History of the American Association for Hand Surgery
1995 – 2020

by Robert C. Russell, MD
# TABLE OF CONTENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FOREWARD</td>
<td>v</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PREFACE</td>
<td>vii</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DEDICATION</td>
<td>ix</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHAPTER I: The Founding of AAHS</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHAPTER II: AAHS, 1995-2020</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHAPTER III: Affiliate Membership</td>
<td>67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHAPTER IV: Hand Surgery Endowment</td>
<td>69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHAPTER V: HAND Journal</td>
<td>71</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHAPTER VI: Hand Association News</td>
<td>75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHAPTER VII: Central Office</td>
<td>77</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>APPENDICES</td>
<td>79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I. Current Constitution and By-Laws</td>
<td>79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>II. List of Presidents</td>
<td>91</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>III. Meetings</td>
<td>93</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a. List of Annual Meeting Locations and Dates</td>
<td>93</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. Invited Lectures and Keynote Speakers</td>
<td>95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c. Danyo Presidential Invited Lecturers</td>
<td>99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IV. Awards</td>
<td>103</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a. Clinician/Teacher of the Year Award</td>
<td>103</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. HAND Journal Award</td>
<td>104</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c. Humanitarian Award</td>
<td>105</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d. International Reverse Surgery Fellowship Award</td>
<td>106</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e. Lean &amp; Green Award</td>
<td>107</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>f. Resident Essay Award</td>
<td>108</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>g. Research Grants</td>
<td>110</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>h. Vargas International Hand Therapy Teaching Award</td>
<td>115</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>V. Membership</td>
<td>119</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a. Current Member Roster</td>
<td>119</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Active Members</td>
<td>119</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Affiliate Members</td>
<td>129</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Candidate Members</td>
<td>131</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International Members</td>
<td>134</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emeritus Members</td>
<td>135</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retired Members</td>
<td>136</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
FOREWARD

The year 2020 marks the 50 year anniversary of the American Association for Hand Surgery. The organization was founded in 1970 by a small group of hand surgeons in Detroit, Michigan, and has now grown to over 1,500 members. The Founding Fathers of the Hand Association envisioned an inclusive society open to all physicians and surgeons caring for patients with hand injuries or acquired conditions. Over the last quarter of a century, inclusion of all specialties caring for these patients – plastic surgeons, orthopedic surgeons, general surgeons, physical therapists, occupational therapists, hand therapists, and now physician’s assistants and nurse practitioners – has been a hallmark of the AAHS’s mission and values, and has made the Hand Association a successful, welcoming community of professionals for 50 years.

AAHS has come of age far beyond what was envisioned in 1970. The Association now has a journal, HAND, published six times a year, in print and digital format. The Association’s Annual Meeting, held each January, has grown and expanded significantly since 1971, but still maintains its welcoming tenor for families with protected time for leisure and socializing. Activities and the award and grant programs outside of the Annual Meeting have expanded and provide educational opportunities to members throughout the year. These activities are conducted through the Association’s active committees and the Hand Surgery Endowment. The AAHS also helps fund physician and therapist teaching and service missions to underserved areas of the world.

Hand therapy has long been recognized as an integral and important component of achieving optimal upper extremity function before and/or after hand surgical procedures. Inclusion of therapists in all AAHS activities, including at the Board level, reflects the importance of therapy in patient care and the inclusive nature the Hand Association. Therapist support and participation has been an invaluable asset to the organization and more importantly has greatly improved patient outcomes. Most of the functional results obtained today following hand surgery procedures could not be achieved without hand therapy.

Over the last twenty-five years, a number of the AAHS Past Presidents have been responsible for developing many of the innovations, techniques, and treatment protocols now used by hand surgeons around the world. Dr. Susan Mackinnon conceived and developed the concept of nerve transfers to reinnervate muscles denervated by injury at a higher level. She was also the driving force for the initiation of the Association’s journal, HAND. Dr. Wyndell Merritt, in addition to being a world authority on regional pain syndromes, pioneered the concept of relative motion splinting now used by most hand therapists to improve motion after tendon repair. Dr. Donald Lalonde introduced us to hand surgery procedures performed using wide awake local anesthesia and its potential to reduce cost and the amount of materials used per case. Dr. Allen Van Beek and Dr. Michael Neumeister pioneered the use of Botox injections to treat patients with digital ischemia. Dr. Brian Adams pioneered and helped develop total wrist arthroplasty implants and procedures. Dr. Scott Kozin has been instrumental in developing long term relationships on mission trips to foster worldwide hand health in underdeveloped areas around the globe. Dr. Andy Lee is a true pioneer in hand transplantation. His basic science and clinical experience have resulted in new strategies for immunosuppression in vascularized composite allotransplantation (VCA). AAHS members are world authorities on wrist injury and repair, brachial plexus reconstruction, microsurgical free tissue transfers, and treatment of children with congenital hand deformities. One can only imagine the discoveries, innovations and treatment advancements we will see over the next twenty-five years.
AAHS membership, as envisioned by the Founders in 1970, continues to provide an educational platform, inclusive to all medical professionals providing care to patients with congenital or acquired upper extremity conditions. Hopefully, their vision will continue for many years to come.
PREFACE

In 2017 I was asked by the AAHS President at the time, Dr. Chris Pederson, to participate in a panel at the 2018 Meeting of the American Association for Hand Surgery titled, “AAHS and ASSH – The Past, Present, and Future,” along with Drs. James Chang and David Green. Dr. Pederson served as moderator. This panel described the history of the two hand surgery organizations, including why having two organizations is a benefit for hand and upper extremity surgeons, and how we can work together to improve patient care. While preparing for this panel I conducted research using Dr. Alan Freeland’s book, *The First Twenty-Five Years, History of the American Association for Hand Surgery*, published in 1995. Dr. Freeland’s book outlined how the formation of the Hand Association arose from a need for an inclusive hand surgery organization, and documented the first quarter century of AAHS growth and activity. It was an invaluable resource in my research.

It was at that time that the leadership and I realized the Hand Association would celebrate its 50th anniversary in 2020 and that the time had come to organize and record the history of our organization from 1995 through 2020. With that in mind, and my fondness for our organization, I volunteered to write this book as a complement to that of Dr. Freeland’s history from 25 years ago.

Again Dr. Freeland’s book was a great source of information in assembling this publication as were minutes from past annual and midyear Board meetings, issues of Hand Surgery News, and recollections from our Past Presidents and members who have guided the organization to where it is today.

I also need to thank the members of our management team at PRRI for their assistance in the compilation and completion of this book, in particular Sarah Boardman, Executive Director, and the administrative team members who collected and organized important pieces of the history of the Hand Association.

I will accept my share of credit for this book, but will also accept the responsibility for errors and omissions.

Robert Russell, MD
AAHS Past President, 1997-1998
DEDICATION

To the members of the Hand Association who make up our inclusive organization and demonstrate that working together makes us stronger.
CHAPTER I: The Founding of AAHS

The founding of the American Association for Hand Surgery dates back to 1970 when a meeting of the Joseph L. Posch Hand Society was called during which the formation of the AAHS was approved. The background behind that meeting and the creation of a new hand surgery organization was well documented by Dr. Alan Freeland in his book, *The First Twenty-Five Years, History of the American Association for Hand Surgery*, as excerpted below:

There was an earlier, though lesser known, meeting in the summer of 1970 at an airport hotel near Chicago. The meeting was convened at the request of Dr. Raymond Curtis, then president of the ASSH. Present at this meeting were: Drs. Raymond Curtis (president of ASSH), Richard J. Smith, John L. Bell, J. Joseph Danyo (president of AAHS), Henry Burns (vice president of AAHS), Walther H. O. Bohne of New York, and Kim K. Lie (executive secretary of AAHS). Dr. Arthur Barsky of New York served as the moderator. The news of movements afoot to form a second hand surgery organization had precipitated this meeting.

The idea to form a new national hand organization grew from failure of many qualified hand surgeons to gain membership in the American Society for Surgery of the Hand because of its extremely stringent requirements for membership and its annual quota of ten new members. The initial discussion took place in the winter of 1969 among Drs. Danyo, Burns, Hougland and Lie. The basic concepts were to provide a forum for surgeons who practice hand surgery to exchange knowledge and stay current on new developments, and to eliminate the elitist attitude for membership.

In that meeting at the Chicago airport hotel, the delegation of the American Society for Surgery of the Hand discussed the possible liberalization of their strict membership requirements and presented the idea of a “junior” membership for those who fail to qualify for active membership. Our representatives unanimously rejected the concept of a less than full membership and maintained their objective to establish a separate organization to assemble all interested and qualified hand surgeons, and to offer them a forum for the exchange of ideas and an approach to continuing education in hand surgery. No agreement was reached between the two organizations, and our delegation left the meeting with the distinct impression that, at that moment, our ambitions and efforts were not taken seriously.

For organizational purposes, a meeting of the alumni organization - the Joseph L. Posch Hand Society – was called in the spring of 1970. Prior to this date, this group had met only once in 1967 in Detroit, Michigan. That 1967 meeting chaired by Dr. J. Joseph Danyo brought together 30 hand surgeons who shared the common bond of having received hand surgery training at the Grace Hospital Detroit, Michigan under Dr. Joseph L. Posch.

Therefore, the organizational meeting in the spring of 1970 was the second official meeting of the Joseph L. Posch Hand Society. Fourteen members were in attendance: Drs. Posch, J. Joseph Danyo, Henry Burns, Carl F. Berner, Kim K. Lie, Julian Zweig, Walther H.O. Bohne William C. Grabb, Lawrence R. Werschky, Leonard W. Glass, Charles R. Kerschner, Shattuck W. Hartwell, Jr., and William J. Mullally. The proposal to form a national hand organization was accepted and the alumni group, the Joseph L. Posch Hand Society, would be disbanded. The officers were elected for a period of two years: Drs. J. Joseph Danyo, President; Henry Burns, President-elect; Carl Berner, Vice President; Kim K. Lie, Executive Secretary; Julian Zweig, Treasurer; and Walther H. O. Bohne, Historian. Drs. William C. Grabb, Lawrence R. Werschky, Leonard Glass and Charles Kerschner were elected directors.

Dr. Posch was informed of the group’s decision to form the American Association for Hand Surgery and to dissolve the Posch Hand Society. Dr. Posch did not support the founding of the new organization.
During the first year, the major activities were formation of the constitution and bylaws, registration as a nonprofit organization, and active recruitment of founding members in preparation for the First Annual Meeting of the American Association for Hand Surgery.

The membership drive was conducted by contacting all members of the alumni group since 1956-1969, and approximately 100 persons were invited to join the new organization. By referral of the alumni group, invitations were also issued to other hand surgeons. The response were most gratifying and, at the end of its first year in the fall of 1971, there were 65 members.

The First Annual Meeting was held in October 1971 in Montreal, Canada, preceding the meeting of the American Society of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgeons, Inc. The meeting consisted of a one-day program and concluded with a banquet. In recognition of his contribution in the training of many members of the Association, an honorary membership was conferred upon Dr. Joseph L. Posch. Dr. Shattuck Hartwell was the program chairperson. Attendance at this inaugural meeting was approximately 200.

The Second Annual Meeting was held in September 1972 in Las Vegas, again preceding the American Society of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgeons. The meeting was extended to one and one-half days. Thirty new members were elected. Dr. Ruedi Gingrass was the program chairperson, and 125 persons attended. Dr. Henry Burns ascended to the presidency.

The Third Annual Meeting was held in October 1973 in Hollywood, Florida. The program organized by Dr. James Borden was one and one-half days long. Thirty-eight new members were elected, and 263 participants attended.

The Hand Association was founded out of a need for an inclusive forum for hand surgeons who could not attain membership in the ASSH. Since then, and especially over the last 25 years, the AAHS has grown significantly in size and activity. The history of the AAHS from 1995 through 2020 will be detailed in subsequent pages through Presidential reflections and summaries from members of our organization.
1995-1996

James W. May Jr., MD, FACS, FRCS (Hon) Eng

Date of Birth: April 24, 1943

Undergraduate School: University of Kentucky

Medical School: Northwestern University Medical School

Internship and Residency:
Internship: Surgery. Massachusetts General Hospital / Harvard Medical School
Residency: General Surgery. Massachusetts General Hospital / Harvard Medical School
Plastic Surgery: Massachusetts General Hospital / Harvard Medical School

Postgraduate Hand Experience:
Ella Lyman Cabot Scholarship. Harvard Medical School
Microvascular Surgery Melbourne Australia
Hand Fellowship Melbourne Australia
Hand Fellowship Louisville, Kentucky

Board Certification: ABS, ABPS, SOTH

It is hard to believe that the American Association for Hand Surgery was founded in 1970 during my surgical residency and now, almost fifty years later, we are about to celebrate our fiftieth anniversary.

I was privileged to serve as our 24th President in 1995-1996. I am pleased to summarize our year's activity and grateful to Dr. Chris Pederson and Dr. Bob Russell for putting together our Second Twenty-Five Year History of The American Association for Hand Surgery. Most hand surgeons develop an interest in our sub specialty as a spinoff from training in plastic surgery, orthopedic surgery or general surgery. My interest in hand surgery strangely took place in the reverse order. I worked as an orderly at Louisville Jewish Hospital as a high school student and by chance meet Dr. Harold Kleinert. Over the summer I became fascinated with hand surgery and going forward my career in medicine was launched. During surgical training, I selected plastic surgery as my path into hand surgery.

