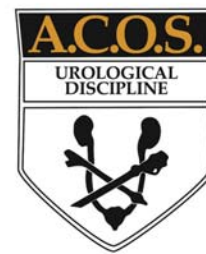
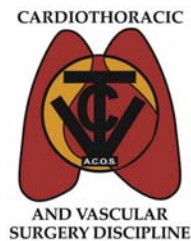


American College of Osteopathic Surgeons



2014

Annual Report

About the College



Our Mission

The American College of Osteopathic Surgeons is committed to assuring excellence in osteopathic surgical care through education, advocacy, leadership development, and the fostering of professional and personal relationships.

Our Vision

ACOS is the primary organizational home for osteopathic surgeons. We provide valuable resources and education in an environment that fosters a strong sense of community so our members are better equipped to deliver the highest quality of care to their patients.

Our Leaders

Richard D. Kimmel, D.O., FACOS – President
Valerie L. Sheridan, D.O., FACOS – President Elect
Adam B. Smith, D.O., FACOS – Past President
Dawn R. Tartaglione, D.O., FACOS – Sec..Treasurer
Larry G. Armstrong, D.O., FACOS – Governor
Scott A. Blickensderfer, D.O., FACOS – Governor
Bruce T.M. Chau, D.O., FACOS – Governor
Michael I. Hanzley, D.O. – Resident Section Rep.

John A. Kotis, D.O., FACOS – Governor
Lane M. Lee, D.O., FACOS – Governor
Ray L. Morrison, D.O., FACOS – Governor
Todd A. Nickloes, D.O., FACOS – Governor
Marc E. Rosen, D.O., FACOS – Governor
Elizabeth M. Tucker, D.O., FACOS – Governor
Stephen J. Yanoshak, D.O., FACOS – Governor



Member Address

We are proud to report that 2014 was another successful year for the American College of Osteopathic Surgeons. Our finances are solid with consistent revenue from membership dues and meeting registrations in addition to healthy investments. Our future looks bright and we are continuing to grow.

Several accomplishments were added to our record this year. Notably, we worked to spread public awareness and knowledge of osteopathic surgery through production of a popular video series, navigated the changing tides of the healthcare industry, represented the profession in the ACGME merger process, and continued to increase advocacy efforts and member communications. Establishing strategic partnerships and professional relationships was another focal point of the year. College leaders engaged regularly with the American Osteopathic Association (AOA) and other key organizations to broaden our representation and consideration in policy efforts. Partnerships were also formed with other associations to strengthen our advocacy efforts by combining resources to amplify and increase our presence before state and federal legislators. To further expound upon these efforts, the College will be adding a new department in January that will focus solely on advocacy and we are preparing sessions for the 2015 Annual Clinical Assembly designed to teach and encourage member participation in grassroots advocacy. Additional engagements will be made available remotely throughout the year as this initiative is sure to attract a high level of member interest. In preparation, we have begun the expansion of our technological resources which will not only allow for distance advocacy education, but also more continuing medical education opportunities. Using this technology, we presented our first webinar in July, "Sunshine Act: Open Payments Reporting," hosted by Robert M. Portman, J.D., M.P.P., a health care attorney with Powers, Pyles, Sutter and Verville, P.C., and outside legal counsel for ACOS. He discussed the requirements of the Physician Payments Sunshine Act (PPSA), the information that was to become publicly available on the CMS Open Payments Website, the impact the rule would have on ACOS members, your rights, and how to prepare for the implementation. Attendees earned 1 AOA category 2-B CME credit for participating. As we move forward, we will build upon these successes just as we do each year and we encourage you to offer feedback at anytime. Please let us know how we can better serve you.

In all, 2014 was an extraordinary year for the medical profession and for the College. There were many changes in graduate medical education and the healthcare environment overall. The ACOS worked to ensure that the concerns of surgeons and surgical residency programs were heard by the AOA. While we would have liked to be at the table for the discussions, the AOA was the only party with direct involvement in negotiations with ACGME. There are still many unanswered questions and the situation continues to evolve. The ACOS nominated members to serve on the ACGME board and the applicable surgical review committees. We will remain persistent in our attempts to be involved during the implementation phases to ensure our specialty is adequately recognized and members' concerns are heard. Be assured that we will continue to convey the best interests of the profession in all circumstances. Our committed volunteers and staff strive to advance the profession and bring value for your membership. We welcome the tasks that lie ahead and are well positioned for more success in 2015.

Education

- Approved seven new programs:
 - 4 General Surgery
 - 2 Surgery Critical Care
 - 1 General Vascular Surgery
- This created 71+ new positions.
- 15 existing programs reviewed for continued approval, 5 with 0 deficiencies. 4 programs requested and were granted 11 new positions.
- 5% increase in General Surgery In-Service Examination participant rate = 585.
- Reviewed 595 resident annual reports.
- 140 residents became program complete.
- The Surgical Educators Seminar provided direction for programs to adhere to for the ACGME accreditation process.

Meetings

- Over 1,200 attendees joined us at the 2014 Annual Clinical Assembly (ACA).
- Attendance grew by 3% for the General Surgery In-depth Review Seminar.
- Implemented a new committee designed to manage all continuing medical education programs offered by ACOS.
- Increased sponsorships at the ACA.

Advocacy

- Partnered with like-minded medical societies and organizations to push for a full repeal of SGR.
- Worked with other associations to identify narrowing provider networks.
- Met with AOA and other osteopathic specialty societies to review the memo of understanding (MOU) and addressed concerns at the AOA House of Delegates meeting.
- Issued e-alerts about time sensitive matters and important regulatory actions affecting members.
- Published monthly articles in the ACOS Newsletter about legislative actions and related policy matters that are of member concern.
- Strengthened relationships with leaders at the AOA and other organizations.

Finance

- Dues income increased 6%.
- Investment incomes increased 14%.
- Net assets increased by 15%.
- Investments were reviewed to ensure steady growth, future potential, and portfolio diversification.
- Financials were audited by Rogers & Company and found to be accurate.

Membership

- Continued to grow with a 5.5% increase in members from 2013 now totaling 2,844.
- Completed a technology inventory for the disaster preparedness plan.
- Hosted the following events at the 2014 Annual Clinical Assembly:
 - The SOSA speed mentoring program that connects students with ACOS members.
 - Brought back the Women Surgeons Forum to much acclaim and large attendance.

Communications

- Offered the first ACOS webinar, “Physician Payment Sunshine Act: Open Payments Reporting.”
- Created the ACOS Trust Fund brochure to share significant Trust Fund activities.
- Continued to increase member communications and advocacy efforts.
- Spread awareness about osteopathic surgery through our new video series.
- Expanded social media presence. Now 327 Twitter followers and 403 Facebook likes. Launched the ACOS YouTube channel.

Staff

- Linda Ayers, Chief Executive Officer
- Brandon Roberts, Director of Finance and Administration
- Don Kaveny, Director of Postdoctoral Education
- Susan Rall, Assistant Director of Postdoctoral Education
- Sonjya Johnson, Director of Membership and Recruitment
- Jennifer Colwell, Director of Meetings and Continuing Education
- Allison Hamrick, Manager of Marketing and Communication
- Jessika Brown, Office Administrator