

## New Internet TV series debuts

ACAAI wants allergy and asthma sufferers to know the answer to the question, why see an allergist? The College's latest public education effort to address this question is an internet TV series titled, of course, "Why See an Allergist?"

The series was created during a one-day shoot in Chicago this summer using the latest technology in computer graphics and starring two virtual sets. The actual set was a green screen with a couch and a few chairs, but viewers experience an ACAAI and Allergist branded TV talk show type set and exam room (see photos below.)

**Stanley Fineman**, MD, FAAAAI, past-president, and **James Sublett**, MD, FAAAAI, vice-president, play themselves – the allergists. Real allergy and asthma sufferers from the Chicagoland area are the patients. Each vignette features a host introduction, a meet the allergist segment and an exam room segment. The messages

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## Will you be prepared when Emerging Forms of Immunotherapy go from bench to clinic?

Where and when should you consider sublingual immunotherapy (SLIT)? What constitutes clinically meaningful effect?

Experts in the forefront of research on SLIT will provide answers to these big questions and many more at the full-day Thursday conference titled *Emerging Forms of Immunotherapy* during the ACAAI Annual Scientific Meeting in Baltimore, Nov. 7-11.

"As newer immunotherapeutic modalities emerge, it is primary to our mission to acquire the necessary knowledge base to understand the mechanistic pathways that underlie these therapeutic entities, to interpret the clinical outcomes and their impact on patient improvement, and to incorporate those agents, as they are approved, into our practice armamentarium," said conference program chair Peter S. Creticos, MD, associate professor of medicine, Division of

Allergy & Clinical Immunology, Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, and director of clinical research, Creticos Research Group, LLC, Annapolis, Md.

You'll learn about recent findings in pediatric clinical trials with SLIT, long term outcomes, and comparisons of SLIT with subcutaneous immunotherapy (SCIT). Accelerated immunotherapy schedules of SCIT and novel forms of immunotherapy will also be discussed.

Be better prepared to implement today's research into your practice. Attend the ACAAI Annual Scientific Meeting to explore *New Frontiers in Allergy and Immunology: From Bench to Clinic*. See the Immunotherapy Conference listing in the online preliminary program and register online at [annualmeeting.acaaai.org](http://annualmeeting.acaaai.org). Seating is limited, so don't delay. A separate registration fee is required.



Dr. Creticos



Dr. Weber

# The Joint Council – What’s it all about and what’s in it for me?

Over the past several months these columns have addressed items such as navigating health care reform and the Affordable Care Act, the Sunshine Act, the Allergy Strike Force, and the possible legislative repercussions on allergen formulation of the unfortunate deaths attributed to a compounding pharmacy. Do these disparate issues have a unifying thread? Yes they do: the involvement of the Joint Council of Allergy, Asthma & Immunology (JCAAI).

So what does the JCAAI actually do? If you go to the website, there is a mission statement in the left corner. It states that the JCAAI was established in May 1975, as the socio-economic/political advocate of the American Academy of Allergy, Asthma & Immunology and the American College of Allergy, Asthma & Immunology. JCAAI's purpose is to provide a mechanism for keeping allergists/immunologists abreast of the critical socio-economic issues which impact upon their practices and patients. The truth is the JCAAI does more. It not only tells us of these issues, but provides an armamentarium for responding appropriately. Perusing the website, you can find a variety of very useful items: a webinar on allergy coding and compliance, for which CME and MOC was available; information on the Sunshine Act; links to the practice parameters; information on CMS audits on “meaningful use” of electronic health records (EHR). Not so obvious from the website are other JCAAI endeavors. Allergists who perform food and certain drug challenges will be aware of a beneficial change in coding and billing, more reflective of the time and effort involved with such challenges. This is a result of JCAAI efforts. JCAAI maintains information and instruction on proper technique for allergen extract mixing and sterile technique. The list could easily go on.

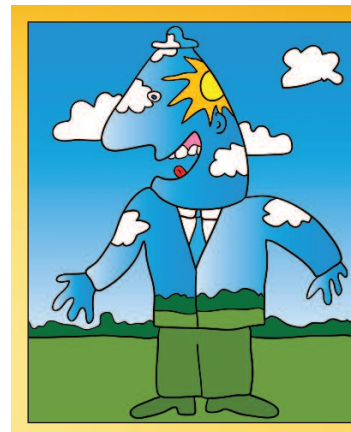
The “affordable” in the Affordable Care Act (ACA) refers, I think, not just to the goal of making health care affordable and available to more Americans, but also to making health care cheaper for the

government. The reasons for skyrocketing American health care costs is another topic entirely, but let’s just say within the ACA are numerous attempts to ratchet down compensation. While this has a huge impact on hospitals, it also has obvious impact on the practitioner. An example is the attempt to bundle allergen skin testing into the cost of a concomitant visit, a frank loss of income for the allergist. All such issues require awareness and the added effort of an appropriate rebuttal. The task is immense, but necessary. As a profession, physicians already know the price of inattention to political matters: the Sunshine Act is such an example.

**“For almost 40 years,  
the JCAAI has been  
watching our backs...”**

In the musical “Chicago,” there is a song entitled “Mr. Cellophane.” Parts of the lyrics go: “Mister Cellophane, 'cause you can look right through me, walk right by me, and never know I'm there!” I'm afraid that's the way some allergists treat the JCAAI, and this is not fitting. I think many are truly unaware

of the extent of the efforts made on their behalf. And some are overtly pragmatic: some multi-member practices have only a solitary allergist join, in order to get the announcements and benefits, and then pass on the information to the rest of the group. While this appears to make good business sense, it doesn't guarantee the survival of the JCAAI if only a fraction of the beneficiaries are paying dues. This is not just a philosophical concern: in the recent past, the incoming dues revenues did not meet the operating expenses, despite stipends from the ACAAI and AAAAI. One solution is universal membership, where all members of our two organizations pay a mandatory fee to support the JCAAI. While this is probably just, it strikes me as esthetically unpleasing, as well as having the neces-



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**ACAAI** American College  
of Allergy, Asthma  
& Immunology

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# Workshops offer solutions to EHR and other practice challenges



The ACAAI Workshop Committee, in conjunction with the Medical Informatics Committee, is presenting three workshops to assist you in meeting the challenges of successful Electronic Health Record (EHR) implementation for your practice.

