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Executive Director’s Report

The CEO of the Oklahoma Osteopathic Association, Allison C. LeBoeuf, JD, provides an update on the OOA and legislation the OOA is tracking.

14th Annual Research Poster Symposium Winners

We are proud to share with you the winners of the 14th Annual Poster Symposium! This competition is just one of the many ways that the Oklahoma Osteopathic Association supports osteopathic students and residents. Review the abstracts submitted by our winners!

123rd Annual Convention SAVE THE DATE

Join us at the 123rd Annual Convention in Oklahoma City, OK at the Sheraton Oklahoma City Downtown Hotel on May 4-7, 2023. Convention Chair, Rebecca D. Lewis, DO, FACOFP, and Program Chair, Jonathan B. Stone, DO, MPH, FAAPMR, have put together an exciting program you won’t want to miss.

Happy Holidays from the OOA Staff!

Mykayla, Allison, Jacob, & Audrey
As the OOA celebrates the close of another year, our 122nd in existence, we are grateful for our members’ warm support, diligent advocacy, and thoughtful participation throughout this great state. Emerging from the turbulence and uncertainty of the pandemic period, our leaders sought to place a renewed focus on member services, ensuring that your association meets the needs of each member where they are. Moving our membership bureau meetings to an accessible evening format allowed for broader member participation and fostered an open and creative dialogue that informed our member service offerings. The value of this input and your generous participation cannot be overstated.

The Physician Wellness Taskforce represents the crowning achievement of that renewed conversation, striving to answer the needs of a profession that has faced not only environmental stressors in an unprecedented multi-year public health crisis, but has also borne the brunt of ever-increasing regulatory burdens to practice. This task force, chaired by new OOA board member Mark Callery, DO, strives to advance the health and well-being of physicians and student doctors in Oklahoma through thoughtful advocacy, social awareness, continuing education, and targeted resources. I invite every OOA member to join us in these efforts to ensure that the human needs of your profession are met and acknowledged.

The cohesive and informed leadership of our Board of Trustees has never been stronger: as an Oklahoma Osteopathic Physician, you can rest assured that your profession is in excellent hands. This year we celebrated the addition of wonderful new trustees, Mark Callery, DO and Jeanette Kelley, DO representing our Tulsa and Oklahoma City districts, respectively. We were also thrilled to have the dedicated Shanell Gray, DO, as our resident trustee from Talihina, Oklahoma.

After the last two overall successful legislative sessions, we face an uphill battle this year at the State Capitol, with challenges approaching from many sides. The issues are many, and we anticipate bills addressed will include legislation on abortion, vaccines, price transparency, and prior authorization, to name only a few areas. While we are early in the 2023 legislative session, I encourage all members to participate actively in our monthly Legislative Bureau meetings, virtually or in person, to inform our advocacy with your knowledge and priorities. This includes, first and foremost scope of practice, where the solution to the rural healthcare workforce shortage must prioritize the necessary place of physicians as leaders of the healthcare team for the safety and optimal outcomes of patients within our State.

The OOA staff is enthusiastically committed to serving our members, and we look forward to seeing you soon at the upcoming 123rd Annual Convention, May 4-7, 2023, at the Sheraton Hotel in Downtown Oklahoma City. Virtual attendance options will also be available. We hope you will continue to visit the OOA Central Office whenever you are in the neighborhood, and we wish you a very happy and prosperous 2023!
Support OOPAC in 2023!

DO your part to protect and promote osteopathic medicine in Oklahoma.

2023 OOPAC Contribution Levels
- Platinum PAC Partner $2,500+
- Executive PAC Partner $1,000-$2,499
- Premier PAC Partner $500-$999
- PAC Partner $499 or less

2023 OOPAC Investment
- My personal check made payable to “OOPAC” is enclosed in the amount of $______________
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- I commit to monthly contributions to OOPAC. Please charge my credit card:
  - $2,508 ($209 per month)
  - $1,200 ($100 per month)
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   - Visa
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   You may also call the OOA office at 405-528-4848 and give over the phone.

GET INVOLVED WITH THE OOA BY JOINING A BUREAU!

The Oklahoma Osteopathic Association has many ways for members to get involved and help guide the future of
the association. One of the best ways you can make a difference is by participating in one of our bureaus.

If you are interested in joining one or more of these bureaus, check the boxes that apply and mail this form back to us.

Name:_________________________________ Cell Phone:______________________________
Email:________________________________

- Bureau on Legislation: This bureau keeps members updated on the latest legislative news that will impact
  your practice and patients. The participants also help guide the OOA’s stance on legislative issues.
- Bureau on Membership: This bureau is open to any active member of the OOA and focuses on expanding
  our membership and bringing new benefits to members.
- Bureau on Postgraduate Education: This bureau primarily focuses on organizing the annual Research Poster
  Symposium. The symposium provides students and residents with an opportunity to showcase their research
  and win prize money.
- Bureau on Continuing Medical Education: This bureau focuses on the Winter and Summer CME Seminars
  to help determine the program and overall purpose of each seminar.

Please send completed forms to:
Mail: 4848 N. Lincoln Blvd., Oklahoma City, OK 73105
Fax: 405-528-6102 Email: allison@okosteo.org
2023-2024
AOA House of Delegates
Nominations

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Rebecca D. Lewis, DO, FACOFP
President

Jonathan B. Stone, DO, FAAPMR
President-Elect

Douglas C. Nolan, DO, FACOFP
Vice President

Ashton B. Clayborn, DO
Trustee (ending in 2026)
Completis Dr. Nolan\'s unexpired term

Mark D. Callery, DO
Trustee (ending in 2026)
Completis Dr. Clayborn\'s unexpired term

Jeanette M. Kelley, DO
Trustee (ending in 2024)
Completis Dr. Callery\'s unexpired term

Mercedes D. Bernard, DO
Trustee (ending in 2024)
Completis Dr. Callery\'s unexpired term

