

It is my utmost pleasure to welcome you to APPNA Fall meeting.

40 years have gone by and APPNA has been maturing over the years. Like every year, 2017 is slowly slipping by and year 2018 is on the horizon. The preparation work for next year has been going on and the membership will have the opportunity to be a part of APPNA's theme, which is Healthcare, Education and Advocacy.

Starting next year, you will see a noticeable shift in the way we conduct our business. My goal is to bring everyone together and create camaraderie among everyone, from north to south and east to west.

I believe that the image of the organization is the most important feature. We will enhance it with our work and then utilize all forms of media to bring the members and community at large together.

APPNA has a true potential to lead all Pakistani-descent physician's organizations from around the world and will do so by reaching out to everyone to bring them under a global umbrella.

Our theme of Healthcare, Education and Advocacy will be at the forefront. We will have projects related to our commitment on both sides of the pond.

Here in the United States, it is about time that we do something for our future generations, so that they can be proud of their forefathers and heritage. Establishing a University in North America is one such goal where APPNA can take the lead and assume immortality.

You will see me working with my Executive Committee and Executive Council. We all are in it together and you will see the EC and the Council at the forefront more often than the President by himself.

I will not be able to achieve anything if the members do not buy into it. Your participation and sincere involvement will pave the way for a stronger and more professional organization of the future.

May Almighty bless you all.

May Almighty bless the USA & Pakistan.

May Almighty give us the courage to stand tall in every adversity.

Iqbal Zafar Hamid, MD
President-elect .