This report details the activities for the period February thru June 2015, of the AOA Bureaus, Councils, and Committees that comprise the Department of Educational Affairs.

**BUREAU OF OGME DEVELOPMENT (BOGMed) - Boyd R. Buser, DO, Chair**

The Bureau on Osteopathic Graduate Medical Education Development (BOGMed) initially met on December 7, 2014 at the Hilton O'Hare in Chicago, Illinois, and has continued its efforts to expand GME development through the New Year. Some of BOGMed’s strategies and activities are as follows:

- AOA will form a non-parochial director of medical education group or OPTI group to serve as consultants for the AOA staff when fielding GME development inquiries. It is expected that there will be some nuances based on the entity requesting OGME, the level of support available at the institution and the expense associated with start-up.

- AOA will be more proactive in OGME expansion and use the mapping program developed by the National Center for the Analysis of Healthcare Data (NCAHD). AOA will also include AACOM in the discussion if there are plans to talk to the colleges. Another component of this proactive approach is the development of an official list of people who are OGME Developers in each College of Osteopathic Medicine/State/Region (including financial consultants). The consultants will help provide technical assistance (e.g., GME funding) if the OPTI is unable to provide the necessary services.

- The Bureau expressed the need for a roadmap illustrating how training programs can maximize their CAP requirements and build robust programs. BOGMed will obtain program CAP information from the Program Trainee Review Council (PTRC). Additionally, BOGMed directed the AOA to send a letter to the hospitals informing the hospitals of their remaining residency capacity under the CAP and how to best maximize their opportunities.

- In an effort to stimulate interest in OGME, BOGMed instructed the AOA to identify possible community (local) events. Both Texas and Arkansas affiliates were previously able to host successful events such as the GME Summit in Arkansas. It was suggested that AOA survey the affiliates to see who is interested and properly positioned to host an event.

- BOGMed introduced a new resolution to the Board recommending a re-evaluation of COCA’s Standard Domain 8 in light of the evolving single-accreditation system for GME and ensuring that the language is appropriate for perpetuation of osteopathic tracks. The resolution was presented at the Mid-year Board Meeting where it was accepted.

- In partnership with the Association of Osteopathic Directors of Medical Education (AODME), BOGMed contacted OPTIs and shared a list of potential hospitals that have never hosted a training program. The OPTIs were asked to identify all hospitals in which
they were interested. In light of the single accreditation GME system and the availability of more detailed information, a short survey was recently sent to the OPTIs to gauge their continued interest.

**BUREAU OF OSTEOPATHIC EDUCATION (BOE) - Anthony Silvagni, DO, Vice Chair**

The BOE approved two postdoctoral resolutions and three continuing medical education resolutions and forwarded those to the AOA Board of Trustees:

1. AOA Approval of Non-Accredited Fellowship Training in Existing ACGME Fellowship Programs
2. Program Accreditation during Transition to Single Accreditation System
3. Specialty CME for Participating in Job Task Analyses, as amended
4. Amendment to the AOA Accreditation Requirements for Category One CME Sponsors - Section IV, as amended
5. CME Credits for New JAOA Content, as amended

The BOE reviewed Sunsetting Resolution H-204 and is recommending deletion of that policy. The BOE is recommending modification of Resolution H-215 which was referred by the 2014 AOA House of Delegates. The BOE discussed Resolution B-6 on AOA Approval of OGME-1 Training, which was postponed definitely by the AOA Board of Trustees at its Mid-year 2015 meeting. The BOE agreed to hold a special conference call to discuss Resolution B-6.

On June 3, 2015, the BOE held a special conference call on Resolution B-6. The BOE considered several modifications to the resolution. The BOE discussed to key topics: COMLEX and osteopathic recognition, as possible requirements for AOA to approve ACGME training. Since quorum was not met, the BOE agreed that individuals on the call could provide testimony at the July 2015 meeting of the AOA Board of Trustees.

**COUNCIL ON POSTDOCTORAL TRAINING (COPT) - Brian Kessler, DO, Chair**
The Council on Postdoctoral Training (COPT) held its spring meeting April 17, 2015 in Chicago. The COPT thanked Clint Adams, DO, Robert Cain, DO and Robert Danoff, DO for their service to the COPT and congratulated them on their appointments to ACGME Review Committees. Brian Kessler, DO has been appointed as COPT Chair and James McQuiston, DO has been appointed as Vice Chair.
Submitted by COPT for action by the Board of Trustees (BOT) is the approval of the new *AOA Basic Documents for Postdoctoral Training* Section X: AOA Program Accreditation during Transition to Single Accreditation System. This Section codifies the work of COPT and PTRC during the transition to the single accreditation system, with the intention that AOA program accreditation will remain high quality and accountable until June 30, 2020. COPT has also submitted a resolution which permits osteopathic fellows who are in unaccredited positions in an ACGME accredited fellowship to be eligible to have their training AOA approved and be eligible for AOA board certification.

