PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

Dear colleagues,

These are exciting times …

The Research Committee under the leadership of Tim Daniels has spun off a task force to launch a pilot study for our new AOFAS Foot & Ankle Data Center utilizing Computerized Adaptive Testing with the PROMIS outcome tool. With Ian Alexander’s database expertise, Charlie Saltzman’s knowledge of the PROMIS system, and the tenacity of Ken Hunt, Dan Latt, Phinit Phisitkul, and Nelson SooHoo, our small group of pilot sites will collect data and work out the bugs and then send on to all interested AOFAS members. This dovetails well with ABOS Part IV requirements for MOC practice improvement initiatives as well as collaborative research. While there is a lot of work yet to be done to bring these ideas into practice, this is a first for orthopaedic specialty societies and truly one of those moments when the AOFAS is influencing the future.

**We hear you.** How about free CME? The Education Committee, chaired by Chris Coetzee, has organized NINE live webinars offered free for AOFAS members, and non-member orthopaedic residents and fellows. The first in the series, “The Best of AOFAS Meetings,” moderated by Steve Haddad, was broadcast on January 17. Interest was high, and we already had 120 registrants within the first five days of opening registration. Webinars are a fantastic way to learn and interact with our leading educators and are an opportunity for outreach with our International Members. Interest was high with 336 total registrants.

**What else you ask?** There has been growth in nearly every sector of our Society. The Fellowship Match Committee, chaired by Dan Farber, boasts 76 fellowship applicants this year, the highest number in AOFAS history. The AOFAS Board of Directors has allocated $100,000 for research grants and the Research Committee is busy reviewing the 20 grant applications submitted for funding consideration. The Awards and Scholarship Committee, chaired by Sam Flemister, received a record number of applications for the Traveling Fellowship Program and is setting up terrific educational experiences for this year’s Traveling Fellows. Our Resident Scholarship Program has been exceptionally well received and we anticipate bringing 30 or more residents to our Annual Meeting in San Diego in June.

Through the work of Bryan Den Hartog, who has volunteered multiple times in Haiti, and Mark Slovenkai, Humanitarian Services Committee chair, the Overseas Outreach Project to Haiti was launched. Ian Alexander and Mario Adames

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AOFAS Annual Meeting 2012

Welcome!

AOFAS members and guests are guaranteed cutting-edge educational offerings, updates on the newest technology and innovations, and lively social events at the Annual Meeting of the AOFAS in San Diego, California, June 20-23. Anticipation for this year’s event has been building for months.

Exciting and comprehensive educational programs will provide the perfect complement to the intensity and excitement of this year’s host city, known as one of the most energetic, athletic, and outdoors-loving cities in America.

“San Diego is perfectly suited to provide AOFAS members with an outstanding backdrop for our Annual Meeting. Superb educational opportunities … the latest in products and services … networking with colleagues and long-time friends … and San Diego … it all adds up to the premier AOFAS summer event,” says AOFAS President Judith Baumhauer, MD, MPH.

“I welcome back those of you who attended our meetings in the past and extend a warm welcome to all who will be attending for the first time.”

Under the direction of the Program Committee and Gregory Berlet, MD, chair, the meeting will focus on new and innovative educational presentations that

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focus on identifying and managing difficult problems, with an emphasis on surgeons helping surgeons.

“Our aim is to ensure that this year’s meeting is the one meeting where you will learn more than ever what it means to be an orthopaedic foot and ankle specialist through a number of innovative presentations,” says Dr. Berlet. “Thanks to outstanding abstract submissions and other program elements we have been gathering over the course of the past year, we are confident that we have identified a highly relevant and what promises to be a well-executed meeting. Our goal continues to be offering education that will allow orthopaedic foot and ankle specialists – who in some cases travel halfway across the globe – the chance to gain solid, meaningful, and germane education through which they can improve their practice and perhaps educate others.”

**New and returning meeting highlights**

The San Diego program will consist of scientific paper presentations, guest speakers, research updates, symposia, electronic poster displays, and Exhibit Hall participants displaying their latest technical innovations and devices. Expanded podium presentations, the Research Forum and an expanded Young Physicians Forum offering ‘real world’ program and reception promise to provide something for everyone. Additional highlights include:

- Original paper presentations on clinical topics as well as basic science research
- Enhanced audience participation and discussion opportunities
- Focused symposia and challenging debates
- Opportunities to actively participate in educational session discussions via integrated social media applications
- Special award-winning presentations and expanded discussion
- Electronic posters (e-Posters) providing succinct step-by-step explanations of procedures, findings, and results of case studies
- Special guest speakers addressing topics on timely clinical and research topics
- CPT® Coding session given by highly experienced AOFAS Members
- Industry satellite symposia (non-CME programming)
- Expanded Exhibit Hall with more unopposed time
- ‘Green’ paperless approach to meeting materials

**Exhibit Hall to showcase more than 50 companies**

The AOFAS acknowledges the continued support of industry in helping to make this meeting an annual success. Attendees are encouraged to meet with corporate colleagues in the Exhibit Hall throughout the week as well as in the informational satellite symposia sessions held on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday.

**Adding camaraderie into the mix**

No annual meeting is complete without time for social interface. Spend time with colleagues and friends and their guests and families while enjoying the following activities planned by the Society.

