

# Annual Business Meeting

March 22, 2012

The Galt House Hotel, Louisville, KY

## Call to Order

Michael A. Seffinger, DO, President welcomed members and called the meeting to order at 12:15 pm.

## Invocation

Mark S. Cantieri, DO, FAAO provided the invocation.

## Osteopathic Pledge

Michael A. Seffinger, DO lead the members present in the Osteopathic Pledge of Commitment.

## Lunch

Dr. Seffinger welcomed the AAO members and invited them to enjoy their lunch.

## Additions and Approval of Agenda

Dr. Seffinger indicated that agenda item VI-A: By-Laws Amendments under New Business has been withdrawn after a review by the Board of Governors. These will be discussed at the Board of Trustees level for further review, to be brought back next year. He further stated that agenda item VI-C: American Academy of Pediatric Osteopathy's application for component society is being discussed further. A task force is in place and there will be a meeting in October 2012 at the AOA Convention in San Diego. Dr. Seffinger also indicated that this year there were no recipients for agenda items B and C under VII-Old Business: B-Recognition of lifetime donors to the Golden Ram Society and item C-Recognition of leaders for service to the Academy and profession. Dr. Seffinger asked if there were any additional changes to the agenda and requested a motion to approve.

### **Motion**

*It was moved to approve the agenda with the above changes.*

**Seconded**

**Approved**

## Approval of Minutes of March 17, 2011 Meeting

### **Motion**

*It was moved to approve the minutes of the March 17, 2011 Annual Business Meeting of the AAO.*

**Seconded**

**Approved**

## Elections

Dr. Seffinger called Boyd R. Buser, DO, Chair of the AAO Nominating Committee to give the report of the Nominating Committee and conduct the annual elections.

Dr. Buser introduced the members of the Nominating Committee: Richard A. Feely, DO, FAAO, Immediate Past President (automatically); Dennis J. Dowling, DO, FAAO; John C. Glover, DO, FAAO; and Melicien A. Tettambel, DO, FAAO.

Dr. Buser outlined the process to which the Nominating Committee adheres to come up with their final results each year. He stated they began their work in late summer, polling the leadership of the Academy by sending a list of the positions to be filled. The staff compiles the comments received, and the committee then conducts their work via teleconference. During the teleconference the committee attempts to construct a slate of nominees which provides a balance between geography, gender, college alumni and a variety of characteristics of the Academy membership. The committee reviews the demographic break down of the Academy leadership including Trustees and Governors. He indicated that the committee also reviews the attendance history of the Governors over a number of years, looking at the service and obligations fulfilled by each member. Dr. Buser noted that the committee seeks to present a slate that allows for some opportunity for true elections to be held, rather than proposing a slate that is entirely conducted of a one-for-one candidate per seat. The Nominating Committee ultimately constructed the proposed slate which was submitted to the Board of Trustees at their fall meeting for review. Dr. Buser felt it is important to inform the membership of the process and thanked the staff for their support.

Dr. Buser reconfirmed that voting privileges are held by active (includes interns and residents), life and honorary life members whose dues are in good standing. He also reported that retired, associate, international affiliate, honorary and

1 student members do not hold voting privileges. Dr. Buser informed the membership of the ballots located on the last  
2 page of the 2012 AAO Member Resource Guide booklet handed out today.

3  
4 Dr. Buser then moved on to the report of the Nominating Committee. He explained that as stipulated in the AAO  
5 Constitution and Bylaws, the President-Elect automatically succeeds to the Office of President. Therefore Jane E.  
6 Carreiro, DO, will be installed as the AAO's next president at the Banquet on Saturday, March 24, 2012.

7  
8 President-Elect:

9 Dr. Buser announced that the Nominating Committee placed in nomination the name of David Coffey, DO, FAAO for  
10 the Office of President-Elect. Dr. Buser asked for nominations from the floor for President-Elect.

