

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

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Iowa ACEP



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For the Iowa ACEP President Nicholas H. Kluesner, MD, FACEP

Another successful Scientific Assembly has passed with a large group of us traveling to Philadelphia to represent Iowa at the Council Meeting, present projects, continue our education, and reinvest in professional connections.

There was a major change this year at Scientific Assembly that – in my opinion – went undercelebrated, and which I hope you will see emphasized more in future years. I'd like to take this platform to call it out:

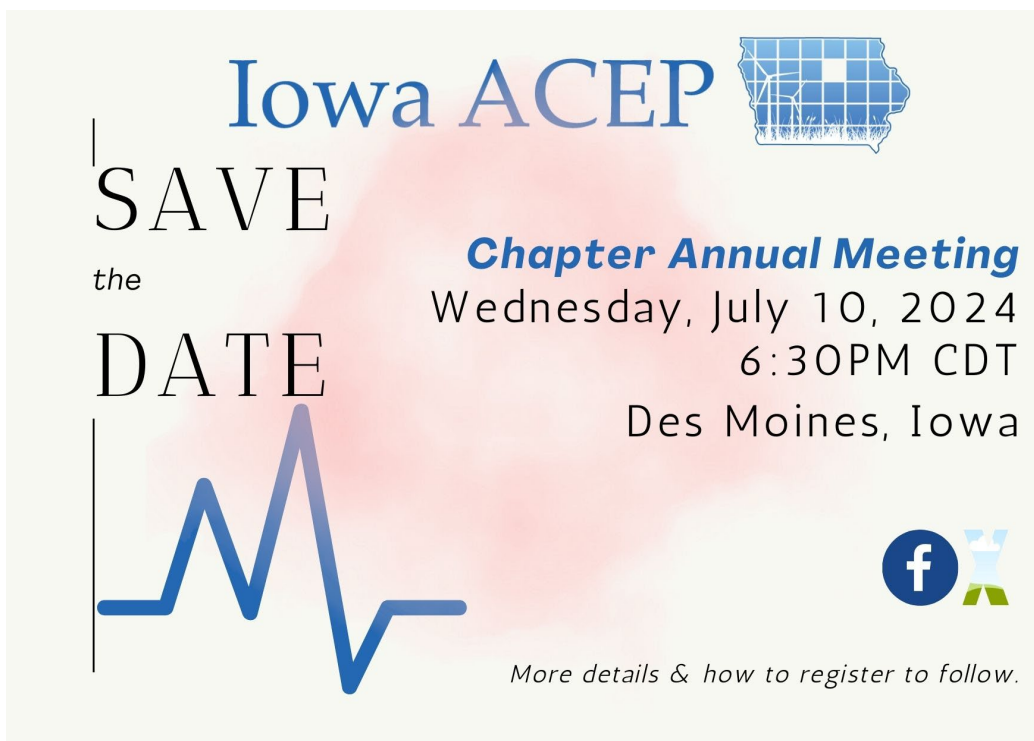
ACEP, as an organization, is often vilified on social media for the presence and adverse effects of private equity in emergency department staffing operations. Maybe we haven't done enough, soon enough, but what is unequivocally true – speaking as a member of the ACEP Ethics Committee for 15-years now - is that private equity interests to not adversely affect ACEP's policy positions or advocacy efforts.

And yet, there is no denying that ACEP has received ample funds from these companies in large part to sponsor the lavish parties that Scientific Assembly has been famous for. I recall the entire Gaslamp Quarter of San Diego being cordoned off and the brand new (at the time) Newseum in Washington DC rented out for our opening parties in years past. Rumor has it they did it in the Space Needle one year too. Those came with an outrageous price tag, for which, you saw large corporate banners at the parties and on our lanyards. There was no denying the optics of

ACEP being “in bed” with private equity were everywhere. Not this year and no longer.

In response to consistent and majority feedback from members, those optics are just too much to tolerate any longer. We are accepting less ostentatious party venues in order to make it clear to our members, our patients, our advocacy efforts, and our critics, that there is no conflict of interests hiding in the dark corners of Dallas at ACEP Headquarters. Those of you disappointed can commiserate with my wife. But don't worry, there are still ample events and parties to make the trip fun and social – the settings and flavors has just changed a bit. I hope we can attend them with more pride now that corporate banners and lanyards have gone the way of drug pens. I commend the organization's leadership (and ourselves) on making that hard decision and I think we should not only support it but celebrate it.