**Welcome Reception:** A great start to the week is the annual reception for meeting attendees and their registered guests in the Exhibit Hall. On Wednesday from 6:00 – 8:00 pm, following the Pre-meeting Course, take a stroll through the exhibits to get your first look at what’s new and to say hello to exhibiting company representatives and fellow attendees and their guests, all while enjoying beverages and light appetizers that will be the perfect prelude to a nice dinner out on the town. This event is included in registration fees for both attendees and their guests. For safety concerns, no one under age 16 will be admitted into the hall.

**Bayside Gala:** Taking place outdoors on Friday night at the Hilton Waterfront Park, enjoy the night with great food and drink, music and entertainment, and the amazing scenery that only San Diego Bay can offer. The annual gala event is always well attended and there will be fun for everyone including families with young children. More information about this event including registration fees will be provided in the Annual Meeting 2012 Registration Brochure available online at www.aofas.org/annualmeeting and mailed to AOFAS members during February.

**Steppin’ Up for the Cause: OEF Fundraiser Auction:** This is just one of the fun activities taking place during the Bayside Gala. There is nothing more exciting than the thrill of live bidding amongst friends.

The OEF is the fundraising arm that supports the AOFAS mission to provide excellence in research, education, and humanitarian service. Items up for bid are being finalized but already include weeklong stays at members’ private homes in Cape Cod, on Sodus Bay in upstate New York, on a quiet 10-acres of land in the Blacks Hills of South Dakota, in Orlando, Florida, and many other great getaway destinations. Additional items available include sports packages with tickets to Wrigley Field and Fenway Park and even a theatre weekend in New York complete with tickets to a Broadway show. There is much more to come. Watch for more information about this event forthcoming in the next few months.
Pre-meeting Course to focus on regenerative strategies and emerging technologies

Chairied by Sheldon Lin, MD, and Eric Giza, MD, this year’s ambitious Pre-meeting Course, “Regenerative Strategies and Emerging Technologies,” will be held on Wednesday, June 20.

Delivered by an expert faculty discussing current topics of bone, cartilage, and soft tissue innovations, the program is comprised of comprehensive sessions of featured lectures designed to take each of the three topics from basic science to the newest technology. Each session will conclude with faculty providing relevant clinical practice applications in an evidence-based format.

“Controversial issues will be met head-on and innovation and change in the specialty will also receive priority attention,” says Dr. Lin.

“From a cumulative perspective, the evidence-based medicine panels and presentations will form an overall educational experience that we hope will succeed in offering the most relevant cutting-edge tools for the specialty,” adds Dr. Giza.

Based on the success of past meetings, the course will also allow time for non-CME industry-presented satellite symposia between sessions. Attendees are invited to rotate through these symposia which feature topics covered during the course, presented directly by symposia which feature topics covered.

Course topics include:

**Session I – Bone: Basic Science and Techniques in Arthrodesis**
- Biology of bone healing
- Autologous bone graft, technique, and cost analysis
- Growth factors in hindfoot arthrodesis / use of bone marrow concentrate, stem cell for arthrodesis
- Pain after bone graft harvest
- Osteogenic cellularity, comparison of graft sites / regenerative strategies
- Allograft for hindfoot arthrodesis
- Ultrasound in subtalar arthrodesis
- Bone morphogenic protein in ankle arthrodesis
- Does bone graft work: a meta-analysis review
- Cancellous titanium and trabecular metal in arthrodesis / reconstruction

**Session II – Cartilage: Basic Science and Techniques in Treatment**
- Biology of cartilage repair
- Past, present, and future of cartilage repair
- Tissue engineering approaches to cartilage repair
- Talus OCD: cartilage matrix / autologous chondrocyte implantation / allograft chondrocyte implantation / allograft plugs / bone marrow aspirate / and electromagnetic field for lesions
- Osteochondral allograft for ankle OA

**Session III – Tendon and Soft Tissue**
- Basic Science / behind soft tissue repair
- Platelet rich plasma: biology and science
- Tendon repair and healing: the science
- Achilles tendinopathy: radiofrequency treatment / platelet rich plasma / extracorporeal shockwave therapy / FHL transfer
- Polyurethaneurea membrane for repair of Achilles rupture
- Deltoid allograft reconstruction
- Treatment of peroneal tendon pathology

Invited guests and symposia faculty

Nicholas Abidi, MD
Robert Anderson, MD
Judith Baumhauer, MD, MPH
Eric Bluman, MD
Michael Brage, MD
Wen Chao, MD
Christopher Chiodo, MD
Richard Claridge, MD
Brian Cole, MD
James Cook, DVM, PhD
Timothy Daniels, MD
Christopher DiGiovanni, MD
Richard Ferkel, MD
A. Samuel Flemister, MD
Lisa Fortier, DVM, PhD
John Furia, MD
Mark Glazebrook, MD
Alberto Gobbi, MD
Steven Haddad, MD
Carroll Jones, III, MD
John Kennedy, MD
Bert Mandelbaum, MD
Raymond Mento, MD
Selene Parekh, MD
Terrence Philippin, DO
Michael Pinzur, MD
George Quill, MD
Steven Raikin, MD
Lew Schoen, MD
Martin Sullivan, MD
H. Thomas Temple, MD
Ross Wilkins, MD
John Wilkins, MD
Steven Yurubich, MD

**Going Green, Social Media and a new Annual Meeting App**

The program will be provided to attendees in an electronic format both in advance of the meeting and on-site. Printed materials will be kept to a minimum to help lighten your load when you pack to head home.

