President’s Perspective

Thanks for the Memories
Leslie R. Dye, MD, FACMT
President

My first thank you is to the members of ACMT for putting your trust in me to steer this incredible organization. Being of service is an honor and it started long ago when I was asked to be on the education committee. Participation on that committee led to overseeing several educational activities, prompting me to run for the board of directors. The members supported me by voting for me and have continued to offer their support since. Over the past two years, I have come to appreciate the skills and personalities of our members. I also have to thank all members of the board of directors, past and present. I am constantly amazed at the hard work the board members do, all in a voluntary capacity. While it is an honor to lead such an august group, a great deal of my appreciation is for their kindness and senses of humor. They make being the president fun!

I have to also thank my mentors. When I was a resident in Cincinnati, James Roberts was one of my attending physicians. I thought of him as the “MacGyver of Emergency Medicine.” He could come up with solutions that no one would ever consider. I so appreciate the education he provided, his enthusiasm for medical toxicology, and even more, his continued friendship. We had dinner last week and he told me he is receiving the ACEP award for outstanding contribution in education. I can’t think of a more worthy recipient.

Edward Otten is another mentor and my toxicology fellowship director. His expertise in wilderness medicine and environmental toxicology contributed to my passion in these areas. He recently retired from working shifts in the emergency department and I have no idea who is working the night shifts now in Cincinnati! My late husband, Michael Spadafora, was an amazing and brilliant clinician with a passion for education and medical toxicology. I miss him every day, but am reminded about our shared love for this specialty by our home décor, including our large rattlesnake table that greets visitors in the foyer.

While I love to write, finding topics was much more challenging than I expected. Not that there is a dearth of subjects, but finding those I felt at all qualified to address was more difficult. But I want to focus on gratitude for my last hurrah. Might be more like an Oscar speech, but this is as close as I will ever get!

It is with mixed emotions that I write my final president’s message for the Newsletter.

Calendar of Events

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I have to send a special shout out to Lewis Nelson. He has served as confidante, advisor, editor and friend. He tried to teach me to put only one space after a period, but I am still learning. There are so many other members of this organization that I could thank, but it would take too long and I would miss some.

Now to the ACMT staff—they are amazing! While we have many and I think they are all awesome, the ones I know the best are Tricia Steffey and Paul Wax. Tricia grew up about 6 miles from where I live in Ohio, but our paths did not cross until she started with ACMT. She is the glue that holds us together. She may be quiet, but she is a very hard worker with a gentle touch. Things just get done, without any fanfare. I admire her and am so happy to call her my friend. I know I am not really leaving, but if I were, Paul Wax would be the scarecrow; I would miss him the most. We met in New York in 1990. We are so different, but hit it off from the first day. We are definitely friends, but really more like siblings. Whenever I hear, “but Leslie,” I know I am in trouble. There is no one more dedicated to our specialty and few people I have ever met work as hard as he. I am so happy we are lifelong friends.

No Oscar thank you would be complete without thanking my mom and dad. I am forever grateful to have won the parent lottery. Not only did I get two incredible parents, I got skills from both that provided me with a fulfilling and happy life. My father’s sense of humor, his organization, his engineering brilliance and his kind heart are forever with me, even though he is gone. I am still fortunate to spend time with my mother and witness her brilliance, loyalty, compassion, love for language and true grit. They both taught me to love others and to love life.

Then there is my dear husband, Brian. One of his frequent questions when I travel is “are you getting paid for this?” While he has no idea about academic medicine, he is my guiding light. He is one of the best people I have ever met and keeps me on the right track. Even if he doesn’t always know all the details, he seems to know what is right and just.

Thank you again, ACMT, for this honor and privilege. I am not gone, but am looking forward to being “Past President.”

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ACMT Educates

Louise Kao, MD, FACMT, Education Committee Chair

The Education Committee has been hard at work and we have many educational offerings to share!

This year, NACCT will be held in Boston, MA from September 12-16th, 2016. Our PreMeeting will be held on September 13, 2016. Please join us to learn about “New and Novel Rx: Drugs, Antidotes, and Delivery Systems”. Our Practice symposium will discuss surveillance for novel drugs of abuse, and our Scientific symposium will educate us about precision medicine. For a full list of ACMT Educational Symposia at NACCT, please visit www.acmt.net.

The Education Committee meeting is open to all, and will be held on September 15, 2016 from 11:30-12:30p at NACCT. Feel free to join us in Boston!

Save the date for our 2016 Medical Toxicology Board Review Course! This will be held Thursday, September 29-Saturday, October 1, 2016 at the Hilton Salt Lake City Center in Salt Lake City, Utah. As always this highly rated course will offer great speakers, teaching and study guides, and this year has added many updated quiz questions.

