

# Association News

## Highlights of the Council Meeting

November 14, 2012, Sheraton Suites Old Town Alexandria, Alexandria, VA

AsMA President, Glenn Merchant (GM), called the meeting to order at 0900 hrs. He and the Executive Director (ED), Jeff Svntek, welcomed those in attendance and thanked them for their efforts, especially during the Thanksgiving season. Council members and others in attendance introduced themselves.

The new approach to Council meetings' agenda was discussed and unanimously approved for adoption for this and future meetings. The benefits of having a "consent agenda" along with a previously sent "book" containing all the committee and other reports were described, including greater efficiency: (a) elimination of lengthy oral reports; (b) focus on issues that require Council's attention and action; and (c) intent for improved productivity in communications. Later, it was resolved that future editions of the Council Book and Consent Agenda will be posted in the website for Council and Committee Chair access only. Care will be taken on what contents to include as some of the documents are not appropriate for public view. To track action items resulting from Council meetings, Joe Ortega (JO) will prepare a "dashboard" of said items to facilitate their appropriate and timely disposition. [Note: The use of the new consent agenda means that reporting of Council events will focus on the extractions, information, and action items, rather on individual committee or constituent reports.]

The minutes of the last Council meeting, held on 13 May 2012, were approved pending several minor changes.

GM called attention to the ED Report, which notes that laws are changing, specifically those concerning the IRS. He commended the ED in his efforts to maintain the Association current and compliant with all regulations and recommended AsMA become a member of the Council of American Specialty Societies to ensure the Association is aware of the various changes in regulations pertinent to our organization and issues we struggle with as other organizations do (membership, dues, meetings, etc). GM has visited with various organizations, including the Flying Physicians Association and the Civil Aviation Medical Association (CAMA), focusing on membership and the need to identify alternate business models to increase it, particularly in spite of reduced travel budgets. Discussions ensued prompting us to consider a change in our approach – from the conduct of a single annual meeting to offering several meetings and webinar opportunities – all implying a change in paradigm and developing marketing/entrepreneurial strategies.

*Executive Director's (ED) Report:* ED announced that Rachel Trigg's position description was updated to reflect her duties as AsMA Web Master. ED also discussed the AsMA Journal Editor's and assistant's contracts (renewable every 3 years) – as they were restructured to comply with IRS requirements and to make them clearly distinguishable from

AsMA employees. ED stressed that all activities and products remained the same.

The AsMA 2013 meeting in Chicago will depend on union labor to support power and audiovisual requirements. As a result, these costs will be significantly higher than normal. Details regarding the availability of power and other issues were discussed next as follows: 1) power will be available in rooms holding luncheon meetings; 2) power will be available in rooms holding committee meetings if, and only if, this has been a requirement in the past – otherwise, committee chairs are to contact Walt Galanty if they MUST have power; 3) all were reminded to not bring LCD (or similar) projectors or AV devices, as these will not function without appropriate union-provided widgets.

The AsMA 2017 meeting will be held in Denver, CO. From 47 proposals, 5 venues were presented to ExComm for consideration, including dates outside of Mother's Day and non-unionized services, and Denver most closely met our needs.

The membership database was reviewed to eliminate names of members who are deceased and update Emeritus members' status. There were 2,250 active AsMA members.

*Treasurer's Report:* The 2013 Budget was reviewed and approved. The UBS report was discussed in terms of the primary financial goal of the organization: capital preservation. Issues such as maintenance planning, catastrophic contingency funds, and AsMA Foundation support were also discussed.

*Bylaws:* The following motions were presented and approved: 1) the Editor of the AsMA Journal is an ex-officio (e.g., without vote) member of Council; 2) the Aviation Safety Committee will from now on be known as the Aerospace Safety Committee and the committee will remove "Initiate studies" from their goals, as this activity would require funding, currently unavailable; 3) the Finance Committee Chair's role was clarified as indicated in the Bylaws report; 4) Article XI – The following three Standing Committees will be added to the Bylaws: Registration, Scientific Program, and Arrangements. The complete Bylaws amendments were published in the February issue (ASEM 2013; 84:173) and will be voted upon at the annual business meeting on Tuesday, May 14, 2013.

*P&P Manual:* The Policies and Procedures (P&P) Manual was clarified as a living and evolving document. Its latest version was approved by Council. It was confirmed that the P&P does require Council approval. However, concern was expressed on the speed and need of said approval, if the changes to the manual are not substantive in nature. That is, the Bylaws need to be revised so as to allow certain changes to the P&P manual without Council approval.

