

THE OHFAMA JOURNAL



THE OHIO FOOT AND ANKLE MEDICAL ASSOCIATION + WWW.OHFAMA.ORG

VOLUME 65 | NUMBER 4 | FALL 2023



Southern Academy Trustee Amy Masowick, DPM, OHFAMA President Adam Thomas, DPM, and Past President Rich Kunig at the 2022 Annual Business Meeting.

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A WORD FROM THE PRESIDENT

Adam Thomas, DPM



Adam Thomas, DPM

I hope everyone had a great summer. It's hard to believe fall is upon us and my term as OHFAMA president is winding down. It's been a busy year and I had the pleasure of traveling the state and visiting most of the Academies. In September, I attended the Holy Toledo seminar hosted by Northwest Academy and the Quickie Seminar hosted by Midwest Academy. It's great to see these individual continuing education events being

offered to our members through our organization.

We have accomplished some tremendous victories this year, including joining forces with Kent State University College of Podiatric Medicine to secure a 30% reduction in tuition for in-state students attending the college. Ohio students will see a \$13,866 decrease in tuition effective the 2024 spring semester. The change is a result of the state of Ohio providing \$6.8 million in state funding through the 2024-25 state budget. Additionally, we secured a 5% increase in Medicaid reimbursement rates for podiatrists through our lobbying efforts.

Despite these victories, our organization still faces a large problem with maintaining active members. I won't sugarcoat the issue: Our membership is aging, and we are slowly losing members. While this is not a podiatry-specific issue – other state medical associations are seeing similar trends – we must take decisive action to ensure our profession remains strong and vibrant long into the future.

The primary focus of our October 12 Board of Trustees meeting was to develop and execute a membership recruitment campaign. The goal will be to reach out to non-members and past members and encourage them to join. We need a solid and sustainable membership to fuel our advocacy efforts. We are a small profession compared to our allopathic and osteopathic colleagues, so it's vital for all Ohio podiatrists to support all the association does to advance our profession.

We all can work together to help solve this issue, even if you are not serving in a formal Academy or OHFAMA leadership role. Attend and participate in Academy meetings and social events. Register for continuing education events offered by the Ohio Foot and Ankle Medical Foundation and your Academy. If you know a past member or non-member, encourage them to join.

The OHFAMA Annual Business Meeting is also coming up November 4. This will be a great opportunity to learn updates on our profession across the state this year and participate in elections for board officers, which will include 2nd VP position and the new At-Large Trustee position. Our Leadership Development Committee has been working over the past couple months to help recruit qualified candidates for these positions and we would love to have your support with the nominations and elections at the meeting. I look forward to seeing you there!

This will be my last message to you as your president. I want to thank all of you for allowing me to serve this past year and the support I have had from past leaders as well as our excellent executive staff with Luci and Mike. I've never thought of myself as someone who could serve in leadership and have considered myself somewhat introverted in the past. However, the journey of serving as academy officer, to board member to executive member I know has given me tremendous personal growth, especially over the past year.

It has been an honor to be selected for this position and I look forward to witnessing the continuing achievements we can make together in the upcoming years.

Adam Thomas, DPM
President

Dr. Thomas attends the Northeast Academy social event at TopGolf on April 29



Dr. Thomas was one of seven delegates who represented Ohio at the APMA House of Delegates in March

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mike Mathy, CAE, OHFAMA Executive Director



Mike Mathy, CAE

Advocacy is at the core of what your association does to protect, promote, and advance podiatry in Ohio. Following a successful state budget season, I had the privilege to participate in two events that will help ensure our continued momentum.

KSUCPM Student Advocacy Event

I was delighted to join OHFAMA 1st Vice President Thom Arnold, DPM and APMA leaders for a State and Local Advocacy Event at Kent State University College of Podiatric Medicine on October 10.

The event was attended by over 70 students and featured presentations about the importance of advocacy and supporting state and national political action committees and included a networking event at TopGolf.

Students are the future of our profession and legislators are particularly receptive to students who participate in advocacy efforts, as policymakers are focused on workforce development and access to care for Ohioans. This was evident at legislative events at KSUCPM last fall and this summer, as student leaders were instrumental in convincing legislators to provide, for the first time, state funding to reduce tuition and expand clinical educational opportunities for KSUCPM students.

We will continue to educate and engage students in state and national advocacy efforts, particularly in situations where regulatory or legislative actions could impact where today's students and residents decide to practice.

Special thank you to APMA Trustees Scott Hughes, DPM, APMA Trustee David Alper, DPM, APMA Political Action Committee chair Randy Kaplan, DPM, and APMA Legislative Committee member Jodie Sengstock, DPM for making the trip to Ohio and inviting us to participate in this outstanding event.

APMA State Advocacy Forum

Continued on Next Page



OHFAMA 1st Vice President Thom Arnold, DPM, encourages KSUCPM students to get involved with their local Academy and state association at the State and Local Advocacy Event at KSUCPM

KSUCPM students gather for a photo at TopGolf.



OHFAMA Executive Director Mike Mathy, CAE, speaks to KSUCPM students about the importance of student involvement in state and national advocacy efforts.

On August 25–26, I had the honor to represent Ohio at the APMA's biennial State Advocacy Forum in Albuquerque, NM.