I accepted the Presidential gavel at Marco Island in 1995 from Dr. David Smith. During our 1995-96 year, our Association enjoyed the leadership of Dr. Bob Brumfield as President-Elect, Dr. Bob Russell as Vice President, Dr. Bob Buchanan as Secretary, Dr. Peter Amadio as Treasurer, Dr. Alan Freeland as Historian, Dr. Bob Walton as Parliamentarian, and Dr. W. P. Andrew Lee as our Program Chair for the Palm Desert meeting in 1996. Our Hand Therapy Chairs were Christine Novak and Laura Kearney.

Several important changes were made to the organization and function of our Association during 1995-1996. Invited lectures to be given at our Annual Meeting were reorganized into the following:
1. Invited Presidential Lecture. At Palm Springs, this was given by Dr. Mike Harrison on the topic of a new surgical specialty (Fetal Surgery).

2. Keynote Speaker. This talk was given by Mr. David Evans (U.K.) on congenital hand surgery

3. Program Director Speaker. This talk was delivered by Mr. James Cornett on the topic of the fauna and flora of Palm Desert, California.

4. Presidential Address was a review of my first twenty-five years in treating hand patients at the Massachusetts General Hospital and emphasized the valuable contribution made by our residents and fellows in this program.

The Association began the annual Clinician -Teacher of the Year Award. The recipient was Dr. Forst Brown. The Association also decided to allow residents to attend our Annual Meeting at no registration cost. Dr. Allan Freeland presented The First Twenty-Five Year History of the AAHS to each member and began a new archive data collection process plus video recording of each outgoing President. Major changes were made to the bylaws and operation manual under the direction of Dr. Bob Walton. At the beginning of 1995, the Association had assets of $377K which grew to $653K as reported by Dr. Amadio in 1996. With this solid financial footing, The Hand Surgery Endowment was established by our Board under the leadership of Dr. Bob Schenck. In addition to the considerable education content of our national meeting (70 papers, 58 posters, 4 panels, and 23 instructional courses), Dr. Allan Bishop and his educational committee outlined plans for AAHS ski symposium at Breckenridge, Colorado and a hand cumulative trauma workshop under the direction of Dr. Bill Swartz. At the Annual Meeting over 40 exhibitors took part in response to efforts of Dr. Brad Meland and his Commercial Exhibits Committee.

The success of our year and national meeting was in no small part due to the planning skills and devotion of our central office lead by Ms. Laura Downs, our Executive Secretary. At the end of our Palm Dessert meeting, I turned the gavel over to Dr. Bob Brumfield as our new President.

It was an honor for me to serve as president of our AAHS to begin our second twenty-five years of activity. I am grateful for the opportunity of learning from and working with such a remarkable group of colleagues in hand surgery.
1996-1997

Robert Brumfield, Jr., MD

Date of Birth: March 29, 1933

Undergraduate Education: Tulane University

Medical School: Tulane University

Internship and Residency: Charity Hospital, New Orleans

Board Certification: ABOS

My father was a general surgeon and I grew up exposed to the life of a physician who worked long hours, took call, and was a positive role model.

During my residency training I had the opportunity to work with Dr. Alton Ochsner, one of the most prestigious cardiovascular surgeons who saved many lives, including that of golfer Ben Hogan. He was also someone I admired and hoped to emulate.

During the end of my residency I had the opportunity to rotate through orthopedic surgery with Dr. Arthur Brooks. He was especially interested in hand problems and encouraged me to change my residency to orthopedics.

I also had the opportunity to work at the premier institution of Rancho Los Amigos Hospital in Downey, CA where I spent a lot of time doing upper extremity procedures. There, Dr. Gary Brody, a prominent plastic surgeon and former president of the AAHS, got me interested in the Hand Association.

I became AAHS President at Dr. Jim May’s meeting in Palm Desert, California. My meeting was held at the Boca Raton Resort & Club in Boca Raton, Florida in January, 1997. The theme for the meeting was “Back to Basics and Secondary Outcome Measurement”. Program Chair, Forst Brown, MD and his committee selected 60 free papers, 3 panels, 16 instructional courses, and 48 posters. The Keynote Speaker was Dr. Eugene Nelson who spoke on “Outcomes Matter Most: Measuring & Improving Surgical Care”. The therapy preconference, “Therapy Outcomes, What Works, Why, and How Much” also focused on outcomes. My Invited Presidential Speaker was Mr. Dallas Raines whose talk “Hurricanes, the Dark Side of Nature” was very interesting. I spent many hours preparing my Presidential Address for the meeting, entitled “An Age of Anxiety: The Challenge.” I received a lot of positive comments on my speech and was told it was one of the best Presidential Addresses given at the Hand Association meeting.

We made progress in working with the ASSH and their President, Dr. Dean Lewis, who attended our Board meeting and agreed to joint sponsorship and participation in the upcoming IFSSH meeting. The central office staff began production of an interactive AAHS website and the AAHS meeting booth was redesigned. The newly created Hand Surgery Endowment, under the direction of Dr. Robert Schenck, reached $70,800 in contributions.

In my 50 years in orthopedics I worked a lot on upper extremity problems, and am proud of the time I spent involved with AAHS. At the conclusion of the meeting I turned the Presidency over to Dr. Robert Russell.
1997-1998

Robert C. Russell, MD

Date of Birth: July 13, 1945

Undergraduate Education: Indiana University, Bloomington, IN

Medical School: Indiana University, Indianapolis, IN

Internship: Marion County General Hospital (Sidney and Lori Eskenazi Hospital), Indianapolis, IN

General Surgery Residency: Indiana University Medical Center, Indianapolis, IN

Postgraduate Hand Experience: James W Strickland Hand Fellowship, St Vincent’s Hospital Indiana Hand Center, Indianapolis, IN

Plastic Surgery Residency: Southern Illinois University, Springfield, IL

Microsurgery Fellowship: St Vincent’s Hospital, Melbourne, Australia

Board Certification: ABPS, SOTH

I first became interested in hand surgery as an intern and general surgery resident at Marion County General Hospital (now Sidney & Lois Eskenazi Hospital) in Indianapolis. Dr. Allen Van Beek was my chief resident and we were doing hand trauma cases as well as attempting to perform early microsurgical replantation cases. I was introduced to Dr. Jim Steichen and Dr. Jim Strickland at the Indiana Hand Center and eventually did a year long fellowship there before I started plastic surgery residency at SIU with Dr. Elvin Zook.

The AAHS Annual Meeting was traditionally held in association with the Fall ASPS meeting. The first stand-alone AAHS meeting occurred December 2-4, 1993 in Cancun, Mexico during the Presidency of Dr. Bob Beckenbaugh. That meeting was a great success and the winter meeting time frame, in a warm weather, family oriented, resort location, was adopted by the leadership. The 1994 meeting was moved to January 14-16, 1995 on Marco Island, Florida for the first time in conjunction with the ASRM.

Dr. David Smith was AAHS President and I was ASRM President and AAHS Vice President. Previously, the ASRM meeting had taken place in conjunction with the Fall ASSH meeting. ASPN joined the joint AAHS, ASRM meeting in 2001 for the meeting in San Diego. This combined meeting format of three societies has been an absolute winner, allowing registrants to attend one to three meetings in a short amount of time away from their practice. Joint panels and symposia have made this the hand/nerve/reconstructive surgery meeting of the year. Exhibitors also enjoy the increased booth traffic generated by this format and decreased expense over attending three separate meetings. Coffee breaks are always held in the exhibit space to further increase vendor exposure. Working together, the
three societies have improved the educational experience for all members, residents, and therapists. The combined AAHS, ASRM 1995 Marco Island meeting had the highest registration and attendance to date and was a great success.

The 1998 AAHS/ASRM Annual Meeting was held at the Phoenician Resort in Scottsdale Arizona January 7-10. An excellent program including 58 free papers, 16 AAHS/ASRM joint session papers, A Day in the Office Panel, a combined day panel entitled “A New Look at Replantation”, and 16 instructional courses were selected by the Program Committee chaired by Dr. Richard Brown. The Presidents invited lectures were given by Dr. John Texter on “Diseases of the Presidents” and “Portrait of a President” by Dr. Fritz Klein. A preconference seminar for hand therapists on “Tendon Problems/Solutions” was organized by Shirley Cohen, OTRL/CHT. The 1997 Vargas Award recipient was Colette Jewell, OTR, CHT, who presented her AAHS sponsored mission trip to Kenya. The Clinician/Teacher of the Year Award was given to James Hoehn, MD.

Significant progress was made in improving our relationship with the ASSH. Dr. Dean Louis, ASSH President, updated the Board and AAHS members on ASSH activities including the planned joint sponsorship of a reception at the IFSSH meeting in Vancouver as well as a joint educational symposium planned for spring of 1999 under the purview of President Elect Dr. Peter Amadio.

The AAHS website was brought online in 1997 and refined that year to include links to AAOS, AMA, ASSH, AAMSE, and Plastic Surgery on Line. The central office was asked to develop an online membership application. The Board voted to send the Hand Surgery Quarterly on a complimentary basis to all residents and fellows to promote future membership. The Time and Place committee, chaired by Dr. Norman Levine, was charged with selecting Annual Meeting sites five years in advance. Similarly, Dr. Saleh Shenaq’s Symposium Committee was asked to plan instructional courses/symposiums and workshops five years in advance. We had an excellent meeting and I was happy to pass the Presidential baton to Dr. Peter Amadio.
1998-1999

Peter C. Amadio, MD

Date of Birth: October 17, 1950

Undergraduate Education: Pennsylvania State University, University Park, PA

Medical School: Jefferson Medical College, Philadelphia, PA

Internship and Residency:
General Surgery: Medical College of Virginia, Richmond, VA
Orthopaedic Surgery: Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston, MA

Postgraduate Hand Experience: Jefferson Medical College, Philadelphia, PA

Board Certification: ABOS, SOTH

For my family, certainly the highlight of my Presidential year was our 1999 Annual Meeting, at the Hilton Waikoloa Hotel on the Big Island of Hawaii. Instead of the usual tote bag, all attendees got a Hawaiian shirt. Dr. Rod Hentz, then ASSH President, was our guest speaker. My Presidential Address was on the subject of ‘Purpose’, and it explored the importance of purpose or mission to individuals, to organizations, and to AAHS specifically. Without a clear understanding of our purpose in life, it is easy to lose our way, and to be distracted by the inevitable next shiny object. I am proud that AAHS has steadfastly maintained its purpose over the years, to bring together hand surgeons and hand therapists for mutual education, fellowship, and most importantly, the improvement of hand care around the world.

The Annual Meeting, of course, was just one memorable event among many during my term as President. We (once again) moved our Central Office, this time from ASPS to the Illinois State Medical Society. We retained Laura Downes as our Executive Director, which helped greatly to ease the transition. We organized a post IFSSH Congress, the first of many, in Victoria, BC, to follow the IFSSH meeting in Vancouver in 1998. We had our first joint reception with ASSH at that IFSSH meeting, and that year we also held our first joint stand alone CME program with ASSH on work related disorders, which Dr. Dean Louis, a Past President of ASSH, and I Co-Chaired. I am very happy that ASSH and AAHS have continued this tradition of jointly sponsored meetings through its Specialty Day programs. Finally, in 1998 we started the process of obtaining our own seat in the AMA House of Delegates; formerly we had shared a seat with ASSH.

I am very grateful to AAHS for all the opportunities it has afforded me to grow professionally, and for consistently putting on an Annual Meeting that is both educational and fun. And I am proud of the pioneering work that AAHS has done in international outreach, both with the Vargas program and by jointly sponsoring meetings with international societies in less developed parts of the world. In all of these endeavors AAHS has consistently put team based education to improve hand care front and center. A worthy purpose indeed.
1999-2000

**William M. Swartz, MD, FACS**

Date of birth: May 26, 1946

Undergraduate education: Johns Hopkins University, B.A.

Medical School:
Dartmouth Medical School, B.M.S.
University of Colorado, M.D.

General Surgery:
Dartmouth/ Hitchcock Affiliated Hospitals
Rhode Island Hospital/ Brown University Affiliated Hospitals

Microvascular/Research Fellowship: Ralph K. Davies Medical Center

Plastic Surgery Residency: Rhode Island Hospital/ Brown University

Board Certification: ABPS, SOTH

During my first two years at Dartmouth, I rotated a total of four months on Plastic Surgery with Dr. Forst Brown and Dr. Rad Tanzer. Dr. Forst Brown did the full spectrum of Hand Surgery, mostly arthritis reconstruction. He brought us “newbies” along, expecting a great deal and gave back a great experience in return. Before starting Plastic Surgery, Dr. Armand Versaci sent me to Dr. Harry Buncke to explore the new area of Microsurgery, which I brought back to Rhode Island. As the only Microvascular Surgeon in New England at that time, I began doing replants at the beginning of my Plastic/ Hand Surgery education. Dr. Versaci and Dr. Howard Sturim, among my attendings, were consummate Hand Surgeons and propelled my interest in the specialty.

The 2000 AAHS Annual Meeting was held January 5-8 in conjunction with the ASRM. This event coincided with the grand opening of the Lowes Miami Beach Hotel, which engendered a great deal of excitement. Dr. Sal Shenaq was Program Chair, organizing 66 papers, 8 instructional courses, and 2 panels: “Vascular Disorders of the Hand and Upper Extremity” by Dr. David Netscher and “Advances in Skeletal Fixation” by Dr. Richard Berger. The combined day panel featured Hand Transplantation, chaired by Dr. William Pederson.