The use of social media will enhance the connectivity between meeting attendees. For those who tweet, add @aofas and #foot2012 before, during, and after the meeting. For those on Facebook, be sure to let everyone know what you think and post your status on the AOAFAS page.

Attendees will be able to interact simultaneously with speakers during sessions and augment their meeting experience through text, tweet, and the web, similar to last year. Social media will provide meeting participants with a forum to share thoughts on anything and everything, while having access to unfiltered opinions and reviews of both experts and peers alike.

For the first time, the AOAFAS is developing an Annual Meeting app that you can access on your computer, iPad/tablet, or smartphone. Take advantage of this new opportunity to get updated meeting information quickly and efficiently and to learn more about the program, speakers, exhibitors, etc. Release of the app will be announced closer to the meeting.
Vibrant San Diego: Fun and sun in southern California

Local host Sharon Dreeben, MD, invites you to discover what she already knows about the great city of San Diego.

“Join us for an outstanding week in one of the nation’s finest cities. It is the first city of California, home of the first 21 Spanish missions built in the late 1700s,” says Dr. Dreeben. “There is stunning scenery, great weather, extensive activities, and easy access by all means of transportation. This is a wonderful place for adults and families. I look forward to welcoming all Annual Meeting attendees and their guests to my part of the world.”

A visit to San Diego is not easily forgotten. Known as one of the nation’s favorite vacation destinations, San Diego is a top choice for meeting attendees because of its almost perfect climate, easy in and out international airport, and array of superb restaurants.

The San Diego area abounds with countless activities and attractions – the historic Gaslamp Quarter, museums and gardens in Balboa Park, the Embarcadero, authentic Old Town, the world famous San Diego Zoo and its affiliated Wild Animal Park, Sea World, the Stephen Birch Aquarium in nearby La Jolla, ocean kayaking, and so much more. Plan to arrive in San Diego early and then stay after the meeting to take in as much as possible.

The Hilton San Diego Bayfront enjoys a spectacular downtown location. It is a short, 10-minute drive from the San Diego International Airport, just steps from numerous restaurants, shops and local galleries, adjacent to Embarcadero Park and the glistening San Diego Bay, across the street from PETCO Park, home of the San Diego Padres baseball team, and the Hop-on Hop-off Trolley stops right at the front door.

The design of the Hilton Bayfront complements the area’s scenic beauty by maximizing bay views and open space. Several outdoor terraces and the comfortable flow of meeting space provide a relaxed yet functional environment to accommodate all aspects of the Annual Meeting experience.

Biennial Advanced Foot and Ankle Course – Chicago

The biennial Advanced Foot and Ankle Course: Reconstruction and Salvage of Complications will be held May 3-5, 2012 at the Wyndham Chicago Hotel. Few educational opportunities offer such a comprehensive approach to treating foot and ankle disorders and this year’s meeting will be no different.

“We have a terrific lineup of surgeons and cases for our attendees and will focus on advanced techniques, concepts, and hot topics in foot and ankle surgery,” says Course Chair Bruce Sangeorzan, MD. “Material in this course will be presented in an interactive case-based format with no professor-attendee distance. My goal is that the interactive, audience-driven new ‘stump the faculty’ sessions will create a camaraderie and informality that will allow attendees to become comfortable in approaching, discussing, and challenging the ideas and concepts put forth by the presenters.”

The course is designed for orthopaedic surgeons, fellows, and residents who treat acute and chronic foot and ankle conditions and have a sound understanding of the challenges in management of common and complex foot and ankle clinical problems related to trauma, sports injuries, and reconstructive procedures. The course will focus on problems dealing with fractures and reconstruction procedures, including a variety of techniques of managing both acute and chronic foot and ankle problems. Registrants will be encouraged to bring challenging cases of their own to discuss either one-on-one or in a group setting.

Sessions include comprehensive discussions of these topics:

- Ankle
- Biologics
- Diabetes
- The Cavus Foot
- Forefoot / Midfoot
- Journal Club
- Peri Talar
- Subluxation
- Sports
- Talar Lesions
- Trauma and Post Traumatic Reconstruction

Faculty:

Bruce Sangeorzan, MD, Chair
Thomas Lee, MD, Co-Chair
John Anderson, MD
Judith Baumhauer, MD, MPH
Gregory Berlet, MD
Eric Bluman, MD
James Brodsky, MD
Chris Coetzee, MD
Jonathan Deland, MD
Mark Easley, MD
Steven Haddad, MD
Sheldon Lin, MD
Charles Saltzman, MD
Lew Schon, MD
Keith Wapner, MD

For further course details, the complete program, exhibit opportunities, and registration and venue information, please visit www.aofas.org/advancedfoot.
2012 Complete Foot Care Course: Fairfax, Virginia
Mark your calendar – and your treatment team’s calendar – for the biennial Complete Foot Care Course, September 28-29, 2012 in Fairfax, Virginia at the Hyatt at Fair Lakes Hotel. This popular, one of a kind, multidisciplinary course will emphasize the non-surgical team approach to foot and ankle care and is designed for physicians and all other health care professionals involved in foot care.

“This course offers a comprehensive review and a fresh perspective on those conditions commonly seen in foot and ankle as well as in general practice,” says Steven Neufeld, MD, Fairfax, Virginia, course chair. “What makes this course unique is its integration of all aspects of foot and ankle care – making it an important component in the continuing education of your team of nurses, nurse practitioners, medical/physician assistants, orthopaedic technicians, physical therapists, prosthetists/orthotists, and pedorthists.”

