2019 AOS/FOS/MOS Annual Meeting

See Article pages 5-8

To view all photos from AOS/MOS 2019 Annual Meeting go to: AOSDocs.com/Meetings
HITTING A MAJOR MILESTONE like completing your orthopaedic training and board certification requires years of dedication to work, study and professionalism. Beginning in 2000, the American Board of Orthopaedic Surgery (ABOS), along with other members of the American Board of Medical Specialties, decided that board certification should not be the end of the road, but that physicians should demonstrate their competence and professionalism on an ongoing basis through time limited board certification. Since then, ABOS certification must be renewed every 10 years. Some new options are available now which may seem confusing but are actually quite helpful additions.

The ABOS uses a four part assessment:

I. Professional standing – established by peer review and licensure
II. Life long learning and self assessment – established by CMEs (240 CME hours) and self assessment exams (40 CME credits)
III. Cognitive expertise – more on this below
IV. Performance in Practice – assessed by peer review from colleagues including surgeons, nursing, and anesthesia

Part III, cognitive expertise has evolved substantially over just the last few years. Initially, the main way to establish this was the written recertification exam. This exam covered all of orthopaedics in a format similar to the Part I exam we all had to pass initially. There were two major concerns raised about this:

1. A single ‘high stakes’ exam was unnecessarily stressful; and
2. Many orthopaedic surgeons now practice exclusively in a subspecialty, and so many aspects of general orthopaedics are not relevant to their practice. The other options for recertification at that time were practice review or oral exams – both involved additional expense and time.

Two major changes at ABOS have expanded options for establishing cognitive expertise – specialty recertification exams and web based longitudinal assessment. The specialty exams allow surgeons to be tested in content relevant to their practice. For me as a pediatric orthopaedic surgeon this would mean not having to rememorize the Paprosky classification of acetabular defects for total hip arthroplasty just to pass a test. These practiceprofiled tests are available for Adult Reconstruction, Foot/Ankle Surgery, Orthopaedic Trauma, Pediatric Orthopaedic Surgery, Shoulder/Elbow Surgery, and Surgery of the Spine, as well as Orthopaedic Sports Medicine and Surgery of the Hand. Blueprints for the exams are available at the ABOS website to direct examinees as to what topics are covered.

The other major change is a pilot program, web based longitudinal assessment. This gives diplomats the option to replace the high stakes exam with a series of learning modules based on recent orthopaedic literature (knowledge sources). Examinees choose 15 knowledge sources (from over 100 options) and have time to read and review them at their own pace over several months. There is then a one month window to answer 30 multiple choice questions from the selected articles in a timed, but open book format. Three minutes are given for each question, but you can do as few or as many in a session as desired. This cycle is repeated for a total of 5 times during your 10 year certificate period. No testing center. No full day of exams. The end of the first cycle coincided with the AOS annual meeting this year and several of us had chosen to be part of the pilot web based program. Generally, the feeling was that it is a good option to have – it’s way more fun to do your exam sitting by the pool than at Prometrics!

Hope this is useful for you. For further information look here: www.abos.org/moc/

Shawn Gilbert, M.D. President
Alabama Orthopaedic Society

AOS President’s Message
Shawn R. Gilbert, M.D.

ADULT EDUCATION PART 2: KEEPING IT GOING
AS YOUR ALABAMA BOARD of councilors representatives, Dr. Howard Miller and I attended the National Orthopaedic Leadership Conference (NOLC) in Washington, DC June 5-8. Together with Dr. Skip Gilbert, AOS President; Terri Mendez, AOS Executive Director; Dr. Zane Hyde, UAB Resident; and Dr. Jonathan Gillig, USA Resident, we met with our legislative offices to address multiple topics.

Three issues were identified by our Academy as priority points of discussion.

First, we expressed our support of a bill that would protect patients from surprise medical bills in an out of network emergency. While not extremely common in Alabama, given the market share of BCBS, these occur and can be devastating to a patient when they do.

