

## ACS Oregon Council Meeting

March 3, 2019

Salem Conference Center

### Officers and Councilors Attending (indicated\*):

#### Officers

- \*Keith Thomas, MD, FACS - *President*
- Dan Herzig, MD, FACS - *Past President*
- \*Laurel Soot, MD, FACS - *Governor (1)*
- Brett Sheppard, MD, FACS - *Governor (2)*
- \*Laszlo Kiraly, MD, FACS - *President-Elect*
- \*Liana Tsikitis, MD, FACS, FASCRS - *Secretary-Treasurer*

#### Committee Chairs

- \*Kristen Massimino – *Program Chair*
- Jennifer Watters, MD, FACS - *Trauma Chair*
- Kelly Fair, MD - *Resident Representative*
- Kris Dozier, MD, FACS - *Young Surgeon*
- \*Bryan Bell, MD, FACS - *Cancer Chair*
- John Handy, MD, FACS - *OMA Liaison*

#### Geographic Representation

- \*Karen Kwong, MD, FACS - *Metro Councilor (1)*
- John Handy, MD, FACS - *Metro Councilor (2)*
- \*Arvin Gee, MD, FACS - *Metro Councilor (3)*
- Nichole Ingalls, MD, MPH, FACS - *MacKenzie Councilor (1)*
- Travis Littman, MD, FACS - *MacKenzie Councilor (2)*
- Frederick Foss, MD FACS - *North Coast Councilor*
- \*Megan Frost, MD - *Southern Councilor (1)*
- \*Monte Stewart, MD, FACS - *Southern Councilor (2)*
- Raphael El Youssef, MD FACS - *Umpqua Councilor*
- Fred Bahnson, MD FACS - *Willamette Councilor (1)*
- \*Sandeep Kumar, MD - *Willamette Councilor (2)*
- Jason Jundt, MD, FACS Central Oregon
- Phil Letourneau, MD, FACS – Columbia Gorge
- Vacant – East Oregon

#### Others attending, guests:

- Harvey Gail, MBA, Oregon ACS Administrator
- Christian Johnson, ACS State Affairs
- Robert Goldman, MD, FACS

### 1. Call to Order

Dr. Keith Thomas, council president called the meeting to order at 12:10 pm.

### 2. Governor's Report

Dr. Laurel Soot said she went to the ACS Clinical Congress in Boston in October where she attended the ACS Governor's meeting. She is involved in the ACS's best practices working group. She said ACS is coming out with a statement on opioid dependency. Dr. Soot noted the other ACS quality "pillar" that she is involved in is education. She said she will be attending the ACS Leadership Conference, which is coming up, and she will be at the Oregon-Washington meeting in Lake Chelan.

Dr. Soot asked if there are any questions and if there is anything the Council needs from her. She pointed out she was on the ACS's Advisory Council on General Surgery. In addition to Dr. Soot, Dr. Thomas and Dr. Martin Schrieber are attending the ACS Advocacy meeting.

### 3. Secretary Treasurer's Report

#### *A. Portland Surgical Society*

Dr. Liana Tsikitis joined the meeting by phone. She commented on the Portland Surgical Society. She said this year she and Dr. Erin Gilbert, PSS President, have been more effective with planning expenses. She said PSS has 52 people who have paid their dues. She said the next PSS meeting is April 29 and the speaker is Clifford Koe. She said Dr. Gilbert will send a letter of invitation to all the members. The event is at the Sentinel Hotel and catered by Jake's Grill. She said they are recruiting four sponsors, at least that's the goal. She said if anyone comes who has not paid dues they will be asked to pay dues or pay for the dinner.

Dr. Tsikitis said that the scientific meeting is currently scheduled for May 31 and June 1. She noted they are planning to be a little more frugal with the expenses by not giving out as many awards and having a more frugal mindset in general.

Dr. Thomas summarized the strategic planning discussion related to PSS. He said we discussed getting one of the PSS officers at the ACS council meetings. Dr. Tsikitis said Dr. Gilbert, current PSS president, was not aware of this council meeting. Dr. Tsikitis

key pointed out that a key to success to invite all ACS members to the PSS meetings. She said it would take a little more planning from both societies to have a joint meeting and that the first attempt to do that is the meeting on April 29. Dr. Tsikitis said Dr. Massimino and Dr. Butler met and they have considered the future of PSS. She said if the April meeting isn't successful, the PSS board would probably make the decision to limit PSS events just the he scientific meeting and not hold dinner meetings. Dr. Tsikitis noted she was not sure if Ann Thompson is working out as the administrator of PSS. Dr. Thomas noted the council might want to consider centralizing the administration of PSS and ACS. Dr. Tsikitis noted PSS did not plan to send any money on administration costs this year, but last year, PSS paid \$2,400 for administrative costs. Dr. Tsikitis did not know who the next PSS president would be. Dr. Massimino said she is willing to help.

