

It is my distinct honor to welcome you to APPNA Fall meeting 2018 at Sheraton, Tyson's corner, Virginia. I would like to congratulate Chair of Fall Meeting g, Dr. Tariq Shahab and entire Host committee for a marvelous job. This is the last meeting of the year for North America and your participation has made it another excellent get-together. So far quite a few initiatives have taken place that is well liked by our Membership.

- Partnership with AAPI to form SAPNA.
- Medical mission to Pakistan
- APPNA Mobile Health Clinics in Mirpurkhas
- Medical Mission to Guatemala.
- Day on the Hill with AAPI
- Day on the Hill by APPNA
- International trip to Singapore, Malaysia and Indonesia
- International trip to Peru and Chile.
- 1st ever APPNA Global Healthcare Summit to be held in multiple cities of Pakistan, Pindi/ Islamabad, Lahore and Karachi from December 17-22.

BOT restructuring for good governance was passed in the Council with overwhelming majority. It is now with the general body. We will see if general body approves the amendments or not.

There are few things that I would like to touch on

- 1- Hierarchy and Chain of command should be observed in the organization.
- 2- Membership Code of Conduct should be applicable to keep a respectable relationship among membership.
- 3- Social media etiquette should be observed as far as discussion about organization is concerned.
- 4- Internal grievance process should be transparent, non-partisan and acceptable to all.
- 5- Lawsuit mentality should be highly discouraged. An arbitration mechanism needs to be in place which is being worked on right now.
- 6- Membership issue should be handled and resolved once for all.
- 7- Constitution and Bylaws should be interpreted by a bipartisan committee and should always be followed as such in all circumstances.
- 8- Transparency, inclusiveness and good governance should always be sought.

As my tenure is coming to an end, I would like to thank all committee members for their selfless service to the organization.

I would also like to congratulate in advance the EC for 2019 and wish them all the best. To the membership and Council members, I can simply say, Thank you for a great year. May APPNA stay on course to become the best and the largest democratic socio-professional organization of Pakistani descent in North America.

May God bless APPNA  
May God bless Pakistan  
May God bless United States of America.

Iqbal Zafar Hamid, MD  
President APPNA