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## **From the President** **Jason Langenfeld, MD, FACEP**

As I prepare to hand over the reins of the chapter to Dr. Millemon, I would like to say thank you for the opportunity to serve as president over the last 2 years. I have been proud to represent our specialty within Nebraska and to represent our state within the national organization. I am thankful for the strong leadership that preceded me and I look forward to continuing involvement in Nebraska ACEP. I would especially like to express my heartfelt gratitude and appreciation for all of the work done by Joan Anderson, our executive director. It is her wisdom, guidance, and assistance that keep the chapter running.

For many years we have fought for a functional prescription drug management program for Nebraska. It has been our single largest legislative focus, and is likely to become even more imperative with the increased scrutiny on opiate prescribing. I am proud of the efforts of our chapter over the years in helping to pass this measure. Nebraska now has approved and funded legislation for a prescription drug monitoring program, which will be inclusive as well as available to all providers. There continues to be significant work in development and

implementation plans, but I am confident that we will have a functioning program within the year.

As always, we will continue to face challenges in the practice of emergency medicine. We must continue to work towards developing and protecting the practice environment that we, as emergency physicians, need to provide the best care for our patients. I encourage all of our membership to get involved, however you are able. Work within your practice groups, hospitals, or local organizations. Contribute to community outreach programs. Take the time to get to know your local, state, and national representatives and to help them understand the issues important to medicine and emergency medicine. Sign up for ACEP's 911 Legislative Network. Reach out to your colleagues who are not members and encourage them to join. It is the involvement of individual emergency physicians that gives strength to ACEP on a Chapter and national level.

If you have any questions or concerns, or if you have any agenda items you feel should be addressed and are upcoming meeting, contact myself or Joan Anderson. If there is any way that the chapter can be of assistance to you in the practice of emergency medicine, or if you are interested in expanding the role of the chapter and helping to assist your colleagues, please let us know. Thank you again for all the work you do every day for our specialty, for our communities, and for providing excellent emergency care for the people of Nebraska.

Sincerely,

Jason

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## **NEACEP Annual Meeting**

***Date***

Tuesday July 12th 2016

***Time***

5:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

***Location***

Spezia Restaurant  
3125 S 72 Street  
Omaha Nebraska

***Speaker***

Ralph Frascione M.D. - "High quality to high perfusion CPR"

Business meeting to follow

Please RSVP to Joan Anderson by [e-mail](#) for dinner reservations

Hope to see you there.

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## Clinical News

### **Avoid Airway Catastrophes on the Extremes of Minute Ventilation**

Emergency airways commonly involve challenges of tube placement and oxygenation before and during the procedure. There are a handful of instances, however, when the issue is ventilation and, more specifically, extremes of minute ventilation. Minute ventilation is the amount of air the patient moves in one minute; it is a product of the ventilatory rate and tidal volume (minus dead-space ventilation).

[Read more](#)

### **When to Use Fluoroquinolones in Pediatric Patients**

The best questions often stem from the inquisitive learner. As educators, we love—and are always humbled—by those moments when we get to say, “I don’t know.” For some of these questions, some may already know the answers. For others, some may never have thought to ask the question. For all, questions, comments, concerns, and critiques are encouraged. Welcome to the Kids Korner.

[Read more](#)

### **Benzodiazepine Prescriptions, Overdose Deaths on the Rise in U.S.**

Even as opiate abuse has become a growing problem in the U.S., overdose deaths involving sedatives and antiseizure medications in the benzodiazepine category have also risen steeply, according to a recent study. Prescriptions for benzodiazepines have more than tripled and fatal overdoses have more than quadrupled in the past 20 years, researchers found.

[Read more](#)

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## **Make A Difference: Write That Council Resolution!**

Many College members introduce new ideas and current issues to ACEP through Council resolutions. This may sound daunting to our newer members, but the good news is that only takes two ACEP members to submit a resolution for Council consideration. In just a few months the ACEP Council will meet and consider numerous resolutions.