Topics will include the evaluation and office treatment of common causes of forefoot, midfoot and hindfoot pain, the assessment of foot mechanics, the aging foot, the role of shoewear and orthotic devices in treating disorders, foot and ankle injuries, and foot complications in the diabetic patient. The faculty will also address basic x-ray interpretation and casting skills. In general sessions, members of the faculty, including physicians, nurses, physical therapists, orthotists, and pedorthists, will discuss their roles in the integrated care of a wide variety of common foot and ankle ailments.

“Comprehensive hands-on afternoon breakout sessions will address aspects of foot and ankle care relevant to each participant’s specific practice and provide a highly interactive environment conducive to learning,” says Dr. Neufeld.

Case presentations will demonstrate treatment principles and facilitate open discussion.

For further course details, the complete program, and registration and venue information, please visit www.aofas.org/completefoot or phone 800-235-4855 or 847-698-4654 (outside US).

EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES Current as of 1-31-12
AOFAS Members: Login to www.aofas.org for convenient online registration at member rates.

May 3-5, 2012
AOFAS ADVANCED FOOT AND ANKLE COURSE
Course Chair: Bruce Sangeorzan, MD
Wyndham Chicago – Chicago, Illinois
www.aofas.org/advancedfoot

June 20-23, 2012
AOFAS ANNUAL MEETING 2012
Program Chair: Gregory Berlet, MD
Pre-meeting Course: Regenerative Strategies and Emerging Technologies
Course Chairs: Sheldon Lin, MD, and Eric Giza, MD
Hilton San Diego Bayfront – San Diego, California
Information and registration: www.aofas.org/annualmeeting

September 28-29, 2012
AOFAS COMPLETE FOOT CARE COURSE
Course Chair: Steven Neufeld, MD
Hyatt Fairfax at Fair Lakes – Fairfax, Virginia
Information and registration available spring 2012
www.aofas.org/completefoot

September 29-30, 2012
MASTERS EXPERIENCE: FOOT & ANKLE ARTHROSCOPY
Sponsors: AANA and AOFAS
Orthopaedic Learning Center – Rosemont, Illinois
www.aana.org

November 29 – December 1, 2012
INTERNATIONAL ORTHOPAEDIC FOOT & ANKLE SYMPOSIUM
Sponsors: AAOS and AOFAS
Directors: Steven Haddad, MD; Charles Saltzman, MD; Robert Anderson, MD; Caio Nery, MD
Loews Royal Pacific – Orlando, Florida
www.aaos.org

AOFAS WEBINAR SERIES • www.aofas.org/webinars (8:00 – 9:30 pm CT)

April 17, 2012
WEBINAR #2: SPORTS
Moderator: Ned Amendola, MD

May 15, 2012
WEBINAR #3: CODING / BILLING
Moderator: Peter Mangone, MD

July 17, 2012
WEBINAR #4: TRAUMA
Moderator: William McGarvey, MD

August 14, 2012
WEBINAR #5: ANKLE ARTHROPLASTY
Moderator: Chris Coetzee, MD

September 11, 2012
WEBINAR #6: FLATFOOT
Moderator: Brian Tooian, MD

October 16, 2012
WEBINAR #7: OITE
Moderator: Selene Parekh, MD

November 6, 2012
WEBINAR #8: LESSER MTP & HAMMERTOES
Moderator: Ian Alexander, MD

December 18, 2012
WEBINAR #9: ACHILLES / TENDON DISORDERS / TENDINOPATHY
Moderator: Eric Giza, MD

The AOFAS Webinar Series 2012 is supported by an educational grant from Arthrex.
President’s message continued from page 1

traveled to Haiti in October and treated more than 50 patients needing foot and ankle surgical expertise. We plan to continue our support in Haiti with more opportunities for volunteer service. Meanwhile plans are being made for our annual humanitarian outreach project in Vietnam this summer.

Since the AOFAS meeting in Keystone, we have continued to broaden our exposure within organized orthopaedic medicine. Brian Toolan has been nominated by the AOFAS for a position on the RRC representing the AOFAS. Michael Brage, Scott Ellis, and Michael Pinzur have been selected to represent the AOFAS at the AAOS Patient Safety Summit in August 2012. Under the leadership of Greg Berlet, AOFAS Specialty Day in San Francisco is slated to be a terrific educational experience. Topics will focus on complications and include focused sessions on ankle and calcaneal fractures, syndesmosis, sports injuries, ankle fusion and arthroplasty, bunions, and flatfoot. It WILL be fun and it WILL be exciting. I hope to see all of you there.

The AOFAS Annual Meeting will be held in June this year in sunny San Diego. Sharon Dreeben, our local host, guarantees great weather. Pre-meeting Course Chairs Sheldon Lin and Eric Giza have organized thought leaders in bone, cartilage, tendon, and ligament technology to discuss the basic science advances relevant to foot and ankle. A total of 337 abstracts – a record number – have been submitted this year. Greg Berlet and the Program Committee have a tough job ahead of them to select abstracts for presentations and posters. It does my heart good to have so many residents, fellows, and foot/ankle researchers submitting abstracts for our meeting.

