Dear Colleagues,

We would like to invite you to join us for a groundbreaking, international educational event. For many years, the American College of Gastroenterology (ACG) and the World Gastroenterology Organisation (WGO), have united on a number of activities and initiatives to advance the field of gastroenterology and hepatology, and ultimately, to improve patient care. This year marks another capstone of collaboration for the ACG and the WGO with the commencement of the World Congress of Gastroenterology at the ACG 2017 Annual Scientific Meeting and Postgraduate Course (WCOG at ACG2017), October 13-18, at the Orange County Convention Center in Orlando, Florida.

This will be the first time in more than 20 years that the World Congress will be held in the U.S. The meeting will provide state-of-the-art education and science by a global faculty focusing on a world-view of GI and hepatology diseases and treatments and will afford attendees an opportunity to present their research in an international forum. In addition, there will be hands-on endoscopy workshops, small group breakfast and lunch sessions with the experts, and sessions throughout the event that will offer simultaneous Spanish interpretation—a first for a World Congress of Gastroenterology. Our goal is that the event will deliver a comprehensive clinical update on the latest in GI and hepatology, and build a sense of community as we all work to advance practice and patient care.

In selecting the site for the WCOG at ACG2017, there was no better choice than Orlando, Florida. This warm-weather destination, considered the “Theme Park Capital of the World,” is home to Walt Disney World®, Universal Studios®, SeaWorld®, and many other attractions. Thrill-seekers will enjoy the numerous rides while movie fans explore attractions based on their favorite characters. Orlando is a great vacation destination for adults as well as families with children of all ages.

Getting to Orlando is easy. The Orlando International Airport has 800 flights per day and is serviced by 40 airlines. It offers non-stop service from nearly 80 U.S. destinations and 34 international destinations, including but not limited to Bogotá, Santiago, San Salvador, Rio de Janeiro, Mexico City in Latin America; Dublin, London, and Frankfurt in Europe; and Toronto, Montreal, Halifax, and Ottawa in Canada.

Make your plans now to attend. Registration and housing are open. You can register at worldcongressACG2017.org.

David Bjorkman

Carol Burke

Carol A. Burke, MD, FACP, President
American College of Gastroenterology

David J. Bjorkman, MD, MSPH, FACG, President
World Gastroenterology Organisation