The Vargas Lecture was given by Katherine Schofield, OTR/LCHT and Dr. Nash Naam, showcasing their visit to Egypt.

Significant events at the Board Meetings included Dr. Bob Schenck’s report of Hand Surgery Endowment assets of $209,000, membership increases of 26 Active and 17 Affiliate members, and Dr. Peter Amadio, Past President, assuming Editorship of Hand Surgery Quarterly from retiring Dr. Jim Hoehn.

The Fall Symposium held in conjunction with ASSH was a financial success and highlighted continued cooperation with the Hand Society in educational efforts.
At the conclusion of the Annual Meeting, Dr. Bill Blair ceremoniously assumed the Presidency of AAHS, welcoming all to the next year’s meeting in San Diego.
2000-2001

William Blair, MD

Date of Birth: February 11, 1948

Undergraduate Education: University of Northern Iowa

Medical School: University of Iowa

Internship and Residency: Southwestern Michigan Area Health and Education Center, Bronson Borgess Hospitals and University of New Mexico

Postgraduate Hand Experience: Hand Surgery Fellowship, University of New Mexico

Board Certification: ABOS, SOTH

A sense of Presidential responsibility predated my term as President, beginning during my year as President-Elect in 1999. President William M. Swartz charged an ad-hoc committee with the responsibility of developing the Association’s first strategic plan. We worked diligently in Chicago, with our management group from the Illinois State Medical Society, to develop a comprehensive plan to succinctly define our mission, to specify our goals and tasks in the broad areas of member services, educational programming, and financial planning. The reception to this initiative was mixed, being sometimes less than enthusiastic, as the directed approach hampered the socio-political freestyling with which some members were more familiar in their own academic departments and private practices. Nevertheless, the strategic plan was presented to and adopted by the Board on Jan. 5, 2000.

Promptly after assuming my Presidency during the 2000 Annual Meeting at the Loews Miami Beach Hotel, ad hoc committees were appointed to address three challenges to our organization: 1) the internet offered a better way to serve the membership needs, from registration to delivery of clinical educational content, 2) international hand surgery interests were under served by American hand surgery organizations, and 3) the Association’s committee structure had gradually become outdated and was not well-aligned with all of our operations. These ad hoc committees were Internet Applications, chaired by Dr. Keith Brandt; International Members Development, chaired by Dr. Alan Freeland, and the Committee on Committees, chaired by Dr. Peter Amadio. These ad hoc committees moved rapidly. By the July 15, 2000 Board of Directors meeting at the Ritz Carlton in Chicago, the Internet Applications Committee had on-line abstract submissions, abstract ratings, and access to Annual Meeting information operational; meeting registrations and a physician search engine service were approved. In the summer 2000 issue of Hand Surgery Quarterly, I shared with the membership two additional topics of concern: stabilization of our financial reserves and investment policies, and the strengthening of our relationships with the American Society for Surgery of the Hand. In response, at the July 15 Board meeting, earnest discussions led to the Finance Committee being charged to comprehensively review our fiduciary policies and investment strategies. The Board also approved a joint AAHS/ASSH symposium in the following year, 2001.

After the mid-year Board meeting, the months flew by like moments. In January of 2001 the 31st Annual Meeting, at the Loews Coronado Bay Resort in San Diego, was upon us. This Annual Meeting was
outstanding for a number of reasons (two days of clouds and drizzle not being among them). For the first time, three related but independent organizations— the American Association for Hand Surgery, the American Society for Reconstructive Microsurgery, and the American Society for Peripheral Nerve held sequential meetings over a long weekend, allowing attendees more cost efficient access to diverse programming and renowned guest speakers. In addition, the Association introduced our first, and highly successful Resident’s and Fellow’s Day, featuring some excellent papers and discussion. We were further privileged to have as our Invited Lecturers, Dr. Joseph Buckwalter and Dr. Michael Wood, speaking, respectively, about the biology of healthy and injured cartilage, and brachial plexus reconstruction. If all of that were not enough, Program Chair Dr. Mark Baratz assembled an outstanding program, for which I remain grateful to this day. The Executive Committee and the Board remained active through my final Board meeting in San Diego. The Education Committee confirmed additional joint AAHS/ASSH symposia in 2002 and 2004. Investment accounts were moved from the Illinois State Medical Society to PBK Ventures. For the first time, a Senior membership category was established with incentives to encourage life-long participation in the organization.

During the 31st Annual Business Meeting, my Presidency drew to a close in the midst of an innovative, highly successful program. Thanks to the dedication of our committee members, the Board, and the Executive Committee, the Association remained on a solid financial foundation, with nearly $100,000 in positive cash flow for the year 2000, and $231,000 in assets in the Foundation. With our organization well positioned overall, I was privileged to hand the leadership medallion forward to President Dr. Robert Buchanan. Our President-Elect at that meeting was Dr. Alan Freeland, my dear, late friend who I miss to this day. I succinctly recall, during our discussions as junior members of the Board, his dedication to the Association and the determination he invested in guiding the publication of The First Twenty-Five Years. Dr. Robert Russell’s complementary history book, in a sense, stands on Alan Freeland’s shoulders.
2001-2002

Robert T. Buchanan, MD, FACS

Date of Birth: May 7, 1944

Undergraduate Education: Emory University, Atlanta, GA

Medical School: Medical College of Georgia

Internship and Residency:
Internship: Surgery, Parkland Hospital, Dallas, TX
Naval Medical Corps: Vietnam running an Emergency Medical facility and Jacksonville, FL
Residency: General & Vascular Surgery, University of North Carolina
Plastic Surgery: Washington University, St Louis, MO

Postgraduate Hand Experience:
Hand training was during my Plastic Surgery Fellowship under Drs. Paul Weeks and Chris Wray.
Taught Plastic, Hand and Micro Surgery at the University of Oklahoma

Board Certification: ABS, ABPS, SOTH

The main themes for my Presidential year were:

1. Advancing Technology
2. Outreach to other organizations.
3. Reorganization of the AAHS & the Board meeting structure
4. Growth of the AAHS and forward planning.

This was a time when technology was advancing and the AAHS Board thought we should use it to our advantage. Not only did we push doing as much of the business of the organization as possible electronically, we believed that we needed to markedly improve our web presence. We upgraded the web site to make it more user-friendly for everyone. We markedly improved search capabilities, ordering and registration. We also made it exceptionally easier for the public to find a member, both surgeon and therapist.

A number of years before my Presidential year we had worked to present Repetitive Use Syndromes of the Upper Extremity at the American College of Occupational and Environmental Medicine meeting in San Antonio, Texas, in May of 1996. This was so popular that it had to be moved into the largest room available and it was still standing room only. A year later we presented it again during a section on hand surgery during the ASPS meeting and were part of an In Depth Review Symposium on Carpal Tunnel with ASSH, AAOS and PSEF. We then continued these efforts thanks to a great many of our members. Part of my Presidential year was devoted to seeing that these efforts, education of surgeons doing occasional hand surgery and those caring primarily for patients with hand problems, and interacting with sister organizations, were continued and expanded. One of our combined efforts was improving the CPT coding and reimbursement for what we do. This was done with both the ASPS and AAOS who had representatives on the AMA’s CPT Committee. Dr. Mary Ezakie, President of the ASSH, was an invited guest at the Annual Meeting my year.
Starting two years before my term, we began developing a complete procedure manual that we completed during my year as President. As part of the general reorganization of the Association, we also reorganized the Board meetings. Previously the Board had physically met four times a year, including at the Annual Meeting. This was costly and, with new technologies, most of the business could be done by conference calls or online. We therefore decided to keep the mid-year meeting and the one at the Annual Meeting but do the other two meetings by conference call. This allowed us to do the things that needed face-to-face interaction twice a year but saved the organization significant money in travel, lodging and food.

Since most of the regular business of the AAHS could be completed in a half day thanks to streamlining of the meeting, including making sure every member had all the information to be presented before the meeting, we now had the rest of the weekend at the midyear meeting to do something else. What we chose was forward planning. We started, with the help of an outside company, by reviewing all previous planning and developed both a 5 and 10-year plan which were then set to be reviewed and updated at every subsequent mid-year meeting.

My Annual Meeting was held in Cancun, Mexico. The Program Chair was Dr. Miguel Saldana. We continued our tradition of inviting the other North American hand organizations. We invited the Mexican, Puerto Rican and South American hand organizations, and had concomitant Spanish language sessions. We took the traditional half-day therapist session, renamed it, added to it, and made it a part of the regular meeting. Additionally, therapists were added as moderators in all sessions. Among other subjects, we emphasized the elbow (one of my interests) and the shoulder, two areas we thought generally underrepresented. We had multiple Instructional Courses whose numbers we increased as we did with the paper presentations by having concomitant sessions. Since we ended the educational sessions early, we extended the refreshments and exhibits. All in all, we did what this organization does best, combined an excellent educational program with a relaxed family friendly atmosphere. We had speakers on both specific educational subjects covering the full spectrum of hand surgery with therapy input throughout as well as on the history and information about the unique area of the meeting location. Francisco Rosa was the Invited Presidential Lecturer for the 2002 meeting.

As an aside, this was always my favorite meeting. My wife always came with me and we both formed strong friends who we looked forward to seeing each year. We also had time to socialize as couples, something not readily possible at other meetings.
2002-2003

**Alan Freeland, MD**

Date of Birth: July 30, 1939

Undergraduate Education: Johns Hopkins University, AED

Medical School: George Washington University, AOA

Internship/Residency: Church Home Hospital in Baltimore

Residency: Neurosurgery/Orthopedic Surgery, Johns Hopkins Hospital

Postgraduate Hand Experience: University of Miami/Jackson Memorial Hospital

Board Certification: ABOS, SOTH

Dr. Alan Freeland became the 31st President of the American Association for Hand Surgery (AAHS) at the 2002 meeting in Cancun, Mexico. The meeting his Presidential year in 2003 was held in Kola, Hawaii at the Hyatt Regency on the island of Kauai. The Venezuelan Hand Surgeons were guests at the meeting and Dr. William Geissler was the Program Chair. The meeting theme for that year was sports-related hand injuries. Hand therapy's specialty day also featured "Treatment of Upper Extremity Sport's Injury from the Elbow to the Hand".

The Program Committee organized a very informative meeting with 67 free papers, 15 instructional courses, 6 ask the doctor sessions, and a combined day panel on functional restoration following devastating hand injuries. Invited Presidential Lectures were given by Dr. Arnold-Peter Weiss on "Innovation in Hand Surgery" and "Ancient Greek Coinage, The Stories from Smuggler's to Sotheby's"; Dr. Richard Berger “Advances in Management of Scapholunate Ligament Tears; and Dr. Art Rettig, “An Eighteen Year Experience of Treating Upper Extremity Injuries in the NFL.” President Freeland’s Presidential Address was entitled "Half a Cup". The Hyatt Regency in Kauai was a beautiful venue for the meeting and was made more interesting by having Harrison Ford and Calista Flockhart as hotel guests during the days...
of our meeting. They were spotted on several occasions that week in hallways, restaurants, and poolside to the surprise and delight of AAHS members and their children.

Dr. Freeland made many contributions to the American Association of Hand Surgery over the years prior to, during, and after his presidency, including receiving the Clinician Teacher of the Year Award in 1998. He was the Vargas International Traveling Physician in 2013, and was the author of the First 25-Year History of the American Association for Hand Surgery.

Dr. Freeland received a bachelor's degree from Johns Hopkins University and his medical degree from George Washington University. He completed his internship and general surgery residency at Church Home and Hospital in Baltimore. He was a fellow in neurosurgery and a fellow and resident in orthopedic surgery at Johns Hopkins Hospital.

He entered the U. S. Army in 1971. After spending a year at the 121st Evacuation Hospital in Seoul, Korea, he completed training at Letterman Army Medical Center in San Francisco. He later became Chief of Orthopaedic Surgery at the U.S. Army Hospital at Fort Campbell, KY and was influenced to specialize in hand surgery by Dr. Raymond Curtis. He then went on to a hand fellowship at the University of Miami/Jackson Memorial Hospital in Miami, FL.

During his year as President, the membership application process was simplified and the AAHS website was also redesigned and launched in December 2003. Dr. Freeland worked well with members of the American Society of Surgery of the Hand (ASSH) and joint symposia were planned under his leadership. A course on post traumatic reconstruction of the upper extremity in the spring of 2003 held in Chicago was a huge success, as was a later course in the spring of 2004 co-sponsored with ASSH. Dr. Freeland was instrumental in reducing the registration fee for candidate members to half of the Active member fee, thereby encouraging younger surgeons to attend the meeting and later become members. Under his leadership, the AAHS planned participation in the IFFSH post congress meeting in Budapest, Hungary in June 2004, which was chaired by Dr. Jai Ryu and Dr. Alexandru Georgescu. He was a strong proponent of service missions and was instrumental in raising awareness of the need for this type of volunteerism.

