

FROM THE EDITOR

Spring, Rocky Mountains, Reconnection, and Renewal

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I love spring. After the winter weather of cold temperatures, snow, ice, and gloom, spring brings us rebirth, rejuvenation, renewal, spring training and “The Meeting”. Robin Williams, the late actor, director, and comedian said it best: *Spring is nature’s way of saying, “Let’s Party.”* I can’t believe that in just one month’s time we will be gathering in Denver, Colorado, for the SGIM 2018 National Meeting. The meeting’s theme is “Health IT: Empowering Generalists to Lead Digital Innovation.” This month’s *Forum* whets our appetite for both the meeting and the theme with an exceptional mixture of articles.

First, Meeting Co-Chairs Lipika Samal and Saul Blecker give us the equivalent of a national meeting pep rally with their overture of the events and activities to be occurring. It looks amazing! I expect that when it’s all over Lipika and Saul will be boasting on the size of the meeting crowd compared to former meetings, and proclaiming it to be the biggest ever. Our “Flashback 40”

piece takes us back 20 years when Rick Lofgren, then meeting chair, introduced clinical vignettes, hoping that they would catch on. Avital O’Glasser confirms that they did!

With regard to digital innovation, we have a report from the Clinical Practice Committee to make it easier for clinicians to improve care and to take control of their practice and professional happiness. The report, by Dr. Jim Bailey and his team on the CPC, describes the launch of SGIM’s *ImprovingCare* Web site whose focus is on practice redesign and improving the practice environment for general internal medicine and primary care. It is sure to have an impact on both patients and providers.

Our president, Tom Gallagher, takes on the challenging issue of sexual harassment in SGIM and organizations like ours. He reports on the Society’s important efforts to tackle sexual harassment in academic general internal medicine, including the encouragement of dialogue, clear expectations of our members, and support for those

who have been affected. We *must* get this right.

The March issue rounds out with a recap from the Mid-Atlantic’s Regional Meeting, an update on Proud to be GIM, a Morning Report Case that I wouldn’t have believed, and the unique role that one general internist performs in transplantation medicine. Also in this issue, Dr. Denise Valero describes the road that led her to a career in medicine and how she is helping students overcome self-doubts that might arise from the prejudice of others. Finally, speaking of renewal, I mentioned several months ago, after formal and informal feedback from you, that *Forum* will be undergoing a “refresh.” Sooo—drum roll please—appropriately timed with the meeting, we will be introducing *Forum*’s new look next month. We believe the new look will be easier to read and navigate as well as fit in with other SGIM-branded media. I expect lots of you to stop me in the halls of the meeting next month and give me your candid opinion. See you in Denver!

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