

SUPPORTING THE OSTEOPATHIC SURGICAL COMMUNITY



2020 IN REVIEW

SURGERY IN THE TIME OF COVID-19



ACOS Staff

Acting CEO & Chief Operating Officer
Sonjya Johnson, CAE

Senior Director, Education and Events
Stephanie Santini, CMP

Director, Finance and Operations
Douglas Holbrook, CPA

Associate Director, Health Policy
Carter Alleman, J.D.

Associate Director, Marketing and Communications
Melanie Jones, MBA

Manager, Membership Services
Jennifer Peterson

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OUR CORE PURPOSE

Excellence in osteopathic surgical care.

Our Mission

The ACOS is committed to promoting excellence in osteopathic surgical care through education, advocacy, leadership development, and the fostering of professional and personal relationships.

Our Vision

To be the primary organizational home for all osteopathic surgeons while providing valuable resources, education, and uniting a strong community base that helps our members deliver the highest quality care to their patients.

Our Core Values

HONESTY AND INTEGRITY

Demonstrated by honesty, professionalism, and transparency in communication and actions.

ADAPTATION

Demonstrated by visionary, inspiring, and realistic leadership; responsive to an ever-evolving environment.

SURGICAL EXCELLENCE

Demonstrated by an enduring commitment to promote and support the highest quality osteopathic and compassionate surgical care.



2020 IN REVIEW

COVID-19. ELECTIVE SURGERIES PAUSED.
THE WORK OF THE COLLEGE CONTINUED.

Board of Governors



President

Eugene W. Laveroni, Jr., D.O.,
FACOS, DFACOS

President-Elect

Christopher A. Reeder, D.O.,
FACOS, FACS

Past President

Larry G. Armstrong, D.O.,
FACOS, FACS

Secretary-Treasurer

Kristen J. Conrad-Schnetz,
D.O., FACOS

Governors

David L. Acuna, D.O., FACOS

J. Bracken Burns, Jr., D.O.,
FACOS

Mark W. Byrge, D.O., FACOS

Stuart J.D. Chow, D.O., FACOS

Benjamin Lam, D.O., FACOS

Nancy Jean Lobby, D.O., FACOS

Francesco T. Mangano, D.O.,
FACOS

Jamie M. Moenster, D.O.,
FACOS

Janie L. Myers, D.O.,
FACOS, FACS

J. Franklin Oaks, Jr., D.O.,
MHA, FACOS

Hiren N. Patel, D.O., FACOS

Chad Michael Robbins, D.O.,
FACOS

At-Large Executive Committee

W. Britt Zimmerman, D.O.,
FACOS

Resident Member

Christina Colosimo, D.O.

Student Member

Sara Buckley

In a year unparalleled in healthcare, I want to thank you for your membership in the American College of Osteopathic Surgeons. The pandemic created challenges that we have never experienced. Yet, as I reflect on all that transpired throughout 2020, though there is still much work to be done, there is also much to celebrate.

I want to share what you, as members, have enabled the College to accomplish during this tumultuous year.

The first in-person conference that was to be hosted by the ACOS was the General Surgery In-depth Review (IDR). This year's IDR was scheduled for April 22nd through April 25th in St. Louis, Missouri. This would be the first in-person meeting that had to pivot due to COVID. AND PIVOT IT DID!

The General Surgery IDR Committee moved quickly to deliver the same content on-demand that would have been delivered in-person. Residents preparing for their boards and members looking for quality content to earn CME credits found what they were looking for in the 2020 VIRTUAL ACOS General Surgery In-depth Review. Originally concerned that this new format may not generate the very high level of interest and participation that we typically see, we were extremely pleased to see the same high level of interest. In fact, we had a RECORD NUMBER of registrants to this year's IDR!

This spring we expanded our advocacy initiatives and joined with 11 other professional surgical organizations to form the Surgical Care Coalition, which gives a unified voice to approximately 150,000 surgeons in the U.S., and their patients. The Surgical Care Coalition successfully fought to stop the proposed cuts to Medicare included in The Medicare Physician Fee Schedule Proposed Rule for 2021 issued by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS).

About a year ago, the College began its work with a research and strategy firm, Association Laboratory, to help us develop customized and sustainable programs and services to meet your personal and professional goals. Through this research project, we are identifying what you need and expect from the College and how we can align our strategic vision to meet those needs. In fact, as an organization we have learned a great deal about ourselves, and ACOS committees are already taking these lessons to heart in their planning to improve our organization in the upcoming year.