More than 60 state component leaders and executive directors attended, representing 26 states, to share legislative and advocacy strategies and techniques. The goal of the forum was to provide attendees with the tools they need to advocate for podiatry effectively, through traditional methods as well as innovative techniques.

I was grateful to participate in a well-received panel discussion centered on grassroots advocacy, "Maximizing Funds in a Budget-Tight Environment," with my colleagues from the Michigan Podiatric Medical Association and New Mexico Podiatric Medical Association.

We also shared our success stories from the 2024-25 Ohio budget, where we secured a 5% increase in Medicaid reimbursement rates and partnered with Kent State University College of Podiatric Medicine to secure state funding to reduce tuition for podiatric medical students.

It is an honor to serve on APMA's Center for Professional Advocacy Advisory Board, which provides direction for legal, regulatory, and state legislative advocacy activities that advance podiatric medicine.



OHFAMA Executive Director Mike Mathy, CAE, and Ohio Foot and Ankle Medical Foundation Executive Director Luci Ridolfo, CAE attend the American Society of Podiatric Executives (ASPE) fall meeting in Albuquerque in August. ASPE facilitates the exchange of information and ideas between staff leaders.

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CGS Reconsiders Local Coverage Determination on Skin Substitutes

A CGS Local Coverage Determination (LCD) that would have placed new limits on the use of skin substitutes for the treatment of diabetic foot ulcers and venous leg ulcers will not be implemented.

CMS announced September 28 that the troublesome LCD will be shelved, and a new proposed LCD will be published for comment and presented in an open meeting in the future.

The announcement comes after objections from podiatrists and other wound care providers that the policy would have interrupted critical patient care and is not backed by science.

The withdrawn LCD stated “greater than four applications of a skin substitute graft or cellular and/or tissue-based products (CTP) within the episode of skin replacement surgery (defined as 12 weeks from the first application of a skin substitute graft or CTP)” are “not medically reasonable and necessary.”

The American Podiatric Medical Association (APMA) submitted a letter, endorsed by OHFAMA, in November 2022 outlining concerns with aspects of the proposed LCD. In the letter, APMA underscored the medical, social, psychological, and financial burdens that chronic wounds present for patients and healthcare systems, and took exception to limitations on the number of applications of CTPs, required use of RT or LT Modifier, and the incomplete set of included ICD-10 codes.

Then-APMA President Laura Pickard, DPM, strongly objected to CGS’ position that more than four applications of a skin substitute graft or CTP within the episode of skin replacement surgery are “not medically reasonable and necessary.”

“This is a dangerous proposal that is not rooted in science, not supported by peer-reviewed literature, and would certainly lead to poor outcomes for our patients and CGS beneficiaries, in addition to increased costs for CGS,” said Pickard. “In many cases, this limitation would not allow our providers to follow the guidance of peer-reviewed literature, address these pathologies with evidence-based treatments, fulfill their oaths, and provide advanced care options.”

APMA presented several peer-reviewed scientific papers to support our argument and requested CGS maintain the current CGS limit of 10 applications.

“The robust body of evidence supports the need for more than four applications of a specific skin substitute graft product within many episodes of skin replacement surgery for wound care and refutes the proposal that more than four applications of a specific skin substitute graft product within the episode of skin replacement surgery for wound care is never medically reasonable or necessary,” said Pickard.

Despite the compelling evidence provided by APMA and OHFAMA, CGS incorporated the limitations on the number of applications of CTPs and the required use of RT or LT Modifier in its now-withdrawn LCD.

The LCD, which was originally supposed to be implemented September 17, was delayed to October 1 before the September 28 announcement that a new LCD will be developed and presented for public comment.

OHFAMA and APMA will continue to monitor this situation and provide comments to CGS, which covers Ohio and Kentucky, when the new LCD is available for review.

Dr. Sarah Abshier to Present on Skin Substitutes and Cellular- and Tissue-Based Products



Sarah Abshier, DPM

OHFAMA Immediate Past President Sarah Abshier, DPM, will present on recent coding changes, including updates on skin substitutes and cellular- and tissue-based products, at the 3rd Annual Wound Care Seminar on Saturday,

November 4 at the Embassy Suites Airport in Columbus.

Dr. Abshier is a board-certified podiatrist and certified wound care specialist. She serves as Ohio's current Private Insurance Advisory Committee (PIAC) representative and is APMA's alternative representative to the AMA CPT Editorial Panel, where procedure codes are created and reworked. She has been a member of the APMA coding committee leadership since 2017 and has served as an expert on wound care patent cases.

Dr. Abshier will provide the CAC-PIAC update at the Annual Business Meeting to share her expertise on these important issues with OHFAMA members.

Annual Business Meeting

You're Invited: OHFAMA Annual Business Meeting

The OHFAMA Annual Business Meeting will take place Saturday, November 4, 2023, at 2:30 p.m. in Columbus at the Embassy Suites - Columbus Airport.

All OHFAMA members are invited to participate in the Annual Business Meeting to:

- Learn about issues impacting podiatry
- Shape the future of your association
- Network with colleagues from around the state

The meeting will feature informative presentations from:

- Dr. John Boyle, podiatrist on the State Medical Board of Ohio
- Dr. Sarah Abshier, Ohio Private Insurance Advisory Committee representative
- Dr. Bryan Caldwell, Senior Associate Dean at Kent State University College of Podiatric Medicine
- Dan Leite, OHFAMA lobbyist

Elections to Be Held at Annual Business Meeting

The Ohio Foot and Ankle Medical Association will hold an election for positions on its Board of Trustees during the Annual Business Meeting (ABM), which will take place Saturday, November 4 at the Embassy Suites - Columbus Airport.

