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“It’s tough to make predictions, especially about the future.” -Yogi Berra

I am certain of one thing today. You cannot predict what is going to happen in 2025! This has been a fast moving, unpredictable and pretty depressing year thus far. However, there is a light shining bright in January 2026.... the ACNP Annual Meeting! I hope you are planning to join us in the Bahamas AND that you have booked your room at the Atlantis Paradise Island Resort.

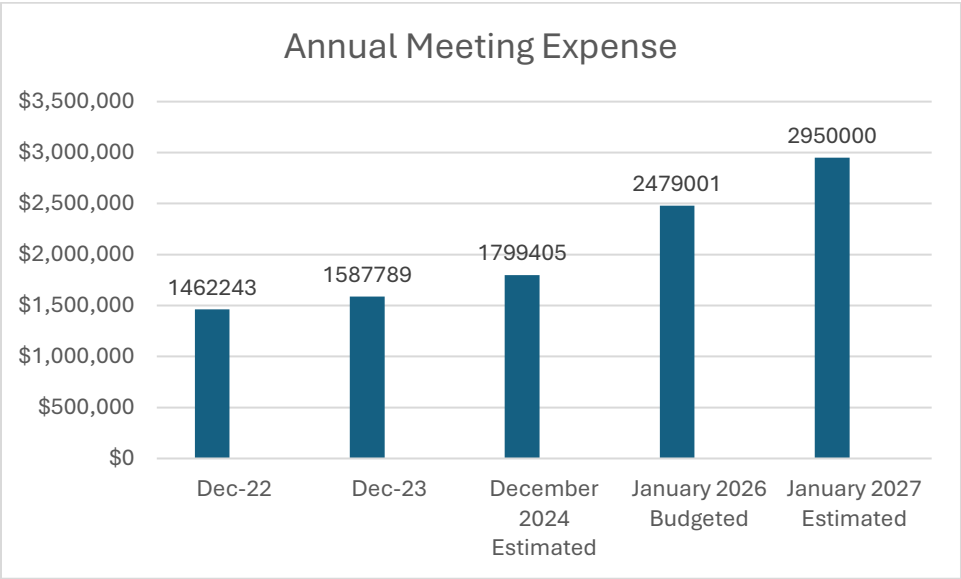
When the ACNP Executive Office began planning the January 2026 Annual Meeting, we were all worried about attendance at the meeting. With this meeting being the first outside the US in many years, we were unsure of the impact this would have on attendance, especially in a year with travel uncertainty for our international colleagues and significant cuts to funding. Surprisingly, ACNP has seen the opposite of what we feared. Submissions to our meeting went from 142 in 2024 to 196 in 2025 for panels, mini-panels and study groups. The acceptance rate for submissions this year was 29%! Registration is at a record high and hotel rooms are selling like ice on a hot August day. We are expecting record attendance again this year.

If you have not secured your hotel room and plan to attend, do it right now! Luckily in the Bahamas we have secured our largest number of hotel rooms on one property. However, we are trending towards a sell-out earlier than in past years. The ACNP Annual Meeting seems to be a popular vacation destination for many families this year. Our staff is working to secure additional rooms, but the property is close to a sellout. It seems the Bahamas will be a popular future location for the Annual Meeting.

Here are a few insider tips for those who read what I write each quarter. Get your dining reservations early this year – like November. You can secure dining reservations 90 days prior to the reservation date. There are 21 restaurants and 19 bars and lounges on property, but these do fill fast and with our number of attendees, please don't wait or you will be waiting for a table.

In addition to giving you an update on the Annual Meeting location and trends, I wanted to share with you a recent decision by the Council to increase the annual meeting registration fee annually for the next four years by \$35 per registration category. While many people think the registration fee is high, it is actually lower than most meetings in the field. Additionally, last year's cost per attendee was \$1,007. Our member registration fee is \$630; invited guest registration fee is \$880 and our trainee registration fee is \$200. These registration fees do not cover the College's expense.

Over the years, we have been fortunate to have negotiated great deals with many properties, especially those in Florida where we are tax-exempt and save around \$60,000 when the meeting is held there. With inflation and the high travel demand after COVID, we have not been as successful negotiating favorable contracts for the College in the Bahamas or California. As you can see from the chart below, our annual meeting expenses will increase 38% from 2024 to this year's meeting. This is primarily because the 2022, 2023 and 2024 contracts were all negotiated and signed prior to the pandemic and the contracts post-pandemic have been much more challenging. This year we expect to spend over \$1.1 million in food and beverage alone. Many members are shocked to find that a gallon of coffee this year will be \$115.50 - that is \$7.22 per cup of coffee (so drink your full cup!). In San Diego next year, our food and beverage expense will increase even more due to the labor costs in California (as illustrated by our coffee price of \$147.79 per gallon!).



I share this to make you aware that we are doing our best to keep costs reasonable for attendees, but just like your grocery bill our costs are getting harder to contain. Council is committed to continue to subsidize the cost of the meeting for all attendees especially our trainee attendees.

In closing, I am really looking forward to seeing everyone in January. The Atlantis is a massive property so make sure you bring your walking shoes. Also, don't forget your swimsuit and extra ibuprofen for the day after the waterpark. Weird things seem to hurt after those waterslides!