President's Message

Dr. Susan Lee

As I mentioned in my last newsletter, the goal of the year for me is to create a sense of belonging for all members of our chapter. I want to start with a quote which I think captures the sentiment of why this is important especially now.

“What matters is that should difference enter the world of beloved community, it can find a place of welcome, a place to belong.”

— Bell Hooks

At NYACP, all our members can find a place to belong. Checking out our website to learn about the many offerings and programs is a great way to get started. Find out what sparks your interest, there is something for everyone.

Especially important to me are our medical students, resident/fellow and early career members. When I was an early career member, I was not able to be so involved in ACP due to work and family obligations, but I always appreciated that I could attend a meeting locally or access information on the website or through Annals. We are so lucky now with the ability to conduct webinars and meet virtually at times that are work and family friendly.

The Early Careers Committee is also completing a year of our WIM series, and I hope you will join me in July when I will be part of the panel discussing opportunities for women in medicine.

I am so impressed with our medical students in New York. I want to also amplify how proud I am of our Medical Student Committee who were instrumental in our chapter being awarded the prestigious John Tooker Evergreen Award for “The NYACP Physician Spotlight Collection”. It is featured on the chapter website, apple podcasts, and Spotify where there have been over 1800 downloads. Since 2022, the podcast has produced 23 episodes hosted by medical students who interviewed ACP physician members. The topics included wellbeing, covid 19 vaccination information, residency tips, advocacy experiences. I highly recommend a listen!

As a member, you are already an advocate. You may not think this is true, but when you are taking care of patients or sitting on a committee meeting about policy for your practice, you can make changes and do good. Our chapter has a long reputation for advocacy and having come back from ACP’s annual Leadership Day on Capitol Hill, which was held on May 14-15, 2024, in Washington, DC, I can attest we had a busy and successful two days. This two-day event enabled the College to increase its presence on Capitol Hill and bring our issues of concern to U.S. lawmakers. Every state was represented by a delegation this year! Thank you to Dr. Kellin King, our HPPC chair, who coordinated and guided us to complete over a dozen meetings with legislators from New York. Also, we dropped off informational folders at the offices of legislators who were unable to meet with us.

What I learned at Leadership Day is that advocacy is a cornerstone of ACP’s mission. Our collective voices can drive meaningful change in health care policy, ensuring better outcomes for our patients, and support for our profession. Additionally, advocacy is a marathon, not a sprint. It is about making connections and listening. As physicians, we are at the center of healthcare reform and standing alongside our patients who deserve better. Every conversation with a policy maker, every letter written, every call made contributes to the broader movement aimed at improving our healthcare system. I encourage each of you to get involved in our chapter’s advocacy efforts. Whether it is participating in local events, joining a committee, or reaching out to your representatives, your voice matters. Consider joining the
ACP PAC to support the important work they do for us. ACP Services Political Action Committee | ACP Services Political Action Committee (acpservicespac.org)

Lastly, save-the-date for our Annual Scientific Meeting which will be held on Saturday, October 26th. Fall in Tarrytown, NY is beautiful and what a fantastic opportunity to come early or stay later to do some leaf peeping!

With gratitude,

Susan Lee, MD, FACP
NYACP President
Governor, Long Island Region