2025 Annual Business Meeting and House of Delegates

- **Annual Business Meeting: July 14-16, 2025**

House of Delegates: July 18-20, 2025

Chicago Marriott Magnificent Mile

AMERICAN OSTEOPATHIC ASSOCIATION

142 E. Ontario St.
Chicago, IL 60611
312.202.8000
osteopathic.org

105th Annual Meeting of the Board of Trustees and House of Delegates Annual Meeting

Chicago Marriott Downtown Magnificent Mile Hotel, 540 N. Michigan Avenue, Chicago, IL 60611

House of Delegates Itinerary*

*All times listed below are Central Time. *Subject to Change*

Unless otherwise noted – Business Attire is required.

Tuesday, July 8, 2025		
Time	**Event**	**Location**
TBD	Credentialing Committee Meeting (Virtual)	Zoom

Wednesday, July 16, 2025		
Time	**Event**	**Location**
9 am – 3:30 pm	Board of Trustees General Session	Marriott, Chicago E, 5th Flr Click here to participate virtually

Thursday, July 17, 2025		
Time	**Event**	**Location**
11:30 am – 12:30 pm	Committee on Rules and Order of Business Meeting	Marriott, Lincolnshire, 6th Flr
3 – 4:30 pm	Public Policy Town Hall	Marriott, Chicago A-D, 5th Flr
Throughout Day	State and Organizational Meetings	

Friday, July 18, 2025		
Time	**Event**	**Location**
8 – 8:30 am	HOD Delegate Orientation	Marriott, Chicago E, 5th Flr
9 am – 12 pm	House of Delegates (HOD) Meeting	Marriott, Grand Ballroom, 7th Flr
12 – 12:45 pm	HOD Reference Committee Chairs/Member Meeting & Orientation (Lunch Provided)	Marriott, Chicago D, 5th Flr
1:30 – 4:30 pm	HOD Reference Committee Meetings Ad Hoc Committee Committee on Constitution and Bylaws Committee on Educational Affairs Committee on Professional Affairs Committee on Public Affairs Committee on Resolutions Joint Board / House Budget Review	Marriott Indiana, 6th Flr Northwestern, 6th Flr Avenue Ballroom, 4th Flr Clark, 4th Floor Addison, 4th Floor Kane, 3rd Floor Sheffield, 4th Floor

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Saturday, July 19, 2025		
Time	**Event**	**Location**
7:30 – 8 am	House of Delegates Meeting (Nominations)	Marriott, Grand Ballroom, 7th Flr
8 – 10:30 am	House of Delegates Meeting (Reference Committee Reports)	Marriott, Grand Ballroom, 7th Flr
11 am	AT Still Memorial Lecture and AT Still Bust Presentation	Marriott, Grand Ballroom, 7th Flr
11:45 am – 12:15 pm	2025 AOA Awards Presentation | OPAC Awards Presentation	Marriott, Grand Ballroom, 7th Flr
12:15 – 1:30 pm	Lunch on own	
1:30 – 3:30 pm	House of Delegates Meeting (Reference Committee Reports)	Marriott, Grand Ballroom, 7th Flr
4:30 – 5:30 pm	Inaugural Speech of the 2025 / 2026 AOA President	Marriott, Grand Ballroom, 7th Flr
6:30 – 9:30 pm	Presidential Inauguration Reception	Marriott, Chicago, 5th Flr

Sunday, July 20, 2025		
Time	**Event**	**Location**
7:30 – 11 am	House of Delegates Meeting (Elections / Reports)	Marriott, Grand Ballroom, 7th Flr

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2025 ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING OF THE AOA BOARD OF TRUSTEES

General Session
Wednesday, July 16, 2025 · 9 am – 3:30 pm CT
Chicago Marriott Downtown Magnificent Mile Hotel · Room: Chicago A-D, 5th FL

Time	Agenda Item		Presenter(s)
9 am	Call to Order and Welcome		Teresa A. Hubka, DO, FACOOG (Dist.), President
	Roll Call and Quorum Establishment		Val Carr, Chief of Staff
	Osteopathic Pledge of Commitment / AOA Mission and Vision Statement		Teresa A. Hubka, DO, FACOOG (Dist.), President
	Invocation		Timothy J. Kowalski, DO
	Introduction of Guests		Teresa A. Hubka, DO, FACOOG (Dist.), President
9:15 am	Conflict of Interest Disclosures		Teresa A. Hubka, DO, FACOOG (Dist.), President
	Adoption of Agenda	Action	
9:20 am	AOA Strategic Planning Session		Kevin Whorton, Vista Cova Zack Wahlquist, Vista Cova
10:20 am	**Break**		
10:30 am	AOA Strategic Planning Session		Zack Wahlquist, Vista Cova
12 pm	**Lunch**		
	Leadership Reports		
12:45 pm	President Report		Teresa A. Hubka, DO, FACOOG (Dist.), President
1:05 pm	President-Elect Report		Robert G.G. Piccinini, DO, D.FACN, President-Elect
1:15 pm	CEO Report		Kathleen S. Creason, MBA, CEO
1:20 pm	105th House of Delegates Overview		Ray L. Morrison, DO, Speaker, House of Delegates

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Time	Agenda Item	Presenter(s)
	Osteopathic Stakeholder Organizational Updates **Theme: Solidarity**	
1:25 pm	American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine (AACOM)	Robert A. Cain, DO, President and CEO
	National Board of Osteopathic Medical Examiners (NBOME)	John R. Gimpel, DO, President and CEO
	American Society of Osteopathic Medical Regulators (ASOMR)	Christine Khandelwal, DO, President
	American Osteopathic Foundation (AOF)	Scott Cyrus, DO, President
	American Osteopathic Information Association (AOIA)	Norman E. Vinn, MBA, DO, Chair
	Advocates for the American Osteopathic Association (AAOA)	Kristina Eisenhardt, President
	Osteopathic International Alliance (OIA)	Boyd R. Buser, DO, Chair
	Association of Osteopathic State Executive Directors (AOSED)	Michelle W. Larson, CAE, CMP, President
	Society of Osteopathic Specialty Executives (SOSE)	Stewart Hinckley, CAE, President Sue Wesserling, MBA, Executive Committee
2 pm	**Break**	
	Osteopathic Student Organizational Updates **Theme: Solidarity**	
	Student Osteopathic Medical Association (SOMA)	Joshua Connor, OMS III, President
	Council of Osteopathic Student Government Presidents (COSGP)	Megan Campbell, OMS III, Chair

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Time	Agenda Item	Presenter(s)
	Student National Medical Association (SNMA)	Marisa Arakawa, OMS IV, SNMA National Osteopathic Schools Committee Co-Chair
	Latino Medical Student Association (LMSA)	Kimberly Flores, OMS III, VP of Programming
	Bureau Reports	
	Bureau of Emerging Leaders (BEL)	Shawn Hamm, DO, Chair
	Bureau of Osteopathic Specialists (BOS)	Carolyn W. Quist, DO, Chair Furhut Janssen, DO, Vice Chair
3:15 pm	Recognition of Outgoing Members of the AOA Board of Trustees ▪ Ernest R. Gelb, DO ▪ Brie Howerton, DO *Postdoctoral Trainee Member* ▪ Shawn Hamm, DO *New Physician in Practice Member* ▪ Palmer Ford, DO *Student Member*	Teresa A. Hubka, DO, FACOOG (Dist.), President
3:25 pm	Closing Remarks	Teresa A. Hubka, DO, FACOOG (Dist.), President
3:30 pm	Adjournment	Teresa A. Hubka, DO, FACOOG (Dist.), President

Organizational Written Reports

Osteopathic Pledge of Commitment

I pledge to:

Provide compassionate, quality care to my patients;
Partner with them to promote health;

Display integrity and professionalism throughout my career;
Advance the philosophy, practice and science of osteopathic medicine;
Continue life-long learning;

Support my profession with loyalty in action, word and deed; and
Live each day as an example of what an osteopathic physician should be.

Mission and Vision Statements

Mission

The AOA is the professional home for osteopathic physicians and students, providing education, board certification and is the champion of the advancement of the distinctive osteopathic profession.

Vision

The AOA aspires to be the “North Star” of the osteopathic profession by advancing the interests of osteopathic physicians and students and promoting excellence in patient care consistent with the distinctive osteopathic philosophy.

FY 2025 Bureaus / Committees / Council Goals Inventory

A.T. Still Foundation and Research Institute

Goals	*OG	*SP	Status
Ensure the financial stability of the Foundation.	N/A	4.1.1B1	✓
Ensure the mission of the Foundation is fulfilled annually.	N/A	4.1.1B1	✓
Evaluate the use of the Foundation's funding, ensuring that funding distributed by the Foundation meets the aims of the Charter and Bylaws and that meaningful outcomes are achieved.	N/A	4.1.1B1	✓

Audit Committee

Goals	*OG	*SP	Status
Complete open audits (FY23 & FY24) by May 31, 2025	N/A	N/A	x
Review auditor findings and implement audit findings by May 31, 2025	N/A	N/A	✓
Regular reporting to the Finance Committee of the Board.	N/A	N/A	✓

Bureau of Affiliate Relations (BAR)

Goal	*OG	*SP	Status
Foster a collegial environment for affiliate leaders to provide input on critical issues being considered by the AOA BOT.	3	2, 6	✓
Receive and consider affiliate leader input and communicate relevant information to the CEO, President, and BOT.	3,4	2, 6	✓
Participate in the planning and development of the Affiliate Leader Meeting (ALM).	3, 4	2, 6, 7	✓
Evaluate and make recommendations for all affiliate-related award nominees to the Committee on Awards.	1, 2, 3	2, 5.5, 6, 7	✓
Facilitate affiliate consideration of innovative structures and solutions in response to shifting environments.	1, 3, 4	2, 6, 7	✓

Bureau of Emerging Leaders (BEL)

Goals / Outcomes	*OG	*SP	Status
Develop a listing with qualifications, of national-level appointment opportunities for BEL constituents with a working draft available for the BEL Summit at OMED24.	2, 3		✓
Develop a process to inform BEL constituents of opportunities for engagement with AOA leadership structure	2, 3		✓
Working with AOA House officers, educate BEL constituents on policy development and resolution process	2, 3		✓
Provide insights to AOA Communications department to ensure communication vehicles provide current and relevant information to BEL constituents	4		✓
Hold at least two engaging and effective BEL Summits throughout the year to continue building strategic partnerships with BEL constituent leaders.	1, 3		✓
Provide perspective to Certifying Board Services on board certification resources and marketing materials directed toward BEL constituents.	1, 4		✓

* Goals that align with the 2021-2026 AOA Strategic Plan are referenced in the "SP" column.
* Goals that align with the FY 2025 Organizational Goals are referenced in the "OG" column.
✓ denotes completed | x denotes in progress

FY 2025 Bureaus / Committees / Council Goals Inventory

Bureau on Federal Health Programs (BFHP)

Goals / Outcomes	*OG	*SP	Status
Advise the AOA BOT on federal legislative and regulatory issues impacting the practice of osteopathic medicine and the AOA's membership.	N/A	1.1.1	✓
Provide oversight to the communication of critical BFHP, CERA and CSHA updates to the osteopathic community.	3	1.1.2	✓
Provide governance oversight to the AOA's grassroots legislative advocacy program.	N/A	1.1.1, 1.1.2	✓
Support the Training in Policies Studies program.	2	2	✓
Provide governance oversight to the CERA and CSHA.	N/A	1.1.1, 1.1.2	✓
Provide recommendation and guidance to enhance partnerships with divisional societies and specialty colleges with respect to state and federal initiatives.	3	2	✓
Increase affiliate visibility to BFHP meetings and the opportunity to participate virtually in bureau meetings when possible.	3	2	✓
Disseminate advocacy priorities to AOA membership	4	2	✓

Council on Economic and Regulatory Affairs (CERA)

Goals	*OG	*SP	Status
Advise the AOA BOT on healthcare business related issues impacting the practice of osteopathic medicine and the AOA's membership.	N/A	1.1.1, 1.1.2	✓
Recommend strategies to engage federal agencies on issues impacting the osteopathic medical profession.	2	1.1.1	✓
Recommend resource development on federal payment policy and other regulatory issues to enhance AOA membership value.	N/A	1.1.1	✓
Identify and monitor payer behaviors impacting our members.	N/A	1, 2	✓

Council on State Health Affairs (CSHA)

Goals	*OG	*SP	Status
Provide governance with respect to state legislative and regulatory issues impacting the practice of osteopathic medicine and the AOA's membership.	N/A	1.1.2	✓
Make recommendations to the AOA BOT regarding how the AOA may assist divisional societies and specialty colleges, concerning state legislative and regulatory initiatives.	3	1, 2	✓
Provide input to staff regarding assisting divisional societies and specialty colleges with respect to state and regulatory initiatives.	3	1, 2	✓

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FY 2025 Bureaus / Committees / Council Goals Inventory

Bureau of International Osteopathic Medicine (BIOM)

Goals	*OG	*SP	Status
Provide governance oversight with respect to expanding recognition of the osteopathic medical model and DO-MD equivalency, as well as expanding practice rights for DOs.	N/A	1, 4, 6, 7	✓
Advise the AOA BOT on issues associated with the osteopathic profession internationally.	N/A	4, 6	✓
Work collaboratively with the Osteopathic International Alliance to support their mission.	3	2, 4	✓
Facilitate poster presentation at OMED	4		✓
Biennially, support DO engagement in IAMRA	3	2, 4	✓

Bureau of Osteopathic Education (BOE)