The Board of Trustees manages the affairs of the association and holds approximately five meetings annually. Elections are slated for the following positions:

- President
- 1st Vice President
- 2nd Vice President
- Secretary-Treasurer
- At-Large Trustee

In addition, OHFAMA will elect APMA Delegates and an Alternate Delegate to represent Ohio at the 2024 APMA House of Delegates in Washington, DC.

Interested members should email mmathy@ohfama.org to express their interest in running for one of the open positions. Nominations will also be accepted from the floor at the ABM.



OHFAMA President Adam Thomas, DPM, presents the Thomas J. Meyer Award to Immediate Past President Sarah Abshier at the 2022 Annual Business Meeting.

New in 2023: Election of At-Large Trustee

OHFAMA members approved Proposition B-22 at the 2022 Annual Business Meeting, which modified the bylaws to provide each Academy with one trustee on the OHFAMA Board of Trustees and create two at-large trustee positions to be voted on by the membership at the Annual Business Meeting.

The changes provide Academies with equal representation on the Board of Trustees and enable the Association to recruit talented leaders from underrepresented constituencies to serve the organization as at-large trustees.

OHFAMA members will elect one at-large trustee at the 2023 ABM and a second at-large trustee at the 2024 ABM to serve three-year terms on the Board of Trustees.

The responsibility of identifying and recruiting at-large trustees lies with the Leadership Development Committee, whose members are appointed by the president and approved by the Board of Trustees. Committee members include Past President Karen Kellogg, DPM, MBA; Past President Richard Schilling, DPM; Past President Marc Greenberg, DPM, Southern Academy Trustee Amy Masowick, DPM; and Northeast Academy President Joy Rowland, DPM.

Leadership Development Committee Recommends Said Atway, DPM, for At-Large Trustee Position

The Leadership Development Committee recommends Dr. Said Atway for the role of at-large trustee.

Dr. Atway is the Clinical Associate Professor at Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center, and the director of the Limb Preservation Program at Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center. He is a graduate of the Ohio College of Podiatric Medicine, completed his residency at The Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center, and is board certified by the American Board of Foot and Ankle Surgery.

Dr. Atway will be nominated for the at-large trustee position at the 2023 ABM. Other nominations for the position can be made by OHFAMA members from the floor at the ABM.



Dr. Said Atway speaks at the Annual Scientific Seminar in May.

OHFAMA Annual Business Meeting

Saturday, November 4, 2023

12:00 PM	Registration Opens
2:00 PM	Networking Reception Begins
2:30 PM	Annual Business Meeting Begins
5:00 PM	Annual Business Meeting Ends

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Wound Care Seminar

The third annual Wound Care Seminar will take place Saturday, November 4 at the Embassy Suites Columbus (Airport). The seminar, which offers 6 hours of Ohio Category 1 CME credits, will feature lectures on the hottest topics in Wound Care from leading experts in the field.

6:30 AM

Registration

Approaches and Options to Consider

7:00 AM - 7:45 AM	Introduction, Basics, and Ancillary Treatments/ Techniques in Wound Care — Dr. Richard Schilling
7:45 AM - 8:30 AM	Practical Guide to In-Office Wound Care Treatment — C. Graham Frazier, DPM
8:30 AM - 9:15 AM	Identifying the Arterial, Venous, and Lymphedema Patient for Podiatrists: When to Send to Vascular — Tim Yates, MD
9:15 AM - 9:30 AM	Panel Discussion and Questions — Moderator: Dr. Richard Schilling
9:30 AM - 10:00 AM	Break – Visit Exhibitors

Understanding Scientific Data and Medical Evidence

10:00 AM - 10:30 AM	Stem Cell Therapy - Hype vs Reality — Wenjay Sung, DPM
10:30 AM - 11:15 AM	Wound Care from an Infectious Disease Standpoint — Jane Emerick, MD
11:15 AM - 11:45 AM	Podiatry Folklore — Wenjay Sung, DPM
11:45 AM - 12:00 PM	Panel Discussion and Questions — Moderator: Dr. Richard Schilling
12:00 PM - 12:30 PM	Lunch – Visit Exhibitors

How to Evaluate Infection and Recent Changes

12:30 PM - 1:15 PM	Medical Mythology of the Infected Diabetic Foot — Andrew Crisologo, DPM
1:15 PM - 2:00 PM	Recent Coding Changes Including Updates on Skin Substitutes and CTPS — Sarah Abshier, DPM



Wound Care Seminar chair Richard Schilling, DPM, speaks at the 2022 Wound Care Seminar.



Dr. Thom Arnold listens intently to a lecture at the 2022 Wound Care Seminar.

Registration Fee Schedule

OHFAMA Member	\$100
APMA Member - Non-Ohio	\$125
Non-Member Podiatric Physician	\$200
Life Member, Resident or Student	\$35
Assistant, Staff or Non-Podiatric Physician	\$75

WOUND CARE SEMINAR ONE DAY CME EVENT | ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING TO FOLLOW

Wound Care Seminar

Hosted by the Ohio Foot and Ankle Medical Foundation

Saturday November 4, 2023 | 7:00 AM - 2:00 PM

Embassy Suites - Columbus Airport

Annual Business Meeting | 2:30 PM - 5:00 PM

Register today: www.ohfama.org

— Esteemed Faculty —

Richard Schilling, DPM – Chairman

REGISTRATION FORM

Welcome to the **WOUND CARE SEMINAR AND/OR OHFAMA ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING.**

This seminar has been approved for 6 CME Category I Hours and registrants may attend the seminar, the annual business meeting or both. Please register accordingly.

