

**Joel L. Appel, D.O. FACP** Professor of Medicine, Director of Acting Internship Programs, Wayne State University School of Medicine: Contact: [jappel@med.wayne.edu](mailto:jappel@med.wayne.edu)

Joel has been actively engaged in medical education at WSUSOM for over 40 years. He is currently directing the Sub Internship Programs which encompasses the primary care fields of Internal Medicine, Family Medicine and Pediatrics. Prior to that, in terms of clinical training in UME, he was the Clerkship Director in Internal Medicine. Concurrently with the assumption of the Acting Internship, he spent five years directing the Introduction to Clinical Medicine, which was an arm of the clinical skills course at WSUSOM. His involvement with DOCS began then with the opportunity to present a workshop in clinical reasoning with colleagues from Rush and Dartmouth. This led to several other national presentations of the workshop as well as a publication in the MedEd Portal. In keeping up with his interest in critical thinking, he then formed a collaboration with other DOCS members to examine the current state of clinical reasoning instruction at the pre-clerkship level in UME. This experience, promoted by the organization, led to creating and running an interest group in clinical reasoning, and then a position on the Executive Council for DOCS.

In addition to the opportunities that the DOCS organization has afforded him, Joel has been an active participant with the NBME, initially as an item writer, and eventually as co-chair of the item writing exam committee for the subject exam in Internal Medicine. Additionally, he is a former member of council for the Clerkship Directors in Internal Medicine (CDIM) and has been active with that branch of the Alliance for Academic Internal Medicine (AAIM) for over 30 years.

Joel is a graduate of Michigan State University and received his D.O. at the Kansas City University of Medicine and Biosciences; College of Osteopathic Medicine. In his spare time, he enjoys the practice of hematology/oncology, having been the former Chief of Hematology/Oncology at Sinai Grace Hospital at the Detroit Medical Center. To decompress, he is an avid runner and enjoys non-fiction around the American Revolution. He lives with his wife, Carol, having most recently moved to Philadelphia to be with his son Aaron, daughter in law Julia and first grandchild, Rhea, the latter being the reason why he will never leave that city, though he misses the Motor City and is FTA at WSUSOM at 50% so that he may continue his academic activities.