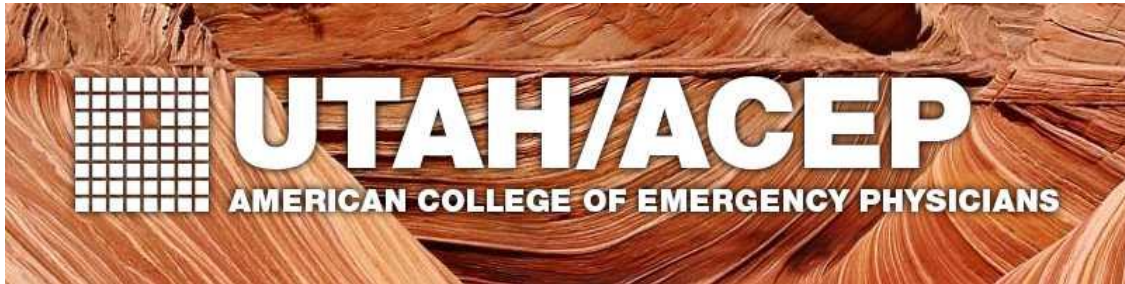


A Newsletter for the Members of the Utah Chapter - Winter 2022



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*Newsletter prepared by Sean Slack, DO, UCEP Secretary/Treasurer*

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**From the UCEP President  
Alison Smith, MD, MPH, FACEP**

Dear Utah ACEP Members and Colleagues,

We hope this newsletter finds you doing well and enjoying this unseasonably warm winter. We have a couple of important events coming up: The Utah Emergency Physician Summit in Salt Lake City (with in-person and virtual options) on April 27, 2022 and the ACEP [Leadership and Advocacy Conference](#) in Washington, D.C May 1-3, 2022. I wanted to give some insight into what these experiences are about and why they're important.

First, our annual Emergency Physician Summit is an opportunity to hear from esteemed leaders in emergency medicine with lectures chosen and designed specifically for Utahan emergency physicians, as well as to network with colleagues and get free CME. For those coming from out of town (more than 50 miles away), assuming there is interest, UCEP will sponsor a mixer the night before the Summit to welcome you and allow you to get to know your colleagues from other parts of the state as well as members of your UCEP Board. Please save the date for the Emergency Physician Summit and look for an email from Paige de Mille with registration information. Speakers this year include Dr. Corey Slovis of

Vanderbilt University, a nationally renowned lecturer, Dr. Gillian Schmitz, ACEP President, and Dr. Alin Gragossian, a now critical care fellow who needed an urgent heart transplant during her EM residency and went from being a caregiver to a patient overnight. We will also have an LLSA overview for those needing to fulfill ABEM requirements in addition to other speakers and a great, free lunch. All are welcome. The summit is free for members and with a small cost for non-members.

Next, as a physician, your ability to influence your patients' and your own family members' lives extends far beyond the ED. Each year, bills are passed by the state and federal legislature that influence such areas as your reimbursement, mental health care, psychiatric boarding times, advanced practice providers' scope, COVID testing and treatments, drug research and development, opioid addiction and treatment, the ability of paramedics to give medications and deliver other important pre-hospital care, and how and where your patients can receive care once they arrive in the ED.

Attending events such as Doctors' Day at the Legislature (held each January in SLC) and the ACEP Leadership and Advocacy Conference (LAC) held annually in Washington, DC in the spring is your chance to learn about and be engaged in the policymaking process that has a huge impact on everything you do at work. It's an opportunity to learn firsthand about the issues from politicians and lobbyists, and then to speak directly with your Utah lawmakers and their aides about your concerns and advocate for yourself and your patients.

Please let me know if you're interested in getting involved with the UCEP Board and/or going to LAC in Washington, DC in May. Going to LAC was one of my first forays into policy and advocacy in emergency medicine, and it has enriched my career and life in so many ways!

Thank you all for everything you do.

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## **Letter Regarding SJ3 Prohibiting Counties from Enforcing Mask Mandates**

The UCEP Board recently sent an emailed letter to each Utah representative in the House and Senate requesting that they rescind SJ3. This resolution terminated public health orders of constraint that require the wearing of a mask or face covering in Salt Lake County, Summit County, Salt Lake City, or any other place in the state of Utah.

