The ACG Edgar Achkar Visiting Professorship Program honors former ACG Institute Director Edgar Achkar, MD, MACG, and provides an exciting opportunity for a national expert to visit your institution, spend time with your fellows, educate colleagues, and visit with young faculty as mentors. Institutions chose the speakers and the ACG Institute covers the costs associated with the ACG Visiting Professorship. Additionally, the program provides the opportunity for the regions GI community to interact with the visiting professor at an evening event hosted by either the institution or a local gut club. The ACG Edgar Achkar Visiting Professorship Program has conducted more than 63 visits since the program’s inception in 2014. These visits have taken place in 28 U.S. states, Washington, DC, and two Canadian Provinces.

BACKGROUND
The ACG Edgar Achkar Visiting Professorship Program facilitates visits to a range of North American institutions. Topics are chosen by the institution in collaboration with visiting professors for a dynamic learning experience. Presentations have addressed health information technology and utilization, inflammatory bowel disease, esophageal disorders and motility, chronic liver disease, hepatitis treatment update, functional bowel disorders, diverticular disease, lower GI bleeding, diet and irritable bowel syndrome, upper GI motility and endoscopic ultrasound, and pancreatic disease.

GOALS
The College aims to bring nationally recognized speakers as faculty for medical grand rounds presentations to enhance the educational experience for GI fellows-in-training and to provide objective, timely, and clinically relevant presentations to GI practitioners in the community.

The ACG Edgar Achkar Visiting Professorship Program enables GI fellowship programs to have high-quality visiting professors to bolster the training program by providing lectures, small group discussions, and one-on-one visits with trainees and faculty. In addition, the program will enables the GI community to access this excellent resource by creating an opportunity for a talk the evening before or after the visit at the academic center, if appropriate (although the costs of such an event would not be covered by this program).
MODEL SCHEDULE
(sample schedule, depends on local needs and availability)

DAY 1:
- 5 pm Arrive in the city
- 7 pm Host a dinner meeting at local restaurant or other venue for members of the local GI community

DAY 2:
- 8 am Research symposium or presentation at the hospital
- 9 am Visits with faculty and trainees
- 11 am Case presentations
- 12 pm Clinical lecture
- 1 pm Departure for the airport

Topics would depend on the visiting professor’s interests and the local institution’s needs. Content would be educational and suitable for CME, should the institution choose to pursue it.

HOW IT WORKS
The program is supported and administered by the College through the ACG Institute. ACG invites applications from interested North American GI training programs. Qualifying institutions will commit to promote the talk, recruit participants, and create opportunities for faculty and trainees to interact with the speaker during the day-long visit. The academic center will also be asked to facilitate contact between the College and a local gut club or community GI practitioners to coordinate an evening presentation either before or after the talk at the academic venue. All travel expenses and the speaker honorarium would be covered by the ACG through unrestricted support from the ACG Institute for Clinical Research & Education; however, support for the local gut club event is not included.

TO APPLY
Institutions are invited to complete the online application form and to upload a one-page letter of interest addressed to the ACG Institute Director. The letter should include a statement of need outlining the training program’s objectives and how this talk will advance GI training at the institution. The letter should also specify whether there will be a dinner hosted on the evening before the visit and whether there will be a presentation given. To apply: gi.org/eavp. For any questions, email: acginstitute@gi.org

Application Deadline: Friday, July 17, 2020
gi.org/eavp