NATIONAL BOARD OF OSTEOPATHIC MEDICAL EXAMINERS

July 15, 2019

NBOME Update to American Osteopathic Association's Board of Trustees, Senior Staff and Esteemed State, Specialty and Non-Practice Affiliates

It is an exciting time for the AOA, perhaps one of the most dynamic times in my short career, and it is in this context that the NBOME offers its congratulations and best wishes to William S. Mayo, DO, as he transitions to Immediate Past President, to incoming AOA President Ronald R. Burns, DO, as he takes the leadership helm, and to Kevin Klauer, DO, EJD, as he begins his tenure as AOA Executive Director/CEO. The NBOME is honored to be counted among AOA's non-practice affiliates and to serve as the trusted partner for assessment across our proud profession. This report will supplement our brief oral presentation to the AOA Board of Trustees on July 24, 2019, and provides links to additional details on our website.

NBOME Celebrating 85 Years of Competency Assessment!

2019 has been a year of commemorating the 85th anniversary of NBOME which was founded in 1934. The organization is proud of its steadfast commitment to protecting the public through evidence-based assessment and to the distinctive practice of osteopathic medicine. We thank you for your support and partnership for the betterment of health care and our patients. For more information about the organization's chartering, its founders, and other key NBOME milestones, please visit our website [https://www.nbome.org/85th/].

Thomas A. Cavalieri, DO, Awarded NBOME Santucci Award

At the 85th anniversary Board Gala in June held at the College of Physicians in Philadelphia, former NBOME Chair of the Board and current Dean of Rowan University School of Osteopathic Medicine, Thomas A. Cavalieri, DO, was awarded the Santucci Award for his unwavering commitment to NBOME's mission and the importance that osteopathically distinctive assessment plays in protecting the public. Ten of the total 25 NBOME Board Chairs and Presidents were on hand to celebrate, including Thomas F. Santucci, Jr., DO, President of NBOME's Board from 1985-1987, and Frederick G. Meoli, DO, President & CEO from 2002-2008. Read more here [https://www.nbome.org/news/thomas-a-cavalieri-do-honored-with-nbome-santucci-award/].

COMLEX-USA Bulletin of Information 2019-2020 Released

Now available, the NBOME COMLEX-USA Bulletin of Information [https://www.nbome.org/exams-assessments/comlex-usa/bulletin/] (BOI) is updated annually in July and outlines COMLEX-USA terms and conditions, policies, rules and procedures, as well as comprehensive examination

information for the COMLEX-USA examination program. Please encourage students and residents to be familiar with their rights and responsibilities regarding the COMLEX-USA examination series.

COMLEX-USA Eligibility Updates and Attestation

The COMLEX-USA Bulletin of Information 2019-2020 contains updated modifications to the eligibility criteria for each Level of COMLEX-USA, including attestation of good academic and professional standing. This includes a modification of the new residency program director attestation requirement for Level 3 **for COM graduates from 2017 or earlier**. Effective through 2020, the Temporary Alternate Pathway Attestation [https://www.nbome.org/exams-assessments/comlex-usa/comlex-usa-level-3/eligibility/] process enables individuals, who graduated in 2018 and beyond and are in good standing but were unsuccessful in matching to a residency program, to request approval to complete the Level 3 examination.

New Test Cycles with Enhanced Blueprint Launched for COMLEX-USA Level 1 & Level 2-CE

An updated version of the enhanced, competency-based COMLEX-USA Master Blueprint and test specifications is available on the NBOME website [https://www.nbome.org/exams-assessments/comlex-usa/].

COMLEX-USA Level 1 and Level 2-CE examination administrations during the new 2019-2020 testing cycle launched on May 20 and June 17, 2019, respectively. These examinations implemented the enhanced COMLEX-USA Master Blueprint and were published on Prometric's new test driver, SURPASS.

Heavy candidate volume continues for both examinations through the summer months, with over 5,000 Level 1 examinations administered by July 4, and similar numbers for Level 2-CE expected by late July.

Some candidates encountered computer performance problems during their administrations (latency and examination restarts) when the new Level 1 examinations were first deployed at Prometric Testing Centers in late May. Prometric began investigating the cause immediately. In parallel, through our standard procedures of identifying potential adverse testing conditions, NBOME staff have been proactively working with any impacted candidates. Thankfully, analysis reveals over 96% of Level 1 and Level 2-CE candidates are viewing 399 or 400 of the total 400 test questions, and are not running out of time. Of course the addition of examination enhancements such as authentic, patient video scenario test items, embedded software such as a calculator, and other testing improvements requested by our candidates contribute to the complexity of the exam in the in vivo environment and with interfacing technologies. But we will continue to assure that everything that can be done will be done to provide a valid, reliable and fair assessment for each candidate.

COMLEX-USA Level 1 Standard Setting & Score Release Update

The new passing standard for COMLEX-USA Level 1 was implemented for the 2019-2020 testing cycle effective May 20, 2019. Score release dates are posted on the NBOME website, with initial

release of scores on July 16-18, 2019, for candidates who took COMLEX-USA Level 1 from May 20 to June 14, 2019. The next set of score release dates is July 24-25, 2019 for candidates who took COMLEX-USA Level 1 from June 17-25, 2019.

Looking ahead to **next year**, May 4, 2020, is the proposed launch date for the Level 1 2020-2021 test cycle to allow for the anticipated initial score release to begin June 23-25, 2020. This modification was made in response to a request from a COM dean and the requirement of one to two hospital systems for students to have passed COMLEX-USA Level 1 in order to begin clinical rotations in their health systems.

COMLEX-USA Level 2-CE Standard Setting & Score Release Update

The new passing standard for COMLEX-USA Level 2-CE will be implemented for the 2019-2020 COMLEX-USA Level 2-CE testing cycle effective June 17, 2019. Score release dates are posted on the NBOME website, with initial release of scores on August 13-15, 2019, for candidates who took COMLEX-USA Level 2-CE from June 17 to July 17, 2019. The next set of score release dates is August 27-28, 2019 for candidates who took COMLEX-USA Level 1 from July 23 to August 5, 2019.

For next year, June 16, 2020, is the proposed launch date for the Level 2-CE 2020-2021 test cycle, with the initial score release anticipated to begin August 11-13, 2020.

COMSAE Phase 1 & Phase 2 Updates

New COMSAE Phase 1 and 2 forms corresponding to the enhanced Master Blueprint for COMLEX-USA Level 1 and Level 2-CE have been available for school and individual use since December 2018. Forms for COMSAE Phase 1 and Phase 2 are also available for school faculty review.