See you all in [Las Vegas](#) next year!



The poster features a light green background with a faint map of Iowa. On the left, a blue ECG line is plotted on a vertical axis. The text 'SAVE the DATE' is written in a large, serif font, with 'SAVE' and 'DATE' on separate lines and 'the' in a smaller font between them. To the right, the text 'Iowa ACEP' is written in a blue, sans-serif font, followed by a blue grid icon of the state of Iowa. Below this, the text 'Chapter Annual Meeting' is written in a bold, blue, sans-serif font, followed by 'Wednesday, July 10, 2024', '6:30PM CDT', and 'Des Moines, Iowa' in a black, sans-serif font. In the bottom right corner, there are icons for Facebook and a person, and the text 'More details & how to register to follow.' is written in a small, italicized, black font.

Iowa ACEP

SAVE
the
DATE

Chapter Annual Meeting
Wednesday, July 10, 2024
6:30PM CDT
Des Moines, Iowa

More details & how to register to follow.

Council Meeting Summary
Rachel Sokol, DO, FACEP

The 2023 Council Meeting convened this year on October 7th and 8th 2023, in Philadelphia.

This was the 53rd meeting for the Council. The Council comprises 53 chartered chapters (50 US states, Puerto Rico, DC/Government Services Chapter), CORD, EMRA, SAEM, AACEM, ACOEP, and 38 subsections. We meet once a year just prior to the Scientific Assembly.

The number of Councillors is determined by the membership in each chapter. For each 100-members, an additional Councillor is allowed.



In past years, Iowa has had three Councillors, however this year Iowa membership numbers were down, and we were allotted 2-Councillors. The 2023 Iowa Councillors were Dr. Ryan Dowden and me. Alternate Councillors Dr. Cory Wittrock and Dr. Nick Kluesner. Also in attendance was Dr. Dan Runde.

Numerous tasks are accomplished at Council. The Council is responsible for developing and reviewing policies and shaping the strategic plans in conjunction with the Board of Directors. We are presented with the resolutions prior to the Council Meeting to review and discuss, and hopefully come up with a consensus on how to vote on each. Some of the Important topics discussed this year were in regard to women's reproductive health, substance abuse, gun violence, emergency department boarding and transfers. A resolution may be referred to the board, adopted, adopt as amended, or not adopt. After voting on resolutions, elections for the Board, president elect, speaker and vice speaker take place.

This year's election results are: Dr. Alison Haddock for President-Elect, Dr. Melissa Costello for Speaker of the house, Dr. Michael McCrea for Vice Speaker and elected Board Members are Dr. Chadd Kraus, Dr. Abhi Mehrota, Dr. Henry Pitzele, and Dr. James L. Shoemaker.

On a side note, there is always EMF and NEMPAC challenges for all chapters to meet 100% Councillor contribution during the Council Meeting. I am proud to say that Iowa met both!

For anyone who has interest in the Council Meeting, please feel free to [reach out](#) to any of the Iowa ACEP Chapter Board members.



From Left to Right: Dr. Dan Runde, Dr. Rachel Sokol, Dr. Cory Wittrock and Dr. Ryan Dowden

2023 Iowa ACEP Chapter Reception Philadelphia, PA.

The reception hosted by Iowa ACEP this year was held in Philadelphia. We had a great turn out. Thanks again to Unity Point Health and University of Iowa for their sponsorship. We hope you can join us for the 2024 reception in Las Vegas.



Medical Student Corner
Alec Jackson
Des Moines University

Newcomer/Student Perspective

As a medical student, learning about the inner workings of governing bodies of medicine this past fall felt like a crucial step forward in becoming a more well-rounded physician.

When change needs to be made, knowing how the process works can only help improve the efficiency with which adjustments can be implemented. The discussion during this year's resolution meeting was great to observe, and I appreciated the opportunity to be a part of it.



My colleagues at Des Moines University have a strong interest in the rural communities of our state. Facilitating better rural emergency care is something that will draw more students to the specialty, and to our state. In a time where the rural communities are suffering, this feels imperative. In the future I hope to become more involved in these discussions and the development of solutions.

Iowa ACEP Chapter Swag

Capitalizing on our new Iowa ACEP logo, we know of a site where you can order, purchase and ship directly to you all sorts of items supporting the Iowa ACEP brand.