We are indebted to Dr. Freeland for his years of service to Hand Association. Unfortunately, after retiring in 2005 he passed away on June 6, 2018 before he could author his own Presidential year summary.
2003-2004

**Allen Lester Van Beek, BS, BSM, MD**

Date of Birth: January 21, 1943

Undergraduate Education:
Bachelor Science, North Dakota State University
Bachelor Science Medicine University of North Dakota

Medical Doctorate: University Minnesota

Internship:
Brooke Army Medical Center, San Antonio Texas
US Army Flight Surgeon First Air Cavalry Division, Vietnam

General Surgery Residency: Indiana University, Indianapolis, IN

Hand and Microsurgery Fellowship: University Louisville, Louisville Kentucky

Plastic Surgery Residency: Southern Illinois University, Springfield, Illinois

Board Certification: ABPS, SOTH

I first became interested in hand surgery during my general surgery residency in Indianapolis, Indiana. Microsurgery was in its infancy and the majority of hand trauma at Marion County General Hospital were treated by the general and plastic surgery service. Dr. Bob Russell was a junior resident and Dr. Elvin Zook was an attending plastic surgeon. All of us were destined to eventually attain leadership roles in the AAHS. I became AAHS president in Kola, Hawaii following Dr. Alan Freeland who, along with Dr. Joseph Danyo, provided valuable encouragement and guidance to me throughout the year. The strategic goals from my year were:

1. Further development of Foundation for AAHS sponsored mission trips to developing countries focusing on Hand Surgery.
2. Development of Online Presence and Improving Educational Technology for AAHS
3. Further event planning and strategic collaboration with ASPS, ASRM, ASPN, ASSH
4. Expansion of Vendor relationship and presence Dr. George Balfour, Dr. Robert Russell

Dr. Van Beek celebrates at the Annual Meeting in Palm Springs, California with ASSH President Dr. Roy Meals.
The 2004 meeting was held January 14-17 at the Westin Mission Hills Hotel, Palm Springs, California. The program chairman, Dr. Warren Schubert, and his committee planned a terrific program that included eighteen instructional courses, panels, and free papers. I chaired a panel of past presidents that were asked for their treatment recommendations for a variety of difficult hand cases that was, if nothing else, very entertaining to the audience. The Danyo Lecture entitled “Merging Science and Multidisciplinary Expertise: Nerve Allograft to Nerve Transfer” was given by Dr. Susan MacKinnon. Dr. Elvin Zook gave a second Danyo Lecture entitled “Gen X Out of Hand” discussing how resident training has changed over the years. Dr. Roy Meals, ASSH president, provided an update on topics of mutual interest to both societies. I enjoyed my year as AAHS President and wish to thank everyone on the board and the central office staff for all of their hard work and dedication. I hope the leadership of the AAHS and the ASSH can continue to work together to educate members and advocate for all of hand surgery.
2004-2005

**Richard Berger, MD**

Date of Birth: September 21, 1954

Undergraduate Education: Midland Lutheran College

Medical Doctorate: University of Iowa School of Medicine

Orthopedic Surgery Residency: University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics

Research Fellowship: University of Iowa

Hand Surgery Fellowship: Mayo Clinic in Rochester

Board Certification: ABOS, SOTH

Dr. Richard Berger contributed his knowledge and expertise to the AAHS for many years culminating in his annual meeting January 12-15, 2005 in the Wyndham El Conquistador Resort and Spa in Fazardo, Puerto Rico where he served as President. The theme for his meeting was “In Our Hands” and the therapy day theme was “Outcomes in Our Hands” and featured an entire day of outcome related topics. The meeting program chair, Dr. Scott Kozin, and his committee selected free papers, panels, and instructional courses including the AAHS, ASRM, ASPN combined day program. That year, the first ever bioskills workshop was offered using cadaver dissections to teach implant arthroplasty and fracture fixation. The Presidential Keynote Speaker, Dr. Terry Whipple, presented “Courage, Wisdom, and Risk”, while author Gavin Menzies presented a fascinating historical account of how the Chinese actually discovered America in 1421. Finally, historian Marcial E. Ocasio-Melendez, PhD, presented information on the history, culture, environment, and fauna of Puerto Rico on a combined day program. Dr. Berger’s meeting also included the first comprehensive hand surgery review course intended to help prepare AAHS members for the CAQHS examination and/or recertification. During his tenure the HAND Journal became a reality due to the efforts of Dr. Susan MacKinnon and Dr. Elvin Zook assumed the role of Editor. A number of joint symposia and other initiatives were facilitated with the ASSH President Dr. Terry Light, who also presented at the meeting. The instructional courses were also recorded for the first time and made available online. For medical reasons, Dr. Berger was unable to complete his own summary. His personable and caring personality made him an outstanding physician and AAHS President. We are indebted to him for his many years of service.
2005-2006

Susan E. Mackinnon, MD

Date of birth: January 31, 1950

Under graduate education: Queen’s University, Kingston, Ontario, Canada

Medical school: Queen’s University

General Surgery: Queen’s University

Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery: University of Toronto

Neurosurgical research fellowship: University of Toronto
Department of Neurosurgery

Hand surgery fellowship: Curtis Hand Center, Baltimore, Maryland

Board Certification: FRCS(C), FACS

1. I conceived and initiated HAND as the Association’s Journal with the intention of increasing the visibility of the Association and advancing the science of hand care beyond hand surgery. Since the first issue in 2007, HAND has grown to 6 issues a year and is indexed in Medline. My associate Dr. Thomas Tung and I designed the cover to be modern, progressive and represent the digital era. Dr. Kevin Chung served as the first Chair of the Journal Committee. Dr. Elvin Zook was the first Editor.

2. The 1st Alan Freeland Award was presented to Ileana Aguilar from Guatemala who was sponsored by Lynn Bassini.

Becoming President of the American Association for Hand Surgery in 2006 was an honor and the highlight of my career as a hand surgeon. When I think back as to how that all happened, I recall vividly my surprise when my name was proposed for the Presidential line. Only recently have I understood the importance of sponsorship in advancing our specialty. Throughout the majority of my career I have lived by the first part of the mantra “do the best you can”. I excelled at hard work but it was not until 2008 that a yoga teacher said the second part of that mantra... “Let the rest be done for you”. That was a completely foreign concept but is aligned with the researcher, connector and salesperson in Malcolm Gladwell’s book, The Tipping Point. The research mavens need the endorsement and sponsorship of
those with connections to pitch their names for leadership positions. Being sponsored for the position of President of the AAHS provided me with the platform to initiate our journal HAND.

When I was chosen as the first woman President of the AAHS, Christine Novak PT, PhD was a natural choice as the first therapist/Program Chair. Also, it is no surprise that the morning of the special topics day was all about nerve! Similarly, early morning instructional courses highlighted 5 topics, still very near and dear to my heart; quality of life as an outcome measurement of surgical success, interdisciplinary management of pain, challenges of reinnervating muscle, interpretation of electrodiagnostic studies and nerve transfers. Jeff Lichtman PhD was our Keynote Speaker. His confocal images of motor endplate reinnervation in transgenic mice, following real-time axonal sprouting and pruning combined with multi-color “brain bow” connections from the periphery, to the spinal cord, to the brain was a show stopper and more than a decade later still is. As the invited Joseph Danyo Lecturer, Dr. Peter Amadio presented an outstanding lecture on his three decades of tendon research: “The Search for the Perfect Slide”. His video of the association between the tenosynovium and the median nerve in carpal tunnel syndrome was a landmark contribution. I joined a panel on challenging cases of nerve injury which included Drs. Van Beek, Jones, Sotereanos, and Terzis. With the appetite for nerve well satiated, we advanced to 3 standing room only panels. The complicated issue of wrist pain was addressed by Drs. Baratz, Cohen, Moran, Trumble, and Adams. The panel on distal radial fractures had the catchy title of “Defend Your Plate” and was moderated by Drs. Alan Freeland and Jai Ryu, and included Drs. Orbay, Putman, Geisser, Hunt, and Bindra. The panel on “Operative Pearls from my Surgical Practice” presented insights from masters of hand surgery, Drs. Amadio, Osterman, Russell, Vedder, and Berger. The scientific sessions included outstanding papers on trauma, microvascular, tendon and tumor, distal radius and wrist fractures as well as congenital hand and basic research. The meeting closed out with the AAHS hand therapy program superbly organized by Julianne Howell, PT and focused on the collaboration between hand therapists and surgeons.

So may I say thank you very much to the past leaders of the AAHS for providing me with the opportunity to be the 2005-2006 AAHS President. I ask all senior leaders of our Association to continue the AAHS mission of education, research and outreach through inclusion and to expand their network of sponsorship so that gender and racial parity can be achieved in leadership positions in our specialty.
2006-2007

Ronald E. Palmer, MD

Date of Birth: October 4, 1947

Undergraduate Education: Westminster College, Fulton, MO

Medical School: Chicago Medical School, Chicago, IL

Internship: St. Francis Medical Center, Peoria, IL

Orthopedic Surgery Residency: St. Francis Medical Center, Peoria, IL

Postgraduate Experience: Sports Medicine Fellowship, West Point Military Academy, West Point, NY

Hand and Microsurgery Fellowship: University of Virginia, Charlottesville, VA

Board Certification: ABOS, SOTH

Early in my medical school education, I knew I wanted to go into orthopedic surgery. I had the opportunity to do an orthopedic residency in my hometown of Peoria, IL under the tutelage of my mentors and future partners Drs. Bernard Cahill and James Flaherty. I developed an interest in sports medicine and was fortunate enough to do a fellowship with Dr. John Fagin working on early development of the modified anterior cruciate reconstruction at West Point Military Academy. My plan was to return to Peoria, IL to join my mentors as a general orthopedist with a specialization in sports medicine. However, an ACGME review of the Peoria training program noted a deficiency in hand surgery. My mentors and future partners called and asked if I would be interested in doing a hand surgery fellowship. I was again fortunate enough to obtain a fellowship at the University of Virginia with Dr. Frank McCue. My time at UVA turned out to be an extraordinary experience in hand surgery. I returned to Peoria, IL and joined Drs. Cahill and Flaherty at a level one teaching hospital and joined the faculty of the University of Illinois College of Medicine in Peoria, IL. I shortly became so busy in hand surgery that I limited my practice to the upper extremity for the remainder of my career. My special interests remained sports-related hand and wrist injuries.

I attended my first AAHS meeting in New York City in 1981. From that time forward until well after retirement I have not missed an Annual Meeting. I was asked to join the Board of AAHS by Dr. Bob Beckenbaugh during his Presidency from 1992-1993. I attended my first Board meeting at the 23rd Annual Meeting in December of 1993. I have served on the Board in one capacity or another since 1993 until my retirement in 2009. I was asked to be Chair of the Finance Committee in a time when AAHS was having organizational and financial difficulties. I made a trip to Chicago to interview the people who were handling our finances and to interview other organizations. I returned to the Board and made some recommendations. The financial well-being of the organization has always been my special interest. Fortunately, we were able to turn things around and within a few years became fiscally stable.

I served as President of the AAHS from 2006-2007. The Annual Meeting over which I presided was in Puerto Rico. Dr. Lee Osterman was my Program Chair. I had two conference calls - the first on March 13,
2006 - which included the Board of Directors and Committee Chairs. During the call, we were involved in discussions with the AAOS on symposium by our organization. I also briefed my Board on leadership conferences I had with the AAOS.

My summer Board of Directors meeting was at the Broadmoor Resort on July 14-15, 2006 in Colorado Springs, Colorado. It was an important meeting as we were considering the financial relationship between AAHS, ASRM and ASPN. We also began to consider various options for The Hand Surgery Endowment as it was simply not growing as hoped. I also informed the Board of the conversations and meetings I was having with Dr. David Lichtman, who was President of ASSH. We were in agreement that we were going to do what we could to improve the relationship between the two organizations.

My last Board meeting was on January 9th, 2007 at our Annual Meeting in Puerto Rico. With the help of Dr. Osterman, Dr. Vedder and others, we began to try to get corporations and exhibitors to help defray some of the cost of our meetings. Dr. Osterman had put together a great academic program and we made extraordinary efforts to involve physicians in the therapist day.
2007-2008

N. Bradly Meland, MD

Date of Birth: May 19, 1953

Undergraduate: University of North Dakota

Medical School: University of North Dakota School of Medicine

General Surgery Residency: Michigan State University, Saginaw Campus

Plastic Surgery Residency: Mayo Clinic Rochester, MN

Microsurgery Fellowship:
Mayo Clinic Microsurgery Hand Fellowship – Rochester, MN

Postgraduate Hand Experience:
Orthopedic Hand Fellowship – Florida Orthopedic Institute – Tampa, FL

Board Certification: ABPS, SOTH

The 2008 Annual Meeting was held at The Hyatt Regency Century Plaza Hotel in Beverly Hills, CA January 9 – January 12, 2008. My Program Chair Dr. Mike Neumeister, his Co-Chairs Dr. Craig Johnson and Christine Novak, PT, PhD and their committee put together an outstanding three and a half day educational event for our members. During my checking in on Tuesday, I remember having a three hour delay getting in to my Presidential suite. I found out that delay was due to a late check out by President Bush (that was amazing!).

The meeting commenced Wednesday, January 9th with Therapy Day. The day covered all aspects of arthritic conditions involving arthritis of the upper extremity with excellent papers, panel discussions and commentaries by therapists and surgeons, all experts in the field. The afternoon was filled with multiple instructional courses and an excellent course on splinting for the therapists.

I added a new reception in the Presidential suite at 5 pm that afternoon for all of the therapists in attendance to meet and greet the current Board of Directors. I received multiple thank yous from the therapists for this event and I hoped subsequent Presidents would continue it. The evening closed with the opening reception.
Thursday, January 10 the meeting started with instructional courses, followed by the Presidential welcomes. I then chaired an excellent panel on wide-awake hand surgery. Roberta Finley Morris, OTR-L then gave her 2007 Vargas Award address. The Presidential Invited Keynote speaker was Ramez Naam, the son of Dr. Nash Naam. As a former software and research engineer from Microsoft, he gave a presentation based on his book “More than Human from Therapy to Enhancement”. It was in an intriguing and futuristic lecture.