This year’s Gala Event at the Annual Meeting will include a unique opportunity. Under the leadership of OEF President Hodges Davis, the OEF will hold a fundraising auction: “Steppin’ Up for the Cause.” Attendees will have an opportunity to bid on sports tickets, vacation home stays, and many other special items donated by AOFAS members to support OEF initiatives. Plan to come, dig deep, enjoy the bidding wars, and have some fun.

Your AOFAS is advancing the curve in foot and ankle education, research, and humanitarian initiatives. Through the hard work of your Society members, WE ARE influencing the future.

Judy Baumhauer, MD, MPH
AOFAS

June 8, 2012 – Abstract Submission Deadline: www.aofas.org/specialtyday
For Specialty Day 2013 (March 23 – Chicago, Illinois)

AOFAS Specialty Day CME Certificates

Your CME transcripts – AAOS and AOFAS – will be automatically updated for attending the Specialty Day program on February 11, 2012 in San Francisco by early April. If you need to print a certificate before this posting date, go to www.aaos.org/am2012 and follow the Certificate of Attendance link under Annual Meeting Information. Your certificate will be available for viewing and printing once you have entered your AAOS ID and password. For assistance with your ID and password please contact the AAOS.

AOFAS sets up Foot & Ankle Data Center

Pilot project to launch in spring

Understanding the outcomes of treatment is a fundamental step to improving the care of patients. Outcomes research in foot and ankle surgery has thus far been conducted by only a small number of surgeons at academic centers with the resources to conduct such research. The federal government, health care payers, and professional societies have mandated that in the near future all practitioners will be able to evaluate their outcomes. Before this can occur, the infrastructure to collect outcomes data must be created for practitioners in all practice settings. To that end, the AOFAS is establishing a Foot & Ankle Data Center which will allow its members to collect outcomes data for their patients and to enroll patients in multi-center clinical studies.

Pilot study

As a first step, the AOFAS is sponsoring a pilot project to assess the feasibility of collecting outcomes data on a large scale for foot and ankle procedures. The pilot project will launch this spring with 10 sites across the country each collecting preoperative and six-month postoperative outcomes data on 30 patients for the operative treatment of bunions, great toe osteoarthritis, hammertoes, ankle arthritis, ankle instability, and flatfeet.

Data will be collected using the Patient-Reported Outcomes Measurement Information System (PROMIS), which uses computer adaptive testing (CAT) to evaluate surgical outcomes and health-related quality of life from patient reported responses. CAT questions are dynamically presented such that an objective assessment of the patient outcome can be obtained in very few questions and with minimal physician input.

Goals

The short-term goals of this project are: (1) to assess the feasibility of using CAT, (2) to optimize the process of questionnaire completion, and (3) to develop the bank of questions that will be used for future outcomes research. The long-term objective is to develop the infrastructure for patient outcome assessment such that foot and ankle surgeons may evaluate and report their outcomes for both practice evaluation and research. The Data Center will provide this infrastructure and facilitate participation in multi-center trials, even for surgeons in practices with limited resources available to devote to research.

Foot & Ankle Data Center Managerial Board appointed

Management and oversight for the pilot study and future initiatives are the responsibility of the newly established Foot & Ankle Data Center Managerial Board, chaired by Kenneth Hunt, MD. The Data Center has been established by the AOFAS Board of Directors, and funding for the pilot study has been provided by the Outreach & Education Fund (OEF). The other members of the Data Center Managerial Board are: Ian Alexander, MD; Judith Baumhauer, MD, MPH, AOFAS president; Christopher Chiodo, MD, Evidence-Based Medicine Committee chair; Timothy Daniels, MD, Research Committee chair; L. Daniel Latt, MD, PhD; Charles Saltzman, MD; and Nelson SooHoo, MD.

www.aofas.org/specialtyday
The front line on health policy debates

At the American Medical Association (AMA) Interim House of Delegates Meeting held November 12-15, 2011 in New Orleans, physicians from every state and specialty gathered to set policy on issues of utmost importance to the nation’s doctors and their patients. Michael Aronow, MD, AOFAS Alternate Delegate, was among orthopaedic surgeons serving in the House representing the AAOS, orthopaedic subspecialty organizations including the AOFAS, and state medical associations. David Teuscher, MD, AOFAS member and AAOS Board member/Board of Councilors chair, represented the Texas Medical Association as an alternate delegate. Orthopaedic hand surgeon Andrew Gurman, MD, serves as speaker of the House of Delegates.

Issues abound

Resolutions were debated and policies adopted on a broad range of issues, including advocacy for changes in the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act; Medicare payment reform and a permanent fix to the Sustainable Growth Rate (SGR) formula; Medicaid issues; private contracting; CMS audits of electronic health records; antitrust reform to level the playing field in negotiations between health insurance companies and physicians; graduate medical education financing; national drug shortages; ICD-10 coding; and invasive procedures involving fluoroscopy performed by non-physicians. For comprehensive reports on the AMA meeting, visit www.ama-assn.org/ama/pub/meeting/reports-resolutions-listing.shtml.

With its extensive health policy and government affairs resources, the AMA advocates in the legislative and regulatory arenas on behalf of physicians and their patients. The AMA’s Litigation Center focuses on medical liability reform and a range of issues in the courts. The AMA also has a voice in medical education and residency training and provides access to a large number of practice management tools. The AMAs Scope of Practice Partnership (of which the AOFAS is a member) works with state medical associations and national medical specialty societies on scope of practice issues.