“Our series of EHR workshops this year are designed to assist members at whatever stage they are at in the process of evaluating vendors, accessing their computer needs, staging implementation, improving workflow and optimizing their system,” said **David Shulan**, MD, FAAAAI, chair, Medical Informatics Committee.

“By popular demand we are bringing back the ‘EHR Roundtable’ workshop introduced last year, where member volunteers will present the EHR system they’ve adopted in their practices and discuss their first-hand experiences.”

The Electronic Health Records workshops include:

- “Preparing Your Practice for an EHR” (W-12) – **Melinda M. Rathkopf**, MD, FAAAAI, and **Richard Wasserman**, MD, FAAAAI
- “Implementing and Optimizing EHR Successfully” (W-28) – **Russell Leftwich**, MD, **David Shulan**, MD, FAAAAI
- “EHR Roundtable” (W-33) – **Tao T. Le**, MD, MHS, FAAAAI, **Ira Finegold**, MD, FAAAAI, **A. Sean McKnight**, MD, FAAAAI,



**Richard Wasserman**, MD, FAAAAI, as well as Dr. Shulan, will be demonstrating their office systems.

Other computer workshops will improve your skills for website and social media; smart phones, tablets and gadgets.

The Workshop Committee is again teaming up with the Dermatological Allergy Committee, chaired by **Anjali Nayak**, MD, FAAAAI, to offer intensive workshops that will enhance your expertise for resolving the most challenging dermatologic dilemmas. Topics include patch testing (W-8), dermatitis (W-21), urticaria and angioedema (W-25), skin biopsy (W-29), and a dermatological discussion (W-31).

JCAAI is conducting a 2-part workshop crucial to your practice on “Coding, Billing and Regulations Necessary to Practice Allergy in 2013 and Beyond” (W-10 and W-18).

The ACAAI Foundation is sponsoring a new complimentary workshop that will help you better manage your wealth on Saturday evening, Nov. 9, titled “Retirement and Estate Planning for Allergists and Spouses” (W-15), led by financial advisors from Mueller Financial Services.

The 33 workshops planned include several new ones in addition to the most popular workshops. Many fill up quickly, so register soon at [annualmeeting.acaaai.org](http://annualmeeting.acaaai.org) to get your preferred selection.

## Key topics discussed at named lectures

The ACAAI Annual Meeting in Baltimore, Nov. 7-11, features a wide array of scientific programs. Hear what experienced faculty have to say about key topics in the treatment and diagnosis of allergic diseases at the named lectures, which include:

- *Lester Mittelstaedt Lecture*, Saturday, Nov. 9: “The Role of the Innate Immune Response in Asthma: New Clinical Applications” – **Leonard B. Bacharier**, MD, FAAAAI
- *John P. McGovern Lecture*, Saturday, Nov. 9: “The Immunology of COPD” – **James T. Li**, MD, PhD, FAAAAI
- *Bela Schick Lecture*, Monday, Nov. 11: “The Joy of Practicing Allergy” – **Stephen A. Tilles**, MD, FAAAAI
- *Bernard Berman Memorial Lecture*, Monday, Nov. 11: “New Advances in Allergen Immunotherapy: Modified Allergens/Adjuvants/Peptides/SLIT Constructs” – **Peter S. Creticos**, MD

## President’s Message *continued from page 2*

sary increased effort of determining who has paid what with which society. It would seem much better for the officers of our organization to stress to the membership what a vital, crucial role the JCAAI plays in

our well-being. And that was never truer than in these present times of medico-economic turmoil. For almost 40 years, the JCAAI has been watching our backs, providing advice and education, and

keeping a finger on the pulse of health reform on Capitol Hill. I think that deserves the support of us all!

**Richard W. Weber, MD, FAAAAI, President**  
[president@acaai.org](mailto:president@acaai.org)

## Visit the ACAAI Booth in Baltimore

Stop by the ACAAI Booth during Annual Scientific Meeting in Baltimore on Saturday and Sunday, Nov. 9 and 10.



ACAAI members can:

- Pick up free practice marketing tools
- Learn how to use the “See an Allergist” online public education materials
- Get tips to better navigate the College website
- Hear about how ACAAI social media channels can work for your practice
- See how to start an acaai.org blog or wiki
- Learn more about the ACAAI mobile app
- Ask questions of ACAAI executive office staff

Come see us at the Baltimore Convention Center, Pratt Street Lobby, on the 300 level, across from Registration.

## Save the date: Board Review Course coming April 2014

The 2014 ACAAI/AAAAI Certification/Maintenance of Certification Board Review Course will be held April 24-27 at the Hyatt Regency Hotel, Chicago. The premier postgraduate conference is held every two years to help allergists/immunologists prepare for initial certification and maintenance of certification. Program and registration information will be available soon.

## ACAAI symposia and workshops increase learner competence

ACAAI Annual Scientific Meeting symposia and workshops increase learner competence according to a study summary published in the July issue of *Annals of Allergy, Asthma & Immunology*. Nearly half of the workshop survey participants also demonstrated a change in their practice behavior.

In conjunction with ACAAI CME/CPD Committee efforts, authors **Tao Le**, MD, MHS, FAAAAI, and **Shari Montandon**, DO, evaluated seven symposia and six workshops at the 2009 ACAAI Annual Meeting that addressed clinical relevant topics. They wrote, “Participants were asked to complete case-based multiple-choice questions written in the style of the American Board of Allergy and Immunology certification examination questions. These vignettes were developed by the symposia and workshop faculty and reviewed by the ACAAI CME Committee.”

The questions were administered before the start and at the conclusion of each activity. In addition, a 1-month post-test was administered to workshop attendees via a secure web survey, which also measured their intent to change behavior and actual change at one month.