Goals	*OG	*SP	Status
Provide input and subject matter expertise to Presidential Work Groups relating to the continuum of osteopathic medical education.	1		✓
Identify and recommend qualified DOs for consideration for external medical education appointments/nominations when requested.	2		✓
Provide governance oversight to the Program and Trainee Review Council and provide necessary feedback on issues impacting graduate medical education.		1.2, 6.2, 6.4, 7.1	✓
Provide governance oversight to the Council on OMED and act as peer reviewers for AOA CME content when requested.		5.5	✓
Review and respond to resolutions referred to the BOE from the 2024 AOA House of Delegates.	1		✓
Review and make recommendations to the 2025 AOA House of Delegates regarding all education-related sunset policies to ensure that policies are timely and relevant.		6.1	✓
Recommend to JOM Editor potential peer reviewers.	4		✓

Bureau of Membership (BOM)

Goals	*OG	*SP	Status
Provide governance oversight with respect to value of membership programs and services, and availability to non-members.	4	6.5	✓
Provide governance oversight with respect to dues structure and fees, including group discounts.	4	6.5	✓
Provide governance oversight with respect to the annual membership renewal processes.	4	6.5	✓
Recommend specific membership initiatives for aggressive membership growth and engagement.	4	6.2, 6.3, 6.5,	✓
Collaborate with the COMs on the promotion of osteopathic medical student membership activation.	4	6.3, 6.5	✓
Enhance the AACOM partnership to increase the sharing of student information, especially as it relates to residency match data.	4	6.3 6.5	✓
Provide governance oversight on Membership Workgroup recommendations	4	6.5	✓

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FY 2025 Bureaus / Committees / Council Goals Inventory

Bureau of Osteopathic Research and Public Health (BORPH)			
Goals	***OG**	***SP**	**Status**
Make recommendations to the AOA BOT for the annual public health initiatives of the AOA. (Nov or Dec BOT meeting)	NA	4.3.1	✓
Develop additional patient resources through the Living Well/Aging Well public health initiative that include information addressing healthcare disparities. (Final resources due June 2025)	NA	4.3.4	✓
Promote the public health resources developed by BORPH to AOA members. (Marketing plan developed and implemented by Nov 2024)	NA	4.3.3	x
Continue to implement the problem/question-focused research grant program, tracking the applications received for the revised request for proposals for research grants. (Grant applications due Jan 31, 2025.)	NA	4.1.2, 4.1.2A	✓
Provide governance guidance regarding research grant projects. (BORPH will review and approve grant funding in April 2025 and submit to BOT for vote at the May meeting.)	NA	4.1.6 4.3.2	✓
Develop summary of qualifications to serve as research reviewers			✓
Propagate list of research reviewers			✓
Seek new funding opportunities for grants			x

Bureau of Osteopathic Specialists (BOS)			
Goals / Outcomes	*OG	*SP	Status
Goal #1: Provide input and subject matter expertise to ongoing activities related to sustaining and advancing the certification workgroup recommendations, as well as input to any of the Presidential Work Groups when requested.	1.d, 3.a, b	2, 3, 6, 7	✓
Goal #2: Foster collaboration among AOA specialty certifying boards by providing opportunities for each board to share insights, challenges, and best practices within their board programs.	3.a, b	3.2	✓
Goal #3: Consult and advise CBS regarding their gap analysis of all BOS and certifying board policies and processes against best practices and 3rd-party accreditation standards for certification programs.	4.a, c	3.2, 3.3	✓

Committee on AOA Governance and Organizational Structure (CAGOS)			
Goals	***OG**	***SP**	**Status**
Provide governance oversight to the CAGOS Subcommittee on Constitution and Bylaws and Subcommittee on Basic Documents.	1, 4	2.1	✓
Provide an annual review and update of the AOA's Administrative Guide.	1	N/A	✓
Develop an orientation and onboarding process to assist the committee when reviewing the governing documents from the Divisional Societies and Specialty Colleges.	1	N/A	✓

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FY 2025 Bureaus / Committees / Council Goals Inventory

CAGOS Subcommittee on Constitution and Bylaws

Goals	*OG	*SP	Status
Review all Constitution and Bylaws resolutions submitted for consideration by the HOD.	1	6	✓
Suggest Constitution and Bylaws changes, which may be beneficial to the organization.	1	6	✓

CAGOS Subcommittee on Basic Documents

Goals	*OG	*SP	Status
Review and confirm conformity of Divisional Society and Specialty College Constitution and Bylaws with AOA requirements.	4	2.1	✓
Review and make recommendations for improvement of the Divisional Society and Specialty College Constitution and Bylaws submission and review process.	4	2.1	✓
Review and provide guidance to Divisional Societies and Specialty Colleges seeking assistance with Constitution and Bylaws development and modifications	4	2.1	✓
Develop a timeline for the review of the Basic Documents to share with affiliate organizations.	4	2.1	✓

Committee on Awards

Goals	*OG	*SP	Status
Ensure that all AOA award candidates meet the requirements of the AOA Program Criteria Report/Policy as approved by the Board of Trustees in July 2024.	2	4, 7	✓
Present recommended award candidates to the Board of Trustees for final approval.	N/A	N/A	✓

Committee on Administrative Personnel (COAP)

Goals	*OG	*SP	Status
Monitor AOA human resource-related professional liability claims.	3	N/A	✓
Monitor and evaluate the CEO goals and performance.	N/A	N/A	✓
Ensure all volunteer leaders have completed the necessary human resources training.	N/A	5	✓
Monitor the status and function of the employee 401K defined contribution plan.	N/A	N/A	✓
Examine data from CEO and Senior Leaders' 360 reviews.	N/A	N/A	✓
Update CEO Succession Plan.	N/A	N/A	✓
Monitor HR exit interviews of Senior Leaders who voluntarily resign their positions.	N/A	N/A	✓

Council of OMED

Goals	*OG	*SP	Status
Provide governance oversight with respect to the annual OMED conference.	4	6	✓
Participate in presenting a report to the BOT following OMED.	4	6	✓
Participate with AOA leadership in the decision to have a Keynote Speaker(s) and in the selection of Keynote Speaker(s).	4	6	✓
Assess OMED structure and recommend potential modification to the BOT	4	6	✓
Support exhibit hall sales and retention	4	6	✓

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FY 2025 Bureaus / Committees / Council Goals Inventory

Ethics Review and Board Appeals Committee

Goals	*OG	*SP	Status
Develop a training and onboarding program for new committee members	4	4	✓
Provide feedback on ethics-related resolutions	3	4	✓
Conduct ethics reviews in accordance with all policies and procedures	4	4	✓
Conduct board appeals in accordance with all policies and procedures	4	3	✓

Finance Committee

Goals	*OG	*SP	Status
Develop a balanced FY26 operating budget.	3	N/A	✓
Get current on AOA and related entity audits (FY23 & FY24) by May 31, 2025	3	N/A	x
Technology-related goals: • Complete new accounting software update to provide up to date financial data • Collaborate with Human Resources on new payroll system • Use new accounts payable software for better controls and decision making • Use new budgeting and reporting tool for use in preparation of FY26 Budget	3	N/A	x
Develop overhead methodology for purpose of program profitability and analysis	3	N/A	x

Program and Trainee Review Council (PTRC)

Goals	*OG	*SP	Status
Provide input and subject matter expertise to Presidential Work Groups relating to the graduate medical education.	1	N/A	✓
Provide accreditation oversight to the 2 programs under AOA's restricted accreditation authority.	N/A	6.2	✓
Work collaboratively with the osteopathic specialty colleges to ensure that the appropriate standards are maintained for the training programs in the "teach out" process.	N/A	5.5, 6.2	✓
When requested, provide input to the AOA on graduate medical education issues.	N/A	6.1, 7.1	✓

Strategic Planning Committee

Goals	*OG	*SP	Status
Establish the process for gathering input from stakeholders	4	N/A	✓
Review current strategic priorities	4	N/A	✓
Review tactics that support the priorities	4	N/A	✓
Provide a draft plan for approval by the BOT in May 2025 and the HOD in July 2025	4	N/A	x

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2025 Organizational Written Reports

Annual Business Meeting: July 14-16, 2025

Chicago Marriott Magnificent Mile

NBOME
NATIONAL BOARD OF OSTEOPATHIC MEDICAL EXAMINERS

NBOME Update for AOA Board of Trustees Annual Meeting
Chicago, IL | July 2025

The NBOME brings you warm summer greetings and wishes for much success as you navigate opportunities to make a difference for our patients and our profession at the 2025 AOA Annual Business Meeting and House of Delegates!

We invite you to review our most recent NBOME Annual Report The NBOME at 90 Years: A Legacy of Trust for many of the stories and exciting updates on NBOME's activities and assessment programs and services.

In addition, the following are announcements that you don't want to miss:

NBOME Announces Next Steps in Clinical Skills Competency Assessment for Osteopathic Medical Licensure — New options are the Core Competency Capstone for DOs Assessment and Comprehensive Competency Verification.

Enhancements to COMLEX-USA Exams in 2026, 2027 — COMLEX-USA Level 3 will be transitioning to one-day examination administration in 2027. The NBOME Board also recently announced COMLEX-USA Level 1 and Level 2-CE 2026 fees remaining the same as in 2025!

The NBOME Honors Peter B. Ajluni, DO, with the Santucci Award — NBOME's highest honor goes to the former NBOME leader and former AOA President (2007).

The NBOME Announces Board of Directors Transitions — Robert G.G. Piccinini, DO, received a Meritorious Service Award; Furhut R. Janssen, DO, and Jennifer Y. Kendall, DO, were elected to the NBOME Board of Directors.

Resources for Program Directors — The Association of Program Directors in Surgery joins leadership groups in eight other specialties to advocate for holistic review for all applicants, the value that DO applicants bring to GME programs, and equivalent use of COMLEX-USA credentials for DO applicants to that of USMLE for MD applicants. Several other specialties are expected to join this effort over the next several months!

Read the latest in the *Osteopathic Examiner*, the NBOME's quarterly newsletter.

Sincerely yours,

John R. Gimpel, DO, MEd
President & CEO
jgimpel@nbome.org
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American Osteopathic Foundation Report to the Board of the American Osteopathic Association

Submitted by Scott Cyrus, DO
American Osteopathic Foundation Board President

July 2025

Colleagues:

The American Osteopathic Foundation would like to acknowledge its appreciation of the American Osteopathic Association and its commitment to the continued excellence of Osteopathic medicine as well as the professional expertise that is fundamental to that excellence.

I am pleased to provide this report to the Board of the American Osteopathic Association.

Overview

Seventy-five years ago, in 1949, the House of Delegates adopted a resolution to establish a separate 501(c)(3) entity to support the profession through philanthropic endeavors.

We began as The Osteopathic Foundation, giving out small research grants and providing and managing loans for medical students. Today, through our multifaceted funding initiatives, the Foundation continues to transform lives and advance the profession through the generosity of our donors.

The AOF supports today's profession through five impact-driven pillars: 1) educational scholarships, 2) community service projects, 3) scholarly research grants, 4) international medical outreach, and 5) Osteopathic recognition. We have made significant strides over the last decade in building and expanding programs that support students, empower residents, fuel cutting-edge research, and recognize innovation in education and patient care.

From the earliest of days, the American Osteopathic Foundation has supported, funded, and accelerated the work of the Osteopathic profession. We seek ways to elevate the work of our current and future physicians, enabling them to maximize the impact they will have on their patients, our communities, and the profession.

We have evolved and grown over these seven decades:

- The William G. Anderson, DO, Minority Scholarship is celebrating a 25-year milestone in 2025. We were honored to have had the opportunity to help Dr. Anderson update and re-launch the publication of his book, *The Making of a (PARDONED) Felon During the Civil Rights Movement in America,* earlier this year.
- Two additional scholarship funds are also celebrating milestones this year: The AOF Thomas A. Quinn, DO, Osteopathic Scholarships and the AOF/AAOA Holiday Hug Grants. The Quinn Scholarship has doubled in the last five years and now awards scholarships to students who embody Osteopathic principles and practices. The AOF and Advocates for

the AOA (AAOA) give “hugs” every year through small grants to help medical students or residents with year-end expenses.

- And we continue to benefit from those who led before us – Joseph Zammuto, DO, Dawn Tartaglione, DO, Barbara Ross-Lee, DO, Jeffrey S. Grove, DO, Martin S. Levine, DO, Dixie Tooke-Rawlins, DO, Peter B. Ajluni, DO, and Larry A. Wickless, DO – to name just a few.

Board of Directors and Professional Staff

Our board is an outstanding and diverse group of 19 individuals from across the country. It is comprised of Osteopathic physicians, educators, student leaders, and corporate representatives who believe in and support the Osteopathic profession.

This month, we are launching AOF’s inaugural **Honorary Board** of national leaders to help the Foundation reach new heights, including Mark A. Baker, DO, Ronald R. Burns, DO, Boyd Buser, DO, Jeff Heatherington, LHD, Karen Nichols, DO, Ray E. Stowers, DO, George Thomas, DO, and Larry Wickless, DO.

Financials

The Foundation’s Board of Directors has fiduciary responsibility for all donations and charitable funds and ensures that assets invested are consistent with established policies and objectives. In March, the Foundation completed its annual audit for our fiscal year ending December 31, 2024, which was ruled a “clean audit” by the auditors.

This and other financial information are highlighted in our annual report, which was released in early June.

The Hope, Health, and Healing Campaign

Under the direction of Jeffrey Grove, DO (Florida) and Norm Vinn, DO (California), we are about to exit a quiet phase of a twenty-million-dollar *Hope, Health and Healing Campaign* to raise funds to accelerate our profession. In just twelve months, we have already secured pledges of eleven million dollars! A formal, public announcement will be made at the Honors Gala this September.