11  
12 **Motion**

13 *It was moved to close nominations for the Office of President-Elect and the Secretary was directed to cast*  
14 *a unanimous ballot for David Coffey, DO, FAAO.*

15 **Seconded**

**Approved**

16  
17 Dr. Buser announced that David Coffey, DO, FAAO was elected to serve a one-year term as AAO President-Elect.

18  
19 Secretary-Treasurer:

20 Dr. Buser announced that Mark S. Cantieri, DO, FAAO has served two 3-year terms and has declined to be re-  
21 nominated. Dr. Buser and the members thanked Dr. Cantieri for all his hard work during the two terms in service to the  
22 AAO as Secretary-Treasurer. For the office of Secretary-Treasurer, the Nominating Committee placed the name of  
23 Kenneth H. Johnson, DO, FAAO. Dr. Buser asked for nominations from the floor for Secretary-Treasurer.

24  
25 **Motion**

26 *It was moved to close nominations for the Office of Secretary-Treasurer.*

27 **Seconded**

**Approved**

28  
29 **Motion**

30 *It was moved and seconded to cast a unanimous ballot for Dr. Johnson as Secretary-Treasurer.*

31 **Seconded**

**Approved**

32  
33 Dr. Buser announced that Kenneth H. Johnson, DO, FAAO was elected to serve a three-year term as AAO Secretary-  
34 Treasurer.

35  
36 Board of Trustees:

37 Dr. Buser informed the membership that by virtue of Dr. Coffey's election as President-Elect for a one-year term, his  
38 term as Trustee is ended. Dr. Buser told the AAO membership that Dr. Coffey's name should be crossed off the ballot.  
39 Two trustees for a 3-year term will need to be elected. The Nominating Committee places into nomination for Trustee of  
40 the AAO the names of: Laura E. Griffin, DO, FAAO; David C. Mason, DO; and Michael J. Warner, DO. Dr. Buser  
41 asked for nominations from the floor. Dr. Ann Habenicht requested Dr. Walter C. Ehrenfeuchter's name be added. Dr.  
42 Ehrenfeuchter, being present, stated his willingness to serve. There being no other nominations from the floor, it was  
43 moved and seconded to close the nominations.

44  
45 **Motion**

46 *It was moved to close nominations for the AAO Board of Trustees.*

47 **Seconded**

**Approved**

48  
49 Dr. Buser indicated that the two candidates receiving the greatest number of votes would be elected to a three-year term  
50 as Trustee. The membership was informed to vote for only two Trustees, indicating that if the ballot was marked for  
51 more than two, the ballot would be discarded.

52  
53 Dr. Buser appointed the following members as tellers to collect and count the ballots: Guy A. DeFeo, DO; Dennis J.  
54 Dowling, DO, FAAO; Raymond J. Hruby, DO, FAAO; Michael L. Kuchera, DO, FAAO; Judith A. O'Connell, DO,  
55 FAAO; George J. Pasquarello, DO, FAAO; and Karen M. Steele, DO, FAAO.

56  
57 While the votes were being tallied, Dr. Seffinger proceeded with the presentation of the awards. Following the tally of  
58 the votes, Dr. Buser announced the results of the membership vote for Board of Trustees – for a 3-year term each: Laura  
59 E. Griffin, DO, FAAO; and David C. Mason, DO.