“The study is excellent, both in terms of the effort put into gathering this CME evaluation, and the results,” said ACAAI President **Richard Weber**, MD, FAAAAI. “It confirms the efficacy of the multiple formats employed during our annual meeting to improve learner competency and change practice behavior, resulting in better patient outcomes.”

“I encourage members to participate in future surveys conducted on-site and through post-testing by the CME Committee,” Dr. Weber said.

To the authors’ knowledge, this is the first time changes in competence and practice behavior observed as a result of a national allergy and immunology annual meeting have been reported.

Authors acknowledge the ACAAI CME Committee for their assistance in data collection, and **Melanie Thorsen**, MBAHC, Director of Education, for her review of the manuscript.

## Photo contest deadline extended

You still have time to submit your favorite photos in the Alliance Photography Competition! Earn notoriety through display at the 2013 ACAAI Annual Scientific Meeting in Baltimore, while supporting your ACAAI Foundation.

All College members and meeting attendees and their guests are eligible to enter. Photograph categories are: 1) Nature & Landscapes; 2) Pets & Other Animals; 3) Travel: Landmarks & Cities; and 4) People.

Net proceeds for this Alliance service project will be donated to the Foundation to help support education and research through FIT Training Program Relief Grants and Young Faculty Support Grants.

Send your printed 8x10 photos to the ACAAI Executive Office with your \$25 donation for each entry by Friday, Oct. 25. No electronic submissions will be accepted. See the entry form at [annualmeeting.acaaai.org](http://annualmeeting.acaaai.org) for details. If you have questions, email the Alliance at [Alliance@acaaai.org](mailto:Alliance@acaaai.org).

# Michael Cavanaugh headlines ACAAI's Annual Fundraising Dinner

Michael Cavanaugh, an exciting and entertaining performer who's been billed as "The New Voice of the American Rock & Roll Songbook," will perform at the ACAAI 2013 Fundraising Dinner on Sunday, Nov. 10, in Baltimore.

A charismatic musician, performer and actor, he achieved fame for his piano playing and lead vocals in the Broadway Musical *Movin' Out* after he was hand-picked by Billy Joel to star in the title role. Michael appeared in the show for three years (1200+ performances) which culminated with both Grammy and Tony Award nominations.

Michael performs worldwide for company and charity functions, as well as sporting events including PGA tour events, the US Open and the Indy 500.



Michael Cavanaugh



2012 Annual Fundraising Dinner

With the close of *Movin' Out*, Michael began touring with a new show he created which reinterprets the modern pop/rock songbook, and he's now one of the hottest artists in the corporate/events market. In 2008, he signed with Warner/ADA to distribute his first CD titled "In Color."

Net proceeds from the event will be donated to the ACAAI Foundation to support Fellows-in-Training Program Relief Grants, Young Faculty Support Awards and other Foundation programs.

The fundraising event includes a reception, plated dinner and musical performance by Michael Cavanaugh. Purchase your tickets at [annualmeeting.acaii.org](http://annualmeeting.acaii.org).

## Check out ACAAI website resources and tools

Are you accessing the wealth of ACAAI membership benefits available to you at [www.acaii.org](http://www.acaii.org)? A wide array of practice resources and tools are a click away.

Reports by the Joint Task Force on Health Care Reform are available under "ACAAI/AAAAI Joint Statements." The site includes articles on Medical Liability Reform, Patient Direct Access to Lab Results, a Health Care Reform Update and more.

The member online store is your one stop shop for educational resources including "Advice From Your Allergist" patient education brochures, the 2012 ACAAI Annual Meeting on CD-ROM, and the handy ACAAI/AAAAI quick reference guides. Visit the site and see the wide array of items available including complimentary materials developed to help you promote your practice.

Below are additional website resources at your fingertips:

- Members can engage in educational programs and earn CME credits (from Children's Mercy Hospital) anytime,

anywhere or any place through Conferences Online Allergy (COLA). Participate live, on iTunes or YouTube, which has received more than 80,725 views.

- The ACAAI MyNasalAllergyJournal.org will encourage your patients to bring more valuable, accurate information to their next appointment.
- Select from 39 educational Allergist YouTube videos on allergy-immunology topics, with more than 65,650 views, to embed on your practice website.
- The advanced search feature of the Allergist Buyers Guide enables you to find specialty-specific products fast, and now you can share your experiences

with a company's products or services with your peers by writing a review.

- Find the perfect match for your staffing needs through the ACAAI Job Source. It allows you to post or search employment opportunities for all categories of personnel within the specialty including physicians, program directors, investigators, laboratory technicians, nurses and administrators.

Quick links will take you to ACAAI's Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, YouTube and Pinterest. Participate in the conversations and share relevant breaking news with your patients.



# Distinguished service will be recognized at Awards Ceremony in Anaheim

The College will present its prestigious Distinguished Fellow Awards, International Distinguished Fellow Award, Distinguished Service Awards, Woman in Allergy Award and its highest honor, the Gold Headed Cane Award, at the President's Welcome Reception and Awards Ceremony in Baltimore on Saturday evening, Nov. 9. The event is supported in part by Merck. All members are invited to attend the event.

Award winners include:

- **Distinguished Fellow Awards** – ACAAI Past President **Daniel Ein**, MD, FACAIA, Washington, D.C., and ACAAI Past President **Richard G. Gower**, MD, FACAIA, Spokane, Wash.
- **International Distinguished Fellow Award** – **Sandra N. González-Díaz**, MD, PhD, FACAIA, Monterrey, Mexico
- **Distinguished Service Awards** – **Jacqueline R. Bellanti**, Washington, D.C., **Kevin P. McGrath**, MD, FACAIA, Wethersfield, Conn., **Anthony Montanaro**, MD, FACAIA, Portland, Ore., and **Charles J. Siegel**, MD, FACAIA, Gladstone, Mo.
- **Woman in Allergy Award** – **Amal H. Assa'ad**, MD, FACAIA, Cincinnati, Ohio

ACAAI Past President **Michael S. Blaiss**, MD, FACAIA, Memphis, Tenn., will be honored with the prestigious Gold Headed Cane Award (see story on page 7).