For the Annual Scientific Meeting 2017, we will return to San Juan, Puerto Rico from March 30-April 2, 2017. The Satellite symposium will discuss the epidemic of addiction and prescription opioid abuse, and the main meeting will focus on maximizing the impact of toxicology.

The Education Committee is seeking proposals for our upcoming conferences. Request for Proposal (RFP) for next year’s ACMT education at NACCT are due October 7th. We look forward to your great ideas!

Don’t miss the ACMT Grand Rounds webinar, held every second Tuesday on months opposite National Journal Club. This series highlights speakers outside of medical toxicology sharing their expertise on a diverse array of topics. If you have a suggested speaker, please contact J.J. Rasimas, MD, FACMT at joseph.j.rasimas@healthpartners.com. Also the National Journal Club and National Case Conference webinars continue to provide stimulating discussion of our toxicology literature and fascinating cases. Please view the conference calendar here for dates and times.
The newly created Enduring Education Highlight of the Month will feature selected webinars as well as offerings from our live conferences. Please check your inbox for this new way to easily access our enduring content.

The Education Committee has been restructured into working groups as follows:

- **Annual Scientific Meeting**: 2017 Chairs: Andrew Stolbach, MD, FACMT & Bryan Judge, MD, FACMT
- **NACCT**: 2016 Leader: Christina Hantsch Bardsley, MD, FACMT
- **Board Review Course**: Leaders: Patrick Daubert, MD, FACMT, Evan Schwartz, MD, FACMT & Michael Levine, MD, FACMT
- **Forensic Course**: Leader: Lewis Nelson, MD, FACMT
- **Webinars**: Leader: J.J. Rasimas, MD, PhD
- **Evaluations**: Leader: Bryan Judge, MD, FACMT
- **Needs Assessment/CME**: Leader: Ziad Kazzi, MD, FACMT
- **The Next Big Thing**: Leader: Chuck McKay, MD, FACMT
- **Enduring Education**: Leader: Gillian Beauchamp, MD

Thank you to the working group leaders for their efforts thus far and for their leadership and involvement! All current education committee members have been assigned to one or two working groups. If you desire to participate in a working group, please contact Louise Kao, MD, FACMT at lkao@iuhealth.org.

### ACMT in Boston at NACCT

The annual North American Congress of Clinical Toxicology is only days away and ACMT will be very active at the meeting. You won’t want to miss the ACMT PreMeeting on September 13th. Please join us to learn about “New and Novel Rx: Drugs, Antidotes, and Delivery Systems”.

Other highlights include the ever-popular ACMT CPC, ACMT Fellows-in-Training Roundtable; Fellows-in-Training Visiting Professor Lecture; The Practice Symposium will discuss surveillance for novel drugs of abuse, and the Scientific Symposium will educate us about precision medicine. And we are excited for the ACMT Ellenhorn Awardee Lecture by Michael Kosnett, MD, MPH, FACMT.

[Click here for a full list of ACMT Symposia, Committees, Sections, an Workgroups taking place in Boston.](#)
It’s not too late to register!
September 29 - October 1, 2016
Hilton Salt Lake City Center, Salt Lake City, UT

- The only professional association that focuses solely on medical toxicology.
- Be informed by nationally recognized, multidisciplinary medical toxicology faculty.
- Study content specifically designed for the medical toxicology subspecialty exam offered jointly by ABEM, ABP, and ABPM.
- Gain new insight into current clinical issues, particularly those not seen in your daily practice.
- Optimize your retention of factual knowledge as the course is conveniently scheduled close to the board exam date.
- Strengthen your practical knowledge in key subjects by attending the “stimuli” room with clinical images and case based modules.
- Benefit from an intensive learning environment that prepares you for your board subspecialty exams.
- A complete electronic syllabus with over 700 practice questions (and answers) will be available to all who register for this course.

REGISTER NOW

The Medical Toxicology Foundation is a not for-profit charitable organization affiliated with the American College of Medical Toxicology and is intended to provide ACMT members, the general public, and commercial sponsors with a tax deductible mechanism to support Medical Toxicology. Your gift to the Medical Toxicology Foundation - a 501(c)(3) educational organization - is tax-deductible to the fullest extent allowable by law.

To learn more about the Medical Toxicology Foundation and its mission, please click here.