ACEP’s Council, the major governing body for the College, considers resolutions annually in conjunction with Scientific Assembly. During this annual meeting, the Council considers many resolutions, ranging from College regulations to major policy initiatives thus directing fund

allocation. This year there are 394 councillors representing chapters, sections, AACEM, CORD, EMRA, and SAEM.

The Council meeting is your opportunity to make an impact and influence the agenda for the coming years. If you have a hot topic that you believe the College should address, now is the time to start writing that resolution.

### **I'm ready to write my resolution**

Resolutions consist of a descriptive Title, a Whereas section, and finally, the Resolved section. The Council only considers the Resolved when it votes, and the Resolved is what the Board of Directors reviews to direct College resources. The Whereas section is the background, and explains the logic of your Resolved. Whereas statements should be short, focus on the facts, and include any available statistics. The Resolved statement should be direct and include recommended action, such as a new policy or action by the College.

There are two types of resolutions: general resolutions and Bylaws resolutions. General resolutions require a majority vote for adoption and Bylaws resolutions require a two-thirds vote. When writing Bylaws resolutions, list the Article number and Section from the Bylaws you wish to amend. The resolution should show the current language Bylaws language with additions identified in bold, green, underline text and red strikethrough for any deleted text. Please refer to the ACEP Web site article, "Guidelines for Writing Resolutions," for additional details about the process and tips on writing a resolution.

### **I want to submit my resolution**

Resolutions must be submitted by at least two members or by any component body represented in the Council. The national ACEP Board of Directors or an ACEP committee can also submit a resolution. The Board of Directors must review any resolution from an ACEP committee, and usually reviews all drafts at their June meeting. Bylaws resolutions are reviewed by the Bylaws Committee to ensure there are no conflicts with the current Bylaws. Any suggestions for modifications are referred back to the authors of the resolution for consideration. Resolutions may be submitted by mail, fax, or email (preferred). Resolutions are due at least 90 days before the Council meeting. This year the deadline is July 27, 2015.

### **Debating the resolution**

Councillors receive the resolutions prior to the annual meeting along with background information and cost information developed by ACEP staff. Resolutions are assigned to reference committees for discussion at the Council meeting. You, as the author of your resolution, should attend the reference committee that discusses your resolution. Reference committees allow for open debate and participants often have questions that are best answered by the author. At the conclusion of the hearings, the reference committee summarizes the debate and makes a recommendation to the Council.

The Council considers the recommendations from the reference committees on the second day of the Council meeting. The reference committee presents each resolution providing a

recommendation and summary of the debate to the Council. The Council debates each resolution and offers amendments as appropriate. Any ACEP member may attend the Council meeting, but only certified councillors are allowed to participate in the floor debate and vote. Non-councillors may address the Council at the discretion of the Speaker. Such requests must be submitted in writing to the Speaker before the debate. Include your name, organization affiliation, issue to address, and the rationale for speaking to the Council. Alternatively, you may ask your component body to designate you as an alternate councillor status and permission for Council floor access during debate.

The Council's options are: **Adopt** the resolution as written; **Adopt as Amended** by the Council; **Refer** to the Board, the Council Steering Committee, or the Bylaws Interpretation Committee; **Not Adopt** (defeat or reject) the resolution.

### **Hints from Successful Resolution Authors**

- Present your resolution to your component body for sponsorship consideration prior to the submission deadline.
- Consider the practical applications of your resolution. A well-written resolution that speaks to an important issue in a practical way passes through the Council much more easily.
- Do a little homework before submitting your resolution. The ACEP website is a great place to start. Does ACEP already have a policy on this topic? Has the Council considered this before? What happened?
- Find and contact the other stakeholders for your topic. They have valuable insight and expertise. Those stakeholders may co-sponsor your resolution.
- Attend debate concerning your resolution in both reference committee and before the Council. If you cannot attend, prepare another ACEP member to represent you.

### **I need more resources**

Visit [ACEP's website](#). Review the "Guidelines for Writing Resolutions" prior to submitting your resolution. There is also information about the Council Standing Rules, Council committees, and Councillor/Alternate Councillor position descriptions. Of special note, there is a link to Actions on Council Resolutions. This link contains information about resolutions adopted by the Council and Board of Directors in prior years.

