



ILLINOIS ACADEMY OF
FAMILY PHYSICIANS

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Two Members Receive IAFP 2017 President's Awards

(ROSEMONT, Illinois – October 5, 2017) – Outgoing Illinois Academy of Family Physicians President Donald R. Lurye, MD, CPE, MMM, FAAFP presented his President's Award to two outstanding IAFP members at the 2017 IAFP Annual Meeting October 5 in Rosemont.

Janet R. Albers, MD, FAAFP – Chair of the Department of Family and Community Medicine, Southern Illinois University School of Medicine.

"Dr. Janet Albers is a force to be reckoned with in the annals of Illinois family medicine," says Lurye. "She has a brilliant mind, combined with an enormous heart powered by a mega-watt smile that generates positivity and compassion, and exudes all that is right and special about family medicine."

Dr. Albers has exceptionally served her patients, her profession and the community as a whole. Under her leadership, SIU Family Medicine has expanded not only the types of services they can offer, but also their reach, enabling new access for thousands of uninsured and underserved who previously had no care other than the emergency room. Dr. Albers and her work has been featured frequently in news articles showcasing the amazing impact that SIU family physicians and their teams are having in central Illinois. It all leads back to Dr. Janet Albers and the collaborations she fosters throughout the region.

Dr. Albers is a role model for women physicians, specifically inspiring IAFP 2017 family physician of the Year, Dr. Rahmat Na'Allah. Albers was program director of the SIU Center for Family Medicine residency program in Springfield for 16 years, where she recruited and trained many of our state's family physicians. She is a past president of IAFP (2014-15), and remains a leading voice in IAFP's government affairs efforts.

"Through her many years of involvement at IAFP, she's had the platform to inspire and share her passion with even more physicians, male and female, residents and students, beyond the SIU system. She brings it all to the table with a level of professionalism, kindness, compassion and dedication that is unmatched," concludes Lurye.

Sanjeeb Khatua, MD, MPH, MBA, FAAFP – Vice President & Chief Medical Officer of Edward Hospital.

Dr. Khatua is an IAFP member and a respected professional colleague of Dr. Lurye, who is Chief Executive Officer of Elmhurst Clinic, which is affiliated through the Edward-Elmhurst Health Care system.

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Dr. Khatua's story started with a medical degree from the University of Silesia in Poland. He completed his family medicine residency training at Adventist Hinsdale Hospital and served as Chief Resident. He then started working for Edward Medical Group in 2010 in South Plainfield. Six months after starting at Edward Medical Group, there was an opening for the position of Associate Medical Director of the Physician Hospital Organization (known as NHCA) and he got the job. Shortly thereafter, he was promoted to Medical Director of NHCA.

A new PHO was created in 2012, named Illinois Health Partners (encompassing physicians from Edward, Elmhurst, and DuPage Medical Group) and Dr. Khatua was named Medical Director for the Edward Tower. In 2013, he added Medical Director, Clinical Integration & Population Health for Edward Hospital and continued to serve as the Edward Tower Medical Director for IHP.

In 2016, he was promoted to Vice President, Physician Network & Population Health for Edward Hospital. In January of this year, he was promoted to Vice President & Chief Medical Officer of Edward Hospital. He continues to do urgent care shifts several times per month and directs the North Central College Medical Clinic.

"These are two family physicians who clearly demonstrate that family medicine is leading the way to better care and must be at the forefront of better health care for all in every part of the state and the nation," says Lurye.

The Illinois Academy of Family Physicians President's Award is given at the discretion of the outgoing IAFP president to honor a member, individual or organization that exemplifies or advances the mission of the IAFP to promote excellence in the health and well-being of the people of Illinois. The Illinois Academy of Family Physicians is a professional membership association with over 4,700 members across the state, including active and retired family physicians, family medicine residents and medical students. Learn more at www.iafp.com.