While case numbers are declining again, it seems certain that more waves will come, so the Board felt an obligation to call attention to the matter as a public health concern despite the resolution having been passed already. We received responses from a number of representatives that had voted against SJ3 as well as some from those who had voted for it. We will continue to advocate for measures that protect Utahans and that seem to be in the best interest of our patients and their families.

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## **UCEP Awards**

The UCEP Board is working on starting an annual awards program to recognize outstanding UCEP members from around the state. The awards will include Emergency Physician of the Year. Please stay tuned for more information on this and start thinking

about colleagues you may want to nominate! Remember, all nominees must be UCEP members to be eligible.

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## University of Utah Global Health Fellowship

Matthew Joseph Fuller, MD

Director, University of Utah Global Health Fellowship

COVID has forced a change for all of us personally and professionally, and Global Health programming through the University of Utah's Department of Emergency Medicine is no different. Despite the many challenges, robust and impactful programs have continued and grown over the last few years with the help of dedicated, determined colleagues:

**Vietnam**, a country of 90 million people, and one of the fastest growing economies in SE Asia, is a country with an advanced healthcare system, but without formal EM education. Despite this, interest in the profession has grown substantially after formal recognition in 2012. The Department of EM at UU has a longstanding relationship with colleagues in Vietnam, focused on education and exchange.



In 2019, working with the largest referral center in Vietnam, Cho Ray Hospital in Ho Chi Minh City, as well as the Ministry of Health, the University of Utah began the first Diploma in Emergency Medicine, utilizing an 18-month long curriculum based on internationally recognized standards. The pandemic forces a pivot to delivery in virtual format, and this April, will graduate its first class, just in time for faculty and fellows to return to Vietnam. An important facet of this program is inviting faculty from Vietnam to participate in month-long scholarly exchanges here at the University of Utah, which we look forward to this coming July.

Like many indigenous populations, the **Navajo Nation** has suffered disproportionate morbidity with the COVID 19 pandemic. Nearly 40% of homes on the reservation are without running water, and lack adequate resources. Age-adjusted COVID 19 death rates for American Indian and Alaska Native populations were and are higher than any other population in the United States. In March 2020, colleagues in Emergency Medicine at the Northern Navajo Medical center contacted Global Health at the University of Utah, resulting in a sustained effort to support delivery of clinical care on the reservation. That relationship has grown into a continued exchange of faculty and Global Health Fellows, additional Departments at the University of Utah, and the award of large federal grants to improve Medical Education, namely through ultrasound and simulation, at IHS facilities throughout the Navajo Nation.



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## University of Utah Research Projects

- **Paramedic rhythm interpretation misclassification is associated with poor survival from out-of-hospital cardiac arrest**

H. Hill Stoecklein, Andrew Pugh, M. Austin Johnson, Joseph E. Tonna, Michael Stroud, Stavros Drakos, Scott T. Youngquist, Resuscitation, Volume 171, 2022, Pages 33-40,

## SAEM- Accepted Abstracts for Presentation in New Orleans

- **Providing Opioid and Naloxone Education in the Emergency Department for High Risk Groups**  
Jacob Steenblik, DNP MPH MHA, Larry Garrett, PhD BSN, Alejandro Blich BS, Andrew Jones BS, Gerrit Seymour, BA, Marina Griffith, BS, Sikoti Langi, BS, Jonathan Crump BS, Troy Madsen, MD
- **Emergency Department Evaluation, Treatment, and Functional Outcomes among Patients Presenting with Low Back Pain**  
Kayte Suslavich, MD, Jake Magel, PT, PhD, DSc, OCS, Keith Roper, PT, DPT, Julie Fritz, PhD, PT, Troy Madsen, MD
- **Trends in Emergency Department Droperidol Use Since Reintroduction in an Academic Healthcare System**  
Holden Wagstaff, MD, Ryan Ernst, MD, Cole Sloan, Pharm.D., McKayla Smith, MPH, Liam O'Brien, BS, Hannah Mainor, BS, Troy Madsen, MD
- **Droperidol Usage Patterns and Dosages for Abdominal Pain, Nausea, and Vomiting in the Emergency Department**  
Ryan Ernst, MD, Holden Wagstaff, MD, Cole Sloan, Pharm.D., McKayla Smith, MPH, Liam O'Brien, BS, Hannah Mainor, BS, Troy Madsen, MD
- **Trends in Emergency Department Utilization by Older Adults During the SARS-CoV-2 Pandemic**  
Marina Griffith, BS, Asal Kareem, HBS, Sikoti Langi, BS, Alexandra Jensen, BS, Catherine Brown, Tanner Barton, BS, Jacob Steenblik, DNP, MPH, MHA, Margaret Carlson, MPH, Michael Newman, MS, Troy Madsen, MD