As the year progressed, it became obvious that our beloved Annual Clinical Assembly would need to move to an online format. Again, you stepped up to the plate. And we held our **first ever Virtual** Annual Clinical Assembly. With a lot of hard work from our committees and staff we delivered content across our six surgical disciplines and celebrated our members and the osteopathic surgical community with our Annual Ceremonial Conclave, where we welcomed 83 new Fellows and our very first group of 14 Distinguished Fellows of the College. We congratulate you all!

Our students and residents were learning their surgical specialties at a time of unimaginable stress, higher than normal death rates, and a scrambling to identify ways to treat patients, support their attendings and all staff in a way that enabled their patients to return home. I was so heartened to learn that shortly after a Mentor Match email was sent this fall, requesting mentors for our students, residents and new member physicians in practice, we received responses from 50 of you, who volunteered to mentor this critical group of members who are the future of our College. This resilience and intentional commitment to support our fellow osteopathic surgeons, is a shining example of the importance of ACOS membership.

In my inaugural speech I asked, "What makes an Osteopathic surgeon?" And I answered, "We are a group that challenges conventional medicine, using all the tools available to us in addition to our hands." No matter our discipline, there is a reason we chose the osteopathic path to practice surgery. And it is imperative that we do everything in our power to support the next generation of osteopathic surgeons and each other.

None of our accomplishments in 2020 would have been possible without the determination, support and participation of our members. Thank you. And especially in 2020, the College extends a deep thanks to our members for caring for your patients, hospitals, and practices in ways none of us could have imagined.



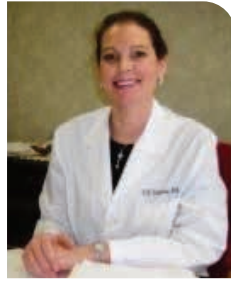
Eugene W. Laveroni, Jr.,
D.O., FACOS, DFACOS
ACOS President

Award Winners

ACOS Award Winners



Humanitarian Award:
Melissa S. Richardson,
D.O., FACOS



Guy D. Beaumont, Jr., FACOS
Award of Academic Excellence:
Constance P. Cashen,
D.O., FACOS



Charles L. Ballinger
Distinguished Osteopathic
Surgeon Award:
Stephen T. Fisher, D.O.,
FACOS



Orel F. Martin Medal:
Dawn R. Tartaglione,
D.O., FACOS

Resident Achievement Award Winners

Sean Patrick Martin, D.O.

General Surgery

Program Director: Luciano DiMarco, D.O., FACOS
Hospital: UPMC Pinnacle

John Paul Kuckelman, D.O.

General Surgery

Program Director: LTC Vance Sohn, M.D.
Hospital: Madigan Army Medical Center

Jason Adam Levy, D.O.

Urological Surgery

Program Director: Laurence H. Belkoff, D.O., FACOS
Hospital: Main Line Health (Formerly Hahnemann University Hospital)

Jude Leo Opoku-Agyeman,

D.O.

Plastic Surgery

Program Director: Benjamin Lam, D.O., FACOS
Hospital: Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine

Matthew Aaron Rohloff, D.O.

Urological Surgery

Program Director: Thomas J. Maatman, D.O., FACOS,
FACS
Hospital: Metro Health: University of Michigan Health

Robert C. Erwin Literary Awards

1st Place

John P. Kuckelman, D.O.

Madigan Army Medical Center
General Surgery

*Extending The Golden Hour For Zone 1 Reboa:
Improved Survival And Reperfusion Injury With
Intermittent Versus Continuous Reboa In A Porcine
Severe Truncal Hemorrhage Model*

2nd Place (of 2)

Aimee K. LaRiccia, D.O.

Doctors Hospital Ohio Health
General Surgery

*Variability of Radiological Grading of Blunt
Cerebrovascular Injuries in Trauma Patients*

2nd Place (of 2)

John P. Kuckelman, D.O.

Madigan Army Medical Center
General Surgery

*Plasma Co-Administration Improves Resuscitation with
Tranexamic Acid
or Prothrombin Complex in a Porcine Hemorrhagic
Shock Model*

4th Place

Matthew A. Rohloff, D.O.