The Presidential dinner was held in an upscale restaurant in Beverly Hills Thursday evening. The restaurant was highly decorated as Queen Latifah had held a party at the same restaurant the prior evening for her musical staff. We all had a great evening including placing me in a trapeze they had installed to retrieve wine from their massive wine collection, which was 20 feet high.

Friday, January 11, I gave my Presidential Address discussing three things I felt important to the continued growth of the Association. I encouraged our members to actively recruit physicians of all disciplines who are involved primarily in all aspects of upper extremity care to become members just as our founding fathers had hoped.

I also directly addressed the importance of our association’s inclusion of our hand therapists and asked for continued support for educational experiences to grow as the Vargas scholarship does. We are one of few organizations that allow therapist full voting privileges on our Board of Directors which should continue.

Lastly, I emphasized the need to continue monetary support for the Endowment. I stated that if every member would donate $1,000 dollars a year for 2 years we would achieve our current goal of one million dollars which I felt to be so important to the ongoing need to fund research and scholarly activities for our members.

The Joseph Danyo Presidential Invited Lecture was given by my friend and mentor Dr. Allen Van Beek. His address was entitled “Handing Back Options”. He based this on his surgical mission trips to South America to provide surgical care to children in third world countries. He stated “It provides inspiration, challenges and meaning for the hand surgeon”. It was brilliant heart-felt lecture that brought tears to my eyes as well as many others in the audience. I still feel it is one of the best addresses I’ve ever had the privilege of attending. The evening closed with the dinner dance and award ceremony with a Salsa Band and Salsa dancing lessons for all of us for the first hour. We had an enjoyable evening. What I learned from that process was ... “White man can’t dance.” The gavel was turned over to our next President and my friend Dr. Scott Kozin.

Saturday, January 12 the three societies held our combined Saturday morning sessions with welcomes by the three Presidents: me, Dr. Greg Evans for ASPN, and Dr. Larry Colen for ASRM. The Invited Lecture was Dr. Aaron Vinik who gave an excellent address on Neurovascular Dysfunction and Diabetes. The outstanding papers from each society were read. The hand papers were, “Aberrant Anatomy Does Not Preclude Safe Carpal Tunnel Release via a Limited Open Approach” presented by Dr. Caitlin Gannon from Pittsburg and “Efficacy of Endoscopy Cubital Tunnel Release” presented by Dr. Tyson Cobb from Davenport, Iowa.

It was the greatest experience of my life to be President of the AAHS. We had a very successful meeting with over 330 people in attendance and an excellent profit for the Association. I want to thank all those who came before me who taught me leadership and love for the Association throughout my years on the Board of Directors.

I added two important new events to this meeting that I hoped would continue in perpetuity:
• The therapist reception for one hour on Wednesday night in the Presidential suite with the Board of Directors was very well received.
• The most important function that I added to this meeting and it was never done before is the Past Presidents Luncheon held Wednesday at noon, allowing all past Presidents to visit with the current executive committee for discussion on the current state and future developments of the Association.

The summer Board of Directors meeting was held at the Silverado Resort in Napa, CA. The Board functioned well throughout the year with excellent work by the executive committee, the committee chairs, and our management company.

At the Board meeting and the Annual Meeting the two most important issues facing the Board were finalizing a contract agreement with a new management company and finishing the work on publishing our journal HAND.

Through several executive committee meetings we decided to change management companies. That contract would be finished and signed in the next year by President Dr. Scott Kozin.

Dr. Elvin Zook Professor Emeritus from Southern Illinois University agreed to be the first Editor of our journal. The Editorial Board was established and under Presidents Kozin’s guidance publication of the journal was to commence in the next twelve to eighteen months. Very exciting.
2008-2009

Scott H. Kozin, MD

Date of Birth: August 1, 1959

Undergraduate Education: Duke University

Medical School: Hahnemann University

Internship and Residency: Albert Einstein Medical Center

Postgraduate Hand Experience: Fellowship, Mayo Clinic

Board Certification: ABOS, SOTH

The 2008-2009 year was marred by central office issues that necessitated a change in American Association Hand Surgery (AAHS) management. The Illinois State Medical Society had managed the AAHS for years. There were numerous management concerns and questionable practices that required the AAHS to obtain several request for proposals (RFPs) to manage the AAHS in a more productive and beneficial manner. The Presidential Line of the AAHS along with the American Society for Peripheral Nerve and the American Society for Reconstructive Microsurgery spent hours interviewing and analyzing multiple proposals trying to decide the best course of action. Ultimately, the AAHS choose the Specialty Associate Management Services (SAMS) offered by the American Society of Plastic Surgeons (ASPS) over PRRI, our current central office management company. ASPS subsequently decided to dissolve their association management division and the next year PRRI along with Sarah Boardman were hired to manage the AAHS. This relationship has resulted in substantial growth and stability to the AAHS. This tumultuous time in our history highlights the necessity to have a strong central office that is committed to the goals, aspirations, mission, and vision of the AAHS.

In contrast to the agony of central office trials and tribulations, the 2008 Annual Meeting in Maui, Hawaii was efficiently organized and officiated by Dr. Miguel Pirela-Cruz and Rebecca Von der Heyde, OTR/L. The focus of the meeting was volunteerism and Hand Surgery. We started with a pre-course meeting organized by Drs. Jai Ryu and Chris Pederson. This was the first pre-course meeting offered at an Annual Meeting.
The Annual Scientific Meeting was held at the Grand Wailea Resort and Spa. The Keynote Speaker was Dr. Dan Gotlieb, a renowned psychologist who hosted "Voices in the Family," an award-winning mental health call-in radio show on NPR. He also authored numerous books including “Learning from the Heart: Lessons on Living, Loving and Listening”. Dr. Gottlieb sustained a traumatic spinal cord injury resulting in tetraplegia. He was a wonderful speaker and offered pearls of psychologic wisdom pertaining to life and patient care. The Danyo Invited Speaker was Dr. Louis Carter, a hand surgeon from Tennessee who spent the majority of his time volunteering in Africa. Another Keynote Speaker was Dr. Andrew W. Gurman, a Pennsylvania orthopaedic hand surgeon, who became President of the AMA House of Delegates. Social events were plentiful and included Jimmy Mack and the Cool Cats, one of Maui’s most popular bands.

Dr. Nash Naam chaired a task force to explore AAHS as a vehicle for Education in Developing/Emerging Countries or Developing/Emerging Hand Societies. The goal was to provide an educational course for the newly formed Egyptian Hand Society. Dr. Nash Naam organized a course in concert with the Egyptian Orthopaedic Association for the inaugural meeting of the Egyptian Hand Society in March 2008. The meeting was attended by me and the following AAHS members: Drs. Ron Palmer, Allen Bishop, Brian Adams, Jai Ryu, Mark Baratz, Nash Naam, Mike Neumeister, Peter Amadio, and Rick Brown, and Chris Novak. Over 300 people attended the inaugural meeting. The Egyptian Society for Surgery of the Hand was extremely grateful for the support of the AAHS. Dr. Nash Naam provided a summary at the Mid-Year Board Meeting in July and at the Annual Meeting in Hawaii.
Nicholas Vedder, MD

Date of Birth: March 27, 1955

Undergraduate Education: Stanford

Medical School: Case Western Reserve

Internship and Residency:
Surgery: University of Washington;
Plastic Surgery: Harvard/Massachusetts General Hospital

Postgraduate Hand Experience: University of Washington
Hand Fellowship (1stUW Hand Fellow; now >90 alumni)

Board Certification: ABPS, SOTH

I became AAHS President at Dr. Scott Kozin’s 2009 meeting in Maui. The theme of my Presidency was “Unity” or “One Hand” i.e. Ortho-Plastic; surgeons-therapists; AAHS-ASSH-ASHT; optimizing the AAHS relationship with related societies: how to capitalize on our individual strengths and shared commitments to work together for hand surgery. Early on I established a Unity Task Force, with Dr. Lee Osterman as Chair, and included myself, Dr. Tom Trumble (who was slated to be ASSH President that Fall), and Dr. Andy Lee, who ultimately became ASSH President, and will be AAHS President for our 50th anniversary in 2020.

The prior year, Scott and I had been struggling with challenges surrounding AAHS professional management, which had been with the Illinois State Medical Society (ISMS). At the prior year’s meeting in LA, we became aware that ISMS had outsourced the destination management of our meetings to a 3rd party without our Board’s knowledge or consent, who was charging all of our attendees a $50/room/night “room rebate.” We were both outraged, and with Board approval, undertook a search for new management. In the end, our Board selected “Specialty Association Management Services” (SAMS), which was a reintroduced service of the American Society of Plastic Surgeons (ASPS). They had a great proposal and provided outstanding service over the entire year of my Presidency. That year, we
had a society net profit of over $300K, a first ever. They provided, amongst other things, improved financial management, legal incorporation, bylaws restructuring, website redesign and new portal, strategic planning and support for strategic initiatives.

Our mid-year Board Meeting was held at the Resort at Squaw Creek in Lake Tahoe, where we had perhaps the first formal Board strategic planning session, facilitated by our new management, including Paul Pomeranz, then CEO of ASPS. There were many great ideas and initiatives that came from that session, many of which were implemented to the betterment of the society.

As a result of those meetings we:

- Proposed bylaws amendments, later passed, that gave our Affiliate Hand Therapist members full voting rights in the society – a reflection of the core principle of unity and inclusiveness of the AAHS.
- Developed a new logo and used it on an awesome polo shirt given to all Board members at the 2010 Annual Meeting
- Developed a proposal for shared MOC with ASSH; shared practice modules; guidelines; Joint MOC CME. In many ways AAHS has led the MOC process for hand surgeons, particularly due to the later contributions of subsequent Past President Dr. Don Lalonde.
- Developed a number of other joint initiatives with ASSH, including joint sponsorship/endorsements, shared member lists, joint position statements, universal Fellowship initiative, policies regarding role of industry in funding, joint responses to other parties requesting Hand Surgery input.

At that time, the Journal HAND was only published quarterly and was losing money, so we attempted to create a win-win with ASSH and the JHS, in that AAHS would be a partner in the JHS, with co-listing on the cover, slotted seats on the editorial board, etc. Ultimately, the ASSH declined, and in the end, HAND went on to flourish as the second major hand surgery journal!

The AAHS' Hand Surgery Endowment (HSE) was also struggling at the time, so we proposed a joint initiative with the ASSH that the AAHS HSE would become the “AAHS Endowment for Global Hand Surgery” under the umbrella of the ASSH Hand Surgery Endowment. That, too, failed with the ASSH Council, but Dr. Scott Kozin later transitioned the idea into the ASSH “Touching Hands” endowment of the ASSH when he was ASSH President. He saw our great idea that he was part of fostering within AAHS, and was in a position to make it reality! In the end, we are all one and hand surgery wins.

At my Presidential meeting in Boca Raton at the Boca Resort in 2010, it snowed! It was at that meeting that we convened the Presidential lines of the 3 organizations, AAHS, ASRM, ASPN, to eliminate individual “time and place committees” of the individual organizations and replace it with the 3-organization Presidential line. At that Presidential line meeting, we enshrined a plan to keep the AAHS/ASRM/ASPN as a January meeting, in a WARM resort location, to rotate between Southwest US, Caribbean, and Hawaii (always our highest attendance). And, that we would NEVER return to Florida in January! Subsequent Presidential lines have tried changing this rotation, but in my opinion, only at their peril!

Despite the cold weather, the 2010 Annual Meeting in Boca Raton was a success. Our Program Co-Chairs, Dr. Kevin Chung and Gretchen Kaiser developed an amazing program. The Danyo Lecture was given by Past President, Dr. Richard Berger, speaking on Transformation of Medical Education and Health Care.
The following year, ASPS/SAMS “dropped us” as they were losing money with us (yet we were still making $$$), so we transitioned to our current management with PRRI, which has been outstanding. One of the first things I did as Past President, was to urge PRRI to create an online membership “engine” for the AAHS. Then Membership Committee Chair, Dr. Jeff Friedrich, used this engine to add over 100 new members to the AAHS! Our membership growth has continued ever since.

In reflecting back, the AAHS continues to be the organization I love the most as it encompasses what I professionally love the most – the friendship, camaraderie, unity, inclusiveness, and “joie de vivre” of what I love to do the most: hand surgery. I also reflect on how, although our recent growth has been great, it threatens the core of what has made the AAHS the very special organization that has defined it: a meeting of good friends from a wide variety of backgrounds, meeting together in the middle of winter, at a congenial warm resort location to share what we have learned and what we love about hand surgery. We need to find a way to continue that core element, despite whatever major structural alliances we have developed over the years, or we will no longer have a reason to exist.
2010-2011

**A. Lee Osterman, MD, FACS**

Date of Birth: June 20, 1947

Undergraduate Education: Yale University, New Haven Conn

Medical School: University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia Pennsylvania

Internship Residency: Surgical intern Mount Sinai Medical Center, New York City, NY

Residency: Orthopedic Resident University of Pennsylvania

Fellowships:
- Hand and upper extremity, University of Pennsylvania
- Microvascular Fellowship, Duke University

Board Certification: ABOS, SOTH

My presidency followed those of Drs. Scott Kozin and Nick Vedder. The three of us had coordinated our efforts and had as a goal improving the relationship and the shared opportunities with the American Society for Surgery of the Hand (ASSH). While we made progress on many fronts: Presidential line meetings, shared Specialty day sponsorship at the AAOS annual meeting, and web linkage, other issues such a potential merger of our journal HAND with their Journal of Hand Surgery and combining mission endowment funding proved elusive. I had a warm collaborative relationship with Dr. Robert Szabo, the ASSH President.