## Distinguished Fellow Award

**Dr. Daniel Ein** is a clinical professor of medicine at George Washington University School of Medicine and director of the Division of Allergy at GWU Medical Center, Washington, D.C.

ACAAI past president in 2006-07, he served two terms on the Board of Regents. He is

ACAAI's representative and co-chair of the JCAAI Joint Task Force on Health Care Reform and is a member of committees on Annual Program, Investment Oversight and

University of Washington School of Medicine. He has been primary investigator in over 100 clinical research trials.

He was ACAAI president, 2008-09. Dr.

Gower served on the Board of Regents for 13 years, as Speaker of the House of Delegates in 1997-99, Regent in 1999-02, treasurer in 2003-06 and as an officer from 2006-2011. He served on numerous committees and chaired committees on Acorn Project, Annual Program, Finance, International, Managed Care and Health Plans, Marketing the Allergist Task Force, Nominating, Public Relations Network, Pharmaceutical Symposium, Professional Allergy/Immunology Education, Site Selection and Task

Force on Regional Meetings. He was also selected as the honorary speaker for the 2006 Bela Schick Lecture.

Dr. Gower spearheaded the development and implementation of the College's Public Awareness and Education Campaign and continues to serve as media spokesperson. Currently he is a member of committees on Annual Program, Foundation Board, Past Presidents and Membership Recruitment.

He is past president of the Intermountain West Allergy Association, Western Society of Allergy, Asthma and Immunology and the Washington State Society of Internal Medicine.

## International Distinguished Fellow Award

**Prof. Sandra González-Díaz** is professor of allergy and clinical immunology; allergy and immunology training program director since 1990; and head of the department of Allergy and Research Center at the U.A.N.L. School of Medicine and University Hospital in Monterrey, Mexico. She has published 161 articles in peer reviewed journals and

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Dr. Ein



Dr. Gower



Dr. González



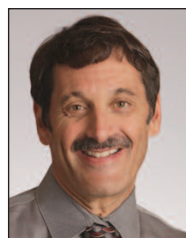
Mrs. Bellanti



Dr. McGrath



Dr. Montanaro



Dr. Siegel



Dr. Assa'ad

Past Presidents. He serves as the ACAAI liaison to the American College of Physicians (ACP) and, in that role, is a member of several ACP committees.

He previously served on the Foundation's Board of Directors and chaired numerous committees including the Executive, International, Nominating, Site Selection, Annual Program, Pharmaceutical Symposia, and the Ad Hoc Committee to Advise ACP/ASIM. He also was ACAAI's representative on the JCAAI Joint Pay-for-Performance Subcommittee and the Joint Task Force to Examine the Future of the Specialty. He was honored with the 2010 Distinguished Service Award.

Dr. Ein was president of the Joint Council of Allergy, Asthma and Immunology; president of Capitol Physicians Network; president of Jacobi Society of Washington; and president of the Greater Washington Allergy Society. He was the AAAAI Delegate to the AMA and chaired its Ethics Committee.

**Dr. Richard Gower** is a practicing allergist/immunologist at Marycliff Allergy Specialists in Spokane, Wash., and clinical associate professor of medicine at the

# Dr. Michael Blaiss elected to receive Gold Headed Cane Award

**M**ichael S. Blaiss, FAAAAI, Memphis, Tenn., was elected to receive the 2013 Annual Gold Headed Cane Award for demonstrating the highest standards of scientific excellence and integrity.

The Gold Headed Cane Committee, consisting of past award recipients, selects qualified nominees for the Gold Headed Cane Award for election of one by voting Fellows of the College. The award will be presented at the President's Welcome Reception and Awards Ceremony in Baltimore on Saturday evening, Nov. 9.

Dr. Blaiss is a clinical professor of pediatrics and medicine at the University of Tennessee Health Sciences Center in Memphis and has a private practice in Memphis at Allergy and Asthma Care.

AAAAI past president, 2003-04, he currently co-chairs the Joint Task Force on Quality Measures and is sub-chair of the Asia-Oceania Portfolio of the International Committee. He is active on several committees including Annual Program, Asthma & Respiratory Disease, Ethics, Literature Review, Managed Care & Health Plans, Public Relations and Symposia.

During his presidency, the College began hosting interim board meetings in Washington, DC, to allow for legislative advocacy meetings with the U.S. Congress for continued support of programs that benefited patients with allergies and asthma. Another major initiative during this year was the Acorn Project, which funded up to five allergy fellows per year to increase the number of allergists trained in the U.S.

Dr. Blaiss was honored with the ACAAI 1996 Distinguished Fellow Award, the 1998 Jaros Lectureship and the 2008 Daniel Goodman Lectureship. He received the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Louisiana State Allergy, Asthma, and Immunology Society in 2005.

He is presently on the Board of Directors of the World Allergy Organization. He served on the Board of Directors for the American Board of Allergy and Clinical Immunology and the Joint Council of Allergy, Asthma, and Immunology. He is past president of the Tennessee and Louisiana Allergy, Asthma, and Immunology Societies.

Past winners of the Gold Cane Award are: **Harold S. Nelson**, MD., FAAAAI, Denver; **Joseph A. Bellanti**, MD, FAAAAI, Washington, D.C.; **Edward J. O'Connell**, MD,

FAAAAI (Emeritus), Rochester, Minn.; **Elliot F. Ellis**, MD, FAAAAI (Emeritus), St. Petersburg, Fla.; **John C. Selner**, MD, FAAAAI (Deceased), Denver; **Phillip L. Lieberman**, MD, FAAAAI, Germantown, Tenn; **Betty B. Wray**, MD, FAAAAI, Augusta, Ga; **Donald W. Aaronson**, MD, JD, MPH, FAAAAI, Chicago; **Emil J. Bardana, Jr.**, MD, FAAAAI, Portland, Ore; **Raymond G. Slavin**, MD, MS, FAAAAI (Emeritus), St. Louis, Mo.; **Ira Finegold**, MD, FAAAAI, New York, N.Y.; and **Rufus E. Lee, Jr.**, MD, FAAAAI (Emeritus).

