

2016-2017

ANNUAL REPORT

*of Programs
and Activities*

ACG Institute Mission Statement

The mission of the American College of Gastroenterology Institute for Clinical Research and Education is to promote digestive health through education of the clinician, the patient and the public, to support clinical research and innovation in gastroenterology and hepatology, and to raise public awareness about prevention of digestive disease.

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ACG PRESIDENT 2016–2017

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(2015–present)

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(2005–2014)

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(2005–2010)

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(2005–2011)



LETTER from the ACG Institute Director

DEAR COLLEAGUES,

THE PAST YEAR HAS BEEN ONE OF GREAT SUCCESS AND INNOVATION

for the ACG Institute for Clinical Research and Education. Building on past successes, this 2016–2017 Annual Report illustrates how much the Institute has grown to meet the needs of clinical gastroenterologists and researchers since our inception in 1994. Over the last year, our focus has been on increasing the profile of the Institute, raising awareness among ACG members about our work, and seeking new partnerships and contributors in anticipation of our 2017 Annual Meeting: World Congress of Gastroenterology at ACG2017. It has been more than two decades since the World Congress has been convened in the United States and this partnership with the ACG provides new opportunities to engage our colleagues from all over the world in the important work of the Institute.

In the spring of 2016, the ACG Institute Board met to develop new strategies and identify new opportunities. One identified need was to create a culture of philanthropy among ACG members and those interested in the work of the Institute. The last major fundraising campaign was successfully completed over a decade ago, raising more than \$17 million. This successful campaign has enabled us to greatly expand the funds committed to ACG Clinical Research Awards and our ACG Junior Faculty Development Awards. Additionally, these resources having been invested for the long term, securing the funding of research and faculty development programs in perpetuity.

With more than 14,000 members of the ACG and solid relationships with our industry partners, we now seek to make philanthropy and charitable support of the ACG Institute a much more visible part of the College and Institute culture. The G.U.T. Fund for Clinical Research and Education has been created as the place for all stakeholders to make philanthropic contributions that advance the goals of the ACG Institute. As part of the new *ACG MAGAZINE*, donor profiles have been added, to explain why so many of our colleagues have chosen to



◀ Nicholas J. Shaheen, MD, MPH, FACC,
ACG Institute Director

2017 ACG Institute GRANTS AND AWARDS

Junior Faculty
Development Awards

\$900,000

Clinical Research Awards

\$295,299

Clinical Research Pilot Awards

\$89,670

Smaller Program
Clinical Research Awards

\$35,000

Totaling more than

\$1.3 MILLION

make a gift to the G.U.T. Fund. We are also developing opportunities for ACG members and grateful patients to not only make gifts today, but to also consider bequests and planned gifts. You will be hearing more about these exciting opportunities in the coming year.

In 2017, the ACG Institute awarded more than \$1.3 million in clinical research. This increase from last year shows the commitment of the ACG Institute Board, Research Committee, and the ACG Board of Trustees to guarantee the highest quality research that will be most useful in our field. The core areas of focus continue to be support of evidence-based medicine, impactful, pragmatic clinical research, and work on quality of care. This year, as always, we have invested in the future by having a large portion of the Institute's research dollars go to promising young investigators. ▶

LETTER from the ACG Institute Director (cont.)

But, the research grant program is only one of the many ways that the Institute enriches the professional lives of gastroenterologists. Please take the opportunity to attend an ACG Edgar Achkar Visiting Professor lecture in your hometown. Go to Hepatology School or the newly created IBD School as part of a regional postgraduate course near you. Read the focused monographs supported by the Institute. And, know that we are always looking for other ways to provide tangible benefits to you, the members of the College.

As exciting as the slate of current Institute programs are, the future looks even better. Stay tuned for new initiatives, including the ACG GI Physician Leadership Program, designed to teach advocacy skills and provide professional development to young GIs. Also, expect programs to engage learners at the medical student and resident levels in our wonderful profession.

We should all take pride in the accomplishments of the Institute. I can assure you that the leadership will continue to innovate programs, and to expand the current programs that are best serving our membership. As clinical gastroenterologists, we work in a constantly changing world, and in a healthcare landscape that is rapidly being transformed. The ACG Institute is ready to assist in meeting the challenges that face us all, and in advancing our ability to deliver the highest quality patient care.

Warmest Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'N. Shaheen', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Nicholas J. Shaheen, MD, MPH, FACG
Director, ACG Institute





RESEARCH

REPORT: ACG Clinical Research Grants

Supporting Clinical Research: Fulfilling the Core Mission of the ACG Institute

SINCE THE FOUNDING OF THE ACG INSTITUTE IN 1994, funding has been provided to 612 investigators, totaling more than \$18.8 million for research directly relating to the practice of clinical gastroenterology. Looking ahead, the ACG Institute's continued investment in career development awards and funding for GI fellows-in-training will foster clinical innovations in gastroenterology and hepatology that will improve patient care and strengthen the capabilities of practitioners. The College is proud of the achievements of its funded investigators and plans to invest more fully in their leadership and success.

Increase in Award Amounts for 2017

The ACG Institute Board met in May 2016 for a Strategic Planning meeting where it recommended increasing the amounts of research awards for the following categories: Clinical Research Awards, Pilot Awards and Smaller Programs Clinical Research Awards.

Historically, these awards were capped at \$35,000 for Clinical Research Awards, \$10,000 for Pilot Awards and \$25,000 for the Smaller Programs Awards. Based on the new recommendations, the ACG Institute raised the funding for each award to: \$50,000 for the Clinical Research Award, \$15,000 for Pilot Award and \$35,000 for the Smaller Programs Award.

The aim is to fund research at a rate more in line with current research costs, as well as to raise the funding level for awards that have remained the same for many years. While this is the first year of this change, the ACG Institute hopes it will encourage more applications. Furthermore, the ACG Institute hopes to continue funding more innovative research in the years to come, whether through this funding category or additional requests for applications.

Funding for 2017 Clinical Research

For 2017, the ACG Institute for Clinical Research and Education will award \$1,319,969 in support of outstanding clinical research in gastroenterology. The ACG Institute will support three Junior Faculty Development Grants at an overall level of \$900,000, an investment in career development that recognizes and supports promising clinical researchers. From among numerous submissions for the 2017 Clinical Research Award, the Research Committee recommended funding for 13 investigators for a total of \$419,969, of which 6 are pilot awards at the \$15,000 level.

ACG Institute Advances GI Career Development

The ACG Institute considers the Junior Faculty Development grant the "jewel in the crown" of the College's research initiatives. This grant provides three years of support and has reached a level of \$100,000 annually for a \$300,000 total investment in GI clinical investigation. At this level of funding, the Institute is able to attract the best qualified candidates and provide them with the protected research time when funding is increasingly scarce.

Smaller Programs Clinical Research Award

For 2017, the ACG Institute will support one award in the category of the ACG Clinical Research Award, targeted to investigators at "smaller" GI programs. In evaluating this category of awards, the Institute Board has found that it fosters growth and publication for the selected applicants.

For the purposes of this award, "smaller" GI programs are defined as programs with 15 or fewer full-time faculty across the program's sites. The Smaller Programs Clinical Research Award includes a requirement for a clearly defined mentoring plan, including e-mentoring, if necessary. The Institute finds it worthwhile to continue investing in excellent clinical research from a more varied group of institutions and to make this support meaningful and productive by specifically investing in mentoring.

2017 Clinical Research Awards

13 Investigators Funded
TOTALING \$419,969

Clinical Research Award

Funding Increased
\$35,000 TO \$50,000

Smaller Programs Award

Funding Increased
\$25,000 TO \$35,000

Pilot Award

Funding Increased
\$10,000 TO \$15,000

Rigorous Review of Clinical Research Applicants by ACG Research Committee

In January 2017, The ACG Research Committee, under the leadership of Jean-Paul Achkar, MD, FACP, Chair, convened in Washington, DC to review the submissions for the ACG 2017 Research Awards. The hard-working committee members encompass a wide range of research expertise in gastroenterology and hepatology. Each year, over 100 grant applications for grant funding are reviewed, spread among the categories of Junior Faculty Development Awards, Clinical Research Awards, Pilot Programs, and Smaller Programs.

The Research Committee members thoroughly review each grant application, with three reviewers assigned to score each grant, utilizing a scoring scale modeled on the NIH scoring system. At the committee's in-person review in January, applications are discussed in detail with a presentation by each of the three assigned reviewers, followed by an open discussion by the Research Committee and final scoring by all committee members. Once the review process is completed, a recommendation regarding which grants should be funded is made to the ACG Institute's Director, Nicholas J. Shaheen, MD, MPH, FACP, who then presents those funding decisions to the ACG Board of Trustees for final approval.

Overall, the review process is very labor intensive, but the Research Committee members dedicate their time to ensure that the process is fair and the best science is selected for funding. In order to assist applicants in their grantsmanship and future applications, all grant applicants also receive written critiques from the grant reviewers.



Three Junior Faculty Development Grants

\$300,000 Per Recipient **\$100,000** Annually **\$900,000** Total Funding

ACG Institute will award

\$1,319,969

to support outstanding clinical research in gastroenterology.

1994–2017 ACG Institute Funded
612 INVESTIGATORS

totaling more than
\$18.8 MILLION

SUPPORTING INVESTIGATIVE SCIENCE: ACG Clinical Research Awards

Each year, the College offers Clinical Research Awards for original clinical research. The mission of this awards program is to fund innovative research that is patient-care oriented. For 2017, the amount of these awards was increased to up to \$50,000. The Committee also considers proposals for pilot awards of up to \$15,000 within this category.