A seat at the table

“Involvement in organized medicine and having a seat in the House of Delegates is very important for the AOFAS. The AOFAS works in partnership with the AMA and other organizations to increase the Society’s influence and if you are not an AMA member, I would encourage you to join,” says Dr. Aronow. “While the AOFAS and individual members may not agree with every position the AMA has taken, the AOFAS has been extremely effective in promoting the interests of the AOFAS, its members, and their patients.”


Physicians, nurses, and scope of practice

A key issue at the Scope of Practice Summit was a “leaked” Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) “draft” report on a series of meetings during June, July, and August 2011. Representatives of six physician and six nursing organizations discussed the October 2010 Institute of Medicine (IOM) report on the Future of Nursing and the interrelationship of physicians and nurses providing patient-centered care.

The leaked RWJF draft report proposed a collaborative relationship, rather than a supervisory relationship between physicians and nurses, with recommendations not universally accepted by the six physician groups, including: “old concepts, such as the physician being the ‘captain of the ship’ are no longer relevant within a team-based care approach” and “the term ‘supervision’ should be eliminated from statutory regulations for scope of practice legislation as it relates to APRNs.” Although the leaked draft report suggests that the six physician organizations involved agreed to support patient care delivery models led by nurses, delegates for these organizations stated that the leaked report was not the only draft report that had been prepared, did not reflect the overall consensus of the meetings, had not been approved by the leadership of their organizations, and was likely leaked for scope of practice legislative advocacy.

While some nursing organizations have supported non-restricted, independent, non-physician supervised practice by nurses, including advanced practice registered nurses (APRNs) and those with the Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) degree, the AMA has supported the traditional model of the physician-led health care team. In response to the RWJF report, the AMA House of Delegates adopted four recommendations: 1) to continue to recognize that non-physician providers are a valuable part of a physician-led health care team; 2) to advocate that physicians are best qualified by their education and training to lead the health care team; 3) to communicate opposition to the RWJF report through the AMA Scope of Practice Partnership; and 4) to “call on the RWJF to publically announce that the report entitled, ‘Common Ground: An Agreement between Nurse and Physician Leaders on Interprofessional Collaboration for the Future of Patient Care’ was premature; was not released officially; was not signed; and was not adopted by the participants.”

Dr. Baumhauer receives Athena Award

Judith Baumhauer, MD, MPH, was honored on January 19 by the Women’s Council of the Rochester Business Alliance as the recipient of its 26th Annual Athena Award. The award honors achievements of outstanding and professional business women, donating achievements within the community, professional excellence, and assistance to help develop professional excellence and leadership among women.

She was cited for breaking gender barriers in orthopaedic surgery, participating in the national discussion on health care reform, mentoring young faculty members, recent medical mission trips to Vietnam and India, and her research at the University of Rochester Medical Center.

She was described by Bradford Berk, MD, PhD, CEO of the University of Rochester Medical Center, in an article for the local Rochester Democrat and Chronicle as a “Rising Star” noting her recent firsts as the first female president of the AOFAS, first woman elected president of the Eastern Orthopaedic Association, and president-elect of the American Board of Orthopaedic Surgery, where she will be its first female president.
OEF support – 10 years and going strong

The OEF is the funding organization for the AOFAS that enables it to offer vital programs in research, education, and humanitarian service. Thanks to the generous contributions of individuals and industry, key initiatives have come to fruition. Detailed below are just some of the accomplishments the OEF has achieved since its inception in 2001. The OEF is making a difference.

Research – expanding knowledge for tomorrow’s practice

The AOFAS/OEF Educational Outreach Programs are an investment in the future of the profession. Special opportunities are offered to residents, fellows, and young physicians in practice to expand their education and training in foot and ankle care and to support them in their career choice.

- Resident Review Course
- Resident Scholarship Program
- Resident Lecture Series
- Visiting Professor Program
- Traveling Fellowship Program

Service – opening doors for volunteer service

The AOFAS/OEF Overseas Outreach Projects to Vietnam and Haiti open doors for service, outreach and professional growth. AOFAS members have worked side-by-side with orthopaedic colleagues in clinics and ORs in Vietnam and Haiti. To date, volunteers have provided:

- Free life-changing foot and ankle surgery for more than 700 disabled children and adults in Vietnam and more than 90 disabled children and adults in Haiti
- More than 2,000 patient visits in clinics in Vietnam

Why donate?

There are many reasons why donors choose to support the OEF. Here are just a few AOFAS members who have expressed their thoughts.

- “The AOFAS has been responsible for nurturing many of my professional goals. The OEF insures the ongoing ability for our professional community to provide those same opportunities to the next generation.” Michael Pinzur, MD
- “We all are abundantly blessed and fortunate. The OEF gives us all a way to reach out to those less fortunate. I know the OEF has made us (AOFAS) a more impactful organization and an example to other subspecialty groups.” Leland McCluskey, MD
- “We have had a record number of fellowship applications this year. I believe this is a direct result of the OEF Resident Scholarship Program (Summer Meeting). I want to continue to invest in the future of our profession.” Paul Juliano, MD
- “We all stand on the shoulders of the orthopaedic giants who came before us. While we cannot all be “giants” in our field, we can nonetheless contribute to the research and education of those who will practice after we are gone. Giving to the OEF allows me to meet this obligation.” David Richardson, MD
- “Over the years I have found contributing to funds such as the Orthopaedic Foot & Ankle Education & Outreach Fund is not only gratifying for what they accomplish – in this case furthering our educational and research projects and humanitarian missions – but also because it is simply “the right thing to do”. I would strongly encourage all of my orthopaedic foot and ankle colleagues to support this great fund. I can guarantee it will foster advances in your specialty and you will feel good about what you have done.” Timothy Fitzgibbons, MD

Encourage residents to apply: 2012 Resident Scholarships

Seventy-seven percent of last year’s Resident Scholars said that attending the Annual Meeting solidified or enhanced their decision to pursue a career as a foot and ankle specialist.