The award serves as an inspiration to younger doctors and encourages them in family, social, civil, religious and professional life to cultivate character that earns the respect and good will of colleagues and the profession at large.

The tradition of the Gold Headed Cane started in 1689, with Dr. John Radcliffe, who had a particular interest in asthma as the personal physician to England's King William III, an asthmatic. Dr. Radcliffe began the tradition of passing the cane to a successor whom he considered to be the greatest physician of his time.



Dr. Blaiss

## Distinguished service will be recognized at Awards Ceremony *continued from page 6*

19 book chapters of allergy and clinical immunology, has guided several research projects of junior members and has been the principal investigator of several projects.

In addition to her contributions in clinical research, she has contributed to the development of the field of allergy and clinical immunology in Mexico and the region. She is past president of the Latin-American Society of Asthma, Allergy and Immunology, 2010-12 and the Mexico College of Clinical Immunology and Allergy 2005-07. Prof. González-Díaz is well respected worldwide as well. She has served on the World Allergy Organization Board of Directors since 2010 and was on the organizing committee of its

2011 congress. She served on the WAO GLORIA Advisory Board, its Emerging Societies Council, and many other committees.

An active ACAAI Fellow, she is a member of the International Committee and has conducted several programs with the College, invited ACAAI speakers and promoted ACAAI in Mexico and Latin America.

### Distinguished Service Award

**Mrs. Jacqueline Bellanti** was the 26th president of the Auxiliary of the ACAI (2001-02) now known as the Alliance of the ACAAI. Under her leadership, the Alliance published its successful cookbook

titled, "Just What You Needed... Another Cookbook" which benefited the ACAAI Foundation. The cookbook, which she co-edited, featured family recipes from College members all over the world. During her presidency she conducted a successful Strategic Planning Retreat and helped plan and execute "Youth Impressions" juried art show for local grade school students and for children or grandchildren of College members. Following her presidency, Mrs. Bellanti remains an active member of the Alliance and served as consultant on the Foundation Board. She coordinated the first Silent Auction held at the 2003 ACAAI

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# College meeting in Baltimore geared to FITs needs

By Meagan Shepherd, MD, Senior FIT Representative to the ACAAI Board of Regents

Attention all fellows! This is your section for information about the 70th ACAAI Annual Scientific Meeting in Baltimore, Nov. 7-11. See the program and register at [annualmeeting.acaa.org](http://annualmeeting.acaa.org).



Dr. Shepherd

Our second FIT General Session, a scientific program designed specifically for fellows, is Friday, Nov. 8, from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. The program, supported by an independent educational grant from **Mylan Specialty, L.P.**,

features the following guest speakers:

- **Tao Le, MD, MHS, FAAAAI**, will discuss “Becoming an Attending – The Transition from Fellow to Staff.” Dr. Le is chief of the Section of Allergy and Immunology in the Department of Medicine at the University of Louisville; founder and editor-in-chief of USMLE-RX; and editor-in-chief of the Second Edition of *ACAAI Review for the Allergy and Immunology Boards*.
- **Linda Cox, MD, FAAAAI**, will discuss “Emerging Therapies in Allergy.” Currently president of AAAAI, Dr. Cox is assistant clinical professor of medicine at University of Miami School of Medicine and Nova Southeastern University School of Osteopathic Medicine.

Following the session is the FIT General Meeting, supported by **Sunovion**

**Pharmaceuticals, Inc.**, where new fellows-in-training can learn what the ACAAI has to offer. Additionally, we elect the Junior FIT Representative to the ACAAI Board of Regents (BOR). The new Junior and rising Senior FIT Representatives act as liaisons between the fellows-in-training and the BOR, and they represent the FIT perspective. The Senior FIT Representative also attends the Annual Program Directors’ Meeting and has the opportunity to represent the ACAAI to the AMA Resident and Fellows Section allowing you to actively participate in decisions that affect allergist/immunologists on a national level. Many FIT Reps have gone on to



2012 FIT Bowl champions Drs. Scott Dickson and David Rose, Wilford Hall Medical Center

serve on the ACAAI BOR and other leadership positions in our specialty. If you are interested in applying for this position, complete the application in your travel grant packet or obtain it from the ACAAI website (see the FIT Representatives section).

Regional FIT Representatives are also needed this year to actively provide feed-

back to the ACAAI BOR via the Junior and Senior FIT Representatives. They also help write questions for the ACAAI FIT Board Review Corner. FIT members interested in this position should also complete the form in their travel grant packet or on the website.

Travel grant checks will be presented at the Annual FIT Welcome Reception on Friday, which is generously supported by **GREER**. This reception is another opportunity to meet other fellows-in-training, engage with active ACAAI members, and discuss opportunities available for current and graduating FITs.

The most anticipated event of the annual meeting for many fellows-in-training is the FIT Bowl Competition held on Saturday, Nov. 9, from 5:00 – 7:00 p.m., which is supported by **Sanofi US**. The competition provides an open bar as well as fun festivities and friendly

competition. Everyone is encouraged to show up wearing their wackiest gear that supports their home turf – and to have a ton of fun!

All workshops are available to FITs at a reduced rate. There are several programs that may be of particular interest to FITs, including the ever-popular “Everything You

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## Get social during the 2013 ACAAI Annual Meeting

Are you looking to make the most out of your time while in Baltimore for the 2013 Annual Scientific Meeting? With so many great sessions and workshops, it may be difficult to network and collaborate with your colleagues. If you’re on Twitter, be sure to connect with your colleagues via #ACAAI. Use this hashtag to:

- Promote sessions, symposia, workshops
- Share interesting facts and information being communicated
- Distribute study results from poster presentations

- Share your experience with others
- Collaborate on ways to implement new strategies within the field or your practice

Throughout the meeting, ACAAI will also be highlighting abstracts and press articles. We will also retweet valuable information from meeting attendees. Be sure to follow us at [twitter.com/ACAAI](http://twitter.com/ACAAI) and use #ACAAI in all your relevant posts!



