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Howdy Fellow SCCM Texas Members!

A most challenging start of 2020 is nearly behind us, and I trust this message finds you safe and well. I sincerely hope each of you are doing well and are to keeping your families and yourselves safe in pandemic 2020. Given the issues surrounding the pandemic and social distancing, our educational programming has been limited. We are planning, once the recommendations are safely relaxed, to restart programming. The chapter also delivered treats to various ICUs across the state to show appreciation to our front-line workers. The Chapter is slated to award the second annual Joseph L. Nates, MD, MBA, MCCM Research Grant, a $4000 award to fund clinical research designed to enhance the care and outcomes of critically ill patients. The deadline for submission is June 15, 2020.

Planning for the event of the year, the 9th Annual SCCM Texas Chapter Symposium—“Closing the Knowledge Gap”, is ongoing. This year’s symposium will be hosted by the San Antonio region. The symposium is currently set to be held September 25-26th, 2020, at Children’s Hospital in San Antonio. The Symposium Committee is working to arrange the excellent speakers and educators you have come to expect. Lewis Kaplan, SCCM’s president will deliver the keynote address. We are planning to also have a community outreach program pre-symposium. Further details will be updated on the web and social media.

In closing, I want to say a huge ‘thank you’ to all you providers. The first half of the year has been incredibly challenging and stressful. I appreciate all your hard work during the COVID-19 pandemic on the front lines. Also, a special ‘shout out’ to your leadership team for the additional efforts in ensuring you receive continued value of your membership. Remember to follow us on the web and social media (Twitter-@sccmtxchapter, Facebook, and Instagram-sccmtxchapter) for updates. As always, please reach out to us with any questions, concerns and your feedback on how we can improve YOUR chapter!

Until next time, stay safe,

Darrell E. R. Alley, MD, MBA, FACS, FCCP, FCCM, President, SCCM Texas Chapter 2020
Mark your calendars for the 8th Annual Symposium for the Society of Critical Care Medicine – Texas Chapter which will be held on Friday, September 25th and Saturday, September 26th at The Children’s Hospital of San Antonio, San Antonio, Texas.

This year the theme will be “Closing the knowledge gap” and we expect it to be an exciting event packed with outstanding speakers. Stay tuned for the symposium presentation schedule and registration details that will be released very soon! We are also excited about the Critical Quiz and Round Table Discussions being offered during the Symposium in San Antonio, more details to come!

Additional Information regarding the symposium is available at: http://www.sccmtexaschapter.org/annual-symposium/

If you are interested in joining the symposium planning committee or have any questions, please contact the Symposium Committee Chair, Utpal Bhalala (utpal.bhalala@bcm.edu).
The Communications Committee is responsible for the dissemination of information between our chapter and its members. With that being said, we have created an Instagram account (@SCCMTXChapter) in addition to our other social media platforms. Please follow to see our latest pictures of our events, membership, and any special announcements. Did you stop by our recent community engagement event? Have you attended the SCCM Texas Chapter Symposium? Did you enjoy the most recent evening educational programming in your area? We love to share what our members are doing across the state of Texas. So, tag us in your pictures! You can tag us on Instagram by using the hashtag #SCCMTexasChapter.

Since most of the volunteers on the Communications Committee work behind the scenes, I’d like to introduce our Houston Communications Coordinator, Elizabeth Dozier. Elizabeth has been a critical care nurse for 20 years, having obtained her BSN from UT-Austin. She works in the critical care float pool at Baylor St. Luke’s Medical Center in Houston. Within that role, she has also had the opportunity to take on special projects, such as interim sepsis coordinator, Magnet application writer, and assisting with regulatory readiness, education, and quality initiatives. She has just completed her Masters in Biomedical Informatics from UT-SBMI. She was the recipient of the 2019 SCCM Outstanding Member Award – Houston Area, and the SCCM Texas Chapter Professional Development Award. She has been volunteering as the SCCM Texas Chapter Houston-area Communications Coordinator since 2016.

Ashley Selby is our DFW Communications Coordinator and Awards Committee Chair. Ashley is an Assistant Professor at Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center Jerry H. Hodge School of Pharmacy and practices as a Critical Care Clinical Pharmacy Specialist at the Dallas VA Medical Center. She looks forward to the day that she is able to send out an invite to get her DFW area colleagues together again to enjoy a great speaker, good conversation, and a delicious meal.

Please continue to look for our emails (texaschapter.sccm@gmail.com), website (www.sccmtexaschapter.org), Facebook and Twitter (@SCCMTXChapter), and now Instagram (@SCCMTXChapter) for meeting announcements and general organizational communications. Don’t forget to follow us on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram to stay up to date on each of our events!
The deadline for the chapter’s Joseph L. Nates Grant of $4000 is approaching! This annual research grant is intended for clinical research designed to enhance the care and outcomes of critically ill patients. The application deadline is June 15, 2020. Please go to the Society of Critical Care Medicine Texas Chapter home page or http://www.sccmtexaschapter.org/research-grant/ for more information on eligibility, expectations, and the application process.

It’s time to get started on your abstracts for the annual symposium! Our members continue to conduct amazing research and we want to showcase your work. Please submit a research abstract for this year’s symposium, which will be at the Children’s Hospital of San Antonio from September 25 - 26, 2020. Abstracts may be submitted starting July 1st through midnight of July 29th. If accepted, your abstract will be presented as a 4-minute PowerPoint research snapshot platform presentation. Additionally, it will be considered for one of two awards for Best Symposium Abstract. Recipients will receive up to $500 to be utilized for attending the symposium as well as free registration. Note, you can present it at the chapter symposium as well as the Annual SCCM Congress.

