



Ever Upward

August 2026

Wagstaff Installed as AsMA President; Bonato Is President-Elect

Anthony Wagstaff, M.B.Ch.B., D.Av.Med., was installed as President of AsMA during the Annual Business Meeting, held May 19, 2026, at the Sheraton Denver Downtown, Denver, CO, United States. He has worked in aerospace medicine since 1991. He started his career in 1985 when he earned his LRCPI, LRCSE, M.B.Ch.B., and BAO from the Royal College of Surgeons



in Ireland. He was awarded a Diploma in Aviation Medicine from the Royal College of Physicians, London, United Kingdom, in 1997 and then graduated from the University of Oslo in 2001 with a Dr. Med. (Ph.D.). In 2005, he earned an Executive Master of Business Administration from ESCP/EAP, Paris, France. He has primarily supported the Norwegian Air Force but has also been active as a civilian AME in Norway and for

EASA. He has a wide range of research activities spanning noise and vibration, hypoxia, ergonomics, and preventive medicine to human factors and fatigue.

Dr. Wagstaff is currently Principal Advisor of Aerospace Medicine for the Norwegian Armed Forces and Adjunct Professor in Occupational and Aviation Medicine at the Institute of Health and Science at the University of Oslo. For a full biography, please see the August 2025 issue of *Aerospace Medicine and Human Performance* [AMHP 2025; 96(8):789].

Frederick Bonato, Ph.D., was chosen as President-Elect of AsMA during the Annual Business Meeting on May 19, 2026. He will be installed as President next year. He received his Bachelor of Arts, magna cum laude, from Rutgers University in 1989 and went on to receive his Masters and Doctor of Philosophy degrees there as well. He is a Fellow of the Aerospace Medical Association (AsMA) and serves as Vice President for Education & Research. He additionally served for 14 years as the Editor-in-Chief of AsMA's peer-reviewed journal, *Aerospace Medicine and Human Performance*. He also was elected to the International Academy of Aviation and Space Medicine in 2015.



Dr. Bonato has been in the education field for 30 years as a professor and administrator. He spent 17 years with Saint Peter's College, Jersey City, NJ, first as Assistant Professor, then Associate Professor, then as a full Professor of Psychology and Director of the Office of Faculty Research and Sponsored Programs (OFRSP). In that capacity, he reported directly to the Vice President of Academic Affairs and his responsibilities included government grants, internal

fellowships, maintaining the OFRSP website, and coordinating faculty development resources and activities. He was Chair of the Department of Psychology as well. He served as Associate Provost for Academic Affairs at Montclair State University from 2013 to 2017 and played a central role in health-related initiatives, including launching the School of Nursing and the Center for Clinical Services.

Dr. Bonato has worked on numerous college task forces and committees including the Task Force for a Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning, the Information Technology Strategic Planning Committee, the Animal Care Committee, the Library Committee, and Co-coordinator of the Vickers Lecture Series in the Natural Sciences. In addition, he has been a reviewer for *ACM Transactions on Applied Perception*; *Aviation, Space, and Environmental Medicine* (now known as *Aerospace Medicine and Human Performance*); the *Journal of the Optical Society*; the *Journal of Psychosomatic Research*; the *Journal of Vestibular Research*; *Perception*; *Psychological Science*; and the Royal Society of London.

Other elected officials are: **Vice Presidents** Susan Fondy, M.D., and Kathy Hughes, M.D.; **Treasurer** Jeffrey Sventek, MS; and **Members-at-Large** Jennifer Benincasa, M.D., Matthew Cooper, M.D., Katie Samoil, RN, and Marc Shepanek, Ph.D.

Jahangir to Publish New Book

On August 25, 2026, astronaut, cardiologist, speaker, and AsMA member Dr. Eiman Jahangir, M.D., MPH, will release his new book, *A Heart for Space: An Astronaut's Guide to Achieving the Impossible*. This work blends memoir and practical life lessons, drawn from his extraordinary path from a childhood shaped by the Iran-Iraq War to becoming the first Iranian-American man to travel to space and the world's first commercial physician-astronaut.



Dr. Jahangir says, "People often assume that achieving a dream means following a straight line. My experience taught me the opposite. Dreams evolve. Doors close. New opportunities appear.

The key is staying in motion long enough to recognize them."

