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President's Letter

Hamad Husainy, DO, FACEP

President, Alabama Chapter ACEP

Do You See Roadkill When You Look In The Mirror?

Colleagues,

Hope the fall is treating you well and you are spending time doing something you truly enjoy. I am guessing that you are looking at the title of my column and thinking, "What! Is this guy really here to lead us and make us feel good or just beat us up and tell us how awful we are?" Let me explain...

As I was driving home from a recent hunting trip with my youngest son, I was thinking about how this time is so valuable. I was wallowing in my thoughts and reminiscing as well as considering what tomorrow had in store. I had been off for several days and it was time to return to a night shift the next day. The thoughts were all over the place when my headlights switched automatically over to my high beams (is that even the right name they go by) and I saw an armadillo saunter across the road.

I couldn't help but try to imagine what this animal was doing. This species has very poor vision and relies heavily on its sense of smell. It also has large pads and can use them for digging and feeling the surface it is walking on. What does an armadillo think when it is walking and feels concrete under its feet? I am imagining that it notices but really has no idea of the dangers until it's too late. They

have a shell that is protective from all kinds of predators except a vehicle running down the road at 50 mph. They eat insects and small bugs that we don't like crawling on us when we are outside.

Is this not our profession? An animal that many don't understand. One that has poor vision due to the fact that no days are the same and highly dependent on our ability to navigate land mines. We are used to walking through days with varying terrains and feeling it out as we go, however, we have many different "concrete paths" in our world...we have to navigate patient outcomes, severe illness and injury, administrative burdens, scheduling with at times reduced workforce, nursing shortages, fears of litigation, etc. We take care of those that no one else wants to often with no ability to pay or pay very little and do so with a smile like we are enjoying a favorite delicacy. Lastly, avoiding those true vehicles running 50 mph down the road in the way of violence on healthcare staff with no or very little protections and our mental health.

I look forward to a day when this is not the case, but until then we need to work to make sure the concrete roads of life and work are safer with less burden. We need to share how to avoid catastrophe and armadillos need to look out for armadillos. I hope you see a person that knows what road kill is but has overcome with their community of like physicians to rid our workplaces and society of 50 mph cars when walking over the roads of life.

BTW, I missed the little rodent and, as far as I know, a good day for that 'dillo.

God bless my fellow brethren and sistren,
HH

2022 ACEP Assembly Scientific Assembly Report

Stephen Knight, MD, FACEP

I left my heart (and did my part) in San Francisco

The 2022 ACEP Scientific Assembly is in the books. This year was an especially challenging one for the ACEP Council, as they tackled some very difficult and controversial issues. This included resolutions concerning scope of practice of APPs, abortion, and ED physicians' rights related to due process and billing transparency. Drs. Matthew Heimann, MD, Stephen Knight, MD, FACEP, and Annalise Sorrentino, MD represented the Alabama delegation and did their best to represent the will and best interests of the state. Dr. Melissa Costello, MD, MS, FACEP, FAEMS led as acting vice speaker for the council. Dr. Paul Kivela, MD, MBA, FACEP, and past ACEP president, also provided his voice and leadership.

The educational platform was excellent, as always. This began with a very compelling Keynote address from Dr. and Lady Glaucomflecken, where they spoke about their own personal experiences and struggles with healthcare, including Dr. Glaucomflecken's own cardiac arrest. The conference hall was filled to standing room only, but you could hear a pin drop as they played the 911 call, listening as the emergency operator guided Lady Glaucomflecken through a heart-wrenching nine minutes of CPR while she awaited the arrival of EMS providers. This was followed by a full schedule of great educational sessions. This included lectures from various leaders of our state, including Drs. Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, FACEP, FCCM, David Piggott, MD, Annalise Sorrentino, MD, and Lauren Walter, MD.

Overall, it was a great experience. It is always invigorating to be surrounded by your peers from all over the country. To see an old friend or mentor from training, and to make new friends as well. Next year the conference will be in Philadelphia. I highly recommend to anyone, especially if you haven't

been in a while, to take the trip. Apply for Council, submit some research to the forum, or just sit back and experience all that the [Scientific Assembly](#) has to offer.



ACEP Council Meeting Pictured (left to right): Dr. Annalise Sorrentino, MD, Dr. Paul Kivela, MD, MBA, FACEP, Dr. Matthew Heiman, MD, Dr. Stephen Knight, MD, FACEP.



ACEP Council Meeting Pictured (left to right): Dr. Stephen Knight, MD, Dr. Annalise Sorrentino, MD, Dr. Matthew Heiman, MD, Dr. Melissa Costello, MD, MS, FACEP, FAEMS

National Academy of Medicine Elects 100 New Members

Oct 17, 2022

The [National Academy of Medicine](#) (NAM) announced in October the election of 90 regular members and 10 international members during its annual meeting. Election to the Academy is considered one of the highest honors in the fields of health and medicine and recognizes individuals who have demonstrated outstanding professional achievement and commitment to service. [Read the full announcement.](#)

Marie-Carmelle Elie, MD, FACEP, FCCM, endowed professor and chair, department of emergency medicine, University of Alabama at Birmingham Heersink School of Medicine, Birmingham was elected for being the first African American woman to chair an academic emergency department in the nation, and representing the first scholar at the crossroads of the emergency medicine, critical care, and palliative care disciplines to achieve such recognition in North America.