Fundraising and Donor Stewardship

The Foundation is honored to have a loyal base of donors, all of whom are crucial to realizing our mission. We are pleased and appreciative of the annual generosity of members of the Osteopathic medical profession who support our many programs. These donations allow individuals, foundations, corporations, and affiliates to promote the excellence of Osteopathic medicine on a national level.

Grants, Scholarships, and Programs

The Foundation attracts hundreds of grant, scholarship, and award applicants every year. We recently closed our Spring Cycle and are grateful to the nearly one hundred volunteer reviewers who were instrumental in ensuring impartial reviews and successful outcomes.

A deep sense of responsibility aligns with the scale of our giving in how we distribute funds, ensuring that those resources are stewarded and deployed as effectively as possible. That means staying focused on what matters—not the money out the door but the impact, which we measure in communities served and opportunities provided for individuals to achieve their full potential.

Strategic Initiatives and Partnerships

We believe the Foundation's future is about engaging excellence – bridging traditional boundaries to open new paths of discovery and innovation while advancing the mission and purpose that distinguishes the American Osteopathic Foundation.

One such way we are forging this path is through the Project Future initiative. Under the direction of Barbara Ross Lee, DO (Michigan and New York), the AOF brought together dozens of Subject Matter Experts and Thought Leaders from across the country to create white papers on Professional Identity, Scholarly Research, Osteopathic Education, and Clinical Practice. This month, we are bringing students and residents together to review the findings, so that we may collect their insights and incorporate all perspectives into the final papers. It's been a labor of love for the last 36 months, and we are delighted to share the findings with you in August.

A second partnership also extends our thought leadership. The AOF, along with The Ohio University Osteopathic Heritage Foundation and the Osteopathic Founders Foundation, is rejuvenating the National Association of Osteopathic Foundations (NAOF). Long dormant, the AOF is taking the lead in re-energizing this collaboration. The AOF aims to help ensure that our fellow Osteopathic foundations are optimizing their support of the profession, and we offer leadership when and where we can.

As the Foundation reflects on its future, it looks to you. You are in a unique position as a leader in the field to share your thoughts and vision. We welcome your ongoing input so that we may strengthen existing partnerships and create new ones that advance the tenets and philosophy of Osteopathic medicine.

On behalf of the entire Board and Staff of the American Osteopathic Foundation, I offer my sincere thanks for all you do on behalf of the Osteopathic profession and promotion of its excellence. We look forward to continued collaboration with the American Osteopathic Association.

Respectfully submitted,

Scott Cyrus, DO
President

Advocates for the American Osteopathic Association (AAOA)

2025 BOT Update

Greetings from the Advocates for the AOA (AAOA):

The Advocates board continues to work on ways to support the Osteopathic profession. I am excited to share some of the accomplishments of the Advocates for the AOA with you all. As a board, we have been working together to implement our theme of "Advocating with Action through Growth and Expanding Partnerships."

We are committed to our vision to provide resources and support for our membership and beyond. We have continued partnerships with the AOA, the AOF and NAMI. We are focusing on increasing our Student Advocates Associations, we continue to support SOMA and COSGP and continue to support DOs in all stages with our Special Projects Fund. We are excited that we are expanding partnerships and our newest one is with AMOPS, The Association of Military Osteopathic Physicians and Surgeons.

Our partnership and collaboration with AOA continues to grow. It was great to be a part of your midyear in Laguna Beach, where I was able to meet lots of new people and to begin conversations with new organizations for partnerships. New this year is the merchandise specific for the BOT in honor of President-Elect Dr. Piccinini. That was a fun way to partner!

We continue to partner with the AOF on the Donna Jones Moritsugu Award and the Holiday Hug Award, and coming in 2026 The COMPLEX2 Scholarship. The Moritsugu Award recognizes the spouses of graduating osteopathic medical students who have supported and been involved in their loved one's journey. We just awarded 31 recipients, with a free AAOA membership and a Tiffany Blue Heart. We are looking at ways for this award to reach 100% of the osteopathic medical schools. We will be awarding the Holiday Hug Award to 3 families this fall. Each deserving family will

receive $500 to help out with holiday expenses. We are excited to announce the COMLEX 2 Scholarship, which will start in 2026, for 2 students paid directly to NBOME.

A highlight of our advocate work the last couple of years has been regarding mental health. In addition to the Yellow Ribbon program, we continue to expand our partnership with NAMI. We are working with them to increase their toolkit, so look for it on our website as well in a few months. This toolkit will be beneficial for all. We are excited to announce our new partnership with MindSplit Cafe, Medical School Edition, to bring added information and programs to students and their families. They will be the speaker at the Sunday breakfast we have at OMED.

The AAOA continues to invest into the development of our Student Advocate Association groups. A big focus of ours this year has been reaching out to osteopathic medical schools and talking about the importance of having an SAA on their campus. Our SAA groups provide the support needed to medical students, their significant others and family members. We have been able to add 2 brand new chapters, renew 1 closed chapter and have about 8 new ones in our pipeline.

Each year, during OMED, we host a couple of events for physicians, students and their families. This year our family fun event will be at the Country Music Hall of Fame. It will be Friday afternoon and is open to everyone. We will have limited availability, so please sign up on our website starting in August. We are looking forward to our annual A.T. Still Fit for Life Fun Run. Information about this year's events will be posted soon, sponsorship for the fun run is open and registration will begin in July. Please see our poster at our table during the HOD to sign up as a sponsor. Sponsorships go directly to our Special Projects fund. We are again offering the option to run in a team. We are giving you the space for friendly competition for a good cause. Again this year we will be partnering with SOMA for your Charity Miles Program for the Fun Run.

In January, our entire board was able to get together and review our strategic plan. We decided to focus on building and strengthening relationships with our current partners and beyond. Keeping with our theme of advocating with action through growth and expanding partnerships, we really focused on Growth and what that means for us. We will be working on our new membership plan and have some really exciting things in the works that we can't wait to share with you soon. If you are not a member or your spouse isn't and you or they want to be, sign up on our website or at the HOD table and a little gift will be coming your way.

We are excited for our new partnership with AMOPS and SAMOPS, this new partnership is for Military Spouses and Family members. Our board currently has 4

husbands in the military and who are a part of AMOPS. SAMOPS will have the same benefits as an SAA for their student organization. I was invited to speak at this conference in February and was able to give out the first award to a Military Spouse or Member for Advocating for Osteopathic Medicine. The winner, Wendy McDonald past AAOA President, current AOF Board Member, Air Force Veteran from the Iraq war and a nurse, stood out in my mind for her journey and her dedication to Osteopathic Medicine.

We are so excited to continue our partnership with SOMA. Currently, we provide 6, $600 scholarships in the fall specifically to SOMA. They are also able to apply to our Special Projects Grant, Holiday Hug, and Comlex 2 exam. All of the Scholarship/Grants are available to them with a $5 Student membership to the Advocates for the AOA. At their Spring Conference, we held a competition for the school who signed up the most members. LMU-DCOM won the $250.00 for an event at their school.

We would also love to expand our partnership with COSGP and are looking at ways to do this.

We are having another student membership competition starting at HOD and ending at OMED. This is open to all SOMA and COSGP students.

State Affiliations are also a way we are looking to partner. I was just at Pennsylvania's Conference in May. POMA and APOMA have been a strong partner and we are so grateful for their continued support. We would love to reconnect with other states!

The Advocates of the AOA continues to evolve as an organization. We are grounded in our roots and continue our mission of supporting and promoting the Osteopathic profession. We thank the AOA for their continued partnership and for the opportunities we have to collaborate. A special thank you to our AOA Liaison, Dr. Sees and our Executive Director Hope Hurley. The Advocates for the AOA look forward to continued growth and to finding more ways to support our osteopathic family.

Thank you.

Respectfully submitted,

Krissy Eisenhardt
President 2024-2025
Advocates for the American Osteopathic Association

ASSOCIATION OF OSTEOPATHIC STATE EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS

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July 2025

It is an honor and a pleasure to serve as the president of the Association of Osteopathic State Executive Directors (AOSED). The osteopathic profession is a family, and we are blessed to work with and for the very best in the profession! As Divisional Societies of the AOA, state associations know that we are a critical partner in the future of the AOA and the osteopathic profession. AOSED members proudly represent over 197,000 osteopathic physicians, residents and medical students in partnership with the AOA. We are all tied through the bonds of the osteopathic profession. We are present throughout the physician life cycle - from student, to resident, to fellowship, to practice, AOSED and AOA unites the osteopathic community with programs and services that lead to better patient care. We are here for you so you can be there for your patients.

The AOSED mission is to advance the osteopathic profession in collaboration with the AOA and specialty societies. Our purpose is to facilitate development of strong divisional and specialty societies of the AOA. AOSED promotes closer affiliation of divisional societies by sharing knowledge on programs, products, and services. AOSED engages our members and builds community through professional development, training, and continuing education.

We are excited about our July AOSED program, July 16-17, 2025 in Chicago at the AOA Headquarters. Our President-elect, Amanda Mahan, Executive Director of the Maine Osteopathic Association & the ACOEP and our Education Committee have planned a great education and networking program! Then it is on to the AOA House of Delegates for policy and practice discussions with leaders across the country. Our delegations are here, present, and ready to act on the many issues impacting the osteopathic profession and the patients they serve.

AOSED is here to support our leaders. We must recognize and acknowledge the time spent giving back to this profession by our state delegations, along with the members of the AOA board and staff, who are taking time away from their patients and personal lives throughout the year to ensure we have the tools needed to succeed and grow! Henry Ford said, "Coming together is a beginning; keeping together is progress; working together is success."

We look forward to a continued, stronger partnership with the AOA on projects and initiatives that make us better as individuals, as societies, specialties, and as the osteopathic profession. Thank YOU for all that you DO.

Respectfully,
Michelle W. Larson, CMP, CAE
AOSED President

AOA HOD 2025 Report from SOSE

July 2025

Submitted by Stewart A. Hinckley

AAO

- American Academy of Osteopathy
- AAO is looking forward to the OMED25, September 25-28, 2025, in Nashville, TN, the Academy's program title: From Disability to Ability - Treating Extremities and Beyond. The American Academy of Osteopathy (AAO) will showcase distinguished faculty discussing the concepts of turning Disability to Ability through the treatment of the extremities and beyond.
- Next, we are focusing on our 2026 Convocation "Master Technique, Precision, and Perception" that is being held in March 2025 at the Broadmoor, Colorado Springs, CO.
- AAO is filtering our way through the membership dilemma of trying to find the perfect membership platform still.
- Continue to focus on growing membership and increasing students' participation, while utilizing our new training room to offer more course in house.
- We are using social media more and trying to enhance our digital footprint.
- The AAO On Demand offerings are widely available and we look forward to increasing that platform.

ACOEP

The American College of Osteopathic Emergency Physicians is proudly celebrating its 50th anniversary this year, honoring five decades of leadership in osteopathic emergency medicine. The milestone year kicked off with a highly successful Spring Seminar in Glendale, Arizona, which welcomed over 500 emergency physicians, residents, and students for cutting-edge clinical education and community engagement. Innovative new offerings included ACOEP's first-ever Aesthetics Workshop and a Wilderness Medicine Hike bringing education beyond the classroom and into the field in collaboration with the Phoenix Fire Department on Camelback Mountain. Both initiatives are the start of ongoing efforts to help EM physicians expand their EM toolkit and connect community partners wherever we hold our events.

ACOEP also remains deeply committed to advancing the osteopathic EM voice. In January, the association welcomed new Executive Director Amanda Mahan who has nearly a decade of experience in the osteopathic profession. ACOEP continues to advocate for our profession, ensuring an inclusive conversation about the future of emergency medicine. A recent joint statement with the American Osteopathic Board of Emergency Medicine (AOBEM) underscored the contributions of osteopathic physicians in the field of emergency medicine, following an article inaccurately framing the rise of DOs and IMGs in emergency medicine as a decline in the specialty. ACOEP also continues to build global relationships, collaborating with international emergency medicine organizations to elevate osteopathic perspectives, and advance the specialty worldwide.

Looking ahead, ACOEP will host its Scientific Assembly in collaboration with OMED in Nashville, TN, where the celebration of the 50th anniversary will continue with more high-impact education, networking, and professional development opportunities like our resident-student specific programming, residency fair, FOEM research competitions and a new partnership with AAO to offer Osteopathic Educational Service.

For more information, visit https://acoep.org/

ACOFP

In 2025, ACOFP proudly celebrated its 75th anniversary, honoring decades of leadership in osteopathic family medicine. An updated history book covering osteopathic family medicine and ACOFP was released in April and the digital version is available for all on acofp.org. The city of Palm Springs, CA also declared April 2, 2025 as American College of Osteopathic Family Physicians Day in honor of this milestone and ACOFP holding their celebratory Annual Convention there, in the state ACOFP was founded. Looking ahead, ACOFP is developing a new certificate program centered on obesity treatment in primary care, grounded in osteopathic principles and designed to equip physicians with practical, evidence-based strategies for addressing this growing public health challenge. In July, ACOFP will launch a multi-channel campaign titled *Family Physicians DO More*, introducing a new website designed to inform and inspire high school, college, pre-med, and medical students to consider a career in osteopathic family medicine. As part of the campaign, a six-episode streaming web series will showcase the diversity, breadth, and depth of the specialty—while dispelling common myths about pursuing a career in osteopathic family medicine.

ACOI

The ACOI is the professional home for over 12,000 osteopathic internal medicine physicians, residents and students.

As the premier community for osteopathic internists, ACOI provides leadership, networking, and education to help its members be successful and stay true to why they pursued medicine.