2017 ACG Clinical Research Awards



Gobind S. Anand, MD
University of California, San Diego
Natural History of Asymptomatic Pancreatic Cysts and Determination of Risk Factors for Development of Pancreatic Cancer Utilizing a Large National Historical Cohort



Somashekar G. Krishna, MD, MPH
The Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center
Confocal Laser Endomicroscopy as an Imaging Biomarker (CLIMB Study) for the Diagnosis of Pancreatic Cystic Lesions



Heiko Pohl, MD
VA Medical Center White River Junction
Adenoma Recurrence After Endoscopic Mucosal Resection of Large Colorectal Polyps



Amit D. Joshi, MBBS, MS, PhD
Massachusetts General Hospital
Metabolomic Determinants of Cholecystectomy Outcomes



Udayakumar Navaneethan, MD, FACG
Center for Interventional Endoscopy, Florida Hospital
Evaluation of Lipidomics, Proteomics and Volatile Organic Compounds in Plasma and Bile for Diagnosis of Biliary Strictures



Ju Dong Yang, MD, MSc
Mayo Clinic Rochester
Discovery and Validation of Novel DNA Methylation Markers for the Detection of Perihilar Cholangiocarcinoma

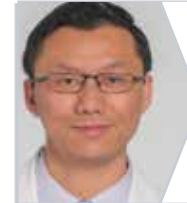
2017 ACG Clinical Research Awards Pilot Projects



Freddy Caldera, DO
University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health
Identifying Young Immunosuppressed Inflammatory Bowel Disease Patients at Risk for Herpes Zoster



Gautam N. Mankaney, MD
Cleveland Clinic
Evaluating the Role of Virtual and Dye Based Chromoendoscopy to Identify High Risk Gastric Lesions in Familial Adenomatous Polyposis



Gengqing Song, MD, PhD
Cleveland Clinic
Anti-inflammatory Effects of Self-Administered Needleless Transcutaneous Electroacupuncture for Treatment of Active Ulcerative Colitis: A Randomized, Double Blind, Crossover Clinical Trial



Amelia Johnson, MPH, PhD-C
Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences
Development of Functional Gastrointestinal Disorders Related to Systemic Host Responses and Travel Exposures



Anish A. Patel, DO, FACG
Brooke Army Medical Center
A Patient Toolkit for the Transition of Care of Active Duty Patients with IBD to the Veterans Administration Healthcare System



Kali Zhou, MD
University of California, San Francisco
Advanced MR Elastography Techniques to Evaluate Liver Fibrosis and Necroinflammation in Patients with Indeterminate Chronic Hepatitis B Infection

2017 ACG "Smaller Programs" Clinical Research Award



Amol Sharma, MD
Medical College of Georgia, Augusta University
Home Versus Office Biofeedback Therapy for Fecal Incontinence



DR. HARMINDER SINGH, ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR AT UNIVERSITY OF MANITOBA RADY FACULTY OF HEALTH SCIENCES, is an ACG Scholar, awarded a Junior Faculty Development Award in 2010 for his project *Detection and Prevention of Colorectal Cancer*. In 2015, Dr. Harminder Singh, received an ACG Clinical Research Award: *Epidemiology and Outcomes of Clostridium Difficile Infection in IBD; A Population-Based Study*.

His research has resulted in an abstract at the WCOG at ACG2017: *Clostridium difficile Infections Among Hospitalized Individuals With IBD*. Furthermore, his research was also selected at DDW 2017: *Studies Using Hospital Discharge Databases may Underestimate Occurrence of Clostridium Difficile Infections Among Hospitalized Individuals with Inflammatory Bowel Disease*.

SPOTLIGHT:ACG Clinical Research Awardees

ACG-Funded Grantees Yield Insight and Publications

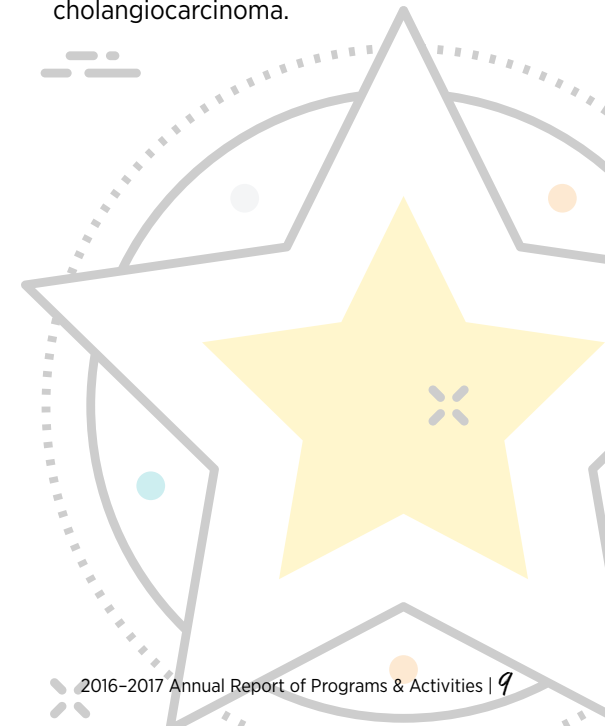
The ACG Institute is proud of the scientific contributions from the Clinical Research Award recipients. One metric of success for the ACG Clinical Research Awards is whether they result in an abstract at the ACG Annual Scientific Meeting.

For the World Congress of Gastroenterology at ACG2017, two recent ACG Clinical Research Awardees were selected for their abstracts on *C. difficile among IBD patients* and *cholangiocarcinoma*.



DR. JU DONG YANG, OF MAYO CLINIC ROCHESTER, received an ACG Clinical Research Award in 2016 for *Detection of Actionable or Predictive Tumor DNA Mutations in Peripheral Blood (Liquid Biopsy) from Patients with Cholangiocarcinoma (CCA)*, and was recently awarded a 2017 ACG Clinical Research Award for *Discovery and Validation of Novel DNA Methylation Markers for the Detection of Perihilar Cholangiocarcinoma*.

His research has resulted in an abstract at the WCOG at ACG2017; *Incidence Rates of Hepatocellular Carcinoma Continue to Rise Rapidly in Individuals Aged Between 60 and 69 in the United States*, as well as an abstract at DDW entitled, *Detection of Cholangiocarcinoma by Assay of Methylated DNA Markers in Plasma*.



INVESTING IN FUTURE LEADERS: ACG Junior Faculty Development Awards

2017



Alina M. Allen, MD
Mayo Clinic Rochester
Noninvasive Diagnosis of NASH by Magnetic Resonance Elastogram (MRE)

2017



Renumathy Dhanasekaran, MD
Stanford University
Plasma Glycoproteomic Biomarkers for Invasive Human Hepatocellular Carcinoma (HCC)

2016



Jessica R. Allegretti, MD, MPH
Brigham and Women's Hospital
Altered Bile Salt Composition Secondary to Intestinal Dysbiosis: Mechanisms Underlying Recurrent Clostridium difficile Infections

2016



Siddharth Singh, MD, MS
University of California San Diego
Impact of Obesity on Disease Course and Treatment Response in Inflammatory Bowel Diseases

2017



Reena Khanna, MD
University of Western Ontario
Efficient Early Drug Development in Inflammatory Bowel Disease

2015



Christopher V. Almario, MD, MSHPM
Cedars-Sinai Medical Center
Automated Evaluation of Gastrointestinal Symptoms (AEGIS): A Pragmatic Clinical Trial Evaluating the Impact of AEGIS on Clinical Outcomes

2015



Cynthia A. Moylan, MD, MHS
Duke University Medical Center
Epigenetics and the Development of Nonalcoholic Fatty Liver Disease

2015



Jennifer C. Price, MD, PhD
University of California San Francisco
The Influence of HIV Infection on the Natural History of Nonalcoholic Fatty Liver Disease

PERSPECTIVE: New Class of Junior Faculty Awardees

ACG's 2017 Junior Faculty Development Awardees Research and Career Focus

The three recipients share their thoughts on their career interests and the directions of their research.



Alina M. Allen, MD
Mayo Clinic Rochester
Noninvasive Diagnosis of NASH by Magnetic Resonance Elastogram (MRE)

The focus of my research is to determine and validate the role of magnetic resonance elastography (MRE), an established noninvasive imaging biomarker of liver fibrosis, in the diagnosis and monitoring of NASH. I believe that this innovative application of an imaging biomarker will provide novel diagnostic options that will circumvent the invasiveness of liver biopsy and have a major impact in the clinical care and therapeutic trials of NASH, thereby advancing the science and practice of hepatology.

I am in my second year as gastroenterology and hepatology faculty, and my long-term goal is to establish myself as an authority in patient-oriented and translational research in liver disease. I have decided to focus on nonalcoholic fatty liver disease (NAFLD) because it is the most common form of chronic liver disease in developed countries and is a major public health problem affecting approximately 80 million adults in the United States. To that end, my near-term goal is to improve the means to diagnose and monitor NASH, which will enable identification of those at risk of disease progression, timely prevention and treatment. The ACG Junior Faculty Development Award is critical in assisting me to achieve this goal.



Renumathy Dhanasekaran, MD
Stanford University
Plasma Glycoproteomic Biomarkers for Invasive Human Hepatocellular Carcinoma (HCC)

Hepatocellular carcinoma (HCC) is a lethal malignancy with an incidence that is on the rise. Vascular invasion is a key event during cancer progression, which is associated with recurrence, hematogenous dissemination, metastases and poor survival. Currently, there are no accurate prognostic plasma biomarkers that can detect invasive HCC and thus, stratify clinical outcomes and guide treatment selection. My study proposes to use a translational mouse-to-human approach for proteomic biomarker discovery for human HCC. The central hypothesis is that specific plasma proteomic and glycoproteomic signatures are associated with invasive HCC.

I am a physician-scientist currently working as an Instructor at Stanford University and pursuing basic and translational research in the field of hepatobiliary malignancies. The overall goal of my research is to identify biologically relevant prognostic biomarkers and molecular targets for drug therapy and consequently improve the clinical outcome of patients with hepatocellular carcinoma (HCC). As an early career physician-scientist committed to pursuing a career in academic medicine, I believe that the ACG Junior Faculty Development Award will provide me with the critical funding needed to undertake focused, intensive, supervised basic science research training that will provide the skills and experience necessary to launch a successful career as an independent investigator. My long-term career goal is to build an independent translational research program to identify biomarkers for HCC.