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4. Jonathan K. Bushman, DO
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6. Dennis Blankenship, DO, FACOEP
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8. Jonathan B. Stone, DO, FAAPMR
9. Kayse M. Shrum, DO, FACOP
10. Teresa Hardesty, DO
11. Layne E. Subera, DO, FACOFP
12. Ronnie B. Martin, DO, FACOFP dist.
13. Douglas C. Nolan, DO, FACOFP
14. Trudy J. Milner, DO
15. Amanda G. Foster, DO
16. Student Delegate (Tulsa)
17. Student Delegate (Tahlequah)

Alternate Delegates
1. Ashton B. Clayborn, DO
2. Mark D. Callery, DO
3. Tim J. Moser, DO, FACOFP
4. Dennis J. Carter, DO, FACOFP
5. Bret S. Langerman, DO
6. Jeanette M. Kelley, DO
7. Mercedes D. Bernard, DO
8. Richard D. Schafer, DO, FACOFP
9. Joseph R. Schlecht, DO, FACOFP
10. Natasha N. Bray, DO, FACOI
11. Janel H. Johnson, DO
12. Jason L. Hill, DO, HPF
13. Student Delegate (Tulsa)
14. Student Delegate (Tahlequah)
Criteria

1. A completed application form and a typed letter detailing qualifications for the scholarship award.

2. A typed letter indicating any specific financial criteria or factors that you believe will impede your commitment to osteopathic education without scholarship support, along with your anticipated postgraduate practice plans.

3. Letters of support from one osteopathic medical college faculty member, one osteopathic physician and one community leader. These letters will assist the selection committee in affirming standing with the college, professional demeanor, character, and ability and willingness to participate in community activities.

4. A transcript indicating cumulative GPA and class ranking.

Scholarship applicants must be lawful residents of the United States and meet one of the following requirements:

1. **Non-independent students** must have at least one parent, step parent or court-appointed guardian who is an Oklahoma resident and who has claimed the applicant as a dependent on his/her federal income tax return for the previous year.

2. **Independent students** must have lived in Oklahoma in some capacity other than as a full-time student at a post-secondary institution for a period of at least 12 consecutive months prior to matriculation to medical school.

Candidates must be able to demonstrate good standing at their college regarding academics, finances and conduct.

1. Preference will be shown to applicants who have completed two years of osteopathic medical education and who indicate a desire to practice in Oklahoma.

2. Class standing and cumulative grade point averages will be a major determining factor in granting scholarship awards.

Finalists may be interviewed by a designated Scholarship Committee comprised of members of the OEFOM and/or their designees.

Scholarship awards will be deposited with the Office of the Bursar of the College and credited for tuition, books, fees and other applicable educational expenses. Funds will not be payable directly to the student.

Scholarship awards may be “stacked” with other scholarship awards or financial aid. However, the total of these awards, excluding loans, may not exceed the educational costs for the scholarship year.

OEFOM will make available the minimum amount of scholarship funds allocated by September 1, annually.

Applications are due by February 28, 2023, and awards will be announced at the OOA’s 123rd Annual Convention.

Certain “named” scholarship funds may place additional restrictions on awards.

Candidates will be formally informed of amount and source of awarded scholarships.

**Eligibility**

1. Must have at least one parent, step parent or court-appointed guardian who is a resident of Oklahoma and who has claimed the applicant as a dependent on his/her federal income tax return for the previous year.

2. Must have lived in Oklahoma in some capacity other than as a full-time student at a post-secondary institution for a period of at least 12 consecutive months prior to matriculation to medical school.

Letters of Support

Each application must be accompanied by three letters of support, please indicate that information below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name (community leader)</th>
<th>___________________________________________</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Name (osteopathic physician)</td>
<td>___________________________________________</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Name (faculty member)</td>
<td>___________________________________________</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

OEFOM Endowed Scholarship

**Application**

Please complete the following:

- Permanent Address: ____________________________  State: ________  Zip: __________
- Present Address: ____________________________  State: ________  Zip: __________
- Phone Number: ____________________________  Email: __________
- Date of Birth: ____________________________  Hometown: __________
- Marital Status: Married  Single  Divorced  Widowed (circle one)
- Parent’s Name: ____________________________________________
- Parent’s Address: ____________________________  State: ________  Zip: __________
- Name of Osteopathic Medical College: ____________________________________________________________________________
- Classification: OMS-I  OMS-II  OMS-III
- Dates of attendance  Degree
- Dates of attendance  Degree

Letters of Support

Each application must be accompanied by three letters of support, please indicate that information below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name (faculty member)</th>
<th>___________________________________________</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Name (osteopathic physician)</td>
<td>___________________________________________</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Name (community leader)</td>
<td>___________________________________________</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

CHECK LIST

- Application
- Typed Letter of Qualification
- Typed Letter of Financial Factors and Practice Plans
- Three Letters of Support
- Transcript
- Send to OEFOM due February 28, 2023

Send to OEFOM

3448 North Washington Boulevard  Oklahoma City, OK 73105-3335
or email: audrey@okosteo.org

For more information:
(405) 528-4848  (800) 522-8379 toll free  (405) 528-6102 fax
email: audrey@okosteo.org

Oklahoma D.O. | Winter 2022
Conclusions: In addition, we hoped that the access icon created for this purpose will serve as a reminder for physicians to increase documentation of ACP initiatives began.

We previously reported on mechanisms to address barriers to advance care planning (ACP) and access to advance directives (AD) within our health system. Over the past three years, two quality improvement projects were completed with aims of increasing discussions on ACP between resident physicians and their patients and to improve access to ADs in our electronic health record system. Prior to these projects, we found it cumbersome to determine if a patient had a scanned directive document on file and to extract the AD for use in clinical settings.

Next followed conceptualizing and programming an access icon in our electronic health record that secondarily served as a reminder for physicians to assist in ACP and composition of ADs when such documentation was not scanned into the patient’s chart.

