



Iowa-ACC Newsletter, March 2021

President's Message

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Dear Iowa ACC Colleagues,

Hope everyone is doing well and staying safe. The COVID pandemic has changed the way we operate and also the spectrum of cardiovascular complications we see from it.

Please visit the **COVID Hub** at <https://www.acc.org/covid19> for up to date information.

In addition, while the vaccines have been around for sometime, there continues to be some reluctance in taking the vaccine. I would like to bring your attention to the new ACC Health Policy Statement on Cardiovascular Disease Considerations for COVID-19 Vaccine Prioritization. (<https://www.jacc.org/doi/10.1016/j.jacc.2021.02.017?qa=2.185107308.43009646.1614021839-1458703167.1600294817>).

Thirdly, **ACC 2021 is now going to be all virtual**, in view of the pandemic.

Early Career Activities

I would like to share the wonderful news that Iowa ACC has been awarded a **grant for Early Career involvement** along with Virginia and Louisiana and will be working on increasing value to Early Career members. If you are an Early Career member (<10 years since graduation) and you have an interest in getting involved with the Iowa ACC, please reach out to me or Ketan Koranne (Iowa ACC Early Career Representative).

Iowa ACC is hosting our first Early Career meeting coming up on March 6th with excellent speakers and topics (<https://www.iowaacc.org/EarlyCareer>). This will be a small and interactive conference and an attempt to provide interaction and networking with the pandemic restrictions. Please join if you can.

Time: Mar 6, 2021 09:00 AM Central Time (US and Canada)

Fellow in Training Activities

As we near the end of the term of our current FIT leaders, I would like to thank them for their service and their achievements especially with all the lectures, which was recognized at the recent ACC Leadership and Board of Governors meeting.

I would also like to welcome our **new FIT Leadership** starting March 20th and look forward to their achievements in their new roles.

- [Jai Parekh and Kofi Osei - Iowa ACC FIT Co-chairs](#)
- [Shubha Deep Roy - Social Media Representative](#)
- [Kurt Bjorkman - Congenital Heart Disease Representative](#)

Women in Cardiology

Females make less than 15% of practicing cardiologists and a much smaller percentage of Interventional cardiologist or Electrophysiologists. In order to encourage high school girls, Women in Cardiology Iowa ACC Chapter organized an event entirely dedicated for these young, bright students. This **event, which was held in the evening of February 15th 2021**, brought together inquisitive girls from Iowa-area high-schools and female cardiology fellows, nurse practitioners and physicians. It was a valuable and interactive hour spent talking about the pathways that led us to medicine, the joys of being a WIC, how to find role models, work-life balance, etc.