Embassy Suites Columbus – Airport
2886 Airport Drive | Columbus, Ohio 43219

Wound Care Seminar

Saturday, November 4, 2023 | 7:00 AM – 2:00 PM

OHFAMA Annual Business Meeting

Saturday, November 4, 2023 | 2:30 PM – 5:00 PM

Wound Care Seminar

Please mark one (add \$25 late fee after October 30, 2023)

- ☐ OHFAMA/WVPMMA Member: \$100
☐ Non Member: \$200
☐ APMA Member Out of State: \$125
☐ Student/Resident/Life Member \$25
☐ Non Podiatrist, Assistant/Staff: \$75

2023 OHFAMA Annual Business Meeting

Please mark one (no registration fee)

- ☐ Yes, I am attending the Annual Business Meeting
☐ No, I am NOT attending the Annual Business Meeting

Payment Methods (please mark one)

- ☐ Check payable to **Ohio Foot and Ankle Medical Foundation***

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MEMBERSHIP NEWS AND NOTES

Moore Named KSUCPM Division Head for Division of Clinical Sciences



Joshua Moore, DPM

Joshua Moore, DPM, joined Kent State University College of Podiatric Medicine as the new Division Head for the Division of Clinical Sciences.

Dr. Moore brings a wealth of experience, having served as a Professor of Surgery and Assistant Dean at Temple University Hospital, and he specializes in sports medicine, trauma, pediatrics, and foot and ankle surgery. He has treated collegiate and professional athletes from across the globe and lectures on a national level. He will perform surgeries at University Hospitals, Parma, and Lutheran Hospital – Cleveland Clinic.

The addition of Dr. Moore comes as part of a larger division restructuring at KSUCPM to consolidate academic divisions to two main categories: Pre-Clinical and Clinical Sciences.

North Central, Northeast Academies Elect Officers

The North Central Academy elected the following officers at its September 19 meeting:

President: **Brian Zimmerman, DPM**

Vice President/Secretary: **Jessica Brent, DPM**

Treasurer: **CJ Hassman, DPM**

The North Central Academy will hold its virtual No-Nonsense Seminar March 8-10, 2024.

The Northeast Academy elected the following officers at its October 3 meeting:

President: **Joy Rowland, DPM**

Vice President: **Michael LeCaste, DPM**

Secretary: **Joe Favazzo, DPM**

Treasurer: **Brian Weiss, DPM**

Highlander Performs Total Custom Ankle Replacement

Peter Highlander, DPM, a reconstructive foot and ankle surgeon in Bellevue, made headlines recently for his custom 3D printed implants.

"Six months ago, I performed the first total custom ankle replacement in the state of Ohio," said Highlander. "From there I have done many other custom bone and joint replacements including metatarsals, navicular, and custom deformity corrections."

The ankle-replacement patient, a healthy woman in her 30s with a deformed ankle resulting from a motor vehicle accident, had been told by numerous doctors that amputation was the only option. But within months after Highlander's surgery, she was walking normally.

Dr. Highlander is a founding member of the American Orthopedic Society of 3D Printing and a 2011 graduate of Barry University School of Podiatric Medicine. Dr. Highlander completed his residency at the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center. He and his wife, Lindsey, have three children and reside in Bellevue.



Peter Highlander, DPM

MEMBERSHIP NEWS AND NOTES



Bruce Saferin, DPM was inducted into the KSUCPM Hall of Fame Society at the KSUCPM Hall of Fame & Alumni Awards event in August. **Georgeanne Botek, DPM**, received the KSUCPM Alumni Service Award.



Karen Kellogg, DPM, MBA, and 3rd year KSUCPM students Katie, Morgan, and Cassidi provided outstanding care to runners at the 21st Akron Marathon. Dr. Kellogg and the student doctors were busy with sprains, strains, stress fractures, blisters, and tapings. From left to right: Katie, Dr. Kellogg, Morgan, Cassidi Long.

MEMBER BENEFITS

Proud to Partner with Ohio Foot and Ankle Medical Association!

By Peggy N. Slaughter, CFP®, CRPS®, AIF®, CPFA

Saling Simms Associates, Inc. is very happy to formally announce our support of OHFAMA and its members by becoming an Industry Affiliate Partner. Established in 1983, Saling Simms Associates is an independent Registered Investment Advisor (RIA), providing financial planning and investment advisory services to our clients.

Our support of Associations goes back many years, beginning with the Ohio Society of Association Professionals, where we are now a Titanium Mission Partner. It is here we met Mike Mathy and Luci Ridolfo, your executive team at OHFAMA.