### **Well, get to it**

Writing and submitting Council resolutions keeps our College healthy and vital. A Council resolution is a great way for members to provide information to their colleagues and ACEP leadership. Please take advantage of this opportunity and exercise your rights as part of our Emergency Medicine community. Dare to make a difference by submitting a resolution to the ACEP Council!

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## ACEP's 2016 "Leadership & Advocacy Conference" brings hundreds of Emergency Physicians to Washington, DC and Capitol Hill

A record number of nearly 600 emergency physicians visited with federal legislators and staff on Capitol Hill on May 17 during the ACEP 2016 Leadership and Advocacy Conference in Washington, DC. Conference attendees (including residents and many first-timers) from 47 states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico participated in 405 meetings in Capitol Hill offices with legislators and/or their health care staff.

The conference touched on several important topics such as ACEP's Registry (CEDR), recently released regulations shaping the new physician payment system, strategies to deal with out of network billing issues and the importance of physician involvement in the political process. During ACEP's "Lobby Day" on Capitol Hill, ACEP members:

- Asked legislators to re-engage legislative efforts to expand access to psychiatric services and provide appropriate mental health resources for constituents and patients with mental illness.
- Informed legislators and staff on emergency medicine principles for opioid prescribing.
- Asked legislators to "co-sponsor" bipartisan legislation to protect the current practice of using written "standing orders" by physician medical directors overseeing care provided in the field by paramedics and other EMS practitioners.
- Thanked the 100 plus sponsors of the "Health Care Safety Net Enhancement Act of 2015" (H.R.836/S.884), legislation that provides medical liability relief for physicians providing care under the EMTALA mandate, and asked other legislators for support.
- Invited legislators and their staff to visit a local Emergency Department.

The Lobby Day issue papers are available on the [ACEP Advocacy website](#) with your ACEP login credentials.

ACEP President Dr. Jay Kaplan introduced LAC attendees to a brand-new advocacy platform powered by Phone2Action. The tool has many uses including social integrations, telephone services, and email tools that provide multiple ways to engage with lawmakers on critical public policy issues. Several state chapters have already utilized Phone 2 Action for advocacy campaigns on the state level.

During LAC, participants used the platform to alert legislators that ACEP members were coming to Capitol Hill and to provide materials in advance on the key issues that would be discussed in the meetings. In just a few minutes time, simply by using their smartphones, LAC attendees sent more than 1,200 communications to legislators instantly via email, Twitter, and Facebook.

[Watch Dr. Kaplan cheer on LAC attendees as their messages were sent live to legislators from all over the nation.](#)

If you were unable to attend the LAC16 Conference this year, you can participate in ACEP's "Virtual Lobby Day" by visiting the [ACEP Grassroots Advocacy Website](#) and clicking "Take Action."

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## Update on ACEP 911 Grassroots Network "Triple E" Campaign

Although the "[Triple E Campaign](#)" contest concluded last year, our work isn't over! Efforts to "**Expand – Enhance – Engage**" participation in the 911 Legislative Grassroots Network are ongoing.

Several chapters and organizations were recognized during ACEP15 for their [outstanding efforts](#) during the campaign:

- Arizona Chapter ACEP (AzCEP),
- Emergency Medicine Residents' Association (EMRA),
- Michigan College of Emergency Physicians (MCEP),
- North Carolina College of Emergency Physicians (NCCEP), and
- Texas College of Emergency Physicians (TCEP).

ACEP continues to seek new participants in the 911 Network and there are still congressional districts that do not have ACEP member representation in the 911 Network. View current Chapter progress and encourage ACEP members to sign-up with their login credentials on the [ACEP Grassroots Advocacy Center here.](#)

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## National Leadership News

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## Welcome New Members

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**Nebraska Chapter ACEP  
Lancaster County Medical Society,  
4600 Valley Road #250  
Lincoln, NE 68510**

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