

A Newsletter for the Members of the Iowa Chapter - Summer 2023

[View Web Version](#)

# Iowa ACEP



## In this Edition

[From the Iowa ACEP President](#)

[News from National ACEP National](#)



### President's Message

**Nicholas H. Kluesner, MD, FACEP**

We enjoyed a lively annual chapter meeting at BigGrove Brewery in Iowa City this past July – thanks to all of those who made an extra effort to be there. We had broad representation from medical students, residents, fellows, attendings, and retirees.

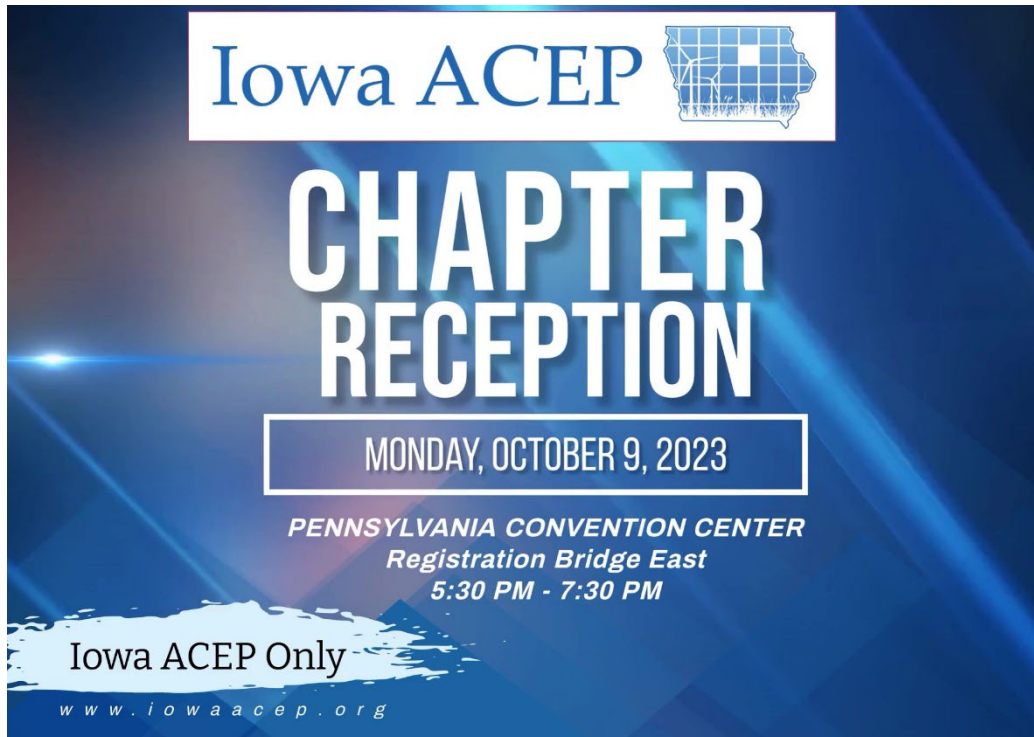
From the residents and fellows in attendance we heard a clear desire to focus on camaraderie and social support in our chapter. We recognized that only the folks in that room really understand what it is that we do and the experiences we have – it's the only social event where you won't be asked "what's the coolest thing you've seen in the ER?" So let us know, what would entice you to break out of the shiftwork cycle and reconnect with peers?

We heard an inciteful observation from one of our most senior members, with 37 years of emergency department experience, that he had observed the quality of care and standards improve for all sorts of diseases over his tenure – cardiac, stroke, sepsis, surgery – save two areas: substance abuse and mental health. Why do these remain left behind? What can we do about them? When the clinics and inpatient units are full or prioritize a better payer mix, these patients come to us; when the acute phase of those diseases manifest in society, these patient's get brought to us – so it becomes our responsibility to tell their story and be their advocates for changes to funding streams and public health/community initiatives. What can we realistically do?

In line with that, one excellent suggestion made was to invite Iowa legislators to our annual meeting as an opportunity for us to hear from them the local legislative initiatives that will affect us and hopefully for them to hear directly from us what we

see on the ground. Now that's the kind of organic, impactful activity that make us excited to be involved in emergency medicine!

I hope hitting on just some of these highlights entices you to seek us out at [ACEP – Scientific Assembly](#) in Philadelphia this year for the [Iowa-ACEP Reception](#). I hope it motivates you to reach out to your curmudgeonly colleagues to encourage them back into the arena. Together we are better supported and more successful in our goal of improving patient care in the emergency department.



During the annual meeting in Iowa City this year and because of a great turn out and willing members who were interested in getting involved at the chapter level (or were nudged), we were able to fill all open Chapter Board positions. See below list of current Chapter Board Members.

A Chapter Board Meeting will be held this month to review the resolutions that will be discussed this year during ACEP's Council Meeting in Philadelphia. [For more information, contact us.](#)

Thanks to all of you for your dedication at the chapter level!

