



TEXAS ACADEMY *of* FAMILY PHYSICIANS

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ROBERT YOUENS, M.D., COMPLETES YEAR AS TAFP PRESIDENT

ARLINGTON, TEXAS — Robert Youens, M.D., of Weimer, Texas has served as president of the Texas Academy of Family Physicians for the past year. During the 60th Annual Session and Scientific Assembly in Arlington, he was honored and recognized for his service. Dr. Youens passed the gavel to President-elect Kaparaboyana Ashok Kumar, M.D., F.R.C.S., of San Antonio on July 25 at the annual Installation of Officers and Awards Lunch.

“Have you ever been on call and your most fervent wish is that nothing bad will happen before your shift is over? That’s sort of how I felt at the beginning of my year as president,” Dr. Youens told the audience in his outgoing presidential address. “Fortunately not only am I not aware of anything bad that happened, but many good things have happened for the Academy and its members over the past year.”

Youens cited legislative victories achieved for family medicine during the 81st Texas Legislature: the physician loan repayment bill to provide educational debt relief to young physicians who serve four years in an underserved area of Texas, a bill to provide for real-time claims adjudication of patients’ health insurance benefits at the point of care, and a bill to prevent non-physicians from practicing medicine. He also praised many other business ventures the Academy has pursued to support Texas family physicians, their practices and their patients.

While he takes no particular individual credit for the successful year, Dr. Youens spent his year as TAFP President traveling around the state speaking at conferences and local chapter meetings to promote advocacy, and visiting Texas legislators and legislative aides during the Legislative Session. His efforts greatly contributed to increasing the voice of family medicine in Texas for physicians and the patients for whom they care.

“For the future, I hope for health care coverage for all that repairs our fractured system and allows all family physicians to be of like mind so their efforts can be focused on the good care of patients,” Dr. Youens said in his address.

Dr. Youens is a graduate of the University of Texas at Austin, and obtained his medical degree from the Baylor College of Medicine. He returned to Austin to complete his residency in family medicine at the Central Texas Medical Foundation at Brackenridge Hospital. He earned a master’s degree in medical management from the Marshall School

of Business at the University of Southern California in Los Angeles in 2003. Dr. Youens is board certified in family medicine and has practiced at the Youens and Duchicela Clinic in Weimar since 1979. He is the third-generation physician to practice in Weimar, following his grandfather and father. Dr. Youens is also a clinical assistant professor of family medicine at the University of Texas Medical Branch in Galveston.

Outside of his practice, Dr. Youens has been honored as a result of his community involvement by being named Health Care Provider of the Year by the Weimar Rotary Club and Teacher of the Year by the UTMB Family Medicine Residency Program. He is also past president of the Weimar Independent School District Board of Trustees, the Colorado-Fayette Medical Society, the Weimar Rotary Club and the Weimar Booster Club.

The Texas Academy of Family Physicians is the premier membership organization dedicated to uniting the family doctors of Texas through advocacy, education and member services, and empowering them to provide a medical home for patients of all ages. It has 33 local chapters and is a chapter of the American Academy of Family Physicians. Visit www.tafp.org for more information.