligibility each day to Medicare alone, continued refinements will be necessary to ensure the long-term solvency of these programs. The stroke of a pen in 1965 fundamentally changed the health care delivery system with its impact being felt yesterday, today and tomorrow!