Metro Health University of Michigan
Urological Surgery

*The Impact of Low Pressure Pneumoperitoneum in
Robotic Assisted Radical Prostatectomy: A Prospective,
Randomized, Double Blinded Trial*

5th Place

Paulette C. Dreher, D.O.

Hahnemann University Hospital
Urological Surgery

*Lower Urinary Tract Symptoms and Sexual Dysfunction
in the Bariatric Patient Population: A Comprehensive
Review*

Award Winners

2020 Presidential Citation Award Recipients



Scott W. Grover, D.O., FACOS



Javed Siddiq, M.D., Ph.D.

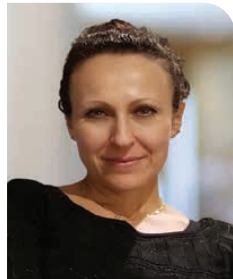


Steven S. Yocom, D.O., FACOS

College Service Award Winners



2020-2021 ACOS Outstanding Service Award - Committee Member:
Jeffrey Lance Jacobs, D.O., FACOS



2020-2021 ACOS Outstanding Service Award - Lecturer:
Hania Bednarski, D.O., FACOS



2020-2021 ACOS Outstanding Service Award - Mentor:
Stephen T. Fisher, D.O., FACOS



2020-2021 ACOS Outstanding Service Award - Recruiter:
Jason M. Seibly, D.O., FACOS

ACA Scientific Exhibits and Poster Sessions

CHAIR

Rafael Eduardo Villalobos, D.O., FACOS

Responsible for reviewing and judging poster abstracts for the Annual Clinical Assembly.

Awards

CHAIR

Lane Mark Lee, D.O., FACOS

Responsible for reviewing award nominations and selecting winners.

Bylaws

CHAIR

Jeffrey Lance Jacobs, D.O., FACOS

Responsible for ensuring ACOS and SOSA Bylaws are upheld and examining recommendations for modifications.

Ceremonial

CHAIR

Scott W. Grover, D.O., FACOS

Responsible for developing the Ceremonial Conclave program held at the Annual Clinical Assembly to recognize new members, award recipients, and other member recognitions.

Continuing Education

CHAIR:

Valerie L. Sheridan, D.O., FACOS, FACS

Responsible for overseeing and developing themes, identifying needs, and ensuring the progression of all ACOS educational programs.

Ethics

CHAIR

Todd A. Nickloes, D.O., MBA, FACOS, FACS

Responsible for reviewing, updating and interpreting the AOA Code of Ethics, and investigating all complaints regarding unethical member conduct.

General Surgery In-depth Review Program

CHAIR

Nelayda Fonte, D.O., FACOS

Responsible for selecting program chairs for the meeting and assisting in program implementation and developing program materials.

General Surgery In-Service Examination

COCHAIRS

Michael A. Burchett, D.O., FACOS

Daniel Wu, DO, FACOS, FACS

Responsible for developing the General Surgery In-Service Examination and evaluating the results.

Government Affairs

CHAIR

James E. Johnson, D.O., FACOS

Responsible for educating members on important regulatory and legislative matters, developing policy statements, and forming alliances with appropriate affiliate organizations.

Membership

CHAIR:

Sharon A. Rooney-Gandy, D.O., FACOS

Responsible for approving memberships, reviewing and approving fellow applications, and establishing and implementing membership rules and criteria.

Quality Initiatives

CHAIR

John W. Royalty, D.O., FACOS

Responsible for providing informational resources and addressing concerns regarding quality initiatives, developing outcome measures and recommendations, policy statements, and liaising with CMS.

Residency Evaluation and Standards

CHAIR

Mandip S. Atwal, D.O. FACOS

Review standards and policies, update discipline model criteria, review and approval of resident annual and training program reports and ensure successful transition of all osteopathic surgical programs from AOA to ACGME accreditation.

Strategic Planning Committee

CHAIR

Laurence H. Belkoff, D.O., FACOS

Working in conjunction with the Board of Governors, systematically review the ACOS's desired future and translate the vision of the board into achievable goals and objectives. Regularly review the existing strategic plan and make necessary adjustments. Periodically conduct research to guide the long-term strategic of the ACOS.



