



President

MARCH/APRIL 2008 ■ AMERICAN COLLEGE OF LEGAL MEDICINE

Houston

It was good to see so many old friends and meet many new faces at the Annual Meeting. Houston was a huge success and the best Annual Meeting we ever had. The Education Committee promises that each succeeding meeting will be better than the last. That is our goal: to make the Annual Meetings the best educational experience possible. But there's more. ACLM has a Mid-Year Meeting in Chicago each fall on the legal aspects of a medical issue. Don't miss the upcoming meeting on Primary Practice and the Law on September. Marty Stillman and Chris White have put together an outstanding program.

The Houston meeting was also another "first" for the ACLM as part of the meeting was a two day session on Dentistry and the Law. Bruce Seidberg put together a stellar program that attracted over 60 dentists, several whom have applied for membership in ACLM.

What is the ACLM?

I had this question asked to me by an attorney who had heard about the ACLM but didn't know what we were. I was embarrassed that I didn't have an answer that satisfied him. I started thinking about who we are and what we do. Yes, the ACLM has an education function: we conduct an Annual Meeting as well as a mid-year meeting. The meeting affords many opportunities for networking so attendees can meet and dialogue with other members and attendees. For me, some of the most informative "sessions" have been at the receptions and during the meeting breaks. But we are more than that. We also have an advocacy role. Our Amicus Committee has outstanding legal talent to address issues that pertain to legal medicine. The College has taken an amicus position on many state and U.S. Supreme Court cases. But we also have a student mentoring function. The ACLM currently sponsors four separate student writing awards, ranging from law, medicine, allied health, and bioethics. There is a \$1000 award for the first place papers and the winner of the bioethics paper receives an all expense paid trip to the annual meeting to present his or her paper. ACLM is also a sponsor of the Moot Court Competition. Every year, the president of the ACLM serves as one of the judges during the two day competition. So there you have it. When you're asked about the ACLM, tell them that we

provide educational meetings, networking, publications, advocacy, and student mentoring. Feel free to elaborate further, but that's a good start.

Awards and Honors

Congratulations to Past-Presidents, Phil Cifarelli and Marvin Firestone, for receiving the Gold Medal of the ACLM for outstanding service to the College. Gary Birnbaum, MD, JD, FCLM, was elected to the position of secretary, and Vicky Trompler, MD, JD, FCLM, was elected to the Board of Governors. Vicky is also program chair for the 2009 Annual Meeting in Las Vegas. No excuses for missing this one so plan now to attend.

Student Paper Awards

LETOURNEAU AWARD WINNER

"Meta-care" and "Meta-caid" Changing How the Government Pays for Drugs

Marc Adler

Health Law Forum

Seton Hall University School of Law

HIRSH AWARD WINNER

Mentally Sound?!

The Constitutional Ramifications of Medicating the Mentally ill to Stand Trial

Katusha de Villiers

MHSA, Xavier University

SCWHARTZ AWARD WINNER

Monitoring of Practitioner Performance: The Peer Review Process, Its Current Limitations, and Potential Sources of Improvement

Richard Cantley

Saint Louis University School of Medicine

HOFFMAN BIOETHICS WRITING
COMPETITION WINNERS

1st Place:

*Are Ethical Considerations Being Accorded Undue Respect
In The Political Determination of Federal Policy?
The Influence of the Ethical Debate Over Embryonic Stem
Cell Research On The Political Determination Of Federal
Funding*

Jordan Saltzberg

William & Mary School of Law
Williamsburg, VA

Presented at the 2008 Annual Meeting in Houston, Texas

2nd Place:

*The Skinny on Being Too Skinny:
Ethical and Legal Concerns on Banning Ultra-Thin Models
from the Fashion Runway*

Adam Diament

University of San Diego School of Law
San Diego, CA

3rd Place:

*The Fundamental Right to Clone: Predicting the Judicial
Response to an Asserted Right To Reproductive Cloning*

Jessica Lin Lewis

University of Chicago Law School
Chicago, IL

2008 Mid-Year Meeting

Primary Care and the Law

W. Chicago City Center

Chicago, IL

September 27 - 28, 2008

It is with deep regret that I must inform the ACLM membership of the loss of a special individual. ACLM Past President and 2008 Gold Medal recipient, Philip Cifarelli, MD, JD, FCLM, passed away on April 2, 2008. He was a giant of a man, great educator, and an inspirational leader to all of us. His presence was such that he could light up a room just by walking in. His devotion to the College was unquestionable and his enthusiasm was infectious. He was a man of integrity. "California" Phil will be greatly missed. May he rest in peace.

Phil's wife, Barbara, mentioned that in lieu of flowers, donations be made in Phil's name to the

ACLM Foundation
Attention: Sue O'Sullivan
1100 E. Woodfield Rd. Ste. 520
Schaumburg, IL 60173

Michael M. Raskin, MD, JD, FCLM
President, ACLM

Amicus Curiae Committee

I am pleased to announce that Maxwell J. Mehlman, BA, JD, has again agreed to chair the important Amicus Curiae Committee. Max is a world-renowned legal scholar and academician. He is the Arthur E. Petersilge Professor of Law and Director of the Law-Medicine Center at Case Western Reserve University School of Law, and Professor of Bioethics at Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine.

Committees

The number of committees has been restructured for better operation and to eliminate redundancy. Many ad hoc committees have been combined with standing committees and others have been eliminated, having served their intended ad hoc purpose. In most organizations, approximately 5% do 95% of the work - I'm sure you heard that before, but it's true. Those of you who have served on committees, I encourage you to continue to serve and even consider as leadership role. Those of you who are not on a committee, come on down and take the plunge. I realize that serving may not be your cup of tea, but for those who might be interested, sign up for a committee. The committees are listed on our web site.

GOVERNMENT, LAW & MEDICINE:

February 27 - March 1, 2009

If you have an interest and would like to speak at the 2009 Annual Meeting in Las Vegas, please contact Vicky Trompler by e-mail or by phone. We are looking for topics which illustrate the interaction of the government with law and medicine. We will be looking at STARK, CMS, HIPAA, NPDB, FDA, and many more alphabet combinations. If you have any ideas for the conference, Vicky would like to hear from you at (254) 755-4208 or Trompler@nmanhowell.com.

Michael M. Raskin, MD, JD, MS, MPH, MA, FCLM
ACLM President