In Memory

It is with a sad heart that I tell you of the passing of ACLM past president, Dr. Don Harper Mills, on May 21, 2013. Dr. Mills was the president of ACLM from 1975 to 1976. Dr. Mills was a dedicated, loyal member of the college who was a mentor to so many of us. We will miss him and will continue to keep his family supported in our prayers.

Annual Meeting

The 54th annual clinical meeting is scheduled to be held at the Westin Galleria in Dallas, TX, February 27 - March 3, 2014. Our program chair, Dr. Jim Hubler, has organized an exceptional program with subject matter including a medical malpractice update, peer review, pharmacy malpractice, biomedical ethics and policy changes in public health. We have an extensive group of skilled, proficient, experienced speakers with a wealth of knowledge and critical pointers to be used in your day to day practice.

Although we've previously had meetings in Houston and Dallas, this is a new and exciting venue for ACLM. The hotel is surrounded by shopping, restaurants, green space and other fascinating attractions. The hotel is newly renovated and offers top amenities, including the expanded Westin Workout Fitness studio and impressive meeting spaces. It is across from Dallas' lavish Galleria complex of USA Today's "Top 10 Shopping Spots in the US" which also features excellent dining venues in an airy extravagant setting.

Members on the Move

One of our renowned members, Cyril H. Wecht, MD, JD, has received yet another honor. He has been appointed as both a member of the Board of Governors, and professor of
pathology, forensic medicine, healthcare management, and health law in the recently established American University of Sovereign Nations School of Medicine in Scottsdale, Arizona. Dr. Wecht also holds several faculty positions at the University of Pittsburgh, Duquesene University and Carlow University. Hats off to you, Dr. Wecht!

AUSN has entered into a collaborative agreement with the Dr. Susan La Flesch Picotte Memorial Hospital & Museum, the first Native American Hospital in the US named after the first Native American woman to become a physician in our country.

College Updates

To ensure the continued viability and elite exclusivity of ACLM, we have recently purchased a competing website under the proficient negotiations of our own, Dr. Francois Blaudeau. This will allow us to maintain the quality and superior integrity of the ACLM name. If you have not visited the ACLM website recently, please take a moment to do so. We are confident you will be very impressed with the new look.

Our treasurer, Dr. Thomas McLean, and associate director, Ms. Sue O'Sullivan, are both reviewing all aspects of contracts, investments and revenue generation to ensure ACLM's foundation is strong and prepared for advancement into the next century.

Based on the strategic plan, which was crafted by the 2012 Board of Governors, we are beginning to focus on our five key strategic initiatives which include broadening membership, increasing revenue generation, enhancing website development, enriching our CME/CLE offering and increasing marketing efforts. Adding value to membership will include efforts aimed at offering not only ethics education, but also substance abuse, pain and professionalism at our annual meeting, as well as online. We are currently in discussions with companies that may provide the backbone for online CME, advertising of member practices on ACLM’s website and opportunities for content development of online courses. Additionally, the ACLM is continuing to run full force and head on into challenging projects that will enhance value for our members, including developing a speakers bureau, creating a student/resident medicolegal curriculum and hosting our meeting presentations for online access to participants. These projects will increase visibility of the ACLM and our membership.

Our committee offerings have been developed and I would like to thank those members who signed up for "combat" (i.e. committee) duty! These committees will be of critical importance in advancing and cultivating the strategic initiatives. If you have creative and novel ideas to advance the ACLM as the preeminent voice at the intersection of
law and medicine, please do not hesitate to let me know. We are always waiting for new ideas.

Through the efforts of our management company, WJ Weiser & Associates, ACLM continues to offer joint sponsorship CME accreditation for educational programs of other Weiser managed clients. This project has had a positive financial impact on the college resulting in income in excess of $60,000 per year. A special thanks to our CME Committee chair, Dr. Kent Harshbarger and Dr. Steve Waxman for their efforts in reviewing the content of these accredited programs.

Stewart R. Reuter Academic Lecture

The ACLM has received a commitment of $50,000 through the generosity of Mrs. Marianne Reuter and the San Antonio Area Foundation. The ACLM will now have a Stewart R. Reuter Academic Lecture as part of the Annual Meeting each year. This lecturer will focus on current academic issues in legal medicine to impact law and medicine in their guidance of American and Global healthcare, in recognition of Dr. Reuter's dedication and commitment. The 2014 meeting in Dallas will feature the inaugural lecture given by Professor Thomas Mayo, Altshuler University Distinguished Teaching Professor and associate professor of law.

Amicus Brief Update

ASSOCIATION FOR MOLECULAR PATHOLOGY ET AL. v. MYRIAD GENETICS, INC., ET AL. CERTIORARI TO THE UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS FOR THE FEDERAL CIRCUIT

You may already be aware that on June 13th the Supreme Court ruled that isolated human genes are not patentable. The Court did allow for patents on cDNA, but since genetic testing and research need not rely on cDNA this decision liberates genes for better patient care and scientific investigation. The complete decision can be found on the ACLM website under the Resource tab/Amicus Brief.

Thank you for your continued support and I look forward to seeing each of you in Dallas!

Sincerely,
Victoria L. Green, MD, JD, FCLM
ACLM President