

# United Federation of Osteopathic Societies

## Meeting Minutes

### House of Delegates Meeting

#### Virtual Meeting

**July 8, 2021, at 6:00 pm CDT**

<b><u>Society Members:</u></b>						
	Alabama	Connecticut	Iowa	Nebraska	South Carolina	Wisconsin
	Alaska	Delaware	Kansas	Nevada	Tennessee	
	AMOPS	Georgia	Louisiana	New Hampshire	Utah	
	Arkansas	Hawaii	Maryland	New Mexico	Vermont	
	Arizona	Idaho	Minnesota	North Carolina	Virginia	
	California	Illinois	Mississippi	Oregon	Washington	
	Colorado	Indiana	Montana	Rhode Island	West Virginia	
<b><u>Inactive Society Members</u></b>						
	North Dakota	South Dakota	Washington, DC	Wyoming		
Item	Topic/Agenda	Discussion	Recommended Action	Responsible Person(s)	Actions/Follow-Up	
<b>I.</b>	<b>Meeting Called to Order</b>					
		Meeting called to order and rules for the virtual meeting were announced	N/A	Karen Nichols, DO	N/A	
<b>II.</b>	<b>Presentation of the Agenda</b>					
		The agenda for the meeting was presented and no additions were offered		Karen Nichols, DO	N/A	
<b>III.</b>	<b>Approval of Minutes</b>					
		Minutes from September 2020 virtual meeting were posted on the website and a motion and second to approve was accepted	Approved	Karen Nichols, DO	N/A	
<b>IV.</b>	<b>AOA/UFO Leadership Introductions</b>					
		Introduction of the AOA leadership from the UFOS consisting of the AOA board members and Past presidents: Members presented included: Tom Ely, DO (TN), President, William Mayo, DO (MS), AOA Past President; Kevin De Regnier, DO, (IA) AOA Trustee; Timothy Kowalski, DO (SC) AOA Trustee, Julieanne Sees, DO, (DE) AOA First Vice President; Teresa Hubka, DO (IL) AOA Trustee; James Lally, DO (CA) AOA Trustee; Geraldine O’Shea, DO, (CA) AOA Trustee; Shannon Scott, DO, (AZ) AOA Trustee; Annie Phung, DO (IL) Family Medicine Resident , AOA Student	N/A	Karen Nichols, DO	N/A	

		Adviser, Gregory Harris, DO, (GA) AOA New Physician in Practice Member; Caleb Hentges, DO (OK) AOA Postdoctoral Trainee Member; Edith Waskel, DO (IL) Emergency Medicine Resident, AOA Student Member; James Zini, DO (AR) AOA Past President; Boyd Buser, DO (ME) AOA Past President; Karen Nichols, DO, (AZ) UFOS Chair & AOA Past President; Norm Vinn, DO, (CA) UFOS Vice-Chair & AOA Past President, , Ray Stowers, DO (AR) AOA Past President.			
<b>V.</b>	<b>AOA President/Past President Remarks</b>				
		a.) President Ely addressed the membership starting off with “What a Year”. He shared that the AOA this year has had unparalleled challenges, phenomenal opportunities, and many successes. Operational processes have had to modified but resulted in a successful team partnership between governance and operations. The Bureau/Committee and Councils structure has been reorganized which helped with operations resulting in a savings of 1.1 million dollars. All but just a few operational and organizational meetings this year have been virtual. One of the main priorities was membership, and it has increased by 5891 members from this time last year. First significant increase in 3 years. This has been a concerted effort started by Dr. Mayo and the AOA to bring more value to membership. The AOA is working to protect the future of the profession and has been working with SOMA, students, postgraduate trainees, and new physicians in practice. The respective representatives on the AOA board have been engaged to motivate their respective groups. They have taken a strong stance against discrimination of our student and residents. They have used both electronic and new media as well as speaking directly to hospital entities to combat discrimination of our trainees. AOA has been working with public health officials to advocate for COVID and routine vaccinations. AOA is working to improve outcomes in the unrepresented populations and those experiencing health care disparities by providing a check list of social determinants that affects health that can implemented into physician’s offices. The AOA is working through its certifying board services (CBS) team to transition to longitudinal evaluation for osteopathic continuing certification for component three (3). This is currently in effect for primary specialties which will transition by October 2022, to be followed by the subspecialty organizations. Look for more information from the specialty organization. A reciprocity program has been	N/A	Karen Nichols, DO	N/A