To accomplish its vision and mission, the ACOI has established five core values and will base its decisions and actions on these values:

LEADERSHIP for the advancement of osteopathic internal medicine
EXCELLENCE in programs and services
INTEGRITY in decision-making and actions
PROFESSIONALISM in all interactions
SERVICE to meet member needs

In addition, ACOI developed five goals that are outlined in its strategic plan:

1. Grow our ACOI community through engagement, inclusion, and belonging.
2. Connect members to education and tools that support their continued professional development and career advancement.
3. Amplify the voice of the community and provide leadership for the profession.
4. Influence physician wellbeing by promoting the balance of work, life, and their own health.
5. Build a strong, sustainable, and diverse membership association.

ACOI's core educational events are its annual Convention, which will be held October 8-11, 2025 in Marco Island, Florida; and its Spring Meetings (Internal Medicine Comprehensive Update and Clinical Challenges in Hospital Medicine), which were held virtually in April 2025.

ACOI is debuting new member benefits for the 2025-2026 membership cycle, including discounts on:

- UpToDate
- VisualDx Clinical Decision Support Tool
- Resolve Employment Contract Review
- Canopy Language Translation

ACOI continues to regularly release new educational content through its online learning center and on its YouTube channel. For more information about ACOI, please contact acoi@acoi.org or Karen Caruth, Executive Director, karen@acoi.org.

ACONP

The ACONP is proudly anticipating the installation of Robert G.G. Piccinini, D.O., D.FACN as the first ACONP college member to serve as AOA President.

In addition, ACONP is currently preparing for the Annual Summer CME Program July 24-26, 2025 in Traverse City, Michigan as well as participation in OMED25.

ACOOG

The ACOOG is currently in the process of revamping its bylaws. We are awaiting final approval from the AOA.

We are still hosting two CME conferences per year and continue to increase the online CME offerings.

We just completed a member survey regarding general membership trends and are processing the data.

ACOP

The American College of Osteopathic Pediatricians recently concluded its 2025 Annual Spring Conference in Old Town Alexandria, VA. Our college is also looking forward to OMED 2025 as the past couple of years have been financially successful. ACOP has created a series of podcasts ("Pedscast") for our members, covering a broad range of topics that are pertinent to our members. The episodes are geared to all members, from medical students looking at how to look for audition rotations and future residency programs, to practicing physicians looking for quick ways to review for recertification or keep up with the latest in Osteopathic Pediatric Medicine. We have just published the second issue of our new digital Journal of Osteopathic Pediatrics (JOOP) https://acopeds.org/acop-joop/.

Our meeting apps continue to deliver our educational materials with great flexibility to protect parts of the app for registrants only. Our membership app has been completely revamped, and we hope to engage more members through it. Finally, we have ramped up our social media presence and have created new analytics to guide our marketing and communications efforts.

ACOS

For ACOS, we have many initiatives that we are continually working on:

One of our biggest initiatives is mentorship with our students, residents and members. This initiative is to create more community within the organization through various platform efforts, community channels, and social media. The Mentorship Committee is actively engaging with the students and resident members in a variety of ways. We created a Surgeon Liaison program to the local ACOS-Medical Student Sections at each College of Osteopathic Medicine (COMs) that has proven to be very valuable in connecting with the students for increased engagement and preparedness for GME placement. We will continue to enhance what we currently have and continue to enhance our program efforts.

It is with great pleasure that we announce the recent approval by the AOA and AOBS of our **Quality Initiative Workshop** –held in conjunction with this year's General Surgery Midyear Meeting in Omaha Nebraska—as a recognized option for fulfilling Component 4 of Osteopathic Continuous Certification (OCC-Component 4).

This milestone reflects our ongoing commitment to advancing quality improvement efforts within the surgical community and promote osteopathic board certification. It is **available to ALL disciplines** (now available on demand through the ACOS website) for this requirement. By aligning educational programming with board certification requirements, we are actively addressing critical quality related concerns and supporting our members in maintaining excellence in providing the highest quality care to our patients.

We continue to collaborate with the various osteopathic affiliates and the Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine enhancing member experience and value.

We are enthusiastic about our upcoming Annual Clinical Assembly Meeting in Salt Lake City Utah this year from September 17-21, 2025. Preparations are underway with excellent programming to follow our theme: Precision, Compassion, Innovation: The Osteopathic Advantage.

We are eagerly preparing for our 100-year anniversary in 2027!

AOAAM

The American Osteopathic Academy of Addiction Medicine will continue to deliver excellent CME in 2025 through various methods:

- **Testimonies from the Trenches**: Monthly online and enduring programming.
- **DEA Essentials Course**: Meets the DEA's eight-hour training requirement for treating opioid or substance use disorders.
- **Addiction Medicine Board Certification Exam Review Course**: Boasts a 93% pass rate on recertifying or practice pathway exams (closing December 2026).
- **OMED**: AOAAM will attend in person year with substantial programming and valuable membership connections.
- **SAMHSA Grants**: Various national speakers will present 12 “Hot Topics” programs (live/virtual and enduring). Separately, AOAAM offers four (virtual/live) Medication for Opioid Use Disorder (MOUD) presentations.

Physicians can look to the AOAAM to fulfil state addiction medicine requirements on our learning management catalog of programs or attending any of our virtual programs.

AOAO

The AOAO is busy working on achieving Pub Med indexing for its Journal of the American Osteopathic Academy of Orthopedics. We are also working hard on adding value for our members and cost containment at our two-yearly CME meetings.

AOAPRM

The AOAPRM Spring 2025 Annual conference was very successful. The venue at the Margaritaville Orlando Resort was beautiful. The speakers, lecture topics and hands-on training was exciting and palpable among the attendees. We will be returning to the same venue in 2026.

Once again, we will be participating in person at the 2025 OMED conference in Nashville this fall. Nashville will be a great draw as it is a city people are really interested in. My own members have already expressed their interest in attending. If that transcends the entire AOA membership (which I believe it will), OMED will be a success!

AOCA

In 2025, AOCA is focused on growth and engagement. We're preparing to host our Annual Convention & Conclave this September and prioritizing membership retention and recruitment efforts, including trying out the joint dues program with the AOA. We're also increasing outreach to future DOs through the launch of a student-led medical student committee and a member-driven mentorship program.

AOCOO-HNS

The AOCOO-HNS has made significant strides in student engagement. A key strategic objective for 2025 is the establishment of 43 student chapters at colleges of osteopathic medicine. This initiative is designed to cultivate early interest and provide a direct pipeline for students aspiring to careers in ophthalmology and otolaryngology.

AOCOPM

The American Osteopathic College of Occupational and Preventive Medicine (AOCOPM) has made significant progress in 2025 toward advancing occupational and preventive medicine education and certification. Our successful mid-year conference in St. Petersburg provided valuable professional development and networking opportunities for our members and trainees. We are actively engaged in planning the OMED 2025 meeting to ensure robust participation from our specialty. AOCOPM has launched a comprehensive scholarship program to promote AOA board certification among preventive medicine residents and recent graduates, offering scholarships to cover the costs support for first-time AOBPM examination candidates in Aerospace Medicine, Occupational and Environmental Medicine and General Preventive Medicine/Public Health. Each scholarship includes a complimentary one-year AOCOPM membership. This initiative removes financial barriers to AOA certification while providing early career physicians with access to continuing education resources, research presentation opportunities, and professional networking. These efforts collectively demonstrate our commitment to

supporting the next generation of preventive medicine physicians and strengthening AOA board certification pathways in our specialty.

AOCP

The American Osteopathic College of Pathologists continues to provide members with online CME opportunities. We also have a very strong student chapter. To learn more, visit out sites at www.aocpath.org and https://rsmc.aocpath.org

AOCPMR

The American Osteopathic College of Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (AOCPMR) is looking forward to participating at OMED25. We have an exciting track lined up and are thrilled to be cooperating with AOASM and AAO on some of the programming.

We had a great conference in Seattle and energy is high for AOCPMR26 in Atlanta, March 26-29. We have been fortunate enough to secure spasticity expert and cryoneurolysis pioneer Paul Winston to speak at our pre-course on March 26, and to be our keynote speaker on the first day of the conference.

Additionally, we are developing two new in-person workshops to be held in 2026. The “Neuromuscular Ultrasound for Head, Neck, and Shoulders Workshop” dates and location has change to June 12-13, 2026, at AZCOM at Midwestern University in Glendale, AZ. The “Osteopathic Approach to Pelvic Dysfunction Workshop” is being planned as a pre-course to OMED26 in Las Vegas in cooperation with ACOFP.

AOCR

The AOCR is working on strategic goals, continuing everything that is working well and focusing on areas that need some attention to reach greater success. We are currently working on increasing our social media presence. We are also working with a company to launch an app that will replace our current meetings app and provide a more comprehensive AOCR app.

American Osteopathic Association
ATTN: American Osteopathic Association Board of Trustees
142 E. Ontario St.
Chicago, IL 60611-2864

Hello to the AOA Board of Trustees! My name is Joshua Connor, and I am the President of National Student Osteopathic Medical Association. I want to sincerely thank you for inviting me to provide you an update about the status of SOMA.

SOMA, as you know, is the American Osteopathic Association-affiliated, student-led, and student-driven organization with direct representation to the AOA, and we are proud to be the nation's largest network of osteopathic medical students. Our organization has over 15,000 active members across most osteopathic campuses, and includes over 200 Pre-medical students ("Pre-SOMA") as well as a growing network of alumni members. Our organization is still growing, and we are so proud to have brought in three new chapters this past year: Burrell College of Osteopathic Medicine - Florida, Duquesne College of Osteopathic Medicine, and Orlando College of Osteopathic Medicine.

Over the last year, we held three National SOMA conferences: Fall Convention at OMED 2024 in San Antonio, our Spring Convention this past March in Arlington, VA, and our Summer Leadership Meeting happening concurrently here in Chicago with ~130 SOMA Chapter Leaders arriving today. At OMED, we planned the student track for medical students and pre-medical students with programming in mind for everyone at different steps in their Osteopathic medical school journey. We are so thankful for the opportunity for our previous Convention Director, Julia Beck, to sit on the Council of OMED last year and to plan the Student Track. Our new Convention Director, Preston Capener, along with his personal Convention Committee is already well underway with planning OMED Student Track for 2025, and is very excited to bring more fantastic programming for students.

Prior to our SOMA Spring convention, a large majority of SOMA members participated in DO Day on Capitol Hill where we were able to advocate for the osteopathic medical profession. This continues to be one of the most valuable experiences that our members echo throughout their time as SOMA Chapter Leaders. Following DO Day on the Hill, 150+ attendees remained in the area for our Spring Convention and SOMA House of Delegates. As you may know, we hold two House of Delegates each year - one in the Spring and one in the Fall. Using Robert's Rules as parliamentary procedure, our members debate on resolutions presented by SOMA members which, if passed, can become policy and help to guide the actions of SOMA. Each SOMA chapter has two votes in the House. This past Spring,

53 resolutions were debated, and 13 were approved by the House. Three of SOMA's resolutions were polished, reviewed, and were submitted to the AOA House to be discussed this weekend.

I want to take a moment to share about SOMA's process of bringing resolutions to the AOA. Before a resolution is submitted, it undergoes a scrutinous review process by the SOMA House of Delegates and the SOMA Reference Committee which is composed of 2nd through 4th year medical students versed in policy. Additionally, we send the resolutions to various physicians throughout the osteopathic community such as those in the AOA state delegations, the BEL, and various mentors and advocates within the AOA. We are deeply grateful for the invaluable feedback and mentorship we've received from across the osteopathic community. Your support of SOMA as a student-led organization—and your belief in the future of osteopathic medicine—continues to make a lasting impact.

As previously mentioned, our Summer Leadership meeting is happening concurrently with AOA House of Delegates. Our theme for this year is "Healing Hands, Leading Minds: Cultivating Leadership in Osteopathic Medicine". We are ecstatic that all SOMA chapter leaders will be hearing from experienced speakers and leaders, and will get to dive deeper into how to empower their home SOMA chapters at their schools. Prior to the start of the AOA House of Delegates this Friday, our SOMA members will join with other osteopathic medical students across the country to participate in the National Osteopathic Student Caucus. This is the fourth year of collaboration between SOMA and COSGP to host this caucus, and we are proud to continuously work on expanding representation, improving our ability to advocate, and bringing forth the collective osteopathic student voice.

In addition to our conferences, we have held several national projects such as Charity Miles, numerous grassroots letter writing campaigns including our recent campaign with the AOA where more than 3400 letters were sent to Congress, and published our magazine: the Future D.O. Volume 3, Issue 1. Each of our five SOMA regions completed their own regional project, with hundreds of SOMA members participating. Individual SOMA Chapters have also taken initiative to put on their own events getting the word out about SOMA, Advocacy, and the AOA. SOMA continues to partner with COSGP in expanding our efforts in promoting these opportunities. Additionally, SOMA recently finalized our committees, subcommittees and task forces where 200+ students are able to engage and invest in their specific passions. SOMA's National Board of Directors has been instrumental in providing ongoing opportunities for our members, including a recent collaboration between Pre-SOMA & the BEL, monthly journal club and CV workshops and presentations ranging from financial literacy to obesity medicine to the integration of harm reduction strategies into one's learning.

One of my biggest tasks as President is to communicate and collaborate with our partner and stakeholder organizations. So far, I have been able to meet with leadership from COSGP, the BEL, the

COCA, the AOA, and the NBOME since taking office in March. I have many other meetings scheduled in the upcoming months, and am excited to see where collaborations lead this year. National Leaders are dispersed across many avenues within osteopathic medicine including the Digital Health Steering Committee, Emerging DO Platform, NBOME Student Excellence Panel, a student seat on the COCA, and more. Along these same lines, SOMA is keen on aligning our advocacy efforts and improving the camaraderie across student organizations within the medical community.