### **Presentation of the Academy Award**

Dr. Seffinger stated it was his honor and privilege to present the 2012 Academy Award to Michael M. Patterson, PhD, retired professor of osteopathic medicine, who has been an AAO member longer than Dr. Seffinger. Dr. Seffinger joined in 1983 as a student, and Dr. Patterson was already prominent within that decade. In that same decade he was honored with the AOA's Louisa Burns Osteopathic Research Memorial Lecture Award for his work not only in research, but also education. He continued his stellar service the next decade by inspiring, mentoring, lecturing, educating and doing research, and was awarded the AOA's Gutensohn-Denslow Outstanding Research/Education Award. The next decade he continued in the same vein, and was given the Irvin Korr Award for Exemplary Commitment to Basic Science Research in an Osteopathic Institution. Dr. Patterson is the only person to have received all three of these awards. He has been a mentor to Dr. Seffinger and has inspired him, and many others present, on many levels. Other things he has accomplished that are historic in that he, along with other colleagues, put on three international interdisciplinary conferences on scientific information and approaches and state of the art regarding osteopathic manipulation and manual therapies. A listing of all Dr. Patterson's accomplishments and contributions to osteopathy are listed on page 20 of the Business Meeting book. We are grateful for all he has done for the professional.

Following Dr. Seffinger's presentation of the Academy Award to him, Dr. Patterson thanked the Academy for the tremendous honor, for which he is gratified and humbled. He thanked his wife of 45 years, Jan Patterson for her support. He also thanked his sons Shane and Chad, and their guests, which included granddaughters Emma and Grace and grandson Max for being his teachers. The profession was much smaller when he started in it. He thinks it is wonderful how the profession is growing. His father, an FP/DO in a small town in Iowa, was one of his mentors. His other mentors included Stedman Denslow who enticed him to Kirksville. At Kirksville, he found another mentor in Dr. Irvin Korr with whom he had many conversations about osteopathic philosophy. Paul Kimberly, one of the premier leaders in OPP, also became a mentor. He talked him into becoming an OPP student. The osteopathic philosophy shapes so many lives. It is gratifying to see manipulation spread around the world, and become a global phenomenon. The AAO has been a great part of that movement, and is changing the face of medicine internationally. Osteopathic philosophy is unique and osteopathic practice is a way of life. He has been fortunate to have been given many opportunities by the osteopathic profession and thanked the AAO for honoring him with this award.

### **Greetings from the American Osteopathic Association**

Dr. Seffinger invited Dr. Buser to the podium to represent the American Osteopathic Association as a member of the Executive Committee of the AOA Board of Trustees to deliver greetings from the American Osteopathic Association. Dr. Buser thanked Dr. Seffinger, stating he was taking one hat off and placed another one on. He stated he brought greetings from the leadership of the American Osteopathic Association. As a member of the AOA Board of Trustees, he appreciates the opportunity to speak with the AAO members. He thanked all members for their support of the AOA and reminded them that the AOA is here for you; assistance with coding, reimbursement, and practice assistance. Dr. Levine's theme for this term as AOA president is "think osteopathically – practicing it, proving it, publishing it, and promoting it. As AAO members we are fortunate to have Dr. Levine as AOA president to promote in a manner that is so sincere and moving that he is a tremendous role model for our students. He uses OMT on all of his patients. Think osteopathically means commitment to lifelong learning. An initiative that the AOA has engaged in is the "Joining Forces Initiative" to support osteopaths in the military and their families. He urged members to go to the AOA website to learn more about this initiative. Think osteopathically means relying on the osteopathic principles and practice that make us distinct from other physicians. It means understanding the importance of touch as a natural part of every patient visit. Touch enhances communication in tangible and in intangible ways, and it makes for the very best care. Dr. Levine challenges students with very specific ideas about thinking and acting osteopathically. Thinking osteopathically also means leading by example, like Dr. Karen Steele. Dr. Steele worked with A.T. Still's grandson, Richard Still, to master the seated facet release technique. She has now developed and is teaching this course globally. Many members are mentors and can serve as a role model. Thinking osteopathically means proving that we are the best trained physicians in the world. AOA's clinical assessment program gives members the opportunity to measure your practice's performance and also earn additional payment through CAP for PQRS. Thinking osteopathically means publishing articles in the JAOA proving that OPP and OMM have tangible benefits to our patients. Thinking osteopathically means promoting and advocating for the profession. We need to showcase our credentials and knowledge. It means contacting your members of Congress on issues that impact our practice and the care for our patients. It means repealing the sustainable growth rate, repealing the IPAB, Medicare Independent Payment Advisory Board. He encouraged the members to continue to advocate for osteopathy. Can we do more to practice, prove, publish, and promote osteopathic medicine? Dr. Buser stated he believed that one day everyone will know who we are as DOs and that we offer the best medical care in the world. On behalf of the AOA, Dr. Levine, AOA President, and Dr. Ray Stowers, AOA President-elect; Dr. Buser thanked the AAO having him here and for being such great members of the osteopathic family.

