



AMERICAN
OSTEOPATHIC
ASSOCIATION



2018-2019
ANNUAL REPORT



William S. Mayo DO

William S. Mayo, DO, FAOCO, FAAO
President

Dear Colleagues:

The last few years have been a period of transformational change for the American Osteopathic Association (AOA), and 2018–2019 has been no exception.

Through our ongoing awareness campaign, advocacy and international engagement, we have won increased recognition of the DO degree in the US and abroad. We have seen positive results in the Single Accreditation System transition, with encouraging growth in residency positions and strong DO representation in graduate medical education leadership.

We are responding to physician feedback and increasing options within the osteopathic profession by providing new pathways to convenient, relevant osteopathic board certification. And we continue to expand valuable member services and benefits tailored to every stage of your career path.

We faced challenges throughout the year, just as you face them every day in practice in a rapidly changing healthcare landscape. We met these challenges with flexibility, a focus on the future, the persistence and hard work of AOA's dedicated staff—and, most important, the support of our osteopathic family.

You are the reason we do what we do, and with your continued engagement, we're confident that our association and our profession will continue to grow and thrive.

TRANSFORMING BOARD CERTIFICATION

In 2018, the AOA asked osteopathic residents, program directors, students, and others how to improve our specialty board certification. The answer was clear: make the process more convenient and relevant to practice.

So in 2019, **we began to transform initial certification exams and Osteopathic Continuous Certification processes and tested technology to give exams more conveniently.** For example, we piloted remote proctoring systems that allow candidates to take exams in their home or office and continue to explore this technology.

The American Osteopathic Board of Anesthesiology (AOBA) is leading the charge to shift from 10-year, high-stakes recertification exams to an online, open-book exam taken every three years. The American Osteopathic Board of Obstetrics and Gynecology (AOBOG) is testing a digital platform for OCC that delivers frequent small batches of questions via any online device, including mobile phones. This links assessment more closely to CME and clinical practice and emphasizes true continuous learning.

To provide certification options that serve the whole DO community, in February the Board of Trustees approved a new certification pathway. This second pathway will provide certification in a physician's specialty, still embracing osteopathic philosophy, reinforcing our holistic approach of treating body, mind and spirit, but without specific OMM/OMT questions. Certifying boards are working to develop initial certification exams for this new pathway, aiming for implementation in some specialties later in 2019.

Under the guidance of the Distinctive Osteopathic Certification Committee, a 15-member panel of experts, Certifying Board Services developed a national survey on how DOs employ osteopathic principles and methods in clinical practice. Data gleaned from the survey will help update and align exams to target the key components of current osteopathic practice, including OMT, and ensure that physicians certified in distinct osteopathic pathways have demonstrated competency in these areas.

A campaign to promote AOA certification continues. In a new approach, this year we attended 22 medical conferences, including allopathic specialty college meetings, to raise awareness of our quality certification offerings.



BECAUSE YOU BELIEVE
IN WHOLE PERSON CARE

CHOOSE AOA BOARD CERTIFICATION



STRONG DEMAND FOR OSTEOPATHIC EDUCATION

Osteopathic medicine continues to grow at an encouraging rate, and there is no better indicator than the growth of colleges of osteopathic medicine.

The Commission on Osteopathic College Accreditation (COCA) reports that as of the end of the 2018–2019 fiscal year, there are **37 medical schools approved to operate in 58 sites**. That growth continues to expand medical training and care into underserved areas.

The Idaho College of Osteopathic Medicine—the first medical school in the state—welcomed its first class in August 2018, with Dr. Mayo and COCA Secretary Brian Kim in attendance. In September, Past President Mark Baker, DO, helped break ground for Edward Via College of Osteopathic Medicine’s fourth campus, located at the University of Louisiana Monroe.

On May 20, Oklahoma State University broke ground for its College of Osteopathic Medicine at Cherokee—the nation’s first medical school established in a Native American tribal area. Located at W.W. Hastings hospital in Talequah, OK, the school will prepare physicians to serve in rural communities and provide much-needed healthcare in the region.

New schools are in development at California Health Sciences University in Clovis, California and Sam Houston State University in Huntsville, Texas. COCA also approved several requests from COMS to increase class size and an additional location for Lake Erie COM in Elmira, New York.

SMOOTH TRANSITION TO SINGLE ACCREDITATION

The five-year transition to a Single Accreditation System for graduate medical education continued to move smoothly and steadily to completion. At the end of the fourth year, 85 percent of the AOA’s 8,545 filled residency positions in 2015 are now ACGME-accredited. What’s more, the number of residency positions in original AOA programs **has grown 18% since 2015, adding more than 1,500 positions**. This is a terrific outcome for the profession’s growth.

For six specialties— anesthesiology, diagnostic radiology, neurology, pediatrics, psychiatry and NMM/OMT—all programs pursuing accreditation have been approved. Most other specialties are not far behind, with 80 percent or more of their programs accredited.

The AOA’s focus now shifts to supporting remaining programs not yet accredited and encouraging programs to seek osteopathic recognition. To date, 203 programs have been granted recognition and six more have applied. Given that 70 percent of osteopathic students indicate interest in osteopathically focused residency training, demand for these programs is strong and those that seek this special designation will benefit.

