HOW IT STARTED.
HOW IT’S GOING.
ACG AT 90

Honoring ACG’s Past, Celebrating the College Today, and Looking to the Future.
Founding Principles

ACG at 90 is a vibrant, diverse, and forward-looking organization with a vision and mission that have evolved to keep pace with the times but have never strayed from our founding principles. ACG is proud of its heritage as a broadly inclusive organization dedicated to the advancement of clinical gastroenterology that champions the interests of clinical GI practitioners.
HOW IT STARTED

1932
A group of 10 clinical gastroenterologists in and around New York City who believed that there was a need for an organization to serve the interests of practicing clinicians involved in patient care and research meet at the home of Samuel Weiss, MD and found the New York Society for the Advancement of Gastroenterology.

In an era during which the pursuits of some medical organizations were perceived as exclusive in tone and action, the medical society now known as ACG is envisioned by its founders as “a more inclusive organization of physicians interested especially in the clinical aspects of digestive disorders.”

1934
The organization name is changed to the National Society for the Advancement of Gastroenterology to reflect the aspirations of the organizational leadership and the interests of clinical gastroenterologists from around the country. The Review of Gastroenterology is first published in 1934.

1938
The organization again changes its name, this time to the National Gastroenterological Association.

1954
The modern organization takes shape as the NGA is renamed the American College of Gastroenterology and creates a Board of Governors to connect the Board of Trustees to local gastroenterologists throughout the United States. The journal is renamed The American Journal of Gastroenterology.

HOW IT’S GOING

Today, the American College of Gastroenterology remains true to its roots as a broadly inclusive organization dedicated to the advancement of clinical gastroenterology that champions the interests of clinical GI practitioners.

As the College looks back with pride at our rich 90-year history, we also celebrate ACG today – a vibrant, diverse, and forward-looking organization with a vision and mission that have evolved to keep pace with the times but have never strayed from our founding principles.

Vision Statement
The ACG is the preeminent professional organization that champions the prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of digestive disorders, serving as a beacon to guide the delivery of the highest quality, compassionate, and evidence-based patient care.

Mission Statement
Our mission is to enhance the ability of our members to provide world class care to patients with digestive disorders and advance the profession through excellence and innovation based upon the pillars of Patient Care, Education, Scientific Investigation, Advocacy, and Practice Management.
Journals

The Review of Gastroenterology is first published in 1934 and Samuel Weiss, MD served as Editor-in-Chief until 1964. In 1954, the journal officially is renamed The American Journal of Gastroenterology and gets its distinctive red cover. A tradition of outstanding editorial leadership and dedication to clinical science continues as new titles are added to the family of ACG journals: Clinical and Translational Gastroenterology (2010); ACG Case Reports Journal (2013); and Evidence-Based Gastroenterology (2021).
Leadership

Service to the College by dedicated leaders has been a hallmark of ACG’s history. Their guidance, vision, hard work, and commitment to the mission and vision of the College have ensured that ACG evolves, thrives, and is well-positioned for the future.

#ACGat90
**HOW IT STARTED**

Anthony Bassler, MD served as president from 1936-1948

In 1954, the organization is renamed the American College of Gastroenterology and its First Annual Convocation is held in Washington, DC.

**ACG Board of Trustees 1995**

*Front Row L to R:* Dr. Christina Surawicz, Dr. William Carey, Dr. Joel Richter, Dr. Seymour Katz, Dr. Marvin Schuster, Dr. Gregory Foutch

*Back Row L to R:* Dr. David Lyon, Dr. Victor Groisser, Dr. Daniel Pelot, Dr. Leslie Bernstein, Dr. David Peura, Dr. Sarkis Chobanian, Dr. Frank Lanza, Dr. Arnold Wald, Dr. Christopher Gostout

**ACG Past Presidents 2000**

*Front Row L to R:* Dr. Myron Lewis, Dr. John McMahon, Dr. Christina Surawicz, Dr. Lawrence Brandt, Dr. J. Edward Berk

*Back Row L to R:* Dr. Seymour Katz, Dr. Arthur Aufses, Dr. William Rosenthal, Dr. James Achord, Dr. Jamie Barkin, Dr. Luis Balart, Dr. Franz Goldstein, Dr. Walter Harvey Jacobs, Dr. William Carey, Dr. John Papp, Dr. Arvey Rogers, Dr. Jerome Waye

**ACG Past Presidents 2000**

*Front Row L to R:* Dr. Deibert Chumley, Dr. Ronald Vender, Dr. Irving Pike, Dr. Sunanda Kane, Dr. Burton Korelitz, Dr. Lawrence Brandt, Dr. Philip Katz

