Choosing Wisely
See page 8 for details
Your time as a fellow-in-training is ending. A new journey is beginning. What road will you take?

It’s all about connections.

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careers.aaaai.org
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aaaai.org

Patient Education

Free Posters for your Exam Rooms
Use the AAAAI’s educational rhinitis, sinusitis and asthma posters. The posters are free to download and are available in both English and Spanish. You can find them in the Library, which is accessible through the Conditions & Treatments section of the website.

Allergy-Free Zone Signs
Parents have asked us to develop “Allergy-Free” zone posters for their children’s schools and day care facilities. Point your patients to our new egg, milk and peanut food allergies signs available in English and Spanish in the Allergy Library.

Member Education

2012 Annual Meeting Credits
Don’t wait until it’s too late. Claim your 2012 Annual Meeting credits today. Visit the Continuing Education Center, where you can find the link for the credit claiming system at the bottom of the page.

AAAAI Transcripts
Do you need a copy of your AAAAI transcript? Go to the Continuing Education Center and log in to your account. Once you are logged in, select My Activities.

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aaaai.org

Spring 2012 | IMPACT
Advancing CARE in Allergy/Immunology

The concept of care is woven into all that we do on behalf of patients. The acronym CARE reflects four areas that are tied together in supporting the AAAAI mission, our core values and the 2010-2014 Strategic Plan: Clinical Care, Advocacy, Research, and Education & Engagement.

These are the essential areas of focus for my year as President of the AAAAI. And much like the Strategic Plan and our core values, each is brought to life through achievable outcomes.

Measuring Success
Measurable outcomes are critical to the success of an organization, business and even clinical research. Just as setting measures helps to clarify goals, drive processes and establish accountability, reporting these outcomes is a credible testament to the impact of the business, project or research.

On the opposite page, you will find a breakdown of this year’s initiatives as well as measures for success. In the next three issues of IMPACT, I will share with you progress taking place in each area.

While these are named “Presidential Initiatives,” no president works alone. Achieving them will be the result of the dedication and expertise of AAAAI leadership, and the backing of thousands of talented members—all with a commitment to the success of the specialty and to the provision of optimal patient care.

CARE Highlights
Clinical Care
Advancing clinical care is impossible without high quality outcomes-based clinical studies. A new venue for this research will occur in January 2013 with the launch of The Journal of Allergy and Clinical Immunology: In Practice. This new publication will focus on the clinical application of the rigorous science, accommodating the majority of AAAAI members who are primarily in clinical practice.

Much like the AAAAI Presidents who preceded me, I will emphasize broadening the scope of clinical practice. Changes cannot be expected to happen overnight. Similar to a typical business cycle, translating our efforts into actual change is a five to 10 year process. A key element is providing members with the appropriate educational opportunities, starting with the Annual Meeting and a new PRACTALL on allergen immunotherapy.

Advocacy
Not only is advocacy the right thing to do for patients, impacting clinical care cannot happen without an emphasis on advocacy. Patients who have allergies, asthma and immune deficiency disorders depend on the allergist/immunologist’s ability to deliver optimal care. To deliver such a level of care, the AAAAI must continue to advocate for the research and education that will find new and better ways to treat the millions of people with allergic disease.

Research
Considering that the AAAAI Annual Meeting is the world’s premier gathering of allergy and immunology experts, continued promotion of the highest quality research at the meeting is essential, with particular emphasis on the work of young investigators.

In addition, increasing the number of donors to the Allergy, Asthma and Immunology Education and Research Trust (ARTrust™) will ensure that consistent research funding is available. My strategy is to involve new allergist/immunologists in giving, thus building support for a lifetime.

Education & Engagement
The AAAAI must stay current with new ways of learning and engagement as advances in technology, as well as demographic and generational shifts, impact how our members and our patients learn and engage with each other. The AAAAI is prepared to meet the new demands of distance learning and the benefits of social media.

Fostering the next generation of leaders is also an essential element of my initiatives. We are off to a good start with a New Allergist/Immunologist Assembly (NAIA) mentorship program. However, this is just the first step. I am pleased to report that a session at the recent Annual Meeting served as the launching point for a new membership-wide leadership development program.

It is my belief that each of us needs to strive for continuous quality improvement. Becoming a better healthcare provider requires understanding yourself, including how you learn and how you practice. My ultimate goal is to make learning and mentoring expectations for all of us.