Even though we have only taken our seats in late March, my team has hit the ground running and has amazing ideas for the year. We additionally have entered into our new 4-year Strategic Plan with keen focus on membership, policy and healthcare advocacy, visibility and public image, and organizational growth. SOMA stands united in its mission to build a more inclusive and equitable future for the osteopathic medical community and the patients we serve. We remain committed to collaborating with our affiliate organizations to continue to encourage representation from all backgrounds and ensure that our profession becomes more reflective of the world at-large.

Thank you for this opportunity to share the SOMA report. Our National Leaders and many local SOMA Chapter Leaders will be floating around the AOA House this weekend, so please feel free to approach any of us and say hello. Your support of SOMA is very much appreciated, and we cannot praise you enough for your guidance and leadership.

SOMA National President, Joshua Connor, OMS-IV

Council of Osteopathic Student Government Presidents (COSGP)
2025–2026 Annual Report
Theme: Level Up

The Council of Osteopathic Student Government Presidents (COSGP) is proud to introduce our 2025–2026 theme: *Level Up*. This theme reflects our renewed commitment to empowering osteopathic medical students to take bold steps in leadership—within their institutions, communities, and the profession at large.

Each business meeting this year is aligned with a leadership milestone:

- **July** – *Press Start to Lead* among your peers and in your communities
- **September** – *Activate Your Potential* by discovering where your passions lie
- **January** – *Unlock New Power Ups* through leadership growth
- **April** – *Save Your Progress* by leaving a legacy that lasts

Our meetings emphasize meaningful programming while strengthening collaboration with national partner organizations.

Program Updates & Ongoing Initiatives

TOUCH Program – 20 Years of Impact

The *Translating Osteopathic Understanding into Community Health (TOUCH)* Program remains a hallmark of service. It was enhanced to reflect a deeper focus on service-based learning, incorporating advocacy, JEDI (justice, equity, diversity, and inclusion), and mentorship. Students are encouraged to participate in meaningful service and reflective learning. COSGP raised funds for the Appalachia Service Project's Disaster Relief Recovery Fund through merchandise sales during D.O. Day of Service. A more accessible digital platform is in development to improve service tracking.

OMELA – Osteopathic Medical Education Landscape Analysis

OMELA is a student-created resource hub that helps osteopathic students understand and compare educational practices across COMs. This centralized platform promotes transparency, supports institutional growth, and empowers students to advocate for their learning. Expansion plans include broader data collection and trend tracking.

Leadership Development Series

Our Leadership Committee launched a webinar series, beginning with "The Power of Being the First," to equip students with insights and tools for leadership. These recorded sessions are distributed to General Council members to help spark campus events. Future sessions will feature speakers in financial literacy, equity, and other essential topics.

COSGP Alumni Network

To maintain institutional memory and strengthen mentorship, COSGP launched an alumni network to support continuity and foster long-term relationships between former and current leaders.

Research Symposium Relaunch

This year, COSGP successfully hosted its first Research Symposium since the pandemic, offering General Council members a platform to share scholarly work. We plan to expand access in the future to include students from all Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine.

2025–2026 Strategic Goals: *Level Up*

1. **Elevate** the osteopathic student voice in every decision
2. **Enhance** relationships with partner organizations and build new connections
3. **Expand** accessibility and visibility of COSGP initiatives to benefit all students

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Future Directions

Know Your Own Wellness Week

Launching soon, this national campaign will raise awareness of wellness resources available at each COM. Based on COSGP's Mental Health Resource Survey, it addresses the gap in awareness that leads to underutilization. Over four themed days, COMs will showcase their wellness offerings to foster proactive student self-care.

Clinical Rotations Toolkit

COSGP is developing a toolkit to support third-year students as they enter core rotations. This resource will include practical tools, peer tips, and guidance to help students feel confident, prepared, and empowered throughout their clinical year.

Mentorship Program (in partnership with SNMA Osteopathic Committee)

In collaboration with SNMA, COSGP is launching a national mentorship program to connect osteopathic physicians with students. We're currently recruiting physicians who are eager to support future DOs. Once established, this initiative will offer structured mentorship focused on specialty exploration, residency prep, and professional guidance.

Website Expansion

We are expanding the COSGP website to serve as a living archive of initiatives, toolkits, and programming ideas. This will help students easily access resources and implement COSGP-supported efforts at their schools.

COSGP remains committed to leadership rooted in service, collaboration, and advocacy. As we *Level Up* in 2025–2026, we look forward to continuing to elevate the osteopathic student experience nationwide.

AMERICAN OSTEOPATHIC ASSOCIATION

142 E. Ontario St.
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105th House of Delegates Annual Meeting
Friday, July 18, 2025
9 am – 12:15 pm CT

Time	Topic	Speaker
9 am	Call to Order and Welcome	Ray L. Morrison, DO, Speaker, House of Delegates
	Presentation of Colors	Emerald Society / Chicago Police Department
	Flag Bearers	Joshua Connor, OMS III, National President, Student Osteopathic Medical Association (SOMA) Megan Campbell, OMS III, Chairman, Council of Osteopathic Student Government Presidents (COSGP)
	Pledge of Allegiance	Robert Suter, DO, Retired Brigadier General
	National Anthem	Marta Bringhurst, DO, NCOMA President JD Shelburne, Country Music Artist
	Presentation of Colors Concludes	Emerald Society / Chicago Police Department
	Memorial Observance	Ray L. Morrison, DO, Speaker, House of Delegates
	Invocation	Ernest R. Gelb, DO, AOA Past President – 126th
	Osteopathic Pledge of Commitment	Ray L. Morrison, DO, Speaker, House of Delegates
9:20 am	Credentials Committee Report	Scott S. Cyrus, DO, Chair Mark E. Eastman, DO, Vice Chair
9:25 am	Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine Presentation	Ray L. Morrison, DO, Speaker, House of Delegates
9:30 am	Introductory Comments ▪ AOA Past Presidents ▪ 2024/2025 AOA Board of Trustees ▪ Guests ▪ Pages	Ray L. Morrison, DO, Speaker, House of Delegates David L. Broder, DO, Vice Speaker, House of Delegates

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105th House of Delegates Annual Meeting
Friday, July 18, 2025
9 am – 12:15 pm CT

Time	Topic	Speaker
9:40 am	Advocates of the American Osteopathic Association (AAOA)	Kristina Eisenhardt, President
9:50 am	HOD Committee on Rules and Order of Business	Jeffery J. Dunkelberger, DO Chair Bruce G. Rankin, DO, Vice Chair
9:55 am	Approval of HOD Reference Committees and Assignments and Appointment of Parliamentarian	Ray L. Morrison, DO, Speaker, House of Delegates
10:00 am	2024 / 2025 AOA Presidential Address	Teresa A. Hubka, DO, FACOOG (Dist.)
10:20 am	**Meeting Break**	
	Reports of the American Osteopathic Association	
10:35 am	Chief Executive Officer's Report	Kathleen S. Creason, MBA, CEO
10:50 am	AOA Financial Report	Ira P. Monka, DO, Chair, Finance Committee
11:00 am	2024 / 2025 Departmental Chair Reports*	
	Affiliate Relations	David E. Garza, DO, Chair
	Finance	Jennifer J. Hauler, DO, Chair
	Education	Jennifer Y. Kendall, DO, Chair
	Governmental Affairs	Bruce A. Wolf, DO, Chair
	Membership	Shannon C. Scott, DO, Chair
	Research and Public Health	James M. Lally, DO, Chair
11:40 am	JOM Editor Report	Ross D. Zafonte, DO, Editor
11:45 am	**Meeting Recess** *(OPAC & AOIA Updates)*	Ray L. Morrison, DO, Speaker, House of Delegates
11:55 am	AOA Staff Recognition	Ray L. Morrison, DO, Speaker, House of Delegates
12:05 pm	OMED 2025 Update	Peter B. Ajluni, DO, 2025 Council of OMED Chair Joseph R. Johnson, DO, 2025 Program Chair

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105th House of Delegates Annual Meeting
Friday, July 18, 2025
9 am – 12:15 pm CT

Time	Topic	Speaker
12:10 pm	HOD Process	Ray L. Morrison, DO, Speaker, House of Delegates
12:15 pm	**Meeting Recess** *(Reference Committee Chairs/Members Orientation with Lunch)*	

***** Written Departmental Chair Reports

1:30 - 4:30 pm	**HOD Reference Committee Meetings**	
	Committee on Educational Affairs (200 Series)	Avenue Ballroom, 4th Floor
	Committee on Professional Affairs (300 Series)	Chicago FGH, 5th Floor
	Committee on Public Affairs (400 Series)	Addison, 4th Floor
	Committee on Constitution & Bylaws (500 Series)	Northwestern/Ohio/Purdue, 6th Floor
	Ad Hoc Committee (600 Series)	Indiana/Iowa/Michigan, 6th Floor
	Joint Board/House Budget Review Committee (700 Series)	Sheffield, 4th Floor
	Committee on Resolutions	Kane, 3rd Floor

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105th House of Delegates Annual Meeting
Saturday, July 19, 2025
7:30 am – 3:30 pm CT | 4:30 – 5:30 pm CT

Time	Topic	Speaker
7:30 am	Call to Order / Reconvene Meeting	Ray L. Morrison, DO, Speaker, House of Delegates
7:35 am	Credentials Committee Report	Scott S. Cyrus, DO, Chair Mark E. Eastman, DO, Vice Chair
7:40 am	Nominations: AOA Officers, Board of Trustees, Officers of the House of Delegates	Ray L. Morrison, DO, Speaker, House of Delegates
	<u>AOA Officers</u>	
	▪ President-Elect	(one year term / 2026)
	▪ First Vice President	(one year term / 2026)
	▪ Second Vice President	(one year term / 2026)
	▪ Third Vice President	(one year term / 2026)
	<u>AOA Board of Trustees</u>	
	▪ Robert S. Dolansky, DO (expired term / 2025)	(three-year term / 2028)
	▪ David E. Garza, DO (expired term / 2025)	(three-year term / 2028)
	▪ James M. Lally, DO (expired term / 2025)	(three-year term / 2028)
	▪ W. Ashley Hood, DO (expired term / 2025)	(three-year term / 2028)
	▪ Shannon C. Scott, DO (expired term / 2025)	(three-year term / 2028)
	▪ Richard R. Thacker, DO (expired term / 2025)	(three-year term / 2028)
	▪ New Physician in Practice	(one year term / 2026)
	▪ Postdoctoral Trainee	(one year term / 2026)
	▪ Student	(one year term / 2026)
	<u>Officers of the House of Delegates</u>	
	▪ Ray L. Morrison, DO, Speaker of the House	(one year term / 2026)
	▪ David L. Broder, DO, Vice Speaker of the House	(one year term / 2026)
8:00 am	**Meeting Recess** *(AOIA Nominations & OPAC)*	
8:15 am	**Meeting Reconvenes**	Ray L. Morrison, DO, Speaker, House of Delegates
8:20 am	HOD Committee on Rules and Order of Business	Jeffery J. Dunkelberger, DO, Chair Bruce G. Rankin, DO, Vice Chair

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105th House of Delegates Annual Meeting
Saturday, July 19, 2025
7:30 am – 3:30 pm CT | 4:30 – 5:30 pm CT

Time	Topic	Speaker
8:25 am	House of Delegates Reference Committee Reports	Ray L. Morrison, DO, Speaker, House of Delegates
	▪ Ad Hoc	Edward E. Hosbach, II, DO, Chair Brian J. Loveless, DO, Vice Chair
	▪ Constitution and Bylaws	Linda F. Delo, DO, Chair Gregory G. Allen, DO, Vice Chair
9:30 am	**Meeting Break**	
9:45 am	**Meeting Reconvenes**	Ray L. Morrison, DO, Speaker, House of Delegates
9:50 am	House of Delegates Reference Committee Reports	Ray L. Morrison, DO, Speaker, House of Delegates
	▪ Educational Affairs	Kenneth J. Steier, DO, Chair Sarah J. Wolff, DO, Vice Chair
	▪ Professional Affairs	Kevin L. Beyer, DO, Chair Angela D. Zawisza, DO, Vice Chair
11:00 am	Special Order of Business	Ray L. Morrison, DO, Speaker, House of Delegates
	2025 A.T. Still Memorial Lecture	Ronnie B. Martin, DO
	2025 A.T. Still Medallion Presentation	Scott Cyrus, DO, President, American Osteopathic Foundation
	American Osteopathic Foundation Report	Scott Cyrus, DO, President, American Osteopathic Foundation
11:35 am	OPAC Scholarship Presentation ▪ James Lally, DO, Student Scholarship Recipient	Alexis Cates, DO
11:40 am	AOA Awards Presentation ▪ Bob E. Jones, CAE Award ▪ Distinguished Service Award	Teresa A. Hubka, DO, FACOOG (Dist.), President
	2025 Presidential Citations	Teresa A. Hubka, DO, FACOOG (Dist.), President

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105th House of Delegates Annual Meeting
Saturday, July 19, 2025
7:30 am – 3:30 pm CT | 4:30 – 5:30 pm CT