Reena Khanna, MD
University of Western Ontario
Efficient Early Drug Development in Inflammatory Bowel Disease

The U.S. has a high prevalence of inflammatory bowel disease (IBD), with 1.7 million people affected in 2014. These chronic debilitating diseases generate a societal cost of approximately \$11 billion-\$28 billion annually. Since current therapies are sub-optimal, development of new treatments is a research priority. My research seeks to find ways to improve the efficiency of early drug development given that current trial endpoints have not been fully validated and are statistically inefficient.

I am a physician-scientist and Assistant Professor at the Schulich School of Medicine and Dentistry, The University of Western Ontario, Canada. I have completed training in gastroenterology, inflammatory bowel diseases (IBD), clinical trials research, and outcome measure development. I have also completed a master's degree in clinical epidemiology. Since my appointment at the University of Western Ontario in July 2013, I have been engaged in IBD clinical trials with a focus on outcome measure validation to increase the efficiency of trials. I chose a career in IBD because it enables long-term relationships with patients, and is an area that requires additional discovery that will change within my career. ACG has enabled me to contribute to the exciting advancements in the area. This ACG grant will provide the necessary resources to advance my research program and to establish my career as a clinician-researcher. It is my hope that these projects will advance the field, instill the skills to advance as a researcher, and benefit patients.

ACG SCHOLARS: Powerhouse of GI Talent Meets in Las Vegas



THE ACG SCHOLARS, A COHORT OF 55 CURRENT AND FORMER RECIPIENTS OF THE ACG JUNIOR FACULTY DEVELOPMENT GRANT, have received more than \$9 million dollars in support. The designation ACG Scholars was chosen to convey the level of achievement and accomplishments of this group of talented investigators. They represent the highest level of achievement, and develop relationships amongst their peers, that propel new research and innovation.

Established in 1997, this enduring community of highly motivated clinical researchers convene at the ACG Annual Meeting to network and learn about current research by their colleagues.

The program aims to further engage the ACG Scholars in the scientific life of the College on an ongoing basis in a myriad of ways: as mentors, presenters at the ACG Annual Meeting, and by showcasing their research contributions among their colleagues.

ACG SCHOLARS EVENT LAS VEGAS 2016
In October 2016, at the ACG Annual Scientific Meeting in Las Vegas, Nevada, the ACG Scholars continued what has become, an annual tradition of gathering to network and share their experiences. Joining the ACG Scholars were members of the ACG Research Committee and the ACG Institute Board of Directors.

ACG Institute Director, Dr. Nicholas Shaheen, welcomed everyone and encouraged them to participate in the research presentations by current awardees, as well as networking opportunities at the event. Four ACG Junior Faculty Development Award recipients—2014 recipient Linda Cummings, MD, MS, and 2015 recipients Christopher V. Almario, MD, MSHPM, Cynthia A. Moylan, MD, MHS, and Jennifer C. Price, MD, PhD—provided insights on their research.

▲ ACG Scholars Event Las Vegas 2016 (L to R Jennifer C. Price, MD, PhD, Jason K. Hou, MD, MS, FACG, Evan S. Dellon, MD, MPH, FACG, Linda C. Cummings, MD, MS, Jean-Paul Achkar, MD, FACG, Chair, ACG Research Committee, Cynthia A. Moylan, MD, MHS, Nicholas J. Shaheen, MD, MPH, FACG, Director, ACG Institute, Yuri A. Saito-Loftus, MD, MPH, FACG, Christopher V. Almario, MD, MSHPM, Manish Gala, MD, Siddharth Singh, MD, MS).



LINDA C. CUMMINGS, MD, MS, presented first on her project, “Medication and Perioperative Effects on Esophageal Cancer Outcomes.” Dr. Cummings has developed a new algorithm for detection of recurrence in esophagectomy patients, utilizing the SEER Medicare database. Preliminary results suggest that statin use may be associated with improved survival among patients not on metformin. At Digestive Disease Week (DDW) 2016, Dr. Cummings presented results on recurrence and survival rates. Furthermore, the grant has allowed Dr. Cummings to publish related research to strengthen future research funding in gastrointestinal endoscopy, as well as cancer prevention research.



CHRISTOPHER V. ALMARIO, MD, MSHPM, described his project, “Automated Evaluation of GI Symptoms (AEGIS): A Pragmatic Clinical Trial Evaluating the Impact of AEGIS on Clinical Outcomes.” The findings from the evaluation of patient satisfaction with the AEGIS, a computer algorithm, were similar between the AEGIS and control arms, and were published in *The American Journal of Gastroenterology*. Going forward, Dr. Almario and his mentor, Dr. Brennan M.R. Spiegel, will shift the focus of the project to provider-centered outcomes, with the hypothesis that AEGIS will reduce charting and documentation time. The protected research time provided by the ACG grant has allowed Dr. Almario to focus on additional AEGIS-focused projects that resulted in seven abstracts at DDW 2016. As part of his career development plan under the grant, Dr. Almario completed a 10-week grant writing workshop that generated two submissions. He planned to sit for the Board certification exam in Clinical Informatics in October 2016.



CYNTHIA A. MOYLAN, MD, MHS, described her project, “Epigenetics and the Development of Nonalcoholic Fatty Liver Disease.” Dr. Moylan’s project examines whether NAFLD progression is predetermined in part by early-life epigenetic programming of genes involved in tissue repair, and whether this is evident in methylation profiles of established target genes. Currently, adult serum and liver samples from patients with a spectrum of NAFLD fibrosis severities and normal controls are paired and submitted for DNA methylation. Analysis of this data will begin this fall. For Dr. Moylan’s second aim, patient enrollment has commenced to determine if *in utero* metabolic stress establishes early-life DNA methylation profiles that predict the subsequent development of NAFLD. As part of her career development plan, she will attend the Epigenetic, Obesity and Metabolism conference in Cambridge, UK. Also, two publications related to Dr. Moylan’s ACG-funded project were presented at the AASLD Liver Meeting in 2015.



JENNIFER C. PRICE, MD, PHD, presented on her project “The Influence of HIV on the Natural History of Fatty Liver Disease.” Dr. Price has recruited an initial 49 patients and is planning to expand recruitment of NAFLD patients from the initial two cohorts: the Women’s Interagency HIV Study and the Study of Visceral Adiposity, HIV, and HCV: Biologic Mediators of Hepatic Steatosis, to include those seen at UCSF and San Francisco VA Liver Clinics. She has collected liver, serum, plasma, peripheral blood mononuclear cells, and stool samples from all patients in order to study her central hypothesis that HIV and its chronic inflammatory milieu increase the risk of NASH and fibrosis. Additionally, she is using NASH-HIV as a platform to launch other projects, and anticipates receiving funding from the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases for endometrial and intestinal biopsies on female NASH-HIV participants.

1997



Carlo Di Lorenzo, MD
Robert F. and Edgar T. Wolfe Foundation, Endowed Chair in Pediatric Gastroenterology; Chief, Gastroenterology, Hepatology, and Nutrition, Nationwide Children's Hospital

1997



G. Richard Locke, III, MD, FACP
Professor of Medicine, Mayo Clinic Rochester

1998



Sapna Syngal, MD, MPH, FACP
Director of Research, Center for Cancer Genetics and Prevention; Director, Gastrointestinal Cancer Genetics and Prevention Clinics; Director, Gastroenterology, Brigham and Women's Hospital, Dana-Farber Cancer Institute; Professor of Medicine, Harvard Medical School

1998



Zobair M. Younossi, MD, MPH, FACP
Executive Vice President for Research, Inova Health System; Chairman, Department of Medicine, Inova Fairfax Hospital; Professor of Medicine, Virginia Commonwealth University; Professor of Biomedical Sciences, George Mason University; Co-Director, Center for the Study of Genomics in Liver Disease

1999



Naga P. Chalasani, MD, FACP
David W. Crabb Professor of Medicine and Director; Chief, Division of Gastroenterology and Hepatology; Director, IUHP Digestive and Liver Disorders; Professor of Cellular and Integrative Physiology, Indiana University School of Medicine

1999



Nicholas J. Shaheen, MD, MPH, FACP
Bozymski-Heizer Distinguished Professor of Medicine; Chief, Division of Gastroenterology and Hepatology, University of North Carolina School of Medicine at Chapel Hill

2000



Yvonne Romero, MD, FACP
Assistant Professor of Medicine, Mayo Clinic Rochester

2000



John M. Inadomi, MD, FACP
Cyrus E. Rubin Professor of Medicine; Head, Division of Gastroenterology, University of Washington

2000



Chinyu Su, MD
Senior Director, Global Medicines Development, Pfizer Inc.

2002



Deborah A. Fisher, MD, MHS, FACP
Associate Professor of Medicine, Duke University; Associate Director of GI Research, Duke Clinical Research Institute

2002



Kirti Shetty, MD
Director of Hepatology, Sibley Memorial Hospital; Associate Professor of Medicine, Johns Hopkins Medicine

2003



Bo Shen, MD, FACP
The Ed and Joey Story Endowed Chair; Professor of Medicine, Cleveland Clinic

2003



Yuri A. Saito-Loftus, MD, MPH, FACP
Assistant Professor of Medicine,
Mayo Clinic Rochester, Clinical
Enteric Neuroscience Translational
and Epidemiological Research
(C.E.N.T.E.R.)

