ANNUAL MEETING UPDATE

Plenary Session Offerings for 2012
SGIM Program Committee

Joshua P. Metlay, MD, PhD, of the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine, and Amir K. Jaffer, MD, of the University of Miami School of Medicine, are plenary chair and co-chair, respectively. David Paul Eisenman, MD, MSHS, of the UCLA School of Medicine, is international programming chair.

The national meeting is approaching. Only a few more months before SGIM descends upon Orlando. We have exciting sessions planned for the meeting and content to meet all your professional and personal goals. We are thrilled to announce our three plenary speakers and to introduce the international program to you. Don’t forget to register for the meeting and make your hotel reservations through the meeting website at www.sgim.org/go/am12. Be sure to bring the family—there are plenty of entertainment options for them while you enjoy a fantastic meeting.

Thursday Opening Plenary Session Keynote
Does the Arc of the Moral Universe Really Bend Toward Justice?
Steven A. Schroeder, MD
Distinguished Professor of Health and Health Care, Department of Medicine; Director, Smoking Cessation Leadership Center; University of California, San Francisco

Dr. Schroeder is distinguished professor of health and health care, Division of General Internal Medicine, Department of Medicine, UCSF, where he also heads the Smoking Cessation Leadership Center. The Center, funded by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and the American Legacy Foundation, works with leaders of more than 80 American health professional organizations and health care institutions to increase the cessation rate for smokers. It has expanded the types of clinician groups that support cessation, developed an alternative cessation message (Ask, Advise, Refer), created new ways to market toll-free telephone quit lines, and engaged the mental health treatment community for the first time. Between 1990 and 2002 he was president and CEO of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. During that time, the Foundation made grant expenditures of almost $4 billion in pursuit of its mission of improving the health and health care of all Americans. It developed new programs in substance abuse prevention and treatment, care at the end of life, and health insurance expansion for children, among others. At both George Washington and UCSF he was the founding medical director of a university-sponsored HMO, and at UCSF he founded the Division of General Internal Medicine.

Friday Plenary Session Keynote and 2012 Malcolm L. Peterson Honor Lecture
Karen B. DeSalvo, MD, MPH, MSc
City of New Orleans Health Commissioner and Senior Health Policy Advisor to the Mayor

Dr. DeSalvo’s responsibilities include direction of the Health Department, whose mission is to protect and promote the health of New Orleanians. Dr. DeSalvo also advises the mayor on local, state, and federal health policy matters. She has 20 years of practice, research, and policy experience aimed at improving access to quality affordable community health care for all. She has been a leader in health sector recovery and health care reform efforts since Hurricane Katrina. In addition to broad health reform, the focus of her work includes the creation of national award-winning models of neighborhood-based medical homes for low-income, uninsured, and vulnerable populations. Dr. DeSalvo was recognized as a Woman of Excellence in Health Care by the Louisiana Legislative Women’s Caucus for her health care reform efforts in 2008 and led a delegation who received an award from the National Committee for Quality Assurance. Dr. DeSalvo is the current president of the Louisiana Health Care Quality Forum and 504HealthNet. She has served on numerous local and national professional boards and is active in the community. She was most recently professor of medicine and vice dean for Community Affairs and Health Policy at the Tulane University School of Medicine.

Dr. DeSalvo is known to many members of the SGIM family, having been a Council member and chair of the Annual Meeting Program Committee. She is also a past president of ACLGIM.

Saturday Plenary Session Keynote
JudyAnn Bigby, MD
Secretary, Health and Human Services, The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Dr. JudyAnn Bigby oversees 17 state agencies and serves in the Cabinet of Governor Deval Patrick. Her broad range of experience—as a physician, professor, researcher, and health policy expert—gives her unique insights into how the state can best serve the people of the Commonwealth. One of Secretary Bigby’s top priorities is ensuring the state delivers high-quality services to Massachusetts residents; some of the program areas she manages relate to health care, insurance coverage, housing, child welfare, public health, disabilities, and veterans. Secretary Bigby also chairs the Health Care Quality and Cost Council, which was created through the 2006 health care reform law and establishes statewide measures.

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sures to improve quality, contain costs, and reduce racial and ethnic disparities in health care. Until her appointment, Dr. Bigby was the medical director of Community Health Programs at Brigham & Women’s Hospital. She was also an associate professor of medicine at Harvard Medical School and director of the school’s Center of Excellence in Women’s Health. In this role, Dr. Bigby focused on the health care issues affecting low-income and minority women.

From 1996-2007, Dr. Bigby served on the Boston Public Health Commission. She has also served on numerous boards, including the Women’s Union and the Medical Foundation. She was a member of the Institute of Medicine’s Assuring the Health of the Public in the 21st Century Committee and the Minority Women’s Health Panel of Experts for the US Department of Health and Human Services’ Office on Women’s Health.

Dr. Bigby is known to many members of the SGIM family, having served as president from 2003-2004.

**International Programming**

Many of us feel helpless watching television coverage of disasters when they happen. This year we have invited SGIM members who have participated in emergency response to two such events.

The session “Haiti, Care Of Acute and Chronic Diseases After Disaster” will present the experience of a humanitarian physician in Haiti after the devastating 2010 earthquake. Olivier Hagon, MD, a physician trained in emergency medicine and anesthesiology who is the current medical director of the Coordinator Medical Unit Swiss Rescue, will describe the medical management of mass casualties and will illustrate the principles of first aid, improvisation, sorting (triage), and organized help. Dr. Hagon will discuss the logistic barriers to delivering care that were encountered in the aftermath of the earthquake. The challenges of acute and chronic disease care will be discussed specifically. The limits of what can be achieved by a physician in the context of a humanitarian catastrophe will be shared. Finally, a more general overview on Dr. Hagon’s experience in several recent humanitarian catastrophes (e.g. Libya, Kenya) will be presented.

Japan experienced an unprecedented earthquake disaster, tsunami, and radiation leakage all in one event, resulting in the devastating breakdown of the health care system. The long process of recovering from mass evacuation is still an ongoing problem. We found that generalist physicians with limited experience in disaster medicine—when properly organized—have a lot to contribute, including opening clinics at the shelters, assessing the health care needs of victims, managing chronic diseases, and preventing disaster-associated illnesses.

The experiences of the Japan Primary Care Association (JPCA) will be shared, as will generalizable lessons on disaster preparedness from the perspective of generalist physicians. Strategies for international cooperation in large-scale disaster will also be discussed.