After joining OHFAMA, our first foray into working directly with members was by becoming a Gold Sponsor of the Midwest Podiatry Academy of Ohio 2023 Quickie Seminar in Dayton, Ohio on September 30. A big "Thank you" to those members in attendance who stopped by our booth to chat with Mark Guenard and me to learn more about Saling Simms Associates. Among other services, we introduced a benefit designed for members of the association: The OHFAMA 401(k) Retirement Plan Exchange (The Exchange). With this program, you can join forces with your fellow members to lower the cost of your retirement plan, while also reducing the workload and nearly eliminating the fiduciary liability associated with offering a 401(k) plan.

The Exchange is one of many benefits we can provide to OHFAMA members. Our financial planning services include a review of all aspects of an individual client's current financial situation, with an emphasis on income tax planning, estate planning, insurance planning, retirement planning, and capital needs planning, as well as asset management. These services are also extended to your employees who participate in any retirement plan where we are acting in an advisory capacity, including but not limited to The Exchange.

We look forward to getting to know more of you, either at an Academy event or at the OHFAMA Annual Scientific Seminar next May in Columbus. In the meantime, please feel free to contact Mark or myself to begin a discussion about how we can help you, your employees, or your practice. Call 614-841-1881 or email peggy.slaughter@salingsimms.com or mark.guenard@salingsimms.com. We look forward to hearing from you!

Peggy Slaughter is a retirement plan specialist at Saling Simms Associates and has been working with Associations for over 20 years. Investment advisory services offered through Saling Simms Associates, 7965 North High Street, Suite 130, Columbus, Ohio, 43235, 614-841-1881.



Peggy Slaughter and Mark Guenard attend the Quickie Seminar to showcase Saling Simms Associates' services available to OHFAMA members.

Tuition to Drop 30% for Ohioans Attending KSUCPM

Ohio students enrolled in Kent State University College of Podiatric Medicine (KSUCPM) will see a significant reduction in tuition on their next semester's bill and will graduate with less debt.

At its September 20 meeting, the Kent State Board of Trustees approved a revised tuition rate that reduces tuition by nearly \$14,000 for Ohio resident students – a decrease of more than 30% – from the current tuition rate effective for the 2024 Spring Semester.



Yearly tuition for in-state podiatric medicine students will drop to \$32,095 from \$45,961. This tuition reduction makes Kent State's College of Podiatric Medicine tuition the lowest among all 11 U.S. podiatric colleges for Ohioans.

For the first time, students from Kent State's College of Podiatric Medicine are now eligible to receive funds from the state of Ohio to help subsidize their tuition. Unlike other medical students attending public universities in Ohio, students in the university's podiatric program have not received a subsidy to defer costs associated with their education.

This issue was resolved on July 4, when Gov. Mike DeWine signed the biennium budget bill for fiscal years 2024-2025. The new budget included a provision to consider Kent State College of Podiatric Medicine students as eligible for State Share of Instruction funding under the Medical I funding line item.

Inclusion in this funding line will provide approximately \$3.4 million in annual state subsidy that will be used to significantly decrease tuition for Ohio residents while expanding clinical and research opportunities for its students. Out-of-state students also will benefit, seeing a decrease of \$3,139 in current tuition at Kent State's College of Podiatric Medicine. Out-of-state tuition will be set at \$42,832 effective 2024 Spring Semester.

Dr. Allan Boike, dean of Kent State University College of Podiatric Medicine, said the tuition reduction benefits students in three ways.

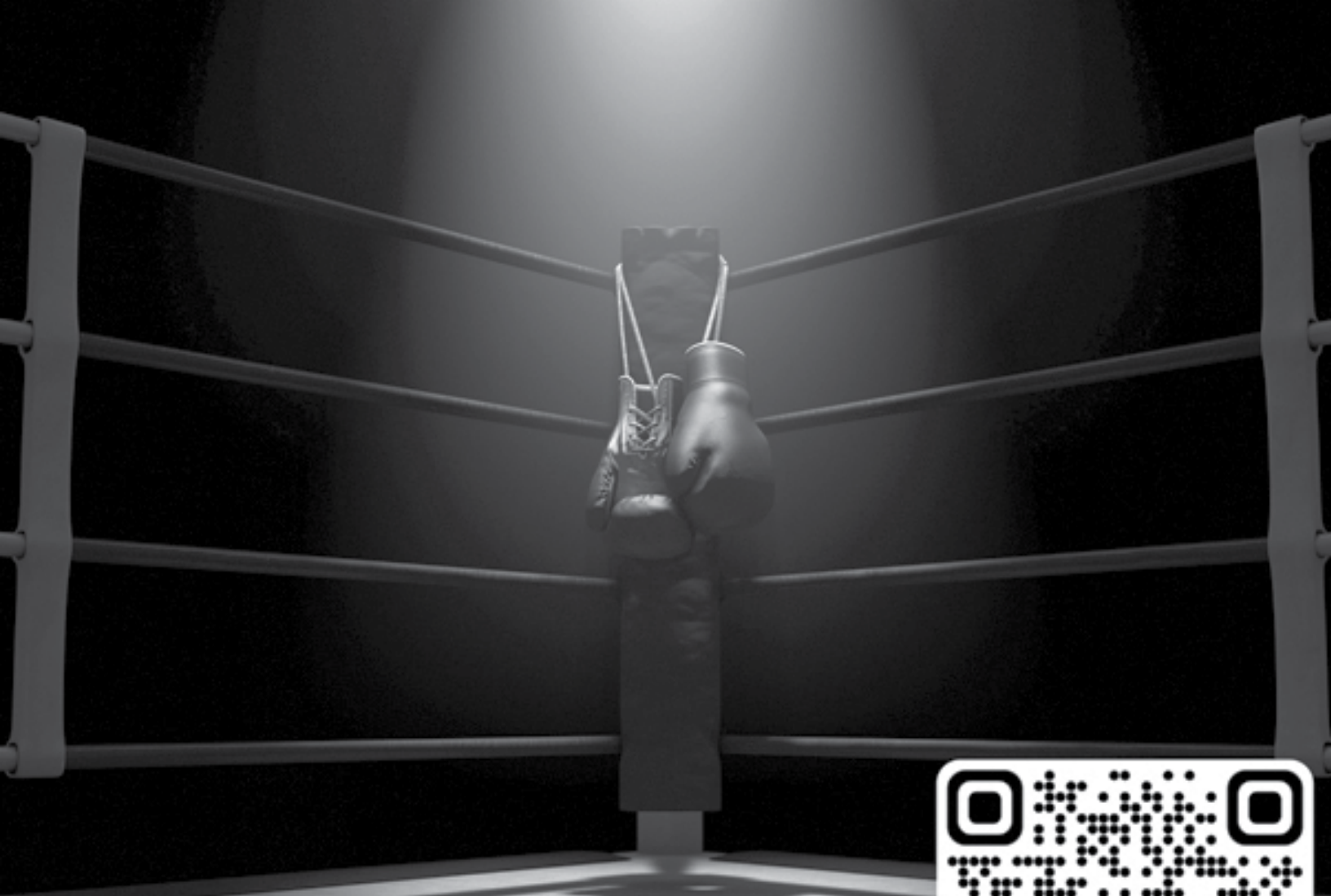
"It allows students to get a better education because it's going to allow us to have more technology available to them," Boike said. "It's going to allow us to do research, which will improve their educational process. And the third thing is that \$14,000 is going to make a major difference because if you multiply that over the four years, it obviously is a \$56,000 reduction in their tuition obligations over that period of time."

