

FROM THE REGIONS

Recap of the 2012 New England Regional Meeting

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The 2012 New England Regional meeting was held at Maine Medical Center (MMC) in Portland, ME, on March 9. This is the first time we hosted our one-day regional meeting in Maine, and we were very pleased to have 275 registrants! We had a robust submission process, which closed with 182 submissions. Our meeting opened with a welcome from MMC Chief of Medicine Mike Roy, MD, followed by an update by national secretary Carol Bates, MD, assistant dean for Faculty Affairs at Harvard Medical School. We were honored to host JudyAnn Bigby, MD, secretary of Health and Human Services for Massachusetts, as the keynote speaker. Dr. Bigby's address focused on the successful implementation of health care reform in Massachusetts and the improvements in access that resulted from it—a timely topic given the national focus on reform.

The New England Region has a long tradition of encouraging trainee attendance and programming. As we have done for the past several years, we held a career panel, including panelists with a variety of professional

backgrounds in medicine. For the first time this year, we included a "symposia" category to encourage shorter didactic sessions of 45 minutes each aimed at clinical or educational updates for a broad audience. As always, we also had traditional workshop submissions, vignettes, innovations, and research abstracts. Rather than one-on-one mentoring, we asked participants to self-select into several groups for informal but lively lunch discussions about career paths as educators, researchers, or public health leaders.

Awards for the New England Region were announced by incoming president Dan Tobin. The Clinician-Educator Award went to Leigh Simmons, MD, and Angelo Volandes, MD, won the Clinician-Investigator Award. After an exciting and full day of presentations, the following awards were presented: best oral vignette, Sonal Arora from Baystate; best poster vignettes, Payal Jahawar from Baystate and Andrew Romanowsky from MMC; best oral innovation, Russell Kerbel from Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center; best oral research, Mary Logealis from Yale, West Haven VA, and Sanja

Percac-Lima from Massachusetts General Hospital (MGH); and best poster research, Jessica Fields from Tufts. Our meeting co-chairs, Jenny Aronson, MD, and Elizabeth Eisenhardt, MD, saw to the complex logistics of the meeting, including a fantastic lunch with lobster rolls. The remainder of the officers group, including Dan Tobin (incoming president), Diane Brockmeyer (immediate past president), Lenny Lopez (member at large), and Joe Rabatin (secretary/treasurer) represented a broad range of New England institutions and careers in general internal medicine, as well as strong skills in leadership and organization. We are also grateful for the guiding hand and organizational skills of Quione Rice, our SGIM national regional coordinator.

We announced president-elect Leigh Simmons, MD, from MGH, who will host the meeting in 2014! We are looking forward to next year's meeting and to seeing a large number of New England members in New Haven on Friday, March 8, 2013, under the direction of incoming president Dan Tobin.

SGIM