

ACC NEWS



President's Page: A Change in ACC Leadership

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For William D. Nelligan, CAE, this year's Annual Scientific Session will be the last he attends as the College's distinguished Executive Vice President. For the past 27 years, he has been the only person to hold this position, guiding the growth of the College with his extraordinary leadership and management skills. He has truly become a legend in his own time among members of the College and his innumerable friends and professional colleagues. As ACC Past President William L. Winters, Jr. (1) wrote in his August 1990 tribute to him, "Attitudes Are Contagious . . .": "In word and deed he has elevated himself and the College to a lofty level in the worldwide cardiovascular community."

A perspective on William D. Nelligan. Let me provide my own perspective on this remarkable man with whom I have had the opportunity to work closely, particularly over the past year as the President of the ACC. I believe that one of the keys to his success, and the resulting success of the College, is his extraordinary sensitivity to the needs of each person with whom he interacts. Bill Nelligan has a unique and highly sensitive antenna to the feelings of others that influences all his personal and working relations. It is reflected as well in his strong commitment to understanding and serving the ACC membership to the fullest possible extent.

This sensitivity to other human beings is also reflected in his concern for every member of the ACC staff. When I first became President of the College, Bill provided an opportunity for me to meet all of the members of the staff, and I do mean *all*. It was a great day for me. His emphasis on the importance of each individual in the organization has contributed to the assembling of the extraordinary staff that serves the College at Heart House. One of his greatest satisfactions must be this exceptional group of individuals. I can certainly attest to the dedication, high level of professional skill and warm atmosphere of friendliness and service that characterize the activities of our outstanding ACC staff.

An introduction to F. Lynn May. Bill Nelligan's exceptional contributions to the development of a strong ACC will be of enormous value to F. Lynn May when he succeeds Bill

in the position of ACC Executive Vice President in April. F. Lynn May comes to us from a highly successful career, most recently with the American Academy of Physician Assistants, where he provided superb leadership and management of this young organization. Lynn received a master's degree in history from the University of California, Los Angeles. He then served in the U.S. Air Force and came to Washington in 1972 to begin a career in government. This led to appointments in the White House on the Domestic Council and subsequently to administrative positions within the Health Care Financing Administration.

During the search process, the committee responsible for presenting a candidate for the position of Executive Vice President to the Board of Trustees was intent on finding an individual who, like Bill, would combine excellent management skills with the same sensitivity to the needs of our membership and College staff. This last was one of the key issues that concerned us because we recognize the importance of our fine existing staff. It was clear in the interview process that Lynn May shares this concern, and his track record documents a commitment to staff development and satisfaction similar to the commitment that I believe has played a large role in the College's success. I am confident that he will continue the fine tradition that has been developed and that he will also find his own unique way of stimulating the ACC to continue to provide significant, inspiring leadership in cardiovascular medicine.

Each of these fine men has a spouse who has played a key role in their success. Dorothy Nelligan has been a stalwart throughout Bill Nelligan's career, and she has made her own contributions to the success of the ACC. We also welcome Maureen May to the College family and look forward to her participation to the fullest extent possible given her other professional responsibilities. Join me at this upcoming Annual Scientific Session in wishing Bill and Dorothy farewell and welcoming Lynn and Maureen.

Reference

1. Winters WL Jr. President's page: attitudes are contagious: a tribute to William D. Nelligan on his 25th anniversary with the College. *J Am Coll Cardiol* 1990;16:517-8.

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