

2008 AAOS FALL MEETING BOS Business Meeting

This report contains brief descriptions of the major activities that took place at the BOS Business Meeting that was held on October 2, 2008.

During its business session at the Fall Meeting, the Board of Specialty Societies: surveyed BOS Reps on proposed changes to the Annual Meeting; listened to a presentation on BOC/BOS responsibilities for Advisory Opinions, proposed resolutions, proposed Bylaws changes and Standards of Professionalism; discussed the next steps of the AAOS Board-approved BOS reorganization; elected a Chair-Elect and a new Secretary; discussed the Center for Orthopaedic Advancement; discussed possible BOS ongoing involvement in the orthopaedic fellowship match program; and listened to various reports from BOS Committees, the OREF and the AAOS Washington Office .

A. ARS Questions on the AAOS Annual Meeting and Specialty Day:

A series of sixteen questions was asked of the BOS reps. The overall results indicated that the specialty societies are satisfied with the elimination of Sunday programming and the way that Specialty Day is currently structured and operates. There was limited support for any changes.

B. BOC/BOS Responsibilities for Advisory Opinions, Proposed Resolutions, Proposed Bylaws Changes, and Standards of Professionalism:

David Teuscher, MD, Chair of the BOC/BOS Committee on Resolutions, briefly reviewed the responsibilities of the combined BOC/BOS committees, noting that while most of BOC responsibilities are outlined in the AAOS Bylaws, the BOS responsibilities are based on practice and are not in the bylaws. Dr. Teuscher encouraged BOS reps to join one of these committees as most (if not all) committee members are from the BOC. (Dr. Tasto suggested that any interested BOS reps should attend one of these committees to learn more about what these committees do and help them decide if they would like to become a member. Several members signed up to attend one of these committee meetings, but none have officially joined as of yet.)

A motion was made and seconded to form a BOS workgroup to draft the necessary language to incorporate the BOS responsibilities in the AAOS Bylaws, consistent with the BOC responsibilities. The motion was unanimously passed.

C. BOS Reorganization:

Dr. Tasto reiterated that the proposed BOS reorganization was approved by the AAOS Board of Directors at its September meeting and will take effect at the February 2009 AAOS Annual Meeting. He noted that the intent of the reorganization is to make the BOS a more viable organization on behalf of specialty societies by improving subject matter expertise on BOS committees. This is to be accomplished by expanding society representation to BOS and having the societies themselves identify which committees their reps should be assigned to. Several questions were asked about the funding of the

reorganization; in response, attendees were informed that in order to budget for a reorganized BOS, a reasonable estimate was made about how many additional representatives there might be and how many of those would attend during the first year. Only experience with the organization will tell if the funding estimate is appropriate. Specialty societies were encouraged to begin identifying their representatives under the new structure with further operating details to be discussed at the next business meeting in Las Vegas.

D. Center for Orthopaedic Advancement

The discussion that began during the Summit meeting about the Center continued during the BOS Business Meeting, with the specialty societies expressing concern about the Center and its potential impact on individual societies. The specialty societies also voiced concern over not being involved in the initial discussions. Dr. Rankin again explained why AAOS had to act quickly in establishing the Center, but stressed that its purpose is to protect the funding of education for all of orthopaedics. He strongly encouraged all societies present to consider having their members apply for one of the seven Board seats that are open.

E. Election of New Chair-Elect and Secretary:

The BOS elected Bradford Henley, MD, as its new Chair-Elect and David W. Polly, Jr., MD (SRS Rep.) as its new Secretary. Dr. Polly was the consensus recommendation of the BOS Nominations Committee, which exercised a tremendous amount of due diligence, from requesting profiles from all current BOS reps, through having the “final” candidates complete the AAOS Board of Directors Disclosure questionnaire. Drs. Henley and Polly will assume their respective offices at the 2009 Annual Meeting.

F. Potential Role of the BOS in the Orthopaedic Match Initiative:

The BOS Leadership led an interactive discussion about a potential role for the BOS in the orthopaedic match initiative. It was stressed that no decisions have been made, but as the AAOS and AOA step back it is evident that there is a need for some organization to step forward to shepherd this initiative and act as a coordinating body. The BOS, with 15 members involved in residency matches, appears to be ideally suited for this task. Several questions were raised about specific duties, structure, and available resources. Some potential duties were outlined but additional time is needed to better flesh out what the BOS could do, as well as what it should not do. Further discussion will be held at the next BOS Meeting in February 2009.

F. Updates:

Updates were provided by the BOS Committee chairs (which are in a state of flux pending the identification of new committee members under the BOS reorganization; however, all the chairs expressed excitement about defining their committees' new roles and potential projects), OREF, and the Washington Office. Robert Haralson III, MD, MBA provided a brief presentation about the importance of orthopaedic surgeons also being members of AMA.

Overall the Business Meeting was well attended and there was excellent audience

participation. There was a sense of excitement and urgency about the BOS reorganization and the prospect of making the BOS a more formidable component of the AAOS.

James P. Tasto
Chair, Board of Specialty Societies