

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP

President's Report

This is my last official report as the FASIG President as my term will end in February at the next CSM in San Diego. The President of the FASIG can serve a maximum of 2 terms and I am completing this. Therefore, the business meeting will include elections for the replacement of the President and several other positions. Nominations for these positions are open and we need members of our SIG, to attend. Let your voice and your vote count for the advancement of our organization. Health care will be changing and how we fare in the future as PTs with specialized expertise in foot and ankle care will be the next President's main challenge. Being active to help our position as expert foot and ankle providers in an evolving health care arena requires dedicated and assertive action.

This year's CSM in San Diego will include another FASIG educational program of several experts who will speak about the "Examination and Intervention Strategies for Overuse Injuries of the Foot & Ankle." Each year at CSM, the FASIG provides attendees with an evidence-based program concerning the foot and ankle. I expect this one to be extremely valuable. The FASIG business meeting will precede this educational program, so look for the time and place in your CSM planner.

The Orthopedic Section Board and Committee Chairs met in October for the strategic planning meeting held in La Crosse, WI. SIG presidents also attended and we discussed and formulated several key areas of our professions' future including advocacy, reimbursement, education, and research, to name a few. You will be hearing more about this in the near future.

I want to thank all of the committee members who have been completing our clinical and educational survey. This is one of the initial steps in establishing a foot and ankle fellowship. I envision launching the fellowship in 1 to 2 facilities nationally within the next 2 years. Accomplishment of this goal will take considerable time and effort. The fellowship will most likely be geared towards the orthopaedic specialist who wishes to further advance their expertise in the area of foot and ankle. The foot and distal lower extremity chain is most certainly one of the most interesting and intriguing entities that we treat in the human body. I love to learn from the myriad of patients which present with varying pathomechanics, foot types, and functional demands. Each is a clinical challenge as I attempt to correct and progress them in their daily activities. I hope that each of your clinical experiences as a Physical Therapist is enhanced by being a member of the FASIG.

I have enjoyed serving you as the FASIG President these past years and I look forward to meeting you at CSM in 2010.

*Respectfully submitted by,
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