Conclusions: From 2016-2020, there were no significant improvements in pediatric unmet MHC needs. Unmet MHC needs disproportionately occur in Black children and those aged 3-5. Improving MHC accessibility through advocacy, optimized payment options, and expanding evidence-based programs may alleviate MHC barriers.

Below, you can read the abstracts submitted by our winners.

**1st Place | Henry Gutierrez, DO, PGY-2**

**“Increasing Advance Care Planning: A Follow Up on Previous Quality Improvement Measures”**

Introduction: We previously reported on mechanisms to address barriers to advance care planning (ACP) and access to advance directives (AD) within our health system. Overall, the past three years, two quality improvement projects were completed with aims of increasing discussions on ACP between resident physicians and their patients and to improve access to ADs in our electronic health record system. Prior to these projects, we found it cumbersome to determine if a patient had a scanned directive document on file and to extract the AD for use in end-of-life scenarios that required rapid retrieval. The data presented here reflects three years of follow-up since the quality improvement initiatives began.

Objective: The previous quality improvement projects were undertaken with the goal of increasing ACP discussions and improving ease-of-use of our electronic health record to quickly determine if a patient had an advance directive on file and hasten retrieval if the document existed. In addition, we hoped that the access icon created for this purpose will serve as a reminder for physicians to increase documentation of patients’ wishes by encouraging advance care planning. Initial data indicated success; and this data reflects 3 years of follow up.

Methods:
- Initial quality improvement efforts included use of an educational video as a prompt for ACP discussions between physicians and their patients.
- The multi-dimensional project included a policy change to ensure that ADs were honored in all clinical settings within our health system.
- Next followed conceptualizing and programming an access icon in our electronic health record that secondarily served as a reminder to physicians to assist in ACP and composition of ADs when such documentation was not scanned into the patient’s chart.
- Follow up data was collected on the number ACP discussions held by running a query for the code 99497 for each fiscal year in the electronic health record system.

Conclusions: Efforts to increase the number of ACP discussions held were successful.
- There was a nearly 18-fold increase in the number of ACP discussions documented and coded over the three-year period.
- Limitations of the project include difficulty in extracting data from the electronic health record necessitating the query for the code 99497 (indicating documented ACP occurred); however, this also reflects dependence upon physician coding and documentation.

**2nd Place | Cassie McCoy, BS, OMS-II**

**“Trends and Disparities in Unmet Childhood Mental Health Care Needs: Analysis of National Survey of Children’s Health 2016-2020”**

Cassie McCoy, BS, OMS-II; Pedro Braga, BS, OMS-II; Covenant Elenovo, MPH, OMS-II; Michael A. Baxter, MD; Tessa Chesher, DO; & Micah Hartwell, PhD


Purpose: Our primary objective was to analyze the trends in pediatric unmet MHC needs from 2016-2020. Our secondary objectives were to identify 1) disparities among demographic factors, 2) state-level changes, and 3) potential effects of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Methods: We conducted an observational study of the National Survey of Children’s Health, estimating five-year trends of unmet MHC needs. We calculated each state’s percent change between 2016-2019 and 2019-2020. We measured associations, via logistic regression, between children’s unmet MHC needs and demographic factors.

Results: From 2016-2020, we found that Black children and those aged 3-5 had the highest and lowest rates of unmet MHC needs, respectively. Children ages 3-5 (AOR: 1.62; CI 1.13-2.33) were significantly more likely to have unmet MHC needs than ages 6-10. Compared to White children, Black children (AOR: 1.91; CI 1.46-2.50) were significantly more likely to have unmet MHC needs. Unmet MHC was also significantly associated with household income but not urbanicity.

Conclusions: From 2016-2020, there were no significant improvements in pediatric unmet MHC needs. Unmet MHC needs disproportionately occur in Black children and those aged 3-5. Improving MHC accessibility through advocacy, optimized payment options, and expanding evidence-based programs may alleviate MHC barriers.

**3rd Place | Kelsi Batioja, BS, OMS-III**

**“Associations of Social Determinants of Health and Childhood Obesity. A cross-sectional analysis of the 2021 National Survey of Children’s Health”**

Kelsi Batioja, BS, OMS-III; Covenant Elenovo, MPH, OMS-II; Amy Hendrix-Dicken, M4; Lamaii Ali, MD; Marissa S. Wetherill, PhD; & Micah Hartwell, PhD

Background: Childhood obesity is a growing health problem in the United States, with those affected having an increased likelihood of developing chronic diseases at a younger age. Social determinants of health (SDOH) are known to influence overall health. Children with low socioeconomic status (SES) have been shown to be overweight and have poor health outcomes. Therefore, our primary objective was to use the National Survey of Children’s Health (NSCH) 2021 data to determine current associations between childhood obesity and social determinants of health (SDOH).

Methods: We conducted a cross-sectional analysis of 2021 NSCH to extract data from questions related to the SDOH domains. We extracted sociodemographic variables to use as controls and constructed bivariate and multivariable logistic regression models to determine associations, via odds ratios, between SDOH and childhood obesity.

Results: From 2016-2020, on average, 19.14% of children had unmet MHC needs. Nevada (28.72%) and Montana (10.92%) had the highest and lowest rates of unmet MHC needs, respectively. Children ages 3-5 (AOR: 1.62; CI 1.13-2.33) were significantly more likely to have unmet MHC needs than ages 6-10. Compared to White children, Black children (AOR: 1.91; CI 1.46-2.50) were significantly more likely to have unmet MHC needs. Unmet MHC was also significantly associated with household income but not urbanicity.

Conclusions: From 2016-2020, there were no significant improvements in pediatric unmet MHC needs. Unmet MHC needs disproportionately occur in Black children and those aged 3-5. Improving MHC accessibility through advocacy, optimized payment options, and expanding evidence-based programs may alleviate MHC barriers.