The priority issue in 2020 for the ACOS Healthcare Policy Team was preventing the planned cuts to Evaluation and Management (E/M) payments. This legislation would have drastically reduced payments to providers. The ACOS took active measures including joining with six other surgical specialty groups to form the Surgical Care Coalition in order to prevent these cuts. The Surgical Care Coalition promoted Dr. Nancy Lobby's impact story and the impact to all members through its media campaign. The ACOS joined numerous comment letters to Congress and the Administration to stop the cuts. ACOS members participated in multiple days of action advocating virtually to Congress to find a legislative fix on this issue.

Members represented the College at the Alliance of Specialty Medicine's Congressional Fly-In on November 19, 2020 and advocated on issues regarding physician payment reform, COVID-19 response, prior authorization reforms, and graduate medical education.

To respond to the COVID-19 pandemic, the ACOS created a weekly COVID-19 newsletter to assist in the dissemination of relevant information relating to the pandemic.

The Advocacy Department met with over 20 Members of Congress and Senators and their staffs over the course of 2020, introducing them to the College and its members. The ACOS authored and joined numerous comment letters to Congress and the Administration.

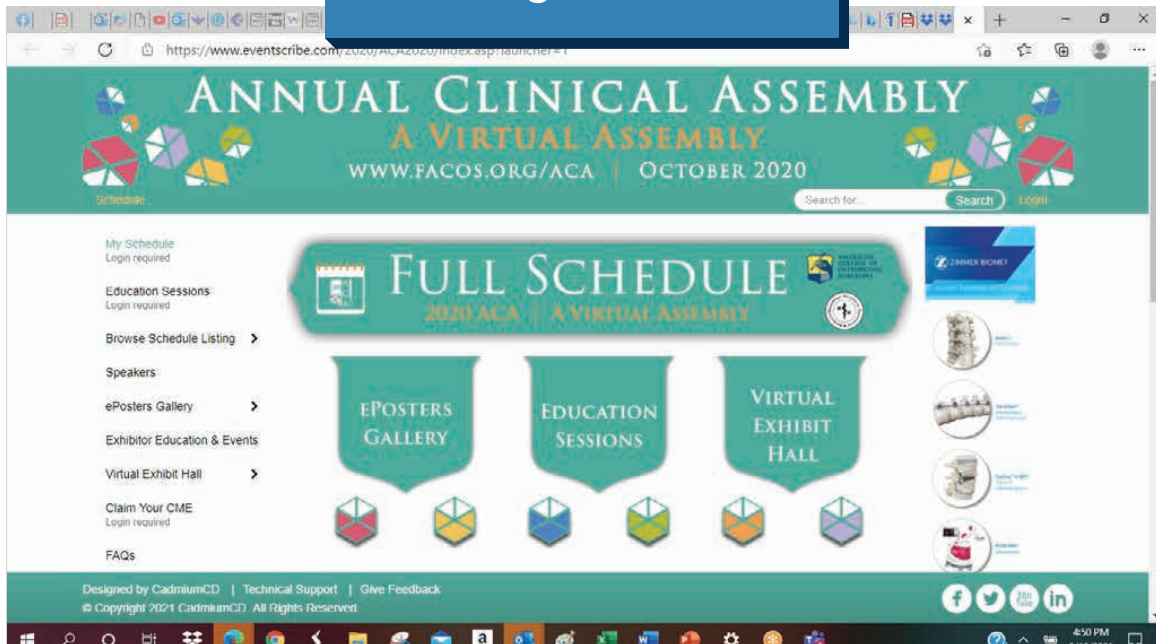


2020 IN REVIEW

OUR MEMBERS ARE RESILIENT



Meetings in Review



2020 Meetings in Review | 2020 ACOS Education - *at your fingertips*

The global pandemic challenged the ACOS to reinvent how we educate. With a focus on the health and safety of our members, speakers, staff, and the community at large the College quickly pivoted to the virtual world. ACOS converted all three marquee in-person conferences into digital educational experiences. 2020 truly brought new meaning to *Anytime, Anywhere, ACOS*.

General Surgery In-depth Review **VIRTUAL Seminar**

Launched: April 22-25, 2020

PROGRAM CHAIRS:

Jessica L. Bartock, DO

Annika C. Storey, DO, FACOS

Just as final preparations were being made for the 2020 General Surgery In-depth Review Seminar the COVID-19 pandemic hit and the world changed. With less than 5 weeks to go, ACOS Staff with the support of the ACOS In-depth Review Committee, led by Nelayda Fonte, DO, FACOS, quickly pivoted and converted this multi-day, comprehensive, board exam review course into a virtual conference. A record number of attendees registered and took advantage of the top-notch programming delivered via the ACOS eLearning Portal.