Sincerely,

A. Wesley Burks, MD, FAAAAI
AAAAI President

email: president@aaaai.org

Where to Find the President
AAAAAI Presidential Initiatives

2012-2013

Advancing C.A.R.E in A/I

Clinical Care
The AAAAI will continue to guide by example and lead by providing venues for new opportunities.
Related core values: Inclusion, Scholarship & Education, Professionalism & Integrity

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Goals</th>
<th>Measures</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Highlight the AAAAI as a leader in advocacy for A/I clinical care</td>
<td>• Successful launch of The Journal of Allergy and Clinical Immunology: In Practice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Strengthen the importance of outcomes-based clinical studies</td>
<td>• Change in CPT coding for food challenges</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Broaden the scope of clinical practice</td>
<td>• Allergen immunotherapy PRACTALL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Encourage recruitment for clinical research studies</td>
<td>• Communications regarding subject participation in clinical studies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Work with the JCAAII on coding issues</td>
<td>• Increased information on outcomes-based clinical studies for members and funders</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Focus on underserved communities</td>
<td>• Measures identified for group activities regarding underserved communities</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Advocacy
Emphasizing advocacy is the right thing to do for each and every patient.
Related core values: Stewardship

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Goals</th>
<th>Measures</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Advocate for research and education to deliver optimal patient care</td>
<td>• Focused direction regarding advocacy efforts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Work with the JCAAII regarding reimbursements</td>
<td>• Increased AAAAI visibility of national advocacy work on behalf of members</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Encourage RADAR local and regional participation</td>
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Research
Young allergists are the foundation for building future funding and future research.
Related core values: Stewardship, Leadership

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<tr>
<th>Goals</th>
<th>Measures</th>
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<tr>
<td>• Broaden the base of ARTrust™ donors</td>
<td>• Increased number of ARTrust™ donors (especially among new allergist/immunologists)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Assure highest quality of research gets presented at the Annual Meeting</td>
<td>• Increased number of grants funded by ARTrust™</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Highlight young investigators at the Annual Meeting</td>
<td>• Increased submission rate of Annual Meeting abstracts</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Continue young investigators session at Annual Meeting</td>
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Education & Engagement
You can become a better healthcare provider by understanding yourself, how you learn and how you practice.
Related core values: Scholarship & Education, Leadership, Stewardship, Service, Inclusion

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Goals</th>
<th>Measures</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Advance how we learn through use of new technologies</td>
<td>• More online and mobile opportunities for distance CME/CE learning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Remain competitive with mobile and other technologic advances</td>
<td>• Food allergy PIM/MOC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Engage and foster the next generation of AAAAI leaders</td>
<td>• NAIA Mentorship Program developed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Facilitate the integration of A/I in the medical community</td>
<td>• Establish the 2013 Mentorship Award</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Launch the AAAAI Leadership Training Program</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Presidential Plenary on Sensitization and Tolerance in Allergic Disease</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Enhanced engagement among patients through website and social media</td>
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Thousands Assemble in Orlando for the 2012 Annual Meeting

Another five days of cutting-edge research and advances in the diagnosis and treatment of allergic and immunologic disease have come and gone. Nearly 6,500 delegates from over 60 countries met in Orlando March 2-6 for the 2012 AAAAI Annual Meeting. Thousands of these delegates downloaded the multi-purpose Annual Meeting app, sponsored by Teva Respiratory, which met rave reviews. This year’s meeting featured:

- 960 abstracts
- 370 educational sessions
- 25,600 sq. ft. of exhibit space used by 144 exhibitors

Ambassador Program Wraps Up Another Successful Year

The 2012 Annual Meeting marked the second year for the AAAAI Ambassador Service, which aims to create a more effective meeting experience for first-time attendees by pairing them with veteran delegates.

The AAAAI Annual Meeting can seem overwhelming when you consider the number of educational sessions and networking opportunities. To help the first-time attendee better navigate the meeting and discover which sessions are of most benefit, the veteran delegate he or she is matched with offers pre-meeting advice and recommendations.

"My Ambassador was unbelievably helpful, willing, kind and patient. He communicated with me regularly and at length, and was eager to aid me in any way he could."

— First-time attendee

For the meeting in Orlando, the AAAAI created nearly 70 matches. New this year was the addition of a designated area in the convention center that veteran delegates and their matched first-time attendees could use to meet onsite. Feedback from first-time attendees was positive, with one new delegate saying, “My Ambassador was unbelievably helpful, willing, kind and patient. He communicated with me regularly and at length, and was eager to aid me in any way he could.” Another participant commented, “My Ambassador was great. We looked through the conference schedule together, and he commented on high yield talks versus low yield talks. He was very helpful and friendly. I’m glad that I used the Ambassador Service.”

Plans to improve the Ambassador Service for next year in San Antonio include an expanded onsite meeting area within the Member Resource Center. The AAAAI thanks all of the 2012 Ambassadors who donated their time and meeting expertise.

Continue your Annual Meeting Experience

Whether you attended or not, your access to sessions continues with the 2012 Virtual Annual Meeting. Catch presentations you weren’t able to attend and gain valuable CME or CE credit. Select from more than 100 sessions and view them online or on Data DVD that plays on your computer or iPad. The recordings include:

- Presentation slides along with video and audio for the Plenary and Keynote sessions
- Presentation slides synchronized with the audio recordings for selected courses, symposia, State-of-the-Art Sessions, workshops, Pro/Con Debates and allied health sessions

Order your copy today from www.associationarchives.com/SITES/aaaai.

