Leadership Update

- The following individuals represent the current Board of Deans leadership:

  o **Chair:** Michael B. Clearfield, DO  
    Dean  
    Touro University College of Osteopathic Medicine - California

  o **Vice Chair:** Thomas A. Cavalieri, DO  
    Dean  
    Rowan University School of Osteopathic Medicine

  o **Secretary/Treasurer:** William D. Strampel, DO  
    Dean  
    Michigan State University College of Osteopathic Medicine

  o **Past Chair:** Kenneth J. Veit, DO, MBA  
    Provost/Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs and Dean  
    Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine

  o **Member-at-Large:** Dixie Tooke-Rawlins, DO  
    President and Provost  
    Edward Via College of Osteopathic Medicine - Virginia Campus

  o **Assembly of Presidents Chair:** Michael D. Adelman, DO, JD  
    President  
    West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine

- The following individuals have joined the AACOM Board of Deans since January 2015:

  o **Thomas A. Boyle, DO**  
    Dean
College and Campus Updates

- This April, AACOM was pleased to welcome the Burrell College of Osteopathic Medicine at New Mexico State University (BCOM) and the Kansas City University of Medicine and Biosciences College of Osteopathic Medicine-Joplin Campus (KCU-COM Joplin) to its membership. BCOM is currently accepting applications through AACOMAS and plans to welcome its inaugural class of osteopathic medical students in fall 2016, while KCU-COM Joplin plans to open its doors in fall 2017.

AACOM Application Service (AACOMAS) Applications Activities

- The 2015 osteopathic medical school application cycle closed on April 1, 2015. At the close of the 2015 application cycle, there were 20,670 submitted applicants to the AACOMAS system—an increase of 13.72 percent over the 2014 cycle. These applicants submitted a total of 190,009 individual applications to participating COMs—an increase of 18.97 percent from 2014. Application data do not include information for the University of North Texas Health Science Center COM which receives applications through the Texas Medical and Dental School Application Service.
On May 5, AACOMAS launched a new application system for the 2016 application cycle. With more advanced features and functionality, this updated system will result in a more efficient application process for prospective students. The new AACOMAS system provides updated tools and resources to optimize the application process, including:

- Mobile access and responsive design
- Easier, faster coursework entry
- For an additional fee, applicants can elect to have an AACOMAS staff member input their transcript coursework on their behalf
- Quicker application processing times
- Submit letters of recommendation through AACOMAS

The key publication for 2016 applicants is the 2016 Osteopathic Medical College Information Book, produced by AACOM. This annual publication is designed for prospective applicants, pre-health advisors, and others interested in gaining information about or applying to the nation’s osteopathic medical colleges. The text includes current admissions criteria and entrance requirements, supplementary application materials, class size or enrollment, application deadlines, tuition information for each college, and much more. The book is currently available in hardcopy and pdf versions. Visit [http://www.aacom.org/news-and-events/publications/cib](http://www.aacom.org/news-and-events/publications/cib) to view the digital version.

AACOM continues to coordinate with the COMs an active program to recruit future doctors to osteopathic medical education. Highlights of this program include multi-college visits to career and graduate fairs around the country—events that are likely to attract prospective pre-medical
students. A current listing of these events can be found on the AACOM website at http://www.aacom.org/events/calendar/Pages/recruitingevents.aspx.

Recruitment Activities

- AACOM hosted the first-ever National Recruitment Summit January 31-February 1, 2015, at its headquarters in Chevy Chase, MD. The event brought together the “Big Four” national osteopathic medical student leadership organizations—the Council of Osteopathic Student Government Presidents (COSGP), the Student Osteopathic Medical Association (SOMA), the Pre-Student Osteopathic Medical Association (Pre-SOMA), and the Canadian Osteopathic Medical Student Association (COMSA)—to discuss the history of their partnerships with AACOM, current representation, and future vision in osteopathic medical education (OME) and the profession.