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## Welcome New UCEP Members!

Mitchell Alexander Adams  
Bradley John Bentley, MD  
Rakael Denise Brown  
Jordan Dutch Hall  
Joshua Hicks  
Abigail Limov  
Cameron M Meyer, DO  
Anna Rice  
Lauren Rowan  
Thomas Weadock Shields, MD, FACEP  
Daniel Sullivan  
Alison Dee Taylor Craven, MD  
Joshua Unger

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## FROM NATIONAL ACEP



### ACEP Resources & Latest News

**Black History Month:** Don't miss this week's *Frontline* episode featuring [Dr. Ray Johnson and Dr. Sandra Coker discussing their experiences](#) working in EM. Dr. Coker founded the Black Girl White Coat nonprofit, and Dr. Johnson's been a leader in EM for more than 30 years. Find more BHM22 resources related to this year's theme, [Black Health & Wellness](#).

**Nominate a Colleague for ACEP Awards!** ACEP is accepting nominations for its 2022 Leadership Awards and Teaching Awards. [Leadership Award nominations](#) are due **March 8**, and Teaching Award nominations are due **April 15**.

Get New [Point-of-Care Tools](#) in emPOC App

### Advocacy:

South Dakota scored an important [scope of practice victory](#) (2/23/22)

**[ACEP applauds the Texas court ruling](#) that the No Surprises Act implementation fails to follow the letter of the law.** The concerns validated by this ruling are some of those shared by ACEP, ASA and ACR in a [separate lawsuit](#) currently in a Chicago district court (2/24/22). Amplify on [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#).

- **The No Surprises Act:** [What You Need to Know](#)

**ACEP Applauds Passage of Dr. Lorna Breen Health Care Provider Protection Act:** On Feb. 17, 2022, the Senate passed the ACEP-supported "[Dr. Lorna Breen Health Care Provider Protection Act](#)" (H.R. 1667) by voice vote. It now heads to President Biden for his signature into law. [Read the full press release](#) and [additional background](#) about ACEP's efforts to develop and progress this bill through the legislative process.

#### **ACEP and EMRA Send Workforce Statement to Senate HELP**

**Committee:** ACEP partnered with EMRA to submit a statement for the record for a Senate HELP Committee hearing on workforce shortages (2/11/22). [Read more](#)

### **Regulatory Updates:**

- [ACEP Provides Feedback on New Emergency Medicine Cost Measure](#) (2/24/22)
- [CDC Releases Long-Awaited Revised Opioid Prescribing Guideline: Open for Public Comment](#) (2/17/22)
- [The Flip Side of the Coin: A Look at the Increase in Health Insurer Consolidation](#) (2/10/22)
- [Update on ACEP Actions to Address Physician Mental Health Needs and Wellbeing](#) (2/3/22)
- [Recent Federal Efforts to Address Provider Consolidation](#) (1/27/22)

### **Upcoming ACEP Events and Deadlines**

**March 8:** Deadline to apply for [ACEP Leadership Awards](#)

**April 11-12:** [Virtual Advanced Pediatric EM Assembly](#)

**April 1 – May 31:** [ED Directors Academy, Phase I](#)

**April 15:** Deadline to apply for [ACEP Teaching Awards](#)

**May 1-3:** [Leadership & Advocacy Conference](#)

**May 15:** Deadline to apply for [ACEP committee involvement](#)

**May 18:** Deadline for submissions to the [ACEP22 Research Forum](#)

**May 23-25:** [SIM Training Course](#)

### **Contact Utah ACEP**

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Paige DeMille – Executive Secretary  
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