The development of future leaders in gastroenterology remains the primary goal of the Young Physician Leadership Scholars Program (YPLSP). The YPLSP cohort in 2020 had 35 participants and, due to the pandemic, was convened in its entirety on a virtual platform. From October 2020 through April 2021, members of the YPLSP class learned leadership strategies, complex communication approaches, and professional advocacy. The virtual format actually provided new benefits, where each Young Leader was afforded the opportunity to create a personal leadership model and to develop this model in advance of the group session. New aspects of the program included Hogan Assessments, where each member of the cohort underwent the Hogan Personality Inventory and was given the opportunity to discuss the results in a private session with a Hogan consultant. Individual leadership personality traits were identified and then analyzed to better inform leadership decision-making and possible leadership barriers.

The program began in the fall of 2018 through online modules that guide each participant through various facets of leadership, public policy legislative advocacy, financial management, and emotional intelligence. Each module is designed to expand a participant’s knowledge base while simultaneously challenging preconceptions.

The second YPLSP class gathered face-to-face at the 2019 Annual Scientific Meeting in San Antonio. Their full-day session included topics such as how to develop an individual leadership model, strategies to avoid burnout, and negotiation strategies. Due to travel restrictions from COVID-19, the participants gathered virtually in April 2019 as part of the ACG Board of Governors Legislative Fly-In in Washington, DC to advocate for the removal of barriers to CRC screening and Medicare reimbursement for GI procedures. In 2018, the first cohort of YPLSP visited with Members of Congress and their staffs to discuss issues affecting GI practitioners. As part of the Washington, DC visit, the YPLSP scholars participated in sessions on topics including how to handle difficult conversations, discussion of various leadership challenges, and problem-solving exercises.

The fourth class of Young Leadership Scholars was selected in the summer of 2021 and will begin their training at the 2021 ACG Annual Scientific Meeting in Las Vegas.
Benjamin H. Levy, III, MD
Young Leadership Class of 2018, YPLSP Steering Committee

TUNE IT UP: A CONCERT TO RAISE AWARENESS OF COLORECTAL CANCER
In addition to being a member of the inaugural 2018 Young Physician Leadership Scholars Program cohort and a member of the Young Physician Leadership Scholars Program Steering Committee, Benjamin H. Levy, III, MD organized Tune It Up: A Concert to Raise Awareness of Colorectal Cancer. This free livestream event took place on March 31, 2021 and featured dynamic performances by a talented collective of musicians. The virtual concert included messages from celebrity cancer advocate Katie Couric and performances by notable stars such as GRAMMY® Award winning singer/songwriter Lisa Loeb, Rufus Wainwright, Tim Reynolds, violinist Hilary Hahn, jazz trumpeter Kermit Ruffins, the Chicago Symphony Orchestra, and the Cincinnati Pops Orchestra, along with other musicians from a wide range of genres who all donated their time and performances to support colorectal cancer awareness efforts.

Sara E. Ancello, DO
Young Leadership Class of 2018, YPLSP Steering Committee

ACG EDUCATION UNIVERSE EMOTIONAL INTELLIGENCE MODULE
Building upon her experiences in the YPLSP program, Sara E. Ancello, DO, spearheaded an effort to create the ACG Education Universe Emotional Intelligence Module. Dr. Ancello notes that, “Emotional intelligence is the ability to identify our own emotions and the emotions of others, and use them to guide our thinking and behavior to better manage relationships. In practice, however, EI is much more than just a simple sentence... High-proficiency EI has been linked to improved job satisfaction, physician wellness, and may even reduce burnout. It can improve communication, peer and patient relationships, and encourage successful professional interactions. EI is an essential component for organizational and leadership development, negotiation, and conflict resolution—skills that are necessary for medical directors, division chiefs, department chairs, and other leadership roles. However, even as EI has continued to gain a foothold in popular and business culture, the professional development of EI in medicine continues to be lacking. This is why the American College of Gastroenterology has decided to shine a spotlight on this important topic.”

The Emotional Intelligence Module consists of eight lectures, which are listed below with the names of each presenter.

- Lecture 1 EI Introduction
  Sara E. Ancello, DO
- Lecture 2 Self-Awareness
  Uchenna A. Agbim, MD
- Lecture 3 Self-Management
  Divya B. Bhatt, MD
- Lecture 4 Social Awareness
  Meir Mizrahi, MD
- Lecture 5 Relationship Management
  Elizabeth R. Paine, MD, FACG
- Lecture 6 Communication
  Calvin Chou, MD, PhD
- Lecture 7 Implicit Bias Mitigation
  Michelle Guy, MD
- Lecture 8 Maximize Your Performance
  Aasma Shaukat, MD, MPH, FACG

Access the EI module:
universe.gi.org/modulelist.asp

THE YPLSP STEERING COMMITTEE
The growth of the Young Physician Leadership program has enabled the involvement of YPLSP alumni to contribute to the planning and content of the 2021 cohort and beyond. The following 2018 YPLSP alumni are members of the Steering Committee.

Benjamin H. Levy, III, MD
Andrew Dikman, MD
Sara E. Ancello, DO
Elizabeth R. Paine, MD, FACG
Yasmin Hernandez-Barco, MD