**Iowa ACEP Chapter Board  
2023-2024**

**Chapter Executive Board**

President

Nicholas H. Kluesner MD, FACEP

President-Elect

Zachary Rasmussen, MD

Secretary	Katherine M. Briggie, DO
Treasurer	Nash Whitaker, MD
Immediate Past President	Stacey M. Marlow, MD, JD, FACEP

#### **Chapter Board of Directors**

Director at Large	Daniel P. Runde, MD, FACEP
Director at Large	Cory Wittrock, MD, FACEP
Resident Representative (UICCM)	Jordan Huttash, MD
Student Representative (UICCM)	Adam Carrizales, NRP
Student Representative (DMU)	Alec T. Jackson

#### **Councillors/Alternate Councillors**

Elected Councillor	Rachael Sokol, DO, FACEP
Councillor	Ryan M. Dowden, MD, FACEP
Alternate Councillor	Nicholas H. Kluesner, MD
Alternate Councillor	Cory Wittrock, MD, FACEP
Alternate Councillor	Thomas E. Benzoni, DO, FACEP
Alternate Councillor	Daniel P. Runde, MD, FACEP

---

**Follow us on Social Media!**



---

**FROM NATIONAL ACEP**



## ACEP Resources & Latest News

**ACEP President shares highlights of ACEP victories.** In the July issue of *ACEP Now*, Medical Editor in Chief Cedric Dark, MD, FACEP, checks in with ACEP President Chris Kang, MD, FACEP, for the latest on the College's work to address ED boarding, physician burnout, private equity in EM and more. [Read more.](#)

**Advocacy victory:** In a big win for emergency physicians, changes to the surprise billing process are now in the works. We heard your concerns and used our voice to call out extensive flaws in the law's implementation. This is your dues dollars at work. [Read more.](#)

**Latest updates related to the APP closure:** In the wake of American Physician Partners' closing, many members need immediate support. Even if you weren't directly impacted, the changing landscape of healthcare brings uncertainty - and ACEP has [tools](#) to help.

- Watch our recent [legal webinar about job transitions](#) to help with contract decisions.
- Access our **new** [contract toolkit](#) with extensive, members-only FAQs about insurance, contracts and legal issues during career transitions
- Email [presidentkang@acep.org](mailto:presidentkang@acep.org) if you or a colleague has been affected, and share specific circumstances so ACEP can provide tailored assistance.

**Your newest member benefit helps with contract review and negotiations!** ACEP's new partnership with Resolve gives you free access to real-time salary data, a contract scorecard to rate any new or existing contract, and updates on the current J-1 waiver cycle. ACEP members also get 20% off additional packages from Resolve. [Read more.](#)

**Millions in Funding Set for ALTO, MAT Programs.** ACEP advocacy resulted in millions of dollars in grant funding from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA). The significant boost for emergency physician-led Alternative to Opioids (ALTO) and Medication-Assisted Treatment (MAT) programs will help save lives and improve care related to opioid use disorder. ACEP developed and worked to pass the law to establish ALTO and strongly supports MAT expansion, including the recent repeal of the "X-waiver." [Read more.](#)

### **ICYMI, ACEP releases statements on Diversity and CMGs**

On July 14, ACEP issued a [Policy Statement on the Corporate Practice of Medicine](#). ACEP believes the physician-patient relationship is the moral center of medicine. The integrity of this relationship must never be compromised.

On July 20, ACEP issued a Joint [Statement from EM organizations on efforts to diversify healthcare](#) professionals in the U.S. [See all policy statements.](#)

## ACEP Grassroots Advocacy

### ACEP's ED Visit Program

As part of ACEP's federal advocacy efforts, we aim to have as many legislators as possible visit emergency departments in their communities to see first-hand the inner workings of an ED and those patients seeking care in the ED. Members of Congress rely heavily upon input from their constituents when considering issues and making policy decisions. As the front line of our nation's health care delivery system, emergency physicians are well-positioned to educate legislators on a wide range of issues including patient access, public health concerns, rural and inner-city health issues, and quality of care.

ACEP assists in the scheduling and preparation for these visits, including talking points and tips on coordinating the visit with your hospital staff and administration. For more information about hosting an ED visit for your federal legislator, please contact [Jeanne Slade](#) or [Liz Demorest](#) in the ACEP Washington, D.C. Office.

### NEMPAC Networking Opportunities at ACEP23:

The NEMPAC Board of Trustees is inviting NEMPAC VIP donors to two exclusive events at ACEP23 – don't miss the opportunity to network with ACEP leaders and colleagues who support emergency medicine advocacy!

#### NEMPAC VIP Donor Reception

When: Sunday, October 8, 6-8 p.m.

Where: The Liberty View at Independence Visitor Center, 599 Market Street, Philadelphia

How to Receive an Invitation: Donate \$600 (\$365 for transitioning and retired members, \$60 for residents)

#### NEMPAC "Give-a-Shift" Donor Lounge

When: Monday, October 9 – Wednesday, October 11, 8 a.m. – 4 p.m. each day

Where: Philadelphia Convention Center, Level 100, Room 117

How to Receive an Invitation: Donate \$1,200 (\$365 for transitioning and retired members, \$120 for residents)

[Donate to NEMPAC](#) by October 4 or during ACEP23 to join us at the Reception and Lounge!

## Upcoming ACEP Events and Deadlines

**Oct 9-12:** [ACEP23](#) Scientific Assembly, Philadelphia, PA

Iowa ACEP Chapter  
Nicholas H. Kluesner, MD, FACEP - President  
800.798.1822 Ext. 3312 | [Website](#)

**c/o National ACEP  
4950 West Royal Lane  
Irving, Texas 75063-2524**

© 2023 Iowa Chapter ACEP. All rights reserved.

Getting too many emails? Update your [ACEP Email Subscription Center](#) and select only what you want to receive.