**4th Place | Micah Hartwell, PhD**

**“Associations of Social Determinants of Health and Childhood Obesity. A cross-sectional analysis of the 2021 National Survey of Children’s Health”**

Micah Hartwell, PhD

Background: Childhood obesity is a growing health problem in the United States, with those affected having an increased likelihood of developing chronic diseases at a younger age. Social determinants of health (SDOH) are known to influence overall health. Children with low socioeconomic status (SES) have been shown to be overweight and have poor health outcomes. Therefore, our primary objective was to use the National Survey of Children’s Health (NSCH) 2021 data to determine current associations between childhood obesity and social determinants of health (SDOH).

Methods: We conducted a cross-sectional analysis of 2021 NSCH to extract data from questions related to the SDOH domains. We extracted sociodemographic variables to use as controls and constructed bivariate and multivariable logistic regression models to determine associations, via odds ratios, between SDOH and childhood obesity.

Results: We found that children identified as having obesity were more likely than non-obese children to experience SDOH in all domains. Children identified as having obesity were significantly more likely to experience food insecurity when compared to non-obese children (AOR = 1.39; 95% CI: 1.13-1.77).

Conclusion: Our study found that the food insecurity domain of SDOH was significantly associated with childhood obesity. Improving policies for programs such as SNAP as well as addressing lack of access to nutritious foods, especially within food deserts, may help alleviate some food insecurity. Improving access to adequate amounts of nutritious foods is critical in addressing childhood obesity and thus decreasing risk of chronic disease.
Google recently donated $250,000 to Oklahoma State University to support elementary, middle and high school outreach programs aimed at sparking an interest in STEM fields.

The donation will be divided equally between OSU Center for Health Sciences’ Cowboys Calling STEM outreach programs and the College of Engineering, Architecture and Technology’s (CEAT) Engineering is Everywhere initiative, both of which are aimed at elementary through high school students.

“We are grateful to partner with Oklahoma State University to champion programs that strengthen Oklahoma’s STEM education and workforce,” said Andrew Silvestri, Google’s head of community development in Oklahoma. “Oklahoma State’s commitment to talent and workforce development will open the door for students across the state to succeed while positioning Oklahoma to be a leader in STEM fields.

“Google is proud to support students and inspire them to pursue STEM learning opportunities right here in the state.”

Oklahoma Lt. Gov. Matt Pinnell said he is thankful for Google’s donation and ongoing commitment to promoting STEM careers in the state.

“Since our founding 50 years ago, OSU Center for Health Sciences and our College of Osteopathic Medicine have worked to improve the lives of Oklahomans. One way we accomplish that is by introducing elementary and secondary students to careers in medicine and science through our Cowboys Calling programs and events,” OSU-CHS President Johnny Stephens said. “This donation from Google will be instrumental in growing and improving our outreach programs and impacting even more students across the state.”

OSU-CHS and its Cowboys Calling initiative host several outreach events each year for elementary to high school students, including Operation Orange, Pre-Health Round Up, Dr. Pete’s Immersion Camp, Way Cool Science and Teddy Bear Clinics — all aimed at getting students, especially those in rural and underserved communities, interested in medicine and health sciences.

“Providing Oklahoma children with quality STEM education is necessary for the future of our state,” he said. “I am confident this partnership will help create a brighter future for our students.”

Dr. Paul Tikalsky, dean of CEAT, said Google’s support for CEAT’s K-12 initiative Engineering is Everywhere is an investment in the next generation of innovators.

“We are impacting thousands of young Oklahomans every year with a goal of raising college readiness for a generation of diverse and bright young minds,” Tikalsky said.

The donation and commitment from Google will allow OSU-CHS to continue to spark an interest in medicine and health sciences in children and teens across Oklahoma.

“Since our founding 50 years ago, OSU Center for Health Sciences and our College of Osteopathic Medicine have worked to improve the lives of Oklahomans. One way we accomplish that is by introducing elementary and secondary students to careers in medicine and science through our Cowboys Calling programs and events,” OSU-CHS President Johnny Stephens said. “This donation from Google will be instrumental in growing and improving our outreach programs and impacting even more students across the state.”

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“We are so excited about this amazing gift from Google. Our K-12 STEM department wants to extend our efforts across Oklahoma making sure we are reaching all kids that might not have the opportunity to be impacted with STEM principles and disciplines,” said Brandy Mays, program manager of CEAT’s DOD STEM program. “Google is helping make all this possible, and we are proud to work with them to help Oklahoma’s youth explore and expand their opportunities.”

CEAT plans to host two STEM Symposiums in the spring for students, teachers and school administrators to learn about engineering. In addition to the 30-plus STEM camps already planned, an additional four summer camps will be offered in rural communities in Oklahoma. The funding also will enable CEAT to help with other activities and events such as STEM Saturdays and STEM family nights.

“The goal of all our programs is to introduce students to the many options available to them in the field of health care,” said OSU-CHS Outreach Managing Director Bria Taylor. “I cannot thank Google enough for this amazing gift. It will truly change lives as we tap the potential of future medical professionals, who will in turn improve the lives of those in their community.”

Oklahoma State University President Kayse Shrum (left) helps Eddy Kang and Logan Peck (right) during an intubation exercise during Operation Orange at OSU in Stillwater in June 2021.
A team of OSU College of Osteopathic Medicine students from both the Tulsa and Tahlequah campuses spent six months researching, writing and then publishing an article that analyzed previous studies conducted into inequalities of ophthalmology care. They found notable inequalities among Black and Hispanic patients that led to negative outcomes.

The students’ research also found no specific studies that examined inequalities in LGBTQ patient populations, and their findings were published in the peer-reviewed journal JAMA Ophthalmology.

Christian Hemmerich is a second-year medical student at OSU College of Osteopathic Medicine.

A team of OSU College of Osteopathic Medicine students from both the Tulsa and Tahlequah campuses spent six months researching, writing and then publishing an article that analyzed previous studies conducted into inequalities of ophthalmology care. They found notable inequalities among Black and Hispanic patients that led to negative outcomes.