*Annual Scientific Meeting:* Valerie Martindale reported that a total of 550 abstracts were received as late as 13 November. There remain some issues to resolve with the company providing the abstract submission website service, many related to the submission of panels.

*DoD Conference Policy:* Restrictions for U.S.

Department of Defense employees to travel to conferences was discussed at length. Given that AsMA is not a DoD entity hosting the meeting, the Secretary (or Undersecretary) of each military service has to approve attendance to the AsMA meeting by DoD personnel. The ED has been working to address this issue, including discussions with the Air Force Surgeon General. The American Medical Association has been actively combating the policy, which affects the completion of physician CME requirements, faculty, and medical students. The consequences of the policy are considered to be deleterious to education, scientific collaboration, communications, and the number and quality of products (presentations/lectures). In addition, the issue has a significant international impact, as many nations rely on US meetings to complete educational or certification requirements. Also travel restrictions are neither a one-year problem nor do they affect only medical meetings.

*Nurse Continuing Education:* ED thanked Yvette DeBois, Kim Barber, Nora Taylor, and Marian Sides for their efforts in reinvigorating the nurses to participate in AsMA conferences and the revamping of AsMA activities to address nursing professionals' accreditation requirements as established by the American Nurses Credentialing Center.

*ACCME:* AsMA is currently undergoing review of its CME program by the ACCME. An interview of the ED and Dr. Eilis Boudreau (EB) was conducted on 1 November 2012. The interview resulted in 1 recommendation for improvement: the conduct of a survey of physicians following the AsMA meeting, to assess their improvement (e.g., determine if their practice has changed as a result of what they learned at the AsMA meeting). The ACCME review will be completed in March 2013.

*Journal News:* The Managing Editor, Pam Day, proposed to remove the News section from the Journal as it is better suited for posting in the AsMA website. A member survey will address this proposal. She will also be developing an archiving mechanism for this type of content.

*Constituent Membership Dues:* The ability for constituent organization members to pay their dues to these organizations through the AsMA website along with AsMA dues was discussed at length. The ultimate goal is to formulate a single centralized system that would be able to accommodate all constituents' needs and yet not develop a service that would need constant revisions. Benefits of the centralized fee processing system were highlighted including (a) facilitates reporting: own and to other groups – i.e., improves accounting procedures (membership and finance tracking) and (b) integrates databases– facilitating planning, reconciling, and data integrity. It was stressed that any member of a constituent organization must also be a member of AsMA. There are many ramifications to combining the dues payments and this is an ongoing issue.

*AsMA Website:* Highlights of the new website include: (a) the Events Calendar section (submit Events to the ED for approval); (b) the

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Question of the Day section, which could be pushed as an RSS as well, to attract visitors to the website; (c) the Ask the Expert section, manned by Dr. Russell Rayman and others; and (d) the links to related organizations, such as the Aerospace Physiology Society. Volunteers are needed to support the contents of the aerospace medicine topics and pictures presented in the main page of the website (top side), such as the preparation of refresh and additional pages to provide details expanding the information presented in the front page. The advertising space shown on the top and bottom banners of the AsMA website is being offered for sale. AsMA will receive a commission for this. A Website Capital Campaign will be launched to raise the \$30K needed to complete planned improvements to the website (further integration of data, addition of tools, etc.). The goal is to collect these funds by May 2013 with the assistance of members, AsMA Foundation, Constituents, and others. Donations are tax deductible.

**Strughold Award:** Council was informed that the Wall Street Journal was about to publish (and now has published) an article on Hubertus Strughold and his possible involvement in the abuse of prisoners for medical experimentation during WWII in Germany. A very long and lively debate ensued because the Space Medicine Association (SMA) has an award named for Strughold, who is considered by many to be the father of Aerospace Medicine. There are those who think that the award should be renamed, retired, or stay the same. It is ultimately up to the Space Medicine Association, and not the Aerospace Medical Association, to decide. More information is to be provided by the SMA.

**AMA Delegate Report:** AMA requires that 20% of AsMA's U.S. physician members be registered members of AMA in order for AsMA to retain its seat at the AMA House of Delegates. AsMA is to ensure this requirement is met within 1 year. We will be asking our 893 U.S. physician members to consider joining or continuing their membership in AMA so we can retain our national specialty status.

The meeting was adjourned at 1628 hrs. The next Council meeting will be held Sunday, May 12, 2013, 0900 hrs, at the Chicago Sheraton Hotel and Towers, Chicago, IL.

