



**AAOE BUSINESS MEETING**  
**Bally's, Las Vegas, NV**  
**January 15-16, 2011**

**MINUTES**

**Members Present:**

Richard Almaguer, DO, Nevada State Board of Osteopathic Medicine  
James Andriole, DO, President, AAOE  
James Anthony, DO, Nevada State Board of Osteopathic Medicine  
Boyd Buser, DO, AOA Board of Trustees  
Gary Clark, Executive Director, AAOE  
James DiRenna, DO, Missouri State Board of Registration for the Healing Arts  
Jeremy Edmonds, DO, New Mexico Board of Osteopathic Medical Examiners  
Janice Galli, DO, Iowa Board of Medicine  
Randal Gibson, DO, Kentucky Board of Medical Licensure  
Anna Hayden, DO, Florida Board of Osteopathic Medicine  
Gary Jackson, DO, New Mexico Board of Osteopathic Medical Examiners  
Timothy Kowalski, DO, South Carolina State Board of Medical and Osteopathic Medicine  
Kathy Lambert, DO, New Jersey Board of Medical Examiners  
Raymond Mager, DO, Wisconsin Medical Examining Board  
William Mayo, DO, Mississippi State Board of Medical Licensure  
Ernest Miller, Jr., DO, West Virginia Board of Osteopathy  
Geraldine O'Shea, DO, Secretary AAOE, Osteopathic Medical Board of California  
Thomas Pickard, DO, Oklahoma State Board of Osteopathic Examiners  
Donald Polk, DO, Tennessee Board of Osteopathic Examiners  
Wayne Reynolds, DO, Virginia Board of Medicine  
Dana Shaffer, DO, Vice-President, AAOE  
Scott Steingard, DO, Arizona Board of Osteopathic Examiners in Medicine & Surgery

**AOA Staff/Leadership:**

Karen Nichols, DO, President, American Osteopathic Association  
Martin Levine, DO, MPH, President-elect, American Osteopathic Association  
John Crosby, JD, Executive Director, American Osteopathic Association  
Linda Mascheri, AOA Staff  
Andrea Garcia, JD, AOA Staff

**Speakers/Other:**

Lisa Robin, Federation of State Medical Boards  
Denise Selleck-Davis, CAE, Executive Director, Nevada Osteopathic Medical Association  
Lisa Merlo, PhD, MPE, University of Florida College of Medicine  
Dianna Hegeduis, JD, Executive Director, Nevada State Board of Osteopathic Medicine  
Hank Chaudhry, DO, President & CEO, Federation of State Medical Boards  
Danna Droz, RPh, JD, Ohio State Board of Pharmacy

John Thornburg, DO, PhD, Chair, National Board of Osteopathic Medical Examiners  
John Gimpel, DO, Med, President, National Board of Osteopathic Medical Examiners  
Larry Turner, National Board of Osteopathic Medical Examiners

## **I. Welcome and Introductions**

## **II. OME Sessions**

The AAOE Summit attendees joined the AOA's Osteopathic Medical Education Leadership Conference for two sessions: (1) Setting Expectations for Ongoing Clinical Competence presented by Humayun J. Chaudhry, DO, President & CEO, Federation of State Medical Boards and (2) Perceptions of Quality – Educational Schizophrenia presented by D. Keith Watson, DO, Senior Associate Dean for Academic Affairs, Ohio University College of Osteopathic Medicine.

## **III. National Board of Osteopathic Medical Examiners (NBOME) Update**

John Thornburg, DO, PhD, Chair, and John Gimpel, DO, President of the NBOME provided an update on the organizations recent activities. Topics of discussion included the NBOME's Blue Ribbon Panel on Enhancing COMLEX-USA as well as the COMVEX examination. The objective of the Blue Ribbon Panel is: research and expert consensus on enhancement of the COMLEX-USA licensure examination serious. The AAOE is among the organizations with a representative on the panel, which is chaired by Janice Knebl, DO, MBA. The priorities for the new version of COMLEX\_USA include a competency-based schema and two decision points: (1) entering residency and (2) entering independent practice.

