

**Dear ACR Councilor/Alternate Councilor:**

The 2009 ACR Annual Meeting and Chapter Leadership Conference (AMCLC) will be here faster than we think. We are confident that this year's program will be outstanding and that some new features will make the meeting run even more smoothly than the past.

**Program Highlights:**

• ***SATURDAY – May 2, 2009***

This year's meeting will include an outstanding CME session on Saturday entitled, "Musculoskeletal MR." The session will begin at 8:00am on May 2 and will provide seven (7) AMA PRA Category 1 Credits. The all-star faculty will include: Mark Murphey, M.D. from the Armed Forces Institute of Pathology; Mark DeSmet, M.D., FACR, University of Wisconsin; William Morrison, M.D., Thomas Jefferson University; and David Rubin, M.D., Mallinckrodt Institute of Radiology.

• ***SUNDAY – May 3, 2009***

Sunday's session will kick off with several important reports from ACR leadership on the activities and direction of the College and profession. We will then hear from prospective leaders of the College who will make their candidate presentations as they vie for several open seats including the College Nominating Committee, Council Steering Committee, ACR Board of Chancellors, ACR Vice-Speaker and ACR Resident and Fellow Section Representatives to attend the Intersociety Conference in the summer. Sunday will culminate in two distinguished traditions. Arl Van Moore, Jr., M.D., FACR will give the President's Address on Sunday afternoon. The College will then bestow its highest honors (gold medals, honorary fellowships and ACR fellowships) at its annual convocation. An outdoor (weather permitting) President's Reception for New Fellows follows the convocation.

• ***MONDAY – May 4, 2009***

Elections will be held on Monday morning. Monday morning is also dedicated to the annual Robert D. Moreton Lecture. We will announce the speaker and topic in our next Speaker/Vice Speaker letter in January. Monday morning and early afternoon are dedicated to open hearings before the reference committees. All proposed practice guidelines and technical standards as well as any proposed policy resolutions are open for consideration. Back by popular demand will be open microphone sessions. The first of two planned sessions will occur Monday at lunch. We will deviate from past tradition and have a working lunch for attendees as we discuss some of the most prominent issues in radiology today. Monday afternoon is devoted to a central focus of the AMCLC, preparing for our Capitol Hill visits which will take place on Wednesday.

• ***TUESDAY – May 5, 2009***

Tuesday morning will be devoted to our interactive economics session. This informative session will provide the latest on public and private financing of radiology and how you can maximize both yours and your group's economic potential. We have invited an outstanding, thought-provoking leader for Tuesday's lunch session. We expect the speaker and topic to be finalized shortly, and we will have these in our next Speaker/Vice Speaker newsletter. Tuesday afternoon, the Council will be in session to consider the reference committee reports. The second planned open microphone session will occur immediately after the consideration of the reference committee reports. Tuesday night will feature the ever-popular RADPAC Gala. Make plans to attend this session and most importantly give to this critically important cause.

- ***WEDNESDAY – May 6, 2009***

Members are encouraged to take part in the Capitol Hill visits as we bring radiology's voice to Capitol Hill. With a new president and new Congress taking over in late January, it is essential that we engage our members of Congress and their staff's on the priorities for radiology and our patients.

### **Practice Guidelines and Technical Standards**

This past summer, we asked a work group to look at the ACR's current practice guidelines and technical standards process to see if there are ways to streamline the process to allow the College a quicker reaction time to effectuate change and to allow us greater time on the floor to discuss matters critical to the profession. The work group chaired by Larry Liebscher, M.D., FACR, with advice and assistance from Paul Larson, M.D., FACR and the ACR Quality and Safety staff provided several recommendations for changes. After careful consideration and analysis, we determined that the Council needed to continue to be the final arbiter of practice guidelines and technical standards and that providing direct access to ACR members was a critical area that needed to be retained. Thus, we will keep the system in place for now, and will continue to investigate ways to make the process more efficient and effective in the future.