		<p>initiated to provide AOA board certification to ABIM certified osteopathic physicians without cost or examination. Over 600 hundred osteopathic physicians have taken advantage of this program so far. The most recent initiative has been to address the physician assistant name change to physician associate by the American Association of Physician Assistants. AOA has maintained the position that healthcare teams be led by physicians. The AOA supports non-physician healthcare providers but not using the term “doctor” or the working in the position of a physician. Dr. Ely received an ovation for his remarks.</p> <p>b.) Dr. Mayo addressed the members and commended Dr. Ely for his service “virtually” and “setting the standard” during the pandemic. He thanked the UFOS for the opportunity to service over the last 14 years and states it was an honor and a privilege to serve the profession. Dr. Mayo received an ovation for his remarks.</p>			
<b>VI.</b>	<b>UFOS Chair’s Report</b>				
		<p>Dr. Nichols thanked the advisors and board for their service and the AOA staff for their effort managing this virtual meeting. She expressed the profession’s gratitude to all of those that are working on the “front lines” that have continued to provide “excellent osteopathic care” and meet the profession’s mission for their patients especially in this time of COVID. Dr. Nichols express her gratitude to the executive directors for their hard work to “go above and beyond” to care for their organizations. She asked for a moment of silence so the UFOS may honor our colleagues that we have lost over the last year. A moment of silence was observed. The UFOS committee structure will need to be reconstructed and she asked to have volunteers to sign up for the committees. Emails will be sent out for the members to sign up for the committee of their choices. Drs. Nichols and Vinn represented the UFOS at the caucus the night before the UFOS’ meeting. A board member assignment process has been initiated. The UFOS society members will be getting notification of who their board member representative will be in the future. She thanked the UFOS for all their service</p>		Karen Nichols, DO	N/A
<b>VII.</b>	<b>Vice-Chair’s Report</b>				
		<p>Dr. Vinn moved for the approval of the UFOS Rules of the caucus, there was a second to approve and the motion passed without any objections.</p>		Norman Vinn, DO	

		<p>Dr. Nichols turned the chair over to Dr. Vinn and as acting chair, he then presented Karen J Nichols as the single candidate for UFOS Chair</p> <p>There was a motion and a second to accept Dr. Nichols as the chair of UFOS by acclamation.</p> <p>The chair was return to Dr. Nichols</p>	<p>Approved</p> <p>Approved</p>		<p>Drs. Nichols was elected to serve as Chair for a 2-year term</p>
<b>VIII.</b>	<b>Secretary/ Treasurer Report</b>				
		<p>This year the UFOS membership received a “Dues Holiday”</p> <p>The income to the UFOS was zero and the total expenses were minimal split between accounting and web services.</p> <p>The treasurers report is posted on the website</p> <p>The 990 e-postcard for 2020 has been filed so we maintain our 501-c6 nonprofit status.</p> <p>The website (<a href="http://www.ufosocieties.org">www.ufosocieties.org</a>) is current with the information that was submitted. If any additional changes need to be made, feel free to submit to Dr. Cyrus at any time.</p> <p>Dr. Cyrus expressed his gratitude to the UFOS for allowing him to serve as your Secretary Treasurer</p>		<p>Scott Cyrus, DO</p>	<p>N/A</p>
<b>IX.</b>	<b>AOA Caucus Meeting</b>				
		<p>Drs. Nichols and Vinn met on 7-7-21 with the AOA caucus members to discuss the AOA board nomination slate. From the UFOS, Dr. Mayo is cycling off the board and the person that has been approved for that position is Dr. Jennifer Kendall-Thomas (MN), as second vice president. Congratulation to Dr. Kendall-Thomas. A three-year term opened on the board from Dr. Yasso and that will be filled by Dr. Julie Sees (DE). Congratulations to Dr. Sees. Dr. Ray Morrison has asked to be nominated by the UFOS, Louisiana aligning with his employment. All three will be nominated at the Big Caucus, July 14, 2021. Each society is asked to have two representatives attend the Big Caucus to vote for all nominees to the AOA Board.</p>	<p>Approved</p>	<p>Karen Nichols, DO</p>	<p>N/A</p>

