



OMED 2017 Recap

The AOCOPM hosted another successful conference during OMED 2017 in Philadelphia. The conference consisted of a basic occupational medicine overview course, a Medical Review Officer (MRO) course and more than twenty presentations in the fields of occupational, preventive & aerospace medicine (OPAM).

The successful conference could not have been possible without the presentations of our expert cohort of speakers. If you are interested in speaking at future AOCOPM conferences, please contact gschwaid@hotmail.com.

Changing of the Guard

The AOCOPM completed its annual transition of leadership at OMED in Philadelphia. The college extends its sincere appreciation for the hard work of the outgoing officers and board members, while looking forward to the contributions of those that have inherited their roles.

The leadership team for the 2017-2018 term include the following:

- President: Patrick T. Birchfield, DO, MPH, FAOCOPM
- President-Elect: Pierce Sherrill, DO, FAOCOPM
- Treasurer: Patricia Hunt, DO, MHA, FAIHQ
- Secretary: Gregory Schwaid, DO, MPH
- Immediate Past President: Lisa A. Klatka, DO, MS, FAOCOPM
- Vice-President and Chair, Aerospace Medicine Division: Warren Silberman, DO, MPH, FAOCOPM
- Vice-President and Chair, Occupational Medicine Division: Dean Shoucair, DO, MPH



Left: The auditorium at OMED 2017 (Philadelphia) during an aerospace medicine presentation

- Vice-President and Chair, Public Health/Preventive Medicine Division: Luzan Phillpotts, DO, MPH
- Trustees:
 - Stewart Russell, DO, MPH, FAOCOPM
 - Mary Henley, DO
 - Daniel Callan, DO, MPH, FAOCOPM
 - David Canton, DO, MPH, JD, FAOCOPM
 - E. Robert Wanat II, DO, FAOCOPM
 - Naomi Wriston, DO, MS, FAOCOPM
 - Huma Abbasi, MD, CIH
 - Keith Proctor, DO, MSPH

involved with the college, he immediately took notice of his colleagues; “We have amazing talent and a depth of experience that is humbling. Industry leaders in all of our specialties, and every one of them willing to help the college or a colleague at the drop of a hat.” When asked what his goal are for his year as president, Dr. Birchfield responded, “My goal is to expand our membership. The way we’ll do this is by demonstrating our value and connecting with the resident physicians in as many training programs as we can reach. I’ll need the help of all of our current members to connect with anyone they know is eligible to be a member of our college and demonstrate why we are better.”

Member Spotlight

Meet our new AOCOPM President, Dr. Patrick T. Birchfield. A resident of Huntsville, Alabama, Dr. Birchfield specializes in both aerospace medicine and executive medicine. He currently serves as the deputy commander for clinical services at Redstone Arsenal.

Dr. Birchfield became a member of the AOCOPM in order to make a difference in the fields of occupational, preventive and aerospace medicine while supporting the osteopathic tradition. After becoming



AOCOPM President Dr. Patrick T. Birchfield

Residency Program Spotlights

University of the Incarnate World School of Osteopathic Medicine

Located in San Antonio, Texas, the University of the Incarnate World School of Osteopathic Medicine (UIWSOM) welcomed its inaugural osteopathic medicine class with 162 aspiring students in August 2017. The school is located at site of the old school of aerospace medicine at the Brooks City-Base, which was closed in 2002 following a base realignment and closure decision. The pilot centrifuge in an adjacent building is still in use by the Air Force, as are the hypobaric chambers.

UIWSOM plans to launch a Masters of Public Health degree in 2018. Medical students may choose to take MPH courses along with their DO coursework. The degree will be offered free of charge to residents within the UIWSOM system. These residency programs are soon to include family medicine, psychiatry and general preventive medicine, which will launch in 2018 or 2019. Once the general preventive medicine residency is up and running, UIWSOM plans to evaluate the possibility of creating aerospace and occupational medicine programs.

Palm Beach County Preventive Medicine Residency

The General Preventive Medicine Residency within the Florida Department of Health Palm Beach County just celebrated their 60 year anniversary. Through the AOA-ACGME merger, the program has maintained its ties to the Nova Southeastern College of Osteopathic Medicine and has been working to strengthen their ties with the University of Miami. The program trains two residents for each of the two years of training provided. After completing the program, residents have moved on to find careers in public health offices, clinical informatics, primary care, addiction medicine, occupational medicine, lifestyle medicine, medical education, and emergency response.

The residency program is always looking for volunteers to help support their goals of training the future public health physician workforce. If you are interested in volunteering through in person or distance lectures, please contact the program director, Dr. Shoshana Levy at Shoshana.Levy@FLHealth.gov.

Midyear 2018

The next Occupational Preventive & Aerospace Medicine (OPAM) conference will be held in San Antonio March 7-11. In conjunction with the University of the Incarnate World School of Osteopathic Medicine, the AOCOPM will host lectures and participatory learning labs in OPAM. Learning lab exercises will take place in Wyle Labs where participants will gain first-hand experience in aerospace physiology, hypo/hyperbaric training, and centrifuge testing.

Lectures will include the following:

- Vaccine update
- College health
- Correctional medicine
- Integrated healthcare delivery
- Occupational medicine
- Aerospace medicine
- Management of migraines
- Biostatistics & epidemiology

In addition to the OPAM lectures and learning labs, the AOCOPM is pleased to offer the following:

- March 7- Basic Course in Occupational and Environmental Medicine, Part 1
- March 9- DOT FMCSA Certified Medical Examiner Course
- March 10 & 11- Medical Review Officer (MRO) Certification Course.

More details and registration forms can be found at www.aocopm.org

WHAT TO LOOK FORWARD TO IN THE SPRING 2018 NEWSLETTER

- Update on Osteopathic Continuous Certification (OCC) from the American Osteopathic Board of Preventive Medicine
- Member spotlight
- Program spotlight
- Midyear 2018 recap
- OMED 2018 update

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To contribute to the newsletter, please contact gschwaid@homail.com