



ACP District of Columbia
American College of Physicians Chapter
Leading Internal Medicine. Improving Lives.

GOVERNOR'S UPDATE

DC ACP Governor, Shmuel Shoham, MD, FACP

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Dear Chapter members,

We are over two years into the pandemic and are starting to see signs of relief. Hopefully, the situation will continue to stabilize and improve.

In person events return

Our first in person event since the start of the pandemic was the Doctor's Dilemma competition. This program, modelled after the TV show *Jeopardy!* was organized by **Arrel Olano** and **Jennifer Tran** and featured teams from training programs across our region. The winning team this year was from Uniformed Services University.

Please join us for these upcoming in person events

- The Annual Scientific Meeting organized by the education committee, chaired by **Arrel Olano**, will be at the Mayflower Hotel on Saturday, May 21, 2022. Our hope is that a springtime meeting at this centrally located hotel, steeped in DC tradition, will celebrate an emergence from two years of COVID-19 restriction. Whereas in past years we had a separate meeting for the trainees (the Associates Meeting), this year, the Annual Scientific Meeting, organized by **Arrel Olano**, and the Associates Meeting organized by **Daniel Larbi** and **Sialaja Pindiprolu** will be combined.
 - Annual Scientific Meeting: [Click here to view the agenda](#). **Registration is now open, click here to register!**
 - Associates Meeting: [Click here to view the agenda](#). **Registration is open, click here to register!**
- A bit earlier, we will have an in-person reception in Chicago for those attending the 2022 National ACP Annual Meeting. We are teaming up with our sibling chapters in Maryland and Virginia for this reception to be held from 8-9:30 PM on Thursday, April 28 at the Marriott Marquis Grand Horizon Ballroom F. If you are attending IM22, and plan to join us for the reception, [please RSVP here](#).
- For early career members we are planning an in-person outdoor event led by **Raj Singaraju** and **Natalie Branagan** from 11:00 AM – 1:30 PM, June 4, 2022, at Rock Creek Park Picnic Area, Picnic Grove 1.

We can do amazing things without meeting in person

The pandemic has driven home the point that not all events need be in person. Sometimes a videoconference is more efficient, less stressful and just the right thing. For now, the DC ACP book club led by **Shehzad Parviz** will remain a Zoom event. The next book club meeting will be on Thursday, April 7, at 7:00 PM. The book for this session is *Letter to a Young Female Physician* by Susan Koven. [Click here for additional details.](#)

Because of the resilience and creativity of our membership and technological advances in videoconferencing, we have been able to do many remarkable things over this past year. **Christina Prather** presented via a webinar on Aducanumab, the controversial drug for dementia. I presented via webinar on outpatient therapies for COVID-19. The various committees have continued to function and get work done on a range of initiatives including physician wellness, healthcare policy, education, professional development and equity in medicine. We even did an awards ceremony by Zoom.

Recognizing the achievements of the many inspiring people in our region

This past year we recognized **Catherine Okuliar** from Georgetown, **Christina Prather** from GW, **Daniel Larbi** from Howard, **Meeta Sharma** from Washington Hospital Center, **Nitin Seam** from NIH, **Jessica Bunin** from USU and **Samantha McIntosh** from the Washington DC VA with the *Sol Katz Memorial Teaching Award*. We recognized **Joseph Timpone** from Georgetown and **Morgan Delaney** with the *Walter Lester Henry Award* for their lifetime dedication and excellence in teaching. We honored **Richard Katz** from GW with the *Volunteerism Award*, **Arrel Olano** from Washington Hospital Center with the *Leadership Award*, **Deborah Horwitz** with the Medstar Medical Group for *Community Based Teaching*, **Adeyinka Laiyemo** for *Advancing Careers for Underrepresented Minorities* and **Jennifer Mills** from Washington Internists Group with the *Laureate Award*.

At the national level **John Beigel** from NIH was recognized for his leadership in the scientific response to COVID-19 with the *Dustan Award* and a local organization, **Honoring Individual Power and Strength (HIPS)**, was recognized for their work in the community with the *Edward R. Loveland Memorial Award*. **Elena Rios**, President and CEO of the National Hispanic Medical Association was advanced to *Master of the American College of Physicians (MACP)* and DC ACP travel grants for the upcoming National Meeting in Chicago were awarded to *Associates Program Podium Presentation* winners **Zehra Dhanan** from Washington Hospital Center and **Kaitlyn Dykes** from Georgetown.

And, one more thing. Starting in January 2022, Sarah Luebbert joined our chapter as Executive Director. In just a few months she has accomplished much to make our chapter run well and keep this Governor on track.

Wrapping up, it is a huge honor and privilege for me to serve as our Chapter's Governor. Wishing everyone a great spring 2022.

Shmuel Shoham, MD, FACP