Post-Annual Meeting Resources

Now that the meeting is over, the Annual Meeting website at annualmeeting.aaaai.org is the place for you to:

- Claim your 2012 Annual Meeting credits
- Download updated session handouts provided by Annual Meeting speakers
- View additional photos from Orlando

If you have questions about claiming credits, contact the AAAAI Education staff at cme@aaaai.org. We look forward to seeing you at the 2013 Annual Meeting on February 22-26 in San Antonio, TX.
Immediate Past-President Dennis K. Ledford, MD, FAAAAI, speaks at the Next Generation Science Presidential Plenary.

Delegates pack the Exhibit Hall and the AAAAI Member Resource Center.

Inclement weather forced the Big Splash indoors, but it did not dampen delegates’ spirits.

Programming for the 2012 Chrysalis Project, which aims to attract medical students to pursue A/I training, took place on Friday in Orlando. This year, 24 students from across the country participated.

Researchers were present in the poster hall each day to discuss their findings with delegates.

Delegates pack the Exhibit Hall and the AAAAI Member Resource Center.

Small interactive group sessions were especially popular in Orlando. Here, delegates at the EMR Roundtable review EMR options that are currently being used in practice.
Choosing Wisely® Conversations Reach Millions

The allergy/immunology specialty is scoring big visibility in the rollout of a national campaign organized by the ABIM Foundation. Fitting in with our mission to provide optimal patient care is the AAAAI’s participation in Choosing Wisely®. The goal of Choosing Wisely is to promote conversations between physicians and patients about utilizing the most appropriate tests and treatments and avoiding care whose harm may outweigh the benefits.

To facilitate this discussion, the AAAAI and eight other leading medical societies participated in creating lists of “Five Things Physicians and Patients Should Question.” Represented by President-Elect Linda Cox, MD, FAAAAI, the AAAAI took part in a nationwide Choosing Wisely press conference in Washington, DC, to roll out its list. In addition, the AAAAI launched the allergy/immunology portion of the campaign with media outreach intended to educate consumers and encourage physicians and patients to have conversations about five things relating to appropriate allergy/immunology diagnosis and care.

The initiative was first brought to the attention of the AAAAI by former Board member David P. Huston, MD, FAAAAI, who currently serves on the ABIM Board. “With a focus on optimizing patient care, it is our responsibility to consider and embrace opportunities that further this focus. That’s why it made sense for the AAAAI to sign on with Choosing Wisely,” said Dr. Huston.

To build its “Five Things” list, the AAAAI Executive Committee created a task force consisting of Board members, the AAAAI President and Secretary/Treasurer and AAAAI participants in the Joint Task Force on Practice Parameters. Through multiple member publications and notifications, AAAAI members were invited to offer feedback and recommend elements to be included in the list.

The work group reviewed submissions from members to ensure the best science in the specialty was included. Suggested elements were considered for appropriateness, relevance to the core of the specialty, potential overuse of resources and opportunities to improve patient care. The concepts were further refined to maximize impact and eliminate overlap, and then ranked in order of potential importance both for the specialty and for the public. Finally, the work group chose its top five recommendations which were then approved by the Executive Committee. The result is a list of five specific, evidence-based recommendations regarding diagnosis and treatment of allergies, asthma and immunologic disorders.

Creating the “Five Things” list is just the first step. To keep the conversation going, the AAAAI is working closely with Consumer Reports on related patient-focused materials and videos. Partnering with this trusted publication will extend the scope of the specialty’s visibility, with the intent of leading to wiser diagnosis and treatment choices and better care for the millions of children and adults who suffer from allergies, asthma or immunologic disorders.

To learn more about Choosing Wisely, visit www.choosingwisely.org.

Follow the Conversations

Millions of consumers along with other physicians and healthcare professionals were reached by Choosing Wisely coverage in these top national and trade media outlets:

- AARP Bulletin
- ABC News
- Associated Press (2 stories)
- Boston Globe
- CBS News
- Chicago Tribune
- CNN
- Consumer Reports
- Forbes (2 stories)
- Health Affairs
- Huffington Post
- Kaiser Health News
- MedPage Today
- Medscape
- Modern Healthcare
- MSNBC
- New York Times
- NPR
- Philadelphia Inquirer
- Philadelphia Magazine
- Reuters
- The Hill
- USA Today
- Wall Street Journal
- Washington Post (2 stories)

“Doing the right thing for the patient, for the right reasons, at the right time.”
Don’t perform unproven diagnostic tests, such as immunoglobulin G (IgG) testing or an indiscriminate battery of immunoglobulin E (IgE) tests, in the evaluation of allergy.

Appropriate diagnosis and treatment of allergies requires specific IgE testing (either skin or blood tests) based on the patient’s clinical history. The use of other tests or methods to diagnose allergies is unproven and can lead to inappropriate diagnosis and treatment. Appropriate diagnosis and treatment is both cost effective and essential for optimal patient care.