Check out the site [here](#). We are looking into setting up our own store on our chapter site. For now, enjoy shopping as a guest. If you would like a jpg of the chapter logo, [reach out](#).

Thanks for representing the Iowa ACEP Chapter!



Check out the swag you can order!

Follow us on Social Media!



FROM NATIONAL ACEP



ACEP Resources & Latest News

ACEP Blunts Medicare Cuts in 2024 Physician Fee Schedule

CMS recently released the Physician Fee Schedule PFS for calendar year 2024, which includes some wins for you and your patients, thanks to ACEP's involvement. Other provisions are concerning and ACEP continues to fight for favorable solutions. Our goal is to ensure your work is valued appropriately. [Read ACEP's detailed analysis.](#)

ACEP Council Tackles Key Issues During Philadelphia Meeting

More than 60 resolutions were considered during the ACEP23 Council Meeting in Philadelphia in October, with many of them drawing considerable debate before 44 were ultimately adopted. [Learn more](#)

New Career Resources:

- You asked for it. ACEP delivered. ACEP's **Open Book** addresses your need for employer transparency. Gain access to information about employer group structure, leadership and more | openbook.acep.org
- **Practice Essentials of Emergency Medicine** augments your knowledge of several critical business topics: Reimbursement, Contracts and Practice Models, Negotiations, Operations Management, Risk Management and More. It's **FREE** for ACEP members | acep.org/practiceessentials
- **Find More Fulfillment in Your Career.** ACEP has published a new wellness guide, [From Self to System – Being Well in Emergency Medicine](#), which offers practical solutions to many of the systemic issues that plague emergency physicians today. Thank you to the countless authors and contributors who brought together these valuable resources.

ACEP in Action: We are committed to listening to, and learning from, the challenges that physicians face on each shift and to being your network of support in this difficult environment. Actions speak louder than words. We are tackling the issues that matter most to you. Our efforts are stronger when we stand united. [Read More.](#)

Fighting for You on Shift

- ACEP convened health care stakeholders in September to discuss barriers and solutions at our ED Boarding Summit
- We have released poll results about the public's concern about boarding in the ED | acep.org/boarding
- This [ACEP Now boarding series](#) keeps you updated on the latest boarding news and opinions
- [Contact Congress about the ED Boarding Crisis](#)

Getting it Done in D.C.

- ACEP has been involved in **NINE recent lawsuits** to protect your autonomy and [ensure fair reimbursement](#)
- We have invested more than \$1 million of member dues dollars to [push back on scope creep](#) at the federal and state levels

Member Benefit Spotlight: Map out your spending and investment accounts, retirement projections, and goal projections in one secure online platform with My Financial Coach. [Read more.](#)

Learn More about OUD Management With E-QUAL, a free online, low-burden quality improvement program. E-QUAL is now accepting enrollment in its 2024 substance use disorder initiative where you can discover best practices for ED opioid prescribing, earn credit for CMS' MIPS program and get real-time benchmarking data. [Learn more and sign up today.](#)

ACEP Grassroots Advocacy

Urge Congress to Prevent Workplace Violence in the ED

ACEP is continuing its mission to bring both Congressional and public attention to the growing problem of violence against health care workers. [A recent video article](#) in the *New York Times* highlights the crisis of violence in emergency departments and includes compelling testimonials from emergency physicians and other health care workers about its impact on their ability to provide care to patients.

We urge you to [share the video with your legislators](#) to reinforce the urgency of the problem and the need for Congressional action. Your legislators need to hear from physicians who are experiencing and witnessing this crisis on the frontlines of our health care system so they will prioritize swift action in this Congress.

Be an Advocate for Emergency Medicine and Patients

Join with your ACEP colleagues to advocate to Congress. As a physician, health care issue expert, and constituent - you have a unique story to share. [Visit the ACEP Advocacy Action Center.](#)

Upcoming ACEP Events and Deadlines

Dec 7: [Hot Off the Presses: Key Reimbursement from the 2024 Medicare Physician Fee Schedule](#)

Jan 9-10: [ACEP Advanced EM Ultrasonography \(AEMUS\)](#)

Jan 29-30: [ACEP Advanced EM Ultrasonography \(AEMUS\)](#)

Feb 6-8: [Independent EM Group Master Class](#)

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