Urological Surgery Discipline Mid-Year **VIRTUAL Meeting**

Launched: July 2020

The in-person meeting of the 2020 Urological Surgery Discipline Mid-Year Meeting hosted annually in conjunction with the Annual Meeting of the American Urological Association was cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic. ACOS, committed to education, and with the support of the ACOS Urological Surgery Discipline delivered a virtual version of this important meeting. Launched in July via the ACOS eLearning Portal, registrants had access to the 2020 Urological Surgery Mid-Year Meeting's on-demand sessions.



MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

Future Annual Clinical Assembly Dates

2021

Sep. 29 – Oct. 3 | Orlando, Florida

2022

Sep. 14-18 | Austin, Texas

2023

Sep. 20-24 | Chicago, Illinois

Annual Clinical Assembly of Osteopathic Surgeons | A Virtual Assembly Launched: October 20-23, 2020

With SARS-CoV-2/Covid-19 still playing a major role in how large conferences were held, the Annual Clinical Assembly received a 2020 digital world makeover. Our signature event was broadcast online October 20-23, 2020.



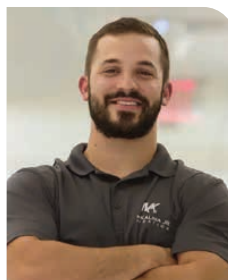
The opening day keynote address was delivered by **Dr. Paul Nassif**, a world-renowned Facial Plastic and Reconstructive Surgeon, and Star of E!'s "Botched," a reality show highlighting his expertise as he remedies the most extreme

plastic surgeries gone wrong. Attendees received an inside look at how Dr. Nassif balances a busy surgical practice, family, and fame.

Dr. Anthony J. LaPorta, Professor of Surgery and Military Medicine at Rocky Vista University School of Medicine and member of the prestigious Department of Defense elite Defense Health Board, captivated attendees presenting on his extensive



work in Stress Exposure Training. In addition to training medical students and residents, Dr. LaPorta trains the US Military and first responders from across the nation.



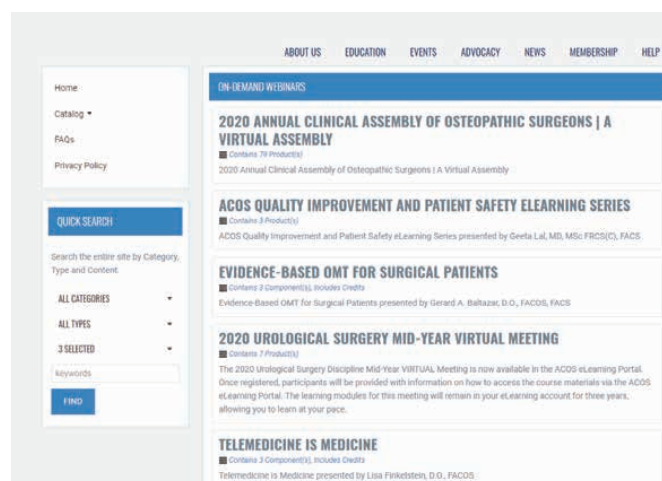
Attendees were moved and inspired by **Mr. Mark Kalina** and his story of survival of a near-fatal, pedestrian-train accident that resulted in the loss of his legs. Since that day, Mr. Kalina has overcome many obstacles, recovered from numerous

surgeries, and become an advocate for rail safety. ACOS was honored to have Mr. Kalina deliver the Classen Memorial Lecture.

The 2020 ACA could not have been a success without the hard work of the ACOS Continuing Education Committee led by Valerie L. Sheridan, D.O., FACOS, FACS. The College is grateful for the Committee's contributions.

ACOS eLearning

After its launch in 2019, the ACOS continued to grow our digital education library by expanding the ACOS eLearning Portal this year. The College was proud to deliver quality educational modules in the form of webinars from expert speakers. New this year, were special webinar series given by featured presenters. These series, typically three, were presented by a subject matter expert and on related topics over the course of several weeks. The eLearning library also offers members the ability to take advantage of previously aired sessions, on-demand and for CME credit, all at the learner's convenience.