Dr. Seffinger presented Dr. Buser with two ram statues. The first was a statue of two rams on a rock. Dr. Seffinger stated that Dr. Buser often wears two hats: one in the Academy; the other he functions in the AOA at high levels. He has

1 mentored many of us, and he was asked at the last minute to represent the AOA. So Dr. Seffinger brought out this statue  
 2 because it reminded him of Dr. Buser as a person wearing two hats, he "wears" two rams. The other ram statue was hand  
 3 or machine carved wood with a lot of handiwork; and was presented as a special present to Dr. Buser for all the  
 4 mentoring he's done for the AAO leaders and for us personally, for all the members on the Board and many of us in [this  
 5 room]. Dr. Buser accepted these ram gifts with the statement, "believe me, it's a labor of love."

6  
 7 Board of Governors:

8 The Nominating Committee placed in nomination for the Board of Governors the following names: Robert N. Agnello,  
 9 DO; James W. Binker, DO; Boyd R. Buser, DO; Mark S. Cantieri, DO, FAAO; William Thomas Crow, DO, FAAO;  
 10 Walter C. Ehrenfeuchter, DO, FAAO; Richard A. Feely, DO, FAAO; Heather P. Ferrill, DO; John C. Glover, DO,  
 11 FAAO; Sharon Gustowski, DO, MPH; Richard G. Schuster, DO; Melicien A. Tettambel, DO, FAAO; Richard L. Van  
 12 Buskirk, DO, PhD, FAAO; Michael J. Warner, DO; and Sheldon C. Yao, DO. The members were instructed to strike  
 13 Drs. Coffey and Griffin from the ballot for Governors. Dr. Buser asked if there were any nominations from the floor. Dr.  
 14 William Devine was nominated from the floor; he was present and indicated he would be willing to serve if elected.

15  
 16 **Motion**

17 *It was moved to place in nomination William H. Devine, DO, as a candidate for Governor.*

18 **Seconded**

**Approved**

19  
 20 Dr. Buser entertained a motion to close the nominations.

21  
 22 **Motion**

23 *It was moved to close the nominations for the AAO Board of Governors.*

24 **Seconded**

**Approved**

25  
 26 Dr. Buser informed the members to add the name of William H. Devine, DO, to the ballot for Governor. Dr. Buser stated  
 27 that since Dr. Johnson was elected Secretary-Treasurer, he is automatically a member of the Trustees – therefore he is  
 28 vacating a two-year unexpired Governors term. Dr. Mason vacates a one-year unexpired term by virtue of his election to  
 29 the Trustees. Members are to vote for 12 candidates; ballots with more than 12 candidates chosen will be discarded.  
 30 The top 10 vote-getters will have 3-year terms. The 11<sup>th</sup> highest will fill Dr. Johnson's two-year unexpired term; the 12<sup>th</sup>  
 31 highest will fill Dr. Mason's one-year unexpired term.

32  
 33 Following the tally of votes, Dr. Buser announced the results of the membership vote for Board of Governors. Elected to  
 34 serve a 3-year term were: Drs. Van Buskirk; Tettambel; Schuster; Glover; Ferrill; Feely; Ehrenfeuchter; Crow; Cantieri;  
 35 and Buser. Elected to serve the two-year unexpired term (2012-2014), Dr. Warner; and for the 1-year unexpired term  
 36 (2012-2013), Dr. Devine.