Don’t order sinus computed tomography (CT) or indiscriminately prescribe antibiotics for uncomplicated acute rhinosinusitis.

Viral infections cause the majority of acute rhinosinusitis and only 0.5 percent to 2 percent progress to bacterial infections. Most acute rhinosinusitis resolves without treatment in two weeks. Uncomplicated acute rhinosinusitis is generally diagnosed clinically and does not require a sinus CT scan or other imaging. Antibiotics are not recommended for patients with uncomplicated acute rhinosinusitis who have mild illness and assurance of follow-up. If a decision is made to treat, amoxicillin should be first-line antibiotic treatment for most acute rhinosinusitis.

Don’t routinely do diagnostic testing in patients with chronic urticaria.

In the overwhelming majority of patients with chronic urticaria, a definite etiology is not identified. Limited laboratory testing may be warranted to exclude underlying causes. Targeted laboratory testing based on clinical suspicion is appropriate. Routine extensive testing is neither cost effective nor associated with improved clinical outcomes. Skin or serum specific IgE testing for inhalants or foods is not indicated, unless there is a clear history implicating an allergen as a provoking or perpetuating factor for urticaria.

Don’t recommend replacement immunoglobulin therapy for recurrent infections unless impaired antibody responses to vaccines are demonstrated.

Immunoglobulin (grmmaglobulin) replacement is expensive and does not improve outcomes unless there is impairment of antigen-specific IgG antibody responses to vaccine immunizations or natural infections. Low levels of immunoglobulins (isotypes or subclasses), without impaired antigen-specific IgG antibody responses, do not indicate a need for immunoglobulin replacement therapy. Exceptions include IgG levels <150mg/dl and genetically defined/suspected disorders. Measurement of IgG subclasses is not routinely useful in determining the need for immunoglobulin therapy. Selective IgA deficiency is not an indication for administration of immunoglobulin.

Don’t diagnose or manage asthma without spirometry.

Clinicians often rely solely upon symptoms when diagnosing and managing asthma, but these symptoms may be misleading and be from alternate causes. Therefore spirometry is essential to confirm the diagnosis in those patients who can perform this procedure. Recent guidelines highlight spirometry’s value in stratifying disease severity and monitoring control. History and physical exam alone may over- or under-estimate asthma control. Beyond the increased costs of care, repercussions of misdiagnosing asthma include delaying a correct diagnosis and treatment.
**JACI: In Practice Call for Papers and Reviewers**

On July 2, the new AAAAI journal, *The Journal of Allergy and Clinical Immunology: In Practice*, will begin accepting manuscript submissions. Thinking about submitting your article? Instructions for authors are now available online at www.jaci-inpractice.org. The newly launched site also has additional information about *JACI: In Practice*, including a list of confirmed review articles for the first three issues.

According to Editor-in-Chief Michael Schatz, MD, MS, FAAAAI, “We are looking for articles that provide information which our members can use in every day clinical practice or which will help them acquire new knowledge or skills that they can directly apply to patient care.”

*JACI: In Practice* welcomes the following types of articles:
- Original articles
- Clinical communications (brief reports, including case studies)
- Images in allergy

Proposals for review and rostrum articles can be emailed to the Editors at inpractice@njhealth.org.

*JACI: In Practice* is also looking for volunteers to serve as peer reviewers. Interested applicants should send their CVs, along with a brief cover letter listing the topics they’d be interested in reviewing, to inpractice@njhealth.org.

**AAAAAI Resources for Graduating FITs**

Spring is a busy and stressful time of transition for A/I fellows-in-training (FIT) who are graduating from their programs. The AAAAI has resources to make the change as easy as possible. Here are some tips for graduating FITs:

**No Paperwork, Reduced Dues**

FITs who have notified the AAAAI that they complete their training this year will automatically be transitioned to a full member on July 1. This means no forms, no signatures and no additional work for you. If you have not yet told us you finish your training this year, send an email to membership@aaaai.org. As an added benefit, you also receive special dues rates with the remainder of your graduating year free and the following year at half price.

Your new status as a full member means you’re now eligible to be listed in the Find an Allergist/Immunologist Directory on the AAAAI website. In order for potential patients to contact you, visit the My Membership section of the AAAAI website to log in to your account and update your profile information. Providing your most up-to-date information will also ensure that you continue to receive your subscription to the JACI.

**Make Connections in Your Job Search**

This is also a time when many FITs are seeking employment opportunities. The AAAAI website has a robust Career Connections Center. Upload your resume, search open positions, set up customized alerts for the types of jobs you’re seeking and much more. Visit the Career Connections Center at www.aaaai.org/careers to find the opportunity that’s right for you.

**Get Answers on Starting or Joining a Practice**

If you’re thinking of starting your own practice or joining an established one, the 2012 edition of the Practice Management Resource Guide is a convenient tool to familiarize yourself with the business side of running a practice. Each chapter of the guide covers a different topic area related to practice management. You can find the guide and many other helpful materials in the Practice Resources area of www.aaaai.org.

