

Summer 2024

E- Newsletter

## Governor's Message



Hello Chapter Members,

I am excited to begin my journey as Governor of the Louisiana Chapter of the American College of Physicians. I am grateful for the support of our immediate past governor, Angie Johnson, as well as the support of our past governors and chapter members. I want to personally thank Dr. Johnson for her chapter leadership, her mentorship and we are fortunate that she will continue to represent our state as Chair of the Board of Governors.

The national meeting in Boston was excellent and I was excited to participate in Convocation in which several of our chapter members advancement to fellowship was celebrated. This next academic year will be a busy one for the Louisiana chapter. Please mark your calendars for our chapter meeting which will be held in New Orleans on January 31, 2025. New Orleans will also be the host city for our national meeting which will be held on April 3-5, 2025.

Our chapter is strong and in excellent financial standing. I look forward to promoting the mission and vision of ACP. We are internal medicine specialists and subspecialists who apply scientific knowledge and give clinical expertise to the diagnosis, treatment, and compassionate care of adults across the spectrum from health to complex illness. We are Internal Medicine proud!

# 2024 Annual Scientific Meeting

## LSU Medical Education and Innovation Center Baton Rouge March 8 - 9, 2024

The Annual Meeting was held as a hybrid meeting on March 8-9, 2024 at the LSU Medical Education & Innovation Center (MEIC) in Baton Rouge. In total, there were 75 people who registered for the meeting, with about 20% attending virtually. The LSU MEIC welcomed all of the attendees, it was again a great venue for the Annual Meeting.

The educational content was outstanding! Friday was full of fantastic presentations in cardiology, neurology, hospital medicine, substance use disorder, nephrology, and precision medicine. Saturday morning rounded out the educational content of the meeting with dermatology, infectious disease, orthopedics and AI in medicine.

On Friday evening there was a lovely cocktail reception at the MEIC to honor the 2024 Louisiana Laureate Award winner, N. Kevin Crane, MD FACP.

The Chapter held a fund drive to support the Greater Baton Rouge Food Bank. Thank you to all who participated, the donations were greatly appreciated! This is a small way that the Chapter can have an impact on the community in which the Annual Meeting is held.





Angie Johnson with the 2024 Louisiana Laureate Award winner, N. Kevin Crane



Angie Johnson and ACP Board of Regents Chair-Elect Bill Fox



Bill Fox, Connor Bennett, Angela McLean and Celeste Newby



Chloe Sterling, Cailyn Roberston, Sarah Wardrop and Austin Noel

## **Governor's Advisory Council** **Slate Announcement**

The Annual Business Meeting was held on Friday, March 8 during the lunch hour of the Annual Scientific Meeting. The new Council members were presented by Dr. Angie Johnson on behalf of the Nominations Committee and the slate was accepted.

Congratulations to Catherine Hebert, Michael Sewell and Miranda Mitchell, who were each elected to serve a second three year term. Congratulations and Welcome to Pramod Kumar Savarapu and R. Brooks Robey, who were both elected to a first term on the Governor's Advisory Council.

## **2024 Resident and Student Meeting**

The 2024 Resident and Student Meeting was held on January 27, 2024. Though the meeting highlights were covered in the Winter Newsletter, there have been some exciting developments to share.

The Mystery Case winner, Karam Rahat, was able to travel to Boston to represent the Louisiana Chapter in the National Poster Competition. The Chapter provided monetary support to Dr. Rahat to help offset the cost of his trip. The 2024 Jeopardy Winners, Willis Knighton, also travelled to Boston to represent the Louisiana Chapter in the National Doctor's Dilemma Competition. More details and pictures will follow in the IM 2024 recap!

The 2024 Resident and Student Abstract Flipbook of this year's submissions is available for viewing, has been published by TheLouisiana State Medical Society and has been added to the Chapter website.



## **White Coat Wednesday 2024**

WCW was scheduled for April 10, but was canceled due to dangerous weather. Unfortunately, it will not be rescheduled for 2024.