2004



Elena M. Stoffel, MD
Assistant Professor of Medicine,
University of Michigan, Ann Arbor

2007



Brian W. Behm, MD
Associate Professor of Medicine,
University of Virginia School of
Medicine

2003



Yehuda Ringel, MD, FACP
Associate Professor of Medicine;
Associate Director, UNC
Center for Functional GI and
Motility Disorders, Division of
Gastroenterology and Hepatology,
University of North Carolina at
Chapel Hill; Chief, Division of
Gastroenterology, Rabin Medical
Center, Beilinson Hospital, Israel

2005



Shahnaz Sultan, MD, MHSc
Assistant Professor, University
of Minnesota; Core Investigator,
Center for Chronic Disease
Outcomes Research, Minneapolis
Veterans Affairs Health Care System

2007



Marcelo F. Vela, MD, MSCR, FACP
Professor of Medicine, Mayo
Clinic Scottsdale

2003



George N. Ioannou, MD, MS
Associate Professor of Medicine,
University of Washington;
Director, Hepatology, Veterans
Affairs Puget Sound Health Care
System

2006



Alben D. Halpert, MD
Assistant Professor of Medicine,
Boston University School of
Medicine

2008



Jasmohan S. Bajaj, MD, MSc, FACP
Associate Professor of Medicine,
McGuire VA Medical Center
and Virginia Commonwealth
University

2004



Thomas A. Ullman, MD, FACP
Professor of Medicine,
Gastroenterology; Senior Associate
Dean for Clinical Affairs, Mt. Sinai
School of Medicine

2006



Claudia O. Zein, MD, MSc
Case Western Cleveland VA
Medical Center

2008



Alphonso Brown, MD
Assistant Professor of Medicine,
Harvard Medical School, Beth
Israel Deaconess Medical Center

ACCG SCHOLARS

2008



Evan S. Dellon, MD, MPH, FACP
Associate Professor of Medicine and Epidemiology, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

2009



Bechien U. Wu, MD, MPH
Director, Pancreatic Disorders; GI Fellowship Program Director, Kaiser Permanente, Los Angeles Medical Center

2010



Harminder Singh, MD, MPH, FACP
Associate Professor, University of Manitoba Rady Faculty of Health Sciences

2009



Curtis K. Argo, MD, MS
Associate Professor of Medicine, University of Virginia Health System

2010



Katherine S. Garman, MD
Assistant Professor of Medicine, Duke University School of Medicine

2011



Eric I. Benchimol, MD, PhD
Director and Scientist, Health Information Technology Program, Children's Hospital of Eastern Ontario; Associate Professor of Pediatrics, University of Ottawa

2009



Ajay Bansal, MD
Associate Professor of Medicine, University of Kansas Medical Center

2010




David G. Koch, MD, MSCR
Associate Professor, Medical University of South Carolina

2011




Jason K. Hou, MD, MS, FACP
Assistant Professor of Medicine, Baylor College of Medicine

2009



Prasad G. Iyer, MD, MS, FACP
Professor of Medicine; Consultant, Division of Gastroenterology and Hepatology; Co-Director, Advanced Esophageal Fellowship; Director, Post-Doctoral Programs, Mayo Clinic Center for Clinical and Translational Science, Mayo Clinic Rochester

2010



Alberto Rubio-Tapia, MD
Assistant Professor of Medicine, Mayo Clinic Rochester

2011



Ponni V. Perumalswami, MD
Associate Professor of Medicine, Mt. Sinai School of Medicine

2011



Amit Singal, MD, MS
Associate Professor of Medicine,
University of Texas Southwestern

2012



Jennifer C. Lai, MD, MBA
Assistant Professor of Medicine,
University of California San
Francisco School of Medicine

2014



Linda C. Cummings, MD, MS
Assistant Professor of Medicine,
Case Western Reserve University

2011



Tyler Stevens, MD, MS, FACP
Associate Staff Physician,
Director of the Pancreas Clinic,
Cleveland Clinic

2013



Naim Alkhouri, MD
Staff Physician, Digestive
Disease and Surgery Institute,
Cleveland Clinic

2014



Manish K. Gala, MD
Instructor in Medicine, Harvard
Medical School; Massachusetts
General Hospital

2012



Seth D. Crockett, MD, MPH
Assistant Professor of Medicine,
University of North Carolina at
Chapel Hill

2013



Walter G. Park, MD, MS
Assistant Professor of Medicine;
Medical Director, Pancreas
Clinic, Stanford Hospital &
Clinics, The Stanford University
Medical Center

2014



Ashwani K. Singal, MD, MS, FACP
Associate Professor; Co-Director
of the UAB Porphyria Center,
University of Alabama at
Birmingham

2012



Tamas A. Gonda, MD
Assistant Professor of Medicine,
New York-Presbyterian/Columbia
University Medical Center

2013



N. Jewel Samadder, MD, MSc
Senior Associate Consultant;
Medical Lead- High Risk Cancer
Clinics, Mayo Clinic Scottsdale

ACG SCHOLARS

ACG SCHOLARS: Contributions to the World Congress of Gastroenterology at ACG2017 Annual Scientific Meeting



A MAINSTAY OF THE ANNUAL SCIENTIFIC MEETING is the stimulating research submitted by Junior Faculty Developments Grantees, which dominates the oral plenary sessions. This year, at the World Congress of Gastroenterology at ACG2017 Annual Scientific Meeting, the Junior Faculty Development Grantees have again submitted high-quality research. As part of their award requirements, grantees are encouraged to submit an abstract to the ACG Annual Scientific Meeting. Submissions are rigorously reviewed and evaluated by the ACG Educational Affairs Committee, which selects fewer than 70 papers for oral presentation from the almost 3,000 abstracts submitted.

The consistently high percentage of oral papers presented by the ACG Scholars at the ACG Annual Scientific Meeting is a testament to the talents of this dynamic group of clinical researchers. Their work is frequently featured as part of the distinguished President's Plenary Session, a forum to showcase the best abstract in each organ system category.

PLENARY SESSIONS: WCOG AT ACG2017



ZOBAIR M. YOUNOSSI, MD, MPH, FACC
 Inova Fairfax
Signature of Circulating microRNA (miR) Detected by NextSeq Differentiates Non-alcoholic Fatty Liver Disease (NAFLD) Patients With Higher Percentage Hepatic Collagen: A Potential Role for a Prognostic Biomarker (President's Plenary Session)

ACG 2016-2017 RESEARCH COMMITTEE



Chair, Jean-Paul Achkar, MD, FACC
 Cleveland Clinic



Olga C. Aroniadis, MD, MSc
 Montefiore Medical Center



Evan S. Dellon, MD, MPH, FACC
 University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill



Manal F. Abdelmalek, MD, MPH, FACC
 Duke University



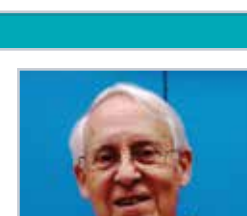
Jasmohan S. Bajaj, MD, MSc, FACC
 McGuire VA Medical Center;
 Virginia Commonwealth University



Timothy B. Gardner, MD, MS, FACC
 Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center



Bincy P. Abraham, MD, MS, FACC
 Houston Methodist



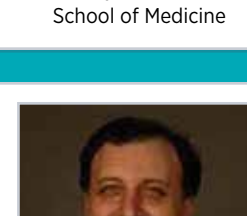
Edgar C. Boedeker, MD, FACC
 University of New Mexico School of Medicine



David P. Hudesman, MD
 NYU Langone Medical Center



Julian A. Abrams, MD
 Columbia University Medical Center



Carmen Cuffari, MD, FACC
 Johns Hopkins Hospital



Binu V. John, MD, MPH
 Virginia Commonwealth University



Luis F. Lara, MD
The Ohio State University



Jonathan E. Markowitz, MD, MSCE
Greenville Children's Hospital



Joel R. Pekow, MD
University of Chicago



Sameer D. Saini, MD
University of Michigan



Harminder Singh, MD, FACC
University of Manitoba



Tram T. Tran, MD, FACC
Cedars-Sinai Medical Center



Millie D. Long, MD, MPH, FACC
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill



V. Raman Muthusamy, MD, FACC
University of California, Los Angeles



Mark Pimentel, MD, FACC
Cedars-Sinai Medical Center



Pratima Sharma, MD
University of Michigan



Lisa L. Strate, MD, MPH, FACC
Harborview Medical Center



Fernando S. Velayos, MD, MPH
University of California San Francisco



Bruce A. Luxon, MD, PhD, FACC
Georgetown University Medical Center



Georgios I. Papachristou, MD, FACC
University of Pittsburgh Medical Center



Mark S. Riddle, MD, DrPH
Naval Medical Research Center



Aasma Shaukat, MD, MPH, FACC
VAMC Minneapolis



Jill M. Tinmouth, MD, PhD
Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre



Sachin B. Wani, MD
University of Colorado School of Medicine

RESEARCH COMMITTEE

ACG Institute's Education Mission

The ACG Institute works to develop comprehensive education for GI clinicians based on the best science, as well as to serve as a resource for patient education and raise public awareness of various GI disorders.





EDUCATION



ACG's Hepatology School

Building on the success of ACG's Hepatitis School in 2013–2016, and recognizing the need for a more comprehensive course, the ACG Institute has expanded this popular program into ACG's new Hepatology School. With the diagnosis and treatment of liver disease undergoing dramatic change, new therapies have created the need for comprehensive educational opportunities. The Hepatology School program encompasses the treatment of frequently diagnosed liver disease states.

The College leadership has approved a comprehensive hepatology curriculum, developed by national experts in hepatology who serve as the course co-chairs. The content is tailored to meet the needs of clinical practitioners and advanced practice providers, with a deep dive into the material and in a smaller, more intimate educational experience that brings the quality clinical education of ACG's Annual Scientific Meeting and Postgraduate Course closer to where ACG member physicians live and practice.

Topics will continue to evolve, with the first Hepatology School encompassing management, treatment and screening for hepatitis B and hepatitis C, treatment post-cure of HCV, evaluation and treatment of NAFLD, evaluation and treatment of primary biliary cholangitis, hepatic encephalopathy, other complications of cirrhosis and hepatocellular carcinoma.

The ACG Hepatology School is designed to better enable clinical gastroenterologists and primary care physicians to triage, treat, and refer patients more efficiently. With a flexible curriculum designed to meet current trends, the first Hepatology School program took place in March, 2017, with over 100 participants.

2017 HEPATOLOGY SCHOOL COURSE

March 10, 2017, Las Vegas, NV

Faculty for this course included David E. Bernstein, MD, FACC, Mitchell L. Shiffman, MD, FACC, Paul Y. Kwo, MD, FACC, Joseph K. Lim, MD, FACC, April G. Morris, FNP, Mark W. Russo, MD, MPH, FACC, and Tram T. Tran, MD, FACC. This program was offered in conjunction with the Western Regional Postgraduate Course, with promotional support provided by Gilead Sciences.