Last year, the AOFAS awarded 31 scholarships to PGY2 and PGY3 orthopaedic residents to attend the Annual Meeting. The program offers residents an opportunity to attend this year’s meeting in San Diego, learn more about foot and ankle surgery, and network with leading foot and ankle surgeons.

The application deadline is March 1, 2012. The application is available on the AOFAS website at www.aofas.org under Medical Professionals. For more information contact Peggy Reilly, Outreach Programs Manager, at preilly@aofas.org or 847-384-4379.
Thank You to 2011 OEF individual donors

The AOFAS and the OEF gratefully acknowledge the following individuals for their charitable donations to the OEF in support of research, educational outreach, and humanitarian service.

The information below reflects donations made between January 1, 2011 and December 31, 2011, either directly to the OEF, or to the Orthopaedic Research & Education Foundation (OREF) with a designated gift to the OEF.

The AOFAS and OEF gratefully acknowledge gifts received. The AOFAS and OEF apologize if your name has been accidentally omitted or reported incorrectly; if you notice an error, please notify the AOFAS Executive Office.

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IMO – In Memory Of

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Thank You to 2011 OEF corporate donors

The AOFAS and OEF gratefully acknowledge corporations that have generously contributed to advance the mission of the AOFAS through their donations directly to the OEF or designated through the OREF between January 1, 2011 and December 31, 2011.

SILVER LEVEL: $50,000 – $99,999

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Roll-A-Bout

Your contributions matter

Just imagine how much more could be done with increased support. Every dollar helps. There are two ways to give to the OEF:

1. **Directly to the OEF**: [www.aofas.org/oef](http://www.aofas.org/oef). Your full donation goes to the OEF and will be acknowledged in the appropriate level of giving.

2. **Through the OREF** with designation to the AOFAS/OEF: [www.oref.org/aofas](http://www.oref.org/aofas). Gifts up to $1,000: 50% goes to the OREF; 50% to the OEF. Gifts of $1,000 and more: minimum of $500 goes to the OREF with the balance to the OEF. Only the portion designated for the OEF will be acknowledged in the appropriate level of giving.
Anterior Tendon Transfers
1. Posterior tibial tendon transfer through the interosseous membrane for foot drop
   CPT 27691 – Transfer or transplant of single tendon (with muscle redirection or rerouting); deep (e.g., anterior tibial or posterior tibial through interosseous space, flexor digitorum longus, flexor hallucis longus, or peroneal tendon to midfoot or hindfoot)

2. Flexor digitorum longus or flexor hallucis longus transfer through interosseous membrane for foot drop (often used to augment PTT transfer)
   CPT 27691 – Transfer or transplant of single tendon (with muscle redirection or rerouting); deep (e.g., anterior tibial or posterior tibial through interosseous space, flexor digitorum longus, flexor hallucis longus, or peroneal tendon to midfoot or hindfoot)
   CPT 27692 – Transfer or transplant of single tendon (with muscle redirection or rerouting); each additional tendon (List separately in addition to code for primary procedure)
   (Use 27692 in conjunction with 27690 and 27691)

3. Extensor digitorum longus transfer to midfoot
   CPT 27690 – Transfer or transplant of single tendon (with muscle redirection or rerouting); superficial (e.g., anterior tibial extensors into midfoot)

Split Tendon Transfers
1. Split anterior tibial tendon transfer for the equinovarus foot
   CPT 27691 – Transfer or transplant of single tendon (with muscle redirection or rerouting); deep (e.g., anterior tibial or posterior tibial through interosseous space, flexor digitorum longus, flexor hallucis longus, or peroneal tendon to midfoot or hindfoot)

Posterior Tendon Transfers
1. Flexor hallucis longus transfer to calcaneus for chronic Achilles rupture or insertional Achilles tendonitis
   CPT 27691 – Transfer or transplant of single tendon (with muscle redirection or rerouting); superficial (e.g., anterior tibial or posterior tibial through interosseous space, flexor digitorum longus, flexor hallucis longus, or peroneal tendon to midfoot or hindfoot)

2. Transfer of plantaris tendon for treatment of acute or chronic Achilles tendon rupture
   CPT 27690 – Transfer or transplant of single tendon (with muscle redirection or rerouting); superficial (e.g., anterior tibial extensors into midfoot)
   CPT 27652 – Repair, primary, open or percutaneous, ruptured Achilles tendon with graft (includes obtaining graft) [Note: Repair of Achilles with graft is similar. But if you use the plantaris, it is used for substance and not its motor power].