## **Spring 2024 Resolutions**

The Board of Governors discussed the Spring slate of Resolutions during the April meeting in Boston. A [summary of Board of Regents\(BOR\) actions on resolutions](#) debated at the Spring 2024 Board of Governors (BOG) meeting is now available. The member comments added to the Resolutions survey is greatly appreciated. The feedback provided by you, the members, allows the Governor to speak on behalf of the Chapter and reflect the thoughts and opinions of the membership.

If you have an idea you'd like to suggest to ACP, consider submitting a resolution to Angela McLean or the Louisiana ACP chapter. The ACP has a call for Resolutions twice each year for the Fall and Spring Board of Governors Meetings. The Board of Governors (BOG) Resolutions Process was instituted in 1985 as a means for the ACP membership to have formal input to the Board of Regents (BOR), the policymaking body of the College. A resolution reflects the grassroots voice of ACP. A resolution is a proposal that asks the ACP to take a position and/or an action. Any ACP member can submit a resolution to his or her ACP Governor for consideration by the local chapter council. A resolution consists of at least one directive ("Resolved clause") accompanied by supporting statements ("Whereas clauses"). If you have a proposal, please review the Resolutions Guide and submit it to the Governor. The deadlines to submit a Resolution for consideration are typically in May for the Fall BOG meeting and December for the Spring BOG meeting.

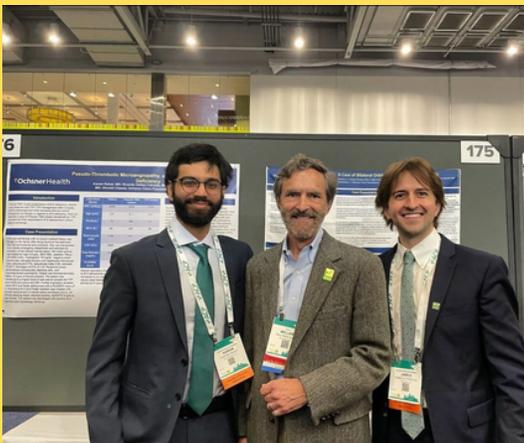


## Internal Medicine Meeting 2024

The Internal Medicine Meeting 2024 in Boston was a great gathering of ACP members from around the world. The Louisiana Chapter had 88 members register, both in-person and hybrid.

Several **Louisiana ACP members** presented at the IMM in Boston. Karam Rahat and James Peeples, both from Ochsner Medical Center, represented the Chapter in the national poster competition. 2024 Jeopardy winners and Chapter members, Arpita Pawa (PGY2), Vivek Moorthy (PGY2) and Daniel Zamanian (PGY1) represented Louisiana and Willis Knighton in the Doctor's Dilemma Competition.

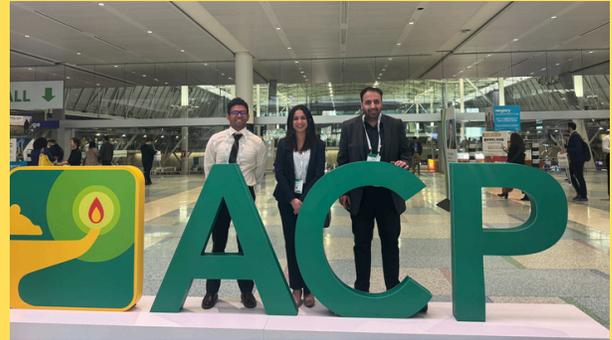
The Chapter co-hosted the annual Chapters Reception on Friday evening with the Alabama, Arkansas and Mississippi Chapters.



**Karam Rahat, William Davis  
and James Peeples**  
Ochsner Medical Center



**Daniel Zamanian, Arpita  
Pawa and Vivek Moorthy**  
Willis Knighton



## **Alabama, Arkansas, Louisiana and Mississippi Chapters Reception**



**Angela McLean, Keyur Vyas (AR), Omar Atiq (AR), Angie Johnson, Otis Gowdy (MS) and Ross B. Vaughn (AL)**



**Angie Johnson, Angela McLean, William Davis and Fred Lopez**

## ACP Council of Early Career Physicians



The Louisiana Chapter has **TWO** representatives on the national ACP Council of Early Career Physicians, Celeste Newby (seated, far left) and Victoria Burke (standing, second on left).