37  
 38 Nominating Committee:

39 Dr. Buser announced the final election of the day was for the Nominating Committee. He advised that Dr. Seffinger will  
 40 serve as ex-officio by virtue of his office as Immediate Past President. Dr. Buser informed the members they are tasked  
 41 with electing four additional members to complete the committee of five. The Nominating Committee placed in  
 42 nomination for a one-year term the following candidates: Boyd A. Buser, DO; Dennis J. Dowling, DO, FAAO; Richard  
 43 A. Feely, DO, FAAO; John C. Glover, DO, FAAO; Ann L. Habenicht, DO, FAAO; and Melicien A. Tettambel, DO,  
 44 FAAO.

45  
 46 Dr. Buser asked if there were any nominations from the floor.

47  
 48 **Motion**

49 *It was moved to close the nominations for the 2012-2013 Nominating Committee.*

50 **Seconded**

**Approved**

51  
 52 Dr. Buser instructed members to vote for only four candidates or their ballot would be discarded as invalid.

53  
 54 Following the completion of the voting process, Dr. Buser announced that the members had elected to the Nominating  
 55 Committee for a one-year term: Drs. Buser, Dowling, Glover, and Tettambel.

56  
 57 Dr. Buser indicated that concludes the Nominating Committee report and he asked those members just elected to the  
 58 Nominating Committee to stay after the adjournment for a very brief meeting.

59  
 60 **Officers' Report**

1 AAO President Michael A. Seffinger, DO, stated the officers' published reports can be found in the Members Resource  
2 Guide.

3  
4 AAO President Michael A. Seffinger, DO – In addition to his president's report in the Members Resource Guide, AAO  
5 President Seffinger stated that his main message, his final message to the members, is that we need to embrace the idea  
6 that what we do is scientific and evidence-based. In all that he has done this year: the lectures, presentations,  
7 demonstrations, and in fighting for reimbursement, people accept the argument that this is an evidence-based practice.  
8 Everywhere it counts: legislative issues, insurance issues, hospital accreditation privileging; in every battle we fought,  
9 we won. We have what we need to prove it is an evidence-based practice; we have national guidelines which the  
10 government accepted long ago. He encouraged the members to move forward and continue to practice evidence-based  
11 osteopathic manipulative medicine.

12  
13 AAO President-elect Jane E. Carreiro, DO – Dr. Seffinger requested Dr. Carreiro to the podium to give her report. She  
14 stated that it has been a busy year. She didn't realize how widespread the Academy is connected to everywhere – at  
15 AOA House of Delegates there were a couple of issues the Board of Trustees thought important, so on the spur-of-the  
16 moment a meeting was called and 50 AAO members attended. She urged AAO members to get involved in their state  
17 associations because that is how we are going to change things.

18  
19 AAO Secretary-Treasurer, Mark S. Cantieri, DO, FAAO – Dr. Seffinger asked Mark Cantieri to the podium for his  
20 report. Dr. Cantieri stated that the numbers for this year were listed in the resource book. He indicated that the January  
21 revenue numbers are down, but membership revenue continues to grow. Golden Ram income is not what it has been  
22 previously, mainly due to the momentum we are building with the FORCE campaign. We are creating national  
23 recognition, that in one year we can raise a million dollars for such a small organization with a thousand members. We  
24 can continue to grow and get big and create incredible value for our membership and for our patients. Investments are up  
25 which means that we have money for research. The best way to continue to document the efficacy of osteopathic  
26 manipulation is through research. We need to stand behind the leadership and support our programs, especially FORCE.  
27 He thanked the members for the privilege to serve them these last six years.