In an effort shouldered by Dr. Don Lalonde we decided to keep HAND as a separate entity and Springer as the publisher. Dr. Nash Naam agreed to develop mission outreach. Gretchen Kaiser was credited with undertaking a revitalization effort of the Vargas Award.

There was a membership specific effort to increase our number of candidate members with each hand fellow receiving a year subscription to HAND and meeting topics geared to Generation X and the Millennials. Another membership task was to attract established hand surgeons. In both areas we simplified the admission process and made it online. We had 46 new members and a total of 941 members in all categories.
Our fling with SAMS/American Society of Plastic Surgery as a management company was coming to an end. We chose PRRI (Professional Relations and Research Institute) as the new management team which has been a tremendous factor in the ongoing prosperity of the society. We also chose a new logo for the AAHS.

The midyear Board meeting was in Aspen, Colorado. The Board members were Drs. A. Lee Osterman, Steven J McCabe, Jesse Jupiter, Brian Adams, Michael Neumeister, Kyle Bickel, Nicholas Vedder, Scott Kozin, Miguel A. Pirela-Cruz, Steven Moran, Thomas B. Hughes, Donald H. Lalonde, and Susan Michlovitz, Georgette Fogg, and Gretchen Bachman.

The 41st Annual Meeting was held January 12-15, 2011 at the Ritz Carlton, Cancun, Mexico. The Program Chair was Dr. Jesse Jupiter and the Specialty Day Chair was Sue Michlovitz. To the degree the meeting had a theme it was “Collegiality”. The Presidential talk was entitled “You can’t shake hands with an I-phone” and emphasized the importance of collegial Annual Meetings. The Danyo Lecture was given by Dr. Michael Hayton from Great Britain who spoke on “Medicine is Too Serious to Take Seriously.” The Invited Guest Lecture was given by Aron Ralston, author of the bestselling book “Between a Rock and a Hard Place” in which he described his decision to amputate his arm to save his life. The combined AASH/ASPN/ASRM guest speaker was Bob Woodruff, the ABC reporter who was seriously injured by a roadside bomb in Iraq in 2006. Many South Americans attended the meeting and this started the conversation for a visiting hand society eventuating in the Brazilian partnership meeting in 2012.

Thanks to the efforts of a dynamic Board, the building blocks of continued AAHS success were laid.
2011-2012

Steven McCabe, MD

Date of Birth: July 23, 1956

Undergraduate Education: University of Western Ontario

Medical School: University of Toronto

Internship and Residency: University of Western Ontario

Postgraduate Hand Experience: University of Toronto, Kleinert Institute, Louisville, KY

Board Certification: ABPS, FRCSC

In summary, 2011 was a good year for the Hand Association. Our midyear meeting was held during the summer at Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ontario, Canada. The Annual Meeting was held at Red Rock Resort, adjacent to Las Vegas. After our Red Rock site was confirmed, the ASSH meeting for the fall of 2011 was scheduled in Las Vegas causing some concern about attendance. With Program Chairs, Georgette Fogg and Dr. Randip Bindra, we devised an innovative strategy to insure a successful meeting. 1) We initiated the strategy to invite a “guest society”, in this case The Brazilian Society for Surgery of the Hand (Sociedade Brasileira de Cirurgia da Mao). This was a great success and led to continuation of the guest society concept and co-ordination with the journal. 2) We committed to provide every member who submitted an abstract an opportunity to give a podium presentation. 3) In order to accommodate the presentations we introduced a two minute presentation format which was well received and continues.

Subsequently, the 2012 AAHS Annual Meeting attracted the Association’s highest number of abstract submissions, presentations, and the highest registration to date with 459 total
attendees as of January 4, 2012 with additional registrants on-site in Las Vegas. In addition to the AAHS/ASPN/ASRM conference smart phone application, an interactive Audience Response System (ARS) was in place for many of the lectures and panels.

The Association’s membership as of January 1, 2012 included 520 Active, 102 Affiliate, 129 Candidate, 12 International, 128 Retired, 53 Emeritus, and 20 Honorary members for a total of 964 members. Membership applications had reached 120 for the year, another record high for the AAHS.

Fifty-one companies were sponsoring and/or exhibiting at the AAHS Annual Meeting.

The financial status of the Association remained strong and the journal “Hand” had a successful year.

The reins were turned over to Dr. Jesse Jupiter at the Annual Meeting.
2012-2013

Jesse Jupiter, MD

Date of Birth: September 23, 1946

Undergraduate Education: Brown University BA Classics

Medical School: Yale University

Internship and Residency:
Intern: U Pennsylvanian
Surgery: MGH Surgery Harvard Orthopaedic Program

Postgraduate Hand Experience: Fellowship Basle Switzerland and U Louisville

Board Certification: ABOS

Following the Presidencies of Drs. Lee Osterman and Steven McCabe, the AAHS continued to see extraordinary increases in membership. I would say the most important development of my Presidency would be the reorganization of the AAHS Foundation. It was an independent organization with little oversight or ongoing interaction with the AAHS Board. I reorganized it to be a more integral part of the AAHS with integrated Boards, transparency, and clear organizational goals. Fund raising followed accordingly.

I invited the Argentine Hand Society to attend the 2013 meeting. We had several outstanding international speakers including Dr Eduardo Zancolli Jr and Dr Diego Fernandez. The meeting was held at the Waldorf Astoria Hotel in Naples Florida and we were blessed with perfect weather. It was also a highlight to have Mr. Carl Hiaasen, a well-recognized author of zany Florida tales, to be one of my guest

Dr. Jupiter celebrates with Dr. Eduardo Zancolli at the Annual Meeting in Florida.
speakers. The Danyo Lecture was given by Dr. Jim May entitled “Gain without Pain, the Dawn of Elective Surgery”. Dr. Diego Fernandes also presented “A Tribute to My Teachers and Friends”. My presidential address was entitled “Scott’s Parabola and the Impact of the Medical-Industrial Complex”. The 2013 meeting was chaired by Dr. David Ring was both informative and collegial and saw over 500 attendees.
2013-2014

Donald Lalonde, MD

Date of Birth: September 29, 1953

Undergraduate Education:
Hons BSc Life Sciences Queens’ University,
Master of Science in Experimental Surgery
McGill

Medical School: Queens’s University, Kingston,
Canada

Internship and Residency: McGill University
Plastic Surgery

Postgraduate Hand Experience: No official
fellowship. My life has been a fellowship.

Board Certification: FRCSC, ABPS

I became President at the 2013 meeting in Naples Florida.
The meeting of my Presidential year, 2014, was held in
Kauai, Hawaii at the Grand Hyatt Kauai Resort. Chinese
hand surgeons were the guests at this meeting. Dr. Steven
Moran and Joy MacDermid were Program Chairs. The
theme for the year was “Simple Solutions Welcome.”

Before the Presidency but culminating in the year of the
Presidency, I started the reverse fellowship with Kumasi
Ghana, whereby AAHS hand surgeons and therapists started
going to Ghana for 2 week stints to
-teach the plastic and orthopedic
-surgery residents there about hand
surgery. There were no hand
therapists there before 2012. Today,
hand therapy is well established in
Kumasi at the time of this writing in
2018. We also started the
videoconferencing hand seminar
series between AAHS surgeons and
therapists every week with the
Ghana surgeons and therapists with
Dr. Josh Abzug running the show.

We started having the President of
AAHS give a presentation at the ASHT annual meeting
and the President of ASHT gave a presentation at the
AAHS meeting that year. Maureen Hardy, President of

Dr. Lalonde with Program Co-Chair
Joy MacDermid, BScPT, PhD.

ASHT also spoke at our Board meeting and I spoke at the ASHT board meeting that year as AAHS President for the first time. The goal was to bring the two organizations closer together.

We enshrined in the policy manual that therapists would be included in every panel and course in this and future meetings wherever possible.

We were in the middle of our second 5 year contract with Springer for Hand. Dr. Mike Neumeister was the new Editor after Dr. Elvin Zook. Mike was doing a great job. The journal was finally starting to make money for the first time in its history. The goal was to get indexed on Pub Med (which Mike accomplished in 2017) and to get a new publishing company, which was eventually accomplished as well.

We had Presidential line meetings with ASSH regularly in those years to help mend fences between the two organizations. The journal Hand was felt to be a threat to ASSH. Fences were mended. Specialty day at AAOS began to be organized conjointly with the two societies each having a Program Chair and sharing the revenue. Dr. Jesse Jupiter was instrumental in making this very positive change. I worked with Dr. Ed Akelman President of ASSH very collegially.

We had a midyear Board meeting in Quebec City. At that time, we also had a strategic planning meeting, our first with PRRI. The midyear Board meeting was not only very productive, but a lot of fun.

Christine Novak became the first therapist Chair of the Journal Committee.

The Brazilian hand society designated Hand as their official English language journal. Ground work was laid for the Argentinean’s hand society to do the same.

The AAHS hosted a pre-course seminar prior to the Brazilian meeting in April 2013, organized by Drs. Julie Adams and Randip Bindra, in Rio de Janeiro. We also organized a conjoint AAHS and Argentinian hand society meeting in Buenos Aires Oct 2014 as a precourse to their national meeting under Dr. Julie Adams. The goal was to have young AAHS members have the opportunity to speak abroad, as well as establish links between AAHS and other countries. We began a series of combined meetings with other societies such as the German Society later with Dr. Mike Neumeister.

AAHS established a presence on Vumedi, a video education platform for doctors, and started webinars.
It was proposed, and the Board agreed, to formulate a Humanitarian Award to honor those within the Association membership who dedicate their time to admirable humanitarian and volunteerism work. Dr. Jesse Jupiter chaired the Awards Committee and set standards and award criteria. The Past President and Penultimate Past President serve as Committee members.

The Association’s membership, on June 1, 2013, included 627 Active, 115 Affiliate, 162 Candidate, 30 International, 130 Retired, 55 Emeritus, and 18 Honorary members for a total of 1,137 members (compared with 1,044 the year before) – the Association’s highest membership count to date. 89% of the memberships were surgeons (43% plastic and 41% orthopedic) and 11% therapists (74% of whom were CHT certified).

The AAHS and the Hand Surgery Endowment (HSE) used to work independently. In that year, there was a joining of the boards and a sharing of responsibilities that became much more functional and solved a long standing problem. Outreach became the main goal of the Endowment. Also, the AAHS Board kick started a fund raising campaign for the Endowment that successfully led to eventually reaching the goal of one million dollars in assets under the direction of Dr. Jeff Greenberg. The entire Board personally contributed and the AAHS provided $300,000 for the kick start.

Dr. Mark Baratz began the Lean and Green project which addressed how we could help lessen the environmental burden of medical waste by doing more cases under local anesthesia and using smaller sterile fields with less disposable drapes.

The AAHS flourished under the new management of PRRI. This was a wonderful thing for AAHS. Our financial position improved, and so did most other things!
2014-2015

Mark Baratz, MD

Date of Birth: February 9, 1957

Undergraduate Education: University of Maryland, Baltimore Co.

Medical School: University of Pittsburgh

Internship and Residency: University of Pittsburgh Medical Center

Postgraduate Hand Experience: Allegheny General Hospital’s Hand and Upper Extremity Fellowship

Board Certification: ABOS, SOTH

I became President at the meeting in Hawaii. My focus for the year was to:

1. Further the concept of a Lean and Green approach to hand surgery.
2. Complement the “Touching Hands” project sponsored by the ASSH with a “Hands at Work” project that would be sponsored by AAHS.
3. Increase the Hand Surgery Endowment’s ability to fund projects with a fund-raising campaign.
4. Promote research with a strong research committee.
5. Take a novel approach to the Annual Meeting with a fusion of music and medicine.

The concept of Lean and Green approach to hand surgery was born of my introduction to wide awake local anesthesia no tourniquet (WALANT) surgery by Dr. Don Lalonde. I was interested in expanding that approach to include a better understanding of the consequences of waste to the environment and the cost associated with that waste. I spent the year becoming better informed, as well as initiating research on the subject. My study culminated in my Presidential Address, “It’s all about Harmony,” a metaphor for working with an array of professionals to further a more “lean and green” approach to hand surgery. This included a discussion of costs and waste associated with our work, the advantages of surgery with WALANT including case examples,
shared savings plans, and a center for sustainable medicine that we had started at the University of Pittsburgh.

Dr. Scott Kozin was the President of the ASSH the same year I was President of the AAHS. We were committed to furthering support for outreach to underserved communities. Partnering with the Touching Hands project was a natural opportunity for collaboration.

I approached Dr. Jeff Greenberg about leading the Hand Surgery Endowment. With his leadership we initiated a campaign to raise money for “Hands at Work”. This was a program to offer financial support to fellows and therapists interested in participating in outreach programs. Our goal was to raise $1,000,000.

I asked Dr. David Ring to lead a research committee with support from Dr. John Fowler. I asked him what he thought could help support research efforts within the AAHS community. He initiated a listserv, an online discussion forum, that would review and offer advice to members with research proposals. He also facilitated a method to review and approve or reject surveys that researchers wanted to disseminate to our members.

We had our mid-year meeting in Aspen. We accomplished a great deal and came together as a group.

