

Year in Review

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87TH ANNUAL SCIENTIFIC MEETING

Human Performance and the Year of the Aerospace Medicine Professional. All indications are the 2016 AsMA conference will be noted as a record breaking year on numerous levels. Many thanks to everyone who has planned for its huge success, especially our AsMA members attending AsMA in Atlantic City this year! We remain an organization on the move, engaged worldwide.

YEAR IN REVIEW

Kudos go out to our AsMA Executive Committee (ExCom) and Council who have worked diligently during the past year to improve our stability and ensure our credibility. Their multiple accomplishments include increased membership, strengthened finances, and improved value and service to all our AsMA members. We are well into achieving our goal of financial independence and creating an organization that will remain relevant well into the next century. AsMA Strategic and Business Plan (ASBP) initiatives are firmly aligned with our vision of remaining "the international leader in aerospace medicine and human performance." The ASBP continues to positively influence our organization's trajectory, and we look forward to our next slate of officers to carry these initiatives into the future.

Governance and Finance. David Gradwell and his committees have made significant advances to perpetuate ASBP and ensure an ongoing review. The committee set a financial goal of \$2.5 million in AsMA reserves, coordinated with the AsMA Foundation to raise funds in support of aerospace medicine, and continued diversification of revenue streams for less dependence on the annual meeting. There are initial discussions on possible directed or annual fund drive campaigns. Further work is underway to update the AsMA Bylaws and Policy and Procedures, as well as efforts to provide transparency, oversight, and direction to the AsMA Nominations Committee.

International Services. Roland Vermeiren and his committee have significantly enhanced the international experience by updating and revising committee structure and by adjusting fees to benefit those traveling to AsMA meetings. AsMA is methodically enhancing our connections, influence, and proactive engagement throughout the Americas, Pacific Rim, Middle East, and Europe. In a few months, we will have our first joint ESAM/AsMA Aerospace Medicine meeting in Oslo, Norway. Several other combined regional meetings are in the early phases of discussion/planning.

Education & Research. Eilis Boudreau and her committees continue to provide opportunities for research as well as a vibrant scientific program. We are intensifying our support for Human

Performance and Human Systems Integration and are endorsing the Cochran Study concept of the Aerospace Medicine specialty. This study will take a great deal of time and resources to complete. In order to better direct future aerospace medicine research areas, we are looking

to partner with the AsMA Foundation and other aerospace medicine entities to identify aerospace medicine knowledge gaps.

Member Services. Valerie Martindale and her committees have made great strides in growing our membership in all areas. There is rising awareness of the value of an AsMA membership. We are now increasing in numbers, arresting a 5-year downward trend. We have been aggressively pursuing recruitment of new AsMA members, with particular emphasis on students and residents. AsMA is establishing a tiered sponsorship structure and a Corporate Forum (organization and event) to foster interchange between AsMA and the Corporate and Sustaining Members. Work has been done with AsMA committees to better explain what they do and to recruit interested and high-caliber AsMA members. Our numerous awards have been well advertised, and we have received multiple excellent nominations for all the AsMA awards.

Representation & Advocacy. Hernando "Joe" Ortega and his committees represented AsMA to professional, commercial, and government organizations and provided aerospace and human performance advocacy. There has been increased utilization of our website and social media. As a technologically advanced specialty, it is incumbent AsMA become facile in newer areas of communication. We have made significant inroads into social media by developing our presence on Facebook, LinkedIn, and Twitter, more than doubling our Twitter followers during this past year alone. Although we have made great strides in marketing and branding AsMA, we still have much work to do.

Leveraging the energy and knowledge of our AsMA family is critical in remaining relevant during this time of change. On behalf of AsMA, I encourage you to continue your engagement and involvement throughout our organization. You are making a positive difference in advancing the art and science of our aerospace medical profession. Thank you again for all you do!



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