The students’ research also found no specific studies that examined inequalities in LGBTQ patient populations, and their findings were published in the peer-reviewed journal JAMA Ophthalmology.

Christian Hemmerich is a second-year medical student at OSU-COM and lead author of the study.

“Our research team recognized that deficient ophthalmologic care is costly to patients, making the identification of groups not receiving adequate care of vital importance,” Hemmerich said. “Overall, lower-income patients were more likely to have vision impairment, use eye care services less and have lower adherence to eye examinations.”

Hemmerich’s fellow authors include OSU-COM second-year student Garrett Jones, OSU-COM third-year students Jordan Staggs and Rigel Bacani, third-year OSU-COM at the Cherokee Nation student Reece Anderson, and Office of Medical Student Research Director Matt Vassar, Ph.D. The team looked at 75 ophthalmic research articles published between 2016 and 2021 that discussed health inequities.

Hemmerich said they found substantial research gaps in the ophthalmologic literature pertaining to the LGBTQ community, race and ethnicity, and rural and under-resourced areas.

“There were many surprising findings, however, some of the most noteworthy were that zero studies investigated inequities within LGTBQ groups and only 27 percent of studies that focused on race and ethnicity inequalities included American Indian and Alaska Native, Asian, Native Hawaiian and other Pacific Islander patients,” he said.

The article suggests future studies should examine and investigate barriers to clinical study and medical trainee recruitment, patient values and preference studies, and the implementation of telemedicine in under-resourced areas.

“I feel honored to have this research published in such an esteemed journal,” Hemmerich said. “I am incredibly grateful to have this opportunity and to use the JAMA platform to share our research and contribute to the scientific literature.”
Allison C. LeBoeuf, JD

Better health care for all Oklahomans is the primary purpose of the foundation. Designated funds are used to support student scholarships annually to enrich the Oklahoma State University Center for Health Sciences College of Osteopathic Medicine, located in Tulsa, and the Cherokee Nation, and to maintain the Oklahoma Osteopathic Educational Center.

The Oklahoma Educational Foundation for Osteopathic Medicine was founded in 1967 with the mission of providing support to past, present, and future osteopathic physicians through scholarships and other financial aid. In 1985, the OEFOM Board of Trustees decided to build a safe haven for the osteopathic community located at 4848 N Lincoln Blvd, naming it the Oklahoma Osteopathic Educational Center. Thirty-seven years later, the mission and vision remain the pillars of the OEFOM. However, time has moved on, and the funds have dwindled due to COVID-19 hardship scholarships, building maintenance, multiple student scholarships, stethoscope donations, and other day-to-day necessities.

I am writing to you today to ask for your consideration of a tax-deductible contribution of $100, $250, $500, or $1,000 or more to the general fund and/or the building maintenance fund. Your contribution, of any amount, to any of the following funds would be greatly appreciated.

- General Fund
- Building Maintenance Fund
- Student Stethoscope Sponsorship
- Please use my contribution where it's needed most

Your contribution, of any amount, to any of the following funds would be greatly appreciated.

- General Fund
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- Please use my contribution where it's needed most

Tax-deductible gifts can be easily made to OEFOM in the following ways:

- Make a secure donation online at www.okosteo.org » Foundation [tab at top right of page] » Donate to Foundation
- Scan the QR Code to be taken directly to the donation page
- Mail this form with your check or credit card information to 4848 N. Lincoln Blvd., Oklahoma City, OK 73105

Credit Card Information:

- Card #: __________
- Card Exp. Date: __________
- Card CVV #: __________
- Zipcode: __________
- Name on Card: __________
- Signature: __________
- Gift amount: $ __________

For more information contact Health Professions Recruiters, Kristen Young at 405-913-3131 or kristen.young@ok.gov

Sincerely,
Allison C. LeBoeuf, JD
OEFOM Secretary, Treasurer
On behalf of the OEFOM Board of Trustees

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Allison C. LeBoeuf, JD
OEFOM Secretary, Treasurer
On behalf of the OEFOM Board of Trustees
What is FOOA?

The Friends of the Oklahoma Osteopathic Association is a membership association for the spouses, relatives, and loved ones of OOA Physician, Resident, and Medical Student members. The Mission of FOOA is to promote awareness of and support the Osteopathic Profession within Oklahoma through collaboration, education, and community.

Newly formed in 2021, FOOA strives to offer a home for the loved ones of OOA members. FOOA members coordinate community events, participate in OOA activities, and share resources and support within the organization. Use the QR code to learn more about FOOA and explore what this organization has to offer.

BECOME A MEMBER TODAY!

FOOA regular member dues are $50 annually (November 1 – October 31). Membership for the spouses of medical students and residents is FREE. To join, simply return this form with the enclosed OOA dues renewal (you may write one check for both OOA & FOOA dues if you’d prefer).

FOOA Member Name: _____________________________________________
Mobile Phone: _____________________ Home Phone: ______________
Email: _________________________________________________________
 OOA Member Spouse, Parent or Other Loved One
 Resident Spouse  Medical Student Spouse

Amount Enclosed
($50 for each FOOA membership; Spouses of Medical Students & Residents are FREE)

$ __________

Payment: ☐ Check Enclosed (Please make check payable to the Oklahoma Osteopathic Association.)
☐ VISA ☐ MASTERCARD ☐ DISCOVER ☐ AMERICAN EXPRESS

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Connect with us!

With everything vying for your attention, we know how hard it is to keep up with the latest osteopathic news. Follow these simple steps to make sure you don’t miss a thing!

1. Like & follow the OOA on YouTube, Facebook, Twitter & Instagram at @OKOSTEO.

2. Sign up for OOA text alerts by texting ‘OOA’ to 405-544-4123. We only send an occasional text so you won’t be bombarded.

3. Update your profile at www.okosteo.org so we have your most current contact information. If you need assistance, call us at 405-528-4848.

Welcome to our new members!

The OOA Board of Trustees welcomes the following new members to the OOA family!