Email membership@aaaai.org with any questions about your transition to full membership or the benefits available to you. You can also visit the My Membership section of the AAAAI website to manage the day to day aspects of your membership.
When you look into point-of-care CT, affordability matters.

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Low start-up and operating costs that deliver an attractive return on investment – even at low scan volumes. Expert onsite CT accreditation support to maximize reimbursements. And the reliability of Carestream – a stable company with over a century of medical imaging innovation. It’s just the beginning of what makes the new CS 9300 the point-of-care CT with everything that matters.

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Allergy and Asthma Training Course Finds Success in Kenya

A historic milestone took place in January at the University of Nairobi’s College of Health Sciences, as it inaugurated the first allergy and asthma training course in Kenya. The program, which was endorsed by the AAAAI, attracted 33 physicians hailing from several parts of Kenya, as well as neighboring Rwanda, Malawi and Tanzania.

Allergy and asthma training is desperately needed in Kenya. An estimated 15% of the population suffers from chronic respiratory diseases such as COPD and asthma with this number expected to rise over the next decade. The course is an important first step toward ensuring that physicians in the area have the proper training and access to resources like spirometry and good quality antigens for skin testing. Currently, only a limited number of clinics in Kenya can perform spirometry and antigens for skin testing typically need to be imported from overseas, which many people are not able to afford.

The five day course focused on the clinical aspects of allergy/immunology, and included hands-on skin testing, spirometry workshops and live patient case discussions. It was organized by faculty from the College of Health Sciences in partnership with International Asthma Services (IAS), a charitable educational organization. Hollister-Stier Laboratories and the Allergy Society of Kenya were also course sponsors.

Visiting faculty members came to Kenya from across the globe and included IAS founder Pudupakkam K. Vedanthan, MD, FAAAAI, Gary Gross, MD, FAAAAI, Vinay Mehta, MD, FAAAAI, and Dr. D.J. Christopher from Christian Medical College (CMC) in Vellore, India.

To help establish a dedicated allergy and asthma center, the sponsors and participating faculty donated supplies and equipment to the College of Health Sciences. Positive feedback from course participants along with the need to better train and equip primary care providers has encouraged the College of Health Sciences to partner with IAS to create a formal one-year distance education course similar to the Diploma in Allergy & Asthma program currently run at CMC.

To learn more about the course in Kenya, visit www.globalchestinitiatives.org or contact Dr. Vedanthan at pkv1947@gmail.com.

Check Out These Products in the AAAAI Store

New bookmarks and stickers were recently added to the AAAAI store, and your colleagues have already begun placing orders.

**NEW** Anaphylaxis and Skin Allergies

The AAAAI’s popular collection of bookmarks continues to expand with the addition of two topics: anaphylaxis and skin allergies. These valuable reminders for patients on managing their conditions can be placed in waiting rooms, distributed as office visit take-aways or used in direct mail marketing efforts.

**NEW** Mr. Nose-it-All

The allergist’s new mascot is making a big hit with children and parents. Mr. Nose-it-All is the educational voice behind several of the AAAAI’s new interactive games. Now your pediatric patients can take Mr. Nose-it-All home with them. Purchase Mr. Nose-it-All stickers as a fun handout for office visits.

If you haven’t met him yet, visit Mr. Nose-it-All in the Just for Kids section of the AAAAI website. There is an interactive coloring book, a fast-paced food allergy game, and word games that help reading-age children and adolescents learn more about allergies and asthma.

**Limited Edition Copies**

The “Sampling and Identifying Allergic Pollens and Molds” book quantities are running low, and it will not be reprinted. This illustrated manual is the definitive resource used by specialists throughout the world for identifying indoor and outdoor pollen grains and mold spores. Order your copy today before it is too late.

Visit www.aaaai.org/store today to browse all of the items. As a benefit of AAAAI membership, members and Fellows receive special discounts on every order placed.
AAAAAI Welcomes Incoming Members and Fellows

The following individuals were recently approved by the AAAAI Board of Directors. They will be inducted as members and Fellows at the 2013 Annual Meeting. Eligible voting members have 30 days to comment in writing regarding the proposed slate as a whole or to a specific proposed member. Send comments to membership@aaaai.org.