Medial Tendon Transfers
1. Flexor digitorum longus tendon to navicular for flatfoot correction
   CPT 27691 – Transfer or transplant of single tendon (with muscle redirection or rerouting); deep (e.g., anterior tibial or posterior tibial through interosseous space, flexor digitorum longus, flexor hallucis longus, or peroneal tendon to midfoot or hindfoot)

2. Advance posterior tibial tendon (Kidner procedure)
   CPT 28238 – Reconstruction (advancement), posterior tibial tendon with excision of accessory tarsal navicular bone (e.g., Kidner type procedure)

Distal Tendon Transfers
1. Jones tendon transfer for cock-up deformity of the first metatarsophalangeal joint
   CPT 28760 – Arthrodesis, with extensor hallucis longus transfer to first metatarsal neck, great toe, interphalangeal joint (e.g., Jones type procedure)

2. Flexible hammertoe correction with flexor digitorum longus transfer
   CPT 28285 – Correction, hammertoe (e.g., interphalangeal fusion, partial or total phalangectomy)
MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

2012 Dues – Auto renewals and e-prompt results

More than 15% of the AOFAS membership signed up last year for the Auto Dues Renewal option, with many opting for their OEF contribution to also be automatically charged annually. That percentage has steadily grown as members paying their 2012 dues online have now opted into the program for future payments.

With more members choosing the auto renewal option and others paying their dues directly online, the Society did not mail out paper invoices for 2012. Instead, all current AOFAS members were prompted by membership category via a late November e-mail that their dues – with no increase for 2012 – could now be paid online or via check. Any member needing a dedicated paper or electronic invoice was advised to submit that request and an invoice would be readily provided.

If you did not receive the e-mail notice and/or require a personalized invoice in order to make payment, please write to LBierman@aofas.org or call Lois Bierman, Director of Membership & Marketing, at 800-235-4855 or 847-698-4654 (outside US). The deadline for paying the 2012 annual dues is February 1.

Members in the process of elevating will be invoiced at their new membership category rate in late February and have an extended due date. Note that Fellow Members in a fellowship program that participated in the AOFAS-sponsored match will have their 2012 dues paid by a grant provided by the Outreach & Education Fund (OEF). Fellow Members who completed training in a program that participated in the AOFAS-sponsored match and have applied to elevate to the next membership category will have half their 2012 dues paid by an additional grant from the OEF.

New members will be billed for their 2012 dues in late February and have an extended due date pending a final vote of approval during the Business Meeting held during Specialty Day on February 11, 2012.

Thank You to AOFAS members who …

• paid their 2012 annual dues by the February 1 deadline
• signed up for the annual auto dues renewal option (or auto dues renewal PLUS auto OEF contribution)
• sponsored a new member applicant
• provided an updated work and/or preferred mailing address to keep their member profile current
• added their website to their AOFAS profile and/or added a link to the AOFAS from their website
• updated their AAOS online directory listing to include foot and ankle as an anatomical specialty

In Memoriam

AOFAS remembers James Carr, MD

It is with great sadness that we announce the loss of our friend and colleague, James Bradley Carr, MD, 57, of Roanoke, Virginia, who passed away December 31, 2011. Dr. Carr was a beloved father, dedicated husband, and world-renowned orthopaedic surgeon.

He was born in Evanston, Illinois, attended Colorado State University for his undergraduate studies, and graduated first in his medical school class at Northwestern University. He went on to complete a residency in orthopaedic surgery at Northwestern University, followed by a fellowship in orthopaedic traumatology at the University of Washington, Seattle.

He taught and educated medical students, interns, residents, and fellows at the University of Missouri, Medical College of Virginia, and University of South Carolina. In his lifetime, he contributed to the field of orthopaedic surgery through numerous research projects, published papers, and multiple textbook chapters.

Dr. Carr was recognized as one of the world’s leading experts in orthopaedic surgery and traumatology and has taught at orthopaedic meetings throughout the world. Dr. Carr has been a well-loved and respected member of the AOFAS, AAOS, and OTA.

While Dr. Carr has been awarded numerous honors in his lifetime, he will be most remembered for being a kind, humble, and selfless man, who served his family, friends, and community with his whole heart. He will be greatly missed by all those who knew him.

John G. Anderson, MD

See Membership Matters Classified Ad

SEEKING FOOT & ANKLE SURGEON

Midwest Orthopaedics at Rush (MOR) is nationally recognized as a leader in comprehensive orthopaedic services including sports medicine, joint, hand, foot & ankle, spine, cartilage restoration, pediatrics, trauma, orthopaedic oncology, and shoulder care. The orthopaedic program at Rush University Medical Center is ranked the #1 program in IL & 8th nationally by US News & World Report. MOR is currently seeking an exceptional foot & ankle orthopaedic surgeon interested in expanding the foot & ankle specialty within our group. Candidate must be an MD, Fellowship trained & eligible for, or in possession of, IL Medical License. For more information about us, visit www.rushortho.com. Forward Curriculum Vitae to Marcia Siguenza, VP of HR. Midwest Orthopaedics at Rush, 1 Westbrook Corporate Center, Ste 240, Westchester, IL 60154. Ph 708-236-2662; Fax 708-492-5662; Email msiguenza@rushortho.com.

The best referrals come from members. The next new member application deadline is June 1, 2012. If you know an orthopaedic foot and ankle surgeon who is not yet an AOFAS Member, please have them contact Lois Bierman, Director of Membership & Marketing, at LBierman@aofas.org or 847-384-4832.

Membership questions or needs: Lois Bierman, Director of Membership & Marketing, LBierman@aofas.org or 847-384-4382