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THE PAIN PRACTITIONER

KATHRYN A. WEINER, PhD, EDITOR



President's Message

Scott Denny, DC, PhD, LAc

Greetings, and my best wishes for a happy and healthy new year. As the incoming President of the Board of Directors of the American Academy of Pain Management, I would first like to thank Christopher Brown, DDS, MPS for his hard work during his term as President and I would second, like to take a moment to reflect on the growth of the Academy. I have been a member and Diplomate of this organization since 1988. In these twelve years I have seen this distinguished organization accomplish many things. During these past twelve years, the Academy has become a viable membership organization offering many benefits to its membership. There is a quarterly journal; a quarterly newsletter; an Annual Clinical Meeting; a Patient's Bill of Rights and a Code of Ethics; a textbook; a psychometrically valid credentialing examination; a vibrant web site, bulletin boards and chat lines; and several other programs that bear mentioning individually.

The Academy has been extremely busy over the years with such projects as the Pain Program Accreditation (PPA) which helps pain facilities demonstrate excellence and standards of pain care; the National Pain Data Bank (NPDB) which helps pain practitioners measure treatment outcomes and treatment efficacy; and Second Opinion Utilization and Review (SOUR) which helps pain practitioners with billing, insurance,

medicolegal, and credentialing disputes. With this said, I feel the Academy has never been so busy as it was last year.

Early last year, while looking into various educational programs for my own edification, I became very aware that distance education is no longer considered a "different" way to obtain graduate training. It is now, without any doubt, "mainstream." In fact, recent changes in educational accreditation by the United States Department of Education have paved the way for students to obtain a fully accredited and nationally recognized doctoral degree through distance education. Upon further investigation it became apparent that the Academy would need a formal committee to examine this trend more closely. This led to the formation of the Post Graduate Education Committee, for which I was appointed the Chair. The Committee has accomplished so much in a very short period of time, that my head is still spinning! The bottom line is that the University of Integrated Studies (UIS) has received temporary approval by the California Bureau of Post Secondary Education to offer MA and PhD degrees in Integrated Studies with a concentration in Pain Management, Anti-Aging or Mind/Body/Spirit.

Aside from accomplishing the creation of the University of Integrated Studies in record time, why is this so important to the average pain practitioner?

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It's simple: all healthcare providers, regardless of speciality are experiencing change like never before. Healthcare has become a suffocating mess of paperwork and requirements, yet we still have a population of patients who need quality pain care to improve their quality of life. With advanced training in any one of the areas offered by the University, we, as members of the largest multidisciplinary pain organization, will remain on the cutting edge of patient care.

In my humble opinion, this is exciting stuff. The availability of this type of graduate education means so many things to an organization whose membership has a wide variety of backgrounds. Participating in

graduate studies through UIS will help to further solidify the multidisciplinary mission of the Academy. I encourage all of you to check out the UIS by looking at the website: www.univintegratedstudies.edu or you can click on the University link on the Academy website at: www.aapainmanage.org.

I look forward to serving as President and would like to thank the membership for supporting our organization over the past years. Together, we can improve pain management education, research and clinical practices, and as a result, improve pain care for our patients in this year and beyond.



New Certificants

Mujahed M. Ahmed, MD

Hany L. Basta, MD

Carlos A. Botero, MD

Edward Anthony Capone, DO

Clifton H. Cathcart, DO

Tim D. Chapman, DC

Jaimini A. Dave, MD

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Kristi Ann Dove, MD

Nancy Lea Erickson, DO

Edward Joseph Frankoski, DO

Raees Iftekhar Gazi, MD

John W. Gilbert, MD

Jem J. Hof, MD

Atef F. Israel, MD

John Jahan, MD

Patience A. James, DO

Carlos Jassir, MD

Hosam K. Kamel, MD

Charles P. Kendrick,

CRNA, PhD

Robert C. Lowry, MD

Mark Thomas Matsunaga,
MD

Robert B. Mitchell, DO

Jack Neary, MSNA, CRNA

Lanh Manh Phung, MD

Elmer G. Pinzon, MD

Frederick S. Prescott, MD

Michael Rakosky, DO

Joel L. Spivack, DPM

Janice L. Stables,

MSN, RN, ANP

Rachel E. Stepp,

MS, RN, APN, AOCN, CRNH

Debra P. Sterling, RN

Norman Jon Toth, DO

Thomas Trauba, MD

Ahmad Athar Usmani,

MD, FRCS

Mark S. White, DO

Mitchell A. Wick, DO

Kenneth Egbert Williams, MD

THANK YOU

to the
following members
for their
generous donations
to the Academy

Philip C. Blum, MD

Harvey A. Klein, MD

Halina M. Podlipsky, MD

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*Stacy V. Cole,
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