

Spring 2012

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Editorial

This year, the annual scientific meeting celebrates the life of one of our presidents, in absentia. We are celebrating Don Primack's presidency in his hometown. The meeting that he dreamed of, but did not live to see. The great board took the oath to keep up with the same plan as if Don were there and presiding over the Academy. Thank you all.

Being on the Council for the past 3 years gave me the opportunity to work with every member on the

board. I worked with Jeff, Matt, and Don for the past 4 years as editor of the AAOP newsletter. Now I can write a book about constant contact for dummies.

I want to keep this editorial short, due to the fact that we have a lot of information for our members. I wish to thank all of you for supporting me for the past 4 years. I need to thank Ed Wright for his experience and Linda Wright from Talley Management for editing the newsletter.

Ghabi Kaspo, DDS

In Memory of Don Primack, March 2012

May 3–6 this year, the AAOP will assemble at the Langham Huntington Hotel in Pasadena, California, for its 36th Annual Scientific Meeting in celebration of Don Primack's memory as our president, in absentia. Drs Maureen Lang, Don Tannenbaum, and Matt Lark have assembled an outstanding program of speakers including the pre-conferences, breakfast sessions, lunch and learn sessions, and the plenary program. Don's wife, Andrea, will be attending the meeting and we should meet and greet her with our heartfelt appreciation for all Don has meant to the AAOP. Members of the Academy, including the Council and committee members, have stepped up to fulfill, with enthusiasm, many of the ideals that Don has instilled with his concepts of leadership. With that in mind, I would especially like to encourage all AAOP members to attend our free, 2-hour Leadership Development Program Wednesday afternoon, May 2, from 4:00 to 6:00 pm. The program will include an edited version of Don's original presentation to the AAOP Council in November 2010. It is our hope that this will encourage other members of the Academy to follow in his footsteps.

It will most certainly be an honor for me to pass the helm of the AAOP ship over to Dr Ed Wright on May 4 at our general membership meeting. Ed has been an extraordinary president-elect and has been working hard to gear up for his term as president. He is well prepared and I am certain will do an excellent job as our new leader. Anyone who knows Ed well realizes that he is an active, detail-oriented individual who readily accepts responsibility. And if you have not met him, be sure to introduce yourself to Ed at the meeting.

By the time I have completed my terms as president and acting president, I will have spent 735 days working with our Executive Director, Ken Cleveland. Ken is an extraordinary person and true asset to the AAOP. Other than when he has been on "vacation" with the US Coast Guard, he has been tireless in overseeing the day-to-day operations of our Academy. He has been my counselor and friend as we have dealt with numerous, major affairs including the passing of our president-elect, the separation from Talley Management Group, the construction of our new website, and the untold details of the day-to-day operations of the AAOP. He is a nonmember who is the ultimate example of true dedication to our cause. I cannot possibly thank him enough for all he has done these past 2 years.

I would like to emphasize that everyone should take some time to review our new website. It is now operational and continues to be under construction. One of our new additions will be the member forum, which, after logging on, allows members to develop a dialogue regarding topics of interest relating to patient care, research and literature review, business operations, employment opportunities, etc. With time, this will become an excellent way for the AAOP community to develop friendships and working relationships and expand our ability to communicate with each other.

There are a number of affairs that are in preparation for the 2012 annual business meeting that AAOP members should know. For example, we will be having a signing ceremony during the meeting for our new ICOT agreement. Representatives from all five sister academies will be present for this event to conclude negotiations that have taken place over the

past several years. You may recall that we intended to have this signing event last year in Las Vegas, but it had to be postponed due to some technical glitches. This agreement will be in place for the next 20 years, and our 2014 meeting, again in Las Vegas, will be the first international meeting for ICOT.

The AAOP is also considering a Sleep Medicine Committee to be added to our Bylaws by a membership vote. This proposal has been developed by Dennis Bailey and will be presented to the membership well in advance of the meeting. With the science of sleep and pain becoming more integrated, the AAOP Council is supporting the addition of this committee to our organization's affairs.

The Council has voted to support an increase of our Academy dues in an effort to maintain our economic viability. For your information, the Academy has two basic income sources: our dues and our annual meeting. Members of the Council attend the annual meeting and a mid-year meeting and participate in conference calls, all without financial compensation. Committee chairs and members all work hard as volunteers. We have reduced our costs for our executive services substantially by ending our relationship with Talley Management Group. And yet, with all this cost-cutting and volunteer effort, we continue to struggle to balance our books. Unfortunately, in this economic environment we are unable to find external sources of support, such as grants or endowments. You will be receiving notice of this dues increase for membership vote in the near future.

