2017 ACR Microvolunteering Opportunities

Microvolunteering refers to short term, low time commitment tasks that contribute to the college. These positions vary in nature, and we welcome applications at any time. Examples include writing a column for The Rheumatologist, reviewing web content, or sending an email to your lawmakers. Microvolunteering opportunities are available in conjunction with most of the ACR standing committees.

To Volunteer, click here.

Committee on Ethics & Conflicts of Interest:

The Committee on Ethics and Conflict of Interest shall concern itself with reviewing and making recommendations regarding the ethics and professionalism of the College, its officers, directors, and members; shall address and respond to questions of conflict of interest; shall be responsible for reviewing and, from time to time, proposing modifications to the Code of Ethics and Disclosure Policy and Statement; shall review charges alleging professional misconduct by members; shall respond to requests from the Board of Directors for guidance and recommendations on matters involving ethics and conflict of interest; shall, from time to time, develop information to educate the membership concerning the Code of Ethics and conflict of interest issues and shall organize and establish subcommittees and task forces as the Committee deems necessary or appropriate to carry out its objectives, subject to the approval of the Board of Directors or the Executive Committee and the Executive Vice President.

- Write a column regarding ethics or conflict of interest for The Ethics Forum in The Rheumatologist.
- Edit a column for The Ethics Forum in The Rheumatologist.
- Plan publicity to promote the Ethics session for the ACR/ARHP Annual Meeting (or other meetings) (i.e. social media, annual meeting newsletter, etc.)
- Research an issue for the committee. For example, questions regarding the COI policies for other specialty publications or how other specialties are dealing with the Sunshine Act.
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Committee on Rheumatologic Care:

The Committee on Rheumatologic Care shall concern itself with those economic, technical, and ethical issues that bear on the practice of rheumatology and the allied health professionals related to rheumatology; shall work with the Committee on Education to ensure that training recommendations reflect the changing scope of rheumatology practice; shall oversee the publication of practice-related materials and other publications as deemed appropriate by the Board of Directors; and shall provide the ACR membership with information concerning the future changes in medical care organization, health-care delivery, health-care financing, and health-care technology as they may affect the provision of care to patients with rheumatic disease; shall develop a government relations agenda; shall appoint a liaison to the Committee on Government Affairs; and shall organize and establish such subcommittees and task forces as the Committee deems necessary or appropriate to carry out its objectives, subject to the approval of the Board of Directors or the Executive Committee and Executive Vice President.

- Help writers and editors craft position statements.
- Assist in concept development for quality measures (i.e. work as part of a small group to review guideline recommendations, prioritize and draft quality indicator statements).

Committee on Nominations & Appointments:

The ACR Committee on Nominations and Appointments shall make nominations for the following positions: Secretary, who will become President-Elect at the end of the Secretary's term, then President in the following year; Treasurer, who will become President-Elect at the end of the Treasurer's term, then President in the following year; The Members-at-Large of the Board of Directors of the ACR and of the Foundation; Chairs of the Standing Committees; Members of the Standing Committees, with the exception of the Committee on Nominations and Appointments; Representatives to the Board of Directors of the Foundation from the ACR Committee on Research, the ACR Committee on Rheumatology Training and Workforce Issues and from the ARHP. The Committee shall make recommendations regarding application for membership, the ACR Awards of Distinction, and other ACR awards.

- Increase public awareness during nominations period to encourage colleagues to nominate someone for an available committee position, as an ACR Master, or for an Award of Distinction.
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Committee on Communications & Marketing:

The Committee on Communications and Marketing shall present the communications and marketing priorities and plan to the Board of Directors; shall initiate or support all internal and external communications and marketing efforts; shall be responsible for overseeing market research efforts; shall appoint the Editors of the Hotline and oversee their work; shall serve as the Committee that oversees The Rheumatologist and Hotline; shall monitor communications policies; and shall organize and establish subcommittees and task forces as the Committee deems necessary or appropriate to carry out its objectives, subject to the approval of the Board of Directors or the Executive Committee and Executive Vice President.

- Serve as a reviewer to comment on new content, advertisements or products.
- Write articles for The Rheumatologist with an emphasis on Drug Safety.
- Participate in User Acceptance Testing for new website features or other technological updates.

Committee on Journal Publications:

The Committee on Journal Publications shall concern itself with overseeing the operations of the ACR's two peer-reviewed journals, Arthritis & Rheumatology and Arthritis Care & Research, including monitoring of relations with and performance of the journals' common publishers, developing and reviewing policies on matters that affect both journals, and reporting to the ACR Board of Directors on behalf of both journals.

- Create/Search for content to enhance the journals website.
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Committee on Education:

The ACR Committee on Education shall concern itself with policies and/or guidelines for programs on continuing medical education (CME) in rheumatology and professional education products for both specialists and primary care physicians at the undergraduate, graduate and postgraduate levels; shall oversee the development and provide final approval for any meetings or programs for which CME credit is granted by the ACR; shall oversee the development of any educational products or materials which will bear the ACR name and shall organize and establish such subcommittees and task forces as the Committee deems necessary or appropriate to carry out its objectives, subject to the approval of the Board of Directors or the Executive Committee and Executive Vice President.

- Review Abstracts submitted for the ACR/ARHP Annual Meeting.
- Serve as an ACR/ARHP Annual Meeting Session Moderator.
- Serve as a poster tour guide at the ACR/ARHP Annual Meeting.
- Write questions to be used during the Knowledge Bowl at the ACR/ARHP Annual Meeting.
- Serve as a Knowledge Bowl Judge at the ACR/ARHP Annual Meeting.
- Participate in an interview to provide highlights and advise for annual meeting marketing materials and attendee resources.
- Test the ACR/ARHP Annual Meeting App.

