

foot&ankle

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP

APTA Combined Sections Meeting - Las Vegas, NV

February 11, 2009

Stephen Paulseth, President, called the Foot & Ankle Special Interest Group (FASIG) business meeting to order at 7:00am on February 11, 2009. The meeting was held at the Mandalay Bay Convention Center, Las Vegas, NV. There were 31 in attendance.

MOTION:

It was moved by Steve Paulseth to adopt the minutes from the February 2008 meeting of the FASIG business meeting. Rob Martin seconded the motion. The minutes were approved unanimously.

REPORTS:

Chair (Steve Paulseth)

Survey information: The survey to identify the content of foot and ankle in the curriculum of entry-level PT programs as well as what clinicians are treating has been distributed. The results collected from last year as well as those collected this year will be looked at. Very few responses from faculty members have been received. The FASIG will continue our practice analysis and DSP. This information will help in establishing the ground work for a Foot and Ankle Fellowship.

An "Ask the Expert" blog and brochure is being developed by the Ortho Section.

OP: Contributions for publication, such as "clinical pearls" are needed from the FASIG membership.

We have received several correspondences from SIG members concerning finding a Foot and Ankle PT specialist in their area or answering specific questions about patient problems and research. We have conducted numerous phone calls concerning the SIG business over the past year in order to communicate about programming, faculty, OPTP contributions, etc.

Practice standard development continues with our survey to all of the entry-level PT programs nationally. This information will be analyzed and then recommendations will be made to each PT program concerning the necessary content for foot and ankle that should be included in their curriculum. Thus far we have had a poor response from the various schools.

Reimbursement for Foot Orthoses by third party payors varies from company to company and by state. Generally, even when a company consents to reimbursing for the devices, they rarely pay. Thus cash fees apply to most patients.

We have provided, on a regular quarterly basis, a related article in OPTP. Our annual business meeting further addresses the membership's concerns and problems.

An extremely high level of research has been published by several of our SIG members in many different peer reviewed formats, as is usually the case each year. Rob Martin, our Vice President has consented to contribute to the Clinical Research Agenda (CRA) committee for our SIG.

Our SIG has operated well under our budget this past year even though we have a large unencumbered funds account balance.

Vice-Chair (RobRoy Martin)

Education: Programming for this year's CSM pre-con and 3 hr education session were reviewed. Suggestions from the members regarding future program topics. Ideas were then solicited from those present and included:

Radiology/Imaging for the Foot and Ankle

Talar and Calcaneal Surgery

Biomechanics and Over use Injuries

Case Reports and Panel Discussion by Experts on the Cases

Mid-Tarsal Joint

Forefoot Surgeries and Intervention

Research Committee

Debbie Nowazinski was not present.

Practice Plan Committee (Clarke Brown)

Looking for input as to future direction for the committee.

Will compile the e-mail address from those at this business meeting as well as the e-mail address from others who want to be involved in the FASIG. Later this year he will e-mail the group to try to enhance communication throughout the year.

Nominating Committee (Susan Appling)

The group was reminded that President position will need to be filled next year.

OLD BUSINESS:

In accordance with the Strategic plan for the Orthopaedic Section, we are moving towards establishing a fellowship for the foot and ankle. Through the efforts of Clarke Brown and Rob Martin and Tara Fredrickson at Ortho, we have distributed and published a survey in OP to identify the content of foot and ankle in the curriculum of entry-level PT programs.

NEW BUSINESS:

It was suggested that the FASIG consider offering a research grant. This grant would be under the care of the Ortho Section Grant committee. Discussions for the value of this grant were held and it was established that \$25,000 of funds will be apportioned via an Orthopaedic Section committee and FASIG.

Survey for DSP sent to PT programs nationally.

Continue AOFAS and Podiatric liaison.

MOTION:

Mark Cornwall made the motion to offer a \$25,000 grant for next year. Steve Reischl seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved. Rob Martin and Jeff Houck were selected to represent the SIG on the Ortho Grant Committee.

MOTION:

It was moved by Rob Roy to adjourn the meeting until February 2010 in San Diego, CA. The motion was seconded and approved. The meeting was adjourned at 7:55am.

Respectfully Submitted by,

RobRoy Martin

Vice President and Acting Secretary