*Back Row L to R:* Dr. Lawrence Schiller, Dr. Jamie Barkin, Dr. Joel Richter, Dr. Jack Di Palma, Dr. Christina Surawicz, Dr. Carol Burke, Dr. Harry Sarles, Dr. David Johnson, Dr. John Popp, Dr. Seymour Katz

**HOW IT’S GOING**

Samir A. Shah, MD, FACC
2021-2022 President

ACG Board of Trustees 2021

*Front Row L to R:* Dr. Renee Williams, Dr. Jean-Paul Achkar, Dr. Dayna Early, Dr. Daniel Pambianco, Dr. Amy Oxentenko, Dr. David Greenwald, Dr. Samir Shah, Dr. Jonathan Leighton, Dr. Irving Pike, Dr. John Saltzman

*Back Row L to R:* Dr. Brian Lacy, Dr. Neil Stollman, Dr. Jasmohan Bajaj, Dr. Brennan Spiegel, Dr. Mark Pochapin, Dr. Seth Gross, Dr. Immanuel Ho, Dr. Costas Kefalas, Dr. Nicholas Shaheen, Dr. Neena Abraham, Dr. Patrick Young, Dr. Paul Kwo, Dr. William Chey

Mark B. Pochapin, MD, FACC presents the ACG President’s Medal to David A. Greenwald, MD, FACC in Central Park, New York City, NY during COVID on October 18, 2020.

ACG Board of Trustees 2021

*Front Row L to R:* Dr. Renee Williams, Dr. Jean-Paul Achkar, Dr. Dayna Early, Dr. Daniel Pambianco, Dr. Amy Oxentenko, Dr. David Greenwald, Dr. Samir Shah, Dr. Jonathan Leighton, Dr. Irving Pike, Dr. John Saltzman

*Back Row L to R:* Dr. Brian Lacy, Dr. Neil Stollman, Dr. Jasmohan Bajaj, Dr. Brennan Spiegel, Dr. Mark Pochapin, Dr. Seth Gross, Dr. Immanuel Ho, Dr. Costas Kefalas, Dr. Nicholas Shaheen, Dr. Neena Abraham, Dr. Patrick Young, Dr. Paul Kwo, Dr. William Chey

Mark B. Pochapin, MD, FACC presents the ACG President’s Medal to David A. Greenwald, MD, FACC in Central Park, New York City, NY during COVID on October 18, 2020.
Endoscopy

In no area of gastroenterology has there been greater evolution or more rapid pace of innovation than in endoscopy. Education, training, and promoting quality in clinical gastroenterology and endoscopy are centerpieces of the life of the College today.

**HOW IT STARTED**

**HOW IT’S GOING**
The College is an educational organization dedicated to excellence in CME for the GI profession. Our Postgraduate Course started in the 1940s and remains a timely, relevant, and valuable update in clinical GI, hepatology, and endoscopy. ACG’s agility in evolving to meet the needs of our learners was put to the test during the COVID-19 pandemic, but we nimbly rose to the challenge by offering a Virtual Annual Scientific Meeting & Postgrad Course in 2020 and launching weekly Virtual Grand Rounds.
HOW IT STARTED

Dr. Jerome Waye, ACG Annual Scientific Meeting 1989

Dr. William Chey, ACG Annual Scientific Meeting 2019

Dr. Stacy Menees, ACG Annual Scientific Meeting 2018

HOW IT’S GOING

Postgraduate Course Agenda, 1940

Platform for ACG 2020 Virtual Annual Scientific Meeting
Advocacy and Public Policy

Representing the interests of clinical gastroenterology and patients with GI and liver disorders before lawmakers and regulators is a longstanding priority for ACG. Among ACG’s proudest achievements are legislative outcomes that have helped shaped modern GI practice including coverage of colorectal cancer screening. The Board of Governors, in partnership with leadership training participants from the ACG Institute, are the driving force behind ACG’s Advocacy Day. Throughout the year, ACG members interact with Members of Congress and policymakers in the federal agencies to advance ACG’s public policy priorities.
**HOW IT STARTED**

L to R: Dr. Willis Maddrey, Dr. Sarkis Chobanian, and Dr. Chesley Hines testify before the House Energy & Commerce Health Subcommittee in 1989.


L to R: Dr. William Carey; Nancy Norton (founder of IFFGD) and U.S. Senator John Glenn (D-OH) with Dr. Joel Richter in 1994.