We endeavor to keep COM deans updated on information related to COMSAE Phase 1 and the new test forms that were developed to align with the enhanced COMLEX-USA Blueprint. Following the administration of the enhanced COMLEX-USA Level 1 examination, a new passing standard was set and applied to COMLEX-USA Level 1 administrations that began in May 2019.

After the first several score releases of COMLEX-USA Level 1 beginning mid-July 2019, NBOME will conduct a comprehensive evaluation of performance on COMSAE Phase 1 and subsequent performance on Level 1. Following this evaluation, NBOME will provide additional information to enhance interpretability of COMSAE Phase 1 scores and Level 1 scores in September. We anticipate a similar approach with COMLEX-USA Level 2-CE and COMSAE Phase 2.

With this in mind, caution should be exercised in using COMSAE Phase 1 scores to estimate subsequent COMLEX-USA Level 1 scores. We will continue to communicate regularly with COM deans regarding new information that becomes available related to COMSAE Phase scores and their relationship to COMLEX-USA Levels, and related COMSAE program updates.

CATALYST Platform Update

CATALYST is a longitudinal formative assessment platform based on cognitive learning principles designed to promote more durable and complex learning. CATALYST offers relevant content at spaced intervals with immediate feedback, related reference materials, as well as improvement resources and short questions to fit busy schedules. CATALYST can be easily customized to meet client requirements and user needs, potentially useful in continuous professional development (e.g., Maintenance of Certification, Osteopathic Continuous Certification) or in the undergraduate or graduate medical education settings.

Offered on a convenient mobile platform, CATALYST presents an alternative format and means to integrate assessment and learning. The NBOME continues to refine and improve the platform and recently completed a significant pilot that incorporated feedback from osteopathic medical students, residents and practicing physicians. The NBOME plans to offer COMSAE Phase 2 content on the new CATALYST platform in the spring of 2020.

COMAT Program Update - COMAT Foundational Biomedical Sciences Comprehensive Exam Launched, Targeted Exams Coming in January 2020!

Nearly all COCA-accredited COMs are engaged with the use of COMAT Clinical Subject exams in 2019. These 8 osteopathically distinctive assessments help to guide learning through assessment in the clinical years, aid in meeting this important accreditation mandate and curricular goals, and serve to ready students for success with COMLEX-USA Level 2-CE and Level 3.

After five years of research and development by a team of almost 300 National Faculty members, the COMAT Foundational Biomedical Sciences (FBS) Comprehensive Examination organized both by basic science disciplines and body systems became available to COMs beginning in December 2018. COMAT-FBS exams are designed with the same rigor, standards for quality, and testing specifications utilized in the development of the COMLEX-USA exams. The COMAT-FBS Comprehensive Exam currently features 250 test questions in a 4.5 hour administration window. Percent-correct scoring is used in the initial 2018-2019 COMAT-FBS Comprehensive Examination Score Reports.

A portfolio of 14 COMAT-FBS targeted examinations by body systems or basic science disciplines is expected to be made available by January 2020. Each of the 14 COMAT-FBS Targeted Exams feature 62 test questions and a 1.5 hour administration period. These might align very well to curricular programs in years 1-2 organized by organ body systems, and are designed to be tailored to any COM's approach to the educational program in years 1-2.

COMAT-Foundational Biomedical Sciences exams allow COMs and students to gain valuable test-taking experience with authentic COMLEX-USA (predominantly Level 1) style test formats and receive more robust feedback related to basic science disciplines and body system content domains, which aligns with a strategy to prepare students for COMLEX-USA Level 1. COMs have the opportunity to capitalize on this opportunity for reliable assessment related to basic science disciplines and meaningful feedback for your students. Should you have any questions related to COMAT, please contact J. Michael Finley DO, Senior VP for Assessment by email (mfinley@nbome.org). For the most updated information about these exciting new assessments,

please visit the NBOME website [https://www.nbome.org/Content/Exams/COMAT/COMAT_Brochure.pdf].

NBOME On-Site or Videoconference COM Campus Visits: Get Yours Scheduled Soon!

Typically upon invitation from the dean, NBOME representatives provide on-site campus visits or videoconference presentations to 15-20 COM campuses each academic year. These are traditionally one-day visits that feature NBOME, COMLEX-USA, and COMAT updates to faculty and students, or videoconference presentations to faculty or deans. Occasionally, upon request, these visits include faculty development in multiple-choice question (MCQ) test item-writing, case development, clinical skills testing or related assessment or curricular topics. In addition to providing information to the COM faculty and students about COMLEX-USA, COMAT, COMSAE and other NBOME products and services, these visits allow opportunities for COM faculty and students to provide important feedback to the NBOME. For more information on how you can **request a NBOME visit to your COM campus**, please contact Kelly Reynolds, NBOME Executive Assistant, kreynolds@nbome.org. Book your COM visit today in order to assure a 2019-2020 campus visit!

NBOME 2019-2020 Office Visitation Days

The fall 2019 NBOME Visitation Day is scheduled for Monday, November 4, in our Chicago Corporate Offices and NCCST-Chicago. As this popular faculty development program is filling up fast, contact Rachel Maxwell, rmaxwell@nbome.org to register. Invitees include faculty and staff from COMs, GME programs and state licensing boards. Past participants report that these are wonderful faculty development opportunities! A Visitation Day program in NBOME's Philadelphia Offices is in the plans for spring 2020.

Single Accreditation System (SAS) & COMLEX-USA

Congratulations to the COMs on yet another very successful GME Matching year for DO graduating seniors! Now with the AMA joining the Federation of State Medical Boards and the ACGME in endorsing the qualifications of your DO graduates, including the equivalent uses of COMLEX-USA and AOA Board Certification, the excitement and momentum is building for increased opportunities for the nation's DO graduates!

The NBOME has been pleased to join in the successful AACOM UME-GME and Single Residency Match initiatives, and has continued to expand its outreach to residency program directors, program coordinators and other GME stakeholders to provide information about COMLEX-USA. We made national presentations again in 2019 at the ACGME Annual Educational Conference, at the Spring Meeting of the Organization of Program Directors, and at the Association of Hospital Medical Education Institute, and continue to encounter better-informed and more receptive audiences related to DO students and their qualifications, including COMLEX-USA.