Boike also said the tuition reduction allows Kent State to recruit more highly qualified students and makes the university more attractive to students who are from Ohio to stay in Ohio as opposed to going elsewhere to get their education.

The tuition decrease provides the college with a competitive advantage to enroll more students from Ohio and the Midwest region. The Kent State University College of Podiatric Medicine tuition will be the lowest in the nation for Ohio students and fifth lowest for out-of-state students.



Dr. Allan Boike



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Ohio Expands Protections for Impaired Physicians and Other Providers

By: Dan Zinsmaster, Dinsmore & Shohl



Daniel S. Zinsmaster

Tucked away in the recent Ohio Budget Bill, House Bill 33, were statutory changes that expand and modernize Ohio law related to physicians and other health care professionals licensed by the State Medical Board of Ohio (Board). Perhaps most important, these changes will facilitate a pathway for confidential, non-disciplinary monitoring by a designated monitoring

program for not only substance use disorders, but also for mental health conditions as well as physical illnesses and disabilities.

The Board's new Confidential Monitoring Program went into effect on October 3, 2023, and the Board is already working to promulgate new administrative rules that are expected to become effective in mid-November 2023, and will further implement the new system.

Under the Confidential Monitoring Program, which will be available to both license holders and applicants, any practitioner suffering from impairment due a substance use disorder as well as mental and physical health issues, will be eligible as long as the practitioner is not currently under a Board Order or Consent Agreement for impairment. The Ohio Professionals Health Program (OhioPHP) will oversee and coordinate the Confidential Monitoring Program, and will approve treatment centers and providers for impaired practitioners.

Additionally, the details and parameters of any evaluation and/or treatment will be set by clinical providers, working with OhioPHP, rather than having specified minimums and other rigid requirements. Finally, while practitioners currently under a Board action for impairment are ineligible for the Confidential Monitoring Program, the Board will have the option to refer disciplinary monitoring to OhioPHP under the new statutes.

The Board's new Confidential Monitoring Program will replace and expand the two prior pathways for non-disciplinary monitoring – the One Bite Program and the Alternative Program. The One Bite Program

allowed an impaired physician to avoid Board discipline, and the physician's colleagues would be excused from mandatory reporting obligations, so long as the physician completed treatment with a Board-approved treatment provider, entered into a monitoring agreement with the OhioPHP, maintained uninterrupted sobriety and violated no other provisions of the Ohio Medical Practices Act.

While the One Bite Program motivated many physicians to self-refer for treatment, the One Bite Program had some flaws, including the prospect of public discipline and a mandatory license suspension if the person suffered a relapse. Considering that alcohol and substance use disorders are chronic conditions, many members of the medical community felt it was misguided to penalize a provider for a recurrence of their health condition. Under the Confidential Monitoring Program, practitioners who relapse will be allowed to remain under confidential monitoring instead of it being a one-time opportunity.

The Board's previous Alternative Program allowed for confidential monitoring and avoidance of disciplinary action for mental health conditions or physical illnesses, but unlike the One Bite Program, participants in the Alternative Program were not monitored by a private organization like OhioPHP; rather, the health care provider had to reveal themselves and apply for admittance directly with the Board. Many individuals were reluctant to seek admission and disclose their conditions and situations to the Board, and the Alternative Program never had the type of participation that should have been expected considering the amount of physicians and other professionals monitored by the Board.