Dr. Kwong said there was a discussion of being able to offer webcasts of PSS speakers. Dr. Massimino said the Sentinel Hotel has been a traditional location for PSS dinners, but her opinion is that the Portland surgeons have not been committing their spare time to go to dinners like this; it's just a cultural change. Dr. Bell asked how much it costs for the dinners and Dr. Tsikitis said at a minimum the dinners have cost roughly \$4,000. She also said the PSS board looked at other venues last year, but it turned out not to matter that much because nobody came anyway. She said the group will meet again before the April 29<sup>th</sup> meeting.

#### *B. Account Balances*

Oregon ACS Balances as of February 26, 2019

Wells Fargo Checking:	\$28,767.97
Wells Fargo Savings:	<u>\$1,972.25</u>
Total:	\$30,740.22

#### *C. Approval of Minutes*

Dr. Tsikitis asked for a review of the minutes of the June 2018 council meeting minutes.

#### **PASSED**

*Motion to approve the minutes of the June 7, 2018 council meeting. MM Dr. Tsikitis.; MS Dr. Kiraly. Motion Carried.*

#### **4. Committee Reports**

##### *A. Annual Meeting, Programs*

Dr. Massimino confirmed she is the outgoing program chair. She has not heard anything from Washington ACS about the Lake Chelan meeting. Dr. Kiraly said he has been participating on the conference calls. He said they will have a panel on healthcare reform including universal healthcare. Dr. Massimino said she wanted to transition her chair position to Dr. Jason Jundt. Dr. Kiraly said he probably should be involved in the abstract selection process. Gail said the abstract deadline is March 5, which was extended a few days. Gail said he talked to Sue Lentz, the Washington ACS administrator and she said they have 32 abstracts right now and would probably get a few more. Dr. Kiraly felt the call for abstracts schedule seemed a little aggressive considering the resident's schedules. Dr. Gee and Dr. Massimino said they would help review abstracts.

##### *B. Committee on Trauma*

Dr. Jennifer Watters was not in attendance.

##### *C. Committee on Cancer*

Dr. Bryan Bell said OHSU achieved a Committee on Cancer award for outstanding programs of excellence. He said compliance with COC standards is difficult and COC sets a high bar for the award. Dr. Bell said there are 170 cancer-related bills going across the country. The two most significant relate to e-cigarettes and smoking paraphernalia, specifically, the age that they can legally be sold to minors. Most bills are increasing the age to 21. The rest of the bills relate to funding cancer screenings and limiting tanning devices.

Dr. Bell said HB 3083 in Oregon is a bill related to vaccinations; specifically removing the "changing the non-medical" exemption. The bill is particularly active due to an outbreak of measles. Dr. Bell said that the SPV vaccination is something we can get behind from a cancer standpoint. Dr. Thomas said the federal bill for colorectal cancer screening got stuck in committee

and didn't make it out. He said the ACS had been tasked to talk about it, but nobody seems to be able to sort through the details of screening. Dr. Robert Goldman said the state of Delaware completely funded colorectal cancer care. Dr. Bell asked about insurance coverage for reconstructive services for breast cancer. There are cases where the surgery is considered cosmetic and not part of the breast reconstruction itself. Dr. Massimino suggested we try to bring the issue of breast reconstruction through the OMA. Dr. Karen Kwong said we could also team up with the America Cancer Society.

*D. Residents*

Dr. Saunders Lin was not at the meeting as he was in New York.

*E. Young Surgeons*

Dr. Kris Dozier was not in attendance.

*F. Committee on Applicants*

Dr. Glenn Levine noted ACS sent us 13 candidates and four are being interviewed off site and nine candidates are coming in today. One of the candidates, John Roberts was on the list, but he didn't follow up so he is not to be interviewed if he comes. Dr. Kiraly thanked him for taking this on and he noted it seems to be a lot easier having fewer candidates to interview. Dr. Levine said there is value to interviewing at a local level, but we need to be flexible on location just due to geographic reasons. He said there has been difficulty scheduling an in-person interview, so he suggested some technology that would make the interviews easier. The group discussed the interview process and all agreed the interviews should be an effort of sharing what the state chapter can do for them as well as asking them what they need from us. The interview is more of a conversation, a chance to share interesting cases. Dr. Levine said the interview should not be looked at as a second medical board interview.

Dr. Levine said there has been a robust discussion nationally on ACS's role in handling dues payments for chapters. He said basically their position is they can't do that.

*G. Nominating Committee*

Dr. Thomas said since Dr. Dan Herzig is the chair of the nominating committee but he is not in attendance. Dr. Thomas said he would fill the Eastern Oregon position when he is done being president. Dr. Kiraly said it is always a good idea to begin looking for replacements for the chair positions early. Dr. Kiraly will call Dr. Jundt about the program chair duties. Dr. Kiraly noted that as for chapter officers, we will need another treasurer, probably starting next year because Dr. Tsikitis is on her second out of three years. Kiraly said for president the chapter has had a rotation between OHSU, Portland and other Oregon areas for president. He said that wasn't locked in to our bylaws, but that's been the policy. Dr. Thomas read through the list of current councilors and he expressed some concerns in how to we keep our selves engaged on the Council given how many people are on the council. Dr. Kiraly asked attendees to think of nominees for council positions.

