

Summer 2011

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Editorial

As I write this editorial, it has been a month since the annual meeting in Las Vegas. I would like to thank Peter Bertrand and his committee for a very successful meeting. We look forward to a continuation of the mutual and fruitful work which is now going on for the 2012 annual meeting.

The membership meeting, new graduate luncheon, and President's reception were all outstanding events. Drs Jennifer Bassiur and Jay Mackman joined the Council and will serve for the next 3 years. Both have been involved in various AAPO committees for many years. Welcome aboard, y'all!

Charles Greene has been appointed Section Editor for the JADA's Pain Update column, which has appeared quarterly since June 2009. Congratulations, Chuck. He has attached additional information for our members. I would like to congratulate our new Fellows and the Physical Therapists on their achievements.

President Jeff Crandall's message, as usual, summarizes the Academy's business and our annual meeting.

I am sure summer is very beautiful in Vermont, especially after a long and painful winter. Now you get to enjoy smelling the roses and, hmmm, mowing the grass.

Ghabi A. Kaspo, DDS

Letter from the AAOP President

Greetings AAOP Members,

This has been an unbelievably challenging year, to say the least. There's an old African proverb that says "it takes a community to raise a child." And believe me, it takes a community to bring an organization such as the AAOP to life. With this in mind, the first thing that comes to my mind is to express my love and gratitude to my dear family, my wife Francie, my daughter Erin, my son Tyler, and my son-in-law Ben for their tremendous support and participation during my time as president. And I especially want to thank the happiest person I know, my granddaughter Savannah.

There are numerous individuals to whom I owe a huge debt of gratitude. Council members and committee members have made giant steps to see that various AAOP projects have been organized and successfully completed. The AAOP is so much stronger because of all of you. I am pleased to say that the CODA site assessments for our postgraduate programs are under way, that our leadership program is well under way, that our new members and fellows are being actively supported as they join the academy, that our Core Curriculum for postgraduate training has been adopted, that our outreach initiative has begun, that the website update is progressing well, that we are exploring the development of our

special interest groups, and that the ICOT agreement continues to be developed by all of the sister academies.

This year's 35th annual AAOP scientific meeting had been in development for the past 2 years. Over the years, I have had the good fortune to spend time with outstanding individuals such as Drs Janet Travell, Parker Mahan, and Shelly Gross. Peter Bertrand has been among my greatest inspirations and mentors as well. When I invited him to be my program director and develop this program model, he stepped up to the task. He and his committee have fulfilled every responsibility they have been asked to complete. With our 2011 program, we intended to expand our understanding of the pathways of orofacial pain, from the periphery to the cortex and back. We all extend our heartfelt congratulations and thanks to the 2011 Program Committee for doing such an excellent job.

There is no way to adequately thank Ken Cleveland, Linda Wright, Kathy Baumer, and the entire staff at Talley Management for all that they have done for and meant to me over the years that I have participated in the AAOP leadership. Those of us who have served on the Council and Executive Committee know how dedicated these folks have been to us as individuals and to the Academy as an organization.

As you all know, the Academy suffered a major loss 2 weeks after our midyear Council meeting held

last November. During that meeting, our president-elect, Don Primack, presented a talk at our initial leadership program entitled “Accountability, Responsibility, Chain of Command and Motivation.” For those who knew Don, this topic was right up his alley. And while Don spent almost 3 years fighting a difficult battle with his illness, he never once faltered in fulfilling his role in the AAOP leadership.

With this in mind, I would like to describe some of the lessons I have learned in my role in the AAOP and this past year as your president. And, placing credit where credit is due, Don taught me just about everything I know about leadership.

Don was an “Idea Man.” When confronted with an issue, any issue, he would often use a surgeon’s skill to dissect the content of the problem and find weaknesses. For example, he and I spent a considerable amount of time considering the role of the president-elect in our Executive Committee. With this in mind, the responsibilities of both the president-elect and treasurer have been expanded. This is just an example of his many ideas.

Don was a true “Teacher.” He felt it was essential that the AAOP expand its process for training the next generation of leaders. In effect, each person in a leadership role was, in part, responsible for generating his or her replacement. Thus, committee chairs would teach members of their committee how to assume their roles. Committee chairs would become candidates to become Council members, where 3 years of exposure to the operations of the Academy would develop potential members of the Executive Committee. And once a member of the EC, that person is both taught by the predecessor and, at the same time, is responsible for teaching the succeeding member of the committee. In summary, true teachers learn from those who go before them and train those who are to follow.

Don was a fantastic “Leader.” Don was much more extroverted than I am. Perhaps it’s the difference between California and Vermont. At our leadership meeting, Don said: “When deciding if someone respects you as a leader, they do not think of your attributes, they observe what you do so they can tell who you really are.” Don led by example, and his involvement can be found throughout the Academy. Just take a look at our academy’s patient education brochures, each of which were carefully crafted by Don.

Don was an excellent “Communicator.” Just ask anyone who spent some time with him. He was not hesitant to let people know what his opinion was but he was also an expert at helping others understand where these ideas came from. He was talented at providing more than just the content of his thoughts.