Application Process
- Application includes the abstract, a short bibliography, and a sign conflict of interest form
- Abstracts may be submitted starting July 1st
- All application materials must be submitted on-line by midnight (CDT), July 29th.
- There will be no exceptions for late submissions.

Please see the Annual Symposium tab on the Society of Critical Care Medicine– Texas Chapter website for more information.

Lastly, the research committee is currently in need of reviewers who are advanced practice nurses, physician assistants, respiratory therapists, or other allied health professions. We would love to have you as part of the team. Please review the information on the SCCM-Texas Chapter website Research tab or contact research@sccmtexaschapter.org for more information on the research committee.
THANK YOU TO OUR FRONTLINES!

The past several weeks have been unprecedented. We have and are currently dealing with stressful and challenging times with the occurrence of the SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19) pandemic.

First, a heartfelt thank you for all you are doing in caring for the unfortunate sufferers of the COVID-19 virus. In the midst of fear and ever-changing information, you all have remained strong and diligent in the care of our affected patients.

We would also like to recognize the extraordinary efforts by our members during this difficult time. As a small token of appreciation to those working on the frontlines, we have sent cookies to our front lines throughout Texas in Houston, Dallas, Baytown, San Antonio, Fort Worth, Austin, Tyler, Woodlands, and San Antonio.
NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE

Dana Foster, PharmD, BCCCP

2019 - 2020 FCCM Mentorship Program

Thank you to everyone who participated in the 2019 - 2020 FCCM Mentorship Program. Interest continued to develop this past year as we almost **doubled** our mentor-mentee matches. We are excited to continue to grow this program!

Applications for the 2020 cycle were due March 15, 2020. Good luck to everyone who applied! Be on the lookout **later this summer** for information about FCCM mentorship for the next application cycle.

If you have any questions about the nominations process, FCCM Mentorship Program, or would like to get involved with the committee please email us at nominations@sccmtexaschapter.org.
The Programs Committee faced significant challenges in light of the COVID-19 pandemic. This includes the cancellation of our End of the Year Business Meeting in March. Despite these hardships, the committee is dedicated to the promotion of education and growth within the chapter. We are in the planning stages for the future of programs across the state. This includes the addition of webinars to our robust in-person meetings. The chapter will be hosting an upcoming Webinar about COVID-19 and we encourage all of our members to tune in.

In-person programming events are tentatively planned to resume in early to mid-July pending any update about restaurant capacity from the governor. We encourage you to adhere to social distancing and stay safe!

SCCM COVID-19 Resources:
• For Critical Care Clinicians: COVID-19 Rapid Resource Center gives you access to the latest education:  https://www.sccm.org/COVID19RapidResources/Home
• Critical Care Training: https://www.sccm.org/Disaster/Education-and-Resources
• SCCM has launched its COVID-19 Rapid Resource Center for critical care clinicians:https://www.sccm.org/disaster
• For Non-ICU Clinicians to receive critical care training Visit: https://www.sccm.org/covid19
• Mechanical Ventilation Strategies: Strategies for augmenting ventilator supply and staff, risks of multiple patients on a single ventilator, and what to do what you are out of options. https://www.sccm.org/Disaster/Mechanical-Ventilation-Strategies

The Program Committee welcomes members interested in planning future chapter meetings and events! We also welcome ideas or suggestions you may have for programming across the state. If you are interested in becoming actively involved in the Program Committee, please contact programs@sccmtexaschapter.org.

Programs Committee Chair NEEDED!
Contact: president@sccmtexaschapter.org if you are interested

Duties:
1) Identify and coordinate regularly occurring meetings that provide educational lectures on pertinent critical care topics which align with the chapter’s mission
2) Coordinate and set up all planning meetings
3) Collaborate with other health-related organizations and/or agencies as needed
4) Attend the event(s)
5) Report activities/progress to Executive Committee monthly
6) Average Time Commitment: 4-5 hours/month
Thank you to all members who recently completed the annual membership survey. We received over 60 submissions with great feedback and suggestions including ways to engage our membership outside of in-person meetings. The results of the survey will be shared with the Executive Committee, Board of Directors, and committee chairs and the information will be used to help shape programming moving forward.

Our current chapter membership is a little over 550 members. Please continue to refer your friends and colleagues! Remember that referrals can earn you free Texas Chapter membership. You only need to refer 3 new members (if you are an SCCM member), and 4 new members (if you are not an SCCM member) to earn a free membership (referrals need to be emailed to membership@sccmtexaschapter.org). As always, please send any membership questions or concerns to Maggie Ma (Membership Chair) at membership@sccmtexaschapter.org.
**AWARDS COMMITTEE**

Ashley Selby, PharmD, BCPS, BCCCP

**VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY:**

Duties: Evaluate and review chapter nominees for Chapter and National awards with the goal to have a representative for each discipline (physician, PT, OT, RT, dietitian, RN, and pharmacist) and region (Houston, Dallas, Austin, San Antonio, and El Paso) to be represented.

Average time commitment: 1-2 hours/month

Contact **awards@sccmteexaschapter.org** if interested in volunteering!!
The Community Engagement Committee is responsible for promoting opportunities to engage SCCM Texas Chapter members with the needs of their local community. Past projects have included adult, child, and infant CPR, Stop the Bleed, resources on child safety, and Medication Safety Awareness.

Given the concerns surrounding the pandemic, in person community engagement activities have been limited. However, there has never been a more crucial time to be involved in our communities through virtual avenues! Virtual platforms will be able to reach out to community members at their convenience.

We are looking for volunteer members from all areas around Texas who would be interested in coming together during these unprecedented times to discuss how we might best serve our communities through new areas of collaboration.

Please reach out with any questions, concerns, or ideas!