On behalf the AAHS I spoke at the annual ASHT meeting giving a talk titled “When I need you most”.

I wanted the Annual Meeting to be a fusion of music and medicine. The meeting opened with the Bahamian All-star High School Marching Band’s drum line. Dr. PC Ho performed Begin the Beguine as a prelude to my Presidential Lecture “It’s all about Harmony”. The Sagittal Band performed at the Presidential Reception. Dr. Steve Lee’s band from NYC performed at the Mentor’s reception. Dr. Charles Limb was the combined AAHS/ASPN/ASRM speaker and talked about how the brain functions when it is being creative.

I loved the year. The support from the members, the committees, the staff at PRRI and the Board was tremendous.
2015-2016

**Michael W. Neumeister, MD, FRCSC, FACS**

Date of Birth: January 20, 1961

Undergraduate Education: University of Western Ontario, London, Ontario, Canada

Medical School: University of Toronto

Internship: Toronto East General Hospital, University of Toronto

Residency:
General Surgery: Dalhousie University, Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada
Plastic Surgery: University of Manitoba, Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada

Fellowship:
Microsurgery: Women’s and Brigham Hospital, Harvard, Boston
Hand: Southern Illinois University, Springfield, Illinois

Board Certification: FRCSC, ABPS, SOTH

My 2016 Presidential Annual Meeting was held in beautiful Scottsdale, Arizona. The year working for the AAHS culminated in a robust thematic program on innovation and perseverance in hand surgery. I owe enormous credit to Drs. Chris Pederson and Michael Sauerbier for their role as Program Chairs. Lisa Cyr, OT, developed an exquisite specialty day. Together, Chris, Michael, and Lisa worked to incorporate surgeons and therapists on all panels and instructional courses to provide the best multidisciplinary approach to the care of patients with hand and upper extremity afflictions. The program was enhanced by the participation of our guest nation, Germany and the DGH, German Hand Surgery Society. Dr. Sauerbier, a native of Frankfurt, Germany, was instrumental as President-Elect of the DGH, to cultivate a partnership with the German Society to bring new ideas and perspectives to the

Dr. Neumeister celebrates at the Annual Meeting with Drs. Ricardo Giunta, Hermann Krimmer, and Michael Sauerbier, members of the German Hand Surgery Society in Scottsdale.
program that was enthusiastically embraced by all members at the Annual Meeting. The AAHS membership enjoyed the participation and comradery of the 17 members of the DGH who attended the meeting in Scottsdale, Arizona. The first ever pre-meeting “Wide-Awake” surgery symposium was led by Dr. Don Lalonde. It was a tremendous success.

Special honors went out to our Guest Lecturers. Dr. Robert Russell was the Danyo Lecturer and spoke eloquently on future world issues with a talk entitled, “2051”. Dr. Andrew Lee provided a riveting lecture on a “Multidisciplinary Approach to Hand Transplantation”. My special Invited Speaker was Charles Callahan, PhD, MBA, FACHE, who enlightened the audience on a very timely topic, “Quality in the Era of Healthcare Reform and Accountability”. The combined meeting Guest Speaker, noted to be a highlight of the meeting, was Rick Searfoss, retired United States Air Force colonel, NASA astronaut and test pilot.

The Hand Surgery Endowment (HSE) had an excellent year in 2015. The goal of one million dollars in assets was achieved through contributions made by AAHS members. In 2015 HSE funded the Vargas Award, funded two research grants, supported Guatemala Healing Hands Foundation (GHHF) and Health Volunteers Overseas, and funded two fellow volunteer scholarships. Added to that in 2016 the HSE added an additional four volunteer scholarships to its portfolio. The volunteer work was designed to improve the care of patients with hand ailments throughout the world.

The membership grew in 2015-2016 to reach an all-time high of 679 Active members, 298 Candidate members and 127 Affiliate members. The net assets for the Association were held at over $1.7 million.

It was suggested that the Board consider the following for future strategic sessions.

- More resources to HSE
- More resources to GHHF and/or Kumasi, Ghana
- Research
- Education (create new tools to train residents/fellows)
- Hire a full time tech person
- Invest in the journal (fund supplements, journal technology)
- Invest in the Annual Meeting to add value and enhance the experience
- Expand incentives for therapists and other members
- Invest in more worldwide curricula
- Invest in branding
- Legacy awards
- Quality science (hire a PhD for AAHS to help define quality)
- Advocacy
- Database
- Investment pool
Overall, my Presidential year offered little conflict save for the financial distribution of the income from the vendors. The AAHS traditionally brought in the majority of the vendor funding. The financial profit split was 42.5% AAHS, 42.5% ASRM, and 15% for the ASPN. Conflict about a more equitable split to represent the actual fundraising per society was resolved with the arrangement to be reviewed every 3 years. Advocacy was another important issue discussed during my year as President. After discussion, it was agreed that the existing AAOS Board of Specialty Society representatives on the Health Policy, Communications, Research, and Education Committees as well as the Presidential Line representative will serve as a subcommittee and work with AAHS staff and the AAOS office to respond to the Academy’s advocacy-related requests. It was noted that it is important for the Association to be aligned with the AAOS regarding advocacy efforts because the AAOS has the power to make change. It was felt that AAOS advocacy efforts benefit both orthopedic and plastic hand surgery professionals.

I revere my time as President of the AAHS as it represents a pinnacle in my career. The mission and values of the AAHS resonate with me today. I especially enjoyed my role in taking our journal HAND to greater heights. May the future years be prosperous and filled with the joy of education, patient care, collaboration, and life-long improvement.
2016-2017

**Peter M. Murray, MD**

Date of Birth: January 27, 1959

Undergraduate Education: West Virginia University, Morgantown, West Virginia

Medical School: West Virginia University, Morgantown, West Virginia

Internship and Residency: University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics, Iowa City, Iowa

Postgraduate Hand Experience: Mayo Clinic, Rochester Minnesota

Board Certification: ABOS, SOTH

I took over as President of the American Association for Hand Surgery from Dr. Michael Neumeister in the Pathfinders Room of the Westin Kierland Resort in Scottsdale, AZ on 15 January 2016. This was a tremendous yet humbling honor to lead this organization in 2016 and 2017, carrying on the traditions of this great organization, fostered by so many who came before me. The theme for my Presidential year and for the 2017 Annual Meeting was “patient safety.” The honored Guest Nation for the 2017 Annual Meeting was the Romanian Society for Surgery of the Hand. Other important initiatives identified for 2016-2017 were additional engagement of the hand therapists, the HAND Journal Medline application, expansion of the Education Committee’s global education mission, and enhanced oversight of all CME activities. Additionally and in keeping with the theme of patient safety, the AAHS Board charged the Research Committee with exploration of ways to engage and work with the AAOS Board of Specialties on matters of quality and patient safety.

Dr. Chris Pederson, newly elected President, presenting Dr. Murray with a photo of Jerry West, one of the most famous West Virginia basketball players of all time, at the Dinner Dance in Hawaii. Dr. Murray is a big West Virginia sports fan!
I had the pleasure of hosting the Mid-year AAHS Board of Directors Meeting in my home of state of West Virginia. In keeping with the AAHS tradition of having the meeting in a remote, hard to find, and above all difficult to travel to location……., the meeting was held at the famed Greenbrier Resort in White Sulphur Springs, West Virginia. The meeting began with a strategic planning session lead by William Pawlucy. Specific deliverables from this session were:

1) Increase member value through tiered housing options, complimentary spouse/guest registration and leveraging relationships with affiliate societies

2) Development of an AAHS marketing video

3) Promote AAHS and the AAHS Annual Meeting to a target group that includes physician assistants and nurse practitioners.

4) Develop a social media presence for the AAHS

5) Create a proposal for an AAHS International Reverse Fellowship

During the Mid-year Board meeting and following the strategic planning session, the preliminary outline for the Annual Meeting was reviewed by the Program Chairman Dr. Marco Rizzo, highlighting that 493 abstracts had been received for the meeting. Dr. Alexandru Georgescu, President of the Romanian Society for Surgery of the Hand (RSSH), was helping to coordinate Romanian participation with 15 hand surgeons expected to attend. A one day pre-course at the Annual Meeting of the RSSH was planned for April 2017. It was determined that given the patient safety theme for the 2017 Annual Meeting, patient safety CME credits would be offered for participants. At the time of the Mid-year meeting, the AAHS had 1378 members. During the meeting, specific criteria were developed for retirement status. The Board voted to offer complimentary guest/spouse/child registration for the 2017 Annual Meeting in Hawaii while also reducing registration for affiliate hand therapist members. The Board also extended additional support for the Education Committee’s activities by approving the purchase of software to facilitate the Kumasi Lecture Series in Ghana. We also learned that the HAND journal would be transitioning to 6 issues per year and now had 4 issues of articles in arrears.

The 2017 AAHS Board Meeting was held at the beautiful Hilton Waikoloa in Waikoloa, Hawaii. Wonderful weather highlighted the week. Dr. Marco Rizzo and his Program Committee did an
outstanding job of organizing a tremendous scientific meeting. There were over 600 attendees and industry support was received from over 30 companies. My invited guest speakers were Dr. Stuart Weinstein, Dr. Peter Stern, and Dr. Alex Parker. My Presidential Address focused on patient safety and was entitled, “In Case of a Water Landing; Your Seat Cushion May be used as a Floatation Device,” drawing parallels between medicine and the airline industry. The Winter Board Meeting focused on implementation of the strategic plan that had been adopted at the time of the Mid-year Meeting, among other important initiatives. The Board learned that the AAHS was in a strong financial position, holding nearly $2.5 million in total assets. The Education Committee reported that the AAHS webinars had reached nearly 800 international learners. The Hand Journal reported that the transition to publishing six issues per year was running smoothly and that there was a one year backlog of articles. The acceptance rate of the journal was 47%. During the AAHS Incoming Board of Directors Meeting later in the week, a smooth transition of the Presidency to my long-time friend Dr. Chris Pederson occurred. We were all saddened to learn of the injuries sustained by our friend and long-time AAHS member Dr. Jaiyoung (Jai) Ryu, MD.
My memories of my Presidential year were really centered around two issues: Zika virus and where the meeting was to be held. We were scheduled to have the meeting in Puerto Rico in January of 2018 and there was considerable concern about the Zika virus and the effect that this would have on attendance at the meeting. As time went on it and we got to the summer, evidence was mounting that the actual rate of significant risk from this virus was pretty low. We nonetheless had a number of conference calls as well as multiple emails about this and it was suggested that we change the venue at one point earlier in the
year. This was economically not feasible for the Association and we were prepared to continue on with
the meeting location hoping that the attendance would not be affected too badly. Regardless, Mother
Nature took care of this problem as Puerto Rico was inundated by Hurricane Maria In September,
unfortunately destroying the infrastructure to a degree that we could not proceed with the Annual
Meeting there. The Association and our partner societies were very fortunate to be able to change the
venue to the Arizona Biltmore Hotel in Phoenix. This was largely due to the diligence of our
management staff. The Association did later donate $15,000 to help the people of Puerto Rico.

In terms of the workings of the Association, we continued to implement the Strategic Plan which had
been initiated by Dr. Pete Murray and Dr. Brian Adams was working on a promotional video for our
group. We had the usual ongoing discussions about division of revenue at the meetings as well as the
management of our Association. I also worked with Dr. Jim Chang, President of the ASSH, to put forth a
combined bid for the IFSSH meeting to be held in the U.S. in 2025. We had our inaugural Reverse Fellow
who was Dr. Boutros Farhat from Kumasi, Ghana. This program was successful largely due to the efforts
of Dr. Marco Rizzo.

The Mid-year meeting was held at the Hyatt Hill Country in San Antonio and was successful in terms of
work of running the Association and fellowship. We had the opportunity to all put our boots on and go
to a famous Texas music venue, John T. Floore’s Country Store and hear some Country and Western
Music.

I think that the Annual Meeting in Phoenix turned out to be a success both from an educational
standpoint and the venue. Our guest Society was the Italian Society for Hand Surgery and we had a fair
number of their members in attendance and on the program. Two of my main mentors, Dr. David Green and Dr. Jim
Urbaniak were Guest Speakers and both of these lectures were excellent.

My other Guest Lecturer was a longtime friend Admiral John Butler, who spoke about American’s
submarine force. I had many positive comments about all of these lectures.

Overall I feel that my Presidential year was a success. I felt that the Association was in great shape and
didn’t feel the need for any sweeping changes in things as I am a firm believer that it if it ain’t broke you
don’t need to fix it. This is a wonderful group that I am proud to have been a member as well as a leader
of the American Association for Hand Surgery.
2018-2019

**Brian D. Adams, MD**

Date of Birth: May 31, 1957

Undergraduate Education: University of Nebraska

Medical School: University of Nebraska

Internship and Residency: University of Iowa Orthopedic Surgery

Postgraduate Hand Experience: Loma Linda University Hand Surgery Fellowship

Board Certification: ABOS, SOTH

I began my Presidential year 2018 in the sunny desert at the Biltmore in Phoenix and ended it 2019 in the sunny desert at the JW Marriott in Palm Desert. My invited speakers gave emotionally stirring stories, including professional cyclist Tyler Hamilton, former white house news correspondent Ann Compton, legendary hand surgeon Dr. Andy Palmer, and passionate hand surgeon Dr. Dan Nagle.