Meet your Management Team

Since 2011, the Medical Association of the State of Alabama has provided a Specialty Society Management service to a variety of medical specialties in Alabama. Starting with just an executive director and a membership coordinator, the team has now grown to include staff with specific areas of expertise that bring a wealth of knowledge and experience to the management team. AL-ACEP partnered with the Medical Association in 2021 to manage our society.



Meghan Martin, Executive Director, AL-ACEP

Meghan serves as executive director of AL-ACEP in addition to serving as the director of membership for the Medical Association of the State of Alabama. Meghan is a graduate of Troy University with a degree in broadcast journalism. She has more than 10 years of experience in event management, marketing and public relations. Her main roles with AL-ACEP include:

- Coordinating board meetings, membership meetings and elections
- Working with the course director to secure speakers for conferences and overseeing the continuing medical education application process
- Sharing information from and to the Medical Association of the State of Alabama on issues relating the field of medicine
- Acting as a liaison to the American College of Emergency Physicians

In addition to her professional duties, Meghan volunteers at her church and cherishes time with her husband and two sons.



Mark Jackson – Executive Director, Medical Association of the State of Alabama

Mark has been executive director of the Medical Association of the State of Alabama since 2014. Prior to this appointment, he served the association as director of legislative affairs for 28 years. He is a graduate of Auburn University with a degree in business. His main roles with AL-ACEP are:

- Overseeing specialty society management activities
- Monitoring legislative issues that affect emergency physicians and coordinating calls to action with the Medical Association and AL-ACEP
- Developing and maintaining relationships with the AL-ACEP board and members of AL-ACEP

Mark is an avid Auburn sports fan and is widely known for not wearing socks.



Charlotte Morris, Membership and Specialty Society Coordinator

Charlotte has more than eight years of experience in specialty society management, with a total of 25 years in marketing and communications. She is a graduate of Abilene Christian University with a degree in mass communication. Her main roles with AL-ACEP include:

- Maintaining membership records and coordinating dues billing with AL-ACEP
- Completing Continuing Medical Education (CME) applications through the Medical Foundation of Alabama
- Promoting AL-ACEP conferences and coordinating registration

For the past seven years, she and her husband have been active in a mentorship program for Hispanic children in the Montgomery area. She also volunteers as an interpreter for the deaf ministry at her church.



Regan Patterson, Membership and Specialty Society Coordinator

Regan is the newest member of our team, joining us in October 2022. She is a graduate of Louisiana State University with a degree in mass communication, and will complete a master's degree in public administration from Auburn University in December. Her main roles with AL-ACEP include:

- Creating and distributing the AL-ACEP newsletters
- Developing and maintaining the society's social media presence
- Managing website content
- Assisting with conference promotion and registration
- Monitoring legislative issues that affect emergency

physicians and alerting members of any calls to action

After completing her bachelor's at Louisiana State University, Regan worked as an intern for Congresswoman Terri Sewell and at the Alabama League of Municipalities, and has a special interest in legislative activities.



Erich Burbage, Membership and Specialty Society Coordinator

Erich joined the Medical Association in September of 2021. He attended Faulkner University and has more than 15 years of management experience in the banking and optometric industries. His primary focus is on membership recruiting and retention for the Medical Association but assists AL-ACEP with coordinating exhibitors for all of our conferences. His main roles with AL-ACEP include:

- Maintaining a database of potential exhibitors
- Soliciting exhibitors to participate in our conferences
- Coordinating exhibitors on-site and managing on-site attendee registrations

Erich and his family recently became a certified foster family through AGAPE of Central Alabama and are active in their church's youth ministry.



Amanda Studdard, Information Technology Specialist and Event Planner

Amanda has been with the Medical Association of the State of Alabama for more than 17 years as their Information Technology and event manager. She is a graduate of Auburn University with a degree in information systems management. In 2020 she joined the specialty society team as the event planner. Her main roles with AL-ACEP include:

- Securing event contracts with conference hotels
- Managing event set up logistics
- Coordinating audio/visual needs and food/beverage for conferences
- Providing technical support to the specialty society team

In addition to her professional duties, Amanda is the owner of Fairytale Mouse Travel with 10 agents in her agency specializing in Disney Destinations, Universal Studios, cruising and all-inclusive destinations. In her free time, she enjoys traveling and spending time with her husband and two children.



Amanda Griffith – Finance Director, MASA

Amanda has been with the Medical Association of the State of Alabama since 2019 serving as the finance director. She is a graduate of Auburn University with a degree in accounting and has more than 14 years of experience in accounting and human resource management. Her main roles with AL-ACEP include:

- Ensuring payment of all financial responsibilities
- Managing financial records
- Providing financial reports for board meetings

Amanda has two children, and is very active with the volleyball and band programs at their school.