EDUCATION

37

COLLEGES OF OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE

58

COM LOCATIONS

1 IN 4

MEDICAL STUDENTS ATTENDS A COM

ACCREDITATION

85%

OF POSITIONS NOW ACCREDITED

18%

MORE GME POSITIONS

203

PROGRAMS HAVE OSTEOPATHIC RECOGNITION

ENHANCING MEMBERSHIP VALUE

The AOA exceeded membership recruitment goals this year while we **continued to enhance member value with an expanding array of services and benefits tailored to every stage of physician's career.**

AOA members have opportunities to build leadership skills and connect with like-minded physicians, while benefiting from access to services like student loan refinancing, test preparation services and continuing education.

This year, new services and benefits developed for members include:

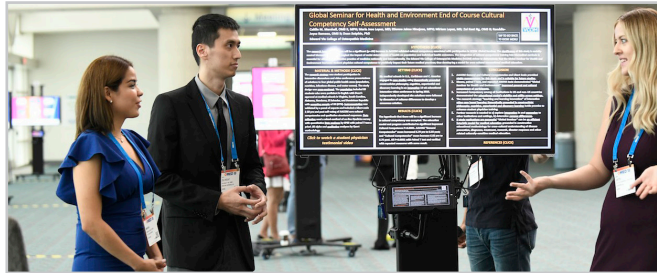
- discounted tuition to graduate programs in business (MBA) and health administration (MHA) that help you advance your career; and
- more financial services, like home-buying workshops and insurance coverage.

GENERATING EVIDENCE OF IMPACT

The AOA continued to support and highlight research that demonstrates the effectiveness of osteopathic medicine this year.

To build a pipeline of scholars, we allocated research funding specifically for young investigators and students and provided workshops and resources to help develop their scientific skills.

We also offered opportunities for scholars to share and present their work. At OMED18, 76 scholars took that opportunity and presented posters.



In 2018–2019, grants were awarded to 12 research projects on topics ranging from osteopathic philosophy and empathy among medical students to the use of osteopathic manipulative methods in diabetes treatment (both randomized controlled trials). **This research further validates the distinctiveness and value of osteopathic medicine.**

The AOA also continues to provide grants for new investigators and organizations to present live continuing medical education programs on safe opioid prescribing for pain management.

Effective promotion of research published in the Journal of American Osteopathic Association garnered significant coverage in major media outlets on topics ranging from concussions to cannabis use and its impact on sedation.

As the year drew to a close, grants totaling \$1 million were awarded to 12 projects for the next funding cycle.

MEMBERSHIP

42,000
MEMBERS

RESEARCH

\$1.1 M
AWARDED

12
FUNDED PROJECTS

4
LED BY STUDENTS

250
US AND INTERNATIONAL
MEDIA OUTLETS COVERED
RECENT JAOA RESEARCH
ON BONE MINERAL DENSITY

INFLUENCING PUBLIC POLICY

Through targeted advocacy, the AOA has become a clear voice in public policy. We actively engage DOs and our affiliated state societies and specialty colleges in these efforts and partner with many other medical and educational organizations to raise a unified voice calling for effective public health policy.

We work at the state and federal levels to protect and defend practice rights and take a stance on issues that affect practice and improve patient care. In successful federal policy actions, the AOA:

- successfully opposed proposed cuts to the 2019 Medicare Physician Fee Schedule, **with 1,500 DOs expressing their concerns to lawmakers in a grassroots campaign;**
- supported the Preventing Maternal Deaths Act passed in December; and
- helped secure enactment of the Substance Use Disorder Workforce Loan Repayment Act.

On the state level, we:

- helped defeat bills to allow independent practice for physician assistants in Hawaii and nurse practitioners in Indiana;
- blocked legislation in Hawaii that would have established prescriptive authority for psychologists; and
- for the second year, defeated legislation to allow medical school graduates who did not match into a residency to practice with limited supervision in New Hampshire.



EARNING INTERNATIONAL RECOGNITION

This spring, the Association of Medical Councils of Africa (AMCOA) granted the AOA's request to recognize US-trained DOs as fully licensed physicians equivalent to US MDs for licensure purposes.

This decision **opens up practice, research, and education opportunities for DOs in AMCOA's 20 member nations across Africa.** The decision is a result of the AOA's efforts to engage health and medical regulatory organizations globally, introducing them to the value of osteopathic medicine and winning growing recognition of US-trained DOs.

Our partnership with the Jaseng Medical Foundation in South Korea led to two exchanges this year. Jaseng President Joon-shik Shin gave a well-attended demonstration of Korean manual medicine at OMED in October. In May, Dr. Mayo led a delegation to Seoul to present research on the use and cost-effectiveness of osteopathic methods at Jaseng's annual convention.