2019-2020 Continuing Education Committee

Chair

Valerie L. Sheridan, D.O., FACOS,
FACS

Board Liaison

J. Bracken Burns, Jr., D.O., FACOS
David L. Acuna, D.O., FACOS
Warren Albrecht, D.O., FACOS
Arnold C. Almonte, D.O., FACOS
Gabriel Chiu, D.O.
Kristen J. Conrad-Schnetzer, D.O.,
FACOS

Michael J. Consolo, D.O., FACOS
Joseph T. Costic, D.O., FACOS
Jamie L. DiPietro, D.O.
Anthony G. Fabaz, D.O., FACOS
Alanna Fostyk, D.O.
Darren Lee Jacobs, D.O., FACOS
John James Kowalczyk, D.O.,
FACOS
Jayram Krishnan, DO, MBA
Benjamin Lam, D.O., FACOS

Lynne M. McCormick, D.O., FACOS
Dan E. Miulli, D.O., FACOS
Elizabeth A. Renaker-Jansen, D.O.
Michael S. Sawvel, D.O.
Karla D. Witzke, D.O., FACOS

AOCPr Member

Charles D. Duda, D.O.

Staff Liaison

Stephanie Santini, CMP

The 2019-2020 General Surgery In-Depth Review Committee

Chairman & Board Liaison

Nelyada Fonte, D.O., FACOS, FACS

Program Chairs

Jessica L. Bartock, D.O.
Annika C. Storey, D.O.

Members

Hania B. Bednarski, D.O., FACOS

Marc A. Campbell, D.O., FACOS
David Lee Coffman, D.O.
Christopher L. Finley, D.O.
Jesse J. Lopez, Jr., D.O.
Marylou Rainone, D.O., FACOS
Benjamin A. Raymond, D.O.

Victoria L. Schlanser, D.O.
Jennifer E. Susoreny-Velgos, D.O.
Richard J. Unger, D.O.
Staff Liaisons
Stephanie Santini, CMP
Natasha Moussavi

On January 11th, the 2020 General Surgery In-Service Examination was administered electronically to 204 resident examinees at 23 training sites across the country. The exam created by the General Surgery In-Service Exam Committee is designed to evaluate the resident's level of knowledge relative to other residents' knowledge at the same level of training, to identify a resident's area of weakness, and to track a resident's progress from year to year.

2019-2020 General Surgery In-Service Examination Committee

Co-Chairs

Michael A. Burchett, D.O., FACOS
Daniel Wu, DO, FACOS, FACS

Members

M. Lisa Attebery, D.O., FACOS
Mary K. Boggs, D.O., FACOS, FACS
Robert S. Brumberg, D.O., FACOS
J. Bracken Burns, Jr., D.O., FACOS
George W. Cummings, III, D.O.
Shannon M. Davis, D.O., FACOS
Vincent M. DiGiovanni, D.O., FACOS
Victor V. Dizon, D.O., FACOS
Lauren E. Donatelli-Seyler, D.O., FACOS
Brett D. Dunbar, D.O., FACOS
Christopher J. Esper, D.O., FACOS
Thomas H. Etter, D.O., FACOS
Anthony John Falvo, D.O., FACOS
Franklin Garcia-Godoy, D.O., FACOS
Daniel P. Gay, D.O., FACOS
Mario F. Gomez, D.O.
Tanja L. Gunsberger, D.O., FACOS

Lauren Kopicky, D.O., FACOS
Richard A. Lopez, D.O., FACOS
John R. McCormick-Deaton, D.O., FACOS
Todd A. Nickloes, DO, FACOS, FACS, MBA
Claudia B. Perez, D.O., FACOS
Andrew H. Rikkers, D.O., FACOS
Chad Michael Robbins, D.O., FACOS
Jacob E. Roberts, D.O., FACOS
Sandra P. Sanchez, D.O.
Lilibeth Sanchez-Geswaldo, D.O.
Christina Sanders, D.O., FACOS
Mohit Sood, D.O., FACOS
Dominic Storto, D.O., FACOS

Resident Member

James K. Barger, D.O., FACOS

Board Liaison

Kristen J. Conrad-Schnetz, D.O., FACOS

Staff Liaison

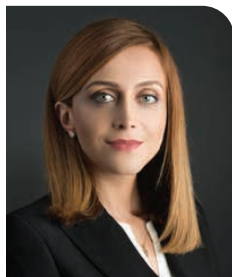
Stephanie Santini, CMP

The Annual Resident Section Business Meeting was held on October 16, Farnaz Haji, D.O., 2019-2020 Chair of the Resident Section facilitated the meeting. The agenda included discussions about ACOS business, the IDR mock orals, oral boards, and a panel the residents participated in with the ACOS Medical Student Section regarding surviving medical school, applying for residency and virtual interviews.