Second, we expressed our support for the passage of the Competitive Health Insurance Reform Act. This Act would allow federal antitrust laws to apply to the business of health insurance markets, thereby increasing competition and leveling the playing field between providers and health plans.

Third, we explained our support for the Hospital Competition Act which among multiple benefits would repeal the ban on physician-owned hospitals. Our meetings on The Hill went well and in addition to these topics we were able to discuss multiple current issues and answer questions regarding health care in Alabama. Howard and I will attend the Fall Academy/BOC meeting in October and will provide any pertinent updates following the meeting.

In addition to our Hill visits, the NOLC meeting offers several symposia. As always, advocacy is a top issue. According to the AMA, 2018 marked the first year employed physicians outnumber the self-employed physicians in the United States. This shift is important in that some feel employed physicians are less likely to support advocacy - specifically efforts such as ALAPAC and the AAOS PAC. I encourage you to support both. In the current environment, your contributions are more important than ever.

Please contact myself or any of your board members with issues you feel are important to our Society and the practice of orthopaedics in Alabama.

Also, I hope you will make plans to attend our Annual Meeting in Point Clear April 30-May 2, 2020. I look forward to seeing you there!

Sincerely,

Trey Baird, M.D.
President-Elect
Alabama Orthopaedic Society
AAOS Board of Councilors

SCOLIOSIS AWARENESS MONTH
Angela Cosby, Dr. Sharon Mayberry, Governor Kay Ivey and Executive Director Terri Mendez, during ceremony proclaiming July 2019 Scoliosis Awareness month.
FROM MY DESK, I can hear the sounds of Camp Mimi-Poppi. Each summer the grandchildren individually visit for a few days of swimming, fishing, boating, shooting, tubing, 4-wheeler riding, tractor riding, campfire cooking and “s’moring”.

It’s such a nice break from year-long ball for the boys. Fall football. Fall baseball. Winter basketball. Summer All-Stars..... Camp Mimi Poppi is a nice refuge from busy lives of school and activities.

As I think of these children, and their many activities (and many opportunities for injuries), I am so grateful that our orthopaedists are committed to ensuring that all patients receive proper care from a qualified practitioner.

The 2019 legislative session saw an unprecedented number of scope of practice expansion bills, including a physical therapy bill which would give patients direct access to physical therapy without a physician referral, and a podiatry bill, which would expand the scope of practice for podiatry to include treatment of disorders of the foot, ankle, and lower leg. There were also several other scope of practice expansion bills introduced, which, while not directly affecting orthopaedics, would open the door for more scope creep by legislation. By replacing education with legislation, these dangerous bills would have lowered the quality of care in Alabama.

Senator Larry Stutts shared an excellent personal story with me and Dr. Davis during a legislative visit, which illustrates the ridiculousness of replacing education with legislation: In his early career Senator Stutts was a veterinarian. At some point in his career, he felt a deep desire to deliver babies. Human babies. As he said, “I didn’t travel down to Montgomery and ask my legislators to change the law to allow me to deliver babies. I went to medical school and became an obstetrician where I delivered babies for over 20 years.” Makes perfect sense to me.

This year, I joined with Alabama Orthopaedists, Orthopaedic Practice Managers, and MASA to work to protect patients and the practice of medicine in our state.

I want to thank all of you who were among over 270 orthopaedists who endorsed our letter to each member of the Senate Health Committee asking them to vote ‘NO’ on SB 25.

Also thank you to those who made phone calls, sent emails and texts to Senators asking them to Not Discount the Diagnosis.

Five Alabama Orthopaedists took time from their practices to spend the day in Montgomery to assist. Drs. Sarah Gould and Kenneth Jaffe spent the day visiting House and Senate Members with MASA Staff. Drs. Chris Heck and John Payne drove to Montgomery to testify before the Senate Health Committee. Dr. Jim Davis spent the day with me visiting House Health Committee Members and attending the Senate Hearing.