# Embrace ACAAI's *Tithe-a-Talk* Program. It's easy and highly rewarding.

The ACAAI Foundation awarded \$150,000 in grants last year, made possible by its individual and corporate donors including participants of the *Tithe-a-Talk* program.

"The Foundation strives to secure the future of our specialty and ensure the highest standards of patient care by supporting education and research through its Fellows-in-Training Program Relief Grants, Young Faculty Support Awards and other viable programs," said ACAAI Foundation President **Nathan Segall**, MD, FAAAAI, who recently achieved *20K Club* status by exceeding his pledge of \$20,000. "We cannot accomplish this without support from our donors. We are pleased to recognize ACAAI Annual Meeting faculty who pledged a portion of their honoraria through the *Tithe-a-Talk* program."

The Foundation awarded 2012 grants to the following recipients:

- **J. Andrew Bird**, MD, FAAAAI, Southwestern Medical Center, and **Kelly Maples**, MD, each received Young Faculty Support awards of \$50,000
- The University of North Carolina received the Fellows-in-Training Program Relief Grant

*Tithe-a-Talk* makes it easy for you to donate honoraria from an upcoming speaking engagement, which will be applied toward your *5K Club* (\$5,000 level), *10K Club* (\$10,000 level) or *20K Club* (\$20,000 level) contribution goal. Simply complete the form available on the Foundation page at [acaai.org](http://acaai.org) and present it to the association/company that is sponsoring your talk.

Contributions to the Foundation can be made in a variety of other ways, including

cash donations, through a contribution of stock, charitable trusts/bequests. The Jean Chapman Endowment Fund for Education was established to help support fellows-in-training travel grants. In times of bereavement, you can request donations be made, in lieu of flowers, to help advance the care of allergy and immunology.

Donors at the *5K Club* level and above are acknowledged

at each Annual Meeting with a special ribbon and listings in the Convention Program Guide and the Foundation Honor Roll display.

Donations are always welcome. Please send your contribution to: ACAAI Foundation, 85 W. Algonquin Road, Suite 550, Arlington Heights, IL 60005. Checks should be made payable to ACAAI Foundation.



Dr. Bobby Lanier, ACAAI Executive Medical Director and past president, initiated *Tithe-a-Talk* in 2001.

## ***Tithe-a-Talk* makes it easy to support your Foundation**

To date, the following faculty designated a portion of their 2013 Annual Meeting or other honorarium to the Foundation's *Tithe-a-Talk* program.

Donald W. Aaronson, MD, JD, FAAAAI  
Amal H. Assad, MD, FAAAAI  
Mark Ballow, MD, FAAAAI  
Cheryl K. Bernstein, RN, BSN, CCRC  
David I. Bernstein, MD, FAAAAI  
Larry Borish, MD, FAAAAI  
Praveen Buddiga, MD  
Thomas B. Casale, MD, FAAAAI  
Bradley E. Chipps, MD, FAAAAI  
Chitra Dinakar, MD, FAAAAI  
Paul J. Dowling, MD, FAAAAI  
Renata J.M. Engler, MD, FAAAAI  
Stanley M. Fineman, MD, MBA, FAAAAI  
Alessandro Fiocchi, MD, FAAAAI  
Michael B. Foggs, MD, FAAAAI

Luz S. Fonacier, MD, FAAAAI  
Theodore A. Freeman, MD, FAAAAI  
David B.K. Golden, MD, FAAAAI  
Gary N. Gross, MD, FAAAAI  
I. Celine Hanson, MD  
Mark Holbreich, MD, FAAAAI  
Jerald W. Koepke, MD, FAAAAI  
David M. Lang, MD, FAAAAI  
Tao T. Le, MD, MHS, FAAAAI  
Mitchell R. Lester, MD, FAAAAI  
H. Henry Li, MD, PhD  
Phillip L. Lieberman, MD, FAAAAI  
Todd A. Mahr, MD, FAAAAI  
Gailen D. Marshall, Jr., MD, PhD, FAAAAI  
Bryan L. Martin, DO, FAAAAI

Kathleen R. May, MD, FAAAAI  
J. Allen Meadows, MD, FAAAAI  
Michael R. Nelson, MD, PhD, FAAAAI  
Richard A. Nicklas, MD, FAAAAI  
Talal M Nsouli, MD, FAAAAI  
Thomas A.E. Platts-Mills, MD, PhD, FAAAAI  
Christopher C. Randolph, MD, FAAAAI  
Joram S. Seggev, MD, FAAAAI  
Jodi A. Shroba, MSN, CPNP  
David J. Shulan, MD, FAAAAI  
David R. Stukus, MD  
James L. Sublett, MD, FAAAAI  
Richard W. Weber, MD, FAAAAI  
David R. Weldon, MD, FAAAAI

## College meeting in Baltimore geared to FITs needs continued from page 8

Should Have Read Last Year, But Didn't!" (Friday) and the "Introductory Course in Rhinology" (Saturday). Additionally, most ACAAI Committees welcome FIT

participation (see "committees" at [acaai.org/members](http://acaai.org/members)).

The field of allergy and immunology is always evolving. The ACAAI is the best way

to stay connected with fellow practitioners and to remain updated on current topics. Take advantage of what the ACAAI has to offer, and we will see you in Baltimore!

# Alliance focuses on hospitality and fundraising in Baltimore

By Mrs. Ellen Portnoy, Alliance President

I am excited to visit Baltimore, Md., for the first time. The home of Fort McHenry and the birthplace of our National Anthem will be a wonderful home base for the ACAAI Annual Scientific Meeting, Nov. 7-11. Please remind your spouse or significant other to register you as well when they register for the meeting at [annualmeeting.acaai.org](http://annualmeeting.acaai.org). You'll receive a discount for your registration if your Alliance dues are current!