We partnered with AAMC to assure that DO students and COMLEX-USA information was included in their new Residency Exploration Tool, released in June. With AACOM and AOA, we co-hosted a 2019 US Osteopathic Medical Regulatory Summit, and plans for a 2020 Summit are in the works. The

NBOME stands together with you for our patients, assuring that they will continue to be able to choose quality osteopathic medical care for their health. This continues to require high quality osteopathic medical education at our COMs, accredited by osteopathically distinctive COM accreditation (i.e., by AOA-COCA), and osteopathically distinctive and valid assessment for licensure (i.e., by COMLEX-USA).

For a good resource on COMLEX-USA designed for residency program directors, refer to the updated **Residency Program Director's Guide to COMLEX-USA** available here [https://www.nbome.org/Content/Exams/COMLEX-USA/COMLEX-USA_Residency_Program_Directors_Guide.pdf].

Invitational Conference on USMLE Scoring

The NBOME was an invited participant in the "InCUS" conference in March 2019 co-hosted by AMA and NBME and others and the discussions about potential changes to pass/fail or score report formatting for licensing examinations, as well as other potential modifications to reduce stressors in the transition from UME to GME for students and other stakeholders. For updated information on this debate, please visit the InCUS website [https://www.usmle.org/inCus/?fbclid=IwAR3vJBQ0mQKnIGTXX8U31hp03KFJj0qioCMbvE5gbYhDA0H61W4CHMQt-rk].

The NBOME's position remains that the primary and intended purpose of COMLEX-USA is for osteopathic physician licensure and to protect the public, but we do consider the important secondary uses of the examinations particularly as they relate to protecting the public. We remain engaged in this debate and study, and welcome stakeholder input including perspectives from COM deans.

On behalf of our NBOME Board of Directors, led by Chair, Dana C. Shaffer, DO, our entire staff in our national offices in Chicago and Philadelphia, and our distinguished National Faculty, I would like to offer our appreciation for all that you "DO" and our very best wishes for a highly successful 2019 AOA Annual Business Meeting and House of Delegates, and a wonderful summer. Thank you for the important role that you play in assuring that our patients will have the option to receive highly competent, empathetic osteopathic medical care now and into the future!

Please don't hesitate to contact me should you need further information or if any of us at the NBOME can assist you in any way.

Thanks for all you DO!

Sincerely,

John R. Gimpel, DO, MEd
President & CEO

Cc: Dana C. Shaffer, DO, Chair, NBOME Board of Directors
Geraldine T. O'Shea, DO, NBOME Board Vice-Chair

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AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF OSTEOPATHIC EXAMINERS JULY 2019 REPORT TO THE AOA BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The American Association of Osteopathic Examiners (AAOE), which is comprised of osteopathic physicians serving on state osteopathic and composite medical licensing boards, serves as the unified authority in matters affecting osteopathic medical licensure and discipline. Strategically, the AAOE acts as the voice of osteopathic medicine within the Federation of State Medical Boards (FSMB) and collaborates to understand and respond to state regulatory and licensing issues that impact osteopathic medicine.

We currently have representatives on 48 out of the 51 possible regulatory boards (only DC, Louisiana and Massachusetts lack osteopathic representation). The AAOE meets three times a year, at the American Osteopathic Association's (AOA) Leadership, Education, Advocacy and Development (LEAD) Conference in the winter, at the Annual Meeting of the FSMB in the spring and at the AOA's House of Delegates in the summer.

Keeping DOs on State Boards Updated on Important Health Policy Trends

The AAOE held its most recent business meeting during the FSMB's Annual Meeting in April in Fort Worth, Texas. During the meeting, FSMB President and CEO Humayun Chaudhry, DO, and FSMB Chair-elect Scott Steingard, DO provided an update to the group on:

- Discussions occurring at the Invitational Conference on USMLE Scoring regarding possible changes to USMLE score reporting (namely, transitioning to a Pass/Fail model), with final recommendations expected this Fall;
- The status of the FSMB's recommendations on physician wellness and burnout, which have been discussed by more than 27 state medical and osteopathic medical boards, nine of which have made changes to their applications or application processes as a result;
- The progress of Interstate Medical Licensure Compact legislation. As of April, twenty-nine states, Guam and D.C. were members, and bills were pending in three other states. Subsequently, Georgia's governor signed Compact legislation into law.

National Board of Osteopathic Examiners (NBOME) President and CEO John Gimpel, DO and Vice President of Collaborative Assessment and Initiatives Sandra Waters, MEM, presented an NBOME update on:

- A recently implemented requirement that DOs submit an attestation of good academic and professional standing from their residency program directors in order to sit for the COMLEX Level 3 exam;
- The release of score reports to program directors, in addition to examinees; and
- The availability of COMAT-type exams, which assess core osteopathic medical knowledge in distinctive subjects, in foundational biomedical sciences and in targeted body systems beginning in January 2020.

The AOA's Director of State Government Affairs and AAOE Staff Liaison, Raine Richards, JD, presented an AOA update regarding:

- The new Bureau of State Government Affairs' grassroots initiative aimed at enhancing the voice of osteopathic physicians on scope of practice and the physician workforce issues at the state level.
- New legislative efforts by the American Academy of PAs to enact their "Optimal Team Practice" model in state law, thereby creating a path to independent practice for PAs.
- The recently created Doctor of Medical Science degree program at A.T. Still University in Mesa, Arizona. A.T. Still joins LMU-DCOM in Tennessee and Lynchburg University in Virginia in offering this new degree, which is aimed at preparing masters-level PAs to practice similarly to a primary care physician.
- State Medicaid expansion efforts and demonstration waiver applications, the five-year reauthorization of the Oklahoma Board of Osteopathic Examiners and the creation of a new AOA policy in support of Safe Haven Non-Reporting in order to protect physicians who are receiving appropriate treatment for mental health or substance use issues from possible disciplinary actions by state licensing boards.

<u>AAOE and FSMB Elections</u>
During the April AAOE and FSMB meetings, the following DOs were elected to leadership positions:

AAOE President: J. Michael Wieting, DO (Tennessee)
AAOE Vice-President, Alexios Carayannopoulos, DO (Rhode Island)
AAOE Secretary/Treasurer: Mary Jo Capodice, DO (Wisconsin)
AAOE Immediate Past President: Barbara Walker, DO (North Carolina)

Jone Geimer-Flanders, DO (Hawaii) and **Joseph Willet, DO** (Minnesota) were elected to the **FSMB Board of Directors**, where they join Anna Z. Hayden, DO (Florida), and **Joy M. Neyhart, DO** (Alaska) was elected to the **Nominating Committee**. In addition, **Scott Steingard, DO** (Arizona) was officially installed as the 2019- 2020 **FSMB Chair**.