28  
29 AAO Executive Director, Diana L. Finley, CMP - Dr. Seffinger requested Diana Finley to the podium. She introduced  
30 the AAO staff, stating that they have worked very hard to get us here today and have done a very good job. She  
31 recognized: Amber Rausch, Tessa Boeing, Debbie Cole, Lisa Susemichel, and newest member, Sherri Quarles. Susan  
32 stayed at the office to answer phones. Ms. Finley also thanked the volunteers, which we couldn't do this without them.  
33 She stated that Arizona College sent Laura Jones, she comes every year; Pat Balmer, spouse of Dr. Balmer; Janet Crow,  
34 spouse of Dr. Crow; and Bill Elliott, MD, spouse of Dr. Tettambel; Walter Ruthenburg, and Kathleen Brennan; Steve  
35 Noone, former AAO Executive Director, and Phyllis McNamara came back to be with us at the registration desk.

36  
37 AAO Immediate Past President, Richard A. Feely, DO, FAAO – Richard A. Feely, DO, FAAO was asked to step to the  
38 podium for his report. Dr. Feely stated that he represented the Academy internationally at FIMM in the Czech Republic,  
39 Prague. He stated that this osteopathic organization is the spark that is flaming the world on osteopathy and osteopathic  
40 medicine. He stated that this organization is key and thanked the members for making a world of change. The AAO has  
41 leadership and respect because of the members' actions, research and dedication to education. He stated that we now  
42 have FORCE which can help with more research and education. He urged everyone to get behind FORCE and bring  
43 osteopathy to all around the world.

44  
45 FORCE President, George J. Pasquarello, DO, FAAO – Dr. Seffinger indicated that the presentation from FORCE will  
46 be by FORCE President, George J. Pasquarello, DO, FAAO; FORCE Vice-President, Dave Massello; and Campaign  
47 Chair, Guy A. DeFeo, DO. Dr. Seffinger asked Dr. Pasquarello to the podium. Dr. Pasquarello stated that it was his  
48 pleasure and honor to have served over the last year as president of the new foundation, Foundation for Osteopathic  
49 Research and Continuous Education. He gave a brief overview of the report presented to the Board of Trustees and  
50 Governors. Dr. Pasquarello stated that the FORCE Board elected last year consists of: himself, Dave Massello; Hollis  
51 King, Michael Kuchera, and David Coffey as the voting members. The Board also consists of ex-officio members: the  
52 Academy President, the Academy Immediate Past President, and the Academy's Executive Director; who are involved in  
53 each of their meetings. The nice thing about creating a foundation is that it has given the Academy the ability to work at  
54 a different level. The idea of creating this foundation was to take ideas as seen in some of the research projects going on  
55 out there (like the MOPSE study) and after the study is done, to not only publish it, but to take that and carry it out and  
56 do something really significant with it and teach people. So the Foundation is really dedicated to helping develop  
57 research ideas and create real research, and to also bring those research results forward into the real world and into  
58 practice. The Foundation also supports the Academy as with some of the activities here at Convocation. Dr. Pasquarello  
59 emphasized that in addition to the members of the Board and the leadership of the Academy, he wanted the members to  
60 consider getting involved in some way with the foundation. One way is to serve on an advisory board. These advisory

boards were created to help with some of the work the foundation is trying to do and two of those advisory boards are education and research. The members were asked to speak with any of the FORCE board members if they have an interest in helping develop educational programs based on evidence-based research or in doing research. The foundation would really be happy in getting as many people involved as they can.