L to R: Dr. David Graham, former U.S. President Ronald Reagan, Dr. Edward Cattau. In 1990, President Reagan receives the ACG Distinguished Service Award for his efforts to educate the public about colorectal cancer.

**HOW IT’S GOING**

L to R: Dr. Alfredo Camero, Dr. Louis Wilson, Dr. Harish Gagneja, Dr. Divya Bhatt

L to R: Dr. Ramona Rajapakse, U.S. Rep. Donald Payne, Jr. (D-NJ), Dr. Sita Chokhavatia

L to R: Dr. Eli Tomar, Dr. James Hobley, U.S. Senator William Cassidy (R-LA), Dr. Wilmer Rodriguez

L to R: U.S. Rep. Brenda Lawrence (D-MI) and Dr. Richard Saad

With U.S. Senator Jack Reed (D-RI) (center) L to R: Dr. Manida Wungjiranirun, Dr. Alyn Adrain, Dr. Abbas Rupawala, Dr. Samir Shah
Honoring Achievement: ACG Awards

In its history, the College has broadened and deepened the ways it recognizes professional achievement and acknowledges the best in the GI profession. New awards expand ACG’s ability to honor varied and diverse members at different career stages for their contributions to the life of the College, distinguished leadership in the field, outstanding research, and commitment to the care of patients with GI and liver disorders.
HOW IT STARTED

In 1987, the College presents the inaugural Clinical Achievement Award to **Dr. Leonidas Berry**

ACG President **Dr. Joel Richter** (left) honors Dr. David Graham who delivered the Distinguished Lecture in 1995.

**1991 Masters:** Dr. Jerome Waye, Dr. Franz Goldstein, Dr. Ivan Beck, Dr. Theodore Hirsch

In 1993, ACG President **Dr. Arvey Rogers** (left) and President-Elect Dr. Lawrence Brandt honor Dr. Sidney Winawer who delivered the Baker Presidential Lecture.

HOW IT’S GOING

In 2019, ACG President **Dr. Sunanda Kane** honors ACG Past President **Dr. Stephen Hanauer** who delivered the Berk Lecture.

**Winners of 2019 Endo Titans Challenge** with judges L to R: Dr. Rabia de Latour, Dr. Jason Pan, Dr. Seth Gross, Dr. Fadi Haddad, Dr. Vivek Kaul, Dr. Laith Jamil

**2021 GI Jeopardy Winners** Dr. Annie Braseth and Dr. Asad Ali, GI fellows from the University of Iowa

**Dr. Benjamin Levy** honored with “Grand SCOPY” Award in 2021

**Dr. Aasma Shaukat** receives 2018 Senior Governor’s Award from ACG President **Dr. Irving Pike**

**2021 ACG President Dr. David Greenwald** (left) presents Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Award to **Dr. Darrell Gray**
Women in GI & Diversity in GI

The pioneering women in gastroenterology who forged a path in the organization in the early 1990s paved the way, and in many ways set the tone, for the diverse organization ACG is today. The College honors ACG’s first female president, Christina M. Surawicz, MD, MACG (1998-1999) as a role model and inspiration to the GI profession. ACG celebrates the women who have followed in her footsteps in leadership roles at every level of the organization and all those who have inspired a culture that embraces diversity, equity and inclusion in GI.
HOW IT STARTED

Pioneering women in ACG L to R:
Dr. Christina Surawicz,
Dr. Linda Rabeneck,
Dr. Rosemarie Fisher,
Dr. Freda Arlow

Dr. Robyn Karlstadt chaired the Ad Hoc Committee on Women in GI in 1991-1992 – with Dr. Surawicz

Women in GI Committee meeting in 1993, the year it receives full committee status with Dr. Surawicz as Chair

HOW IT’S GOING

ACG’s first female president, Dr. Christina M. Surawicz (1998-1999)

Dr. Sunanda V. Kane
ACG President 2018-2019

Dr. Shazia Ali
ACG Vice President Dr. Amy Oxentenko in 2019

Dr. Amy E. Foxx-Orenstein
ACG President 2007-2008 on the occasion of her MACG in 2017 with Dr. Carol Burke, ACG President 2016-2017

ACG PR Committee in 2019 under the leadership of Dr. Sophie Balzora, champion of #DiversityinGi campaign.

Women in GI and ACG Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Committees team up for their annual reception in 2019 to network and celebrate.
ACG Institute for Clinical Research & Education

Since 1994, the ACG Institute for Clinical Research & Education has served as a forum to advance the research and education mission of the American College of Gastroenterology, making a meaningful and measurable difference in launching the careers of young clinical investigators by protecting time for research, funding innovative patient care-oriented research, and serving as an incubator for important initiatives including the launch of The Center for Leadership, Ethics & Equity in 2021.