### **Resolutions**

As always, the Council meeting will focus on the consideration of resolutions. We have 29 practice guidelines and technical standards set for consideration this year. In February, those practice guidelines and technical standards will be available for your review. To access that portion of the web site go to [www.acr.org/reviewguidelines](http://www.acr.org/reviewguidelines). Please remember that all comments received prior to the AMCLC will be considered by the reference committees.

### **Important Dates:**

- ***Meeting Registration Forms – Available Online in January 2009***

Meeting Forms are available on-line at [www.acr.org/amclc09](http://www.acr.org/amclc09) and accessible via PDF format for fax purposes only. An online version of the registration form (for filling out online) and the AMCLC brochure will be available in January. Please visit for ongoing and current updates and information.

- ***Committee Volunteers Deadline – January 10, 2009***

We are seeking volunteers to serve on the reference committees, the tellers committee, and the credentials committee. Please send an e-mail to [jfisher@acr.org](mailto:jfisher@acr.org) or contact Jen at 800-227-5463 ext. 4386. **We will need all volunteers to submit their interest to serve by no later than January 10, 2009.**

- ***ACR Councilor and Alternate Councilor Identification – January 15, 2009***

The Office of Chapter and Volunteer Development needs to identify all Councilors and Alternate Councilors in advance of the meeting. Please submit updated Councilor and Alternate Councilor information to via e-mail ([chapters@acr.org](mailto:chapters@acr.org)) or fax (703-262-9319) **by no later than January 16, 2009.**

- ***Resident and Fellow Section Identification – February 1, 2009***

The College needs each chapter to identify its sponsored resident or fellow representatives and provide that information to ACR staff **by no later than February 1, 2009.** This information can be submitted via fax (703-262-9319) or e-mail ([chapters@acr.org](mailto:chapters@acr.org)).

- ***Resolution Submission Deadline – February 2, 2009***

Policy resolutions are also a critical part of the AMCLC. Only councilors, chapters, the Board of Chancellors or Council Steering Committee can sponsor resolutions. **The resolution deadline for this year's meeting is Monday, February 2, 2009.** To access the proper format for submitting a resolution, please go to [www.acr.org/resolutionprep](http://www.acr.org/resolutionprep). Please send completed resolutions to Brad Short at [bshort@acr.org](mailto:bshort@acr.org) or Jen Fisher at [jfisher@acr.org](mailto:jfisher@acr.org).

- ***Meeting Registration Deadline – April 3, 2009***

This is the final opportunity for AMCLC attendees to register for the meeting, or to cancel an existing registration and receive full course fee, less administrative charges.

- ***Hotel Reservation Deadline – April 10, 2009***

Again, those attending the AMCLC will be able to secure hotel accommodations at the Hilton Washington Hotel. The ACR has reserved sleeping rooms for meeting attendees at an established group rate. However, rooms are available on a first-come, first-served basis. **The ACR cannot guarantee that rooms will be available after the reservation deadline of Friday, April 10, 2009.** Reservations made after that time will be accepted by the hotel on a space-available basis and may not be at the ACR group rate. For more information regarding housing and travel information, please visit [www.acr.org/amclc09/travel](http://www.acr.org/amclc09/travel).

## Questions

Any questions you have about the meeting should be sent to Jen Fisher 800-227-5463 ext. 4386 or Brad Short 800-227-5463 ext. 4975. Questions regarding Chapter Officers, Councilors, Alternate Councilors or the Resident and Fellow Section should be directed to Fran Cordero at 800-227-5463 ext. 4496 or Trina Zeberlein at 800-227-5463 ext 4998.

We wish all of you a joyous holiday season and a happy and healthy 2009!

Sincerely,



David C. Kushner, MD, FACR  
*Speaker, ACR Council*



Alan D. Kaye, MD, FACR  
*Vice Speaker, ACR Council*