

Looking Ahead to Atlantic City

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Our Aerospace Medical Association Arrangements Chairperson Harriet Lester, M.D., and Co-Chair Fred Bonato, Ph.D., are working diligently to make the 2016 Atlantic City, New Jersey, annual meeting AsMA's best conference to date. Many thanks to them for their efforts in creating an outstanding event that will surely be memorable at this beautiful East Coast site. Please note that rather than the traditional May conference which members have attended in the past, this meeting will occur during the month of April. While many welcome the event change as not taking them away from home for Mother's Day, the new schedule may bring particular concerns for others. For our members with dietary restrictions due to Passover (or for any other reason), please be aware that catering at Harrah's will accommodate these needs, as notified. Another food reminder is for persons who are in charge of meal ticket purchases for lunches or committee meetings. Please note that you must finalize your meal order at least 72 hours in advance of any sitting. This is part of our contract with Harrah's so the convention center can adequately prepare for meals without waste or shortfall. Additionally, those hosting meetings or lectures with meals should consider ordering meals for speakers, especially at luncheons. Food is not otherwise provided for speakers/VIPs unless specifically requested by the meeting organizer. As a final note on advance preparation, it's time to start practicing for the annual Trumbo 5K Preventive Medicine Run. The Trumbo 5K is conducted in the spirit of preventive health and we would like to accommodate all runners, walkers, and wheelchair participants. If you fall into a special needs category, please advise AsMA staff of your specific concerns as soon as possible.

Vice President for Membership Services,

Dr. Valerie Martindale

Over the past few months we have been looking at the enthusiastic involvement of our council members. Dr. Valerie Martindale has done an outstanding job as the Vice President for Member Services. She is in charge of its three component committees: Membership, Corporate & Sustaining Membership, and Awards Committees. Each depends on AsMA volunteers in order to run smoothly.

The **Membership Committee, chaired by Dr. Joe Dervay**, ensures a voice for our aerospace professionals. In order to grow our community, the committee seeks and finds new members with similar interests and expertise. The committee is also surveying non-members who attend our annual meetings to see why they have not yet joined. Joe is pursuing ties to student organizations in medicine, nursing, dentistry, and human performance fields. With Dr. Dervay's initiatives, membership is

expanding both internationally and across government and industry.

The **Corporate and Sustaining Membership Committee, chaired by Dr. Peter Lee**, has been very active in the past 2 years in helping our Corporate Members transition from an affiliate group to a new structure which better recognizes their unique contributions to AsMA, the new Corporate Forum, which will roll out this year. The Committee has also worked with the Finance Committee to create a tiered structure for corporate sponsorships to benefit our Association while returning real value to our Corporate Members. These have been innovative changes and Dr. Lee has done a fantastic job in leading this effort.

The **AsMA Awards Committee** recognizes the many outstanding professionals in our organization for their expertise and accomplishments. Chairperson **Dr. Jeff Myers** is happy to receive nominations for the 19 different awards. Committee members review all nomination packages in order to choose each year's winners. Please nominate a worthy AsMA member using the AsMA website. If not chosen, a nominee will remain in the system for two additional years, increasing the opportunity for deserving AsMA members to be selected for an award.

Please consider joining any of AsMA's many varied committees to improve our organization and gain valuable experience and points towards becoming an AsMA Fellow. If you are interested in joining a particular AsMA committee, just log into the Members Only section and select "Committees" from the left menu. You will be presented with all AsMA Committee options. Select one of the committees from the list and the webpage will provide you with a short description of the committee. You can also look at the Committee Membership and identify the Committee Chairperson. We ask you to reach out directly to the Committee Chairperson in order to personally discuss your interest in joining.

We are aggressively engaging social media and are increasing our presence on Twitter, LinkedIn, and Facebook. Please visit our websites, "re-tweet" our tweets, and "like" our posts. We also need you to seek out young energetic future AsMA members and encourage them to sign up and get involved! Until next month, all the best and warmest regards!



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