		A motion was made by Dr. O’Shea to bind the caucus to support the chair and vice-chair in negotiations with other societies on the behalf of the UFOS. The motion was seconded and approved.			
<b>X.</b>	<b>UFOS BoT Candidates</b>				
		The top 5 UFOS BoT candidates were announced in alphabetical order. Scott Cyrus, DO (NM) Charles (Chip) Finch, DO (AZ) Ashley Hood, DO (MS) Joel Kase, DO (ME) <del>Jennifer Kendall Thomas, DO (MN)</del>		Karen Nichols, DO	N/A
<b>XI.</b>	<b>Resolutions Report</b>				
		Dr. Nichols briefly discussed the history of the UFOS which was founded in 1979. It was formed for two reasons, to discuss the resolutions to the AOA HOD and to select candidates for the AOA Board from the UFOS.  Drs. Scott, Lally, Hubka and Sees were asked to report on the reference committee resolutions and bring forth any controversial resolutions  <b>Dr. Scott</b> (Committee Co-Chair) presented her report on the HR 200’s (Committee on Educational Affairs, Accreditation / Certification / CME / Predoctoral / Education) 20 Resolutions <u>Resolution H-200</u> : AOAAM “Maintenance of Primary Board Certification for Subspecialty Certification”. (Board of Trustees (BoT) not supported) The resolved asked that the requirement for maintaining primary certification be dropped upon successfully being recertified in any subspecialty. BoT supports the position set forth by the Bureau of Specialist (BOS) of maintaining primary certification conjoined with subspeciality certification. <u>Resolution H-202</u> : Withdrawn <u>Resolution H-203</u> : NYSOMS “Physician Designation, Truth in Advertising and Residency/Fellowship Training Non-Physician PostGraduate Medical Training”. (BoT not supported): The resolution has many resolveds based on existing policy regarding truth in advertising. Also, some resolveds exist in other policies and are not related to truth in advertising. <u>Resolution H-204</u> : OOA “Protective Educational Environments for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer/Questioning Youth”. (BoT supports) This resolution is support with		Karen Nichols, DO	N/A

qualification by changing to “AOA advocacy” instead of “supporting curricular development”.

Resolution H-208: MOA “Osteopathic Board Payment Reform” (BoT not supported) Based on the work of the certifying board services (CBS), many of the resolution’s resolveds have been completed by the CBS.

Resolution H-209: MOA “Restoring An Equitable and Positive Learning Environment in Medical Training” (BoT not supported) This resolution speaks to a change in the AOA code of ethics. A ACGME policy addresses a resolved in this resolution.

Dr. Feinberg had a question about the definition of “abuse” in the resolution and agreed with not supporting this resolution.

Dr. Nichols reminded the UFOS the importance of attending the reference committees to have discussion about any resolution.

Dr. Scott commented the BoT wanted to ensure the resolution ask for a change in the Code of Ethics and By-laws and the timing of execution and the second resolved is covered by the ACGME policy

Dr. Norris (ME) states she questions the “optics” of the AOA BoT position on Resolution 208 and 209. She believes that the past culture/norm should not be perpetuated and that these resolutions make it clear that AOA is not doing an adequate effort in the areas covered in these resolutions and cautions against complacency.

**Dr. Lally** reported on HR 600’s (Ad Hoc Committee, Business Affairs / Professional Affairs)  
19 resolutions

Resolution H-600 OOA: “Decreasing the Limitations on Prescribing Calcitonin Gene-Related Peptide (CGRP) Inhibitors in Primary Care”. (BoT not supported) The scope was too narrow and only dealt with one state’s issues. Sent back to the author

Resolutions H-601-604: (BoT support)

Resolution H-605: CSHA/BFHP: Disaster Relief Volunteers (SR-Source: H313-A/16) (BoT supports with a qualification) Delete specific organizations in the resolution which is consistent with prior practices.