## **IV. Federation of State Medical Boards Update**

Since the attendees had attended Dr. Chaudhry's presentation earlier in the day. This session provided an opportunity for members to ask Dr. Chaudhry more detailed questions about his earlier presentation and the implementation of MOL.

## **V. MOL and OCC: The Perspective of State Osteopathic Medical Associations**

Denise Selleck-Davis, CAE, Executive Director, Nevada Osteopathic Medical Association, provided a broad overview of the role of a state medical association in responding to legislative and regulatory issues. This overview led into a discussion on how the state osteopathic medical societies can be involved in Maintenance of Licensure (MOL) and Osteopathic Continuous Certification (OCC). Ms. Selleck-Davis concluded that the profession should lead the way in MOL and OCC. She noted that state societies are ready and willing to partner on providing CME and they should also be involved in setting standards and programs. She urged caution and slow movement toward implementation.

## **VI. International Update**

Boyd Buser, DO, Osteopathic International Alliance (OIA), provided an overview of the AOA's international ties. He provided an update on the Bureau on International Osteopathic Medical Education and Affairs (BIOMEA), which facilitates interactions between the AOA, affiliates, and international health care organizations. Dr. Buser noted that the AOA is represented at international conferences such as IAMRA, the World Health Assembly and the Global Health Council. He discussed the WHO Benchmarks on Training in Osteopathy, which were published in November 2010 as part of the series Benchmarks for Training in Traditional/Complementary and Alternative Medicine. Dr. Buser noted that this is a very different document than was approved at

the WHO Consultation and as a result, the OIA is producing its own document to complement the Benchmarks.

## **VII. Telemedicine and Over Prescribing**

Dianna Hegeduis, JD, Executive Director/Board Counsel, Nevada State Board of Osteopathic Medicine, provided an overview on the issues of telemedicine and over prescribing. Ms. Hegeduis began by discussing the issue of telemedicine. She provided an overview of several states that have adopted to address the issue. She noted the need for consistent guidelines and discusses some of the issues that still remain a barrier to implementing telemedicine including: licensure, malpractice, patient privacy and provider payment.

Ms. Hegeduis then discussed the issue of over prescribing. She presented a number of case studies from Nevada. She noted that the allopathic board has formally adopted FSMB's "Model Policy Guidelines for Opioid Addiction Treatment in the Medical Office." The Osteopathic Medical Board acknowledges the guidelines as the standard of care utilized in this medical community. Ms. Hegeduis then provided an overview of the FSMB's Model Policy.

## **VIII. Business Meeting**

A. Nominating Committee Members, Gary Jackson, DO and Thomas Pickard, DO, presented the slate of candidates for the election of AAOE Officers. Elections are to be held at the Annual Business Meeting in April. The slate of candidates that was presented and accepted was as follows: President – Dana Shaffer, DO; Vice President – Geraldine O'Shea, DO and Secretary/Treasurer – Scott Steingard, DO.

B. The proposed changes to the bylaws, which were made available to AAOE Fellows 30 days prior to this meeting, were discussed. Dr. Lambert made a motion proposing an amendment to the length of the Executive Committee's terms of office. She suggested changing the terms from three years to two years. Dr. Reynolds seconded the motion. The proposed changes to the bylaws were adopted as amended.

C. Linda Mascheri was presented with the A. Archie Feinstein Award for her contributions to for dedication and tireless service to the osteopathic profession and the licensure of its physicians.

Adjourned at 5 PM

## **January 16, 2011**

Meeting Called to Order at 8:15 a.m.

### **I. Hot Topics: What's Happening in Your State**

Gary Jackson, DO, New Mexico Board of Osteopathic Medical Examiners, led a roundtable discussion on trends in the states. Trends included nurses expanding their scope of practice as well as legislation and rules aimed at addressing the issue of pain management clinics.