**5. Government Affairs**

*A. Day At the Capitol Schedule, bills*

Dr. Kiraly said the speaker for the evening will be Christian Johnson. He read through the list of speakers for the Day at the Capitol. He noted the group should spend some time to get consensus on positions on some of the key bills that would be reviewed. Dr. Massimino said there are about 20 firearm bills this session. She was hopeful that Courtni Dresser from the OMA would review them. Dr. Levine noted the firearm legislation in Washington state and he reviewed the requirements.

The group discussed how we would take positions on issues. Johnson said a good starting place is to look at the college's position on issues as a starting point. He said North Dakota MOC issue they didn't want to get sideways with the NDMA, so they took a different opinion on an issue than the ACS, but they let them take that approach. He said many issues are hard to reach consensus with 88,000 members.

Dr. Kiraly described the surgical smoke evacuation bill that was promoted by the nurses association. He said the issue should be handled within the hospital and not mandated statewide. Dr. Sandeep Kumar described how this issue is handled in his hospital. He demonstrated a piece of equipment for smoke evacuation. He said most surgeons use them. Bell said he didn't think the legislature should get involved in what goes on in the operating room. Stewart said there is very little data that drives the proposal.

There should be some resistance to lack of data, and if there's good information, we should be driving it. Dr. Thomas questioned why is this issue is a bill versus a policy within the hospital.

Dr. Kiraly read the bill addressing vaccines. He said the issue has been politicized with a vocal opposition linking vaccines to autism. He felt the legislation might not be perfect, but it goes a long way. Part of the bill is a requirement for education about the benefits of vaccination. Dr. Stewart noted that this is the kind of issue that would make people get even more dug in on their opposition since if the government wants you to do it there must be a reason.

Dr. Kiraly said there are two bills that would repeal Oregon's \$500,000 cap on non-economic damages. Johnson said they have worked on caps and damages in other states. Also, he said there is a bill that extends the hospital tax assessment that goes toward funding the Oregon Health Plan. This bill extends the tax.

#### *B. Universal Healthcare bill*

Dr. Bob Goldman brought up SB 770. He said he has represented the Oregon chapter of Physicians for a National Health Program (PNHP). He said their goal is to provide a coalition for healthcare reform in Oregon. He referred to a handout with slides and described the content of the slides, and in support of universal healthcare policy. He shared some of the features of a single payer system.

The group discussed the tenants of the bill and its potential impacts on healthcare, economics and other factors. Dr. Goldman noted the bill sets up an exploratory committee to review a single payer system. Dr. Stewart asked why the insurance commissioner isn't mandating that a policy like this could be written. He points out they have some ability to do this. Johnson pointed out the insurance commissioner can only operate within a certain regulatory authority and write administrative rules within that process. The insurance commissioner has far less ability to write laws. Dr. Stewart pointed out while there are studies in other countries, our country is a little different because much of the cost of medical services and medications is a result of medical liability.

Dr. Goldman asked if there was enough interest to explore this issue further. Johnson said we should look at New York because they are likely to pass a single payer plan. The ACS supports access to healthcare but does not have an official position on universal healthcare. Dr. Levine suggested we could have a workgroup to study this bill and come back and report on it. Dr. Massimino said the OMA has a policy on universal healthcare. Dr. Goldman said ARISA issues would come into play because of employer sponsored health insurance.

Dr. Kiraly noted there are some firearm safety bills. Dr. Massimino updated the group on firearm safety bills. She said we wanted to create a coalition to address firearm safety broadly. She said there will be a taskforce to create a policy statement. She said Dr. Jennifer Watters is on the committee and she described the other members of the committee. The committee has put together a policy statement but it has not been finalized yet because it needs to be approved by the OMA. Dr. Massimino said Courtni Dresser at the OMA will review the bills that have a good chance of passing. Bills for safe storage have an impact, such as HB 2505. She read some of the bills.

Johnson advised on how to speak on bills with legislators. He said to have talking points, he said to do some research on the legislator before the meeting. Massimino said she will send a bullet list on.

### **6. Oregon Medical Association**

No report.

### **7. Administrator's Report**

Gail said projects at the office mostly included the work for the Day at the Capitol, Strategic Planning and the council meeting. In addition, Gail said he and his assistant have set up a new website using a platform called *Wild Apricot*. He noted he commented on this last the last board meeting. Gail demonstrated the website's capabilities. Gail said he is also working with our CPA on the taxes for the chapter and the foundation. He said we filed an extension and the paperwork will be signed at the June meeting in Lake Chelan.

### **8. New Business**

#### *A. Strategic Planning*

Gail asked how the group felt about the discussions at strategic planning meeting held in the morning. He recommended the discussion should be summarized and a clear set of initiatives should be written . Dr. Thomas asked about the bylaws for the chapter and he asked the councilors to review the bylaws. Gail will send them out for review.

**9. Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be in June 14, 2019 at Campbell's Resort in Lake Chelan.

**10. Adjournment**

With no further business, Dr. Thomas called the meeting to adjournment at 4:30 pm.

**PASSED**

*Motion to adjourn the meeting. MM Dr. Kiraly; MM Dr, Kwong. Motion carried.*

*Minutes taken by Harvey Gail, MBA, Oregon ACS Administrator*