



*Your voice in the AAOS*

November 2016

Welcome to **BOC Now!** This newsletter is a way to share information from our recent meeting and communicate with our constituents: practicing orthopaedic surgeons, colleagues, new candidates/fellows, residents and fellows, state societies, our leadership line and the BOS and LFP. Take what you'd like out of this newsletter and SHARE it with your key stakeholders!

**Fall Meeting 2016:** An excellent array of speakers presented six Symposia. Speaker bios, symposia information and slides are available online but password protected for AAOS members only:  
<http://www.aaos.org/CustomTemplates/Content.aspx?id=4294973044>

**BOC Booth at Annual Meeting 2017:** The BOC will have a kiosk within the AAOS Resource Center (Booth #1423) which is directly adjacent to the PAC booth (Booth #1625). Our goals are to increase awareness of the BOC, educate the membership about the BOC's role within the Academy, and to promote PAC participation. The space will serve the Fellows of AAOS by familiarizing them with and connecting them to their state or regional Councilors. **Councilors will be assigned specific times at the booth, by state or region. Communications will be sent to Fellows, Residents, and Executive Directors so that they may visit with their state or regional Councilor while in San Diego.**

A new pilot program, [Communities in Motion](#), will be held on Tuesday, March 14, 2017 in San Diego. The afternoon event will feature orthopaedic surgeons leading interactive exercise stations to encourage families to be active together to help build strong bones for life. Communities in Motion, in partnership with San Diego Youth Services, will take place at the Spring Valley East Community Center, the location of the Academy's 2011 Family Fitness and Fun Park playground build. Please consider sponsoring the event or learning more at [ANationInMotion.org/communities](http://ANationInMotion.org/communities).

#### **Key Committee Takeaways:**

**Advocacy Resource Committee:** This was the first meeting of the Advocacy Resource Committee as part of the Board of Councilors. The committee plans to encourage young orthopaedic surgeons to become more involved in advocacy programs, and will work with the Resident Assembly to accomplish this. The committee also will continue to work on increasing participation in the key contact and ambassador program, along with expanding the tools to aid members in advocacy efforts. A new trend across smaller orthopaedic groups is to form a "Practice PAC" to support local and state candidates and issues. For more information, contact [Dean Schueller, MD](#) or [Julia Williams](#).

**Communications Committee:** The Committee reviewed its progress with the implementation of the BOC awareness campaign and considered new communication methods and tools that may be used to foster greater connection among Councilors and their constituents. During the BOC Business Meeting, the Committee polled Councilors about their perception and use of the new *BOC Now* communication and unveiled the **BOC Awareness Video** which was very well-received. **The video is posted online at [http://www.aaos.org/About/Board\\_of\\_Councilors/](http://www.aaos.org/About/Board_of_Councilors/) and each Councilor is encouraged to share it with your state and regional societies.** Contact [Thomas Muzzonigro, MD](#) or [Lauren Pearson Riley](#) with questions.

**Economics Committee:** The Economics Committee discussed the new Medicare payment models under the Quality Payment Program (QPP) including CJR and SHFFT and what AAOS is doing to prepare members for transition into these new models. OGR staff reminded members that they MUST report at least some data in 2017 to avoid a 4% penalty in 2019. The committee also discussed coding metrics, including the proposed rule to require physicians to report in 10 minute increments using G codes on all global surgery bundles. However, this rule has since changed so that physicians in only ten states will be required to report and none are required to use G codes. The committee will explore the total value of the orthopaedic surgeon including clinical: the short-term (outcomes/cost); lifetime quality benefit to patients and society; and Non-Clinical: the use of administrative and analytic skills on processes that increase quality and manage costs. For more information, contact [Catherine Boudreaux](#) or [Jeffrey Angel, MD](#).

**State, Legislative and Regulatory Issues Committee (SLRI):** SLRI met to discuss several state issues impacting orthopaedic surgeons. A major challenge our members face are narrowing networks within health insurance plans. Narrow networks have led to a spike in balance billing. Legislators, in trying to stem surprise bills, are seeking solutions that set out of network payment rates. SLRI also spoke about the current crisis in the workers compensation system and how SLRI could advocate for better access to care for injured workers. The committee also spoke about prior authorization; States have gained traction on the issue and are proposing major reform. Certain states are also facing challenges with the expanded role of allied health care professionals and repealing onerous certificate of need laws. Contact [Manthan Bhatt](#) and [Chris Kontogianis, MD](#) for more information.

**State Societies Committee:** The State Orthopaedic Societies Committee focused on the discussion, review and approval for several state society grants, including governance video modules to enhance board orientation, and the development of future leaders at the Board-level from the AAOS. Six state societies asked for funding to enhance membership, improve technology, engage residents, expand advocacy, and further educate constituents on health policy-related issues. Many states participated in the State Society retreat in St. Petersburg, FL earlier this month. Additional opportunities are being developed for 2017. The state leadership roundtable discussion will take place at NOLC and the Executive Director Institute. For more info, contact [Jim Slough, MD](#) or [Erin Volland](#).

Upcoming projects include creating a repository to hold direct links to toolkits and slideshows to help enhance communications with your key stakeholders. In the meantime, visit [www.aaos.org/BOC](http://www.aaos.org/BOC) to learn more about how the BOC works with and for you.

Thank you to our BOC volunteers who helped assemble BOC Now content. A special shout-out to BOC members Nick DiGiovine, John DiPreta, Todd Schmidt and Ron Wyatt for content creation and to committee chairs Jim Slough, Jeff Angel, Christopher Kontogianis and Dean Schueller for content creation and review.

Please feel free to reach out directly to me at [Muzzy@tririversortho.com](mailto:Muzzy@tririversortho.com), 412-780-9961, or Lauren Pearson Riley at [pearson@aaos.org](mailto:pearson@aaos.org), 847-384-4031 with comments, suggestions and ideas for improving the *BOC Now*. See y'all in San Diego at the Annual Meeting!

Muzzy  
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BOC Communications Committee Chair