Time	Topic	Speaker
12:15 pm	**Meeting Recess**	
1:30 pm	House of Delegates Reference Committee Reports	Ray L. Morrison, DO, Speaker, House of Delegates
	▪ Professional Affairs	Kevin L. Beyer, DO, Chair Angela D. Zawisza, DO, Vice Chair
	▪ Public Affairs	George J. Wolters, DO, Chair Adam C. Hunt, DO Vice Chair
2:45 pm	Strategic Discussion Topic: Osteopathic Identity	Teresa A. Hubka, DO, FACOOG (Dist.) Robert G.G. Piccinini, DO, D.FACN Ray L. Morrison, DO, Speaker, House of Delegates David L. Broder, DO, Vice Speaker, House of Delegates
3:30 pm	**Meeting Recess**	
4:30 pm	**Meeting Resumes** Inauguration of 2025-2026 AOA President Robert G.G. Piccinini, DO, D.FACN	Ray L. Morrison, DO, Speaker, House of Delegates
5:30 pm	**Meeting Recess**	Ray L. Morrison, DO, Speaker, House of Delegates
6:30 pm	Reception Honoring the 129th AOA President Robert G.G. Piccinini, DO, D.FACN	

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105th House of Delegates Annual Meeting
Sunday, July 20, 2025
7:30 am CT – End of Business

Time	Topic	Speaker
7:30 am	Call to Order / Reconvene Meeting	Ray L. Morrison, DO, Speaker, House of Delegates
7:35 am	Credentials Committee Report	Scott S. Cyrus, DO, Chair Mark E. Eastman, DO, Vice Chair
7:40 am	Election: AOA Board of Trustees and Officers	Ray L. Morrison, DO, Speaker, House of Delegates Kathleen S. Creason, MBA, Secretary
8:15 am	**Meeting Recess** *(AOIA Elections & OPAC)*	Ray L. Morrison, DO, Speaker, House of Delegates
8:25 am	**Meeting Reconvenes**	Ray L. Morrison, DO, Speaker, House of Delegates
8:30 am	House of Delegates Reference Committee Reports	Ray L. Morrison, DO, Speaker, House of Delegates
	▪ Joint Board / House Budget Review Committee	Ira P. Monka, DO, Chair Bruce A. Wolf, DO, Vice Chair
	▪ Committee on Resolutions	Jeffrey D. Postlewaite, DO, Chair Stephanie L. Zeszutek, DO, Vice Chair
	Old Business	Ray L. Morrison, DO, Speaker, House of Delegates
	Meeting Adjournment	Ray L. Morrison, DO, Speaker, House of Delegates

2025 Written Departmental Chair Reports

House of Delegates: July 18-20, 2025

Chicago Marriott Magnificent Mile

Report of the Department of Affiliate Relations
David E. Garza, DO, MS.MEdL, Chair
July 2025

This report highlights activities of the Department of Affiliate Relations from August 2024 to June 2025.

Foster a collegial environment for affiliate leaders to provide input on critical issues being considered by the AOA BOT.

- Four Bureau of Affiliate Relations (BAR) meetings were held this fiscal year (September 25, 2024, January 15, 2025, April 16, 2025, July 9, 2025).

- BAR members were asked to share feedback and suggestions for enhancements related to OMED, the AOA's Midyear Meeting, DO Day, and the Affiliate Leader Meeting.

- The Osteopathic Affiliates CONNECT (**Co**llaborate, **N**etwork, **N**urture, **E**ducate, **C**ommunicate, **T**hrive) Forum was launched in June 2024 and provides affiliate executive directors/CEOs with a casual and informal environment to share information, ideas, successes, and challenges with their peers on a selected topic. The CONNECT Forum has received positive feedback from participants and has provided an opportunity for more casual and open communication and networking among affiliate executive directors/CEOs. The topics for CONNECT Forum discussions in 2024-2025 included Know Before You Go - AOA House of Delegates (inaugural launch June 20, 2024), Marketing AOA Board Certification (October 2, 2024), Media Relations and Connecting Physicians with Media (January 16, 2025), Quality Improvement and the AOA Patient Safety Organization (PSO) (April 2025).

- Enhancements to the annual Affiliate Satisfaction Survey were made and changed to the Affiliate Benchmark Survey. The survey was developed in consultation with AOSED, SOSE, and the BAR with the intent of producing a benchmarking report that would be supportive of affiliate operations. The intent of the survey is to gather valuable insights to improve, enhance and expand AOA resources and services to affiliates.

    - The benchmark survey was sent to affiliate leaders on February 28 and closed on March 24.
    - The state and specialty affiliate executive directors/CEOs were asked to complete the survey in consultation with their president and president-elect.
    - Sixty-nine state and specialty affiliate executive directors/CEOs received the survey and 41 completed (29 state affiliates and 12 specialty affiliates).

- A roundtable discussion was held with affiliate leaders during the AOA BOT Midyear meeting in February 2025. The questions for discussion included: 1) What is working within Affiliate Relations? 2) What are the opportunities? 3) How can we help?

    - The affiliate organizations shared that there is more trust and transparency between AOA and affiliates as well as appropriate representation on all Bureaus, Committees and Councils. The affiliate organizations also appreciated AOA Leaders' attendance at affiliate fall and spring organization meetings, communications to affiliates regarding programs, and collaboration with specialty colleges participating in OMED.

- Opportunities were noted to increase state affiliate participation at OMED and use AI to bring together affiliates. The participants also discussed the importance of increasing assistance to AOSED and SOSE with executive leadership, evaluation of the effectiveness of current communications to affiliates and partnership with AOA, affiliates, and COMs on defining and promoting osteopathic distinctiveness.
- Affiliates also proposed increased collaborative activities including co-sponsoring events at COMs, creating a task force of AOA and affiliates to plan collaborative efforts, creating a master calendar of events that can be sorted by state/specialty, and possibly duplicating the leadership academy for state and specialty affiliate leaders.

Receive and consider affiliate leader input and communicate relevant information to the CEO, President, and BOT.

- President Hubka and President-Elect Piccinini attended BAR meetings as their schedules allowed.

- Quarterly Affiliate Calls with the AOA CEO were held on October 10, 2024, January 9, 2025, April 10, 2025 and June 26, 2025. Topics for discussion are determined by the state and specialty affiliates. Kathleen Creason, MBA, AOA CEO hosts the quarterly calls with participation by President Hubka and President-Elect Piccinini. Topics discussed included: CME Guidelines, state and specialty collaboration at future OMED meetings, 2025 Midyear Meeting, Board certification verification, DO Day 2025, NOM Week, traCME, invoicing members and non-members, AOA advocacy efforts, impact of executive orders, delegate credentialing for HOD, B/C/C application update and OMED2025.

Participate in the planning and development of the Affiliate Leader Meeting.

- Discussions were held during BAR meetings, input was provided via quarterly calls, and surveys were fielded to obtain feedback on the most desired topics for affiliate leader educational programs.

- The 2nd Annual Affiliate Leader Meeting was held on November 12-13, 2024. There were 33 affiliate executive directors/CEOs that attended, representing 26 states and 13 specialty affiliates. The meeting informed affiliates of AOA programs, initiatives, resources, and opportunities for collaboration, facilitated expansion of their peer network, and provided professional development and best practices for association management. A post-meeting evaluation was provided to rate sessions and provide feedback on various components of the meeting. The overall response rate was 55%. The educational sessions were scored on content value, applicability for implementation by the affiliate, and effectiveness of the presenter. The average rating of content was 4.5 out of five. When asked what they liked most about the Affiliate Leader Meeting, an overwhelming number of comments said that interacting and networking with each other, AOA staff, and AOA leadership was what they liked most. Others commented that they liked the Mission Possible with AOA departments, small group talks, making valuable connections with other affiliates, practical information, and gamification.

- The 3rd Annual Affiliate Leader Meeting will occur November 18-19, 2025, at AOA Headquarters. A survey was sent to Affiliate executive directors/CEOs to determine topics of interest for educational sessions. Planned sessions include Ask the Association Attorney, Bylaws Review, Executive Orders and Impact on Associations, State Legislative Primer and AOA Grassroots 101, CME-sponsored training, Membership Growth and Engagement, Executive Leadership, Organizational Strategy, Business Development and Osteopathic Distinction. Additionally, AOA departments will host an "Amazing Race" scavenger hunt facilitating affiliate leader interaction with the AOA leadership, Senior Leadership Team, and representatives from AOF and AOIA.

Evaluate and make recommendations for all affiliate-related award nominees to the Committee on Awards.

- The BAR presented its recommended slate of nominees for the Outstanding Affiliate Awards to the AOA Committee on Awards. Upon their approval and that of the full AOA BOT, the 2024 Outstanding Affiliate Awards were presented to the following affiliates during OMED24: American College of Surgeons (ACOS), American Osteopathic Academy of Orthopedics (AOAO), and West Virginia Osteopathic Medical Association (WVOMA).

- The BAR presented its recommended slate of nominees for the Bob E. Jones, CAE Award to the AOA Committee on Awards. Upon their approval and that of the full AOA BOT, the 2025 Bob E. Jones, CAE Award recipients are Carol Houston, Executive Director, American Osteopathic College of Radiology (AOCR) and Ed Williams, PhD, Executive Director, Louisiana Osteopathic Medical Association (LOMA). Ms. Houston and Dr. Williams will be recognized at the 2025 AOA House of Delegates.

Facilitate affiliate consideration of innovative structures and solutions in response to shifting environments.

The following collaborative opportunities were initiated in consideration of innovative structures and in response to shifting environments.

- Enhanced AOA engagement with students and Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine through reinstatement of leadership visits and other identified opportunities.
- Consolidated all governance documents for affiliate organizations into one centralized location to ease the compliance review of organizational Bylaws.
- Proposed partnering with small states and specialties to define the value proposition so that they no longer host separate meetings and co-locate with the AOA at OMED. This co-location benefits the physician attending as well as build the osteopathic community.
- Researching the expansion of the affiliate joint membership program through workgroup activity and collaboration with the Bureau of Membership. Questions were included in consultation with the Bureau of Membership on the 2025 Affiliate Benchmark Survey to provide key data on affiliate interest in a joint membership program.
- Expansion of affiliate grants through collaboration with Strategic Partnerships and Health Initiatives. Eight grants we awarded to state and specialty affiliates this year.

- Expansion of managed affiliate partnerships that included:
    - The Advocates for the AOA (AAOA) collaboration with the Association of Military Osteopathic Physicians and Surgeons (AMOPS) to address the unique support needs of military physicians, residents and students, OMED Fun Run partnership with Student Osteopathic Medical Association (SOMA) Community Outreach Charity Miles program and reinvigorating Student Advocate Association groups at COMs after pandemic decline.
    - SOMA increased collaboration with the American Osteopathic Board of Neuromusculoskeletal Medicine (AOBNMM), AAOA and Council of Osteopathic Student Government Presidents (COSGP). SOMA OPP Committee and the AOBNMM partnered on an Osteopathic Manipulative Medicine/Neuromuscular Medicine (OMM/NMM) Myth Busters webinar series. SOMA and COSGP leadership teams partnered on policy training initiatives for the Osteopathic Medical Student (OMS) community and administered the National Student Caucus (NOSC).

Report of the Department of Educational Affairs
Jennifer Y. Kendall, DO, Chair
July 2025

This report highlights the activities of the AOA Bureaus, Councils and Committees that report to the Department of Education Affairs from August 2024 – June 2025.

Bureau of Osteopathic Education (BOE)

- The BOE provides feedback on the continuum of osteopathic medical education (predoctoral, postdoctoral, and continuing medical education).
- The BOE provided input on UME, GME, and CME workgroup recommendations throughout the year.
- The BOE offered critical feedback on proposed ACGME sponsoring institution requirements, helping to prevent undue burden on rural, underserved, and community-based programs.
- The BOE contributed to the ACGME's decision to pause proposed revisions, alongside feedback from the broader GME community.
- The BOE submitted recommendations for:
    - NRMP Board
    - JOM peer reviewers
    - ACGME Review Committees nominees
- BOE members served as peer reviewers for educational content to ensure alignment with CME requirements.
- The BOE reviewed two referred resolutions and submitted policy recommendations to the BOT for approval.
- The BOE evaluated and made recommendations on 11 sunset policies for the 2025 House of Delegates.
- The BOE reviewed comprehensive feedback on CME standards from all 150 CME sponsors, with plans to revise standards in the coming year.
- The BOE concluded the year by reviewing the CME Program Analysis Overview, covering:
    - AOA's CME accredited sponsors
    - AOA CME Credit system
    - ACCME activities

Program and Trainee Review Council (PTRC)

- The PTRC continued to monitor AOA-accredited residency and fellowships under its restricted accreditation authority. These programs did not achieve ACGME accreditation by June 30, 2020 but still have residents in training. The AOA has the authority to continue to accredit these programs until all residents graduate so they can complete training in an accredited program and advance to AOA board eligibility.
- The PTRC provided input on the AOA's organizational response to the proposed ACGME Sponsoring Institution Requirements.
- The PTRC provided input on the draft recommendations of the UME, GME, and CME Workgroups.

Report of the Department of Educational Affairs
Jennifer Y. Kendall, DO, Chair
July 2025

Council of OMED

- The Council of OMED provided governance oversight with respect to the annual OMED conference in 2024
- The Council of OMED provided a report to the Board of Trustees and the Bureau of Osteopathic Education following the conference, reporting the following:
    - 20 specialty colleges participated in OMED25
    - Final registration was 5,045 attendees. Of these attendees, 2,330 were DOs
- Educational content included the following:
    - 200+ hours of CME
    - Dually accredited
    - On demand access that lasted through December 31
    - 30 hours of AOA Category 1-A credits and 20 hours of AOA Category 1-B credits or 50 hours *AMA PRA Category 1 Credit*™
    - Bonus 10 hours of Category 1 CME credit for in-person attendees
- The Council participated with AOA leadership in the selection of keynote speakers
- Presently the Council is providing governance oversight to OMED25. The conference will be held September 25-28 in Nashville, TN. A special AOA member registration rate of $675 is available to AOA members who register and a hotel room now through July 31. OMED25 On-Demand will open on Sunday, September 28.