2017 HEPATOLOGY SCHOOL FACULTY





David E. Bernstein, MD, FACC
Hofstra Northwell School of
Medicine



April G. Morris, FNP
Liver Institute of Virginia



Mitchell L. Shiffman, MD, FACC
Liver Institute of Virginia
Bon Secours Health System



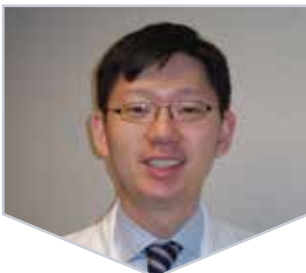
Paul Y. Kwo, MD, FACC
Stanford University



Mark W. Russo, MD, MPH, FACC
Carolinas Medical Center



Tram T. Tran, MD, FACC
Geffen UCLA School of Medicine
Cedars-Sinai Medical Center



Joseph K. Lim, MD, FACC
Yale University School of
Medicine



ACG's IBD School

WITH THE SUCCESS OF ACG'S ONE-DAY HEPATITIS SCHOOL, the ACG Institute developed a new program specifically focused on IBD: ACG's IBD School. The concept of a specialized course for inflammatory bowel disease gained importance for ACG Institute leadership in light of recent significant changes related to IBD. These changes include new FDA-approved agents, new diagnostic tests, and serum drug levels. The IBD School Course Directors, with the help of IBD experts from around the country, felt the need to make the ACG membership aware of these developments so that they could be better prepared to provide the most up-to-date, evidence-based care to their IBD patients.

The inaugural session of IBD School was held on April 7, 2017, in Washington, DC in conjunction with the Eastern Regional Postgraduate Course. The initial program had a record turnout, and the course content was well received. The curriculum included presentations on epidemiology, diagnostic testing, medications, therapeutic drug monitoring, and the role of surgery and management of special populations, including hospitalized patients and pregnant patients. With feedback from the first course and continued evolution of new science and research, the content will continue to be updated for future sessions.

IBD School is already planned for St. Louis in August, 2017, Nashville in December, 2017, and Las Vegas in January, 2018. The faculty is comprised of experts in the field who are not only well-respected researchers, but also busy clinicians who can discuss real-life issues about their patients and bring their expertise to the panel discussions in the form of cases and during the question and answer session. The Institute recognizes with thanks the support of both Pfizer, Inc. and UCB, Inc. for the 2017 IBD School program.

2017-2018 IBD SCHOOL COURSES:

- April 7, 2017, in Washington, DC
- August 25, 2017, in St. Louis, MO
- December 1, 2017, in Nashville, TN
- January 26, 2018, in Las Vegas, NV

2017 IBD SCHOOL FACULTY



Jean-Paul Achkar, MD, FACG
Cleveland Clinic



Russell D. Cohen, MD, FACG
University of Chicago



Ashley A. Bochenek, APN, FNP-BC
University of Chicago Medicine



Stephen B. Hanauer, MD, FACG
Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine



Matthew A. Ciorba, MD
Washington University in St. Louis



Sunanda V. Kane, MD, MSPH, FACG
Mayo Clinic Rochester



Gary R. Lichtenstein, MD, FACC
Hospital of the University
of Pennsylvania



Dana J. Lukin, MD, PhD
Montefiore Medical Center



Samir A. Shah, MD, FACC
Alpert Medical School of Brown
University; The Miriam Hospital;
Gastroenterology Associates, Inc.



Edward V. Loftus, Jr., MD, FACC
Mayo Clinic Rochester



Mark C. Mattar, MD, FACC
MedStar Georgetown
University Hospital



Laura H. Yun, MD
Northwestern University



Millie D. Long, MD, MPH, FACC
University of North Carolina at
Chapel Hill



David T. Rubin, MD, FACC
University of Chicago Medicine

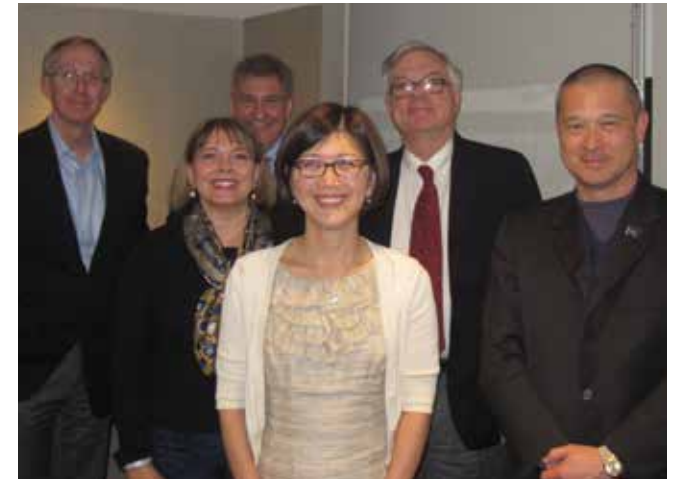


Douglas C. Wolf, MD, FACC
Atlanta Gastroenterology
Associates



IBS MONOGRAPH: ACG Evidence-Based Systematic Review on Management of Irritable Bowel Syndrome

ON MAY 10, 2017, THE FUNCTIONAL BOWEL DISEASE TASK FORCE MET IN CHICAGO to review the meta-analysis of new RCT research and evaluate the analysis utilizing the GRADE system of evaluation. This criteria, which is a best practice means of evaluating data, was utilized in the previous version of this monograph, and now the task force is working to update recommendations for 2018.



Caption for photo: L to R: Brian E. Lacy, MD, PhD, FACC, Lucinda A. Harris, MD, FACC, Paul Moayyedi, MB ChB, PhD, MPH, FACC, Yuri Saito-Loftus, MD, MPH, FACC, Eamonn M.M. Quigley, MD, MACG, and William D. Chey, MD, FACC

ACG Edgar Achkar Visiting Professorship Program

THE ACG INSTITUTE'S EDGAR ACHKAR VISITING PROFESSORSHIP PROGRAM represents the exemplary educational offerings of the ACG Institute and the ongoing mission to provide quality educational opportunities for members. As fewer resources are available for visiting speakers, the ACG Institute continues to create opportunities for speakers to serve as faculty for medical grand rounds presentations and to enhance the educational experience for GI fellows-in-training while providing objective, timely and clinically relevant presentations to ACG member physicians in the community.

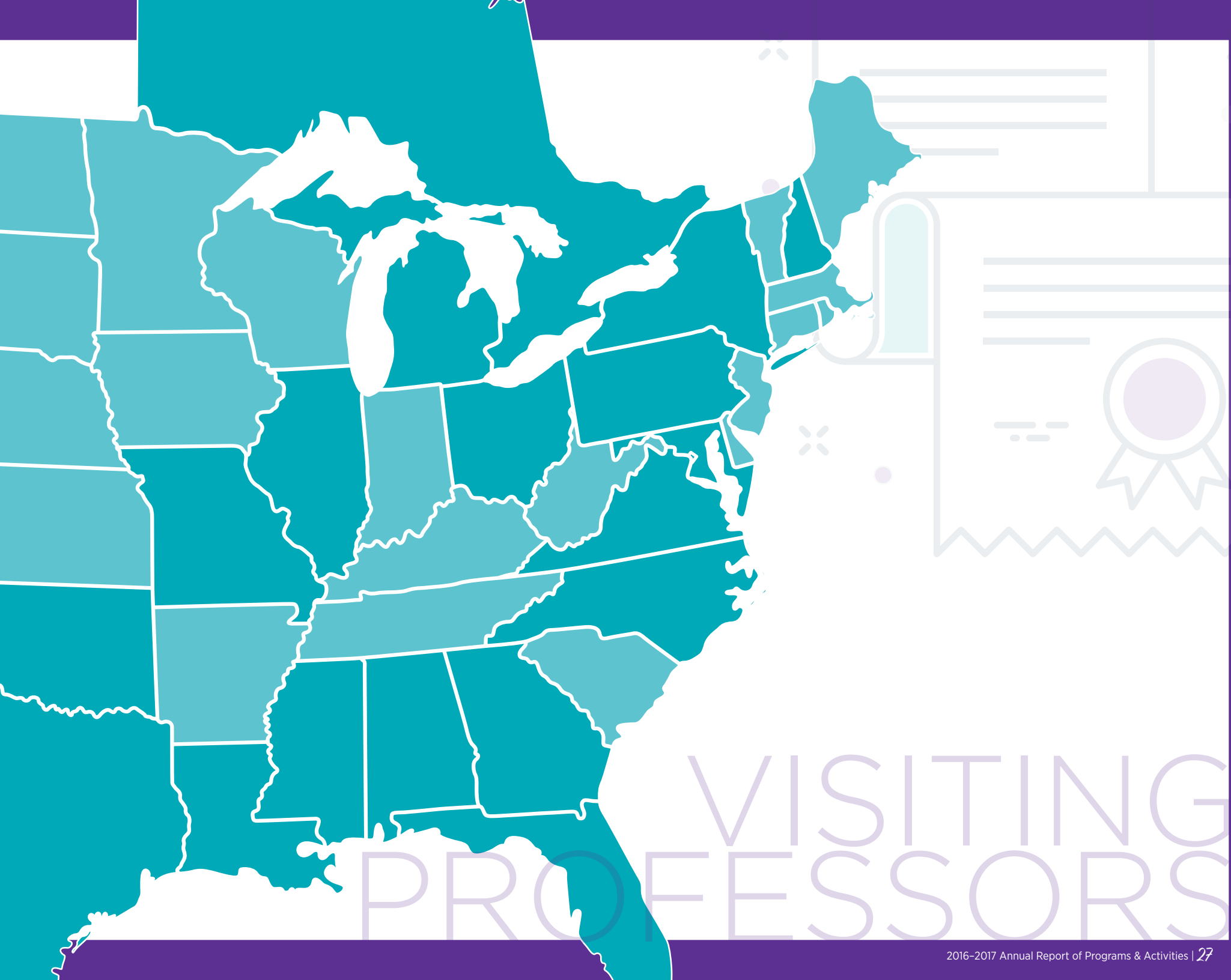
The purpose of these visits is to reach a diverse number of programs while aiming to maximize the impact of each visit by targeting GI training programs, which could also leverage an additional community event with local ACG member physicians, sometimes in conjunction with a local gut club. The programs offer expertise for a specific area of need at each institution.

