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**E NEWSLETTER**

**March 2007**

**Announcements**

For those who were able to attend a dinner on Friday, January 5<sup>th</sup>, AOA Executive Director John Crosby gave osteopathic examiners an update on AOA’s involvement with the FSMB and international efforts at licensure at.

**Summit Meeting Recap**

The AAOE held its annual Summit Meeting on January 6-7, 2007 at the Loews Hotel in New Orleans, La. AAOE President Tim Kowalski, DO, presided over the meeting. This year’s meeting focused on a variety issues, such as international ventures and increasing communication and information exchange between boards.

The agenda topics proved to be both informative and stimulating and generated much discussion.

First on the agenda was an informative history and purpose of the AMA Scope of Practice Partnership (SOPP). This initiative is a consortium of organized medicine to educate the public and legislators about the attempts by non-physician groups to expand their scopes of practice and the potential effect on patient safety.

Sheryl Bushman, DO, chair of the National Board of Osteopathic Medical Examiners (NBOME), gave an overall update on the activities of the NBOME since the last Summit meeting.

In an effort to “facilitate license portability for multi-state telehealth practice and public health emergencies without compromising regulatory safeguards,” the Federation of State Medical Boards (FSMB) has initiated projects to improve license portability, according to Tim Knetter, MBA, vice president of the Member Resource Center and Services at FSMB. He presented information on the Regional Demonstration Projects and Trusted Agent Pilot Project.

Kim LeBlanc, MD, PhD, president of the Louisiana State Board of Medical Examiners, gave an overview of the changes in DO, population in Louisiana since the full acceptance of COMLEX-USA.



Sheryl Bushman, DO, gave an update on NBOME activities.

Martin Crane, MD, president of the Massachusetts Board of Registration in Medicine and an FSMB board member, presented a report on how Massachusetts identified and dealt with a problem in hospital care.

*The Osteopathic Approach to the Pandemic of 1918* was presented by Dennis Dowling, DO, Director of the Manipulative Services, Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation Department at Nassau University Medical Center. This historical overview and presentation in relation to a possible pandemic of bird flu today was thought-provoking and appreciated by all.

Richard Wilson, JD, board attorney of the South Carolina Medical Board, reported on expert witness issues in the new South Carolina Practice Medical Act.

On Sunday morning, NBOME President and CEO Fred Meoli, DO, presented a report on the poster presentation he made at the 2006 International Association of Medical Regulatory Authorities (IAMRA) meeting in New Zealand. The presentation included a comparison of six high stakes medical licensure exam from different countries.

Additionally, Susan Rose, DO, past president of AAOE and treasurer of FSMB updated the group on AAOE involvement in IAMRA and her experience at the New Zealand meeting.

Linda Mascheri reported on AOA's international ventures in promoting osteopathic medicine and licensure.

The AAOE resolved a business issue as well. With Frank Winters, DO, leaving the Michigan Board of Osteopathic Medicine and Surgery, AAOE President Tim Kowalski, DO, appointed James Andriole, DO, of Florida as vice-president of the AAOE. As this appointment created a new vacancy, Dr. Kowalski also appointed Dana Shaffer, DO, of the Iowa Board of Medical Examiners as AAOE secretary/treasurer.

### **Future Meetings**

The next meeting of the AAOE will be held in conjunction with the FSMB's annual meeting in San Francisco. Once again, we will hold a breakfast meeting on Friday, May 4, 2007 from 6:00am-8:00am. We highly encourage all AAOE members to attend, especially those who have yet to attend an AAOE meeting. As always, please let the AAOE know of any email changes or new osteopathic appointments to your board. For more information regarding this upcoming meeting or any other issues, please contact Linda Mascheri at [lmасheri@osteopathic.org](mailto:lmасheri@osteopathic.org). Linda is the AOA staff liaison to the AAOE.

Respectfully submitted,  
Tom Pickard, DO