

IACME elections November 1

Annual IACME elections will be held Friday evening, November 1 in conjunction with the 2019 IACME Fall Meeting. Offices and candidates on this year's ballot are: President—Kevin Locke, MD, Decorah; Vice President—Julie Breiner, MD, Sioux City; Secretary-Treasurer—Daniel Cole, MD, Fort Dodge; Board Members—Dennis Crabb, MD, Denison; Dennis Firchau, MD, Iowa City; Barbara Harre, MD, Davenport and Paul Jensen, MD, PharmD, Cresco. All newly-elected officers and board members will serve two-year terms from January 1, 2020 to December 31, 2021.

Special notice on deaths of foreign nationals

According to a notice from the U.S. Department of State, medical examiners should notify the deceased person's consulate (by email, fax or phone) when they become aware of the death of any foreign national, i.e. someone who is not a U.S. citizen. A special form for notifying consular officers of such deaths can be found on the U.S. State Department web site at: www.travel.state.gov/CNA. For assistance, medical examiners may call 202.485.7703 or email consnot@state.gov. Such notification by MEs will ensure that passports issued by another country are cancelled and that the foreign national's family and heirs are made aware of the death.

You can still register for the IACME Fall Meeting

There is still time to register for the IACME Fall Meeting, which will be Friday-Saturday, November 1-2 at the West Des Moines Marriott. You can register and pay online in the Fall Meeting section of the IACME web site, www.iacountyme.org. Anyone who pays the non-member rate to attend the meeting (\$350 for MEIs and \$400 for MEs) gets a free 2020 IACME membership and can attend next year's conference at the member rate (\$200 for MEIs and \$250 for MEs). The **American Board of Medicolegal Death Investigators** (ABMDI) will be in this year's exhibit hall answering questions about MEI certification. Also, staff from the Iowa Department of Public Health will be on hand Friday from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. to answer questions about the **Iowa Electronic Death Registration System**.

Congratulations to our 100% counties

The following counties have 100 percent IACME membership by their staff members: Benton, Cedar, Johnson, Muscatine, Polk, Pottawattamie, Scott and Woodbury. We congratulate these counties on their valuable support of IACME.

IDPH awarded grant to study opioid overdose

The Iowa Department of Public Health has been awarded a three-year grant from the Centers for Disease Control to obtain and study opioid overdose data in Iowa. The grant focuses on the complex and changing nature of the opioid overdose epidemic and highlights the need for an interdisciplinary, comprehensive public health approach using high quality and timelier data. The IDPH will receive \$2.6 million per year for three years. The competitive grant award was the result of a collaborative approach involving the Iowa Department of Public Health, the Iowa Office of the State Medical Examiner and the University of Iowa Injury Prevention Research Center.