

Dear Members and Friends,

It is my great pleasure to welcome you all to our 22nd IAMA Semiannual Meeting and IAMACF Annual Charity Banquet. Congratulations to all IAMACF Executive Board Members for the wonderful job and fulfilling the dream of our founding IAMA Past Presidents. I am deeply honored to be the part of this organization as the President of the Indian American Medical Association of Illinois (IAMA-IL). I salute, with my heartfelt gratitude to all the past 34 presidents for their selfless efforts and adding stepping stones, for the new presidents to bring this organization to a higher level. I am looking forward to their support and guidance for 2016.

In order to excel, we need to think out of the box and create programs that will strengthen our organization and create future leaders. We should be able to unite our young physicians, give them a platform to work independently and take IAMA to a new horizon that has never been seen before.

Early in March-2015, I unveiled IAMA's Vision, Implementation and Action plan.

I am happy to report that we have successfully started many of these initiatives.

1. **IAMA Office:** We have established office for IAMA with secretary which will be essential part of our Organization to keep database, coordinate various activities, and to communicate with physician members.
2. **IAMA CF and Free Clinic:** At the heart of our medical organization is the Charity Clinic, considered as the "Crown Jewel" of the IAMA. The clinic is very precious to the founding members and past presidents of IAMA-IL. In 2015 IAMA leadership made a strong commitment to work closely with IAMACF.
3. **IAMA Monthly CME & Educational Lectures:** We have Initiated CME credentialing for IAMA to bring our own CME program to the practicing physicians in Illinois. We have provided 15 medical and financial educational monthly lectures with sumptuous dinner and more than 24 hour CME to our members by joining hands with local organizations like CMS, ISMS and Advocate Health Care.
4. **IAMA Community Health Seminars & Health Fairs:** It is important to educate Physicians and Indian Community about healthy life style changes to modify Diabetes, Heart Diseases and Obesity adversely affecting Southeast Asians. I am happy to report that we conducted 10 Community Health fairs and educational seminars in 2015.
5. **IAMA New Website:** We are excited to unveil our new colorful IAMA website. The website includes many new features like Educational Health links and advertisement segment.
6. **IAMA Young Physicians Committee:** Under the leadership of our IAMA young Physicians, we should be able to unite young physicians group under the umbrella of IAMA-IL. This should promote interest and membership in our organization as well as support for research, education, and clinical activities. These are our leaders for tomorrow.
7. **IAMA Teaching Excellence Award:** We will start coordinating with 5 top teaching universities in Chicago to network along with their medical students as well as residents. In 2016 we will recognize 5 top teachers to be awarded at the Annual Gala Banquet program.
8. **IAMA Golden Stethoscope Award:** Our "Golden Stethoscope Award" at Ditka's Restaurant was very successful and attended by more than 70 members.
9. **IAMA Social Events:** 2015 has been very successful year for the social activities including our trip to South Africa. Members had great time at the Charity Golf outing raising \$ 6000 for Charity Clinic. IAMA Karaoke Masti was new for 2015.
10. **IAMA Annual Gala Banquet:** A spectacular Gala Banquet was held at The Meadow's Club on 11/21/2015. The event was graced by our guest of honor Dr. Jams Lando, Assistant Surgeon General of United States and key-note speaker, Congressman Mr. Peter Roskam.
11. **ACA & Healthcare reform Committee:** We have formed ACA and Health Reform Committee to keep IAMA physicians informed about and educate on changing health regulations and bylaws.

As we face new challenges in 2016, IAMA will remain firm on our goals and crystallizing our vision for IAMA and the new initiatives.

Desire is the key to motivation, but it is the determination and commitment to excellence that will enable us to attain the success.

Let us bring IAMA-IL to a level that every Indian physician could be proud of. Let us learn from past and aim higher goals every year.

Very truly yours,
Samir K. Shah, M.D, FACC
President, IAMA-IL