Resolutions H-606-619 (BoT support)

**Dr. Hubka** reported on HR 300's and 500's (Committee on Professional Affairs and Committee on Constitution & Bylaws Advocacy / Membership)  
42 Resolution in the H-300 series  
8 Resolutions in the H-500 series  
Resolution H-300: AOAAM: "Medication For Opioid Use Disorder (MOUD) Availability for Incarcerated Individuals and/or Individuals Under Correctional Control": (BoT supported with qualifications) Deletion of the word "broad" prior to "policies" and add prior resolutions from prior year to support this sunset resolution.  
Resolution H-308: CSHA: "Referred Sunset Res. No. H300-A/20; H327-A/15 intractable and / or Chronic Pain (Not Associated with End of Life Care)" (BoT not supported unless clarified) Lacks the clarification in the supporting documents  
Resolution H-310: MOA: "Prevention of Governmental Intervention Restricting Treatment Options, Including Off Label Prescribing" (BoT not supported) The resolution appears to be a redundant policy to AOA policy H634-A/16 INTERFERENCE – LAWFUL OFF-LABEL TREATMENT OF PATIENTS which is 2021 resolution H-340  
Resolution H-326: CSHA: "Pain Related Education Requirements (SR-Source: H344-A/16)" (BoT not supported) AOA opposes Federal or State mandates for CME requirements. Recommended to be referred to CSHA for clarification to reconcile with previous policy H-211A-19.  
Resolution H-500: SOMA: "Clarifying Student Representation at the American Osteopathic Association House of Delegates Constitution Amendment, *First Read Only in July 2021*" SOMA (BoT not supported) Student Council is the only entity elected by the student body at the COM and SOM to represent all students at the HOD and does not require a membership status in any organization. The AOA recognizes the student representative from the Student Council to the HOD is the President and Vice-President. AOA recognizes SOMA as all other specialty societies which allows them to be represented at the HOD.  
Resolution H-501: SOMA: "Clarifying Student Representation at the American Osteopathic Association House of Delegates Bylaws Amendment" (BoT not supported) As stated for resolution H-500, the AOA feels the representative should represent the entire student body and not require membership the unintended consequences of eliminating a clear process of student elected

representative from COM to undesignated process for student selection – which club can represent the COM as a whole? Also, an increase in divisional society representation to HOD could have a fiscal impact not yet determined and would this representative displace a physician delegate?

Dr. Reznick (OR) asked about the official position of the AOA is that the COSGP representatives from the COMs are to be the representative at the HOD and that SOMA representative is a secondary organization not the primary representatives? Dr. Hubka answered the question that SOMA is a national organization and student club and requires membership and that COSGP leadership is elected by the entire student body and does not require membership. The AOA recognizes the Student Council President and Vice-President that are a part of COSGP. Tabitha Arnett ED (IN): Put in the zoom chat feature that SOMA has a seat at the HOD .

Dr. Nichols reiterated that SOMA is a club, and some students may elect not to join and COSGP represents the entire student body at the COMs.

Dr. Hubka also reiterated that SOMA does have a seat at house as does other national recognized organizations (i.e., military AMOPS). Per the AOA Constitution and By-laws, the student organization that represents the COMs is the elected officials of the student council.

Resolution 502: BEL: “Amendment to the American Osteopathic Association Constitution– New Physician in Practice Definition *First Read Only in July 2021* BEL (BoT supports with a qualification) The BEL wants a definition of a new physician in practice to address proposed leadership to the AOA BoT. The fiscal impact will need to be reviewed by AOA staff because no impact is implied. The definition should read “5 years after the completion of initial postdoctoral training”

Dr. Harris ((BEL Chair) commented that resolution H-502 is purely to help define who can be a leader on the BEL and clarify positions on the B/C/Cs in the future. There should not be any fiscal impact on the dues structure changes.

**Dr. Sees** reported on HR 400’s (Committee on Public Affairs Public Affairs/Research)  
42 Resolutions in the H-400 series