The newly elected 2020-2021 Resident Section Council was announced and Christina Colosimo, D.O., Chair of 2020-2021 shared her goals for the Resident Section for the upcoming year, which included being a resource for residents to connect with ACOS board members to ensure their voice is always heard, advocacy of D.O.'s and a focus on virtual interviews.



2019 – 2020 Resident Section Governing Council



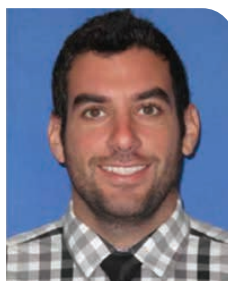
Chair
Farnaz Haji, D.O., MS



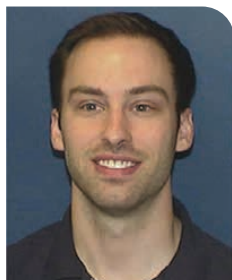
Member-at-Large
Rachel Kaczynski, D.O.



Chair Elect
Christina Colosimo, D.O.



**Chair of Academic Advancement
and Engagement**
Jason A. Levy, D.O.



Secretary/Treasurer
Brian H. McGreen, D.O.

ACOS Medical Student Section (Formerly Student Osteopathic Surgical Association)

ACOS Medical Student Section hosted another successful Spring Conference in 2020. Over 150 students attended the conference at Des Moines University College of Osteopathic Medicine, February 28 - March 1, where inspiring lectures were offered, hands-on workshops were given, and where there were many opportunities for networking.

ACOS-MSS 2020 Fall Virtual Conference, over 190 members came together to learn about the different surgical specialties. The agenda included a guide to clinical case reports, paying off your student loans, developing your personal statement, networking yourself into residency and a panel with the residents section regarding surviving medical school, applying for residency and virtual interviews.

ACOS-MSS National Officers



Chair
Matthew Heard,
OMS-IV



Vice Chair
Sara Buckley,
OMS-IV



Treasurer
Abigail Jackovic,
OMS-IV



Secretary
Brittany Cluff,
OMS-III



Communications
Dario Marotto,
OMS-III



Conventions
Telyn Peterson,
OMS-III



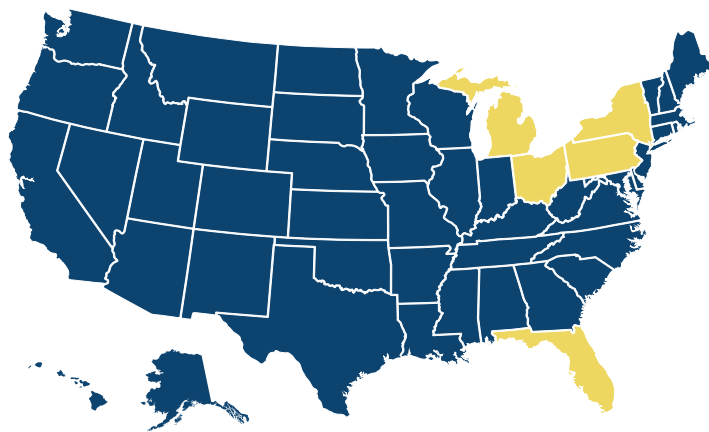
Technology
Andrew Nam,
OMS-IV

Membership

Statistics as of December 22, 2020

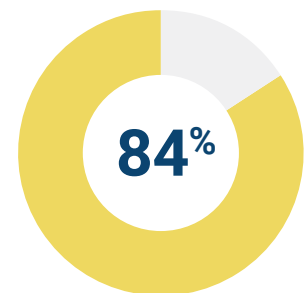
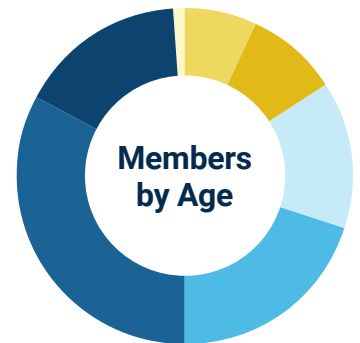
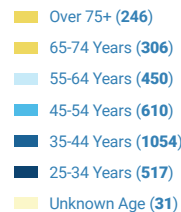
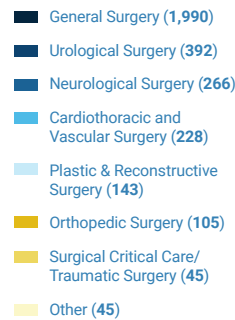
Membership

