

**Subject: ACCPAC**

***March 14, 2015***

***David May, MD, PhD, FACC (dmay@cvscardio.com)***

Good evening,

At present we are still short several members of both the BOG and BOT contributing to the PAC. Although you may not be comfortable visiting congress, please consider helping those who do to be successful.

Our overall impact on healthcare in the U.S. may depend on it.

Please contribute even a small amount if you can David May

***March 15, 2015***

***Norman Lepor, MD, FACC (norman.lepor@gmail.com)***

I agree David, 100%

No matter whether one is from an academic background, employed, private practice or Federal we have to contribute to the PAC to defend our patients and the profession that we have dedicated our professional lives too. Everyone must be counted!!

Norman

***March 15, 2015***

***Michael Mansour, MD, FACC (mmansour@cvdocs.com)***

Thank you David for your message. It cannot be overstated the importance of the impact to have 100% of the BOG contribute to the PAC. We almost always have 100% and I hope we can this year. Please donate at any level that you can. What matters is that some contribution is made.

Thank you.

Michael Mansour

***March 15, 2015***

***Matthew Phillips, MD, FACC (mattphillips1@me.com)***

It may be people are unaware- can we ask them directly?

Matt

***March 15, 2015***

***James Fasules, MD, FACC (jwfasules@gmail.com)***

As one of the original committee to form the PAC, I can't emphasize enough the importance of 100% participation more so than the amount you donate. Please see the team at the PAC booth during this meeting and "get a pin".

Jim

**March 15, 2015**

**Jay Alexander, MD, FACC (drjay100@aol.com)**

I cannot agree more. As a past chair of the PAC, I can't emphasize enough the importance of both the BOT and BOG showing the leadership to members as to the importance of PAC membership. If you don't have a seat at the table you are on the menu and the PAC is the mechanism to help assure us a seat. We cannot be naive to assume that our importance and our value is enough to be recognized. Like it or not the PAC helps us to be assured that seat.. Time for the BOT and BOG to step up..  
Jay

**March 15, 2015**

**Victor Ferrari, MD, FACC (ferrariv@mail.med.upenn.edu)**

David

Very sorry that I didn't have a chance to get to the PAC area to contribute yet. I wasn't aware prior to Friday that I hadn't yet donated for the 2015 year, & will do so before the end of the weekend. I've had a pretty full dance card this meeting, otherwise I would have taken care of it already.

Best personal regards,  
Vic

**March 15, 2015**

**Smadar Kort, MD, FACC (Smadar.kort@stonybrookmedicine.edu)**

To make things simple, just give them your credit card and they will automatically renew the donation year after year. It takes away the need to remember to contribute each year. You just need to remember to stop by to get the new pin...

**March 15, 2015**

**Jesse Adams, MD, FACC (jadams03@bluegrass.net)**

I agree- a well phrased and respectful email sent to the individual could well be useful.

We must also recognize that some may believe that they are supporting the ACCPAC and are not. Last year I stopped contributing to the ACCPAC- but was completely unaware of that. There was a problem with the automatic withdrawal (which I had signed up for when I was Gov-elect) and thus about 3 months went by before I noted on my Visa monthly report that there wasn't a line item for ACCPAC. Turns out that ACCPAC does not have a facile means of identifying when this happens, and hence no means to have contact me personally to resolve that. I understand that issue is being evaluated, but we may well have some that think they are ACCPAC members in good standing, but are not.

And congrats to anyone on this list serve who was involved in the planning of ACC15- it's been great so far!  
Jesse

**March 15, 2015**

**Lawrence Rudski, MD, CM, FACC (Lawrence.rudski@gmail.com)**

As a "non American" it was pointed out to me from another advocacy expert that it is illegal for a PAC to accept foreign money.

Is this true? If so, can still claim 100% participation

Lawrence Rudski

**March 15, 2015**

**Robert Shor, MD, FACC (rshor@tcg.md)**

Thanks to all. A 'well phrased and respectful email' has been sent with a significant response to the e-mail. We are not yet at 100% of eligible participants but moving closer! We will keep you posted and I have asked that Lawrence's question be answered.