Practice Managers from Alabama Orthopaedic Specialists, Andrews Sports Medicine, Anniston Orthopaedics, OrthoSports Associates, Southern Orthopaedic Surgeons, and Southlake Orthopaedics spent full days away from the office visiting Senators. Other practice managers made phone calls, sent emails and coordinated efforts with many of you to reach out to your senators.

All of this was orchestrated by MASA. From my view, it seems that MASA worked full-time on our legislative issues this session. Many, many thanks to their leadership.

It has truly been a group effort and I appreciate the efforts around the state.

We look forward to seeing you at the 2020 AOS/MOS Annual Meeting April 30-May 2 at The Grand Hotel In Point Clear.

I want to thank you for the opportunity to serve you, your businesses and your specialty.

Now, Poppi and I are ready for a little “quieting”.

Terri Mendez
AOS Executive Director
2019 AOS/MOS Annual Meeting

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THE 2019 ANNUAL MEETING was held at the beautiful Henderson Beach Resort in Destin, FL. We were honored to include over 100 orthopaedic surgeons and 10 PAs from Alabama, Florida and Mississippi as well as guest speakers from Georgia, Minnesota, Pennsylvania and Texas.

In addition to the gorgeous views and excellent food and service, The Henderson offered comfortable rooms, relaxing pools (including the very popular lazy river) and a beautiful beach area.

The Thursday evening Welcome Reception, hosted by HighTower Twickenham and Zimmer Biomet, was a nice setting to greet one another while enjoying hors d’oeuvres and cocktails, beach breeze and a lovely view of the gulf from the rooftop terrace.

Friday and Saturday mornings the exhibit hall was abuzz with physicians and vendors engaging in conversation and enjoying a hearty American breakfast. Physicians and vendors had multiple opportunities to visit in the exhibit hall Friday and Saturday.

Scientific sessions convened Friday and Saturday with excellent presentations from our special guests: Dr. John Sperling, Dr. David Ring, and Dr. Stephen Conti. Congressman Neal Dunn, M.D. offered an update on happenings in the region as well as in Washington. The program was packed with Alabama and Mississippi member presentations and resident presentations. And, the hallways were filled with over 21 poster presentations from medical students and residents of Alabama & Mississippi medical schools.

The afternoons were filled with golf and fishing, biking, kayaking, sunning and swimming, as well as a family event on the beach including professional sandcastle lessons.
Friday night saw the largest crowd as attendees of all ages gathered for the Presidential Reception and Dinner on the Grand Lawn. Children enjoyed the bounce house and corn hole, while the adults had a chance to visit while enjoying a delicious dinner, cocktails and beach music. It’s so pleasing to see that the annual meeting is becoming a family event – just like the old days!

We are very thankful to our 51 exhibitors and sponsors (listed on page 5) who, through their generous support and commitment, made the AOS/MOS Annual Meeting possible. Please be sure to thank them when you see them.

The 2019 AOS / MOS Annual Meeting was a great success. Mark your calendars next year as we return to The Grand Hotel in Point Clear, April 30-May 2, 2020.
The Chestley L. Yelton Resident Essay Competition Award is presented at the AOS/MOS Annual Meeting. This year both First and Second place awards went to Dr. Scott Mabry from UAB Division of Orthopaedic Surgery and Third Place was awarded to Dr. Mark Prevost from University of South Alabama Department of Orthopaedic Surgery.

It was a difficult decision for our judges, and we thank the members of the Yelton Competition Committee, Drs. Lee Murphy, Grant Zarzour and Michael Smith for poring through 39 paper submissions this year.

Eight Alabama Residents presented papers, and 3 Alabama Member Orthopaedists presented at the Annual Meeting. Additionally, 21 medical students had the opportunity to display posters from their research. We thank Dr. Shah for his commitment and cooperation in allowing the medical students to attend the meeting and field questions regarding their research.