More than a traditional space memoir, *A Heart for Space* offers readers a practical blueprint for pursuing ambitious goals in the face of setbacks and uncertainty. Interwoven throughout the narrative are candid interviews with eight influential figures in modern space exploration: current NASA Administrator Jared Isaacman, former NASA astronaut Nicole Stott, artist and astronaut Sian Proctor, bioastronautics researcher Kellie Gerardi, astronaut and cancer survivor Hayley Arceneaux, Israeli astronaut and entrepreneur Eytan Stibbe, engineer Chris Huie, and physician Drew Gaffney. Together, their stories broaden

Send information for publication in this newsletter to: communications@asma.org.

the book beyond one man's journey and offer rare insight into the mindset, resilience, and humanity required to reach orbit—literally and figuratively.

Alongside the book launch, Dr. Jahangir is also expanding the *A Heart for Space* platform through a companion podcast featuring conversations with astronauts, entrepreneurs, physicians, and thought leaders whose stories reflect the book's core themes of resilience, reinvention, and purposeful living.

For more about *A Heart for Space* and Dr. Jahangir, visit <https://www.simonandschuster.com/books/A-Heart-for-Space/Eiman-Jahangir/9781637635964>.

Hughes Wins Stinson Award

Col. (Ret.) Kathryn Hughes, M.D., MPH, DAvMed, USAF, FASMA was recently awarded the National Aeronautic Association's (NAA's) Stinson Award for her significant work to support the advancement of and expansion of opportunities for women in aerospace. The Stinson Award honors the legacy of Katherine and Marjorie Stinson, pioneering aviators of the early 20th century and founders of the Stinson School of Flying.



Amy Marino Spowart, President and CEO of the NAA, spoke very highly of Dr. Hughes: "Kathy has never been afraid to step away from the crowd and do what others simply wouldn't. She reflects the very essence of the Stinson sisters' daring spirit and excellence. From the flight deck to her clinic, Kathy shines brightly on her own terms, and her true

gift is empowering other women to find the confidence to do the exact same."

For the full press release, visit <https://naa.aero/national-aeronautic-association-names-kathryn-hughes-as-recipient-of-the-2026-stinson-award/>.

Meetings Calendar

Ongoing: HFACS Workshops; Online. For more info, please visit <https://www.enrole.com/erau/jsp/course.jsp?category-Id=&courseId=HFAC> for in-person and <https://www.enrole.com/erau/jsp/course.jsp?categoryId=558570F8&course-Id=OHFA>.

Aug. 16-18, 2026: AAAE General Aviation Conference, Chicago, IL, United States. For more info, please visit <https://nata.aero/aae-general-aviation-conference-august-16-18-2026/>.

Sept. 13-18, 2026: 35th Congress of the International Council of the Aeronautical Sciences; Sydney, Australia. For more info, please visit <https://icas2026.com/>.

Oct. 1-3, 2026: International Congress of Aerospace Medicine (ICAM); Istanbul, Türkiye. For more info, please visit <http://www.icam2026.org/>.

Nov. 23, 2026: RAeS Aerospace Medicine Group Annual Symposium 2026; London, UK. For more info, please visit <https://www.aerosociety.com/events-calendar/raes-aero-space-medicine-group-annual-symposium-2026/>.



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Aerospace Medical Association Honors Night Awards

Sheraton Downtown Denver, Denver, CO; May 21, 2026

Dr. Warren Silberman, President of the Aerospace Medical Association, presented 19 awards to outstanding members during the Honors Night ceremonies at the AsMA Annual Scientific Meeting, May 21, 2026, at the Sheraton Denver Downtown, Denver, CO, United States. Eric Olins, M.D., Chair of the Awards Committee, read the citations. The names of the awards' sponsors and representatives, when present, are printed in parentheses.

The Clark and Goldenrath awards were not presented this year. The Adams, Gillingham, and Ward Awards were presented, but the honorees were unable to be there.

All photos are by Christie's Photography unless otherwise noted. A full photo gallery is available at: <https://aeromed.smugmug.com/>.



Warren Silberman,
2025–2026 AsMA President



2026 Louis H. Bauer Founder's Award
Roger Vanderbeek, M.D., MPH
(Clayton Cowl, Mayo Clinic)



2026 John C. Adams Award
Beatriz Puente Espada, M.D., MS, MHA, AME
(Carolina Saez-Nievas, accepting; Keith Roxo, Society of U.S. Naval Flight Surgeons)



2026 Boothby-Edwards Award
Charles Mathers, M.D., MPH, FAsMA
(Michael Berry, Harvey Watt & Co.)



2026 John Ernisting Award
Anthony S. Wagstaff, M.B.B.Ch., BAO, Ph.D., Dip.Av.Med., MBA
(George Anderson, ETC)



2026 Kent K. Gillingham Award
Ian Curry, B.Med.Sci, BM, BS, M.Sc., D.Av.Med.
 (Angus Rupert, accepting; Harald Mackenhuber, AMST)