Thanks

Bob

**March 15, 2015**

**Todd Villines, MD, FACC (todd.c.villines.mil@mail.mil)**

I apologize, but believe that the federal members may not be able to participate in the PAC, but I will verify. If unable, perhaps you can exclude us in the participation calculation?

Very best,

Todd

**March 15, 2015**

**Nick Morse, ACC Staff (nmorse@acc.org)**

Dr. Villines and Dr. Rudski,

You are both correct. We exclude international and federal members from our calculations when determining percentage participation for our leadership groups.

Thanks to all of you on the BOG for your enthusiastic support.

Best,

Nick

Nick Morse

Director, Congressional Affairs

American College of Cardiology

**March 15, 2015**

**Michael Mansour, MD, FACC (mmansour@cvsdocs.com)**

Thank you Lawrence for clarifying. You are correct. Non US citizens cannot contribute to ACC PAC. Also excluded are active US military. 100% is counted as those eligible to donate. It's hard to encourage members to donate if leaders who are eligible don't donate. It helps us to explain to members that the PAC is the best way to change government regulations that come between us and our patients.

Michael Mansour

***March 15, 2015***

***Robert Shor, MD, FACC (rshor@tcg.md)***

Latest update: BOG is at 83% participation. For those who have not yet given, please consider giving to support our profession. It doesn't have to be a big amount, any amount is helpful.  
Bob

***March 15, 2015***

***Matthew Phillips, MD, FACC (mattphillips1@me.com)***

Perception is reality.

Leaders need to model behavior and telling all the members the leaders are in is powerful

Article today said SGR fix not a done deal.

Matt

***March 15, 2015***

***Hadley Wilson, MD, FACC (Hadley.wilson@carolinashhealthcare.org)***

As Smadar said you can give your credit card # and have it deducted at a low painless amount monthly if you choose. Brilliant! Hadley

***March 15, 2015***

***Thad Waites, MD, FACC (thadwaites@gmail.com)***

Just a word of warning about the credit card method, it doesn't automatically renew. I believe the team is working on a way to automatically remind you, but to date that's not there, either. I know, because the PAC team was scowling at me the first day or two. No green PAC ribbon attached to my badge ribbon line up. My monthly had lapsed.

Thad

***March 15, 2015***

***Elizabeth Shaw, ACC Staff (eshaw@acc.org)***

Dear BOG,

I hope you all are having a wonderful ACC 15, it has been a great meeting so far. I just wanted to forward along the link <https://accadvocacy.com> to the SGR alert that Dr. Phillips mentioned. I also wanted to remind you that if you would like to take action on a desktop there is a computer at the Advocacy Booth in the Expo Hall and in the ACCPAC Lounge in the Sails Pavilion. Please ask your colleagues to take action as well. Thank you in advance and let me know if you have questions.

Best,

Elizabeth Shaw  
Manager, Federal Grassroots  
American College of Cardiology  
202-375-6404

***March 15, 2015***

***Gerald Blackwell, MD, FACC (jblackwell@mycva.com)***

The thread leads me to think that most folks who haven't contributed - don't realize they haven't contributed and/or there is a technical reason.

For those very few who actively choose not to participate - I think it would be critical to understand "why" a BOT or BOG member would choose not to participate.

It should not be a matter of public debate, but it would seem in-bounds for our leadership to know and see if we can learn something.

There is no minimum contribution - so anyone choosing not to must have a philosophical opposition.

The symbolism to our members that there is 100% BOG/BOT participation seems valuable to me.

One ongoing members opinion...

Great meeting by the way.

Jerry

***March 15, 2015***

***Edward Fry, MD, FACC (fry5@comcast.net)***

Jerry,

Well said. Doubt there are philosophic "gaps", only informational and technical ones.

When communicating with our leadership peers as well as membership, we need to paraphrase from our friends at ABIM: "Advocating, but not contributing"!

Ed

***March 15, 2015***

***Charles Brown, MD, FACC (Charles.brown@piedmont.org)***

How about a targeted individual confidential email to those BOG members who have not contributed.  
Maybe they overlooked it