ADVOCACY

1,000
DOS AND STUDENTS FROM
42 STATES
TOOK PART IN DO DAY

+5,000
EMAILS SENT TO
LAWMAKERS IN SUPPORT
OF AOA LEGISLATIVE
PRIORITIES

35
MEMBERS OF CONGRESS
RECOGNIZED THE AOA
IN PRESS RELEASES AND
SOCIAL MEDIA

20
REGULATORY COMMENT
LETTERS SUBMITTED

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

ASSETS

FY 2018
5/31/2018

FY 2019*
5/31/2019

(*Projected)

CURRENT ASSETS

CASH AND INVESTMENTS

Unrestricted:

Operating	\$ 49,934,734	\$ 49,741,967
Certifying Boards	0	0
Osteopathic Research Development Fund	5,997,321	5,908,565
Dale Dodson Educational Fund	2,938,235	2,987,706
NOAC Capital Improvement Fund	378,951	378,951
Total Unrestricted Cash and Investments	59,249,241	59,017,189

Accounts receivable	2,549,655	1,958,192
Interest receivable	99,519	0
Prepaid expenses	868,807	1,024,977
Deposits	42,898	29,207
Subtotal	3,560,879	3,012,376
Total Current Assets	62,810,120	62,029,565

OTHER ASSETS

Property and equipment-net	9,036,983	8,350,153
Deferred rent receivable	822,437	808,603
Other	10,000	10,000
Total other assets	9,869,420	9,168,756
Total Assets	72,679,540	71,198,322

LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

CURRENT LIABILITIES

Total current liabilities	22,576,444	20,942,061
Total Liabilities	22,576,444	20,942,061

NET ASSETS

Osteopathic Research Development Fund	5,515,109	5,329,051
Dale Dodson Educational Fund	2,783,235	2,757,706
Osteopathic Physician Brand Awareness Campaign Fund	0	4,000,000
Bridge Contribution Fund	1,484,155	883,427
Reserve Fund Beginning Balance	38,123,583	39,988,881
Increase (Decrease) in Reserve Fund	1,865,298	(2,954,770)
Reserve Fund Ending Balance	39,988,880	37,034,111

Total unrestricted	49,771,379	50,004,295
Temporarily Restricted	331,717	251,966
Total net assets - unrestricted	50,103,096	50,256,261

TEMPORARILY RESTRICTED

Contribution revenue	0	0
Total net assets	50,103,096	50,256,261

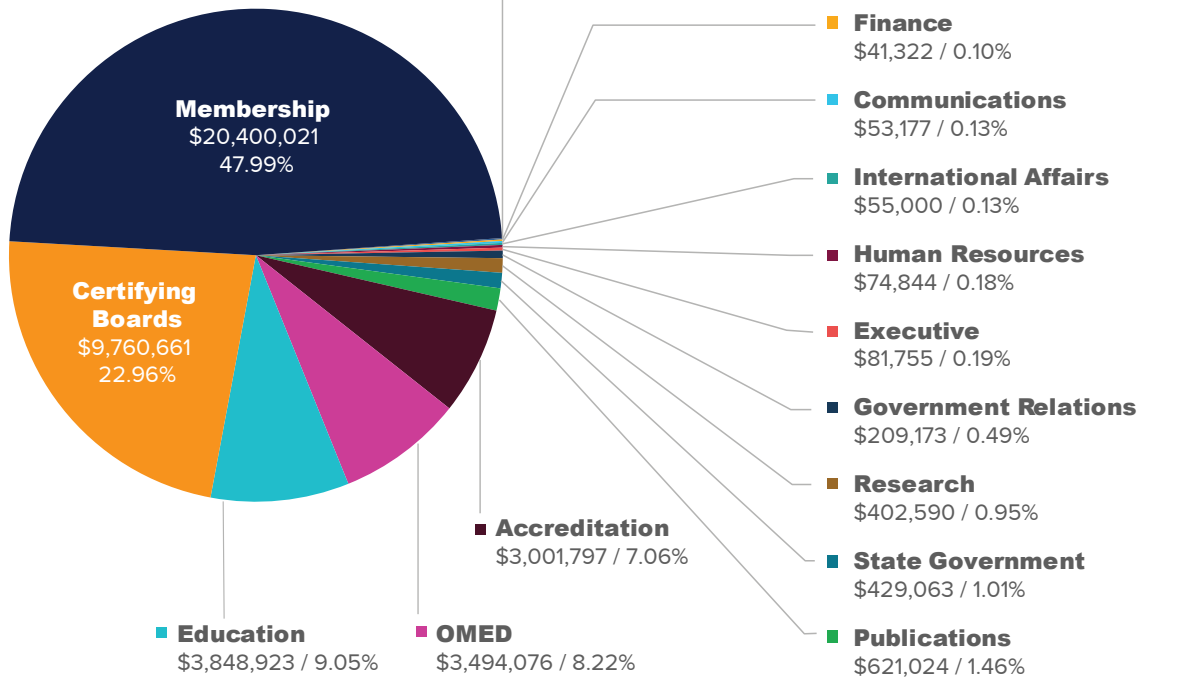
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

\$ 72,679,540	\$ 71,198,322
---------------	---------------



ACTUAL REVENUE AND EXPENSES

YTD REVENUES FY 2019 Actual



YTD EXPENSES FY 2019 Actual