Gregory Root, DO
Obstetrics & Gynecology
Okarche, OK

Kurt Robert Feighner, DO
Emergency Medicine
Moore, OK

Aaron Relic, DO
Anesthesiology
Tulsa, OK

Marcella P. Jones, DO
Family Practice
Spiro, OK

Michael N. Hitsman, DO
Family Medicine/OMT
Vinita, OK

Addison P. Roberts, DO
General Surgery
Tulsa, OK

Lauren White, DO
Neonatal-Perinatal Medicine
Oklahoma City, OK

Amanda Hale, DO
Family Medicine/OMT
Durant, OK

Courtney Thompson, DO
Family Medicine/NMM
Tahlequah, OK

Michele Bates, DO
Emergency Medicine
Tulsa, OK

Jennifer Briggs, DO
Emergency Medicine
Perkins, OK

Carl Roe Smith, DO
Family Medicine
Bristow, OK

Hilary Redemann, DO
Psychiatry
Tulsa, OK

Sharolyn D. Cook, DO
Cardiology
Bartlesville, OK

Christopher O. Gasbarra, DO
Internal Medicine
Oklahoma City, OK

Reagan Gill, DO
Psychiatry
Tulsa, OK

Gregory Root, DO
Obstetrics & Gynecology
Okarche, OK

Kurt Robert Feighner, DO
Emergency Medicine
Moore, OK

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Gary Lee Postelwait, DO, was born in Tulsa, Oklahoma in August 26, 1953. He graduated from Oklahoma State University with a degree in Osteopathic Medicine in 1982 after completing his undergraduate in 1975.

Gary worked as a doctor of internal medicine with his own practice in Broken Arrow for many years. He sold his practice during his successful recovery from cancer.

He is survived by his wife Karen Denise Postelwait, originally of Vinita, their two children, Blake, his wife Beth, their children Brynn and June; Jeff, his wife Megan, their children Xander and Archer; his brother Larry, his wife Sandy, their children Gary and Joe; his sister Sarah, their children Ty and Gage, and niece Jennifer Nordin, and nephew David and Gaud and children Easton and Lynne; his nieces Nicole Millikan, Carly Paige Tway; and his nephew Kevin Coulier Tway; sisters and law, Tannise Tway and Cindy Millikan and a host of friends and colleagues.

He was preceded in death by his parents Jack and Margaret “Faye” Postelwait.

In life, Gary loved inviting his family over for cookouts and swim days in the summer, target shooting, fishing, and motorcycle riding. He was also an avid audiophile and could often be found tinkering in the garage or taking care of his yard.

Gary’s faith is important to him, and he often donated his time to the free clinic his church ran in Broken Arrow, providing medical care at no cost.

Dr. Badzinski, DO, left this world on September 19, 2022 at age 71 after a brief illness. He was born on April 25, 1951 to Albert and Margaret Badzinski in Cherokee, OK where his father was a pharmacist. Terry graduated from Enid High School in 1969, and from the University of Oklahoma with a degree in psychology in 1973. He enrolled in the inaugural class of the Oklahoma College of Osteopathic Medicine and Surgery in Tulsa, Oklahoma. He graduated from there 1977 to begin his life’s work and fulfill his calling as a physician and trainer of young physicians.

As a primary care physician in Oklahoma City, his passion for Women’s Health was confirmed and he returned to Tulsa, completing his residency in Obstetrics and Gynecology from Oklahoma Osteopathic Hospital in 1986. During that time in his heart was drawn to the needs of those myriads always preceded his own. In quiet, he read history for the lessons learned. He loved travel, and even when not traveling, he could travel vicariously through maps, atlases, and reading.

He is preceded in death by his parents and survived by many who will always love and cherish him. He is survived by his wife Jean, of the home, his son Nicholas of Oklahoma City, his brother Gary of Jupiter, FL, and by nieces and nephews Lori Bird of Oklahoma City, Laine Ford of Rocking, NC, and by Davin and Aaron Badzinski of Jupiter, FL.

Terry would not presume to have anyone take of their time to honor his life, but the family hopes that the many who were so richly affected by his life well lived will keep him alive in their thoughts and prayer and well wishes.

Dr. Coder is survived by his wife; Joani Coder, his 3 children, Dr. Rachael Whitehouse, Steve Coder and wife Debis, Suzie Pittman and husband Taylor, and daughter Taylor, Makkeni Hillenburg and husband Drew, Darley Whitehouse, Kaeson Coder and wife and Payne, Hayley; his granddaughter, Kaylyn and great-granddaughter Willow; his grandson, Eston and his wife Jaimie and great-granddaughter Aiden; and his beloved dog Boots.

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James Aubrey Coder, III, DO, was born on Wednesday, September 16, 1942 in Quincey, Illinois, the son of James Aubrey Coder, Jr. and Anne Ruth (Gorton) Coder. He passed this life in Tulsa, Oklahoma on Sunday, January 22, 2023. He was 80 years of age.

Dr. Coder was a 1960 graduate of LaBelle High School, LaBelle, Missouri. He married Joani Hopkins on December 18, 1961 in LaBelle. He received a Doctored from Kirksville College of Osteopathy and Surgery in 1968. After his internship at Oklahoma Osteopathic Hospital, Tulsa, Oklahoma, they moved to Broken Arrow and he started his first medical practice in the office behind Petric Drug Store. In November of 1971, Dr. Coder built Broken Arrow Family Clinic and was joined later by his brother, sister, brother-in-law, daughter, and nephew in practice. He also was an investor in Coder Properties with his son, nephew, and brother. Dr. Coder was an avid golfer and a longtime member of Cedar Ridge Country Club. He enjoyed traveling to his cabin in Colorado and to his retirement home in South Texas with family and friends. He was a model HO train collector, who at one time had a large room dedicated to his trains. His greatest enjoyment was spending time with his family, especially his grandchildren.

