

2020-21 PRESIDENT'S REPORT

PAUL R. RENNIE, DO, FAAO



This has been an historical year with the world facing multiple challenges which have effected everyone. There have been several firsts and the Academy has been no exception with its first ever virtual Convocation and a shift in how our educational programming and operations function.

In its review of the 2020 Convocation, the Education Committee with various staff and membership identified the unique challenges and successes of this event which laid the groundwork for continuing the Academy's medical education programming. Throughout this year I have worked with Barbara Zajdel, DO, FAAO, this year's Convocation program chair, as well as the Education Committee, the Board of Trustees leadership and the AAO staff to address the multiple concerns related to the content, format and the logistics of this particular

Convocation.

OMED this year was also a challenge and the AAO worked with the American Osteopathic Association (AOA) leadership to build a joint collaborative educational program which included a CME component to address OMM and OMT in the management of the patient with COVID-19. I asked Richard G. Schuster, DO, president-elect to lead an AAO working group in this effort and two topics have been addressed that include *OMM Techniques for Addressing Symptoms of COVID-19* and *Frontline Perspectives: COVID-19 and OMM*.

As the pandemic developed, the Academy leadership reviewed the current website interfaces, analytics and advocacy components for areas of improvement in support of digital platforms to continue to deliver quality CME to the membership. As AAO president, I have worked in on-going collaborative actions with the other AOA specialty colleges in areas of common interest in educational programing, board certification issues, advocacy, member support, policy management and institutional representation.

Throughout this year, the Academy has adapted to develop a totally virtual platform for meetings and educational offerings. Virtual meetings have become the most prevalent form of communication and they have kept me pretty busy. I attended the AOA annual meeting and the AOA mid-year meeting with President-elect Dr. Schuster and represented the AAO as a voting member to the House of Delegates on October 13 and 14 and November 7, 2020. I also attended the AOA Bureau of Osteopathic Specialists (BOS)/Certifying Board Services (CBS) town hall meeting regarding the status of the certification process.

On February 17, a special meeting of the AAO membership was called to present a resolution to consider bylaws suspension of the annual election of officers. Enormous time and consideration was spent reviewing a virtual format which would accommodate the means for the AAO to conduct a virtual election which incorporates the process that is required to meet the Academy's specific requirements. The results of the vote on that resolution endorsed the recommendation and all current officers elected by the membership to the leadership offices in previous years of elections will remain in their capacities for an additional year. This will allow the AAO to continue it collaborative efforts, to continue to develop its technology, to expand its educational programming and its ability to continue to be the leader in osteopathic manipulative medicine.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Paul R. Rennie DO, FAAO". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Paul R. Rennie, DO, FAAO
2020-21 AAO President