Dear Colleagues,

I thank you for your continued support of COMS and I hope that 2016 is treating you well. Thanks to those who attended our ROME (Regional Osteopathic Medical Education) annual meeting this past August at Foxwoods. The education program was well-received and I trust that the program served your education needs.

Planning is underway for the 2016 conference, which is tentatively scheduled for early August in Providence RI. The continued success of this combined conference is vital to COMS' ability to support our mission of advancing the art and science of osteopathic medicine in Connecticut and fostering the professional spirit of our osteopathic community. Please let me know if you are interested in helping to plan the 2016 conference.

Congratulations to Dr. Boyd Buser on becoming the next president of the American Osteopathic Association. The presidential inauguration will take place during the AOA Annual Business Meeting in Chicago this coming July. COMS along with the other New England osteopathic societies are proud to see their very own Dr. Buser serve in this great role.

Upon completion of his osteopathic medical degree from the Des Moines (Iowa) University College of Osteopathic Medicine, Dr. Buser completed his postdoctoral medical training at the former Cranston General Hospital in Cranston, Rhode Island. He has served as the interim vice president and dean of the University of New England College of Osteopathic Medicine in Biddeford, Maine, as well as associate dean for clinical affairs.

A fellow of the American College of Osteopathic Family Physicians, Dr. Buser is past president of the American Academy of Osteopathy (AAO). In addition, he is a past chair of the National Board of Osteopathic Medical Examiners (NBOME) and was a founding member of the Board of Directors of the Osteopathic International Alliance. From 2011–2013, Dr. Buser served as co-chair of the Blue Ribbon Commission for the Advancement of Osteopathic Medical Education. He also served as a member of the AMA’s Current Procedural Terminology (CPT) Editorial Panel from 2007–2015.

Dr. Buser received the A.T. Still Medallion of Honor from the AAO in 2010. Additionally, he was a recipient of the Riland Medal for Public Service from the New York Institute of Technology College of Osteopathic Medicine in 2013 as well as the Santucci Award for outstanding contributions to the mission of the NBOME. In 2015 he received the Pioneer of Osteopathic Medicine Award from the University of New England College of Osteopathic Medicine.

Dr. Buser is an AOA board-certified physician in osteopathic manipulative medicine and family medicine. Dr. Buser currently serves as the vice president for health affairs and dean of the University of Pikeville-Kentucky College of Osteopathic Medicine (UP-KYCOM). He also serves as professor of osteopathic principles.

2016 Registration Open

Online registration is now open for AOA’s DO Day on Capitol Hill 2016 being held on Wednesday, April 13 in Washington, DC. DO Day provides an exciting opportunity for DOs and osteopathic medical students to come and use their time to educate members of Congress and their staff on the difference osteopathic medicine makes in communities and for patients across the country to improve health and well-being.

Go to http://tinyurl.com/DO-Day-2016 for more information.
interested in speaking at an upcoming event or simply want to attend. Beyond CME credit, it’s a great way to meet or catch up with colleagues around the state.

Speaking of meeting, or networking, did you know that COMS is now on LinkedIn? Search for us at CT Osteopathic Medical Society and request to join.

Adding to our professional spirit, Osteopathic Medical Education continues to grow in CT with both ECHN and UConn and their respective Osteopathic residency training programs. This past ROME, we elected Ruth Benet, DO (ECHN) and Jaclyn Olsen, DO (UConn) as resident representatives to our COMS board. We look forward to their input and contributions and I thank them for their service.

In advancing the art and science of osteopathic medicine in CT, COMS has donated funds in helping the new residency programs at ECHN attain educational needs including video recording and has set aside funds for research grants to support osteopathic residents throughout the state. This is a new venture for COMS and we will need ongoing support of membership in helping enhance resident education.

Advocacy for our members and our CT Osteopathic colleagues remains integral to COMS as we continue to provide representation at the AOA Annual Business Meeting and House of Delegates in Chicago. I thank Drs. Joe Podolski and Andy Yuan for joining me this past year. The highlight of the meeting was the announcement of Dr. Boyd Buser, DO as the President-elect of the AOA. Dr. Buser has long-supported interests of the New England States and has been integrally involved with his prior service through UNECOM and is currently Vice President for Health Affairs and Dean of KYCOM. He served as a key advocate and representative for the AOA in the ACGME regarding unifying GME-accreditation. We look forward to his presidency!