Dr. Coder is survived by his wife, Joani Coder; his 3 children, Dr. Rachael Whitehouse, Steve Coder and wife Debis, Suzie Pittman and husband Taylor; Makkeni Hillenburg and husband Drew; Darley Whitehouse, Kaeson Coder and wife Payne, Hayley; his granddaughter, Kaylyn and great-granddaughter Willow; his grandson, Eston and his wife Jaimie and great-granddaughter Aiden; and his beloved dog Boots.

Dr. Coder was preceded in death by his parents; his daughter, Kendall Elizabeth; his son, Jeffrey Allen. He is survived by his wife, Annelle; his daughter, Hayley; his granddaughter, Kaylyn and great-granddaughter Willow; his grandson, Eston and his wife Jaimie and great-granddaughter Aiden; and his beloved dog Boots.

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Dr. Coder was preceded in death by his parents, Aubrey and Anne Coder, brother, Dr. Art Coder, and brother-in-law and sister, Dr. Jim and Dr. Carol Howard.
Brittany Rene McShane (Cross), DO, entered the arms of Jesus on September 28, 2022 at the age of 32. She was born March 25, 1990 to Lonnny and Debra Jo Cross (Althaus). Brittany grew up in Edmond and attended Oklahoma Christian School from Pre-K to 12th, graduating in 2008. She was an extraordinarily talented soccer player and loved it, along with many other sports. She went on to attend Oklahoma State University where she became a member the Gamma Phi Beta Sorority. While attending OSU Brittany was named Top Ten Female Athlete and selected to be a member of the distinguished Mortar Board Honor Society. She graduated in 2012 and then went on to pursue her passion for medicine. She graduated from Oklahoma State University College of Osteopathic Medicine in 2017. Brittany was president of her medical school class and was chief resident of her residency. She was also named Student Doctor of The Year in 2017. Brittany was an incredibly compassionate physician, colleague and friend. She loved her career and was dedicated to serving others.

Brittany married the love of her life, Andrew McShane, on March 11, 2017. Together they enjoyed many amazing trips and created endless memories wherever they went. They shared a passion for the outdoors and hiking and in January 2020 right before the Covid-19 pandemic, they were blessed with the opportunity to hike Machu Picchu, which they successfully and joyfully completed together. Brittany loved spending Saturdays together with Andrew watching college football where she rooted strongly for her OSU Cowboys. More recently, Brittany began to share in Andrew’s love of golf. She had her heart set on it and was determined to become a golfer alongside him. On November 4, 2020, Brittany and Andrew became parents to the most perfect baby, Carter Jack McShane. Brittany referred to Carter as her little munch (munchkin). Carter was the light of her life, and she completely adored him. He loves dinosaurs because of her and he will always be reminded of her love and adoration for him.

The impact that Brittany made on earth during her brief time will last forever through the numerous lives she touched. She will be missed immensely by all who knew and loved her.

She was preceded in passing by her mother, Debra Jo Cross and her grandparents, Marilyn and Bernard Althaus.

Andrew became parents to the most perfect baby, Carter Jack McShane. Brittany referred to Carter as her little munch (munchkin). Carter was the light of her life, and she completely adored him. He loves dinosaurs because of her and he will always be reminded of her love and adoration for him.

The impact that Brittany made on earth during her brief time will last forever through the numerous lives she touched. She will be missed immensely by all who knew and loved her.

Cora McShane. Brittany is also survived by countless loving extended family, colleagues, and friends who will all miss her dearly.

She was preceded by her husband, Jim of Claremore Bevenue and her husband, Chris of Frisco, Texas; Son, Andrew Hahn and his wife, Kenzie Owen of Cleveland; Son, Derek Hahn and his wife, Carly McShane; Brother, Corbin Cross; brother-in-law, Marc McShane; sister-in-law, Aubrie McShane; sister-in-law, Kellie Suelter; and nieces, Ava McShane and Kyla McShane. Brittany is also survived by counting loved extending family, colleagues, and friends who will all miss her dearly.

Practicing medicine as a skilled Surgeon, playing tennis and traveling the world with Sharon and the Curry’s were Hans’ passions but first and foremost, his faith in God and his family and Sharon’s family were at the top of the list. David was always a champion of promoting osteopathic medicine and treating the underserved, by serving on numerous committees, and advocating for the profession. In the late 1990’s, he was appointed by the Governor of Oklahoma as Commissioner for the Physician Manpower Training Commission for the State of Oklahoma where he headed up an initiative to combat the physician shortage in rural Oklahoma by addressing medical school debt to encourage doctors to practice in rural parts of the state. The broad influence he had on the osteopathic profession was evident by his multitudes of awards he won over his lifetime, the national and local advocacy he led, and the changes he helped to make to ensure DOs were represented where policy was being made.

David served on the Board of Directors for the American College of Osteopathic Internists (ACOI), and on numerous committees. He was recognized as a Master Fellow of the ACOI, was named ACOI’s Internist of the Year in 2012 and received ACOI’s highest honor, the Distinguished Service Award, in recognition of his lifetime of service and exemplary dedication to the profession in 2022. He also admirably served on the American Osteopathic Association’s (AOA) House of Delegates as an Oklahoma representative for over 30 years and as the AOA’s representative to the AOA’s Medicare Relative Value Scale Update Committee (RUC), a select volunteer group of physicians that represents the entire osteopathic profession in helping shape Medicare relative values. Over the years, he also received many state and national awards including the Physician of the Year Award from the Osteopathic Founders Foundation, the Outstanding and Distinguished Service and Physician of the Year Award given by the Oklahoma Osteopathic Association as well as the Clinician of the Year Award, which he won three times from 2002-2003. These accolades earned him the nickname the “Warrior” by his colleagues.

We’ve lost our father, our grandfather, father, brother, and friend today, however, heaven gained an angel. David was a loving family man and a true legend in the osteopathic world and will be remembered and missed by all.