Donations always welcome. CLICK HERE TO DONATE!
ACMT Joins the AMA’s Specialty and Service Society

Charles McKay, MD, FACMT, ACMT Vice-President

Medical Toxicology, an American Board of Medical Specialties recognized sub-specialty, faces challenges similar to those of many other small (and larger) specialty groups in the “house of medicine.” We have done our best to respond to some of the drastic changes in medicine over the last few decades but as a very small group of physicians compared to other medical specialties (e.g. 500 medical toxicologists vs 30,000 emergency physicians) we have limited capacity and a small footprint. A number of individuals within the College have provided critical leadership and have begun to make inroads and inquiries into the important areas listed below:

1) Our own specialty code – allowing billing separate from our primary department of Emergency Medicine, Pediatrics, Occ/Preventive Medicine, or Internal Medicine (or a few others);

2) Proactive efforts to learn from and instruct billing and coding specialists for consultations or inpatient care;

3) Focused pursuit of grants and partnerships for educational ventures – such as training for appropriate opioid use and physician/community response to the opioid epidemic;

4) Establishing performance metrics for Medical Toxicology to avoid scheduled payment reductions by insurers;

5) Expanding the pool of applicants for Medical Toxicology fellowship training programs;

6) Highlighting career paths for Medical Toxicologists post-graduation.

However, we are still not on firm footing in any of these critical areas and much work lies ahead.

A field as broad as Medical Toxicology does touch on multiple other specialties and our interactions with them should be robust. One of the ways we can begin to address some of the issues noted above is to be more visible on a national scale to leaders within other specialties in medicine. We have applied to and been accepted for membership in the American Medical Association’s Specialty and Service Society committee. To qualify we needed to demonstrate that at least 10% of our members were active members of the AMA. This is a first step towards representation in the AMA’s House of Delegates. However, membership in the AMA’s House of Delegates, the principal policy-making body of the American Medical Association with delegates from the vast majority of medical specialties and subspecialties, will require at least 20% of ACMT full members to belong to the AMA (eg ~ 100 full members). We are currently only about 60% of the way there. We will have information and AMA membership options at the ACMT booth at NACCT next month in Boston. I would encourage you to consider joining the AMA if you are not yet a member or renewing your membership if it has lapsed.

There are many initiatives that the ACMT Board of Directors has taken under the current Strategic Plan to address some of the challenges facing our specialty, but we need everyone’s participation. We hope that earning a “seat of the table” at the AMA will provide benefit to all of our members and the specialty of medical toxicology. We welcome the opportunity to hear from you about ACMT clinical, educational, research, or advocacy activities.
Journal of Medical Toxicology

Mark Mycyk, MD, FACMT, JMT Editor-in-Chief

The Journal of Medical Toxicology (JMT) released its 3rd issue of 2016 before Boston’s NACCT, so download the entire jam-packed issue to your mobile device using our JMT app. This is our largest issue to date -- it includes the 6th Annual ToxIC report and several cutting-edge thought-provoking studies.

If you have not yet heard JMT's Podcast 2.0 hosted by new podcast editors Greg LaSala and Jeff Lapoint, please tune in and check it out. Hear them discuss, dissect, and debate what’s new in each issue of JMT. Listeners are invited to join their discussion using Twitter and other social networking technology. Podcast 2.0 can be found in iTunes or via the podcast link at acmt.net.

We are thrilled to announce two new additions to our editorial board: Maryann Mazer-Amirshahi PharmD, MD, MPH from Washington, DC and Michael Levine MD, FACMT from Los Angeles, CA. Both names should be recognizable to all, since Maryann and Michael have been featured as lead authors on ground-breaking studies published in JMT and elsewhere. For years they provided us with insightful peer reviews, and now we are fortunate to have their experience and expertise as decision editors. Maryann and Michael, welcome to our board!

If you’re presenting any research at NACCT, please consider JMT for the manuscript you write when you return home. If any questions or comments about our journal, feel free to connect with any of our editors during the Boston meeting or contact us at directly at jmtinfo@acmt.net at anytime.

ACMT Online Directories

If you have not been on the ACMT website recently, it has gone through some significant changes over the last several months. One of the newest changes has been to the ACMT Directories: Inpatient and Outpatient Directories and Clerkship and Fellowship Directories. These directories allow the public to search for a provider or program on the ACMT website by city or state. An exciting enhancement is that ACMT members now have the ability to add or update their listings through their ACMT Member Center profile. If you are a service provider or program director, please review your information in the appropriate directories to make sure it is up to date. If your information is not listed, you may add it by logging into your ACMT profile. Please contact us at info@acmt.net with any questions.

Please click here for a PDF on how to update or add your listing on the website.

Visit JMT Online

Bookmark us at: http://www.acmt.net/cgi/page.cgi/journals.html

Or get to us from the ACMT Homepage by clicking ‘Journal of Medical Toxicology’ under the Forum & Publications menu, or click the JMT Icon at the bottom of the page.
ACMT 2017 Annual Scientific Meeting

REGISTRATION NOW OPEN!