COPT also approved the following Basic Standards and specialty documents:
- Basic Standards for Residency Training in Sports Medicine
- Basic Standards for Residency Training in Ophthalmology
- Basic Standards for Residency Training in Otolaryngology/Facial Plastic Surgery
- Program Director Annual Reports – AOCOO-HNS
- Resident Annual Reports - AAO

COPT's next meeting will be July 31, 2015.

**COUNCIL ON OSTEOPATHIC POSTDOCTORAL TRAINING INSTITUTIONS (COPTI) – Gary Willyerd, DO, Chair**

At its April 2015 meeting in Fort Lauderdale, FL, COPTI welcomed its new Chair, Gary Willyerd DO and its new Secretary, Pamela Ball. COPTI granted continuing approval to one OPTI, approved two OPTI Corrective Action Plans, and reviewed three OPTI Progress Reports as well as the program minimum number compliance report. COPTI thanks Lorenzo Pence, DO, former COPTI Chair for his leadership and service.

Also during its April meeting COPTI reviewed COPT’s proposed Section X: AOA Program Accreditation during Transition to Single Accreditation System. COPTI supports this proposed policy.

COPTI hosted its largest OPTI Workshop on April 21, 2015 in Fort Lauderdale, FL in conjunction with the AACOM/AODME Joint Annual Meeting. Over 100 OPTI leaders and DMEs participated in the workshop. The workshop focused on teaching attendees how to complete the ACGME Institutional Sponsorship Application, and the Osteopathic Recognition Application. Two OPTIs shared their experience with completing the ACGME Institutional Application. The afternoon session focused on how to take OPTIs from compulsory to value-added consortiums. COPTI's next meeting will be July 29, 2015.

**COUNCIL ON CONTINUING MEDICAL EDUCATION (CCME) - Jeffrey S. Grove, DO, Chair**

The Council on Continuing Medical Education (CCME) has submitted three resolutions for review by the BOE and Board of Trustees as denoted below:
Specialty CME for Participating in Job Task Analyses for AOA Board Certifications

The Council on Continuing Medical Education (CCME) reviewed Resolution No. B-10-A/2014 titled “Specialty CME for Participating in Job Task Analyses for Board Certification.” This review came at the request of the AOA Board of Trustees during its July 17, 2014 meeting, with a report to be sent back for the 2015 Mid-year meeting. The Council submitted a resolution to award 0.5 credits based on the length and time involved in taking the quiz. Each osteopathic certifying board must submit JTA’s on a case-by-case basis for review by the CCME. A maximum of 5 AOA Category 1-B credits per CME cycle, will be awarded for osteopathic physicians participating in a JTA.

Amendment to the AOA Accreditation Requirements for Category 1 CME Sponsors – Section IV

It was requested that the AOA Accreditation Requirements for AOA Category 1 CME Sponsors be amended to include “Component Society.” The Council submitted a resolution that stipulates the recommendation be added for component societies that wish to apply for recognition as an AOA Category 1 CME Sponsor. The CCME believes the accredited CME sponsors have a responsibility for the actions of its component societies.

CME Credits for New JAOA Content

The CCME recommended that 7.5 Category 1-B CME credits be awarded per published contribution, for the new sections of The Journal of the American Osteopathic Association (JAOA) Clinical Review, Health Policy, and Special Report. Each contribution is comprised of an information summary regarding important topics related to clinical practice, health care issues, and other areas important to osteopathic physicians. Each section consists of approximately 1500 words.

CME Online Platform Update

The CCME will discuss policy changes regarding the criteria for maximum Category 1-A credits for online CME programs and enduring materials at its November 7, 2015 CCME meeting.

In addition, information was shared from a study presented by the University of North Texas Health Science Center-COM regarding the “Effectiveness of Lecture-based vs. Simulation-based CME Programs.” This information demonstrated a four-fold increase in diagnostic accuracy for online vs. face-to-face programs, with half the amount of time dedicated to the activity.

New Accreditation Applications for AOA Category 1 CME Sponsors

The Council approved the Edward Via COM-Carolinas Campus, Spartanburg, SC and Marian’s Regional Center, Santa Maria, CA as AOA Category 1 CME Sponsors. Currently there are a total of 173 AOA Category 1 CME Sponsors.