2026 John D. Hastings Award
Joseph I. Sirven, M.D.
 (Greg Pinnell, Civil Aviation Medical Association)



2026 Won Chuel Kay Award
Sally A. Evans, MBE, MBBS, FRCP, FFOM, D.Av.Med.
 (Eun-Taek Lee, Korean Aerospace Medical Association)



2026 Joe Kerwin Award
Michael Schmidt, M.Phil., Ph.D., Ph.D., FAsMA
 (Rob Janney, KBR)



2026 Mary T. Klinker Award
Robert Haddon, M.D., MS, FAsMA
 (Jeff Sventek, ZOLL Medical Corp.)



2026 Sidney D. Leverett, Jr. Environmental Science Award
Alejandro Garbino, M.D., Ph.D.
 (Alper Kus, ETC)



2026 Eric Liljencrantz Award
Angus H. Rupert, M.D., Ph.D., FAsMA
 (Jeff Svntek, Aerospace Medical Association)



2026 Raymond F. Longacre Award
William Hoffman, USAF, MC, FS, M.D.
 (Harriet Lester, Aerospace Human Factors Association)



2026 Theodore C. Lyster Award
Jan Stepanek, M.D., MPH, FAsMA, DiMM
 (Eric Johnson, Society of U.S. Army Flight Surgeons)



2026 Marie Marvingt Award
Peter H. U. Lee, M.D., Ph.D., MPH, MS, FACS, FACC
 (Patricia Maruani, La Société Francophone de Médecine Aérospatiale)



2026 Harry G. Moseley Award
Benjamin Johansen, D.O., MPH
 (Chris Backus, International Association of Military Flight Surgeon Pilots)



2026 John Paul Stapp Award
James Pattarini, M.D., MPH
 (Tim Kennedy, ETC)



2026 John A. Tamisiea Award
Courtney D. Scott, Jr., D.O., MPH, MS
 (Greg Pinnell, Civil Aviation Medical Association)



2026 Arnold D. Tuttle Award
John French, MS, Ph.D., and Scott D. Wagner, CAsP, MA, MAS, BS
 (Casey Pruett, KBR)



2026 Julian E. Ward Award
Vasilis Mavratsas, M.D., MS
 (Napheesa Yiltiz, accepting; W. Preston Laslie, Society of U.S. Air Force Flight Surgeons)



2026 President's Citation 1
 Gen. George Anderson was presented with a citation from Dr. Warren Silberman, 2025-2026 AsMA President.



President's Citation 2
 Dr. Melchor Antuñano was also presented with a citation from Dr. Warren Silberman, 2025-2026 AsMA President.



Gift from Dr. Silberman 1
 Jeff Svntek was recognized by Dr. Silberman with a gift for his service.



More Gifts from Dr. Silberman

Dr. Dan VanSyoc, left, and Dr. Anthony Wagstaff, right, were also honored with a gift from Dr. Silberman. Not pictured is Dr. Al Parmet, who also received a gift but was not able to be there.



Past President's Pin

Yalonda Silberman pins Dr. Silberman with the Past President's pin. Dr. Wagstaff, incoming AsMA President, watches from one side.



Past President's Gift

Incoming President Dr. Anthony Wagstaff presents outgoing President Dr. Warren Silberman with a captain's clock as a token of appreciation.



Passing the Gavel

Outgoing President Dr. Warren Silberman passes the gavel to incoming President Dr. Anthony Wagstaff at the Joint Council Meeting on May 20. Photo courtesy of Jaime Harvey.

View the Full Gallery Online

Ready to see more photos from the 2026 AsMA-UHMS Annual Scientific Meeting?

Full galleries of images from this year's and earlier events are available at <https://aeromed.smugmug.com/>. Enjoy!

2026 FAA AME Seminars

These are offered by the FAA AME Program Office.

Aug. 7-9	Cambridge, MA (Tentative)	Refresher
Sept. 21-25	Oklahoma City, OK	Basic
Oct. 22-24	Dayton, OH	CAMA
Nov. 13-15	Virtual (Int'l)	Refresher

AsMA only takes registrations for the seminar held at our Annual Scientific Meeting. Visit the FAA AME seminar schedule at <https://bit.ly/45GmRID> for more information.

Annual Lectures



Bauer Lecture: John Lyng, M.D., FAEMS, FACEP, NRP, gave the 71st Louis Bauer Lecture on "Redefining Readiness in the Sky: Development of Evidence-Based Recommendations to Update On-Board Medical Kits in the United States".