Join us March 30 - April 2 for the 2017 ACMT Annual Scientific Meeting & Satellite Session in lovely San Juan, Puerto Rico!

Abstract Submission Period:
September 1, 2016 - November 15, 2016

Detailed instructions can be found on the ACMT 2017 ASM Abstract Submission webpage.

Pediatric Environmental Health Specialty Unit (PEHSU) Program

Lizzy Nguyen, PEHSU Program Coordinator

As part of the PEHSU Webinar Series, ACMT recently hosted a Grand Rounds webinar in July, entitled *Fukushima and Chernobyl: The Near and Long-Term Effects On Children*. Region 6, presented and described the importance of latency in the evaluation of cancer risk from environmental sources, and identified the most common cancer risks after a nuclear power plant and non-cancer adverse outcomes in children following radionuclide releases. The webinar will be available on-demand in the PEHSU National Classroom.

PEHSU webinars will now be held every third Wednesday of the month at 1pm Eastern. The next PEHSU webinar hosted by ACMT will be held on October 19th at 1pm EST, and will be a grand rounds covering the topic of healthy schools. For more information and to register for upcoming webinars please visit [here](#).
Toxicology Investigators Consortium (ToxIC)
Diane Calello, MD, FACMT

The ToxIC registry has had several important developments over the summer:

- The registry has reached a major milestone topping 50,000 total cases
- ToxIC has received its first funding from the FDA.
- We are preparing for migration to the REDCap platform in January 2017, which will increase significantly the functionality of the database.
- Congratulations to ToxIC investigators for these recent publications:

Research proposals for the upcoming ACMT Annual Scientific Meeting in Puerto Rico utilizing ToxIC data should be submitted as soon as possible to ensure adequate time for review and approval. The abstract submission deadline is November 15, 2016. Guidelines and instructions for protocol submission are located at http://www.acmt.net/ToxIC_Research.html

Please join us at NACCT for the ToxIC meeting on Thursday, 9/15 at 4:30pm. All members welcome. See you there!

Toxicology In The News

Who helps to protect us in the event of an environmental emergency? - CDC

Snake bites keeping this Houston doctor busy - Houston Chronicle

Acute Poisonings from Synthetic Cannabinoids — 50 U.S. Toxicology Investigators Consortium Registry Sites, 2010-2015 - CDC

K2 synthetic weed use spiked over past year, says CDC - CNN

Meet the Team

Adrienne Landry Dunavin

Adrienne joined ACMT in February 2016. As the Education Program Manager, she is responsible for developing, overseeing, and leading education programs that align with ACMT’s strategic plan. She supports the work of ACMT’s Education Committee with operational planning and event logistics.

Adrienne has a BA in History from the University of Kansas and an MA from Columbia University in Russian and East European studies. She has over a decade of experience in program management and event coordination, organizing conferences and high-profile diplomatic visits in the US and Europe.
Webinar Schedule

September 2016
September 13, 2016 at 1pm ET
PEHSU Grand Rounds Webinar

September 20, 2016 at 12pm ET
ACMT National Journal Club

October 2016
October 11, 2016 at 12pm ET
ACMT Grand Rounds

October 19, 2016 at 1pm
PEHSU National Case Conference

October 20, 2016 at 1pm ET
ACMT National Case Conference

October 21, 2016 at 12:30pm ET
Addiction Medicine Webinar

We want to hear from you! Please share with us any news of yourself or ACMT colleagues and we’ll include it in the next ACMT newsletter. We also welcome comments and suggestions for future newsletters. Send information to newsletter@acmt.net.

Thank you - The Editors
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Evan Schwarz, MD
Andrew Stolbach, MD, FACMT
Timothy Wiegand, MD, FACMT

Visit the ACMT Webinar Webpage to view recordings of previous webinars.

Sept 12-16 2016 NACCT
Boston, MA
More Information

Sept 18-21 SPS/CSPT/JSF Joint Meeting
Vancouver, BC
More Information

Sept 29- Oct 1 Medical Toxicology Board Review Course
Salt Lake City, Utah
More Information
Register Now

Oct 15-18 ACEP Scientific Assembly
Las Vegas, NV
More Information

Oct 16-21 SOFT Annual Meeting
Dallas, TX
More Information

2017
March 12-16 SOT Annual Meeting and Tox Expo
Baltimore, MD
More Information

March 31- April 2 ACMT Annual Scientific Meeting
San Juan, Puerto Rico
More Information

Sept 12-16 2016 NACCT
Boston, MA
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