#ACGat90
HOW IT STARTED

Past Directors, ACG Institute for Clinical Research & Education

- 1994-1995: Dr. Donald Castell
- 1997-2004: Dr. Joel Richter
- 2004-2014: Dr. Edgar Achkar
- 2014-2020: Dr. Nicholas Shaheen

HOW IT’S GOING

- ACG Institute Director, Dr. Neena Abraham (2020- )
- 2021-2022 Inaugural Cohort Advanced Leadership Development Program
- 2021-2022 Young Physician Leadership Scholars

ACG Institute Board in 2005
Front L to R: Dr. Edgar Achkar, Dr. David Graham, Dr. Christina Surawicz
Back L to R: Dr. Mitchell Shiffman, Dr. Linda Rabeneck, Dr. Seymour Katz

ACG Institute Center for Leadership, Ethics & Equity launched 2021
Clinical Research Funding

From humble origins of ACG awarding $15,000 in 1983 to support clinical research projects, with the establishment of the ACG Institute for Clinical Research & Education in 1994, the College now has a well-respected grant program which provides a significant engine of original research and publication that has funded $27 million overall in clinical research grants and career development awards – $2.2 million in 2022 alone.

#ACGat90
HOW IT STARTED

1983
ACG gives three research awards of $5,000 each

Stephen G. Cole, MD, University of California, San Diego, The Cholesterol Octanoate Breath Test

Gustavo A. Machicado, MD, Endoscopic-Hematoporphyrin Derivative Detection of Early Neoplasia in Ulcerative Colitis, Barrett’s Esophagus, and Villous Adenoma

Susan R. Orenstein, MD, Children’s Hospital of Pittsburgh, Thickening of Infant Feedings for Therapy of Gastroesophageal Reflux

1994
The ACG Institute for Clinical Research & Education is founded

1995
ACG Institute awards $324,000 to 32 investigators

1997
The Institute establishes the Junior Faculty Development Grant with two awards

Inaugural Health Equity Research Awardees (HERA) New Award in 2021

Some of the ACG Scholars (Junior Faculty Development Grantees) in 2019

HOW IT’S GOING

699 grants totaling more than $27M

71 Junior Faculty Development Grantees for a total of $14,755,000 in funding since 1997

Inaugural Health Equity Research Awardees (HERA) New Award in 2021

Some of the ACG Scholars (Junior Faculty Development Grantees) in 2019

Front L to R: Dr. Evan Dellon, Dr. Millie Long, Dr. Nicholas Shaheen, Middle L to R: Dr. Elena Stoffel, Dr. Rena Yadlapati, Dr. Jessica Allegretti, Dr. Yuri Salto-Loftus Back L to R: Dr. Manish Gala, Dr. Walter Park, Dr. Christopher Almario, Dr. Naim Alkhouri, Dr. Alina Allen, Dr. Parrakal Deepak, Dr. Girish Hiremath

G. Richard Locke, III, MD, MACG (deceased) Carlo Di Lorenzo, MD

Dr. Rachel Issaka Dr. Maya Balakrishnan
Recent Milestones

The vibrancy and relevance of ACG at its 90th anniversary are a testament to the many significant milestones of the past decades and the work of so many ACG leaders. The College is proud of the many programs, publications, and accolades that distinguish ACG today and reflect a deep alignment between our actions, our mission, and our vision.
1994
Institute founded

2006
Education Universe Launched

2009
GIQuIL partnership of ACG and ASGE begins

2010
Clinical and Translational Gastroenterology (CTG) published

2010
ACG earns ACCME Accreditation with Commendation

2012
AJG Podcasts introduced

2013
ACG Case Reports Journal published

2014
Edgar Achkar Visiting Professorship begins

2015
ACG again earns ACCME Accreditation with Commendation

2015
SCOPY Awards created

2017
ACG MAGAZINE published

2021
The Center for Leadership, Ethics & Equity (ACG Institute’s LE&E Center) established

2021
ACG Visiting Scholar in Equity, Diversity, and Ethical Care

2021
Evidence-Based Gastroenterology, a new ACG publication introduced

2021
ACG meets evolving criteria to again earn ACCME Accreditation with Commendation
Past Presidents Gallery

ACG recognizes with deep thanks the many contributions of its Presidents over the years, their defining roles, vision, and selfless service.
#ACGat90