The purpose of the meeting was to build relationships and coordinate the actions and plans among the “Big Four” in conjunction with AACOM and its strategic priorities. The meeting provided an open forum for national student leaders to engage with one another and discuss pertinent topics such as recruitment efforts, strategies for raising the awareness of osteopathic medical education and the profession, and deciphering where the groups’ respective missions intersect in order to foster and enhance continued collaboration.

Research Activities

- AACOM has released its “2013-2014 Academic Year Entering Student Survey Summary,” a report summarizing the responses from its survey of 2013-14 entering osteopathic medical students. The annual study, conducted by AACOM’s Research Department through the COMs, compiles a comprehensive snapshot of osteopathic medical education debt, graduate medical education (GME) plans, and future specialty and practice plans. This year’s report is based on data gathered from the 5,698 students who participated in the survey.


- The AACOM Research Department continues to develop and expand data on osteopathic medical education and make such data available to the osteopathic community and the public through the AACOM website at http://www.aacom.org/reports-program-initiatives/aacom-reports.

Single Graduate Medical Education Accreditation System

- Since its last report to the Board, AACOM has been involved in a variety of activities related to the single graduate GME system transition. Sessions focused on the single GME system were a highlight at this year’s Joint AACOM & AODME 2015 Annual Conference, with several events focused on different aspects of the transition to a unified GME accreditation system, including a four-hour deep dive session, a keynote speech from Thomas Nasca, MD, MACP, Chief
Executive Officer of the ACGME, and one-on-one meetings available with members of ACGME.

- AACOM has also released the results of a March 2015 survey it conducted to examine current preferences of third-year students at the COMs who are starting the process of choosing their residency training programs. The report, entitled “Survey Results: Appeal of ACGME-accredited Programs with Osteopathic Recognition among Third Year Osteopathic Medical Students,” reveals that, of the students surveyed, 70.55 percent indicated that a program with osteopathic recognition has greater appeal to them than an ACGME-accredited program without osteopathic recognition. Other key findings include:
  - Osteopathic recognition of an ACGME program has some degree of influence in how 78.2 percent of respondents may choose to rank GME programs
  - Nearly 48 percent of respondents specify that osteopathic recognition is a “very important” or “important” influence in how they rank GME programs

The goal of the survey was to determine if COM students were interested in pursuing ACGME-accredited programs with osteopathic recognition within the single GME accreditation system. View the full report here: http://www.aacom.org/docs/default-source/single-gme-accreditation/or-survey-may-2015.pdf?sfvrsn=8.

Interprofessional Education Collaborative (IPEC)

- The next Interprofessional Education (IPE) Institute will be held October 7-9, 2015, in Herndon, VA. The goal of the upcoming institute is to provide post-baccalaureate health professions faculty and their IPE colleagues both quality time and dedicated space for guided learning, team-based planning activities, and consultation with experts and peers in order to emerge with a programmatic action plan for IPE.

- The IPEC MedEdPORTAL site is an innovative online collection of high-quality, peer-reviewed, competency-based learning modules for interprofessional health education. To view the portal, visit https://www.mededportal.org/ipe/.

2015 AACOM Research Grants Program

- The 2015 AACOM Research Grants Program has fourteen grantees ranging in topics from the Qualitative Analysis of Current OMS Year III and IV Osteopathic Manipulative Medicine Curriculum Strategies and the Development and Innovation of a New Paradigm to the Impact of Social Presence in Medical Education Learning Environments. AACOM is pleased to have requests for almost $100,000 in grant research applications.

Government Relations
Government Relations staff regularly issue information and action alerts on the wide range of policy activities AACOM is addressing, and on federal funding and other opportunities. To view the alerts, visit [http://cqrcengage.com/aacom/home](http://cqrcengage.com/aacom/home).

To sign up to receive AACOM alerts, visit [http://cqrcengage.com/aacom/app/register?3&m=11737](http://cqrcengage.com/aacom/app/register?3&m=11737).

**AACOM Annual Conference (in collaboration with AODME)**

The Joint AACOM and AODME 2015 Annual Conference was held April 22-25 in Fort Lauderdale, FL with programming focused on this year’s theme, “The Osteopathic Medical Education Continuum: Exploring Opportunities & Achieving New Milestones.”