Commission on Osteopathic College Accreditation (COCA)

- The COCA currently accredits 43 colleges of osteopathic medicine (COMs) operating on 70 campuses.
- One new COM, Meritus School of Osteopathic Medicine (MSOM), will begin instruction in the 2025-2026 academic year.
- The COCA conducted 19 COM site visits in FY25. To date, 13 site visits are scheduled for FY26.
- In April 2025, the COCA voted to suspend enforcement of standards and elements related to diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) until May 1, 2026.
    - Following reviews of the COCA Standards by internal and external legal counsel, the Commission was confident that the Standards do not violate federal law. However, the Commission had become increasingly aware that changes to state laws and the pressure placed on higher education institutions due to Presidential Executive Order were making it increasingly complicated for COMs to interpret and adhere to the COCA's requirements under the related elements.
- The COCA is currently under review by the US Department of Education (USDE) for renewal of recognition in July 2026.

Report of the Department of Educational Affairs
Jennifer Y. Kendall, DO, Chair
July 2025

Bureau of Osteopathic Specialists (BOS)

- The BOS provides governance oversight to the AOA's 15 specialty certifying boards, which offer certifications and certificates in 24 primary specialties, 46 subspecialties, 2 areas of added qualification, and 1 distinction of Osteopathic Manipulative Treatment.
- The BOS convened virtually for its Annual and Midyear Meetings in November 2024 and March 2025 respectively, where actions taken by BOS committees were adopted. The following committees report to the BOS:
- The BOS provides governance oversight to the AOA's 15 specialty certifying boards, which offer certifications and certificates in 24 primary specialties, 46 subspecialties, 2 areas of added qualification, and 1 distinction of Osteopathic Manipulative Treatment.
- The BOS convened virtually for its Annual and Midyear Meetings in November 2024 and March 2025 respectively, where actions taken by BOS committees were adopted. The following committees report to the BOS:
    - BOS Appeal Committee: Convenes on an as needed basis when appeal requests are received.
    - BOS Certification Compliance Review Committee (CCRC): Convenes once per quarter to consider requests for special considerations related to compliance with OCC Component 4 PPA activities and to evaluate actions taken on licensure for compliance with certification and OCC Component 1 requirements, including adherence to the AOA Code of Ethics.
    - BOS Executive Committee: Convenes monthly and acts on behalf of the full BOS between BOS meetings.
    - BOS Jurisdiction Committee: Convenes twice per year and considers requests for the establishment of new specialty certifying boards, assignment or transfer of jurisdiction, initiation of retired status of a specialty certifying board or examination, and the reactivation of a retired specialty, subspecialty, or area of added qualification.
    - BOS Standards Review Committee (SRC): Convenes monthly to evaluate the validity and reliability of all certification and certificate examinations conducted by AOA specialty certifying boards and assess board compliance with AOA certification and certificate examination standards.
- The BOS recommends approval of amendments and updates to the Handbook of the BOS to the AOA Board of Trustees (BOT). Following BOT approval, the revised BOS Handbook is posted to the BOS webpage.
    - The certification examination process was updated specifically for candidates who entered the process prior to July 1, 2009, but have not yet achieved AOA board certification. These candidates must apply for examination to the specialty certifying board to enter the post board eligibility certification process by Dec. 31, 2025. After this date, they will no longer be eligible for AOA board certification in the specialty or subspecialty. Candidates in the post board eligibility process may not represent themselves as "board eligible".
    - Licensure requirements were revised for AOA board certification candidates and diplomates. Candidates and diplomates must maintain a valid, active, unrestricted medical license in at least one (1) jurisdiction (United States, including US territories, or

Canada) and must adhere to the AOA Code of Ethics. If a candidate or diplomate is licensed in multiple jurisdictions, all licenses must be unrestricted.

Single GME Accreditation System Update

- Of the programs that transitioned to ACGME accreditation:
  - 87% (816 programs) now have continued accreditation
  - 2% (21 programs) have continued accreditation with warning or initial accreditation with warning
  - 1% (10 programs) have continued accreditation without outcomes
  - 6% (54 programs) voluntarily closed
  - 3% (33 programs) had accreditation withdrawn by the ACGME
  - 1% (4 programs) are on probationary accreditation
- The number of ACGME programs with Osteopathic Recognition has grown to 276 in 24 different specialties and subspecialties.
  - 40% are former AOA-accredited programs
  - 33% are programs dually accredited by AOA and ACGME prior to 2015
  - 27% are programs without previous association with AOA GME accreditation
  - There are over 2,800 designated osteopathic residents, including 120 US MD or IMG graduates.

Report of the Finance Department
Jennifer Hauler, DO, Chair
July 2025

This report highlights activities of the Finance Department from August 2024 to June 2025.

Financial Results

- Preliminary projected results show AOA finishing FY 2025 with operating revenues exceeding expenses by $741K
- Revenues of $34.2M are projected to be lower than budget by $1.9M, with unfavorable variances in COCA and other areas being partially offset by favorable CBS revenues.
- Expenses of $33.5M are projected to be favorable to budget by $2.7M. These are largely due to savings in COCA travel expenses, personnel costs (open positions, benefit savings) and lower than anticipated meeting costs.
- AOA reserves are projected to grow to $69.6M by May 31, 2025. This is primarily a function of the favorable operating results and positive investment performance ($4.8M). This puts reserves at 233% of two-year prior expenses (target is 75%).

Audit Updates

- We have finalized the FY 2022 and FY2023 audits which was delayed due to staff turnover and other issues.
- Both year audits received unqualified opinions with audit findings.
- FY 2024's audit work is currently underway with an anticipated completion in August 2025
- FY 2025's audit is anticipated to begin November\December 2025.

Operations

- The Finance team will implement the Sage software accounting tool effective for the month of June. This will enhance our financial efficiency and reporting capability.
- The Finance team is revisiting other systems and processes to ensure the leaders of the organization have the timely information they need to make informed decisions.
- The Finance Committee approved a balanced AOA FY 2026 Operating Budget, an AOA FY 2026 Capital Budget, and the AOA FY2026 - 142 E Ontario Budget.

Report of the Department of Governmental Affairs
Bruce A. Wolf, DO, Chair
July 2025

This report highlights the activities of the Department of Governmental Affairs in FY25. The department consists of the Bureau on Federal Health Programs and two councils, the Council on Economic and Regulatory Affairs, and the Council on Health State Affairs.

This past year, the **Bureau on Federal Health Programs** which is chaired by George Thomas, DO, completed its goals, which included:

- Advising the AOA Board of Trustees and members on legislation and regulatory issues impacting the profession,

- Providing governance oversight to the CERA, CSHA, and AOA's grassroots legislative advocacy program, and

- Providing recommendation and guidance to enhance partnership with divisional societies and specialty colleges on state and federal initiatives.

- The BFHP held two virtual and one in-person meeting in Washington, DC this year. Issues discussed with members of Congress focused on patients' access to care through extending Medicare telehealth flexibilities, sustainability of independent practice, and increasing GME slots.

- The BFHP provided guidance on AOA collaboration with osteopathic affiliates and grassroots advocacy throughout the year. Activities included monthly Osteopathic Advocacy Network calls, as well as 30 grassroots advocacy campaigns that resulted in more than 6000 actions from over 2350 individuals across the country; and sending more than 60 letters to Congress and federal agencies as well as nominating 5 DOs to Federal advisory committees. Collectively, these efforts led to important progress that benefits osteopathic physicians and students, such as:

    - Inclusion of an inflationary update in the Medicare physician fee schedule in the House passed Budget Reconciliation package;
    - Supporting multi-year reauthorization of the THCGME program;
    - Extending Medicare telehealth flexibilities:
    - Advocating for continued funding for state Medicaid programs;
    - And many others critical issues impacting the osteopathic profession and our patients.

This past year, the **Council on Economic and Regulatory Affairs**, which is chaired by Linda Delo, DO, achieved its goals, which included:

- Advising the AOA Board of Trustees and our members on issues impacting the practice of osteopathic medicine and the profession,

- Recommending strategies to engage federal agencies on issues impacting the osteopathic medical profession, including advising on policy recommendations to the new HHS leadership as they begin policy development work, and

  - Providing resource development on federal payment policy and other regulatory issues to enhance AOA membership value.

- The CERA held 4 meetings this year, where the council provided input on regulatory developments and regulatory proposals from federal agencies. Issues included physician payment, prior authorization and regulatory relief, promoting competition in healthcare, leveraging digital health innovations and regulation of health information technology, continuation of telehealth flexibilities, and combatting inappropriate scope of practice expansion for non-physician clinicians.

- CERA guidance supported development of 10 regulatory comment letters submitted by AOA to federal agencies, and the expansion of AOA partnership with affiliates to submit comments to federal agencies supporting the continuation of telemedicine prescribing flexibilities and opposing scope of practice expansions.

- AOA, in partnership with affiliates and other physician groups, advocated for the following policy changes that will benefit osteopathic physicians across the country:

  - Establishment by the HHS Assistant Secretary for Technology Policy of new exceptions to information blocking prohibitions that would except restrictions on information sharing intended to protect individuals from legal action when seeking, obtaining, or providing evidence-based care.[1]

  - Modifications by the Drug Enforcement Administration of proposals related to telemedicine prescribing of controlled substances and a proposed registration process, which AOA is continuing to engage the agency on and improve.

- The AOA also submitted comments to the White House and Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services on deregulatory efforts that can alleviate administrative burden, promote healthy competition in healthcare, and protect physicians from inappropriate liability.

- The CERA's input on proposed changes to the CY2025 Medicare Physician Fee Schedule supported changes to payment rules, including enhancing payment for longitudinal care, extending telehealth payment parity, and changes to improvements to the Quality Payment Program that enhance scoring.

The CERA also led development of a broad range of educational resources to support physician members, including a guide on the CY2025 Medicare Physician Fee Schedule, an overview webinar on key changes in the fee schedule rule, a

[1] HHS and Congress have both expressed their intent to remove this policy, and we anticipate it to be rescinded imminently.

follow-on webinar on leveraging payment changes to optimize office visits, and a policy research paper on supporting appropriate use of clinical AI tools.

This past year, the **Council on State Health Affairs**, which is chaired by J. Michael Wieting, DO, completed its goals, which included:

- Providing governance with respect to state legislative and regulatory issues impacting the practice of osteopathic medicine and the AOA's membership.
- Making recommendations to the AOA BOT regarding how the AOA may assist divisional societies and specialty colleges on state legislative and regulatory initiatives.
- Providing input to staff regarding assisting divisional societies and specialty colleges with respect to state legislative and regulatory initiatives.

- The CSHA held two meetings this year to discuss issues impacting the profession, which included inappropriate scope of practice expansion attempts by non-physician clinicians, the establishment of alternative pathways to physician licensure, healthcare truth in advertising and osteopathic recognition and equivalency.

- The CSHA provided guidance on AOA collaboration with osteopathic affiliates and grassroots advocacy throughout the year. Activities included state updates on monthly Osteopathic Advocacy Network calls, as well as more than 15 letters with affiliates in 11 states, and 10 grassroots advocacy campaigns that resulted in over 2,000 actions from over 800 individuals across the country. These efforts resulted in a 82% success rate, with measures in 5 states still outstanding until they adjourn for the year. Wins include:
    - Blocking the elimination of the Nevada State Board of Osteopathic Medicine and the transfer of DO regulation to a new state medical board, which set DO representation at the level of chiropractors, and significantly less than MDs
    - Preventing naturopaths from inappropriately expanding their scope of practice in Maryland and Washington.
    - Blocking independent test-and-treat authority for pharmacists in Indiana
    - Permanently enacting a waiver in Pennsylvania that had been in place temporarily to recognize the transition to a single accreditation system and allow DOs who trained prior to the transition to obtain licensure without undue burden or delay.

The Department of Government Affairs reviewed and submitted, for the 2025 House of Delegates, 48 sunset policies for reaffirmation, 18 for reaffirmation as amended, and recommended 2 policies be sunset.

It is also important to note that the department of Government Affairs continues to engage with the CDC and HHS to ensure the adoption and implementation of ICD-11 has sufficient granularity

to document somatic dysfunction. As you are likely aware, ICD-11 would collapse the 10 current somatic dysfunction codes to one. The AOA will remain vigilant in communicating to federal agencies that the United States implementation in of ICD-11 must reflect the needs of all medical specialties and their patients, including physicians who perform OMT.

Report of the Department of Membership
Shannon C. Scott, DO, Chair
June 2025

This report highlights the activities of the Department of Membership from August 2024 to June 2025.