The Board has published further information about the Confidential Monitoring Program on its website. A hearing to discuss the proposed administrative rules for the Confidential Monitoring Program took place October 4. Should you have any questions about the Confidential Monitoring Program or the forthcoming rules hearing, please contact OHFAMA or your legal advisor.



State Medical Board of

Ohio



OhioPHP

CONFIDENTIAL MONITORING PROGRAM

WHAT IS THE CONFIDENTIAL MONITORING PROGRAM?

Effective October of 2023, the State Medical Board of Ohio (SMBO) is replacing the One-bite Program with a more comprehensive Confidential Monitoring Program that will allow more practitioners to receive confidential, non-disciplinary support. The SMBO has partnered with the Ohio Professionals Health Program (OhioPHP) to administer the new Confidential Monitoring Program.

WHO?

All SMBO licensees and applicants of the State Medical Board of Ohio who may have issues impacting their health and well-being. This includes:

- Substance use disorders
- Mental health disorders (new)
- Physical conditions (new)
- Other potentially impairing illnesses (new)

HOW?

If you or someone you know needs support for a mental health disorder, substance use disorder or another potentially impairing condition, you can connect directly with SMBO or OhioPHP to access screenings, assessments or referrals to treatment if deemed necessary.

WHAT IS THE ROLE OF THE SMBO?

In order to provide licensees with a therapeutic alternative to discipline that still protects the public, recent legislative changes have allowed the SMBO to create the Confidential Monitoring Program in collaboration with OhioPHP. The role of the SMBO is to ensure that practitioners are safe to practice and to intervene on licensees when safe practice is no longer possible.

WHAT IS THE ROLE OF OHIOPHP?

OhioPHP is a nonprofit organization that has served healthcare professionals for over 40 years. The OhioPHP team consists of highly qualified clinical professionals that can assist healthcare professionals with a variety of issues impacting their health and well-being. The role of OhioPHP is to provide care coordination for individuals that may include, screening, referrals for evaluation or treatment, and long-term disease management for chronic illnesses through therapeutic monitoring.

If you or a colleague needs help, contact OhioPHP.

✉ info@ohiophp.org ☎ 614-841-9690 🌐 [OhioPHP.org](https://ohiophp.org)

NEWS BRIEFS

AACPM Launches New “Feet on the Street” Student Recruitment Initiative

The American Association of Colleges of Podiatric Medicine (AACPM) is pleased to announce an exciting new student recruitment effort to increase the number of applicants to the schools and colleges of podiatric medicine.

Launched September 1, 2023, the new recruitment effort, entitled Feet on the Street, combines the components of an outreach plan, increased social media, including podcasts and blogs, and highlighting prominent podiatric physicians and star “friends of podiatry.”

The outreach plan includes creating opportunities for DPM faculty and local DPMs to visit 220 colleges across the country that currently are not sending students to the schools and colleges of podiatric medicine. These visits are beyond the standard recruitment plans at each podiatric medical school and will leverage the dean and clinical faculty to visit undergraduate institutions with a local podiatric physician to create a purposeful opportunity to introduce the career to premedical students and advisors.

Appropriate social media and podcast plans will supplement these visits. Examples include AACPM's new website, www.explorepodmed.org and <https://deanschat.com>. Critical to the initiative is establishing the local physician as a shadowing resource.

AACPM looks forward to collaborating with our member colleges, residency programs and local podiatric physicians to bring a career in podiatric medicine to the next generation of podiatric physicians.

Established in 1967, AACPM represents the eleven accredited schools and colleges of podiatric medicine and more than two hundred hospitals and institutions that offer postdoctoral training in podiatric medicine.

AACPM's mission is to serve as the leader in facilitating and promoting excellence in podiatric medical education leading to the delivery of the highest quality lower extremity healthcare to the public. The Association serves as a national forum for the exchange of ideas, and information relating to both undergraduate and graduate podiatric medical education.



Thank you to our 2023 OPPAC Contributors:

as of 10/10/2023.

Please consider financial support of our state legislative efforts by contributing to the Ohio Podiatric Political Action Committee (OPPAC).

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STATE MEDICAL BOARD

State Medical Board Seeks Comments on Podiatry Rules

The State Medical Board of Ohio (SMBO) on October 16 opened a public comment period on two important administrative rules relating to the podiatry scope of practice. The rules define foot and outlines requirements for podiatrists to perform surgery on the ankle joint.

All rules are required to be reviewed every five years through a multi-step process. The review process begins with SMBO seeking input from interested parties on the rules.

Ohio Revised Code states the practice of podiatric medicine and surgery consists of the medical, mechanical, and surgical treatment of ailments of the foot, the muscles and tendons of the leg governing the functions of the foot; and superficial lesions of the hand other than those associated with trauma.

Rule 4731-20-01, states that "Foot," as used in section 4731.51 of the Revised Code, means the terminal appendage of the lower

extremity and includes the ankle joint which consists of the tibial plafond, its posterolateral border (posterior malleolus), the medial malleolus, distal fibula (lateral malleolus) and the talus.

Rule 4731-20-02 empowers podiatrists to perform surgery on the ankle joint provided they hold privileges from a college of podiatric medicine, hospital, or ambulatory surgical center and can demonstrate adequate education, training and experience needed to conform to minimal standards of care of similar practitioners.

OHFAMA supports the current rules and recommends no changes or additions at this time. OHFAMA will monitor comments submitted by other parties and submit a memo supporting the current rules prior to the November 3 deadline for public comments.

