T
he California-Hawaiiregion is currently preparing for its regional meeting on January 10, 2015. Cedars-Sinai Medical Center will host the meeting, as this is the home institution of President-Elect Robert Goodman, MD. The theme this year is “General Internal Medicine: New Frontiers in Patient Care, Medical Education, and Research.” As always, our focus will be to inspire our medical students and housestaff into careers in academic and clinical general internal medicine and to provide mentoring and support for our faculty in the region. This year, we are delighted to have Clarence Braddock, III, MD, give the keynote address. Dr. Braddock will speak on continuing professional development. Formerly from Stanford, Dr. Braddock is vice dean for education at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA and is the chair-elect of the American Board of Internal Medicine’s Board of Directors.

Last year’s regional meeting at Stanford was very successful. Held at the newly constructed Li Ka Shing Center, the meeting opened with an outstanding plenary panel that discussed “Future Trends in Internal Medicine—ACO’s and Beyond.” National leaders served as panelists, including Arnold Milstein, MD, MPH, from Stanford; Andrew Bindman, MD, from UCSF; and Alpesh Amin, MD, MBA, from UC-Irvine. Malathi Srinivasan, MD, from UC-Davis moderated. Christopher Masi, MD, provided the Council update, and Patricia Harris, MD, the Health Policy Committee update at the Regional Business Meeting. The keynote address was given by Stanford’s own Abraham Verghese, MD, a nationally acclaimed author, clinician, and educator. Dr. Verghese’s talk was titled “Teaching Bedside Skills in a Technological Era.” This excellent presentation highlighted the history of physical exam techniques and the ongoing importance of this skill in modern practice. He also discussed ongoing efforts to reinvigorate training in physical examination skills at Stanford. Lastly, Dr. Verghese led a workshop session based on the Stanford 25 that focused on key physical exam findings in short teaching moments. The meeting attracted a record 128 submissions—21 research, 13 innovation, 86 vignettes, and eight workshops—and a record 168 attendees, including diverse representation from trainees and faculty.

Looking to the future, the SGIM California-Hawaii Region will focus on a few key goals. First, our reinvigorated institutional champions will enhance regional membership through outreach across the California and Hawaii medical school and internal medicine residency programs. Second, we would like to further engage our current members in order to strengthen participation and collaboration at the regional level. Next, we would like to enhance our current meeting with greater resident, student, and faculty mentorship by holding our first regional workshop on this topic this year. Finally, we would like to increase engagement with national SGIM by enhancing representation and involvement at the national meeting.