Fellow
Yaser M. Ali, MD, FAAAAI Toronto, Canada
Alan P. Baptist, MD, MPH, FAAAAI Ann Arbor, MI
Eric J. Boren, MD, FAAAAI Bakersfield, CA
Shoban A. Dave, MD, FAAAAI Columbia, MD
John M. Fahrenholz, MD, FAAAAI Nashville, TN
Sarah S. Field, MD, FAAAAI Saint Louis, MO
Casey J. Geaney, MD, FAAAAI Washington, DC
Todd David Green, MD, FAAAAI Pittsburgh, PA
Philip Hemmers, DO, FAAAAI Weston, CT
Joseph T. Inglefield, III, MD, FAAAAI Hickory, NC
Bridgette L. Jones, MD, FAAAAI Kansas City, MO
Phillip W. Jones, MD, FAAAAI Knoxville, TN
NaYoung Kim, MD, FAAAAI Sacramento, CA
Adina Kay Knight, MD, FAAAAI Birmingham, AL
Michael H. Land, MD, FAAAAI Durham, NC
Robert Marchlewski, MD, FAAAAI Roslyn Heights, NY
Barbara A. Martinez, MD, FAAAAI Silver Spring, MD
Eyal Oren, MD, FAAAAI Salem, MA
Matthew A. Rank, MD, FAAAAI Rochester, MN
Joseph M. Wisniewski, MD, FAAAAI Knoxville, TN
Margaret A. Yacovone, MD, FAAAAI Silver Spring, MD
Jiun Yoon, MD, FAAAAI Fairfax, VA

International Fellow
Ahmed El-Rafei, MD, FAAAAI Dubai, UAE
Mohamed Said Ibrahim ELsaysed, MD, FAAAAI Salmiya, Kuwait

Emeritus Fellow
John Bienenstock, MD, FAAAAI Toronto, Canada
Robert M. Blondi, MD, FAAAAI Skillman, NJ
Lawrence A. Caliguiri, MD, FAAAAI Naples, FL
Paritosh C. Dutta, MD, FAAAAI Dallas, TX
Robert W. Hellmers, MD, FAAAAI Chandler, AZ
Peter König, MD, PhD, FAAAAI Columbus, MO
Philip S. Norman, MD, FAAAAI Baldwin, MD
Robert M. Overholt, MD, FAAAAI Knoxville, TN
David S. Pearlman, MD, FAAAAI Denver, CO
E. Rafi-Zadeh, MD, FAAAAI North Vancouver, Canada
Raymond G. Slavin, MD, MS, FAAAAI Saint Louis, MO
Abba I. Terr, MD, FAAAAI San Francisco, CA
John W. Younginger, MD, FAAAAI Rochester, MN

Member
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J. David Farrar, PhD Dallas, TX
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Ariana C. Yang, MD, PhD Campinas, Brazil

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Edgardo G. Carrasco, MD Santiago, Chile
Bernardo Giraldo, MD Manizales, Columbia
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Krista Sullivan, CCCR Minneapolis, MN
Christine L. Willis, ANP Durham, NC
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Katsuhiro Iikura, MD Sagamihara City, Japan
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Thanawat Kruekly, MD Bangkok, Thailand
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Savitree Padungpak, MD Bangkok, Thailand
Wasinee Panichwattana, MD Bangkok, Thailand
Ratchaneewan Sinitkul, PhD Bangkok, Thailand
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Na Sun Beijing, China
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Alexander Zink, MD Ried, Germany

PhD Member

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Anna De Benedetto, PhD Rochester, NY
Melanie C. Dispenza York, PA
Jialia Dong, MD Baltimore, MD
Camila Figueiredo, PhD Baltimore, MD
Chia-Lin Hsu, MS Chicago, IL
Gen Kano, MD, PhD Cincinnati, OH
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Balunneswar Nayik, PhD Lincoln, NE
Kamal D. Srivastava, PhD New York, NY
Julie Swartzendruber Chicago, IL
Shinji Toki, PhD Nashville, TN
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The AAAAI would like to thank the following members and Fellows for their sponsorship of this quarter’s applicants:

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Michelle M. Weiss, MD
Peter F. Weller, MD, FAAAAI
Judith A. Woodfolk, MBChB, PhD, FAAAAI
Grace Peace Yu, MD, MSc
Marianne Frieri, MD, PhD, FAAAAI, organized an asthma symposium that was selected for the recent American Federation of Medical Research (AFMR) Eastern Regional Meeting in Washington, DC. The symposium, which was the only one selected for presentation at the meeting, was titled “Update on Asthma Pathogenesis, Treatment and Airway Remodeling.” Along with Dr. Frieri, William W. Busse, MD, FAAAAI, an AAAAI past president, and Larry Borish, MD, FAAAAI, served as presenters.

Russell B. Leftwich, MD, FAAAAI, was honored with the HIMSS 2011 Physician IT Leadership Award at its 2012 Annual Conference earlier this year. The Physician IT Leadership Award is presented to an individual who has demonstrated significant leadership in the area of applying IT to the needs of physicians. Dr. Leftwich is an active member of HIMSS, participating in the Management Engineering and Process Improvement Community, Physician Community and serving on the Board of the Tennessee Chapter. In addition, Dr. Leftwich was appointed by HIMSS to the Physician Leadership Committee and began a two-year term last July.

