



Virtual 62nd Annual Meeting

Public Health, Law, and Society

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

I would like to update you on a few things going on in the College.

62nd Annual Meeting

The first and most important upcoming event is the College's 62nd Annual Meeting which will be held on February 25 through February 27, 2022.

Virtual Meeting. Back in November, most members of the College (including most of the Board of Governors) were strongly supportive of having a hybrid meeting which would allow those who so desired to reconnect with old friends and meet new ones, while allowing those who could not attend in person for health reasons or otherwise to still participate. The emergence of the omicron variant, however, derailed our plans, and as you know from recent communications, the meeting will now be held entirely virtually as it was last year with hopes that our 2023 meeting in Orlando will be in-person.

Early bird registration. We are extending the "early bird" registration discount until Friday, **February 18**. We hope you will join us for this exciting program.

Program. Although unfortunately we are not going to be able to meet face-to-face, the great news is that we have an exciting meeting lined up. Annual Meeting Chair Dr. Eli Avila has put together an outstanding program on "Public Health, Law, and Society." Additionally, Dr. Jennifer Sullivan, with the assistance of Dr. Bruce Seidberg, has put together a separate breakout program for our dental members, which we were unable to do last year.

Some of our featured speakers include Cook County, Illinois Sheriff Thomas J. Dart, JD who will talk about "Corrections and the Pandemic;" Dr. Elizabeth Valencia who will be discussing "Women in Leadership;" Dr. Georges Benjamin who will share his insights on "Ensuring Effective Risk Communication: Building Trust in Public Health;" and Dr. Lisa Simon who will talk about "The Health Policy and Public Health Implications of the Separation of Medicine and Dentistry."

Continuing Medical and Dental Credit. The program has been approved for up to a total of 20.25 Category 1 Continuing Medical Education credits. The dental program has separately

been approved for 22.75 dental CEs. Certificates for continuing medical or dental education are included as part of the registration fee.

Continuing Legal Education Credit. We are working this year with the DC Bar to coordinate the process of obtaining Continuing Legal Education credits. The DC Bar has prepared an application package seeking 17.75 hours of CLE with 1.0 hour of Legal Ethics credit, although each state bar ultimately makes its own determination about the number of eligible credits that can be awarded. Because of the significant extra manpower required to process CLE credits, there is an additional fee for processing of CLE as there has been at past ACLM meetings.

As most of you already know, the ability to earn continuing medical or dental and legal education credits simultaneously is a tremendous time and cost saving benefit to our members. Without the ACLM Annual Meeting, many dual degree professionals would be required to attend separate medical/dental and legal conferences to acquire the same number of continuing education credits for licensing purposes as those available during the Annual Meeting.

Get Credit for Missed Sessions for Up To 30 Days. To enable meeting participants to get the most from the conference, one additional benefit to having the meeting virtually this year is that, starting 48 hours after each presentation, recorded sessions will be available online for the next 30 days. Therefore, if attendees miss some sessions, they will be able to go back, access those sessions, and obtain credit through March 29, 2022.

Many states require that, to obtain CLE credit for sessions that have been recorded in the past, the “fast forward” function on the videotape must be disabled to prevent attendees from simply fast-forwarding to the end, obtaining the attendance verification code, and claiming credit. We have been able to work with our outside vendor to incorporate that feature so that after-the-fact attendance should be acceptable for all the states in which we are seeking CLE credit.

We hope that you will join us for this exciting and timely conference.

Journal of Legal Medicine

As I reported previously, the College’s contract with Georgia State University School of Law concluded at the end of June 2021. Although we have been actively pursuing potential relationships with other law schools, we have not yet lined up a new academic partner. In the meantime, however, we still need to publish the Journal. Accordingly, we are in need of members who can serve as peer reviewers and editors to assist us with this task. If you are able to help, please contact us at JLM@aclm.org.

Report from Dr. Richard Wilbur, AMA Delegate

Dr. Wilbur submitted the following report:

The AMA concerns at present are directed to preventing any cuts to Medicare Funding for physicians in this year’s budget and to extending the ability of physicians to practice telehealth without restrictions from state licensure requirements. It continues to have membership problems in the active practicing physician category, while doing well in the student and resident categories at the low end of the age scale and the senior (retired) category at the other end. The overall figures are increasing, but the working doctors aren’t joining in any large numbers. To various degrees, the specialty societies are also having increasing problems in recruitment though less so than the AMA. The over 50% of physicians who are employees are

less likely to join multiple societies. The regional geographic societies such as Illinois State Medical have similar difficulties.

Respectfully submitted

Richard S. Wilbur MD JD FCLM

Webinar Series

The ACLM webinar series will continue with two new presentations in March and April. On March 24, one of our new Fellows, Dr. Christian Jagusch, will present a webinar on “Understanding the Role of Sepsis in Medical Malpractice Cases.” Then, on April 19, Dr. Sandy Sanbar, Past ACLM President, will present a webinar on “Recent Advances in Health Technology: The Use of Artificial Intelligence.”

On another note, we polled our members about the College’s webinars a couple of months ago. We were very encouraged by the positive feedback. Most of our members attended at least one webinar in 2021, and the quality of the programs overall was assessed as excellent. We also sought guidance from members about the best time of day to hold webinars. The majority of members preferred to continue webinars at the current time (generally early afternoon eastern time), which allows people on both coasts to attend and which allows people to schedule their lunch break around the webinar. A few members expressed a preference for having these sessions in the evening rather than during the workday, although that is challenging because by the time the work day has concluded on the West Coast, it is already 8:00 pm on the East Coast. We decided to continue with the time that was convenient for the largest number of people and will try to accommodate those who have no flexibility in their schedule by making the webinars available on our website.

Finally, if you would like to be a speaker for a webinar or if you have a recommendation for a subject or a speaker, please let us know at Info@aclm.org.

Hope to see many of you virtually at least at our upcoming meeting.

Joe

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