This year, we honored another large class of new Fellows and the very first class of Distinguished Fellows in College history. Eighty-three members earned the designation, Fellow of the American College of Osteopathic Surgeons (FACOS), and fourteen Fellows earned the prestigious designation, Distinguished Fellow of the American College of Osteopathic Surgeons (DFACOS) by demonstrating their engagement and service to the College, and their commitment to the practice of surgery, surgical teaching, and leadership in their community, and local, state, and national organizations. This honor is bestowed upon the best of our profession.



Top 5 States for ACOS Members

1. Michigan (464) 2. Pennsylvania (297) 3. Florida (248)
4. Ohio (222) 5. New York (165)



Member Retention Rate

ACOS by the Numbers

1,805

ACTIVE
MEMBERS

3,488

STUDENT
MEMBERS

658

RESIDENT
MEMBERS

346

LIFE
MEMBERS

381

RETIRED
MEMBERS

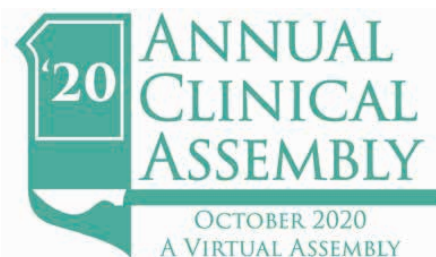
24

OTHER
MEMBERS

6,702

TOTAL
MEMBERS*

ANNUAL CEREMONIAL CONCLAVE



2020 brought its challenges. However, even the COVID-19 pandemic did not stop the College from continuing its mission to support the osteopathic surgical community. Throughout the year we focused on delivering information and resources to help members stay up-to-date on COVID-19, the status of elective surgeries and legislation to help members and their practices. We continued to deliver CME-eligible webinars and events including the General Surgery In-depth Review, the Urological Surgery Mid-Year Meeting and the ACOS Annual Clinical Assembly (ACA), which offered educational programming across six surgical disciplines, welcomed 83 new Fellows into the College and the first 14 Distinguished Fellows of the College. Resilience. Flexibility. Determination. ACOS members displayed these characteristics throughout 2020, a year of unknowns, learning, and unprecedented demand for the highest level of medical care. The College is its members. Thank you for your membership, for your compassion and for your commitment to preserving the osteopathic surgical community.

Distinguished FACOS

In 2020, the College launched a new prestigious designation – the Distinguished Fellow of the American College of Osteopathic Surgeons (DFACOS) – to honor the best of our profession, ACOS Fellows who've demonstrated outstanding and sustained commitment to engagement and service to the ACOS, exceptional professionalism, consummate integrity and noted leadership. ACOS was thrilled to welcome 14 new members in the first class of Distinguished Fellows

of the ACOS. WE look forward to a formal induction of these members at our next in-person Annual Clinical Assembly.

Career Center

ACOS brought back the ACOS Career Center, a resource for those looking passively or actively to explore new career opportunities and for those who are looking to recruit surgeons. Job postings include surgical openings across a range of surgical disciplines throughout the U.S.

Surgical Care Coalition

ACOS continued its participation in the Surgical Care Coalition. This was a particularly busy year for the SCC as the organization successfully pushed back against the Medicare Physician Fee Schedule (MPFS) issued by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), which would have significantly reduced patients' access to care and subjected surgeons to unnecessary payment cuts during a pandemic.



AMERICAN COLLEGE OF OSTEOPATHIC SURGEONS

Since 1927, ACOS has been working to ensure delivery of the highest quality patient care through rigorous graduate medical education standards and continuing medical education. By giving osteopathic surgeons a respected voice in the greater medical community and in our nation's capital, ACOS advances crucial healthcare issues. ACOS is the professional home for all osteopathic surgeons and those who embrace the osteopathic philosophy of patient-centered care.

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