		<p>BOT Supports the Consent Agenda, 4 resolutions and all Sunset resolutions: H-400, H-401, H-408, H-409, and (SR H-412-442)</p> <p><u>Resolution H-402</u>: MOA: “Collection of Public Health Data Concerning Firearm Fatalities “(BoT support with qualification) This resolution was combined with 409 “Firearms Resolution Composite”.</p> <p><u>Resolution H-403</u>: MOA: “Patient Centered Treatment for Pain Management and Appropriate use of Opioids” (BoT support after some discussion about wording)</p> <p><u>Resolution H-404</u>: NYSOMS “Physician Communication to Patients Regarding COVID 19 Prevention“(BoT not supported) The BoT felt it was not relevant being it on the down swing of the pandemic.</p> <p><u>Resolution H-405</u>: SOMA: “Addressing Dermatologic Health Disparities in People of Color” (BoT not supported) Duplicative of H409-A/ 2016.</p> <p><u>Resolution H-406</u>: SOMA: “Addressing Law Enforcement Disproportionate use of Force During Interactions with Marginalized Groups as a Public Health Issue” (BoT not supported) Duplicative of H-441-A/ 2017</p> <p><u>Resolution H-407</u>: SOMA: “Addressing The Change in Climate Effects on National Health” (BoT not supported) Duplicative of H-202-A/ 2018</p> <p><u>Resolutions H-410</u>: BFHP: “Improving Outcomes in Behavioral Health Care in the Emergency Department” (BoT support with editorial changes) Remove statement emPATH and replace with program.</p> <p><u>Resolution H-411</u>: MOA: “COVID-19 Anti-Asian Discrimination and Abuse” (BoT support with qualifications) Changes not discussed</p> <p>They were thanked for their reports and for all their hard work.</p>			
<b>XII.</b>	<b>AOA BoT Candidates Presentations</b>				
		<p>The candidates for the AOA BoT were asked to speak to the membership for 2 minutes each.</p>		<p>Karen Nichols, DO</p>	<p>The society members will</p>

		<p>The candidates are reaffirmed by their state societies every five (5) years. The Candidates Committee is one of the UFOS committees that vets new candidates for consideration for the AOA BoT Ranking ballots will be sent out at the conclusion of the UFOS meeting.</p> <p>The following candidates (in alphabetical order) presented their thoughts to the membership:</p> <p>Gregory Allen, Jr., DO (RI)  Scott Cyrus, DO (NM)  Charles (Chip) Finch, Jr., DO (AZ)  William Ashley Hood, DO (MS)  Joel Kase, DO (ME)  Brian Loveless, DO (CA)  Seeger Morris, DO (MS)  Sonbol Shahid-Salles, DO (MN)  Larry Suess, DO (CA)</p> <p>Dr. Nichols reflected on the superior qualifications of the candidate pool and appreciated their desire to lead and serve and the inspiration given to the UFOS</p>			rank the candidates, and the rankings will be calculated by the Chair, Vice-Chair and 2 appointees and the top 5 candidates will be presented to the membership.
<b>XIII.</b>	<b>Society Members Introduction</b>				
		This was omitted because of the virtual nature of the meeting		Karen Nichols, DO	
<b>XIV.</b>	<b>Announcements</b>				
		<p>Dr. Nichols reminded the membership that ballots will be sent out at the end of the meeting and one vote per society and the ballot MUST be complete by ranking all 9 candidates, to be counted. Ballots will be accepted through August 16, 2021. The ballots will be sent to Dr. Nichols (AZ). Scans of all ballots will be sent to Dr. Vinn (CA), Dr. Molnar (IA) and Dr. Walker (NC) and they will independently calculate the rankings from the society members.</p> <p>Dr. Nichols reminded the membership about attending the Big Caucus on Wednesday, July 14, 2021, at 6:00 pm CDT to nominate the new individuals for the AOA Board</p> <p>Dr. Jennifer Kendall-Thomas was asked to give a few remarks She thanked the UFOS for nominating her and for the opportunity to serve. She commended the slate of candidates this year from the UFOS for the AOA BoT.</p>		Karen Nichols, DO	

		<p>Dr. Nichols encouraged the delegates to support the American Osteopathic Foundation and OPAC. There will be a virtual OPAC reception the week of AOA HOD which involves chocolate. She reminded everyone to register for the HOD and the reference committee meetings and a link was provided for each by the AOA in the chat feature</p> <p>She pointed out that one individual of the UFOS attended the founding meeting in 1979 and that individual was Michael Murphy, DO. He has attended the HOD for 45 years. He received an ovation for his commitment and service.</p>			
<b>XV.</b>	<b>Adjournment</b>				
		Meeting adjourned at 7:22 pm CDT		Karen Nichols, DO	

Respectfully submitted



Scott S. Cyrus, DO

UFOS Secretary/Treasurer

July 21, 2021