EMerald Coast 2023

Save the Date

Make plans to join us June 5-8, 2023, at Sandestin Golf and Beach Resort.

Details coming soon to www.alacep.org.



THE
EMERALD COAST
CONFERENCE

SAVE THE DATE

June 5-8, 2023

PARTICIPATING ACEP CHAPTERS: ALABAMA | KANSAS | KENTUCKY | LOUISIANA | MISSISSIPPI
MISSOURI | MONTANA | OKLAHOMA | TENNESSEE

www.alacep.org/education-and-cme/

Welcome ALACEP New Members!

Jeremie Daniel Bourget, MD
Kristin Leigh Chancellor
Riley Coats, MD
Reshvinder Singh Dhillon, MD
Sarah Jane Ehmke
Payton Davis Garlington
Carly Elizabeth Harris
Erika Marie Haviland
Megan Lytus
Stacy Marshall, MD
Shane McKinney, MD
Erik James Porter
Tyler Christian Power
Eve Summer Reid
Nathan Andrew Robinson
Abraham Ruiz
Paul D Schneider, MD
Soterios Channing Stroud, DO
Elizabeth Vandervort

FROM NATIONAL ACEP



ACEP Resources & Latest News

ED Boarding: Advocacy on the Front Lines

ACEP launched an [advocacy and public awareness campaign](#) to sound the alarm on the ED boarding crisis. The campaign centers around more than [100 boarding stories](#) sent in by ACEP members that paint a picture of the grim situation in many EDs across the country. Your stories formed the heart of the [letter ACEP sent to the White House](#) on Nov. 7, cosigned by 34 health care and patient advocate organizations.

In [the latest regulatory blog](#), ACEP Senior Vice President for Advocacy & Practice Affairs Laura Wooster provides a progress report on this week's efforts and previews next steps.

ACEP continues to collect boarding stories. [Submit yours via this anonymous form](#).

Visit our new [ED Boarding resource page](#) to view the stories, read the advocacy letter and get talking points on the issue.

The 2023 Physician Fee Schedule Final Reg-- Highlights and Analysis

Two major Medicare final rules were recently released, including the 2023 Physician Fee Schedule that has a big impact on reimbursement. ACEP's regulatory team analyzed 3,000+ pages of content and wrote [a special edition of Regs & Eggs](#).

New Data Underscores Cost and Health Outcome Concerns with Independent Practice

We know that everyone on an emergency care team is integral and valued. But our experience shows that nobody else has the training or expertise of an emergency physician. As lawmakers and administrators evaluate whether to empower nurse practitioners and physician assistants beyond the scope of their training, new data from Stanford University reinforces our reservations about exposing non-physician practitioners to responsibility they are not prepared to assume. [Read more in the November ACEP Board Blog](#).

Podcast: Managing Difficult Pediatric Airways

Pediatric respiratory illnesses are on the rise. In this episode of ACEP Frontline, Dr. Al Sacchetti reviews the approach and management of difficult pediatric airways. [Listen in.](#)

EMF Grant Cycle is Open, Set to Award \$1.5 Million in Funding

Get those grant applications ready! The Emergency Medicine Foundation is set to award \$1.5 million in grants, with opportunities covering a wide range of critical EM research topics. This cycle includes seven new grant categories. [Apply by Jan. 20, 2023.](#)

Honor Outstanding Medical Students with ACEP/EMRA Awards

Make sure standout students get recognized for going above and beyond! The deadline is Jan. 8 to nominate a 4th year EM-bound medical student for the ACEP/EMRA National Outstanding Medical Student Award. [Learn more.](#)

Childcare challenges + solutions: ACEP's Young Physicians Section convened a panel of YPs who utilize au pairs, nannies, at-home daycares and more. [View the episode and related resources.](#)

CDC Releases 2022 Clinical Practice Guideline for Prescribing Opioids for Pain

The new CDC Clinical Practice Guideline for Prescribing Opioids for Pain—United States, 2022 (2022 Clinical Practice Guideline) provides 12 evidence-based recommendations for primary care and other clinicians who provide pain care, including those prescribing opioids, for outpatients aged 18 years and older with acute, subacute and chronic pain. [Read more on the CDC's website.](#)

Upcoming ACEP Events and Deadlines

Dec. 14: [Virtual Grand Rounds: Advanced Ultrasound-Guided Nerve Blocks](#)

Jan. 8: Deadline to nominate a 4th year EM-bound medical student for the [ACEP/EMRA National Outstanding Medical Student Award](#)

Jan. 17: [The Nuts and Bolts of Physician Reimbursement 2023](#)

Jan. 20: [Deadline to Apply for an EMF Grant](#)

March 31-April 3: [ACEP's Advanced Pediatric EM Assembly](#)

April 13-15: [EM Basic Research Skills, Session II](#)

Contact Alabama ACEP

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