Robert P. Schleimer, PhD, FAAAAI, was recently inducted into the Johns Hopkins Society of Scholars. The society inducts former postdoctoral fellows, post-doctoral degree recipients, house staff and junior or visiting faculty who have served at least a year at Johns Hopkins and subsequently gained marked distinction elsewhere in their fields and for whom at least five years have elapsed since their service at Johns Hopkins. Dr. Schleimer was nominated by former AAAAI Board member Bruce S. Bochner, MD, FAAAAI.

The AAAAI was saddened to learn that I. Leonard Bernstein, MD, FAAAAI, passed away on March 26, 2012. Dr. Leonard Bernstein was a stalwart figure in the field of allergy/immunology and a long-standing member of the AAAAI. Having first joined in 1956, he became a Fellow three years later and eventually rose to serve as AAAAI President from 1982 to 1985. Among his numerous contributions to the specialty, Dr. Bernstein held the distinction of being a founding member of the AAAAAI/ACAAI Joint Task Force on Practice Parameters.

A clinical professor of medicine and environmental health sciences, Dr. Bernstein was a 1949 University of Cincinnati (UC) College of Medicine alum and completed his postgraduate training in internal medicine at the Cincinnati General and Jewish hospitals. After serving two years in the US Air Force as an aeromedical examiner, he pursued fellowship training in pulmonary diseases at Bellevue Hospital in New York and allergy at Northwestern University.

Dr. Bernstein gained national and international acclaim for his clinical expertise and research in the field of environmental allergens, occupational immunologic lung disease, hypersensitivity aspects of reproduction and novel pharmacologic approaches to the treatment of asthma. He was the first Cincinnati board-certified internist/allergist and established UC’s Allergy and Immunology Fellowship Training Program, which has trained 60 fellows since 1958.

His sons—David I. Bernstein, MD, FAAAAI, and Jonathan A. Bernstein, MD, FAAAAI, who currently serves on the AAAAI Board of Directors—followed in his footsteps, both receiving their medical degrees from UC and serving as current faculty in the department of internal medicine’s division of allergy, immunology and rheumatology.
March 2012 Board of Directors Meeting Summary

The AAAAI Board of Directors met several times during the 2012 Annual Meeting in Orlando to discuss current and future activities. Over the course of the meetings, a number of significant decisions and actions were made. Highlights include:

- Approval of the new AAAAI members and Fellows, submitted as part of the Credentials Committee report
- Approval of the Use and Interpretation of Diagnostic Vaccination in Primary Immunodeficiency work group report, presented by the Basic and Clinical Immunology Interest Section
- Approval of the 2011 AAAAI investment report
- Approval of an introductory ARTrust™ donation program for the New Allergist/Immunologist Assembly
- Approval of the new JACI Editorial Board members
- Approval of the Subcutaneous Allergen Immunotherapy Treatment (SCIT) Measures developed by the Measure Development Work Group
- Approval of an AAAAI/ACAAI joint statement in support of the ATS Clinical Practice Guidelines
- Support of the election of Susan Rudd Bailey, MD, FAAAAI, to the position of Speaker of the House of Delegates of the American Medical Association (AMA)
- Re-evaluation of all current AAAAI appointed organizational representative relationships

Division Meetings

The three divisions of the Board of Directors—Education, Practice & Policy and Research & Training—met individually to discuss committee activities and requests, and to make recommendations to the full Board of Directors. Highlights of these discussions include:

- Approval of the Climate Change and our Environment: The Impact on Respiratory and Allergic Disease work group report, presented by the Air Pollution and Indoor Allergen Committee
- Budgetary approval for the 27th Annual Harold S. Nelson Military Allergy/Immunology Symposium at the 2013 Annual Meeting
- Approval of the Annual Meeting Program Committee’s revised constituency group programming policy
- Approval of modification of membership for the AAAAI Advocacy Committee
- Approval and enhancement of the Chrysalis Project for 2013

The members of the Board of Directors appreciate the work of the committee members and chairs as they strive toward the AAAAI mission to advance the knowledge and practice of allergy, asthma and immunology for optimal patient care.

The next meeting of the AAAAI Board of Directors will take place jointly with the ACAAI in Oak Brook, IL, June 8-10, 2012.

USA Today Supplement Puts AAAAI and the Specialty in the Spotlight

Millions of consumers and business, government and healthcare leaders across the nation opened their copies of USA Today on May 3 to find Respiratory Health: Breathe Easy, an eight page supplement under the editorial direction of the AAAAI. This supplement is unique in that it covers asthma as well as other respiratory conditions.

In addition to providing educational information and useful resources, this placement within USA Today highlights the importance of an accurate diagnosis and appropriate treatment by an allergist/immunologist to many of the AAAAI’s key target markets. More importantly, the supplement greatly meets two key measures of the AAAAI Strategic Plan: it broadens the scope of our specialty and enhances the credibility of allergist/immunologist as experts.

This marks the seventh time in just four years that the AAAAI has taken a lead role in developing newspaper supplements with some of the most respected media outlets in the country, giving tens of millions of people access to information about allergic disease and the role of the allergist/immunologist. These highly valuable, wide reaching and normally expensive opportunities were developed pro-bono, as a result of the AAAAI’s proactive relationship-building and strategic, sustained public relations planning.