Under the leadership of Planning Committee Chair Margaret Wilson, DO, Dean at the A.T. Still University – Kirksville College of Osteopathic Medicine, the event was by all accounts a successful endeavor. AACOM and AODME saw record attendance for their joint meeting with more than 1000 registrants. Attendees were able to choose from more than 100 educational sessions to attend, viewed and discussed 50 research posters presentations, and met with more than 45 industry-specific exhibitors.

Esteemed keynote speakers for the event included:

- Thomas Nasca, MD, MACP, ACGME
- Eric Holmboe, MD, ACGME
- Karin Esposito, MD, PhD, Florida International University
- Robert Cain, DO, OU-HCOM
- Jill Patton, DO, Advocate Lutheran General Hospital
- Margaret Wilson, DO, ATSU-KCOM
- K. Scott Griffith, MSc, Scott Griffith Collaborative Solutions, LLC


The 2016 AACOM Annual Conference will be held April 6-9 in Washington, DC.

**Training Osteopathic Primary Care Educators (TOPCE) Workshops**

AACOM will host the next Training Osteopathic Primary Care Educators (TOPCE) workshop at OMED 2015 in Orlando, FL in October. More information on this program is forthcoming. Visit the TOPCE website to view current and future experiences: [http://www.aacom.org/ome/councils/topce](http://www.aacom.org/ome/councils/topce).

**Educational Council on Osteopathic Principles (ECOP)**

The AACOM and its Educational Council on Osteopathic Principles (ECOP) has published a new text entitled *A Teaching Guide for Osteopathic Manipulative Medicine*. The book is
designed to teach the basics of osteopathic principles and practice (OPP) and osteopathic manipulative medicine (OMM) and the modules discussed in this text comprise the core elements of both. The text is available for purchase in print through the AACOM online bookstore ([http://bit.ly/1Bk1dYL](http://bit.ly/1Bk1dYL)), and in ebook format through Amazon ([http://www.amazon.com/dp/B00WN7GM2I](http://www.amazon.com/dp/B00WN7GM2I)).

- ECOP is also finalizing a new edition of its Clinical Osteopathically Integrated Learning Scenarios (COILS). This text incorporates the philosophy and OMM/OMT into the training of routine patient care. The COILS are both a case-based textbook and a treatment manual. COILS, a textbook for use in teaching OMM. Seven sections are currently available on the AACOM website for free download ([http://www.aacom.org/ome/councils/aacom-councils/ecop/coils](http://www.aacom.org/ome/councils/aacom-councils/ecop/coils)).

**AACOM Awards**

- 2015 William D. Miller Award: This award is presented to individuals who make an outstanding contribution to advancing the osteopathic profession.
  *Konrad C. Miskowicz-Retz, PhD, CAE, Past Associate Vice President of Accreditation, AOA*

- 2015 Robert A. Kistner Award: This award is presented to individuals who have made a significant contribution to osteopathic medical education.
  *Karen J. Nichols, DO, MA, MACOI, CS, Dean, Professor of Internal Medicine, CCOM/MWU*

- 2015 Society of Osteopathic Medical Educators (SOME) Innovation in Medical Education Awards: These awards recognize the year’s educational innovations that have resulted in meaningful change at the developer’s institution.
  - Patricia S. Sexton, MS, DHEd, Associate Dean of Curriculum, NAOME Fellows Chair, ATSU-KCOM for “Diversity Redefining Education and Medicine - LGBT Curriculum”
  - Sherry Jimenez, EdD, Assistant Dean for Educational Development, MU-COM for “Implementing Embedded Assessment of Psychomotor Student Performance in Osteopathic Education and Research”

- National Student DO of the Year
  *Danielle Maholtz, Osteopathic Medical Student, PCOM*

- National Student Researcher of the Year
  *Jacob John Triplet, Osteopathic Medical Student, NSU-COM*

- Outstanding Advancement in Osteopathic Medical Education Award
  *Dianna Silvagni, JD, Clinical Assistant Professor of Medical Education, NSU-COM*