2017 marks the fourth year of the ACG Edgar Achkar Visiting Professorship program's offerings, with 11 visits for GI fellows-in-training and faculty.

THIS PROGRAM BEARS THE NAME OF EDGAR ACHKAR, MD, MACG, ACG Institute Director Emeritus, honoring him for his dedication to the ACG Institute and its aim to provide high quality educational programs to the members of the College.



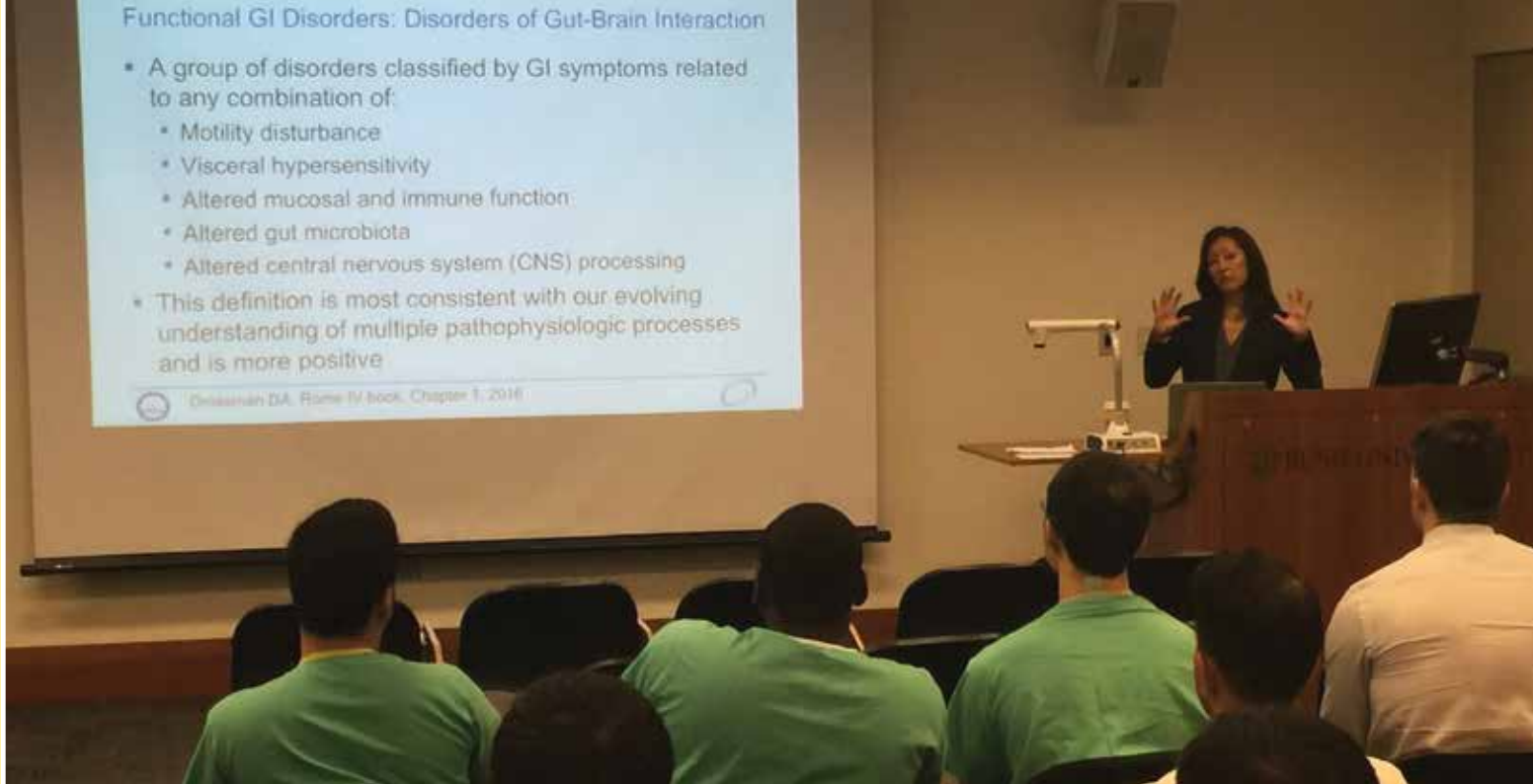
The ACG Edgar Achkar Visiting Professorship Program has conducted more than 35 visits since the program's inception in 2014. These visits have occurred in 21 U.S. states, Washington DC, and one Canadian province.



VISITING PROFESSORS

LIN CHANG, MD, FACG

traveled to Rush University Medical Center in Chicago to share her expertise on functional bowel disease on September 8, 2016. At the invitation of Michael D. Brown, MD, FACG, the Director of GI Fellowship at Rush University Medical Center, she presented "Diagnosis and Management of Irritable Bowel Syndrome" at grand rounds, then participated in a round-table session with the Rush GI fellows.



Functional GI Disorders: Disorders of Gut-Brain Interaction

- A group of disorders classified by GI symptoms related to any combination of:
 - Motility disturbance
 - Visceral hypersensitivity
 - Altered mucosal and immune function
 - Altered gut microbiota
 - Altered central nervous system (CNS) processing
- This definition is most consistent with our evolving understanding of multiple pathophysiologic processes and is more positive

Chaussain DA. Rome IV book. Chapter 1. 2016



MITCHELL L. SHIFFMAN, MD, FACG

visited Walter Reed National Military Medical Center in Bethesda, Maryland on September 19–20, 2016. The program began with an educational dinner program on "Treatment of Chronic Hepatitis C: Case Discussions of Complex Patient Types." The next morning, Dr. Shiffman met with fellows for case presentations, followed by individual mentoring meetings.

Dr. Shiffman commented that both the GI division and general medical audience were extremely attentive and interested, and seemed to genuinely appreciate his ability to answer questions from a different perspective of practice outside of military medicine. A highlight of Dr. Shiffman's visit was an engaging question and answer session with trainees.

**Walter Reed
National Military
Medical Center**

DOUGLAS A. DROSSMAN, MD, MACG

presented at MedStar Georgetown, in Washington DC, on September 8, 2016. He was invited by Kathy Bull-Henry, MD, FACP, GI Program Director at MedStar Georgetown, and ACG Governor for Washington, DC. Dr. Drossman shared his expertise on functional GI disorders. The visit began with a presentation on “Understanding and Managing Patients with Chronic and Refractory GI Pain,” at medical grand rounds. This well-received presentation focused on the pathophysiological basis of chronic abdominal pain and covered the use of neuromodulators to treat pain (antidepressants and other psychotropics).

After grand rounds, Dr. Drossman provided two workshops on communication skills. The first, with gastroenterology fellows, discussed how to understand and manage “difficult” patients through self-awareness, active listening and learning a few simple skills. The second presentation was attended by more than 100 house staff, and focused on using communication skills to improve the physician–patient relationship. Dr. Drossman employed videos and teaching presentations as well as role play to illustrate optimal clinical communication skills.

Following lunch with the faculty and fellows, Dr. Drossman presented on difficult cases. The visit allowed opportunities for individual career advice, a planned visit to observe Dr. Drossman’s practice, referrals, and sharing of additional communication skills resources.



MedStar Georgetown
University Hospital



SUNANDA V. KANE, MD, MSPH, FACG

presented at Howard University in Washington, DC on September 19–20, 2016. Howard, which runs the only GI fellowship program at a historically black college or university, requested Dr. Kane for her IBD expertise. Howard alums congregated with faculty and fellows at an informal dinner, which included Charles Howell, MD, Chair of the Department of Medicine, Victor Scott, MD, GI Training Director, Adeyinka Laiyemo, MD, MPH, Kenneth Brown, MD, FACG, Chief of Gastroenterology at Providence Hospital in DC, and Kathy Bull-Henry, MD, FACG, ACG Governor for DC.

Dr. Kane counted this visit as one of the most fulfilling of her career. She was touched by the expressions of gratitude from Howard: a thank you card and a special, hand-carved ladle from Africa.



**NICHOLAS J. SHAHEEN, MD, MPH, FAGC,
DIRECTOR, ACG INSTITUTE**

traveled to Penn State Milton S. Hershey Medical Center to serve as a Visiting Professor on November 2, 2016. Dr. Shaheen was requested for his expertise on esophageal disorders, and was welcomed by Kofi Clarke, MD, Division Chief, Karen Krok, MD, and Thomas McGarrity, MD, FAGC.

The fellows were engaged, inquisitive and quick to grab concepts, Dr. Shaheen said. There was also a great vibe—one of the nicest relationships Dr. Shaheen can remember seeing—between local practitioners and an academic institution.



SATISH S.C. RAO, MD, PHD, FAGC

visited the University of Miami Miller School of Medicine on September 26–27, 2016. Over the course of his visit, Dr. Rao interacted with community gastroenterologists, faculty, fellows, nurses, and techs. His lecture was attended by colorectal surgeons, medical students, research coordinators, residents, fellows and many faculty members. Dr. Rao described his interactions with the fellows as robust and fun, and the overall opportunity as an inspirational learning experience.

UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI
MILLER SCHOOL
of MEDICINE



CHARLES N. BERNSTEIN, MD, FAGC

visited the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine on November 2–3, 2016, at the request of Robert (Rocky) E. Schoen, MD, MPH. Throughout the course of Dr. Bernstein's visit, IBD research, cases, and lessons from global variations were discussed. Dr. Bernstein discussed career development and engaged with fellows and faculty in one-on-one meetings.