In addition, the following DOs currently serve on FSMB Committees and Workgroups:

<u>FSMB Committees</u>
Joseph R. Willett, DO (Minnesota) serves on the Audit Committee; Wayne J. Reynolds, DO (Virginia) and J. Michael Wieting (Tennessee) serve on the Editorial Committee; Scott A. Steingard, DO (Arizona) and Jone Geimer-Flanders, DO (Hawaii) serve on the Education Committee; Joy M. Neyhart, DO (Alaska) serves on the Ethics and Professionalism Committee.

<u>FSMB Workgroups</u>
Michelle R. Mendez, DO (Florida) serves on the Workgroup on Board Education, Service and Training; Jerry R. Balentine, DO (New York), Ronald R. Burns, DO (AOA), Anna Z. Hayden, DO (Florida), Timothy J. Kowalski, DO (AACOM) and Lynn G. Mark, DO (New York) serve on the Workgroup on Education about Medical Regulation; Katherine L. Fisher, DO (Oregon) and

Teresa A. Hubka, DO (AOA) serve on the Workgroup on Sexual Boundary Violations.

Maintaining a Strong Relationship with the Osteopathic Medical Profession

This September, AAOE Immediate Past President Barbara Walker, DO will represent the group at the 2019 International Association of Medical Regulatory Authorities Symposium on Continued Competency in Chicago, Illinois, and in October, I will represent the AAOE at the annual Osteopathic International Alliance meeting in Frankfort, Germany.

The AAOE is also respresented on the Board of the NBOME, and participates in the NBOME's annual Liaison Committee Meeting, which AAOE Vice-President Alexios Carayannopoulos, DO attended last month in Philadelphia.

AAOE Fellows contribute to the mission of the AOA by serving on selected committees: Jone Geimer-Flanders, DO, serves as the AAOE representative on the BSGA; and Barbara Walker, DO serves as the AAOE representative on the Bureau of International Osteopathic Medicine.

On behalf of the AAOE, I would like to thank the AOA for its ongoing support for our mission and activities, about which additional information is available on our website: www.aaoe-net.org.

Respectfully submitted,

J. Michael Wieting, DO
President, AAOE

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AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF
COLLEGES OF OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE

Report to the American Osteopathic Association Board of Trustees
American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine
July 2019

Board of Deans Update

The 2019-2020 AACOM Board of Deans Executive Committee members are listed below.

- **Chair:** Lori A. Kemper, DO
- **Vice Chair:** Margaret Wilson, DO
- **Secretary/Treasurer, Finance Chair:** William Craver, DO
- **Immediate Past Chair:** Thomas A. Cavalieri, DO
- **Assembly of Presidents Representative to the Executive Committee:** Angela L. Walker Franklin, PhD
- **Assembly of Osteopathic Graduate Medical Educators Chair:** Lisa R. Nash, DO
- **At-Large Member:** John Kauffman, DO
- **At-Large Member:** Wolfgang Gilliar, DO
- **At-Large Member:** Paula Crone, DO
- **Ex-Officio Member:** Robert A. Cain, DO, FACOI, FAODME, President and CEO, AACOM

College of Osteopathic Medicine Dean Updates (*as of June 27, 2019*)

- **Frank Filipetto, DO**, announced as Dean of the University of North Texas Health Science Center-Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine
- **Steven Halm, DO**, announced as Dean of the Des Moines University College of Osteopathic Medicine, as of July 8, 2019
- **James C. Jones, DO, FACEP**, announced as Interim Dean of the Alabama College of Osteopathic Medicine
    - **Craig J. Lenz, DO**, transitioned to Dean Emeritus of the Alabama College of Osteopathic Medicine
- **Beth A. Longenecker, DO**, announced as Dean of the Ohio University Heritage College of Osteopathic Medicine - Athens Campus
- **Kevin Wilson, DO**, announced as Interim Dean of the Idaho College of Osteopathic Medicine
    - **Robert Hasty, DO**, resigned as Founding Dean of Idaho College of Osteopathic Medicine; and was announced as the Founding Dean and Chief Academic Officer, Kansas Health Science Center

Other Leadership Updates (*as of June 27, 2019*)

- **David Baron, DO**, named Senior Vice President and Provost of the Western University of Health Sciences
- **Brian Kim, JD**, named President of the Arkansas Colleges of Health Education
- **Kevin Klauer, DO**, named Chief Executive Officer of the American Osteopathic Association
- **Samuel Stanley, Jr, MD**, named President of the Michigan State University

Robert A. Cain, DO, FACOI, FAODME, Named President and CEO of AACOM
Announced at Educating Leaders 2019, Dr. Cain was chosen as the President and CEO of AACOM after an extensive, six-month nationwide search. Dr Cain previously served as the Associate Dean for Clinical Education at the Ohio University Heritage College of Osteopathic Medicine (OU-HCOM). His official start date was July 1, 2019.

AACOM Membership Growth

With the addition of a new branch campus, AACOM membership grew to 56 locations in 33 states since AACOM's last report to the Board of Trustees.

New Branch Campus in Louisiana
The American Osteopathic Association's Commission on Osteopathic College Accreditation (COCA) granted Edward Via College of Osteopathic Medicine the substantive change request for a branch campus in Monroe, Louisiana.

Osteopathic Medical School Applications Update

Application Cycle Update
The 2018-2019 AACOMAS application cycle closed April 12, 2019, with a total of 197,709 applications submitted by 22,367 applicants, at an average of 8.84 designations per applicant. The number of applications increased by 6.42 percent and the number of applicants increased by 2.87 percent from last year's totals. The 2019-2020 AACOMAS application cycle opened May 2, 2019, and colleges began receiving application data on June 14. Preliminary AACOMAS applicant numbers indicate there were 2,453 verified applicants as of June 12, 2019—an approximate 14 percent increase in verified applicants from this time last year. The 2019-2020 application cycle closes April 10, 2020, although many colleges maintain submission deadlines before this date.

Applicant Resources
The online edition of the Student Guide to Osteopathic Medical Colleges, formerly known as the College Information Book, was published in May. The Student Guide is a long-standing annual publication produced by AACOM both in digital and print formats and includes up-to-date information on each of the nation's accredited osteopathic medical colleges, as well as other pertinent information on osteopathic medical school and the AACOMAS application and process.

AACOM is thrilled to announce a companion to the Student Guide, the Choose DO Explorer, a searchable web-based database that gives premedical students, pre-health advisors, and other interested parties the ability to find the right osteopathic school for them utilizing the filter options. This tool is still in its infancy and AACOM has plans to expand functionality within the next year.