Armstrong Lecture: George Anderson, left, and Warren Silberman, right, stand with Bindhu Oommen, M.D., center left, and Kai Staats, M.S., center right, the lecturers for the 60th Harry G. Armstrong Lecture on "Biosphere 2 and Medical Aspects".



Reinartz Lecture: Rebecca Blue, M.D., Amy Kreykes, M.D., Serena Auñon-Chancellor, M.D., and Tom Marshburn, M.D., gave the 12th Eugen G. Reinartz Memorial Lecture on "Managing Spaceflight-Associated Motion Sickness: Outcomes of the Spaceflight Health Aggregated Research Evidence Database (SHARED) Study".



50-Year Pins: Geoffrey McCarthy, bottom left, Al Parmet, top, and Robert Ryan, bottom right, received their 50-Year Pins. Leroy Gross and Mary Sanders also received theirs but could not attend. Kenneth Ingham received one posthumously. Also pictured: Gisselle Vargas, John Peters, and Warren Silberman.



Scholarship Winners



Mantri Scholarship: Kadambari Suri, the 2026 recipient of the Anita Mantri, Ph.D., Memorial Travel Scholarship, stands next to Gisselle Vargas, left, John Peters, center right, and Warren Silberman, right.



Scarpa Scholarship: Isabel Candir, the winner of the 2026 Philip J. Scarpa, Jr., M.D., Aerospace Medicine Endowed Scholarship, stands to the right of Gisselle Vargas. To the right of Isabel are Phil Scarpa, John Peters, and Warren Silberman.



AsMA International Scholarship: Mark Biernacki, center left, was the 2026 winner of the AsMA International Aerospace Medicine Scholarship. Standing with him are Gisselle Vargas, left, John Peters, center right, and Warren Silberman, right.



Mohler Scholarship: Daniel Cox, center left, was the 2026 winner of the Stanley R. Mohler, M.D., Aerospace Medicine Endowed Scholarship. Standing with him are Gisselle Vargas, left, John Peters, center right, and Warren Silberman, right.



Davis Scholarship: Patrizia Borzi, center left, was the 2026 recipient of the Jeffrey R. Davis Aerospace Medicine Endowed Scholarship. She stands with Gisselle Vargas, left, John Peters, center right, and Warren Silberman, right.

AMSRO Trailblazer Scholarship: Tyrone Jacobs, Jr., was the 2026 winner of the Trailblazer scholarship. He was unable to attend this year's meeting, but his biography can be found in the June issue of AMHP.

Presidents' Breakfast



Sunday Welcome Reception



Reception to Honor International Members & LSBE Social



UHMS Honors Night



RAM Bowl

The RAM Bowl was held Wednesday, May 20.

The winning team this year was the Astro-NOTS: Jinyong Bae, U.S. Army; Linda Fitts, U.S. Air Force; Heather Foster, U.S. Air Force; Andrew Lam, UTMB; Cari McDowell, U.S. Navy; and Joshua Sullivan, U.S. Army. The program with the highest score was UTMB.

The top scoring participants from each school were: Steven Lada from UHMS, Jinyong Bae from the U.S. Army, Cari McDowell from the U.S. Navy, Sandy Salzman from the U.S. Air Force, and Sam Stevenson from UTMB, who was the top scoring resident overall.



Above, Rebecca Blue gets ready. Below, Al Parmet stands at the podium between the teams of judges.



The referees explain the rules.



At the top, the RAM Bowl teams prepare to compete. Below that is the winning team, the Astro-NOTS.

Save these Dates!

The **2027 AsMA-UHMS Annual Scientific Meeting** will be held **May 23-27, 2027**, in Dallas, TX, at the Hilton Anatole Dallas Hotel. Details are coming soon to the asma-uhms-asm.org website.

Look out for the **Call for Abstracts** to open around **October 1, 2026**. This year, we are launching a new abstract submission site for BOTH AsMA and UHMS abstracts to be submitted in one place. We hope you will enjoy this streamlined process for our Joint Annual Scientific Meetings.

Evaluation instructions to receive your CME credits from the 2026 Annual Scientific Meeting were sent out in May. If you have not completed your evaluation, sign into your account on the asma-uhms-asm.org website, click "My Account," and select "2026 ASM Evaluation."

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Exhibitors

The exhibit hall was open for the Welcome Reception and during the day on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, May 18-20, 2026.



Pictured here are: GlobalMed, KBR, UTMB, GO2Altitude, and Environics.