Finally, I’d like to officially welcome our new Affiliate Executive, Samyuktha Gumidyala, MPH. She has been enthusiastic from the start and will help COMS continue to support its mission and we are fortunate to have her with us.

Please let us know how COMS can support you and I hope to see you at our next ROME.

Gregory R. Czarnecki, DO

President’s Update (cont’d from front page)
UConn’s Osteopathic Internal Medicine program has had a very successful year. Our recruitment season has been laudable with several hundred applications; we are very much looking forward to the match in February. After recruitment season, our dual ACGME/AOA accredited program plans to continue training highly qualified osteopathic residents by submitting our application for osteopathic recognition in compliance with the ACGME/AOA merger.

In the fall, the osteopathic residents participated at the NEOMAN biannual conference in Sturbridge, MA. The day is always a much anticipated event to facilitate interaction with residents across training levels as well as other osteopathic residents in the NEOMAN OPTI.

Rebecca Dyer, a second year resident, placed 3rd out of 236 submitted entries for her clinical vignette entitled “Addison’s Disease Presenting as Sinus Arrest” at the October CT ACP poster competition.

Jackie Olsen, a third year resident, recently participated in the NRMP fellowship match. She matched at the Harvard Medical School Multicampus Geriatric Medicine Fellowship. Additionally, she attended the ACOI National Conference in Tampa, FL where she presented two clinical vignettes entitled “Did You Brush Your Teeth Today? A Case of Streptococcal Intermedius Bacteremia” and “Drop Attack: A Case of Metastatic Insulinoma” at the poster competition.

We are also happy to announce we have retained Dr. Saira Cherian from our graduating class of 2015 who has been hired as a primary care physician with UConn Health.
Resident Retreat

Family Practice Residents and rotating interns at ECHN expand their first hand knowledge of the healing power of laughter during a recent retreat at Six Flags New England.

Legislative Overview

February 2016

- **SB 5** would impose a fee on the manufacture, distribution, prescription, and dispensation of opioids.
  **Status:** The bill was referred to the Joint Committee on Finance, Revenue, and Bonding on 02/03/2016.
- **SB 129** would require insurance coverage for abuse-deterrent opioid analgesics.
  **Status:** The bill was referred to the Joint Committee on Public Health on 02/17/2016.
- **SB 67** would expand the scope of practice for Advanced Practice Registered Nurses by allowing them to make a determination of incapacity for purposes of a power of attorney.
  **Status:** The bill was referred to the Joint Committee on Public Health on 02/09/2016

COMS BEGINS NEW MEMBERSHIP YEAR

July 1 marks the start of the new 2016–17 membership year for the Connecticut Osteopathic Medical Society (COMS). Join now and help our voice grow stronger as COMS continues to advance and promote the osteopathic profession in our state. As your champion, our members benefit from:

- A loyal advocate in the legislative and regulatory arenas
- Registration discounts on CME programs
- Opportunities to enhance leadership skills
- Events encouraging connections with colleagues
- Ongoing support of Osteopathic education and local students, residents, and interns

Join or renew your membership now! Simply log into our website at [www.ctosteopathic.org](http://www.ctosteopathic.org) and click on Membership.
Membership Application

Please Type or Print Clearly

First Name: ____________________________

Last Name: ____________________________

Date of Birth: mm/dd/yyyy

Office Address

City: ____________________________

State/Zip: ____________________________

Practice Group:

Home Address

City: ____________________________

State/Zip: ____________________________

Home Phone: ____________________________

Fax: ____________________________

E-Mail: ____________________________

Type of Practice (ex. FP, EM, OMT, etc.):

Fellowships:

State of License: ____________________________

License #: ____________________________

Issue Date: ____________________________

State of License: ____________________________

License #: ____________________________

Issue Date: ____________________________

Board Certified? Y / N

Board Eligible? Y / N/ NA

Education:

College/Osteopathic:

Location: ____________________________

Date Grad: ____________________________

Internship Hospital:

Type: ____________________________

Location: ____________________________

Date Grad: ____________________________

Residency Hospital:

Type: ____________________________

Location: ____________________________

Date Grad: ____________________________

If accepted for membership, I agree to comply with the COMS bylaws and with the AOA Code of Ethics. By my signature, I authorize release of information contained in this application and in membership files of those organizations and hospitals to which I may subsequently apply for membership; and the release to COMS by organizations and hospitals of information relative to my previous membership in those organizations. I am a resident or a licensed physician in compliance with the state board of medical licensure and/or discipline's order.

Signature ____________________________ Date: ____________________________

Membership Category

| First Year in Practice | $99 |
| Second Year in Practice | $199 |
| Third Year in Practice or More | $250 |
| Out of State | $150 |
| Military/Retired | $100 |
| Student/Intern/Resident | $0 |

Amount $ ____________________________

Check enclosed

Check # ____________________________ (Payable to Connecticut Osteopathic Medical Society)

Please charge my: □ Visa □ MasterCard

Card Number: ____________________________

Exp. Date and Security Code: ____________________________

Return completed application and remittance to: Connecticut Osteopathic Medical Society

142 East Ontario Street – 4th Floor, Chicago, IL 60611-2864

or by Fax(312) 202-8401

Questions? Call (800) 648-9777 or email Connecticut@osteopathic.org
A CHART DOESN’T EMPATHIZE.

Before reading a chart or lab report, a DO sees a human being. Doctors of Osteopathic Medicine practice their distinct philosophy in every medical specialty. A DO first considers the person within the patient.

I DO.

Learn more at DoctorsThatDO.org
AOA BRAND CAMPAIGN

The American Osteopathic Association launched a national osteopathic awareness campaign at OMED on October 17, 2015.

This campaign raises public awareness about osteopathic medicine, DO’s and the philosophical approach in caring for their patients. The campaign features real DO’s from across the country. Ads have been seen in different publications and websites such as People, Essence, WebMD, and Healthgrades. The campaign will also be found on billboards and was even used at the New York City Marathon.

In two months, there have been over 75,000 visits to www.doctorsthatDO.org and over 16,000 “find your DO” searches. The campaign is definitely making its mark and just as AOA trustee Dr. William J. Burke says, the aim is that it “will educate patients and potential patients on who we are and what we do, but will also help enhance the pride of DO’s and medical students across the country.”

Check out the new website at www.doctorsthatDO.org, which is part of the campaign launch.

ECHN Resident Update

Health, Happiness, and Harmony

Ruth Benet, DO

What more could you ask of an osteopathic family medicine residency program? Our family unit on the eastern side of the river is comprised of 28 young Osteopathic physicians with as many unique interests and backgrounds. Throughout our community, experienced physicians utilize any opportunity to teach, discussing anything from patient cases or physiology to the meaning of life. Unique to our program is our focus on functional medicine—an integrative approach to health. This fall we have opened our minds to hypnosis and acupuncture and we have also broached such topics as laughter (on bumper cars at Six Flags!), gratitude and belief systems at our holiday party, as well as how our bodies manifest these belief systems. We have added even more osteopathic training with the guidance of our regular NMM preceptorship within our continuity clinic. We even have our own NMM fellow, with plans to include a full inpatient OMT service in our tight knit community hospital. We are all hard at work on team-based quality improvement projects and research to be presented alongside our UNECOM student colleagues at our annual Scholarly Activity Day, to be held this April.

Dr. Buser (cont’d from page 1)

and practice, and professor of family medicine at UP-KYCOM. Dr. Buser has served the AOA in numerous capacities, including recently serving as the chair of the Department of Business Affairs and the Bureau of Osteopathic Graduate Medical Education Development. He also has chaired the Departments of Professional Affairs, Governmental Affairs and Educational Affairs.

Save the date

Mark your calendars now and join us for OMED 2016 in Anaheim, CA

SEPT. 17 - 20