Medical School Fairs
AACOM, together with participating colleges of osteopathic medicine, hosted two virtual fairs in the 2018-2019 cycle with plans to host two more in 2019-2020 due to the overwhelming success. These fairs provided faculty, staff, and current students at AACOM member colleges the opportunity to engage from a home computer with prospective students across the country, while also providing a free online way for potential applicants to

interact with different colleges of osteopathic medicine (COMs), ask questions, and gain important insight into the osteopathic medical school application process and student experience.

In April 2019, AACOM hosted an in-person medical school expo. Over 215 prospective students and their guests traveled from 15 states to Washington, DC to participate in the Choose DO Medical School Expo, geared toward aspiring physicians interested in learning more about the osteopathic medical profession and meeting with member colleges.

In all, 29 main and branch campuses of colleges of osteopathic medicine chose to participate. With over 216 attendees, 90.74% were in the inquiry stage, meaning that they had not yet applied to AACOMAS in the past. 59% of attendees self-identified as a graduate or post graduate. In addition to the excellent survey feedback received from medical schools, AACOM asked respondents how likely they were to attend a COM after attending the event, and 95.7% indicated that they were very likely OR somewhat likely. Forty four percent of respondents indicated that they intend to apply in the 2020 application cycle and overall and 55% of respondents indicated that they plan to apply within the next 3 years.

Fee Assistance Program

AACOM continues to monitor the reach of the AACOMAS Fee Waiver program to assist financially disadvantaged students with funds to apply to osteopathic medical school. We're delighted that 27% of students that received a Fee Waiver in 2017-2018 matriculated into a College of Osteopathic Medicine.

For the second consecutive cycle, AACOM has awarded waivers to all eligible financially disadvantaged applicants through the AACOMAS Fee Assistance Program. AACOM will continue to monitor this fund to encourage students from financially disadvantaged backgrounds to become doctors.

Research Update

GME 2019 Match Report

AACOM recently released its Report on Osteopathic Medical Placements in 2019 Matches. Data reported by the COMs show that 98.48% of spring 2019 graduates seeking GME successfully placed in graduate medical education (as of April 1, 2019). (There may be additional placements, however, the number of remaining GME positions is limited.) This represents 6,482 new physicians beginning their graduate medical education in July 2019. This compares to 6,186 new physicians in 2018, 98.14% placement rate (updated from 2018 report) and 5,898 new physicians in 2017, 99.34% placement rate. The three-year increase in the number of graduates is accounted for by several COMs graduating their first classes and growth at existing COMs.
Highlights include:

A total of 98.48 percent of all DO graduates seeking GME placing to position, of these:

- 21.59 percent seeking GME participated in the AOA match:
  - 13.61 percent match/placed in AOA GME
  - 4.04 percent matched in military match
  - 0.59 percent matched to other GME
- 83.55 percent seeking GME participated in the NRMP match:
  - 96.04 percent NRMP participants matched in NRMP/SOAP
  - 80.23 percent NRMP all participants matched in NRMP/SOAP

Project on Osteopathic Medical Education and Empathy (POMEE)
A full report on POMEE, the first study of empathy in osteopathic medical education in the United States with a national scope, was provided at Educating Leaders 2019. Phase I, Round 1, a survey of incoming first year students, saw 43 campuses participate with an average response rate of 86% (median 92%). Phase I, Round 2, a survey of end-of-academic-year students in years one through four, concluded in August 2018, with 43 campuses again participating with a mean response rate of 44%; a median of 39%, and usable responses totaling 10,746. Initial results of Phase II were presented at the AOA's Osteopathic Medical Education meeting (OMED) in October 2018; results were provided to participants who voluntarily disclosed an email address. Students and COMs were also provided a nationally normed table to help interpret the results, as well as suggestions for improving their empathy while in osteopathic medical school. Two publications have already been accepted from this national survey, and another publication has been submitted.

Phase 2, a longitudinal study of changes in empathy over the four years of osteopathic medical school, was introduced at the 2018 OMED meeting, and data collection will begin in summer, 2019. The American Osteopathic Association has again agreed to co-sponsor this important research, which begins with the survey of matriculating students in the class of 2023, is ready to be fielded.

Predictive Analytics
The Board of Deans recently agreed to fund a predictive analytics project for AACOM's member Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine. AACOM has engaged a data consultant to assist it in aggregating all its data into a data lake, so that connections between AACOM's many data sets (which include applicants, students, and graduates as well as Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine, can be explored and changes over time can be observed and used for estimates of future performance. The second part of this effort, which is rolling out late summer, is a tool for osteopathic medical students and their advisors to use to explore a student's qualifications for residency based on test scores compared to those who previously matched to those programs.

Medical Education Update

National Academy of Osteopathic Medical Educators
At Educating Leaders 2019, eight new fellows and seven renewing fellows were inducted into the National Academy of Osteopathic Medical Educators (NAOME). NAOME Fellows are inducted into the Academy each year to serve a five-year term, functioning as leaders and mentors for academic scholarship and excellence within the OME community.

Task Force on Ethics and Professionalism
Members of the Ethics and Professionalism Task Force met at Educating Leaders 2019 in April 2019. A report from Timothy Kowalski, DO, outlined the work of the Commission on Osteopathic College Accreditation (COCA) surrounding this issue. The task force received information on the use of campus climate surveys and best practices in teaching and assessing the understanding of professionalism and its impact on students and patients.

Outcomes of the Task Force include developing models and best practices for students, faculty, and patients in the areas of model policies; research; curriculum; and developing resources and toolkits for COMs, physicians, students and patients. The Task Force just released some research (sponsored by the Task Force and conducted by students at College of Osteopathic Medicine of the Pacific – Northwest) and model policies on reporting and investigating reports of sexual harassment and assault as well as other forms of bullying and victimization; a

policy on the use of chaperones; and a policy for ensuring a safe environment for teaching students OMM and OMT. Future outputs this summer will include model curriculum (including consent, recognition of victimization and boundary violations, and self-regulatory responsibilities); best practices in teaching and assessment; ensuring a campus culture that promotes safety for students and patients; campus climate surveys and other educational resources for COM faculty, students, and patients.

