2017 Annual Meeting Speakers

Abraham Verghese, MD
*Treat the Patient, Not the CT Scan*
Dr. Abraham Verghese is a nationally-recognized author of both fiction and nonfiction who is passionate about the human side of medicine. In addition to bestselling books like *My Own Country* and *The Tennis Partner*, he has published multiple opinion pieces that advocate for closer doctor-patient communication. The title of his talk, *Treat the Patient, Not the CT Scan*, is from his New York Times op-ed piece that diagnosed an arm’s-length mindset among medical professionals. In today’s hospitals, he wrote, there are “computers with humans glued to them,” but few focused on “cementing the doctor-patient relationship.” His new novel is *The Maramon Convention*.

Jeff Goldsmith, PhD
*Rx for Success: What’s Ahead for the California Market*
Jeff Goldsmith is president of Health Futures, Inc. — a Charlottesville, Va.-based health care consultancy. He also serves as an associate professor of public health sciences at the University of Virginia. Goldsmith’s multi-decade career has included time as national advisor on health care for the accounting firm Ernst & Young and director of planning and government affairs at the University of Chicago Medical Center. As an academic, he has lectured on health care trends and policy at Johns Hopkins University, UC Berkeley and others. His fields of interest include biotechnology, health policy and the future of health care in the U.S. and abroad.

C. Duane Dauner
*Reforming Health and Health Care*
C. Duane Dauner was appointed president and CEO of the California Hospital Association (CHA) in 1985. Dauner has been active in national hospital and health care issues, serving on numerous American Hospital Association and American College of Healthcare Executives (ACHE) boards and committees. He has authored numerous articles and a book, is a nationally-known leader on health issues and has lectured at several California university graduate programs. In 2002, Dauner received ACHE’s highest honor, the Gold Medal Award, and he has been honored by the Partners in Care Foundation, National Health Foundation, UCLA and Health Care Executives of Southern California.

Bennet Omalu, MD
*Changing the Game*
Born in Nigeria, Dr. Bennet Omalu emigrated to the U.S. in 1994 to advance his career in medicine. While working at the Allegheny County Coroner’s Office in Pittsburgh, Pa., Omalu documented dementia-like protein accumulations in the brains of deceased NFL football players. (He also completed subsequent work identifying the syndrome in Iraq War veterans.) His detective work following the autopsy of former Pittsburgh Steelers player Mike Webster led to a 2005 paper in the journal Neuroscience that introduced the world to chronic traumatic encephalopathy, or CTE. The story was dramatized in the 2015 film *Concussion*, in which actor Will Smith plays the pathologist. Omalu holds eight advanced degrees and board certifications, and today is chief medical examiner for San Joaquin County, Calif. He lives with his wife and two children in Lodi.

Tom Farrey
*Changing the Game*
Tom Farrey, a longtime sports journalist and on-camera presenter, is executive director of the Aspen Institute’s Sports & Society Program — dedicated to sports in the public interest. In 1996, he joined a Bellevue, Wash. startup that would become ESPN.com. While continuing to work for the network as an investigative sports reporter, his reporting earned a sports journalism Emmy award in 2002 and an Alfred I. DuPont/Columbia University award in 2014. While with the Aspen Institute, Farrey has moderated multiple roundtables and summits — including events featuring First Lady Michelle Obama, President Bill Clinton and now-retired basketball luminary Kobe Bryant.