Looking forward, there are many issues that the Academy will be facing in the future. The AAOP is only as strong as its membership, and the Council looks to each of you for your active support. It has

been my impression that over the past few years, in part motivated by Don Primack, our intra-academy communications have expanded tremendously. And with our new online forum about to surface, we as an organization will have increasing opportunities to interact on a variety of levels. It is my hope that this expanded communication capability will bring the affairs of the Academy into "real time" so that future AAOP presidents will be able to have more efficient and timely interaction with the members. And this tool will, in turn, create a stronger Academy and bring greater enthusiasm and motivation to our members.

This letter represents my final communication to the membership after serving you for the past 2 years. It is most certainly time for me to step aside and have Ed Wright take over as your new president. However, having served on the Council and the Executive Committee, as any past president will tell you, leaves a deep impression in your mind and place in your heart for the AAOP. Past presidents don't go out to pasture, they just keep serving the Academy as they did before joining the leadership. And I owe a sincere debt of gratitude to three amazing past presidents who have been my guides and counsel as I've had this amazing opportunity. Gary Heir, Pete Baragona, and Rich Cohen, I thank you from the bottom of my heart! To all the members of the Executive Committee and Council, as well as the committee chairs and members, I extend my sincere gratitude and admiration for your excellent efforts. And to Ed Wright, I extend my congratulations and best wishes.

Sincerely,
Jeff Crandall

Our Next President: Edward F. Wright, DDS, MS, MAGD

Ed Wright became an ABOP diplomate in 1995 and an AAOP member in 1998. He was a member of many AAOP and ABOP committees, and the editor for the AAOP Newsletter from 2002 to 2008. Ed has been a member of AAOP's Council since 2004.

In 1994, Ed completed the University of Minnesota's 2-year TMJ and Craniofacial Pain Program and also received his MS degree. From 1994 to 2001, he was the head Air Force dentist for TMD and provided the TMD training for Lackland Air Force Base's AEGD, Prosthodontics, Periodontics, and Orthodon-

tics residents. In 2003, Ed completed a 2-year Dental Research Fellowship with the Veterans Health Care System (VA), where he studied headache patients treated with TMD appliance therapy.

Ed is the author of the book *Manual of Temporomandibular Disorders*, which is in its second edition. He is the UTHSCSA Dental School's Course Director for their TMD Course, their Dental Anatomy and Occlusion Course, and their Occlusion and TMD Course. Ed is the primary author of over 30 journal articles and is a question-writer for ABOP's written examination. He is greatly honored to have been selected to become our next AAOP president.

AAOP Outreach Committee Activity

The AAOP Outreach Committee is a young ad-hoc committee formed last year in Las Vegas by AAOP's Council. Its function is to seek out like-minded organizations around the world that share common interests with AAOP and to establish communication. The purpose of these many communication lines is multifaceted and quite dynamic as each of the relationships is developed. All in all, the committee has sent letters of introduction to national and international pain organizations and requested that these lines of communication be established. To date the most fruitful contacts have been with organizations such as IASP through their Special Interest Group (SIG) on Orofacial Pain, and with the Pain Care Forum (PCF).

The PCF is an organization whose primary purpose is to provide a forum for the exchange of information and ideas to further the general education and knowledge of members regarding public policy issues surrounding the treatment of pain, and to provide a forum to coordinate and focus commitments to action regarding public policy issues that affect the treatment

of pain. Its member organizations include most if not all of the major pain organizations in the USA and include many of the pharmaceutical companies who are producers of medications and therapies for the management of pain. The organization meets monthly in Washington DC but has a call-in option to participate in meetings. Members of the Outreach Committee have participated in the last two PCF meetings via telephone.

The Outreach Committee is recommending to Council that AAOP join the PCF for the purpose of placing AAOP in a national organization of recognized and renowned pain organizations of the United States and establishing open recognition of the AAOP as an organization whose members are dedicated to the treatment of pain. This recognition should help to enable AAOP to continue to maintain its primary position as a leading orofacial pain organization in the USA.

We Look forward to the Council Proposal on AAOP Joining PCF.