**AOS E.D. Recieves AAOS Executive Director of the Year Award**

Skip Gilbert, M.D., President, AOS

Congratulations to our own Terri Mendez who received the AAOS Executive Director of the Year Award at the NOLC in Washington, D.C. on June 7th.

Any of you who have been active in the Alabama Society can attest to Terri’s responsiveness, organization and attention to detail that make her an excellent ED.

Terri was nominated for this award by Dr. James Worthen while he was president of AOS in recognition of her efforts that led to increased membership, improved attendance and increased sponsorship at the annual meeting. We are pleased, but not surprised, that Terri was recognized. Academy representatives and invited speakers who attend other meetings of other state orthopedic societies often comment on how the AOS meeting is very well-organized, attended and supported - and so much of that is due to Terri’s diligence, persistence and leadership. I am honored to speak on behalf of the board and the membership of AOS to congratulate Terri on this well-deserved award and thank her for her ongoing outstanding efforts on our behalf!
AOS Members Visit with Alabama Legislators Regarding Scope of Practice Bills

2019 National Orthopaedic Leadership Conference (NOLC) Update

AAOS Board of Councilors, Drs. Howard Miller and Trey Baird, along with AOS President, Dr. Skip Gilbert; Orthopaedic Residents, Drs. Jonathan Gillig and Zane Hyde; and AOS Executive Director, Terri Mendez visited Capitol Hill on June 6 to meet with congressional representatives as part of the 2019 American Association of Orthopaedic Surgeons National Orthopaedic Leadership Conference.

Alabama Orthopaedic Society representatives had the opportunity to meet and discuss issues with the Legislative Administrators of the US Members of Congress: Mike Rogers, Bradley Byrne, Mo Brooks, Gary Palmer, Martha Roby, Terri Sewell, and Senators Richard Shelby and Doug Jones.

Among the topics discussed with our representatives were The Hospital Competition Act of 2019, The Competitive Health Insurance Reform Act of 2019, and the issue of patients receiving surprise medical bills following both emergency and nonemergency care. The topics were chosen for their relevance to patient care and for the ways they have the potential to lower healthcare costs.

For more information about these bills, please see Dr. Trey Baird’s article on page 3.
Grassroots worked, and they can work again.

Alabama’s 2019 legislative session was one for the books. Never before have so many egregious scope of practice expansions been introduced in the same session. Indeed, 2019 was the year of scope creep, and the Medical Association and the Alabama Orthopaedic Society’s (AOS) combined efforts to protect patients prevailed! Ultimately it was orthopaedic grassroots – the surgeons and practice managers who took the time to contact legislators and work the halls of the Alabama State House alongside your lobbyists – that ultimately stopped these dangerous bills. Grassroots worked, and they can work again.

The “scope creep” bills directly affecting orthopaedists this session were:

The PT bill (SB 25/HB 50) would have abolished the physician referral requirement for physical therapy. Under this legislation, patients would not receive a medical diagnosis before beginning PT, which could lead to unnecessary and costly care being provided and could delay a patient getting appropriate care. Working together, the Medical Association and AOS convinced members of the Senate Health Committee to uphold the importance of a medical diagnosis and vote down SB25, 8-2. HB 50 did not receive a vote in committee.

The podiatry bill (HB 310) would have granted all podiatrists, irrespective of the level of their training, the ability to perform surgery on the ankle and lower leg. Podiatry residency programs nationwide were only standardized within the last decade, but HB 310 would have allowed all podiatrists – even those who graduated before the profession’s education was standardized – the ability to perform surgery on the ankle and lower leg. Through the combined efforts of the Medical Association and AOS, the legislation failed to receive a vote in committee.

The imaging tech bill (SB 165) would have created a new and redundant state agency with unprecedented authority over radiation and medical imaging. Among other things, SB165 would have allowed this new agency to determine the scopes of practice for all X-ray operators, MRI and CT techs (to name a few) by a simple agency rule. This bill could have significantly increased costs for medical practices by prohibiting anyone without a state-issued tech license from assisting in any imaging. It could also have dangerously expanded the scopes of practice of imaging technicians and ultimately limited access to care by implementing new and unnecessary hurdles to imaging services. By explaining to legislators the far-reaching consequences of this bill, the Medical Association and AOS helped prevent the bill from receiving a vote in committee.