AACOM Leadership Institute Programs

- **Senior Leadership Development Program (SLDP)**
  The 2019-2020 Senior Leadership Development Program (SLDP) program began in April 2019 and will conclude in April 2020. The program is intended to assist new and experienced deans, current, interim, or designated deans, and others identified by their schools as potential future deans to develop and enhance critical leadership and management competencies. The SLDP was conceived and developed together with AACOM leadership in close consultation with the Academy for Academic Leadership (AAL).
- **Administrator Leadership Development Program (ALDP)**
  In April 2019, twenty-eight individuals presented their group Capstone Projects and graduated from the Administrator Leadership Development Program (ALDP). This program targeted osteopathic administrative leaders serving as department chairs, vice chairs, directors, heads, assistant deans, and associate deans who lead departments and programs at U.S. COMs.
- **Osteopathic Health Policy Fellowship (OHPF)**
  The Osteopathic Health Policy Fellowship (OHPF) recently accepted its new class of 12 candidates from across the country who will meet ten times at sessions covering all aspects of advocacy and leading policy change. The program, sponsored by AACOM and led by Dan Skinner of Ohio University College of Osteopathic Medicine and Al Pheley of the proposed Minnesota College of Osteopathic Medicine, is entering its second year under AACOM's direction and recently submitted its strategic plan to AACOM Board of Deans. Its current class of 13 fellows graduates in September.

Council of Osteopathic Student Government Presidents (COSGP)

Sam Zarbock from Rocky Vista University was selected as Chair of the COSGP. This year's theme is leadership. The council will continue its focus on mental health including promotion of the medical student day of wellness, and resurveying students on issues related to mental health.

Educational Council on Osteopathic Principles (ECOP)

Becky Giusti, DO, from Western University was chosen as Chair of ECOP for a two-year term. ECOP is working on standardizing teaching on specific topics. Sacral mechanics with attention to motion in pregnancy has been chosen as the area most in need of standardization and a task force is working on a white paper on this topic.

Interprofessional Education Collaborative (IPEC)

IPEC held a leadership training session for leaders of interprofessional education in Washington, DC in February 2019. A presentation was provided by Mark R. Speicher, PhD, MHA, AACOM Senior Vice-President for Medical Education and Research, and Luke H. Mortensen, PhD, FAHA, Director of Professional Faculty Development & Chair of Pharmacology, Physiology, and Pathology at Idaho College of Osteopathic Medicine.

Educating Leaders 2019, the AACOM Annual Conference

Educating Leaders 2019, the AACOM Annual Conference, was held April 10-12 under the leadership of conference chair, Linda Boyd, DO, Senior Associate Dean for Academic Affairs, Rowan University School of Osteopathic Medicine (RowanSOM). The theme for was "Big Data," and featured programming with the new

research and scholarly work from across the broad osteopathic medical education landscape. There were over 160 oral and poster presentations, including six workshops. The poster competition resulted in winners for Faculty, Student and Resident/Fellow Physician Posters.

Highlights from the conference included plenary sessions provided by:

- Kyu Rhee, MD, MPP, Vice President and Chief Health Officer of IBM, who spoke on how artificial intelligence will help invent and advance a new era of health
- Eric Warm, MD, FACP, Director of the Internal Medicine Residency Program at the University of Cincinnati, spoke about resident assessment and big data
- Jennifer Goldbeck, PhD, MS, Director of Social Intelligence Lab at the University of Maryland, addressed the challenges and opportunities Big Data and social networks pose for both health care professionals and individuals

Educating Leaders 2020 will be held March 25-27, in Washington, DC. The theme will be *Advocating Wellness, Advancing Education* and the Call for Abstracts is currently open.

2019 AACOM Awards

AACOM honored the 2019 awards at Educating Leaders 2019, the AACOM Annual Conference, held April 10-12 in Washington, DC.

- Dale Dodson Award: This award recognizes a current or past CEO or COA of an osteopathic medical college who has made significant contributions to the advancement or support of osteopathic medical education.
    - *Recipient: Anthony J. Silvagni, DO, PharmD, MSc, Dean Emeritus and Director of International Medicine for the Nova Southeastern University Dr. Kiran C. Patel College of Osteopathic Medicine (NSU-KPCOM)*
- Robert A. Kistner Award: This award is presented to individuals who have made a significant contribution to osteopathic medical education.
    - *Recipient: Dixie Tooke-Rawlins, DO, FACOFP, President and Provost of the Edward Via College of Osteopathic Medicine (VCOM-Virginia)*
- William D. Miller Award: This award recognizes extraordinary individuals who have made tremendous contributions to the advancement of the osteopathic profession.
    - *Recipient: Thomas J. Nasca, MD, MACP, Chief Executive Officer of the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME), CEO and Founding President of ACGME International, Professor of Medicine at Jefferson Medical College, and Senior Scholar of the Department of Medical Education at the University of Illinois at Chicago School of Medicine*
- Society of Osteopathic Medical Educators (SOME) Innovation in Medical Education Awards: These awards recognize the year's educational innovations that have resulted in meaningful change at the developer's institution.
    - *Marguerite Elliott Innovation in Clinical Medical Education Award Recipient: Melissa Renee Stephens, MD, FAAFP, Associate Professor of Clinical Sciences & Director of Graduate Medical Education and Population Health at William Carey University College of Osteopathic Medicine*

  - *Innovation in the Development of Enduring Educational Materials Award Recipient: Rich A. Salas, PhD, Chief Diversity Officer and Assistant Professor at Des Moines University College of Osteopathic Medicine, and Jeritt Tucker, PhD, Assistant Professor at Des Moines University College of Osteopathic Medicine*
- ED to MED Outstanding Advocate of the Year Award: This award honors exceptional dedication to the hard work of advocacy.
  - *Recipient: Mustafa Basree, MS, second-year osteopathic medical student from the University of Pikeville Kentucky College of Osteopathic Medicine*
- National Student DO of the Year: This award is chosen from among the outstanding students selected by their schools as Student DO of the Year on the basis of their service to their college, leadership and research experiences, and dedication to the osteopathic profession.
  - *Recipient: Taran W. Silva, fourth-year osteopathic medical student at the Michigan State University College of Osteopathic Medicine*
- National Student Researcher of the Year: This award is chosen from among the outstanding students selected by their schools on the basis of the student's contributions to osteopathic research that align with the mission of both the osteopathic profession and COSGP—to advance the philosophy, practice, and science of osteopathic medicine.
  - *Recipient: Sayan Mullick Chowdhury, PhD, from the Ohio University Heritage College of Osteopathic Medicine*
- Outstanding Advancement in Osteopathic Medical Education Award: This award recognizes colleges who have instituted a curricular or programmatic enhancement that embraces the osteopathic philosophy, strengthens the DO student experience, and advances osteopathic medical education.
  - *Recipient: John Giannini, MD, Associate Professor of Internal Medicine and Faculty Director of the Simulation Center at the Alabama College of Osteopathic Medicine (ACOM)*