"Dr. Bernstein's visit was educational, enlightening and inspirational," said Benjamin Click, MD, a second-year GI fellow. "He offered sage career, clinical and research wisdom and advice to the fellows. We are extremely grateful for his visit."

Dr. Bernstein participated in IBD LIVE, held at UPMC Presbyterian and moderated by Miguel D. Regueiro, MD, FAGC. This is an accredited, interactive, IBD case-based, weekly video conference held among more than 14 East Coast medical centers.



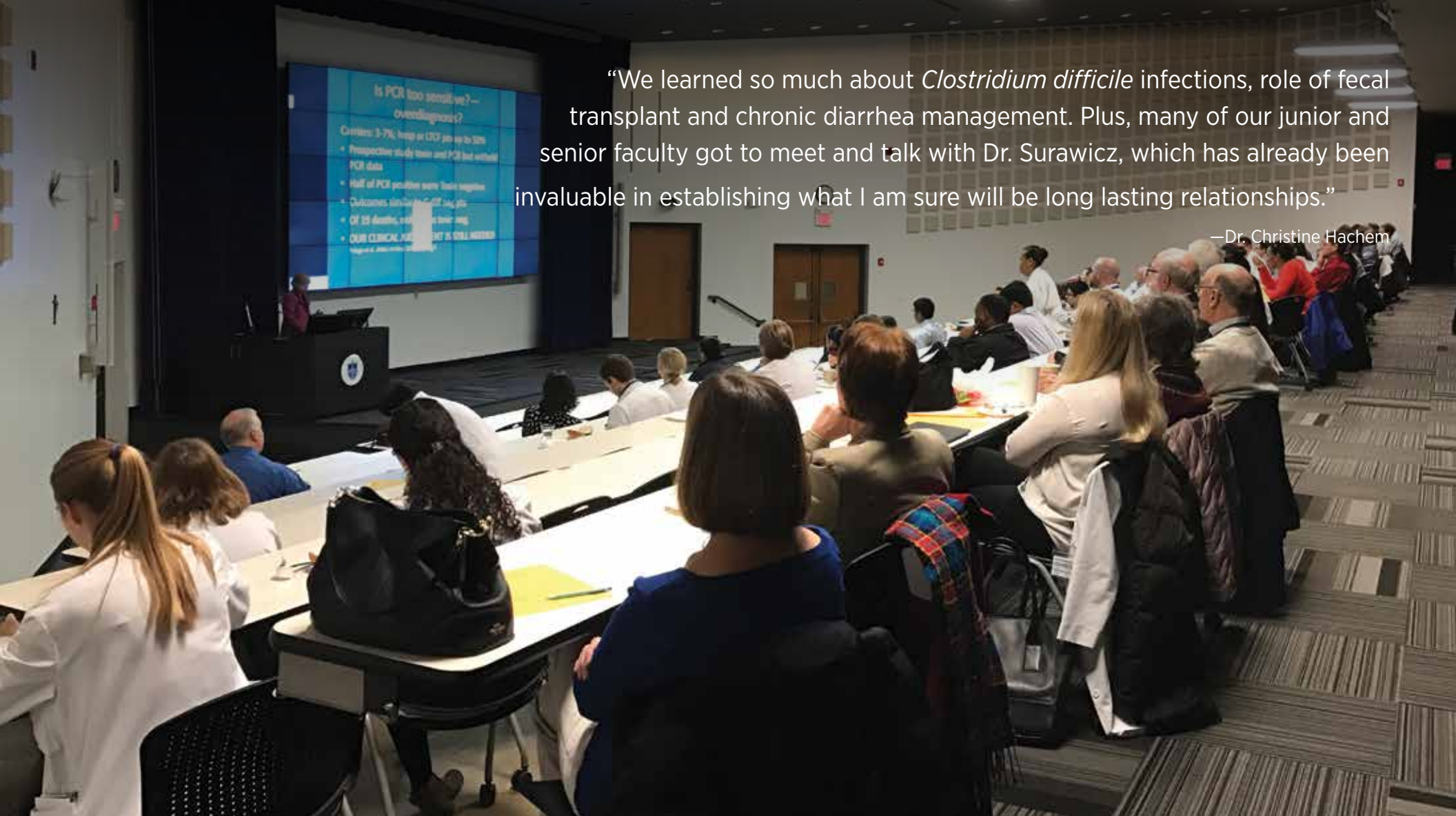


“I have to say, of all my years doing visiting professorships and lectures, **this Edgar Achkar invited professorship** through the ACG at MetroHealth in Cleveland was about **the most enjoyable.**” —Dr. Martin Freeman

MARTIN L. FREEMAN, MD, FACG

visited MetroHealth Medical Center in Cleveland, OH on January 18–19, 2017. Dr. Freeman was requested by GI Fellowship Program Director Alok K. Jain, MD, for his expertise in pancreatobiliary diseases and interventional endoscopy. The visit began with an evening talk on the evidence-based management of necrotizing pancreatitis, and was attended by fellows and staff, including one of Dr. Freeman’s former fellows. The next day, grand rounds had the largest audience of the academic year for the presentation “Acute Pancreatitis—Evolving Management and Interventions 2017,” with attendees from internal medicine, family medicine and surgery. Highlights of the visit were the one-on-one time with the fellows to discuss cases and individual meetings with faculty.





“We learned so much about *Clostridium difficile* infections, role of fecal transplant and chronic diarrhea management. Plus, many of our junior and senior faculty got to meet and talk with Dr. Surawicz, which has already been invaluable in establishing what I am sure will be long lasting relationships.”

—Dr. Christine Hachem

CHRISTINA M. SURAWICZ, MD, MACG

traveled to Saint Louis University on February 2–3, 2017, at the request of Christine Y. Hachem, MD, FACP and Charlene Prather, MD, MPH. The fellows presented *C. difficile* infection cases, demonstrating appropriate management of challenging cases, and excellent presentation skills. The case presentations were attended by the infectious disease specialist and included probing questions by the fellows.

Dr. Surawicz presented “FMT: Use and Misuse” at the GI Grand Rounds, followed by an evening community round-table dinner on chronic diarrhea challenging cases, with the GI fellows and private practice docs. A talk for the internal medical grand rounds on difficult *C. difficile* cases was attended by faculty, including the head of transplant, residents, and fellows.

One of the visit highlights was interacting with senior, mid-career and junior faculty (in this case all-women faculty) at breakfast and individual meetings. Saint Louis also learned of Dr. Surawicz’s involvement with the ACG, and hopes to continue this tradition of engagement in the life of the College.



SAINT LOUIS UNIVERSITY
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE



CAROL A. BURKE, MD, FACG, ACG PRESIDENT

visited Houston Methodist Hospital on April 20–21, 2017. Invited for her expertise on hereditary colon cancer by Dr. Bincy Abraham and Dr. Eamonn Quigley, Dr. Burke’s visit included a well-attended dinner conference with the Texas Gulf Coast Gastroenterology Society, where she presented “Enhancing the Effectiveness of Colonoscopy.” The presentation was attended by two ACG past presidents, Dr. David Graham and Dr. Eamonn Quigley, and was beneficial for both GI fellows as well as seasoned gastroenterologists.

The GI fellows benefited from Dr. Burke’s mentorship, career advice, and general work-balance insight, and from learning more about how to participate in ACG committees and get involved in the life of the College. Furthermore, the fellows obtained direct feedback on issues facing the practice of medicine and what the College is doing to help support gastroenterologists.

The visit included a multi-disciplinary clinical case conference attended by gastroenterologists, GI fellows, surgeons, pathologists, radiologists, and oncologists, as well as residents and medical students. The conference included a great discussion of some hereditary cancer syndrome cases presented by the GI fellows. Houston Methodist received expert advice on the management of these patients based on Dr. Burke’s analysis of polyps, and pathology readings.



