Modification of existing membership categories, membership application processes, dues, and the membership directory.

**Membership**

- Membership application available online.
- Membership total as of Jan. 7, 2016:
  - 8,442 ACR Members
  - 1,160 ARHP Members
  - Total Members: 9,602

**Journals**

- Researchers from 58 countries on six continents submitted articles to Arthritis & Rheumatology or Arthritis Care & Research.

- Web-based system used to streamline the process for collecting author disclosure information.

- Arthritis & Rheumatology and Arthritis Care & Research were made available, at very low cost or free of charge, to over 3,500 medical libraries in developing-world countries.
Advocacy

■ **Worked in coalition efforts** to pass the Patient Access and Medicare Protection Act (S. 2425) to grant CMS the authority to expedite applications for hardship exemptions from Meaningful Use Stage 2 requirements

■ **Hosted three** Capitol Hill briefings

■ **Over 300** Congressional visits

■ **Submitted** more than 75 letters to federal and state policymakers

■ **Drafted and introduced** the *ICD-TEN Act* (H.R. 2247) in the U.S. House to create a safe harbor period after ICD-10 implementation

■ **Helped stimulate greater** AMA involvement in easing burdens of ICD-10 implementation, with CMS issuing a 1-year safe harbor for Medicare claims

■ **Re-introduced** the ACR-drafted Patients’ Access to Treatments Act (H.R. 1600) and secured 96 co-sponsors in the U.S. House; expanded the ACR-created Coalition for Accessible Treatments

■ **Helped spur a $2 billion increase** in federal funding for the NIH, a 6.64% increase over the last year

■ **Worked with partners** on the passage of biosimilars notification legislation in 12 states

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■ **Received over $150,000** in donations from ACR/ARHP members; largest increase in total donations in RheumPAC history

■ **Increased the number** of ACR/ARHP members attending fundraising events for RheumPAC, raising rheumatology’s profile among critical lawmakers and building relationships for members

RheumPAC
Practice Management

- Held over 25 ICD-10 coding courses and trained approximately 700 members and their staff in preparation for the transition on October 1

- Increased engagement and strengthened relationships with CMS, Medicare Carrier Medical Directors, and private payers through meetings and outreach

  **Successes include:**
  - CIGNA changed a pending policy and agreed to “grandfather” stable patients
  - UHC corrected problems of ICD-10 denials in the early weeks after the transition
  - Humana accepted the ACR’s RhMSUS program as satisfactory credentialing for performing MRI

- Developed stronger relationships with rheumatology Carrier Advisory Committee (CAC) members and held the first CAC member meeting during the Annual Meeting in San Francisco

- Created four new position statements and updated six position statements. New position statement topics include: Complexity of Biologics, Referral Guidelines, FDA labeling and Maintenance of Certification

- Developed and implemented plan to support GAC/gov’t affairs activities that includes event, earned and paid media support

- Strategically placed 17 earned media pieces in key policy-related publications that target lawmakers and influencer groups/organizations

Public & Media Relations

- Simple Tasks Campaign
  - Set campaign objective to increase patient advocacy activity around key ACR legislative issues
  - Refreshed campaign messaging and branding

- Launched monthly Twitter chat, #RheumChat

- Developed and initiated the ACR’s first digital advertising strategy
Public & Media Relations

Education
- Offered 31 live or online educational activities
  - 23 provided CME and/or MOC credit
  - Over 20,000 learners participated in these activities

Annual Meeting
- Attendee Resource/Experience:
  - 2015 Annual Meeting App:
    - Enhanced functionality and features for better attendee experience
    - Downloaded over 35,000 times, a 119% increase from 2014 downloads
  - Formalized Technology Medicine (TechMed) educational subtrack by offering nine sessions
- Total Attendance and Abstract Submissions: Record-breaking year for total attendance—16,876
  New record of abstract submissions received—4,087
- Broad International Participation and Growing Global Reach:
  - Rheumatology professionals from 105 countries attended the meeting
  - Record-breaking year for international scientific attendance—7,476