Grassroots worked this session, and they can work again. The power of grassroots contacts – when public officials hear from their constituents on an issue – are unparalleled in their effectiveness, the reason being public officials have to keep their eyes and ears open to the electorate if they want any hope of being reelected. A voice here and a voice there communicating different messages is not nearly as impactful as many voices speaking as one – grassroots, when done right, are more impactful than any lobbyist or special interest; and that’s exactly what happened this session on the scope creep bills. With the Medical Association quarterbacking the overall efforts, AOS and the orthopaedic community increased the volume so significantly that hearing medicine’s unified, singular message was unavoidable to lawmakers.

But the fight against lowering standards for care delivery in Alabama isn’t over and to remain successful, orthopaedics grassroots will be key. It’s no secret that in
the legislative arena, coalitions and consensus get things done, and the Medical Association and AOS’ partnership is proof positive. Each of the scope creep bills listed above will be reintroduced next year, and it’s a safe bet the proponents of those bills are at present mobilizing their own grassroots efforts ahead of next year. The time for orthopaedics to prepare is now.

Between now and the start of the 2020 Legislative Session in early February, every orthopaedist and orthopaedic practice manager should speak with their local legislators about these bills, because no one else will. Beyond the Medical Association, AOS and a few other allied groups, orthopaedic patients have no other advocates working to protect them from harmful legislation in Montgomery.

As well, and contrary to popular belief, most legislators actually do want to hear from their constituents. So with no one else advocating for patients and most legislators eager to hear from constituents, there is no excuse for not engaging in grassroots on these important issues. Remember, while grassroots worked this year, and they can work again, they aren’t a “one and done” effort. Grassroots must continue so lawmakers fully understand the legislation before them and know how their constituents – i.e., the orthopaedic community – feels about those issues.

Working together, the Medical Association and AOS can continue to protect orthopaedic patients and advocate for policies that place safety and quality first so long as orthopaedists and practice managers remain involved.

Connecting with local legislators is easy, and the Medical Association can help; simply send an email to ncorley@alamedical.org.

AOS works closely with the Medical Association of the State of Alabama (MASA) on legislation affecting orthopaedics. AOS encourages membership in both organizations and also supports the efforts of the Alabama Medical PAC (ALAPAC), which works to elect people we can work with on issues affecting orthopaedics. Please consider the standard annual contribution of $250.

ALAPAC Members as of Aug. 2019

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AAOS OrthoPAC Members

When the Orthopaedic PAC makes a contribution, it sends a strong, collective and clear message from orthopaedic surgeons to the beneficiary. As the PAC grows, that message resonates louder. Orthopaedic surgeons around the country have joined the PAC to advance the collective voice of the orthopaedic community on Capitol Hill!

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To Contribute to OrthoPAC
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2019 Southeastern Orthopaedic Foot Club

The Foot Club meets in conjunction with the AOS/MOS Annual Meeting. Over 20 orthopaedic surgeons attended this year’s event.

2019 FOOT CLUB FACULTY
L-R
Matthew Lewis, PhD,
Michael Johnson, M.D.
Richard Marks, M.D.
Mark Perry, M.D.
Steve Conti, M.D.
Robert Vander Griend, M.D.
Ashish Shah, M.D.
Justin Daigre, M.D.
Jess Mullins, M.D.
Orthopaedic Surgery continues to have exciting times of change and growth. Dr. Steven Theiss has been named the permanent chairman of the department. We look forward to continued progress as a department under his leadership.