HOUSTON
Methodist[®]
UNDERWOOD CENTER
FOR DIGESTIVE DISORDERS

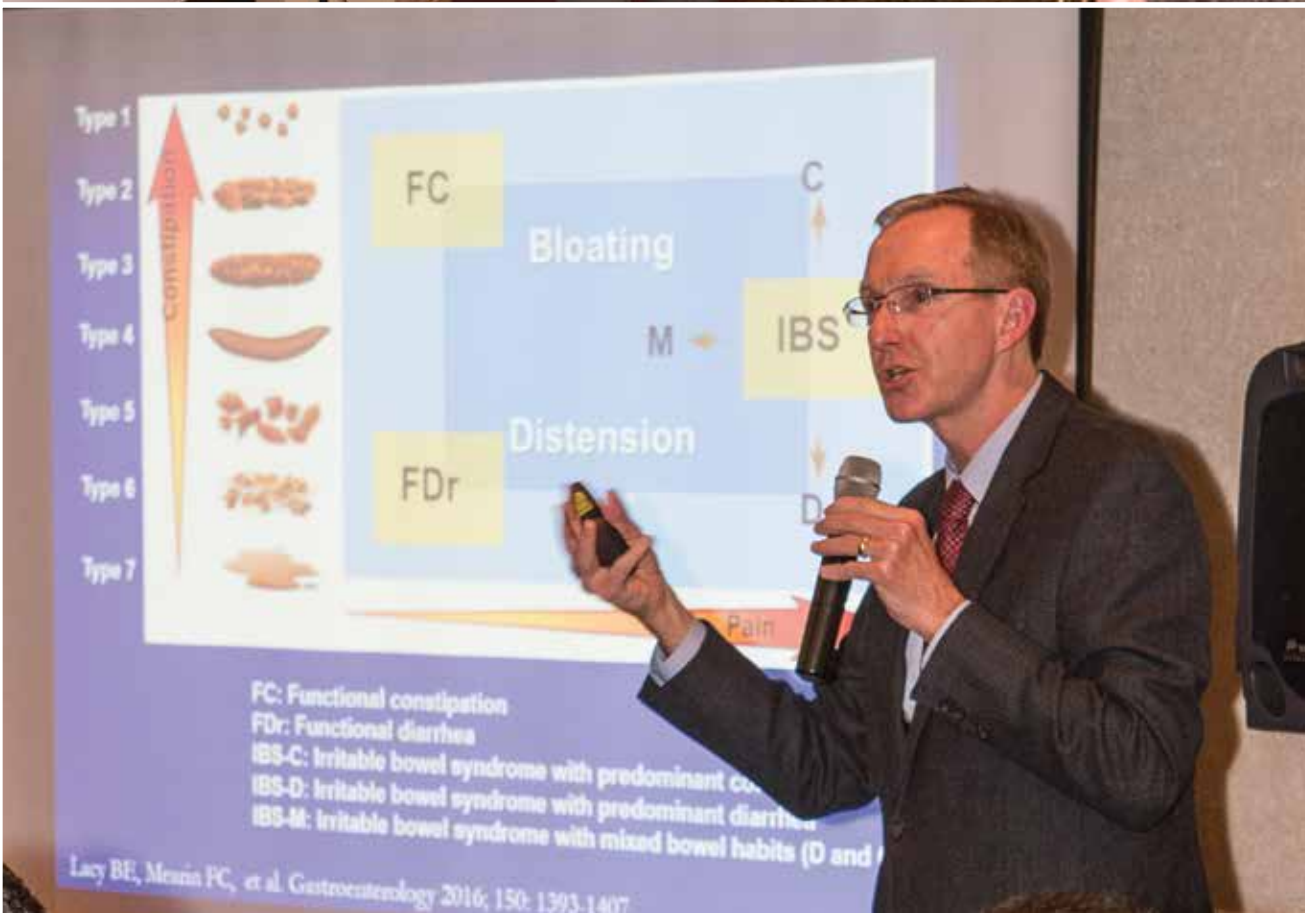


BRIAN E. LACY, MD, PHD, FACG

visited the University of Oklahoma on April 25–26, 2017. Invited by Dr. William Tierney, he presented “Clinical Dilemma in Functional Bowel Disease,” an interactive dinner program to over 40 physicians at the Oklahoma City Golf and Country Club.

The program included many individual meetings with faculty to discuss research, mentoring, faculty development, fellowship training, and changes in GI, both locally and nationally. Dr. Lacy presented “Functional Dyspepsia and Gastroparesis: One Disease or Two?” at GI grand rounds, and spent time at lunch with the fellows.

The fellows and faculty were impressed with the wonderful program. The University of Oklahoma found Dr. Lacy to be an inspirational educator, and one of the best speakers they have had, and he was particularly skilled in reaching both faculty and the fellows.



FC: Functional constipation
 FDr: Functional diarrhea
 IBS-C: Irritable bowel syndrome with predominant constipation
 IBS-D: Irritable bowel syndrome with predominant diarrhea
 IBS-M: Irritable bowel syndrome with mixed bowel habits (D and C)

Lacy BE, Meenan FC, et al. *Gastroenterology* 2016; 150: 1393-1407



LAUREN B. GERSON, MD, MSc, FACC

presented at Advocate Lutheran Hospital in Chicago on April 26, 2017. Invited by Dr. Alan Shapiro and Dr. Baseer Qazi, Dr. Gerson's visit began with a dinner with faculty discussing small bowel pathology. At the morning GI pathophysiology conference, Dr. Gerson presented "Evaluation of small Bowel Bleeding," followed by case-based presentations. For the fellows, the chance to ask an expert questions, in a small group format, was one of the most valuable parts of the visit.

At medical grand rounds, Dr. Gerson covered "Updates in GERD and Barrett's Esophagus," followed by lunch with the fellows, during which they shared research ideas and thoughts on clinical scenarios, including small bowel bleeding. Dr. Gerson valued the fantastic experience of interacting with the fellows and providing feedback on patient management.

 Advocate Lutheran General Hospital

IN MEMORIAM

Lauren Battat Gerson, MD, MSc, FACC (1964-2017)

The ACG Institute mourns the passing of ACG Trustee, Dr. Lauren B. Gerson. Dr. Gerson passed away on July 21, 2017 after battling metastatic melanoma. She was a practicing gastroenterologist at Sutter Health California Pacific Medical Center in San Francisco, CA, was elected to the ACG Board of Trustees in 2015, and was an active and passionate advocate on behalf of clinical research and education in gastroenterology.

As her many ACG friends carry on her legacy of clinical excellence and dedication to the GI profession, we will continue to be inspired not only by her professional accomplishments but also by her joy in her family and her graceful courage while facing adversity.





PRATEEK SHARMA, MD, FACC

presented at North Shore University Health System, in Evanston, Illinois on May 18–19, 2017. Invited by Dr. Jay Goldstein, Division Head, for his esophageal expertise, Dr. Sharma's evening presentation included a large audience with key esophagology leaders in Chicago, as well as community GI physicians. His medical grand rounds talk was extremely well received by internal medicine and residents.

Dr. Sharma enjoyed his ACG EA Visiting Professorship, in particular the one-on-one time discussing research, clinical practice, and potential changes impacting the field of GI, and meetings with faculty.





Maria T. Abreu, MD

visited Augusta University Medical College of Georgia on May 22–23, 2017. Dr. Abreu was invited by Dr. Rao for her expertise on IBD, and was honored to participate in the program. She enjoyed meeting the fellows, hearing

about their research and providing thoughts on career development and life. Also, it was a privilege for Dr. Abreu to see the cutting edge design of the Digestive Disease Center at Augusta.

“In today’s academic climate, we have very limited time to interact with fellows in an informal way. My favorite part of the visit is the chance to meet my future colleagues.”





THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

WEXNER MEDICAL CENTER

DAVID T. RUBIN, MD, FACC

visited The Ohio State University Wexner Medical School July 16-17, 2017. Invited by Dr. Marty Meyer for his IBD expertise, Dr. Rubin presented a noon lecture on “Refractory IBD: When Standards of Care Fail” to an audience of fellows, staff physicians, advanced practicing nurses, faculty and registered nurses. The visit included one-on-one meetings with faculty to discuss research, and time spent with the fellows for case presentations.

The evening presentation on “Colorectal Cancer Prevention in IBD” drew an audience of community GI physicians, OSU faculty, staff, fellows and advanced practitioners. OSU was appreciative of the amazing opportunity and for the time Dr. Rubin spent with fellows, faculty and community providers. The audience continued to rave about his lectures in the days following the visit.



ACG EDGAR ACHKAR VISITING PROFESSOR PROGRAMS 2016-2017

JOHN E. PANDOLFINO, MD, MSCI, FACG,

at Baylor College of Medicine, in Houston, Texas, May 4-5, 2016, presented on esophageal motility and esophageal disorders

JORGE L. HERRERA, MD, MACG,

at Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center in New Orleans, Louisiana, May 26-27, 2016, presented on hepatology

PRASAD G. IYER, MD, MS, FACG,

at Loma Linda University, in Loma Linda, California, August 18-19, 2016, presented on diseases of the esophagus

DOUGLAS A. DROSSMAN, MD, MACG,

at MedStar Georgetown University Hospital in Washington, DC, September 7-8, 2016, presented on management of IBS

LIN CHANG, MD, FACG,

at Rush University Medical Center, in Chicago, Illinois, September 8, 2016, presented on GI functional disorders

MITCHELL L. SHIFFMAN, MD, FACG,

at Walter Reed National Military Medical Center, in Bethesda, Maryland, September 8-9, 2016, presented on hepatology

SUNANDA V. KANE, MD, MSPH, FACG,

at Howard University, in Washington, DC, September 19-20, 2016, presented on IBD

SATISH S. C. RAO, MD, PhD, FACG,

at University of Miami Miller School of Medicine in Miami, Florida, September 26-27, 2016, presented on motility

NICHOLAS J. SHAHEEN, MD, MPH, FACG,

at Penn State Milton S. Hershey Medical Center, in Hershey, Pennsylvania, November 2, 2016, presented on Barrett's esophagus

CHARLES N. BERNSTEIN, MD, FACG,

at University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine, in Pennsylvania, November 2-3, 2016, presented on IBD

MARTIN L. FREEMAN, MD, FACG*,

at MetroHealth Medical Center in Cleveland, Ohio, January 18-19, 2017, presented on pancreatobiliary and interventional endoscopy

CHRISTINA M. SURAWICZ, MD, MACG,

at Saint Louis University in Missouri, February 2-3, 2017, presented on *C. difficile*

CAROL A. BURKE, MD, FACG,

at Houston Methodist Hospital, April 20-21, 2017, presented on colon cancer screening, genetics of colon cancer, and hereditary polyp syndromes

BRIAN E. LACY, MD, PhD, FACG,

at University of Oklahoma, presented on IBS and Motility on April 25-26, 2017

LAUREN B. GERSON, MD, MSc, FACG,

at Advocate Lutheran General Hospital, in Park Ridge, Illinois, April 26, 2017, presented on diverticular disease, colonoscopy quality, GI bleeding, and refractory GERD

PRATEEK SHARMA, MD, FACG*,

at North Shore University Health System, in Evanston, Illinois, May 18-19, 2017, presented on esophageal disease

MARIA T. ABREU, MD,

at Augusta University Medical College of Georgia, May 22-23, 2017, presented on IBD

DAVID T. RUBIN, MD, FACG,

at The Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center, July 18, 2017, presented on IBD

STEPHEN B. HANAUER, MD, FACG,

at University of Virginia, in Charlottesville, Virginia, August 15-16, 2017, presented on IBD

AASMA SHAUKAT, MD, MPH, FACG,

at Northwestern University, in Chicago, Illinois, August 30-31, 2017, presenting on colon cancer

ANDREW Y. WANG, MD, FACG,

at University of Michigan, September 11-13, 2017, presenting on endoscopic submucosal dissection

NICHOLAS J. SHAHEEN, MD, MPH, FACG,

at California Pacific Medical Center, September 13-14, 2017, presenting on refractory GERD and complicated GERD patients (ablation)

MIGUEL D. REGUEIRO, MD, FACG,

at UT Southwestern Medical Center, in Dallas, Texas, December 5-6, 2017, presenting on IBD

*Received funding in 2016, visit scheduled in 2017

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