FORCE Vice-President, David Massello – Dr. Pasquarello then introduced David Massello, Vice-President of the foundation board, the driving force and the organized person with the energy behind the foundation. Mr. Massello stated that last year at this time he presented a business plan and FORCE was just getting started. Today there is a book of initiatives, several in research; one is the Practice-Based Research Network (PBRN). The Foundation is dedicated to understanding the use and application of OMM and OPP in clinical practice and the way they are going to do that is through this vehicle of the PBRN. The foundation has teamed up with the AT Still university and Brian Degenhardt's team, as well as approached the AOA about collaborating to support this PBRN on a much larger scale. The second initiative is empathy. Mr. Massello serves as the project director for a study funded by the AOA that involves Leonard H. Calabrese, DO of the Cleveland Clinic, and Mohammadreza Hojat, PhD, of the Jefferson Medical College in Philadelphia. Dr. Hojat is one of the world's renowned experts on the subject of empathy in the patient-physician relationship. Mr. Massello stated that for him and many others, empathy is a proxy term for OPP, for the relationship that the osteopathic physician builds with their patient. He indicated he will be presenting at AACOM on a project to involve any number of additional schools that will go beyond this study with OUHCOM, to extend that examination of empathy out of the schools, into residency and then connect it back into the PBRN, so that we understand how this empathy, this physician-patient relationship plays itself out in the whole spectrum of the development of the osteopathic physician. On education, the Foundation is dedicated to producing educational programs out of their research. We have partnered with Kendi Hensel, DO, PhD on the PROMOTE (Pregnancy Research in Osteopathic Manipulation Optimizing Treatment Effects) study to help create the educational programming and the marketing to deliver that PROMOTE education out to the medical workplace. There are 22,000 OB/GYN's in this country, only 2,000 of them are DO; but there's four million live births in the United States. That's a lot of women with low back pain. Those are the kinds of initiatives the Foundation is sponsoring. On the fundraising side, the Foundation is reaching out to a much larger audience, and part of that is the grateful patient initiative. That is going to be a powerful way for us to expand the reach of the foundation to get support to do the things in research and education that support what you do. The other one is building collaborations with foundations. We have some initiatives in the works where we will establish matching grant programs and challenge grant programs even to as much as a million dollars worth of matching money for every million dollars that we can raise. This has not been done before to support osteopathic initiatives. Mr. Massello thanked the AAO stating, "Thank you for allowing me to work with you, it's a great pleasure."

Capital Campaign Chair, Guy A. DeFeo, DO – Dr. DeFeo introduced himself and thanked the members. He also thanked the Academy staff, the Board of Trustees, the FORCE Board, and Mr. Massello and Jennifer Ernst. Dr. DeFeo encouraged the members to come by the exhibit booth to meet the campaign staff. He stated that it is the Academy members who will make the FORCE program work. He indicated that the million dollars pledged so far is from 100 members. He stated that the campaign is a commitment of the Academy as a whole. He indicated that the range of pledges is \$25 to \$250,000, and encouraged members to pledge at any level. He stated that the campaign is for your participation as a member and for you to interact with your colleagues. As was stated earlier, the whole focus is on research and education to reach out and bring this message to many people. Dr. DeFeo indicated that there have been several types of challenges, with one of them reporting that the entire faculty of a particular school has committed a pledge. So, a challenge has been placed for the faculty of other schools, the student groups, the residency groups, the component societies, to any other group; to commit a pledge to the campaign. This is not about pledging the highest amount; it is about participation of all members; to make this work for everybody.

## **New Business**

### **AAO Component Societies**

Dr. Seffinger referred to the list of the component societies on the agenda, and that those component societies submit annual reports to the Academy. It is appropriate for this body to reaffirm them in accordance with the AAO Constitution and Bylaws: Arizona Academy of Osteopathy; Florida Academy of Osteopathy; Indiana Academy of Osteopathy; Iowa Academy of Osteopathy; New Jersey Academy of Osteopathy; Northern California Academy of Osteopathy; Northwest Academy of Osteopathy; Oklahoma Academy of Osteopathy; Pennsylvania Academy of Osteopathy; Presque Isle Academy of Osteopathy; Puget Sound Academy of Osteopathy; Rocky Mountain Academy of Osteopathy; The Osteopathic Cranial Academy (formerly the Cranial Academy); Sutherland Cranial Teaching Foundation; and the Upper Mississippi River Osteopathic Study Group.

### **Motion**

*It was moved to recertify the above listed Component Societies of the American Academy of Osteopathy.*

**Seconded****Approved**

Dr. Seffinger stated that there were three Student AAO (SAAO) component societies to be approved: PNU-COM, VCOM/SC – Carolinas, and WCUCOM.