Registration



News of Corporate Members

PHARMAFLIGHT Hosts Summer Camp Children

During summer camps organized by the Hajdú-Bihar County Chamber of Commerce and Industry, children visited the PHARMAFLIGHT complex to learn about the company's flight center, pilot training, and human performance diagnostics work. The children were able to try out flight simulators, experiencing both takeoff and landing. They were also given the opportunity to test out the PHAPA performance physiological diagnostics sensory data recording.

—Please visit <https://www.pharmaflight.hu/hbkik-nyari-tabor> to learn more.

AOPA-Backed Aviation Medication Transparency Bill Advances

The Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation has voted to advance the Aviation Medication Transparency Act (S.3258), a bill that would require the FAA to publish a public, user-friendly list of medications that pilots can safely use. The list must also be updated at least once a year. AOPA had sent a letter to Sens. Tammy Duckworth (D-Ill.) and John Hoeven (R-N.D.) in December endorsing the bill, noting that this information was “long overdue” and “critical to pilots.” After the Senate's vote, AOPA Senior Vice President of Government Affairs and Advocacy Jim Coon commented, “This step takes a commonsense approach in providing information that will help pilots make informed decisions about medications they can or shouldn't use.”

—Please visit <https://aopa.org/news-and-media/all-news/2026/july/22/aviation-medication-transparency-bill-advances> to learn more.

Mayo Clinic Uses Biodesign to Teach Innovation as a Clinical Skill

The Mayo Clinic College of Medicine and Science is expanding its Biodesign educational initiatives to train clinicians, trainees, and students to identify unmet needs in healthcare and use innovative thinking to develop solutions. “Biodesign is a framework. It's a validated, repeatable process. Biodesign is transforming innovation from an abstract concept into a teachable skill, one that Mayo clinicians, trainees, and staff can learn and apply in their daily work,” says Aman Verma, D.O., a hospitalist and innovation educator at Mayo Clinic. The next Biodesign workshop is scheduled for Nov. 5-6, 2026, in Phoenix, AZ.

—Please visit <https://newsnetwork.mayoclinic.org/discussion/mayo-clinic-uses-biodesign-to-teach-innovation-as-a-clinical-skill/> to learn more.

Martin-Baker Mk18 is the Latest in Escape System Technology

Martin-Baker is releasing a new range of Mk18 ejection seats this year. Two new Mk18 seat configurations are also undergoing qualification ejection testing for the Turkish Aerospace Hürjet and KAAAN aircraft programs.

—Please visit https://martin-baker.com/news_and_events/the-martin-baker-mk18-is-the-latest-in-escape-system-technology/ to learn more.

KBR's Mission Technology Solutions Selected for Multiple-Award Advisory Contract for National Air and Space Intelligence Center

KBR's Mission Technology Solutions business was recently selected for a multiple-award, Indefinite Delivery/Indefinite Quantity (IDIQ) contract by the National Air and Space Intelligence Center (NASIC) to advance critical intelligence missions. KBR will be providing advisory and assistance services for the research, development, and sustainment of intelligence systems and capabilities for the U.S. Air Force, Department of War, and intelligence community. The work will be performed at Wright-Patterson AFB in Ohio and other KBR facilities.

—Please visit <https://www.kbr.com/en/insights-news/press-release/kbrs-mission-technology-solutions-selected-multiple-award-advisory-contract-national-air-and-space-intelligence-center> to learn more.

ARS Pharmaceuticals Announces CEO Succession

The Board of ARS Pharmaceuticals has appointed current President Donn Casale as CEO and Director effective July 7, 2026. Mr. Casale has 25+ years of biopharmaceutical business and commercial leadership experience. He previously served as Chief Commercial Officer at Dynavax Technologies, held marketing and sales operations leadership positions at Depomed, and spent 14 years at Merck in sales, marketing, and corporate strategy roles.

—Please visit <https://ir.ars-pharma.com/news-releases/news-release-details/ars-pharmaceuticals-announces-ceo-succession> to learn more.

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Support the Foundation!

Empower the next generation of aerospace medicine professionals by supporting your AsMA Foundation's Need for Speed Campaign:

- Supporting education in our fields, such as graduate training in aerospace medicine
- Expanding the use of technology in aerospace medicine
- Establishing a grant-making fund to support research in aerospace medicine
- Supporting the growing commercial space industry

The goal is to raise \$5 million by AsMA's 100th Anniversary in 2029! Donate now at <https://asmafoundation.app.neoncrm.com/forms/donate-now>.