The Alliance Hospitality Suite will be open Friday to Monday mornings from 8:00 – 10:30 a.m. in the Holiday Ballroom at the Hilton Baltimore Hotel. All registered spouses and guests are invited to join us for a continental breakfast and entertainment. Learn about the history, food and drink of Baltimore during programs on Friday, Saturday and Sunday. Special programs for children will be held on Saturday and Sunday.

Once again, our international attendees are invited to the International Reception on Saturday night at the Hilton Baltimore Hotel. All Alliance members also are invited to welcome our international members and guests!

Don't forget our wonderful fundraising Photography Competition chaired by

Barbara Finegold and Jeanne Zitt. This was such a success last year, the almost 90 entrees we received raised money for the ACAAI Foundation and also decorated the space near the registration area. We hope even more members and spouses will enter



this year, and we've extended the deadline by three weeks! For more information, go to [annualmeeting.acaai.org](http://annualmeeting.acaai.org). Send your photographs with the entry form available on the website to the College by Friday, Oct. 25.

Our Annual Business Meeting and Luncheon will be held on Sunday, Nov. 10, at the Hilton. **Margaret Quel**, our incoming

president, and other officers will take office.

Buy your tickets when you register for the meeting or email [alliance@acaai.org](mailto:alliance@acaai.org), as we have limited seating. Your Alliance dues must be current to attend.

Your help hosting the Hospitality Suite and International Reception are greatly appreciated. Spending an hour or more in the mornings welcoming our guests is a great way to meet new people and touch base with friends. You can volunteer your time by either emailing or faxing Andrea King at [alliance@acaai.org](mailto:alliance@acaai.org) or (847) 427-1294.

I am somewhat amazed that the year of my presidency is almost over. This is the last time I will write an update for you. I know Margaret Quel will do an excellent job to further our efforts to both provide hospitality during the meetings and raise money for the Foundation. I urge all of you to join the Alliance and enjoy the friendship and events we sponsor.

As always, please feel free to contact me regarding any questions or concerns at [alliance@acaai.org](mailto:alliance@acaai.org). Please send any written suggestions to my attention at ACAAI, 85 W Algonquin Road, Suite 550, Arlington Heights, IL, 60053.

I look forward to seeing you in Baltimore!



Mrs. Portnoy

## Distinguished service will be recognized at Awards Ceremony *continued from page 7*

Annual Meeting to benefit the Foundation, and co-chaired the 2003 and 2004 auctions. Mrs. Bellanti, a member since 1974, is the wife of ACAAI Past President Joseph A. Bellanti, MD, FACAIAI.

**Dr. Kevin McGrath** is an attending physician, Department of Medicine, St. Francis Hospital and Medical Center, Hartford, and in private practice at Adult and Pediatric Allergy & Asthma of Connecticut in Wethersfield, Conn. He served on the ACAAI Board of Regents (BOR) as Speaker of the House, 2007-09, and Regent, 2009-

12. He currently chairs the Membership Recruitment Committee, is on the Advisory Board for the Practice Management Update newsletter and is a media spokesperson. Previously, he chaired the Credentials Committee, Primary Care Training Program Committee and Geriatrics Committee; served on numerous other committees including Annual Program, Budget/Finance, Executive; was coordinator for the Nationwide Asthma Screening Program; delegate to the ACAAI House of Delegates; and liaison for the Alliance to the BOR. He is past president of the American Association

of Certified Allergists, 2007-08; past president of the Connecticut Society of Allergy, 2004-06; and past president of the New England Society of Allergy, 2000-01. He was recognized in America's Top Physicians, Consumers Research Council of America, 2004-13, and Connecticut Magazine, Top Docs, 2006 and 2009.

**Dr. Anthony Montanaro** is a professor of medicine and head of the Division of Allergy and Clinical Immunology at Oregon Health & Sciences University in Portland. He was on the ACAAI Board of Regents,

... continued on page 11

# Pressing issues in allergy-immunology discussed at ACAAI HOD meeting

Allergy extracts, new developments at the FDA and other hot topics in allergy health care will be discussed at the House of Delegates (HOD) Meeting and Town Hall Forum from 4:00-6:00 p.m. on Friday, Nov. 8, in Room 314-315 at the ACAAI Baltimore Convention Center.

“All members are invited to attend the HOD gathering,” said **Lawrence DuBuske**, MD, FAAAAI, Speaker of the House. “This



will be an opportunity to hear from experts about new developments and important issues that will greatly impact our specialty.”

The program includes the following presentations:

- “Update on the JCAAI” – **Richard Honsinger**, MD, MACP, FAAAAI, president of JCAAI.
- “A Paradigm Shift in Medical Education” – **Darrell G. Kirch**, MD, president and chief executive officer, Association of American Medical Colleges
- “New FDA Developments: Update on the Changing Landscape of Allergy Extracts” – **Jay Slater, MD**, director of FDA’s Division of Bacterial, Parasitic and Allergenic Products
- “New developments at the FDA: Update on Current Status of Issues Impacting the Practicing Allergist” – **Susan Limb**, MD, clinical team leader, Division of Pulmonary, Allergy and Rheumatology Products, CDER, FDA



Dr. DuBuske

## Distinguished service will be recognized at Awards Ceremony *continued from page 10*

1990-93. He has served as editor of *Allergy-Watch* and chair of its Editorial Board since 2007, and was associate editor 1999-07. He received the ACAAI 2002 Distinguished Fellow Award and was selected as the honorary speaker for the 2001 Bela Schick Lecture, the 2000 Bernard Berman Memorial Lecture and the 1997 Mittelstaedt Lecture. Dr. Montanaro is past president of the Western Society of Allergy and Immunology, 1993-94, and past president of the Oregon Society of Allergy and Immunology, 1988-89. He served on the Board of Directors and on the Scientific Advisory Council of the National Eczema Association for Science and Education. He was on the Editorial Board of *Annals of Allergy, Asthma & Immunology* and the *Journal of Allergy and Clinical Immunology*, and has authored or co-authored more than 80 published papers.