## 1991 Louisiana Laureate Rozelle Han

Rozelle Hahn of Shreveport, a 1991 Louisiana Laureate Award winner, passed away on April 1, 2024 at the age of 100. Her life and career were remarkable. Her full obituary can be found [here](#).



Congratulations to Margaret Conrad! Margaret's art piece, "*Geranium Cranium*", was the winner of the Art in Medicine Contest in March. Margaret is a MS4 at LSU New Orleans.

**Margaret Conrad, Angie Johnson, Angela McLean, William Davis and Fred Lopez**



## **Excellence in Internal Medicine Award**

Each year the Louisiana Chapter recognizes an outstanding student at each medical school that chooses to participate. These students were chosen and recognized by their institution. Each winner is presented with a certificate and \$500 check from the Louisiana ACP Chapter. The Chapter wishes each of you the very best in the next steps of your career.

**Congratulations to the 2024 winners of the Excellence in Internal Medicine Award!**

Sarah Forsythe - LSU New Orleans  
Matt Lissard - LSU Shreveport  
Kavita Patwardhan - Tulane



## **2024 ACP Leadership Day**

The Louisiana Chapter had another excellent delegation this year. The Chapter provided partial support for 1 medical student, 3 residents and 3 practicing physicians to participate in ACP Leadership Day. The cohort had connections to many districts in our state, providing knowledge and experience of healthcare in both urban and rural settings. The delegation had productive meetings with members of the Louisiana Senator and Representative Offices, and advocated for ACPs National healthcare priorities, including:

- Resident Physician Shortage Reduction Act of 2023
- Safe Step Act of 2023
- Physician Fee Schedule Update and Improvements

## **Member Spotlight:** **Hayden Guidry**

Hayden Guidry has been an active student member of the Louisiana Chapter throughout his time at LSU New Orleans. Hayden was featured in March 2024 in an AAMC article, [Artistic medical students and The Match.](#) Hayden is a professional dancer and found a unique way to incorporate his love of dancing into his medical training. He tried out and was selected to join the New Orleans Saints Cheerleading team during the 2022-23 season! Take a few minutes to read his story. Hayden recently graduated from LSU and will continue his training at UC Davis in Otolaryngology. The Chapter wishes Hayden the very best in his future career in both medicine and dance!



## International Medical Graduates

The ACP has created a member-exclusive toolkit to assist international medical graduates (IMGs) navigate the process of practicing internal medicine in the United States. More than 30 resources are available and cover topics including career guidance, visa and immigration information, best practices for financial planning and well-being, and more.

The Louisiana Chapter has created an **IMG Committee**. This committee is charged with developing and maintaining programs to enhance IMG members' experience practicing medicine in the US. Programming will include opportunities that promote professional development and engagement with the Chapter. The committee may develop programs to provide up to date Visa and immigration policies, to ease the transition to living in the US and to support IMG members preparing for the residency match process. Pramod Savarapu, our recently elected Council representative in Monroe, is serving as the Chair of this new committee. If you are interested in joining this committee, please email Sarah Wardrop (laacchaptermeeting@gmail.com). There will be Chapter programming and a resource guide coming soon.

# 2024 ACP Advocacy Priorities

ACP's advocacy priorities seek to promote policy reforms on the federal level through legislative, regulatory, and executive actions that benefit the overall health and well-being of patients, physicians, and the practice of internal medicine.

- Valuing the Care Provided by Internal Medicine Physicians
- Reducing Administrative Burden in Medicine
- Ensuring Access to Care
- Protecting the Patient-Physician Relationship
- Strengthening the Primary Care and the Physician Workforce
- Supporting and Enhancing Health Information Technology
- Increasing Prescription Drug Access and Affordability
- Preventing Firearms-Related Injuries and Deaths

Use the link above to access more information about reach issue.