Future CME Projects

The Chair of the CCME appointed a subcommittee to rewrite the AOA CME Guide for the 2016-2018 CME Cycle and the AOA Accreditation Requirements for AOA Category 1 CME Sponsors.

CME Sponsors Conference Review and Options for the Future

The Council discussed options for future CME Sponsors Conference webinars/modules vs. live conferences.

The CME Sponsors Conference will be held in 2016 in partnership with the OME Conference, and staff will move forward with creating online modules for potential webinars that meet accreditation guidelines. The first module will be on the topic of “How to Determine Needs Assessment for Programs.”

PROGRAM AND TRAINEE REVIEW COUNCIL (PTRC) - Bruce Wolf, DO, Chair

Program and Trainee Review Council (PTRC) held its spring meeting April 16, 2015 in Chicago. The PTRC thanked Richard LaBaere, II, DO, MPH, Kenneth Heiles, DO, and Gregory H. Smith, DO for their service to the PTRC and congratulated them on their appointments to ACGME.
Review Committees. Bruce Wolf, DO, the AOCR Representative, has been appointed as PTRC Chair and Susan Enright, DO, the ACOI Representative, has been appointed as Vice Chair.

The PTRC provided feedback and their support to COPT regarding the new proposed Section X: AOA Program Accreditation during Transition to Single Accreditation System. PTRC also reviewed data on programs that are not meeting the minimum number requirements and corrective action plan policy. Finally, PTRC heard a report from Stephan Trent, DO on the Training Programs Review Services’ successes in reviewing all overdue programs by utilizing trained physician part time reviewers. The AOA will continue to utilize part time physician reviewers to increase the number of reviews conducted in the 2015-2016 academic year.

PTRC’s next meeting will be July 30, 2015.

BUREAU OF OSTEOPATHIC SPECIALISTS (BOS) - Stephen Scheinthal, DO, Chair

From February 1 to May 1, 2015 the Bureau of Osteopathic Specialists (BOS) activated 1,447 candidates for certification and Osteopathic Continuous Certification (OCC) completion: 975 were initial certifications and 472 were OCC completions.

The BOS continues to monitor the progress of OCC and seeks to ensure it is functioning smoothly for the benefit of osteopathic physicians and their patients. The BOS is paying close attention to the issues raised about Maintenance of Certification (MOC) in the ABMS community, particularly relating to recent actions taken by the American Board of Internal Medicine (ABIM). Accordingly, the BOS created a project team tasked to develop a draft survey to send to diplomates to learn their thoughts and recommendations about the OCC process.

A SWOT analysis was conducted at the BOS’ Midyear Meeting in April 2015. It focused on the challenges we are facing today in certification including those resulting from the single accreditation system. The input from this process is currently being collated for review and action by the BOS Executive Committee.

The restructuring of the BOS, part of which involves moving all the certifying boards in-house by the end of 2015, is nearing completion. The remaining four boards (Dermatology, Internal Medicine, Ophthalmology and Otolaryngology, and Surgery) are currently in transition and will be in-house by the end of this year. The AOA Certifying Board Services (CBS) continues to work to ensure the smooth transition of these boards.

Specific recent activities for the BOS include:

- Approved revisions to:
  - The Bylaws for the American Osteopathic Boards of Anesthesiology, Neurology and Psychiatry, and Orthopedic Surgery.
  - The BOS Handbook.
  - American Osteopathic Board of Radiology certificate.
- Disapproved request for certificate changes from the American Board of Internal
Medicine.
• Continued discussion of specialty credits in which the BOS reviewed the requirements for and processing of specialty credits.

AOA certification staff collected and reported to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) PQRS Maintenance of Certification Program Incentive data from qualified participants for the 2014 reporting year. This was the final year of the incentive.

In March 2015, Jeffrey A. Kramer, FACHE, CAE, succeeded Cheryl Gross, MA, CAE as the Secretary to the BOS.

COMMISSION ON OSTEOPATHIC COLLEGE ACCREDITATION - Kenneth E. Johnson, DO, Chair

This report is for actions of the AOA Commission on Osteopathic College Accreditation (COCA) from the period of January 1, 2015 through May 31, 2015. The COCA held its spring meeting on April 18-19, 2015 at the O’Hare Hilton Hotel in Chicago under the direction of the Chair.