Hans Fichtenberg, DO, loving husband, father and friend to so many, left to be with our Savior on December 9, 2022. Hans was born in Brownstein, East Prussia Germany on January 17, 1929.

The legacy Hans left behind will live on for generations to come. He was a dedicated family man, a devoted husband to his wife Sharon, a loving father to his children, and a devoted grandfather to his grandchildren. He will be deeply missed by all who knew him and loved him.

Hans was preceded in death by his mother and father, Rudolph and Emilie (Lange) Fichtenberg, sisters Dorthea Limpert, Ada Scharpe, and son-in-law, Mel Fichtenberg. He is survived by his wife, Sharon, sons Hans Fichtenberg II, Kurt Fichtenberg, Karl Fichtenberg all of Tulsa and daughter Heidi Stevens (Trevor) of Arlington, Texas. Grandsons Forrest Stevens, Addison Stevens and Iman Stevens of Arlington, Texas, and Logan Fichtenberg of Tulsa. One great granddaughter, Khalia Stevens of Arlington. One sister, Edeltraut Mueller (Hans) of Rottenhad West, Florida, two brothers, David (Lancie) Fichtenberg of Balt, Michigan, Ronald Fichtenberg (Mel) of Venice, Florida and Stepmother, Herta Fichtenberg of Port Charlotte, Florida. And many, many more.

Practicing medicine as a skilled Surgeon, playing tennis and traveling the world with Sharon and the Curry’s were Hans’ passions but first and foremost, his faith in God and his family and Sharon’s family were at the top of the list. Those of us who knew him will always carry the memories of his love, his big smile, his compassionate bedside manner and his love of caring for others. He will live in our hearts forever for he has left us the legacy of spirit for life.

David F. Fitzstein, DO, MACOI, 75, passed away peacefully on December 14th surrounded by his wife and family. David leaves behind his loving wife of 56 years, Rita (Curtin) Fitzstein of Oklahoma City, OK, Tate Fitzstein of Frisco, TX and Travis (Courtne) Fitzstein of Carrollton, TX. They are also blessed with seven beautiful grandchildren who were the light of his life.

David is preceded in death by his parents, the Reverend Harold Hitzeman and Lucie Marie (Bauernhaft) Hitzeman. He is survived by one brother Roger (Lee) Hitzeman and two sisters, Eunice of Wichita, KS, Linda of Jefferson City as well as two sisters-in-law, Judy Dullea from Colorado and Ces Wisbrooks of Augusta, KS. He is also survived by several nieces and nephews.

David and Rita knew right away they were meant for each other and married young. They have lived a true love story. They spent almost every day together, loved travel, friends and most of all, their family. David went to medical school at the Kansas City University College of Osteopathic Medicine, graduating in 1974. After graduating they traveled to Craighead Falls, Ohio, and completed his internship. He then moved his family to Wellington, Kansas to practice general medicine for one year. It didn’t take long for David to realize that he wanted more than general medicine. The family moved to Tulsa in 1976 for his residency at OOH where he continued to practice internal medicine for over 40 years until he retired.

David was always a champion of promoting osteopathic medicine and treating the underserved, by serving on numerous committees, and advocating for the profession. In the late 1990’s, he was appointed by the Governor of Oklahoma as Commissioner for the Physician Manpower Training Commission for the State of Oklahoma where he headed up an initiative to combat the physician shortage in rural Oklahoma by addressing medical school debt to encourage doctors to practice in rural parts of the state. The broad influence he had on the osteopathic profession was evident by his multitudes of awards he won over his lifetime, the national and local advocacy he led, and the changes he helped to make to ensure DOs were represented where policy was being made.

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We’ve lost our father, our grandfather, brother, and friend today, however, heaven gained an angel. David was a loving family man and a true legend in the osteopathic world and will be remembered and missed by all.

Hans Fichtenberg, DO, loving husband, father and friend to so many, left to be with our Savior on December 9, 2022. Hans was born in Brownstein, East Prussia Germany on January 17, 1929.

The legacy Hans left behind will live on for generations to come. He was a dedicated family man, a devoted husband to his wife Sharon, sons Hans Fichtenberg II, Kurt Fichtenberg, Karl Fichtenberg all of Tulsa and daughter Heidi Stevens (Trevor) of Arlington, Texas. Grandsons Forrest Stevens, Addison Stevens and Iman Stevens of Arlington, Texas, and Logan Fichtenberg of Tulsa. One great granddaughter, Khalia Stevens of Arlington. One sister, Edeltraut Mueller (Hans) of Rottenhad West, Florida, two brothers, David (Lancie) Fichtenberg of Balt, Michigan, Ronald Fichtenberg (Mel) of Venice, Florida and Stepmother, Herta Fichtenberg of Port Charlotte, Florida. And many, many more.

Practicing medicine as a skilled Surgeon, playing tennis and traveling the world with Sharon and the Curry’s were Hans’ passions but first and foremost, his faith in God and his family and Sharon’s family were at the top of the list. Those of us who knew him will always carry the memories of his love, his big smile, his compassionate bedside manner and his love of caring for others. He will live in our hearts forever for he has left us the legacy of spirit for life.
Luanne V. Solis, DO, is an Obstetrician-Gynecologist at Comanche County Memorial Hospital in Lawton. Dr. Solis graduated from Oklahoma State University College of Osteopathic Medicine in 2016, and later completed her OB/GYN residency with OSU Medical Center in 2020. She is a proud mother of two beautiful boys, Lincoln and Levi, and enjoys traveling with her husband A.J. She is passionate about training the next generation of doctors and is looking forward to the opportunity to be active in the OOA as the Southwest District President.

Max Goates, DO, is a General Surgeon at Comanche County Memorial Hospital in Lawton Oklahoma. He is from Las Vegas Nevada. Dr. Goates completed his residency training in General Surgery at Oklahoma State University in 2021. Outside of medicine he enjoys spending time with his wife and kids. His hobbies include anything outdoors such as hunting, horseback riding and woodworking.

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