Special Committee on Pediatric Rheumatology:

The Committee on Pediatric Rheumatology shall concern itself with advancing pediatric rheumatology through support of clinical care, research, education and advocacy. The Committee shall implement initiatives designed to improve the recruitment of pediatricians into the field of rheumatology; shall initiate or support communication efforts to the ACR pediatric membership; shall support the practice needs of pediatric rheumatologists through contributions to activities of ACR standing committees, as needed; and shall organize and establish such subcommittees and task forces as the Committee deems necessary or appropriate to carry out its objectives, subject to the approval of the Board of Directors or the Executive Committee and Executive Vice President.

- Serve as an AMIGO mentor to address the needs of early career pediatric rheumatologists.
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- Speak at the Fellow-in-Training Panel at the ACR/ARHP Annual Meeting to answer the questions of individuals participating in the Residents Program. The Residents Program pays registration and travel expenses for 25 individuals considering a career in pediatric rheumatology, with the goal of recruiting them into the field.
- Speak at the Faculty Panel at the ACR/ARHP Annual meeting to answer questions of individuals participating in the Residents Program.
- Serve as a Poster Tour Guide for the Pediatric Residents Program to highlight posters specifically of interest to pediatric rheumatologists.

Committee on Quality of Care:

The Committee on Quality of Care shall concern itself with quality-related activities including development of classification and response criteria, outcome measures, practice guidelines, quality indicators and related practice implementation tools, and activities related to the safety of rheumatologic therapeutics. The Committee will organize and establish such subcommittees and task forces as the Committee deems necessary or appropriate to carry out its objectives, subject to the approval of the Board of Directors or the Executive Committee and Executive Vice President.

- Review drafts of ACR quality measures and provide feedback on feasibility in practice, validity, and other metrics.
- Assist in concept development for quality measures (i.e. work as part of a small group to review guideline recommendations, prioritize and draft quality indicator statements).

Committee on Government Affairs and RheumPAC:

The Committee on Government Affairs shall concern itself with developing effective liaisons with governmental and nongovernmental research support agencies; shall establish effective liaisons with congressional members and staff; shall establish effective liaison with organizations concerned with public policy aspects of health-care delivery and health-care financing; shall monitor not-for-profit issues of concern to the College and shall organize and establish subcommittees and task forces as the Committee deems necessary or appropriate to carry out its objectives, subject to the approval of the Board of Directors or the Executive Committee and Executive Vice President.

The Political Action Committee shall develop and present to the Board of Directors for its approval the criteria that will determine how contributions will be distributed by the Committee to candidates for election to federal office; shall develop and present to the Board of Directors for its approval bylaws governing
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its operations; shall be responsible for all internal and external political fundraising and related marketing efforts; shall be responsible for all campaign finance filings and distributions to candidates for federal office; and shall organize and establish such subcommittee and task forces as the Committee deems necessary or appropriate to carry out its objectives, subject to the approval of the Board of Directors or the Executive Committee and Executive Vice President.

- Sign up for the ACR Key Contacts advocacy program.
- Go to a local fundraising event for your representative and deliver a RheumPAC check.
- Write an advocacy or issue-focused column for ACR@Work.
- Write an advocacy or issue-focused column for The Rheumatologist.
- Send an email to your lawmakers.
- Write an open letter to your legislative delegation.
- Help pilot new strategies for member outreach and communications with lawmakers.
- Edit a survey to the Fellows in Training regarding their interests and experiences in health policy.

Committee on Research:

The ACR Committee on Research shall concern itself with research and research training in rheumatology; shall encourage clinical and health services research on the organization of medical and health care as they may affect patients with rheumatic diseases; shall maintain an updated rheumatology research agenda; shall appoint a liaison to the Committee on Government Affairs and work with that committee on advocacy; shall work to coordinate the research efforts of the ACR and the Arthritis Foundation.

- Assist with publicizing annual Rheumatology Research Workshop
- Review of Clinical Research Conference Agenda
- Review of Basic Research Conference Agenda
- Provide speaker recommendations for ACR/EULAR Program Exchange - Half Day Workshop
- Review and Assist with edits to the Committee on Research's MD/PhD Recruitment Proposal
- Assist with the annual funding report as needed: Draft responses to NIH Request for Information on behalf of the College

Updated 1.17.17
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Rheumatology Research Foundation:

The Rheumatology Research Foundation is the largest private funding source for rheumatology research & training in the U.S. It’s mission is to advance research and training to improve the health of people with rheumatic disease.

- Become a peer reviewer: The Foundation’s peer review process engages experts to examine proposals for rigor, integrity, and quality. New Study Section members are recruited annually.

The Lupus Initiative

The Lupus Initiative (TLI) is the American College of Rheumatology's grant funded arm dedicated to improving the lives of persons with lupus including shortening the time to diagnosis, increasing provider awareness and decreasing healthcare disparities in lupus.

- TLI is looking for rheumatologists in Arizona and Louisiana to attend a small group provider session with rural front-line providers to give a short presentation on lupus signs, symptoms and what to do if a case of lupus is suspect at area AHECS. The purpose of these sessions is to increase provider understanding of what to do for a suspected case of lupus and to connect them with a rheumatologist for referral purposes. The time commitment should be approximately one to three hours.

To Volunteer, click here.