A group of UAB sports medicine professionals, including the Department of Orthopaedic Surgery’s Dr. Amit Momaya, Dr. Michael Johnson, Dr. Stephen Gould, Dr. Sara Gould and Dr. Kenneth McCollough, serve as team physicians for Birmingham Legion FC, a member of the USL Championship, a division of the United Soccer League – the largest professional soccer organization in North America.

Assistant Professor Stephen Gould, M.D., MPH, was recently elected to the American Orthopaedic Society for Sports Medicine Council of Delegates as its Alabama representative. Gould will begin his three-year term on the council this August and will be eligible to serve another three-year term after his first has ended.

We proudly graduated an outstanding group of six residents in June. Our academic year culminated with the graduation ceremony and research day. Dr. John Flynn, Chief of the Division of Orthopaedics at Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia, and nationally recognized leader in the field of pediatric orthopaedic surgery attended the ceremony.

The graduating residents include: Dr. Christoph Fuchs, who will be doing a sports fellowship at UT-Houston; Dr. Sierra Phillips, who will be doing a hand fellowship at Campbell Clinic; Dr. Megan Severson, who will be doing a pediatric fellowship in San Diego; Dr. Evan Shepard, who will be doing a pediatric fellowship at Children’s National hospital in Washington D.C.; Dr. Trevor Stubbs, who will be doing a sports fellowship at Lenox Hill Hospital in New York; Dr. Brad Wills, who will be doing an arthroplasty fellowship at Anderson Clinic in Washington D.C.

Our current fifth year residents had an extremely successful fellowship match in the spring. These residents include: Dr. Mathew Christie, who will be doing an arthroplasty fellowship at the University of Utah; Dr. Allison Hunter, who will be doing a hand fellowship at Philadelphia Hand Center; Dr. Zane Hyde, who will be doing a sports medicine fellowship at The University of Virginia; Dr. Chris Odom, who will be doing an arthroplasty fellowship at the University of Pennsylvania; Dr. Jeff Pearson, who will be doing an arthroplasty fellowship at SJRI in Nashville; and Dr. Jonathan Yu, who will be doing a Hand and Upper Extremity fellowship at Vanderbilt University.

We would also like to invite everyone to the Department of Orthopaedic Surgery Grand Rounds which are held twice monthly at 5 pm on Thursdays in the Highlands Hospital Media Center on the first floor of UAB Highlands. CME credit is available. Please also refer to our website for new updates and information at www.uab.edu/medicine/surgery/orthopaedics
The 2019-2020 academic year is upon us and along with it we would like to welcome our PGY-I class. **Joseph Anderson** is a Mobile native who joins us from the University of South Alabama College of Medicine. He is married to his wife, Lydia, and has three daughters, Katherine, Olivia, and Cora. **Travis Anderson** is a native of Doraville, GA and joins USA Orthopaedics from The Medical College of Georgia. **David Michaeli** is a native of Marietta, GA and joins us from Mercer University School of Medicine.

The department would also like to welcome two new faculty members who will be starting with us this fall. **Dr. Drew Madison, MD** is a fellowship trained orthopaedic traumatologist who will be joining our trauma division following completion of his orthopaedic trauma fellowship at the University of Tennessee Chattanooga. Prior to his trauma fellowship, Dr. Madison pursued his residency training at the State University of New York – Stoney Brook. Dr. Madison is moving to Mobile with his wife Danny.

Finally, **Dr. Bradley Clay, MD** will be joining the division of sports medicine following completion of his sports medicine fellowship at the American Sports Medicine Institute in Birmingham, AL. Prior to his fellowship training, Dr. Clay completed his orthopaedic residency training at the University of Florida – Gainesville. Dr. Clay will be moving to Mobile with his wife Maria.

We look forward to another year of growth at the University of South Alabama and are excited to welcome the newest members of the USA Orthopaedic family.
AOS/MOS Annual Meeting
APRIL 30 - MAY 2, 2020

Southeastern Orthopaedic Foot Club
APRIL 30, 2020

The Grand Hotel Spa and Resort

SEE YOU THERE!