Please contact OHFAMA Executive Director Mike Mathy if have any questions about the rules or the rule-review process.

Our Relationship with OHFAMA

Since 2014, Dinsmore has held the distinct honor of serving OHFAMA as its outside general counsel. Daniel Zinsmaster, a partner in the Corporate Department and Health Care Practice Group, is proud to continue his service as the primary contact and resource for the Association. We have greatly appreciated the trust OHFAMA and its members have shown in us to guide the revision of Association and Foundation bylaws, advocate for enhancements to the podiatrist scope of practice, and help ensure compliance with APMA standards and procedures all while supporting OHFAMA regional academies.



Dan Zinsmaster

Partner · 614-628-6949

Daniel.Zinsmaster@Dinsmore.com

Daniel and Dinsmore attorneys have been a continuous presence at OHFAMA annual meetings and conferences, authored articles for the OHFAMA seasonal journal, and timely alerts for its website. Whether working with OHFAMA's executive staff, elected leadership, or its members, Dinsmore continues to advocate on behalf of the profession of podiatry and advance its interest to the betterment of its practitioners and their patients.

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CALENDAR

2023

November 3, 2023

Budget and Finance Meeting

Embassy Suites - Columbus Airport
2:00 PM

November 3, 2023

Board of Trustees Meeting

Embassy Suites - Columbus Airport
3:00 PM

November 4, 2023

2023 Wound Care Seminar

Embassy Suites-Columbus Airport
7:00 AM – 2:00 PM

November 4, 2023

OHFAMA Annual Business Meeting

Embassy Suites-Columbus Airport
2:00 PM – 5:00 PM

November 16-17, 2023

GXMO - Didactic Course

Virtual

November 18, 2023

GXMO - Clinical Course

Virtual

2024

January 29, 2024

Executive Committee Meeting

Teleconference
7:00 PM

February 8-9, 2024

GXMO - Didactic Course

Virtual

February 10, 2024

GXMO - Clinical Course

Virtual

For more calendar information
please visit the Events webpage at
www.ohfama.org

OHFAMA CLASSIFIEDS

Cincinnati Ohio – Full-time Associate Opening

The Kenwood office of Choice Podiatry Associates is seeking a full-time podiatrist to join our growing practice in Cincinnati, Ohio. Our practice is well-established and provides comprehensive foot care, including general podiatry, foot and ankle surgery, sports medicine, and wound care.

We are seeking a podiatrist who is ABFAS certified or qualified in forefoot and rearfoot surgery to join our team. The ideal candidate is enthusiastic, collaborative, a hard worker, and a great communicator. The position is immediately available and offers the opportunity for growth and advancement.

We offer a competitive payment model, benefits, and partnership opportunity. Please submit a cover letter and CV to jmr.choicepodiatry@gmail.com.

Cincinnati Ohio - Associate Wanted

Seeking associate for growing practice with 3 office locations in Cincinnati, OH. Applicant must be personable, hard-working, independent, and a graduating resident or associate with private practice experience. Please send CV and questions to d.grinspan@cincypodiatry.com.

Practice for Sale - Dayton, Ohio

Well-established, busy, general practice for sale. Podiatrist with a great physician referral base is retiring. The Dayton area is a wonderful place to live with a reasonable cost of living and is close to many amenities. Email lisa10toes@gmail.com.

North Central Ohio – Associate Wanted, Opportunity for Future Ownership

Seeking associate for growing practice with three office locations in North Central Ohio. Comprehensive care - office, surgical, wound care, hospital work; must be personable, hard-working, independent, prefer BQ/BC with prior private practice experience. Opportunity for future ownership. Please send CV and questions to shane@sheffieldfootandankle.com.

Premier Solo Turnkey Podiatry Practice for Sale - Northeastern, OH

Rare opportunity to own Premier Solo Turnkey Podiatry practice and building in Northeastern, Ohio. This is a second-generation practice with experienced staff and Scribe. Large stand-alone 2,700 square foot building with 7 treatment rooms. Highly respected, excellent referral base. Patient volume easily supports two or more providers. Great mix of surgical, diabetic and wound care, including immediate care for injuries. 15-20 month ROI! Please contact emmet@confidentialsale.com or call **614-207-0762** for more information.

Practice Equipment For Sale

Podiatry Chairs

- Podiatry chair #1 MTL: Burgundy - \$2800 Inspected and certified #61230
- Podiatry chair #3 Midmark #647: Beige - \$5000 Inspected and certified
- Podiatry chair #4 M3000: \$2000 Inspected and certified

X-ray, Ultracave, Vascular Testing Machines

- PAD Net vascular testing machine - \$4,000
- Ultracave M9 Inspected and certified - \$1800
- Ultrasound machine for physical therapy - \$100

If interested, please contact
columbuspodiatry@yahoo.com.

X-Ray Panel and Accessories for Sale - Foot and Ankle Wellness Center, Delawa

X-Ray Panel and Accessories 20/20 Imaging Konica Minolta HG P-DR 11 x 14 NAOMI sensor panel for sale. Good condition. Comes with 2 A/C adapters (one unopened) and a 12+ foot USB Active Cable. This is no longer manufactured or repaired, so buy your backup! \$1,500 plus shipping OBO.

Email elia@faawc.com for details.



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