### **II. Research Findings: Identifying, Assessing and Treating Physicians with Addiction**

Lisa Merlo, PhD, MPE, Assistant Professor, University of Florida College of Medicine provided an overview of the research she has conducted relating to physician with addiction. Dr. Merlo noted that the causes of physician addiction are not fully understood, although many factors can contribute

to the development of this disorder. For example, physician's access to drugs and their ability to self-prescribe have been suggested as potential pathways to addiction. Work-related stress has been pinpointed as another contributor to physician addiction. Dr. Merlo noted that many barriers can prevent physicians who have a substance use disorder from obtaining the help they need. Many physicians have received little education regarding the nature of addiction and may falsely believe that they can manage the disease on their own. The avoidance of "punishment" and the promotion of "treatment" is critical to the success of programs for physicians who have an addiction disorder. Dr. Merlo noted that, most states now have a Physician Health Program (PHP) to assist with the treatment of drug and/or alcohol abuse in physicians, and cooperation with the PHP generally prevents the physician from experiencing punitive measures. In addition, many states protect the confidentiality of physicians who willingly participate in the PHP and do not require that a report be made to the Board of Medicine. Research has shown that PHP's are successful in treating addiction in physicians.

### **III. Prescription Drug Monitoring Programs**

Danna E. Droz, RPh, JD, Program Administrator, Ohio Prescription Monitoring Program, provide the attendees with an overview of prescription monitoring programs (PMPs). She noted that the purpose of PMPs is to improve the state's ability to identify and inhibit the diversion of controlled substances and drugs of concern in an efficient and cost effective manner. PMPs should not impede the appropriate utilization of these drugs for legitimate medical purposes. Rather, they are a tool for prescribers and dispensers to identify and prevent abuse, misuse or addiction as well as a tool for law enforcement to inhibit and prevent diversion. She presented data outlining some of the findings in Ohio. Ms. Droz noted that PMP clients want national-level PMP data sharing solutions with state level controls.

### **IV. Panel Session: Opioid Prescribing and Pain Clinics**

Jim Andriole, DO, President, AAOE, provided an update on the issue of pain management clinics in the state of Florida. He noted that pain clinics have sprouted all over Florida and loose regulations allowed these clinics to proliferate with almost no oversight from state health officials. Dr. Andriole noted that there have been 14 months of public workshops and hearings to date. Effective October 1, 2010, pain clinics are required to be registered with the Florida Department of Health. Dr. Andriole provided an overview of the registration requirements and penalties for non-compliance.

Scott Steingard, DO, President, Arizona Board of Osteopathic Examiners, discussed how Arizona is dealing with the issue of opioid prescribing and pain clinics. He provided an overview of how the Board investigates these cases and discussed some of the common tendencies that they have observed. Dr. Steingard noted that the Arizona Board has recently received legislative authority to develop and issue practice guidelines/presumptive opinions. He noted that all allegations of inappropriate pain management will be evaluated on an individual basis. The Board will judge the validity of the physician's treatment of the patient based on available documentation. The goal is to control the patient's pain and to improve their quality of life and ability to function.

### **V. Legislative Updates**

Lisa Robin, Senior Vice President for Advocacy and Member Services at the Federation of State Medical Boards provided an updated on federal legislative and regulatory activities. She discussed the opening of the FSMB's Washington, DC office. Ms. Robin discussed the FSMB's efforts working with the FDA and the NIH on the issue of pain management. She noted that the FSMB would be hosting a Telemedicine Symposium in March of 2011. The goal of the symposium is to

bring stakeholders together to identify potential policy, structural and political resources need to facilitate the expansion of telemedicine while ensuring quality and patient safety.

Andrea Garcia, JD, Director of State Government Affairs at the American Osteopathic Association provided a state legislative update. She highlighted the release of the Institute of Medicine, Future of Nursing Report, which calls on the Federal Trade Commission to review existing and proposed state regulations concerning advanced practice registered nurses to identify those that have anticompetitive effects without contributing to the health and safety of the public. She noted that the FTC recently commented on a rule regarding interventional pain management as proposed by the Alabama Board of Medical Examiners. The FTC noted that the proposed rule appears overly restrictive and likely detrimental to Alabama patients. The Alabama board tabled the proposed rule. Ms. Garcia also discussed legislative trends related to prescription drug monitoring programs and telemedicine.

Adjourned at 12:30 p.m.