He would provide the context using approaches such as his sense of humor, a quote, a picture, or, if worst came to worst, even evidence-based science! Just about everyone knew what Don’s opinion was.

Don was a good “Listener”....to a point. That is to say that those speaking would be subject to his scrutiny. He would be appreciative and respectful of the speaker to a point, but he would also let people know when he found the topic of discussion was inappropriate or flawed. Ultimately, he was not afraid to offer feedback when the circumstances warranted.

Don was a wonderful “Motivator.” He would set goals, share responsibility, recognize and understand both good and bad outcomes, encourage participation and creativity, and offer sincere gratitude. He knew the value of responsibility and accountability and applied both of those values to his own activities and the efforts of others.

The meeting in Las Vegas was dedicated to three individuals who greatly influenced my thinking, both as an individual and as a professional, over the past 35 years of my professional life. Drs Janet Travell and Parker Mahan, for whom the plenary sessions have been dedicated, and Dr Shelly Gross, for whom the HCNE Headache Preconference was dedicated, all challenged me to follow the path that has taken me to this moment. However, the time that I shared with Don during our years on the AAOP Council and Executive Committee has been unlike any I have experienced anywhere else. I carry his memory as a teacher, a leader, a communicator, a listener, and a motivator with me all day, every day.

Finally, these attributes I have just described not only apply to Don as an individual, but to an organization such as the AAOP. Developing the leadership capabilities within our community of members will raise our collective AAOP “child” as an ethical, responsible, knowledgeable, and capable member of the health care community. The strength of the AAOP comes from an assortment of outstanding current and developing leaders, and Don was a shining example of what our leadership represents.

I thank you all for your support and participation in the AAOP this past year. Now, I turn over the reins of the AAOP to the memory of Don Primack. Let the history books show that the AAOP membership has dedicated itself to serve all the attributes of one of its great leaders with the 2011–2102 year...in Don’s memory.

Jeffrey A. Crandall, DDS
AAOP President, 2010–2011

JADA Pain Update Request

Dear AAOP Colleagues,

As most of you know, I have been appointed Section Editor for the JADA's Pain Update columns, which have appeared quarterly since June 2009. This section is sponsored and reviewed by the Neuroscience Group of IADR/AADR. So far, seven columns have been published, and four more have been accepted; these are listed below, along with a list of potential future topics. This means I only have 1 year's supply of material for this important feature that keeps the orofacial pain community highly visible to the larger dental community. In order to avoid any break in the continuity of these columns, I am soliciting your help in writing future submissions for us to consider.

Authorship of Pain Update is not limited to IADR, AADR, or AAOP members; rather, we invite anyone

who feels competent to write a 1,000-word case-based essay on any scientific or clinical topic in the pain field. All submissions must be sent to me for initial response and editing suggestions, and after revisions, they are sent to the Executive Council members of the NS Group for peer review. If accepted, the new column is submitted directly to JADA as a peer-reviewed article and is in line for publication.

I especially urge the postgraduate residents in OFP programs to consider writing a column on any topic that they have a special interest in. I hope all of you will take a look at the seven columns that are already published, so you can see how they are organized and referenced. Please contact me if you have an idea you would like to discuss.

Thanks,
Chuck Greene

Save the Date!

Congratulations to Peter Bertrand and his committee for an outstanding meeting in Las Vegas this spring! It was a tremendous opportunity to hear first-rate speakers and receive the most current information in the field of pain.

Mark your calendars now for the 2012 AAOP scientific session! It will be held May 3–6, 2012, at the beautiful Langham Huntington Hotel in Pasadena, California. This meeting will be dedicated to the memory of our wonderful friend, colleague, and mentor, Don Primack. He touched the lives of countless patients, students, and colleagues with his patience,

humor, and knowledge. Carrying on with his vision, the theme of the upcoming meeting is that of "Best Practices in Orofacial Pain."

If you or your students have interesting information to share, please consider submitting a poster for the meeting next spring. Plan now to attend, and please let your colleagues know that this is the best source for high-quality, current information in the field of orofacial pain and encourage them to attend as well. See you in Pasadena!

Maureen E. Lang, DDS
Chair, 2012 Program Committee
AAOP Secretary

Certified Cervical & Temporomandibular Therapists (CCTT)

Maria Zerjav: BSc(H) Psych, BScPT, CCTT
William Esser: PT, MS, CCTT
Shaun O'Connor: PT, CCTT
Michael Karegeannes: PT, MHSc, LAT, MTC, CFC, CCTT

Members in the News

Michael Simmons, DDS, was elected to the Board of the AADSM (American Academy of Dental Sleep Medicine), www.aadsm.org, and to the Board of the ASAA (American Sleep Apnea Association), www.sleepapnea.org. Congratulations, Michael!

New AAOP Fellows

Michael J. Apicella, DDS
Aurelio A. Alonso, DDS, MS, PhD
Mandeep Vermani, DDS
Felicia Michele Wilson, BSc, DDS, MSc
Sara A. Dixon, DDS
Istvan A. Hargitai, DDS, MS, PhD
Rick Borquez, DDS
Jack S. Broussard Jr, DDS
Satish Kumar, DDS, MDSc
Saravanan Ram, DDS, MS