**Motion**

*It was moved to approve the above listed new student component societies of the American Academy of Osteopathy.*

**Seconded****Approved****Old Business****Resident of the Year Award**

Dr. Seffinger presented the Resident of the Year recipient, announcing it was Leslie Mae-Geen Ching, DO from Columbus, Ohio. He indicated Dr. Ching had distinguished herself not only in her own program, but also as a very active member of the Academy and in the AOA. He stated that she was on the AOA Bureau of Osteopathic History and Identity as a student and won two writing awards for the history of the profession. He continued to state that she teaches osteopathic medical students and residents, was and is involved with research and will most likely continue it as a career. Dr. Seffinger brought Dr. Ching to the podium to present her with a plaque and congratulate her on her accomplishments.

**Recruitment of Committee Volunteers**

Dr. Seffinger indicated that there were sign-in sheets for people interested in participating on committees. He noted that the descriptions of the committees were listed in the Members Resource Guide and stated that participation is what makes the future and that you create the future by your activities now.

**Announcement**

Dr. Seffinger announced that next year, Convocation 2013 will be Wednesday, March 20th through Sunday, March 24th, at the Rosen Shingle Creek resort in Orlando, Florida. The tentative theme is a Structure-Function Relationship; Gregg Lund, DO, will be the program chairperson. He also announced that the Annual Business Meeting will be on Thursday, March 21st, 2013.

Dr. Seffinger asked Melicien A. Tettambel, DO, FAAO to the podium for her announcement. Dr. Tettambel requested anyone who was interested in finding out more, or participating in the certifying board, to contact herself or AAO Executive Director, Diana Finley. Dr. Tettambel stated the certifying board, the American Osteopathic Board of Neuromusculoskeletal Medicine (AOBNMM) would like to extend an opportunity for those who are interested, to be a guest tester. The tester is invited to understand the Board's testing process, how it is conducted, understand what they do, how they do it, and also to learn how to conduct an oral examination, how to conduct a practical examination; and how the tester would conduct it. She stated the osteopathic profession is growing and those who are residency directors cannot test their own residents / students. She indicated the number one qualification is you have to be certified. Dr. Tettambel stated there is also the need for people to write questions. These are NBOME style questions, vignette questions. She stated they have a very open door policy, and invited members to come look at them, see how they do things and if they want to move forward, the Board welcomes that opportunity as well. She indicated the formal way to become a member of the certifying board is to have your name submitted to the Board of Governors as a nominee for the AOBNMM. Dr. Tettambel encouraged the members to contact the AOBNMM and check them out.

Dr. Seffinger remarked that he was appointed as the Associate Editor of the *JAOA*, and joined Drs. Patterson and D'Alonzo and that the three of them along with Mike Fitzgerald were putting together the *JAOA* to make it not only a better journal, but more interactive; something that everybody can have a voice in creating. Dr. Seffinger encouraged the members to be part of the process as article reviewers, maybe advisors, people that write either editorials, case studies, articles, and/or papers of various types. He asked them to contact him, Dr. Patterson, Mr. Fitzgerald, or Dr. D'Alonzo. Dr. Seffinger stated that since the journal is online, they did an analysis of how the journal was accessed in the past year. They were surprised with the results that the journal was accessed mostly through the Google search engine with over 275,000 hits through that medium. He indicated they are now rethinking how to address the new generations of people with the ability to access information through just a search engine. Dr. Seffinger encouraged the members' participation in how to re-invent ourselves and think about how they want to affect not only their generation but those that are coming after them with the words they write.

1 Since the Nomination Committee election tally was running beyond the scheduled annual business meeting time, Dr.  
2 Seffinger indicated that according to parliamentarian, Dr. Cantieri that they may call the meeting to adjourn, with the  
3 results to be announced when the tally is completed.

4

5 **Adjournment**

6 With business concluded, Dr. Seffinger adjourned the meeting at 2:30 p.m.