AAAAI members responded enthusiastically to news of the USA Today supplement, with several hundred requesting copies for their offices. While the AAAAI only received a limited number of copies from the publisher and is unable to accept any additional requests, a PDF of the supplement that you can print and place in your waiting room is available from the AAAAI website.
Continuing Medical Education Calendar

Featured CME Opportunities
Continue your 2012 Annual Meeting Experience
The 2012 Annual Meeting may be over, but you can still access plenty of sessions via the Virtual Annual Meeting. Catch presentations you weren’t able to attend and gain valuable CME or CE credit. Select from more than 100 sessions and view them online or on Data DVD that plays on your computer or iPad. Find more information at annualmeeting.aaaai.org.

Clinical Cases Series
The Clinical Cases series, which feature virtual patient cases based on recently updated practice parameters, are online in the AAAAI Continuing Education Center at education.aaaai.org. Watch for additional topics to be added throughout the year.

Online Teaching Slide Presentations
Online slide presentations are available, offering CME credit for physicians and CE hours for nurses. Visit education.aaaai.org to complete these online CME opportunities.

AAAAl-Sponsored Activities
The activities listed below are programmed either directly by the AAAAI or jointly with other organizations. Earn CME credit from the AAAAI for your participation.

University of Washington Allergy and Immunology Teaching Series
The University of Washington offers a weekly journal club series throughout the 2011-2012 academic year. Sessions cover a variety of topics in allergy/immunology, including asthma, allergies, immunotherapy, mast cell diseases and eosinophilic esophagitis. For more information, visit education.aaaai.org.

American Board of Allergy and Immunology Recent Advances Module
An open-book examination consisting of 30 best-answer multiple choice items which test clinically-relevant concepts based on recent findings in professional literature. For more information and scheduling of modules, visit www.abai.org/recent_advances.asp.

AAAAl-Sponsored Enduring Materials
The listings below are programmed either directly by the AAAAI or jointly with other organizations. Earn CME credit from the AAAAI for your participation.

The Journal of Allergy and Clinical Immunology (JACI) Continuing Medical Education Articles
The JACI offers two types of CME activities. To access the CME articles, visit www.jacionline.org/cme/home.

ASTHMA IQ: EPR-3
Learn and apply the EPR-3 asthma guidelines in order to improve the quality of care delivered to patients with asthma. EPR-3 can help you select the most appropriate severity or control level and initiate or adjust therapies based on the EPR-3 stepwise approach. To access the module, visit www.asthmaiq.com and select “CME/Tutorials.”

ASTHMA IQ: Performance Improvement Module
The ASTHMA IQ Performance Improvement Module (PIM) will show you how your outcomes and processes of care for your patients compare with the EPR-3 guidelines for managing asthma. The PIM is also designed to fulfill Part IV of the Maintenance of Certification for the ABAI and offers 20 credits. For more information or to register, visit www.aaaai.org/members/asthma_iq.

University of North Carolina Monograph Review
An educational monograph on Vaccination in Adult Autoimmune & Immunodeficiency Conditions is offered on the AAAAI Continuing Education Center for CME credit. For more information, visit education.aaaai.org.

Virtual Practice Management Workshop
The 2011 Virtual Practice Management Workshop is designed to educate A/I physicians, fellows-in-training and office administrators and managers on effective practice management strategies and provide them tools that can be used in their individual practices. To order the DVD, visit www.associationarchives.com/SITES/aaaai.

For more information on these and other educational activities, or to add your educational activity to our calendar, contact the AAAAI executive office at (414) 272-6071 or cme@aaaai.org.

2011 Virtual Annual Meeting
The 2011 Virtual Annual Meeting Data DVD offer webcasts and audio recordings of most Annual Meeting sessions on Data DVD to be viewed on your time, at your convenience. Credits for the 2011 Virtual Meeting will be offered until March 2013. Visit annualmeeting.aaaai.org.

Other Programs
These programs may be of interest to AAAAI members, but have no direct affiliation with the AAAAI and do not offer CME credit from the AAAAI.

ACAAI Online Courses in Allergy/Immunology
Sponsored by the American College of Allergy, Asthma and Immunology (ACAAI). Courses are free, but there is a $15 processing fee for each module’s CME credit. The courses can be found at www.acaai.org for ACAAI members and at http://allergy.mcg.edu in the physician information section.

Immune Deficiency Foundation (IDF) LeBien Visiting Professor Program
Teaching hospitals throughout North America may request a leading clinical immunologist to lead Grand Rounds or present at other educational activities. Visit www.primaryimmune.org or call (800) 296-4433.

The AAAAI pledges to maintain the highest quality in all of our educational programs and to fulfill our promise to provide you with a premier educational experience. For the most updated list of AAAAI CME opportunities visit education.aaaai.org.
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