### **Mayo Clinic Aerospace Medicine Fellowship**

*by Lawrence W. Steinkraus, M.D., Program Director of Medicine, Mayo Clinic*

The Fellowship in Aerospace Medicine was established at Mayo Clinic in 2008 and received ACGME accreditation in 2010. The first fellow started his training in 2011. The program was created to train physicians for specialization and board certification in aerospace medicine and to develop leaders in clinical and academic aerospace medicine, aerospace medicine research and programmatic areas at federal, state, or local levels.

The program resides in the Division of Preventive, Occupational and Aerospace Medicine of the Department of Medicine at the Mayo Clinic. The Fellowship couples the clinical and research expertise of Mayo Clinic in aerospace and hyperbaric medicine with partnerships to provide a comprehensive academic and practicum experience. An M.P.H. is included as part of the training through the University of Minnesota School of Public Health. Fellows also receive initial flight train-

ing at the John D. Odegard School of Aerospace Sciences of the University of North Dakota. Other key partners include the USAF School of Aerospace Medicine (USAFSAM), the Civil Aerospace Medical Institute of the FAA, and NASA.

Fellows are encouraged to and supported in research efforts as part of their experience. They are also expected to participate in regular rotary and fixed wing flying operations, hyperbaric medicine operations, and individualized curricula designed to support future career plans. Mayo Clinic offers a wide range of world class training in all clinical areas of interest to the aerospace medical practitioner. Furthermore, an active aeromedical clinical practice including six senior FAA AMEs provides ample opportunities for trainees to care for pilots with complex medical issues.

U.S. citizenship is not required. However, applicants must be able to meet Minnesota Board of Medicine requirements for state licensure. Additionally, fellows currently serving in the Air National Guard or Reserve may continue to do so during their training, under appropriate oversight for duty hours and with the understanding that Fellowship requirements must be primary. Mayo's main aeromedical focus is supporting commercial aerospace efforts, but there is also a strong military aeromedical connection with active training agreements with USAFSAM and the ANG.

The Fellowship is a 24-month program and follows current ACGME guidelines with respect to required clinical time and programmatic structure. The Fellowship can accept one fellow per year although we anticipate expansion as the program matures. Currently, there are two fellows in the program and the 2013

*See FELLOWSHIP, p. 273.*

**UNDERSEA & HYPERBARIC MEDICAL SOCIETY**  
**46th ANNUAL SCIENTIFIC MEETING**

**JUNE 13-15**  
**2013**  
Pre-course: June 12

**LOWES ROYAL PACIFIC RESORT AT UNIVERSAL ORLANDO**  
ROOM RATE: \$169.00 s/d

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT OUR WEBSITE: [WWW.UHMS.ORG](http://WWW.UHMS.ORG)

**FELLOWSHIP, from p. 272.**

slot has been filled. The next opening will be in 2014. Applicants must have completed at least 3 years of post-graduate training in an ABMS approved clinical specialty and be board eligible or certified in that specialty.

The Program Director is Lawrence W. Steinkraus, M.D., M.P.H. Dr. Steinkraus brings strong operational and teaching experience in aerospace medicine from his work in the USAF. Dr. Russell B. Rayman provides valuable guidance as the Chair of the Residency Advisory Committee for the Fellowship.

For further information, contact Dr. Steinkraus (Steinkraus.lawrence@mayo.edu).

**New Members**

- Alsaed, Hesham, Capt., M.B., B.S., SRNF, Beaver Creek, OH
- Beaty, Leland P., USMC, Waco, TX
- Farrag, Lila, B.S., Carrboro, NC
- Ganau, Mario, Dr., Trieste, Italy
- Hurst, Stephen G., M.D., Suffern, NY
- Jetzer, Thomas C., M.D., Edina, MN
- Lambird, Jonathan E., Winston Salem, NC
- Leary, David B., Capt., USAF, Eielson AFB, AK
- Lerner, David J., M.D., Prairie Village, KS
- Peissl, Sylvia, M.Sc., Graz, Austria
- Raslau, David, Rochester, MN
- Rings, Matthew, CAPT, USN, MC, Cumming, GA
- See, Brian Cy, Dr., Singapore, Singapore
- Thompson, Art, Lancaster, CA
- Trinkle, Jennifer L., Lt. Col., USAF, NC, Palm Bay, FL
- Van Hanen, Markku, Dr., Jarvenpaa, Finland

**NEWS OF CORPORATE MEMBERS**

**HeartSine Donates Defibrillator to Volunteer Fire Department**

HeartSine® Technologies, Inc., announced it has donated a Samaritan® PAD 300P Public Access Defibrillator to the fire department in Antelope, OR. The automated external defibrillator (AED), valued at \$1255, was presented to Michael Carter, Antelope's fire chief. Antelope's fire department is all-volunteer and serves a town of 45-50 full-time residents, small businesses, and tourists. They also provide aid to nearby ranches and other small communities in north-central Oregon. The nearest fire-rescue or emergency medical service with an AED is at least 45 minutes away in good weather. When a sudden cardiac arrest strikes, that's much too long to wait. Carter contacted all the AED manufacturers to ask for donations, but only HeartSine responded.

