



FROM THE EDITOR

ADVOCACY: SGIM AND ITS MEMBERS LOUD AND CLEAR!!

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"We must always take sides. Neutrality helps the oppressor, never the victim. Silence encourages the tormentor, never the tormented."

—Elie Wiesel

S GIM members never cease to amaze me. Last fall, when I announced on GIMConnect that April would be *Forum's* Advocacy Issue to coincide with the national meeting's theme of "Courage to Lead: Equity, Engagement, and Advocacy in Turbulent Times," I never imagined the response we would receive. We generated enough outstanding material that April will not be enough to feature them all, and I have decided that the May issue will also feature advocacy related content.

Merriam-Webster's defines *advocacy* as the act or process of supporting a cause or proposal or the act or process of advocating something. The current meeting theme has been part of the fabric of SGIM's membership for as long as I can remember. With the current healthcare and political climate, it's no wonder why these

qualities have been invigorated, and that there is so much energy and passion out there among our Society and its membership. I don't think that we were ever in a state of dormancy but rather the deteriorating state of health of our democracy requires that we titrate up the dose of our advocacy and engagement lest we risk losing the patient.

This month's *Forum* features outstanding examples of advocacy by our SGIM members' as well as informative pieces on how to disseminate your work. Finally, our esteemed president, Giselle Corbie-Smith recounts her extraordinary challenging and productive year as president. My goodness has it been a year already?!!!

To be continued. . . .

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