Outreach Committee

Jennifer Bassiur, Pete Baragona, Co-Chairs

AAOP's New Website

The vision of Don Primack for a new AAOP website has become a reality. I would like to thank my committee, Stan Farrell, Rich Hirschinger, Satish Kumar, Bob Mier, Saravanan Ram, and Ken Cleveland, for all that has been accomplished. There is still continuous work on the site. The inaugurations of the new AAOP Forum, managed by Bob Mier and Stan Farrell, will be for AAOP members and ICOT sister academies. Connection to the forum encourages development and continuation of camaraderie among members year round. The following are the features of the Forum:

- Mentoring section
- Case discussions given by members and universities
- Practice management section
- Library for all members to access for lectures, research, and preparation for the ABOP exam
- AAOP news and the president's notices for communicating Academy affairs
- Password protection to allow open discussions for registered participants only

This site is going to require time to implement and manage. Bob and Stan are requesting help from the membership. Two members cannot support the forum alone. We must have support from the membership to keep it going. If you can help, contact Bob Mier (R12thdoc@Cox.net) or Stan Farrell (drfarrell@aztmj.com).

A large percentage of the membership have not completed their personal profile. The goal of the AAOP is to become more visible to the public. Maximizing membership information is crucial. Contact Ken Cleveland, our executive director, at 1 609 504-1311 and he will walk you through the process if you have any questions. All aspects of the new AAOP website will be discussed at the May 2012 AAOP meeting in Pasadena, California.

Rick Borquez

AAOP Website Committee Chairman

A Request From the ABOP

As most of you know, the American Board of Orofacial Pain annually administers a written and oral examination testing competency in orofacial pain. Those who successfully pass this two-part examination are given the designation of Diplomate of the American Board of Orofacial Pain with all the rights and privileges that come with that honor. AAOP members also earn the designation of Fellow of the American Academy of Orofacial Pain. Recently, the American Dental Association, through the Commission on Dental Accreditation, has designated OFP as an advanced area of dental education and has developed educational standards for advanced general dentistry education programs in orofacial pain.

Working with CODA, the AAOP has authored a Core Curriculum in OFP that has been accepted as the basis for advanced OFP programs throughout the United States. Now, the ABOP must revise the examination to be in sync with the CODA standards. We need your help. The questionnaire will be distributed at the AAOP Conference in Pasadena. This is an absolutely mandatory step in standardizing the examination. We need you to complete and send it (once only). You can complete the survey using the link in the electronic version of the newsletter that was emailed to you.

Thank you for your help,
Tony Schwartz, President ABOP
Gary Heir, Written Examination Chair

Our Members' Accomplishments

During the board of directors meeting on November 10, 2011, the American Headache Society approved application for Fellow status to **Steven D. Bender, DDS, FAHS**. A Fellow of the American Headache Society is a position of honor and recognition and reflects acknowledgment by peers of high professional and scholarly achievement, integrity, outstanding professional maturity, and superior competence. Congratulations, Steve.

Dr Kevin Reid was inducted into the American College of Dentists in Las Vegas in October 2011. Dr Reid is chairman of the Transplant Ethics Commit-

tee at Mayo Clinic, Rochester, Minnesota. He serves on Mayo Clinic Ethics Council and Ethics Clinical Consultation Service, and teaches in Mayo Medical School Ethics Curriculum. In May 2011 he completed his MA degree in Biomedical Ethics, Medical College of Wisconsin. Congratulations, Kevin.

Lieutenant Colonel Sara Dixon, Dental Corps, United States Air Force, has been selected for promotion to the rank of Colonel. Her promotion will become effective in June. Colonel (select) Dixon serves as the Air Force orofacial pain specialty adviser. She is also a Fellow of the AAOP and a diplomate of the ABOP. Congratulations, Sara.

Graduate Residency Program in Orofacial Pain

UCLA School of Dentistry

UCLA is announcing a 2-year full-time Graduate Residency Program in Orofacial Pain. UCLA is one of two dental schools that has a CODA-accredited program and offers the most comprehensive training in

OFP that is available anywhere in the world. The program is a true multidisciplinary experience with pain medicine psychologists, neurologists, neurosurgeons, and sleep physicians directly involved in teaching in the clinic on a weekly basis. For further information go to <http://www.dentistry.ucla.edu/admissions/programs-for-dentists/residency-programs/orofacial-pain-and-dysfunction>

Sleep Medicine for Dentists

UCLA School of Dentistry

1-Week Intensive Sleep Mini-Residency
Dates: July 23-28, 2012

5-Month, 2 days per month Sleep Mini-Residency
Dates: August 10-11, Sept 7-8, October 5-6, Nov 2-3, Dec 7-8

5-Month, 2 days per month Orofacial Pain Mini-Residency
Dates: August 3-4, Sept 14-15, Oct 12-13, Nov 8-9, Dec 14-15

For additional information, contact UCLA School of Dentistry (or go to the link on the electronic newsletter emailed to you).