Bureau of Emerging Leaders (BEL)

- In addition to the 16 members appointed to the Bureau of Emerging Leaders (BEL), there are 90+ additional osteopathic medical students, residents, fellows, and new physicians in practice engaged with the BEL's work via workgroups and the BEL Collaborative Cohort (BCC).
- BEL has accomplished 100% of its goals set this year.
- BEL held three Summits in the 2024-2026 leadership year at OMED24, DO Day 2025, and HOD 2025.
    - These summits have proved to be invaluable in gathering leaders of the BEL constituency groups together to learn about current and future collaborative efforts.
- BEL has invited various AOA departments and stakeholder organizations to present to the BCC and gather input, including Membership, Affiliate Relations, Strategic Partnerships and Health Initiatives, Communications, AOIA, American Osteopathic Foundation, NBOME, and the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention.
- Workgroup Updates
    - Communications
        - Released quarterly newsletters to engage constituents and promote AOA benefits and services.
    - Events and Scholarships
        - The 2024 OMED Scholarship Program provided complimentary conference registration for three residents and new physicians in practice along with a personalized itinerary of sessions that provided a well-rounded overview of OMED's offerings.
        - The 2025 DO Day Scholarship Program, in collaboration with AOIA, provided complimentary DO Day registration and travel reimbursement to four residents and new physicians in practice, along with an exclusive virtual opportunity to network with AOA leadership prior to DO Day.
        - The 2025 OMED Scholarship Program received 12 applications which are being reviewed by the workgroup.
        - The BEL held eight specialty-specific webinars in April 2025 to provide tips and advice on applying for residency in the upcoming cycle.
    - Public Relations
        - The Public Relations Workgroup and Pre-SOMA developed a webinar held on June 30th geared toward pre-medical students and introducing them to the osteopathic profession.
    - Resolutions
        - Submitted three resolutions to the AOA Board of Trustees, two of which were approved to go to the House of Delegates:
            - Equitable Use and Coverage of Anti-obesity Incretin Mimetic Medications
            - Protecting Patient Care: Opposing the Growing Impact of Private Equity and the Corporate Practice of Medicine
        - Hosted an HOD Primer webinar for student, resident, fellow and new physician in practice delegates and alternate delegates to supplement the in-person orientation.
        - The BEL Caucus reviewed resolutions that impact students, residents, fellows, and new physicians in practice in preparation for HOD.

Report of the Department of Membership
Shannon C. Scott, DO, Chair
June 2025

Bureau of Membership (BOM)

- The Bureau of Membership is proud to celebrate the stabilization of member counts (which has been trending down for the past few years) as well as an increase of $1.4M in Dues Revenue.

The team proactively reviewed the annual membership renewal processes, providing insights into membership growth and engagement initiatives while monitoring the progress of the Membership Workgroup recommendations. Some of the accomplishments:

- Integration of the new member value proposition "AOA Professional Home" theme in all member communications, as well as personalization and customization of content.
- Introduced and implemented two new payment options for membership dues:
  - Auto Renewal
  - Installment Payment Plan
- Developed and launched the AOA Champion Program
- Centralized Member Benefits webpage
- Completed Website Audit for membership benefits and developed recommendations for additional enhancements
- Implemented AOA organization-wide customer service standards
- Implemented a weekly customer service survey for MRC interactions.
- Contracted with vendor to explore and identify Member Engagement Tracking Program Options
- Created initial recommendations for Member Benefits Lockdown
- Gained new insights on member recruitment and retention via newly launched surveys
  - AOA Board Certified Non-Members
  - Joint Affiliate Membership Program Survey
- Completed streamlining and strategizing communications workgroup initiatives.
- The Bureau of Membership continues to provide governance oversight regarding membership services, dues structure and fees, and the annual membership renewal processes. To support our affiliates, the AOA continues to recruit new members for specialty colleges and state osteopathic associations on its dues invoices, resulting in a successful year with 674 new members and over $299,000 in dues revenues for state and specialty affiliates.
- The Bureau of Membership group continued leveraging partnerships and connections by conducting outreach and lessening the gap of COMS not participating in sharing student data with the AOA.
- AOAs partnership with Feathr to boost our digital marketing efforts in recruiting and engaging current and prospective members in the osteopathic profession was a success, resulting in 731 conversions (575 renewals and 156 new members). We look forward to continuing this partnership in the upcoming year.
- Developed a joint affiliate membership survey and AOA Board Certified Non-member Survey to gather insights to enhance membership operations, communications, and strategies to increase members, improve member experiences, and elevate our approaches. The AOA Board Certified Non-Member Survey resulted in 128 new members.
- The Membership Engagement Tracking Tool is in progress and is scheduled for completion by September 2026, with no additional funds required from reserves. We look forward to the value and insights we will obtain.
- We partnered with a new vendor, DropCowboy, to deliver ringless voicemail messages to support our renewal/retention efforts, resulting in a total of 9,882 outreach attempts, 655 call backs, and 1,897 renewals (a conversion value of over $400K).

Report of the Department of Membership
Shannon C. Scott, DO, Chair
June 2025

Bureau of International Osteopathic Medicine (BIOM)

- The bureau continues its work with the help of Chair Frank Tursi, DO, 13 Bureau members, and one Advisor position. AOA Vice President of State and International Affairs, Raine Richards, continues supporting the Bureau.
- A primary goal of the Bureau is to expand international recognition of US-trained DOs. To that end, BIOM leadership continues to work with AOA leadership and the Canadian Osteopathic Association on the issue of DO licensure in Canada. Pathways to licensure exist for DOs but vary from province to province. They may not recognize AOA residency training and/or board certification, and additional testing beyond COMLEX and USMLE may be required.
- In response to AOA advocacy, the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Alberta voted in May to change its regulations to recognize AOA board certification and AOA accredited residency programs prior to the transition to a single accreditation system in the US.
- The BIOM also supports the work of the Osteopathic International Alliance, which is the official vehicle for the osteopathic profession within the World Health Organization (WHO). In January 2024, the WHO approved the OIA's 2024-2026 collaboration plan, which includes updating the 2010 Benchmarks for Training in Osteopathy to include osteopathic medicine and updating the 2020 global survey of the osteopathic profession. During a follow-up meeting with WHO leadership in Geneva in May, OIA leadership received additional instructions regarding the next steps on these important projects, and OIA members will receive a request for assistance updating the global survey in the near future.
- In addition, the Bureau met in December to review and approve the 2020 Sunset Policy assigned to it, H310-A/20 OSTEOPATH AND OSTEOPATHY - USE OF THE TERM. Potential topics and speakers for the annual BIOM lecture at OMED were discussed, and the Bureau suggested an update on osteopathic medical practice in Mexico.
- The BIOM also held its 27th annual global health abstract competition – generously co-sponsored by SOMA, COSGP, and DOCARE – as part of the OMED Research Abstract competition, which closed on June 16th. All osteopathic medical students and residents were invited to submit an unpublished global health abstract for a chance to win cash prizes and be published in the Journal of Osteopathic Medicine. The abstracts will undergo review over the summer, and authors of accepted abstracts will be present during the live, virtual OMED poster competition on September 26th.
- Lastly, the AOA has been invited to share a booth with the NBOME at the upcoming International Association of Medical Regulatory Authorities (IAMRA) meeting in Dublin in September. We will continue our work educating global medical regulators about the credentials and value that osteopathic physicians bring at this meeting, following our success in supporting the passage of a historic resolution recognizing U.S.-trained DOs as fully licensed physicians equivalent to MDs in 47 IAMRA member countries during their last biennial Members General Assembly in 2023.

Report of the Department of Research and Public Health
James M. Lally, DO, Chair
July 2025

This report highlights the activities of the Department of Research and Public Health from August 2024 to June 2025.

Bureau of Osteopathic Research and Public Health (BORPH)

Research activities

Research Grant Funding

Over the past several years, staff have seen a decline in the number of applications for the research grants. To address this concern, after discussion with BORPH, staff contacted all Research Directors at the Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine, inviting them to identify barriers affecting grant proposal submissions. Based on their recommendations, input from the BORPH, and staff analysis, the following actions were taken:

- A new Request for Applications (RFA) was developed on Osteopathic Distinctiveness, and existing RFAs were updated to support the development of more projects.
- The project timeline was extended to 24 months to allow more time to conduct research.
- A webinar was conducted to clarify RFA criteria and the application process.
- 230 Registrants
- 70 Attendees
- Over 2000 Impressions (Total number of times the content is displayed on a user's screen.)
- Additional emails were sent to reach a wider audience.

Four Requests for Applications (RFAs) were posted on October 1, 2024. The topic areas include:

- Osteopathic Distinctiveness
- Osteopathic Manipulative Medicine and Osteopathic Manipulative Treatment (OMM/OMT)
- Acute and Chronic Pain Management
- The Impact of the Osteopathic Approach on Chronic Disease

- In addition to the three Requests for Applications (RFAs), an additional RFA on Osteopathic Manipulative Medicine (OMM) Observational & Explorative Focused Hypotheses Research Studies was also continued for this year. Projects under this RFA must address one of 14 research hypotheses designed to investigate the successful effects of OMM on specific diseases.

- Seventeen grant applications were received, an increase over the 6 applications in 2024 and the 13 applications received in 2023. Five of the 17 applications were approved by the AOA BOT for funding.

2024 Research Poster Session and Student Competition held virtually during OMED

Each spring, the AOA announces a Call for Research Abstracts for poster presentations at OMED in the Fall. The abstract categories include Basic Science Research, Clinical Research, Health Services Research, Public Health Research and International Research.

Report of the Department of Research and Public Health
James M. Lally, DO, Chair
July 2025

The 2024 OMED Poster Session and Student Poster Competition was held virtually on September 20, 2024 during OMED.

- 140 research abstracts were submitted, 106 accepted, and 2 withdrawn, for a total of 104 posters
- 80 students participated in the poster competition; 18 judges scored the poster presentations
- 13 students were awarded cash prizes
- The recorded posters are available to view at https://omed2024.kontainer.com/folder/262020#token=KCUHCQ4TQJ&type=direct
- DOs can earn two (2) AOA Category 2-B CME credits by viewing the recorded ePosters until September 15, 2025.
- Accepted abstracts were published in the December 2024 Journal of Osteopathic Medicine

Public Health Activities

BORPH made recommendations to the AOA Board of Trustees (BOT) to approve three public health initiatives. The Departments of Research and Public Health and Strategic Partnerships and Health Initiatives (SPHI) partner in the planning and implementation of the BORPH public health initiatives. Strategic Partnerships continues to prioritize the BORPH goals when seeking grant opportunities. The public health initiatives are listed below.

- Suicide Prevention
- Integration of OMM/OPP into opioid addiction and treatment/Opioid Crisis Prevention
- Living Well/Aging Well - The role of osteopathic distinctiveness in addressing body, mind, & spirit, healthy aging, and overall wellness.

Suicide Prevention

In collaboration with the Department of Strategic Partnerships and Health Initiatives, there has been increased activities implemented this year addressing suicide prevention among osteopathic physicians and their patients. Darcy Steinberg-Hastings, Vice President, Strategic Partnerships and Health Initiatives and Trisha Calabrese, Senior Vice President, American Foundation for Suicide Prevention, planned and implemented a presentation on January 14, 2025, for BEL members providing information on the prevalence of suicide among the US population and evidenced-based suicide prevention strategies for physicians and patients. In addition to the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention, the AOA is also partnering with the National Academy of Medicine, and other national Patient Safety Organizations across the country on suicide prevention initiatives.

Integration of OMM/OPP into opioid addiction and treatment/Opioid Crisis Prevention

The AOA received external funding as a partner in the Collaborative for REMS Education (CORE) to provide education on “Pain Management and Opioids: Balancing Risks and Benefits”. CORE is a group of professional associations that include physicians, physician assistants, pain specialists, and nurse practitioners. CORE provides continuing education to healthcare professionals for safe opioid prescribing in alignment with the FDA’s mission, following the FDA Blueprint. In partnership with the AOA Department of Strategic Partnerships

and Health Initiatives, an opioid education symposium was planned and implemented at OMED24 and the enduring module is posted on the AOA LMS platform. In addition, 2 webinars were implemented on "Conversations in Care: Complex Cases in Pain Management" this year to provide an opportunity for additional dialogue on complex issues related to pain management. Over 1,300 health care professionals participated in the symposium and webinars.

Living Well/Aging Well

The Living Well/ Aging Well initiative addresses the role of osteopathic distinctiveness in body, mind, & spirit, healthy aging, and overall wellness. The objective is to produce 1 -2-page informational sheets for physicians to use when talking to patients and as handouts for patients.

In the first 2 years of this initiative, BORPH created 16 patient handouts that can be found on the AOA website. https://osteopathic.org/practicing-medicine/providing-care/living-well-aging-well/

In FY2025, BORPH decided to continue this initiative and developed an additional 6 patient handouts addressing:

- Menopause/perimenopause
- Immunizations for those over 50
- Burn out impacting patients
- Heat safety
- Medical misinformation
- Sleep issues

These six patient handouts will be posted to the AOA website in the next few months.

Policy Review

A total of 42 sunset policies were reviewed by BORPH for submission to the 2025 House of Delegates. Of these, the following Sunset white papers were reviewed and updated:

- H452-A/2020 Breastfeeding While on Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT)
- H455-A/2020 Regulation of E-Cigarettes and Nicotine Vaping
- H325-A/2020 Low Back Pain Clinical Practice Guidelines, Revision of (request for one year extension)

Three referred resolutions from the 2024 House of Delegates were also reviewed and updated including:

- H310-A/2024 SR End-Of-Life Care – Use of Placebos in
- H434-A/2024 Recognizing Breast Implant Illness (BII) and Promoting Informed Consent for Breast Implant Procedures
- H413-A/2024 SR Raw Milk – Health Risks

Report of the Department of Research and Public Health
James M. Lally, DO, Chair
July 2025

Leadership Meeting with HHS

President Hubka and AOA leadership met with Robert F. Kennedy Jr., Secretary, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and his staff on February 25, 2025. Research funding and osteopathic medicine was one of the many issues discussed. Secretary Kennedy was particularly impressed with the tenets of osteopathic medicine and the osteopathic approach to care focused on body, mind and spirit which align with the objectives of the HHS initiative. Secretary Kennedy expressed interest in reviewing specific research topics which could be considered for funding in the future.

In a follow up letter to HHS in March, the AOA provided a list of potential research topics. Currently, AOA is working with several Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine to provide more detailed information to HHS on these research projects.