**Dr. Charles Siegel** is an associate clinical professor, Department of Pediatrics at the University of Missouri Kansas City School of Medicine; a clinical instructor at the University of Kansas School of Medicine; and former director of the Allergy Section at Children’s Mercy Hospital in Kansas City.

He was on the ACAAI Board of Regents, 1993-96, and currently chairs the Continuing Medical Education/Continuing Professional Development Committee. He is on the Annual Program Committee and Membership Recruitment Committee. He formerly was ACAAI’s representative to the MOC Committee of the ABAAI and chaired the Review Course for the ABAAI Recertification Exam (1999 and 2003), the Geriatrics Committee and Symposia Committee. He was honored with the ACAAI 2003 Distinguished Fellow Award. Dr. Siegel is past president of the Missouri State Allergy Society, 1990-91, and past president of the Greater Kansas City Allergy Society, 1984 and 1989.

### Woman in Allergy Award

**Dr. Amal Assa’ad** is professor of pediatrics at the University of Cincinnati. She is director of clinical services and associate director of the Division of Allergy and Immunology at Cincinnati Children’s Hospital Medical Center, and is the founder and director of its Food Allergy Clinic. She directed the Allergy/Immunology Fellowship Program at the University of Cincinnati, 1996 to 2012.

She chairs the ACAAI Adverse Reactions to Foods Committee and the International Food Allergy Symposium Committee, and is vice chair of the Women in Allergy Committee. She is a member of the Allergy/Immunology Training Program Directors’ Planning Committee, Continuing Medical Education/Continuing Professional Development Committee, Scientific Council, and Editorial Board of *Annals of Allergy, Asthma & Immunology*. She previously was ACAAI’s delegate to the NIH expert panel on food allergy research. Dr. Assa’ad was the honorary speaker for the 2012 Luisa Businco Memorial Lecture.

She is on the AAAAAI Board of Directors; on the ACGME Residency Review Committee for Allergy and Immunology; member and section chair of National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases Food Allergy Clinical Guideline Expert Panel and a reviewer for its Allergy, Immunology and Transplantation Research Committee; and a volunteer medical consultant and Board member of the American Partnership for Eosinophilic Disorders.

# Executive Committee reports summary of key actions

The ACAAI Executive Committee took the following actions at its July 23 phone conference:

- Approved the proposed plan of the JCAAI High Value Care Coordination Workgroup to develop consultation guidelines/referral formats and data sets for three to five conditions including: asthma, mixed COPD, rhinosinusitis, anaphylaxis and anaphylactoid reactions (food allergy, drug allergy, stinging insect, idiopathic), immunodeficiency and allergic skin disease (urticaria, atopic dermatitis, contact dermatitis, etc.).
- Authorized the Joint Task Force on Practice Parameters to submit the *Practice*

*Parameter on Emergency Department Diagnosis and Management of Anaphylaxis* to an emergency department journal for publication.

- Authorized the president to speak/act on behalf of the College for non-controversial socio-political situations after consultation with staff, the executive medical director and a small group of officers or senior fellows in instances when a response deadline precludes the ability for consideration by the Executive Committee or Board of Regents.
- Voted to withhold support for the Joint Task Force on Quality performance measures' draft *Urticaria/Angioedema Quality*

*Measures* pending the task force's explanation and/or revision as follows:

- A) Include throughout consideration of patient concerns and apprehension;
- B) Explain scientific basis and selection of 10% as denominator; and C) Add to preface the economic and legal ramifications of dismissing patient concerns and apprehension.
- Agreed to accept the American Academy of Otolaryngology – Head and Neck surgery Foundation's invitation to appoint a representative to serve on its allergic rhinitis guidelines panel with the understanding that participation in the project does not automatically carry an endorsement of the final product.

## Important information from ACAAI about Gmail accounts

Do you feel like you haven't received any email from ACAAI over the past few weeks? If so, it's likely due to a recent change that Gmail/Google Mail has made to their system.

The email provider now automatically categorizes all your incoming messages so that email sent from the College (as well as

other high volume senders) may be hiding behind your systems "Promotions" tab.

To ensure that you see our messages without having to click on other tabs, you'll need to adjust your Gmail settings. It's easy!

- 1 Open your Gmail/Google Mail and click on the "Promotions" tab

- 2 Drag an email from ACAAI into the "Primary" tab
- 3 Click "yes" when asked if you want future emails from us to go into your "Primary" inbox.

And that is it! Now you'll never miss another important email from ACAAI.

## Internet TV series debuts continued from page 1

focus on the board-certified allergist's specialized training and expertise.

The series debuted on the ACAAI You Tube channel, [www.youtube.com/allergists](http://www.youtube.com/allergists), in early September with the hay fever vignette titled, "Get the Right Medication this Sneezing Season." The hay fever vignette is also embedded into the [www.Allergyand-AsthmaRelief.org](http://www.Allergyand-AsthmaRelief.org) public microsite in the hay fever section.

The second in the series, "The ABCs of Childhood Allergies & Asthma" was uploaded in early October.

The remaining six titles will be released over the next six months:

- Allergies & Asthma: It's in the Genes
- Food Allergies: When Food Becomes Scary for Kids
- When in Doubt Get the Epinephrine Out
- Food Allergies: Fact or Fiction

- Don't Get Your Dander Up About Pet Allergies: Learn How to Be Symptom Free
- The Only Shot You'll Love to Take

Get the word out about this invaluable internet TV series. You can easily embed these and all ACAAI videos into your practice website and share on your social media channels by clicking the "share" button below each video.



# ACAAI thanks the 2013 Corporate Council Members



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# SUPPORTING ACAAI MEMBERS AT THE HIGHEST LEVEL.

Teva Respiratory is proud to continue our tradition of support as a Diamond-level sponsor of the ACAAI.



The diamond is a symbol of lasting commitment. Teva Respiratory is pleased to demonstrate our ongoing support of ACAAI members as a Diamond-level sponsor.