Accreditation action items from the agenda included:

- Reports from comprehensive on-site evaluations were reviewed and accepted: two (2) site visit reports for continuing accreditation; one (1) site visit for initial provisional accreditation; and four (4) site visits for continuing provisional accreditation.
- Accreditation actions based upon review of comprehension evaluations were approved as follows: 2 continuing accreditation; 1 initial provisional accreditation; 4 continuing provisional accreditation.
- A pre-accreditation site visit was reviewed and accepted. The decision was deferred until the August 2015 COCA meeting.
- A request for a substantive change – additional location was reviewed and approved. NOTE: this is a multi-step process which requires a site visit before permission to recruit students and offer instruction is granted.
- A request for substantive change – class size increase was reviewed and denied.
- One focused visit to an additional location was reviewed and accepted.
- Six progress reports were reviewed and accepted.
- Annual Reports and Annual Supplemental Reports were reviewed and accepted for all colleges of osteopathic medicine (COMs).
- Eight (8) mid-cycle reports were reviewed and accepted.
- Follow-up reports to Annual and Supplemental Reports from 2014 were reviewed. Two were accepted and one requires further clarification.

Discussion on policy items for the agenda resulted in the following actions:

- New and revised standards were proposed to the COCA for discussion by the Standards Review Committee. The COCA approved of posting of Standards Review Committee proposed new and revised standards for public commentary.
Seven (7) new candidates were considered and approved to the Evaluators Registry.

One (1) current member of the Evaluators Registry was approved to serve in the capacity of Team Chair.

The AOA President addressed the COCA on osteopathic medical education in Canada, GME and research.

The Council of Osteopathic Student Government Presidents (COSGP) President addressed the COCA to thank them for listening to and acting on proposals.

Branch campuses, additional locations and new COMs to be located at another academic institution was discussed and directed to the COCA Executive Committee (EC) for final review.

Responses to House of Delegates and Board of Trustees resolutions were discussed and directed to the COCA EC for final review.

Codification of Procedures was discussed and directed to the COCA EC for final review.

**COCA EC**

The COCA EC met in executive session by teleconference on March 6, 2015 and took the following action: authorization of a site visit for Pre-Accreditation.

The COCA EC met in executive session by teleconference on May 1, 2015 and took the following actions:

- Responded to the AOA House of Delegates – H-202 – A/2014
- Responded to the AOA Board of Trustees – Resolution B-09 – M/2015
- Reviewed and accepted new procedures for additional locations, branch campuses and new COMs located at Another Institution
- Reviewed and did not accept proposed Codification of Procedures

**Committee on College Accreditation Training (CCAT)**

The CCAT did not meet during this period.

**Standards Review Committee (SRC)**

On Saturday, March 7, 2015, a meeting of the Standards Review Committee was convened by the SRC Chair at the O’Hare Hilton in Chicago, IL. Four of five SRC members attended the meeting along with two COCA staff.

Themes for this meeting to be considered consisted of:

- Standards pertaining to non-discrimination
- Changes that might occur as a result of the ACGME single accreditation system
- Credentials for faculty
- Standard One: Mission, Goals and Objectives (1.1 and 1.5)
- Standard Two: Governance, Administration and Finance (2.1.2, 2.5.2, and 2.8)
- Standard Four: Faculty (4.2.1, 4.3, 4.7)
- Standard Five: Students
• Standard Six: Curriculum (6.3.1, 6.4, 6.6)
• Standard Eight: GME Outcomes (8.3 – new 8.3.1)
• Procedures
  o Applicant and Accreditation Procedures
  o USDE Requirements

The SRC drafted proposed new and revised standards and procedures to be presented at the April 18-19, 2015 COCA meeting. The new and revised standards were reviewed by the COCA and authorized to be posted for public commentary. The public commentary period is May 13, 2015 through July 15, 2015. Commentary will be presented to the COCA at its August 29-30, 2015 meeting.

Annual Report Review Committee
The Annual Report Review Committee did not meet during this period.

COM Accreditation Appeal Panel
There were no appeals heard during this period.

COLLEGE ACCREDITATION STANDARDS TASK FORCE - William J. Burke, Chair
The College Accreditation Standards Task Force met on June 15, 2015, to review the proposed standard changes by the Commission on Osteopathic College Accreditation (COCA). The CASTF agreed with all proposed standards and procedures changes, with the exception of proposed standards 6.3.1 and 8.3.1. The CASTF sent its comments to COCA and the Standards Review Coalition.

STANDARDS REVIEW COALITION - William J. Burke, DO, Chair
The Standards Review Coalition (SRC) met on June 25, 2015 to review the 18 proposed college accreditation standards by the Commission on Osteopathic College Accreditation. The SRC commented on seven of the proposed standards.

DALE DODSON EDUCATION FUND COMMITTEE - Susan C. Sevensma, DO, Chair
The Dale Dodson Education Fund Committee did not meet during this period.

This report is informational in nature and no resolutions are presented.