Corporate Relations
- 2015 Annual Meeting:
  - 168 exhibiting companies
  - 55,800 square feet of sold exhibit hall space
  - 16 Innovation Theater Sessions
  - 10 Industry-Supported Symposia
Online Education

- Launched ACRlearningcenter.org:
  - 3,112 registrants (1,604 unique learners) participated in 13 activities
  - Registrants represent 70 countries
  - Over 80% of learners reported a high level of satisfaction with their online experience
  - 639 learners registered for CARE 2015 (3 months post-launch)
  - 673 learners completed 2015 Annual Meeting MOC Sessions (2 months post-launch)
  - CARE: Lupus launched in collaboration with The Lupus Initiative

- Launched #RheumIOW (Image of the Week) social media campaign:
  - Reached approximately 80,000 users across Twitter, Facebook, and LinkedIn
  - 56% of Image Library visitors were referred from this campaign
  - Generated approximately 3,900 additional Image Library page views

- Image Library included:
  - Over 1,875 images included and feature notable images from the annual Image Competition
  - Over 68,500 images downloaded
  - Over 2 million unique visitors

- SessionSelect:
  - Over 2,350 hours of on-demand educational content available
  - Over 350 hours of content were added to the catalog

- RhMSUS:
  - 39 new RhMSUS certificates were issued, including three to non-US registrants. Total certificates issued since launch in 2013 = 166

- "Outcomes of the Enhanced Performance Assessment for Rheumatologists: Can We Optimize Treating to Target in Patients with Rheumatoid Arthritis?" an abstract based on the rapid-cycle performance assessment activity. Improving Patient Outcomes in RA, was accepted as an oral best practices presentation at the 2016 World Congress on Continuing Professional Development

Maintenance of Certification (MOC)
Workforce & Training

- Organized nine programs and conferences; managed over 721 applications, 53 speakers and 65 volunteers

- Increased participation in the Adult Rheumatology In-Training Exam by 5.76%

- 454 Annual Meeting Scholarship recipients—highest number to date

- Created the Division Directors Special Committee to maintain meaningful dialogue with division directors and other academic center leadership to share resources and improve educational programs; increased participation in forum by approximately 30%

- Choose Rheumatology: Conducted site visits at four medical universities and three medical student conferences; over 118 students were engaged

- Assisted fellowship training programs with implementation of ACGME internal medicine subspecialty reporting milestones, rheumatology EPAs and rheumatology curricular milestones in accordance with the New Accreditation System (NAS)
  —Developed and disseminated adult rheumatology Entrustable Professional Activities (EPAs), Curricular Milestones and curriculum to Training Program Directors for use in the assessment of fellows

ARHP

- Since its creation in 2008, the online Advanced Rheumatology Course has generated $855,000 in revenue with 770 registrants

- Since its creation in 2012, the Fundamentals of Rheumatology online course has generated net revenue of $34,000 from 435 registrants

- Successful ARHP research webinar series—over 100 attendees—topics were on Using Large Datasets in Rheumatology Research and Patient/Stakeholder Engagement in Rheumatology Research

- In 2015, ARHP celebrated its 50th anniversary of being the Rheumatology Resource for Health Professionals!
Collaborative Initiatives

- Online continuing education courses on lupus generated over 1,674 registrants; over 955 certificates issued
- Educational lupus videos shown in over 800 provider waiting room locations each month with total monthly impressions exceeding 1,015,000
- Secured three new grants totaling $1,925,000 to continue increasing awareness and education about lupus

1,250 providers representing 41 states attended live education sessions

Rheumatology Research Foundation

- In FY 2016 (beginning July 1, 2015), the Foundation committed over $13.1 million to fund education, career development and research opportunities
- Published second annual funding report on the state of national funding for rheumatology research and training, garnering national attention
- Inducted the inaugural class of the Honorary Board of Advisors (rheumresearch.org/leadership#HBA)
- Launched new website (rheumresearch.org) in November 2015
- Received seventh consecutive 4-star rating from Charity Navigator
- 7 times!