## ACP News

### **New ACP Policy Paper Recommends Using AI Tech to Augment Physician Decision-Making, Not Replace It**

A new policy paper published in Annals of Internal Medicine, “Artificial Intelligence in the Provision of Health Care” explains how artificial intelligence (AI) in clinical health care has the potential to transform health care delivery, however it should not replace physician decision-making. The paper offers recommendations on the ethical, scientific and clinical components of AI use.

Accompanying this policy paper is a video featuring Isaac O. Opole, MBChB, PhD, MACP, ACP president, discussing the paper's recommendations for using AI in health care.

## **ACP and Annals of Internal Medicine Host Forum on Medications for Type 2 Diabetes**

ACP and Annals of Internal Medicine presented “[Pharmacologic Management of Type 2 Diabetes](#)” on Wednesday, May 22. The virtual forum for ACP members and Annals subscribers featured expert panelists using evidence-based research to guide clinicians through scenarios for recommending various pharmacologic options. The forum was moderated by Stephen D. Sisson, MD, MACP, the Philip A. Tumulty Professor of Medicine at The Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine and vice president of clinical operations for the Office of Johns Hopkins Physicians in Baltimore. A full recording of the forum is available for replay and is published in Annals of Internal Medicine.

## **ACP Policy Paper Examines Excessive Alcohol Use and Alcohol Use Disorders**

A new policy paper published in Annals of Internal Medicine, “[Excessive Alcohol Use and Alcohol Use Disorders](#)” stresses that policymakers and public health officials have a critical role to play in reducing excessive alcohol use and alcohol use disorders. The new paper ACP reiterates that alcohol use disorder is a treatable chronic medical condition that should be addressed through evidence-based public health and health care initiatives.

## **ACP Clinical Guidelines Available with Recommendations for Newer Pharmacological Treatments for Adults with Type 2 Diabetes**

Annals of Internal Medicine published an updated version of ACP clinical guideline on [Newer Pharmacological Treatments in Adults with Type 2 Diabetes](#). The ACP guideline is based on systematic reviews of the benefits, harms, and cost-effectiveness of newer pharmacological treatments for Type 2 diabetes. This guideline also includes a [video](#) component featuring Dr. Carolyn Crandall, Chair of ACP’s Clinical Guidelines Committee.

2025 Annual Meeting planning has begun...



# SAVE THE DATE

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ANNUAL SCIENTIFIC MEETING  
JANUARY 31, 2025

RESIDENT & STUDENT MEETING  
FEBRUARY 1, 2025

LSU NEW ORLEANS CAMPUS

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Louisiana  
Chapter

# **Louisiana ACP Journal Club**

Coming in August!

This will be a 30 minute Zoom meeting to discuss a current article. The meeting is free, but registration is required. Watch your inbox to register for the first LA ACP Journal Club.



## **ACP Resources**

**2024 ACP Advocacy Priorities**

**I.M. Emotional Support Hub**

**Financial Well-being**

**Telehealth Resources**

**Integrating Behavioral and Mental Health into Primary Care**

**Practice Resources**

**Clinical Information Resources**

**Substance Use Disorder Education**

# Get Involved

## Committees

Looking for ways to get involved? There are many places that your time and talents can be used in the Chapter! The **International Medical Graduate, Membership, Early Career Physician, Health and Public Policy, and Awards Committees**, to name a few, are looking for new members to join. If you have a particular interest, contact Sarah Wardrop and get plugged into the Chapter!

### Upcoming Dates

#### **2025 Annual Scientific Meeting**

January 31, 2025  
New Orleans

#### **2025 Annual Resident & Student Meeting**

February 1, 2025  
New Orleans

#### **IM2025**

April 3-5, 2025  
New Orleans

#### **ACP Leadership Day**

April 28-29, 2025  
Washington, DC

### Stay Connected

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Executive Director

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