—To read more about this, please see [http://www.heartsine.com/wp-content/uploads/Antelope-FD\\_dlk3.pdf](http://www.heartsine.com/wp-content/uploads/Antelope-FD_dlk3.pdf) (pdf file).

**ETC Awarded GAT-II Trainer Contract by FAA**

The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) has commissioned Environmental Tectonics Corporation (ETC) to build a state of the art flight trainer for its Oklahoma City, OK, facility. The trainer, known as the General Aviation Trainer-II (GAT II), meets the FAA's

"level two" standards for flight trainers and can be used for training or research purposes. The FAA bought the fixed-wing version of the device and already operates other ETC equipment, including a GAT HELO, the helicopter version of the trainer.

The GAT-II trains users in basic flight scenarios, instruments, spatial disorientation, navigation, GPS panel, mishap prevention, spatial disorientation, situational awareness, emergency procedures, and partial panel skills. These various training programs are provided in a single device that operates on three axes of motion. The device is equipped with real-world visuals and a bezelled instrument display. It supplies a photorealistic, textured, out-the-window scene projected on a wide, field-of-view, dome-shaped visual display. Users can choose among various meteorological conditions.

—To read more, please see <http://phx.corporate-ir.net/phoenix.zhtml?c=106827&p=irol-newsArticle&ID=1773289&highlight=>.

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**European School of Aviation Medicine**

**Training Courses 2013 for JAA/FAA Aero Medical Examiners**

<b>Aviation Medicine/Travel Medicine Diploma Course 22 (waiting list)</b>	9 – 17 March 2013
<b>AME Class 2 Basic Course 23</b>	31 August – September 2013
<b>AME Class 1 Advanced Course 23</b>	7 – 15 December 2013
<b>Aviation Medicine/Travel Medicine Diploma Course 23</b>	8 – 16 March 2014

**Venue: Lufthansa Aeromedical Center, Frankfurt Airport**

Application forms and further details under [www.flugmed.org](http://www.flugmed.org) or [www.eusam.org](http://www.eusam.org).

**Meetings Calendar**

- **March 11-15, 2013:** Annual European Flight Surgeons Conference & NATO Science and Technology Organization (STO) Technical Course; Hercules Theater, Ramstein Air Base, Germany. For more information or to register, please go here.
- **March 17, 2013;** ICAO Pre-conference Symposium; ICAO Headquarters, Montreal, Quebec, Canada. For more information or to register, please visit <http://www.icao.int/Meetings/atconf6/Pages/Symposium-Registration.aspx>.
- **March 18-22, 2013;** Sixth Worldwide Air Transport Conference: Sustainability of Air Transport; ICAO Headquarters, Montreal, Quebec, Canada. For more information or to register, please visit <http://www.icao.int/Meetings/atconf6/Pages/default.aspx>.
- **May 2-5, 2013;** Flying Physicians Association Great Lakes Chapter Spring 2013 Meeting; Amway Grand Plaza Hotel, Grand Rapids, MI. Please visit [www.fpadrs.org](http://www.fpadrs.org) for details and registration information.
- **May 16-19, 2013;** Flying Physicians Association Dixie Chapter Spring 2013 Meeting; Stella Maris, Bahamas. Please visit [www.fpadrs.org](http://www.fpadrs.org) for details and registration information.
- **June 3-7, 2013;** International Committee on Aeronautical Fatigue and Structural Integrity (ICAF) Conference and Symposium; Jerusalem, Israel. For more information, please visit [www.icafe2013.org](http://www.icafe2013.org).
- **June 23-27, 2013;** Flying Physicians Association 2013 Annual Meeting; Hyatt Milwaukee Hotel; Milwaukee, WI. Please visit [www.fpadrs.org](http://www.fpadrs.org) for details and registration information.
- **September 11-4, 2013;** XXVI National Congress of AIMAS, held jointly with the European Low Gravity Research Association's (ELGRA's) biennial symposium; Vatican City, Italy. For more information, please contact Maj. Paola Verde or visit [www.aimas.it](http://www.aimas.it) or [www.elgra.org](http://www.elgra.org).
- **October 6-10, 2013.** The 61st International Congress of Aviation and Space Medicine (ICASM 2013) . Inbal Hotel, Jerusalem, Israel. Info: <http://www.icasm2013.org>.