Government Relations Update

AACOM Efforts in Congress to Introduce THCGME Legislation

AACOM worked closely with Senator Collins' (R-ME) and Representative Ruiz's (D-CA) offices to introduce the *Training the Next Generation of Primary Care Doctors Act of 2019* (S. 1191/H.R. 2815), for which AACOM announced its strong support. AACOM also led six other national health organizations as part of the Teaching Health Center coalition in support of the bills. In addition, *Senator Collins published a* press release *in which AACOM's Office of Government Relations secured quotes from Jane Carreiro,* DO, Vice President for Health Affairs and Dean of the College of Osteopathic Medicine, University of New England, *and Stephen C. Shannon, DO, MPH, AACOM President and CEO.*

These bipartisan bills would expand the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA)'s Teaching Health Center Graduate Medical Education (THCGME) Program for five years, providing enhanced funding and a pathway for growth in the number of residents trained. The program will expire at the end of the fiscal year (FY). AACOM played an active role in ensuring that the bills included provisions critical to the osteopathic medical education (OME) community.

Additionally, Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions (HELP) Committee Chairman Lamar Alexander (R-TN) and Ranking Member Patty Murray (D-WA) introduced the *Community and Public Health Programs Extension Act* (S. 192). The bill would extend five years of federal funding for the THCGME Program, community health centers, the National Health Service Corps, and two other federal health programs. On January 29, the Senate HELP Committee held a hearing on access to care in underserved communities where this legislation and the importance of the THCGME Program were at the core of the discussion. AACOM thanked Senators Alexander and Murray for their strong leadership in introducing the *Community and Public Health Programs Extension Act*.

AACOM Submits Testimony on Funding Priorities Important to OME

AACOM submitted testimony to the House and Senate Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies Appropriations Subcommittees outlining its FY20 funding priorities, including the Title VII health professions education programs administered through HRSA. These programs support the training and education of health practitioners to enhance the supply, diversity, and distribution of the health care workforce, acting as an essential part of the health care safety net and filling the gaps in the supply of health professionals not met by traditional market forces.

Efforts on GME

AACOM continues to support legislation that will increase graduate medical education (GME) as well as protect against any possible funding cuts. AACOM has endorsed the following bills in the 116th Congress:

- *Advancing Medical Resident Training in Community Hospitals Act of 2019* (H.R. 1358). The bill, introduced by Representatives Ron Kind (D-WI) and Mike Gallagher (R-WI), would provide a technical fix to a dated Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services rule, allowing residents from newly established medical schools to continue their training in nearby hospitals and ultimately retaining these future physicians to practice in the communities where they train.
- *Resident Physician Shortage Reduction Act of 2019* (S. 348/ H.R. 1763). The bills, introduced by Senators Bob Menendez (D-NJ) and John Boozman (R-AR) and Minority Leader Charles Schumer (D-NY), and Representatives Terri Sewell (D-AL), John Katko (R-NY), Xochitl Torres Small (D-NM), and Rodney Davis (R-IL), would increase physician training capacity nationally by 15,000 over five years, prioritize residency positions for hospitals in states with new medical schools or new branch campuses, and emphasize training in community-based settings.
- *Restoring Rural Residencies Act of 2019* (S. 1240). The bill, introduced by Senator Jon Tester (D-MT), would address an inadvertent consequence of the *Affordable Care Act* that restricted Medicare from reimbursing residency programs for the time residents spend completing rotations at critical access hospitals.
- *Rural Physician Workforce Production Act of 2019* (S. 289). The bill, introduced by Senator Cory Gardner (R-CO) and cosponsored by Senators Jon Tester (D-MT) and Cindy Hyde-Smith (R-MS), would expand rural medical residency training programs by establishing comparable per-resident payment for training in rural hospitals relative to those in urban communities, and eliminate rural hospital residency caps to encourage growth of rural training programs.
- *Opioid Workforce Act of 2019* (H.R. 2439). The bill, introduced by Representatives Brad Schneider (D-IL), Susan Brooks (R-IN), Ann McLane Kuster (D-NH), and Elise Stefanik (R-NY), would help to combat the nation's opioid crisis by increasing the number of residency positions available for medical school graduates who are committed to working in addiction medicine and pain management.

Federal Advisory Committees

AACOM nominees currently serving on federal advisory committees include:

- Thomas A. Cavalieri, DO, on the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs' National Academic Affiliations Council and the National Committee on Foreign Medical Education and Accreditation (NCFMEA). Dr. Cavalieri previously served on the NCFMEA from May 2015 – September 30, 2017 and was reappointed to the Committee to serve from August 24, 2018 – September 30, 2021.
- Kenneth J. Veit, DO, MBA, on the HRSA Council on Graduate Medical Education.
- Thomas E. McWilliams, DO, Chair of the HRSA Advisory Committee on Training in Primary Care Medicine and Dentistry.

2019 COM Day & Virtual Hill Day Date Announced

AACOM announced its 2019 COM Day on Capitol Hill and Virtual Hill Day, which will take place on October 16-17. Osteopathic medical school/campus deans, osteopathic GME leaders, other designated representatives, and students will come from all over the country to Washington, DC to participate. Advocates will raise their voices in meetings and on social media platforms during our Virtual Hill Day to let lawmakers know why protecting federal programs such as Grad PLUS, Public Service Loan Forgiveness, and GME is critical to support the future physician workforce and the health of our nation's patients.

AACOM Announces 2020 OHPIs

AACOM has selected three exceptional osteopathic medical students to participate in its 2020 Osteopathic Health Policy Internship (OHPI) Program:

- D. Tyler King, OMS-IV, MSEd, New York Institute of Technology College of Osteopathic Medicine, Jonesboro, Arkansas
- Harris Ahmed, MPH, OMS-IV, Burrell College of Osteopathic Medicine
- Wessley D. Square, OMS-IV, Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine

As part of AACOM's Leadership Institute, the OHPI Program enables osteopathic medical students to spend two months in Washington, DC, in AACOM's Office of Government Relations on Capitol Hill. The objective of the program is to afford selected student interns the opportunity to develop an understanding and operational knowledge of how federal health care and higher education policy is developed, and how to effectively influence public policy.

AACOM Federal Comments

AACOM submits numerous public comments, statements, and letters to Congress, federal agencies, and the Administration. View a complete list of recent comments submitted.

Assembly of Osteopathic Graduate Medical Educators (AOGME) & GME Initiatives Update

Assembly of Osteopathic Graduate Medical Educators (AOGME)

AACOM's Assembly of Osteopathic Graduate Medical Educators (AOGME) celebrated its one-year anniversary within AACOM in January 2019. AOGME's membership currently comprises GME professionals, including Directors of Medical Education (DMEs), Designated Institutional Officials (DIOs), Directors of Osteopathic Education (DOEs), program directors, faculty, administrators, support personnel and others involved in osteopathic GME. In addition, the membership now also includes residents and fellows in the newly launched Residents and Fellows Council. The AOGME continues to host regular monthly webinars on topics such as GME accreditation, scholarship & research, resident/physician/patient well-being, ACGME Osteopathic Recognition and more. Webinars are now offering continuing medical education (CME) credits. The webinar recordings and materials are available on-demand.

AACOM continues to support Osteopathic Recognition through a suite of resources such as the AOGME Advance OGME listserv to facilitate discussions related to Osteopathic Recognition and osteopathic training in GME. In February 2019, AOGME issued a request for proposals to develop a national osteopathic curriculum that will assist GME training programs in obtaining and maintaining Osteopathic Recognition. This curriculum is intended to be flexible enough to be delivered on-line or live, depending on the resources available at each program. Proposals are requested by July 1, 2019. Read the Request for Proposals.

AACOM UME-GME Digital Resource Library Launch

The AACOM UME-GME Continuum Initiative's faculty development working group launched an online resource library designed to support GME professionals, residents, and others seeking or maintaining Osteopathic Recognition by providing them with a platform for sharing and finding osteopathic GME educational resources. After curating existing resources such as books, webinars, workshops, events and more, this resource currently houses over 85 resources and is available here. Between January 31-April 2019, the library web site has received 165,000 visits. The AOGME established the first editorial board for the digital resource library to review and approve submitted content. The editorial board is currently soliciting submissions with a deadline of July 15, 2019. Submit a resource today.

Osteopathic Recognition Matters: Programs for Optimal Patient Care

AACOM will soon launch an awareness campaign for Osteopathic Recognition targeting programs, institutions, residents, students and Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine (COMs). This marketing campaign will be comprehensive and sustained and will be led by the marketing firm, Beekeeper Group, Inc. The campaign name is "Osteopathic Recognition Matters: Programs for Optimal Patient Care." The official launch for the campaign is anticipated in summer 2019.

Graduate Medical Education Leadership Development Program (GME-LDP)
In collaboration with the Academy for Academic Leadership (AAL), AACOM will soon launch the AOGME Graduate Medical Education Leadership Development Program (GME-LDP). This program will focus on leadership and faculty development for GME leaders, including Directors of Osteopathic Education. This program will be organized in a hybrid model, including both virtual webinars and one face-to-face meeting for the selected cohort in 2020. For this first year, the program targets new and junior faculty in GME programs and will launch the webinar portion in Fall 2019 and hold the in-person meeting in early 2020.

"Supporting the education and professional development of osteopathic medical students through a not-for-profit commitment to administering scholarships and promoting philanthropy."

2019-2020 Board of Directors:

Hector Zelaya, OMS IV Foundation Chairperson
Sarah Bechay, OMS IV Director of Scholarships and Grants
Shikha Patel, OMS III Director of Financial Affairs
Jessica Frazelle, OMS IV Director of Membership
Renee Wakulski, OMS III Foundation Liaison

Affiliate Report to the American Osteopathic Association
House of Delegates, July 2019

SOMA Foundation Board Transition
We are excited for our new board members who began in their respective roles March 2017 as indicated above. Plans are underway for many new projects during the upcoming year. As always, we welcome all AOA members to participate in our annual service projects, SOMA Foundation Night Out events, and SOMA Foundation Receptions at OMED.

Scholarships
Our Spring Scholarship winners were announced during the National SOMA Spring Convention March 3-4, 2019.

- Total scholarships distributed: 8
- Total amount disbursed: $7,500
- Titles of scholarships: *AT Still Memorial, Teget Leadership, International Medicine, Ed and Melissa Loniewski Medically Underserved*
- *For more information: http://www.somafoundation.org/scholarships--grants.html*

Grants
During our fiscal year we distributed 7 grants to student leaders for the following COM projects.

- Total Grants distributed: 7
    - UIWSOM - SOMA Cenas! (funding: $500)
        - Project request was for funding to invite members of the community to learn how to cook healthy meals at low cost.
    - UIWSOM - Mini DO Day (funding: $500)
        - Project request was for funding to host an educational pilot and collaborative partnership between UIWSOM student organizations and Southside Independent School District focusing on advocacy, education, and health empowerment

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- TouroCOM Harlem - Physicians for Human Rights National Student Conference (funding: $1000)
  - Project request was for funding to host the organization's annual national conference at TouroCOM Harlem.
- TouroCOM Harlem - OMM Rent-a-Bed (funding: $500)
  - Project request was for funding to purchase portable OMM tables for students to rent.
- BCOM - Las Cruces Health Fairs (funding: $500)
  - Project request was for funding to host a health to provide the community with more health literacy, preventative medicine, and health screenings
- SOMA Foundation Travel Grants (funding: $500 each)
  - Funding was given to 3 SOMA members to provide financial assistance to attend the SOMA 2019 Spring Convention

- Total funding: $4,500

DO Day on the Hill
All previous and upcoming Foundation Board members participated in the AOA DO Day on the Hill event on March 5, 2019. We look forward to participating next year as well.

Upcoming Events:

- Fall Scholarship Drive 2019
- Grant Distribution for 2019-2020
- National SOMA Summer Leadership Meeting 2019 - hosting community outreach opportunities such as participating in the 5K Run for Gus and providing coloring books for Lurie's Children Hospital in Chicago, SOMA Foundation Night Out, and introducing our 2019-2020 agenda.
- AOA House of Delegates 2019 - hosting a booth

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- OMED 2019 SOMA Foundation Reception - presentation of the 2019 Northup Educator of the Year and Fall Scholarship winners.
- OMED 2019 - plan to co-host a booth

Call for New Partners: Please contact us today if any AOA member is interested in sponsoring a new scholarship for osteopathic medical students.

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On behalf of the SOMA Foundation, thank you for your continued support as we strive to celebrate the education and accomplishments of osteopathic medical students and the impact they have within the community!

Sincerely,

Hector Zelaya, OMS IV
SOMA Foundation Chairperson

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