The Annual Meeting saw the launch of new educational and social activities for the hand surgery fellows and young members, with contests and beverages elevating the spirits of all. Dr. Jim Higgins created and led a highly successful mock board program. The last person standing trivia contest for the entire membership was a big hit. I am deeply indebted to Co-Chairs Drs. Glenn Gaston and Christina Ward for creating the fantastic program.

The year was a whirlwind of great initiatives and new events to grow and add value to our organization, many of which will continue to grow for many years to come. A major emphasis of my year as President was to create a more transparent organization, substantially improve our efficiency, and create a wider, more diverse membership with broader participation. We hit the ground running with enthusiasm among young and older members alike.
An absolutely magnificent promotional video was created highlighting our unique active membership and our diverse activities, including educational programs, social events, global missions, member achievements, research, the HAND journal, and of course the wonderful setting of our Annual Meeting.

Our ongoing collaboration with the ASSH was again demonstrated by our joint submission to host an upcoming IFSSH meeting in the US. Our Presidential lines worked together along with our executive staff to create solid submission that was certainly competitive. Dr. James Chang and I will plan to Co-Chair the meeting in 2025.

With unanimous support of our Board, I launched the plan to incorporate advanced practice providers (PAs and NPs) into our organization in a more meaningful way, including a seat on the Board with representation equal to our long-term hand therapy members. Their future collaboration with our surgeons and therapists looks very promising, but will likely take several years to see the full benefit. Planned collaborations include programs at the Annual Meeting, joint webinars with other organizations, and participation as faculty at each other’s meetings.

A firm commitment was made by the Board and staff to bring the administration of the volunteer missions under our own roof rather than donating our money and resources to other organizations. We now have several sites that will be supported by our members with the help of our own Endowment. I am really excited about the future of this plan, which will be a benefit to all members interested in volunteerism.

The bylaws underwent the largest revision in the history of our organization, with emphasis on transparency and efficiency. Some further changes will likely be needed after we have an opportunity to evaluate the effects, but I am certain we will see the benefits soon. Some of the highlights include reducing the number on the Board to make it more nimble, allow and promote self-nomination for positions on the Board and the nominating committee, include advanced practice providers on the Board, much quicker entry of new members into our organization, and provision for electronic voting by the membership for nearly all concerns and plans requiring a vote.

The HAND journal has become a resounding success, owed greatly to the never-ending patience and dedication by Dr. Michael Neumeister. Under Sage, our new publisher, the journal has grown in readership, sponsorship, and has become financially very sound. In keeping with our organization’s new and more transparent practice, a task force was created to solicit for the Editor-in-Chief position that will become open this year at the end of the current term. Several excellent candidates submitted their applications.

The Reverse Fellowship program saw its first full year of practice, with a young enthusiastic surgeon from Africa spending time with some of our organization’s leading surgeons at major hand centers the US. He presented his experience at the Annual Meeting in Palm Desert. There is no doubt this program is a success that will carry on well into the future.
A task force was created to evaluate our current investment manager and seek additional proposals from other investment companies, which demonstrates the Board’s responsibility to properly and responsibly lead the organization. Our membership continued to grow in all categories, including excitement among more young members. The webinar series remained strong and there was a firm commitment to support its growth, including collaboration with an increasing number of other organizations, both orthopedic and plastic, as well as affiliates.

Palm Desert also saw the launch of the 50th Anniversary year, which will include a fund raising campaign by the combined efforts of the AAHS and the Endowment. The campaign will also serve to support the new Jai Ryu memorial lectureship, in honor of his great career and AAHS leadership.

Although I was worried that our Board would be tentative when I recommended pursuing a new logo design, everyone was strongly in favor. Thus, a task force was created to redesign our logo, with the concept to make it more current, simpler, and applicable to marketing schemes on letterhead, brochures, banners, and clothing. Though somewhat of a daunting task, we hope to launch the new logo during our 50th Anniversary campaign.

Obviously, the year was very busy, but more importantly it was tremendously rewarding for me personally and I believe for our wonderful organization. I am honored and proud to have served as the President, and I thank all of the past Presidents and members for making the AAHS a truly global dynamic organization.
W. P. Andrew Lee

Date of Birth: June 7, 1957

Undergraduate Education: Harvard College, Cambridge, MA

Medical School: Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, Baltimore, MD

Internship and Residency:
Johns Hopkins Hospital, Baltimore, MD (General Surgery)
Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston, MA (Plastic Surgery)

Postgraduate Hand Fellowship: Indiana Hand Center, Indianapolis, IN

Board Certification: ABPS, SOTH

Serving as the leader of the AAHS has been a tremendous honor, particularly since I had served as the ASSH President 7 years ago. While both are exemplary and meritorious organizations, the AAHS is inclusive and welcomes hand surgeons of all backgrounds and upper extremity specialties. The Hand Association extends its scientific programming and board governance to encompass hand surgeons, therapists, and advanced practice providers. Global outreach has also been a longstanding commitment of AAHS, particularly to developing countries and underserved areas. Finally, its Annual Meeting in a warm-climate resort has shown that high-level learning and networking can be conducted in a relaxed and informal atmosphere.

I had the privilege in my year as President to organize and oversee activities to celebrate the 50th anniversary year of the Association, a wonderful milestone in the history of our organization as a welcoming community for hand professionals for a half century. Dr. Bob Russell, Past President, compiled this history book, a complement to *The First 25 Years, History of the American Association for Hand Surgery*, which was written by Dr. Alan Freeland in 1995. The current book was the result of admirable efforts and persistence by Dr. Russell. Our journal HAND featured a special cover in 2019 to recognize the AAHS golden anniversary that will run throughout 2020.

The 2020 Annual Meeting scientific program, organized by Drs. Jaimie Shores and Sami Tuffaha, along with Jane Fedorczyk, PT, PhD, CHT and Gary Solomon, MSOT, MBA, CHT, recognized the leaders in our field, including our Past Presidents, who have strategically steered our organization. The meeting featured a roster of outstanding speakers including Past President Dr. Jesse Jupiter ("Innovation in Hand Surgery and the Challenge of Scott’s Parabola"), Dr. Anthony Chang ("Medical Application of Artificial Intelligence"), and Dr. James Chang ("Inside Rodin’s Hands: Teaching Surgery Through Art and Anatomy"). The Saturday combined meeting keynote speaker, Dr. Eric Olson from University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center, spoke on his pioneering work on gene-editing for treatment of Duchenne muscular dystrophy. The social program included a Friday afternoon Beach Party open to all our meeting attendees and their families, attesting to the welcoming and relaxed tenor of our Annual Meeting. Our guest societies for the Ft. Lauderdale meeting were the Delegation of Chinese Hand Surgeons and the Hong Kong Society for Surgery of the Hand.
Another major initiative organized to commemorate AAHS's golden anniversary was the Hand Surgery Endowment’s fundraising campaign. The Endowment leadership set a campaign goal to achieve a 50% giving rate among our membership over 2019 and 2020 to support the activities of HSE in honor of AAHS's 50 year milestone. The generosity of AAHS members was demonstrated through substantial donation and pledges from or members. The AAHS matched donations and pledges made in 2019 to help reach the campaign's goals and affirm the importance of the work conducted by the Endowment.

While celebrating the history of AAHS, the leadership decided to look towards the future of our organization and the field of hand care. To enhance engagement of young members of our organization, the AAHS Technology Committee led by Dr. Kyle Eberlin designed new programs through the Association's website and social media platforms. The aim of these programs is to further connect our members, the hand care community in North America, and our international colleagues.

The AAHS Board of Directors also selected the design of a new logo for the Association. This contemporary logo represents the next chapter for the Association as we look to expand our membership to include all those who represent the hand care team, and strengthen engagement of our younger members through innovative programs and education. The logo design taskforce comprised of Drs. Brian Adams, David Bozentka, and Mark Rekant should be recognized for their time and dedication to this project.

In 2019 the AAHS launched a Corporate Partnership Council overseen by Dr. Jonathan Isaacs. This Council was created in the spirit of meaningful collaboration with our industry partners to serve as an open forum to discuss ideas and resources, and seek avenues of collaboration where the AAHS and its corporate partners can advance parallel interests. With this vehicle for partnership, I am confident we will see new programs and collaborations emerge to advance research and education in our field.

Collaboration has been a cornerstone of the AAHS - within our membership, among the specialties that we represent, and with affiliate societies and industry. In 2019, the AAHS, in conjunction with ASSH and ASHT, was selected to host the 2025 Congress of the International Federation of Societies for Surgery of the Hand/Hand Therapy (IFSSH/IFSHT) in the U.S. The Congress will be jointly hosted by ASSH, AAHS and ASHT in Washington, DC in May 2025. I would like to recognize Dr. Nash Naam, Dr. Peter Amadio, and Dr. Brian Adams for their efforts working with our sister societies to prepare the bid and campaigning to bring the Congress to the U.S. This will be a wonderful occasion for international as well as inter-societal partnership.

Throughout 2019 AAHS also expanded its educational efforts with ASHT through a combined webinar program as well as launching the International Reverse Therapy Fellowship designed to offer educational opportunities at U.S. centers to a therapist from a developing country. Modelled after our successful International Reverse Surgery Fellowship for hand surgeons, the Therapy Fellowship will begin in 2020.

Activities with AAOS, ASPS, and AMA were ongoing throughout the year and included educational initiatives, research funding, and advocacy work. The Education Committee expanded upon its webinar program to feature webinars with ASPS and the American Academy of Physician Assistants (AAPA) to engage our advanced practice provider colleagues. Relationships with ASPN and ASRM remained strong throughout 2019 as the organizations look towards combined meetings into the future, while dealing with collective challenges as each group experiences continued growth in its membership and Annual Meetings.
My Presidential year was one of celebrating successes to date, affirming our organizational values and distinctions, and planning for an even brighter future of AAHS. Thank you for entrusting me with leading our Hand Association. It was a privilege to serve as your President.
CHAPTER III: Affiliate Membership

The AAHS Affiliate membership category was revised in 1978 to include individuals from non-medical specialties, and at the time five Affiliate members joined the AAHS. A Hand Therapist Development Group was established in 1983 which lead to the development of the Hand Therapy Committee and eventually representation on the AAHS Board of Directors. This committee provided the opportunity for the development of more diverse educational programs related to hand therapy and an increasing role in the AAHS educational programs. The representation of the Affiliate members within the AAHS has continued to develop and expand. Affiliate members now serve an important role within the organization, committees and Board of Directors.

The first Hand Therapy Day was held during the 1990 AAHS Annual Meeting as an introduction to topics that may be of primary interest to hand therapists. With its success, Hand Therapy Day was held annually the day prior to the beginning of the AAHS meeting. The program reflected the collaborative approach of the AAHS with a combined program of hand therapists and surgeons. In more recent years, to further reflect the inclusive approach to care promoted by AAHS, therapists and therapy topics were incorporated throughout the Annual Meeting program. Today therapists are included on meeting panels, instructional courses, and their abstract submissions encouraged. The participation of therapists in the Annual Meeting provides outstanding education, informing and advancing clinical practice and research.

The Affiliate membership has expanded since 1978 to 130 members and includes hand therapists, occupational therapists, physical therapists, advanced practice providers and other healthcare providers and scientists whose interests and contributions are related to hand care or related research.

Submitted by Christine Novak, PT, PhD
AAHS Affiliate Member
CHAPTER IV: Hand Surgery Endowment

The Hand Surgery Endowment was established in 1997 with the mission to promote the educational activities of the AAHS with the ultimate goal to promote the highest levels of quality patient care. The formation of the Endowment was due in large part to the efforts of Dr. Robert Schenck who envisioned the HSE would ensure physicians and therapists were able to afford educational activities through the Hand Association.

There were periods over the last two decades when the Endowment was rather inactive, and it was even considered at one time that it merge with the ASSH foundation. However, under the guidance of Dr. Ronald Palmer and a new management team, the Endowment was reinvigorated and again became an active organization.

The Endowment took on new life under the direction of Dr. Jeffrey Greenberg who oversaw a fundraising campaign to achieve a $1M goal to be able to expand organization activity. Subsequent campaigns under the leadership of Dr. Jonathan Isaacs aimed to increase HSE reserves to continue expansion and provide more opportunities to Association members. With strong leadership, the Hand Surgery Endowment established itself as a thriving complement to the Hand Association.

Today the Hand Surgery Endowment maintains its mission to promote AAHS educational activity but in recent years has also turned its focus to provide funding for education and service missions promoting hand health on a global scale. The Endowment now provides care and education to under-resourced areas through volunteerism awards and scholarships, promotes economical and environmentally conscious practices, and bestows research grant funding to support scientific advancements in the field of hand surgery. The Endowment annually funds the International Vargas Hand Therapy Teaching Award which fosters education and care by a hand therapist in an underserved area of the world. It also funds the Reverse Hand Surgery Fellowship and Reverse Hand Therapy Fellowship which offer educational opportunities at U.S. training centers to surgeons and therapists from developing countries. It currently also funds two research grants, supports affiliate outreach organizations including Guatemala Healing Hands Foundation and Health Volunteers Overseas, and supports the Humanitarian and Lean & Green Awards.

The Hand Surgery Endowment has grown to over $1.2M. As the corpus grows there will be continued growth and expansion of its domestic and international outreach activities. The Endowment truly represents a lasting legacy from current AAHS members to all future members and their patients. Please help support this effort.
CHAPTER V: HAND Journal

The official journal of the American Association for Hand Surgery, HAND, was introduced to hand surgeons and therapists around the world in June of 2006 (Figure 1). The journal has flourished and grown to be recognized as a preeminent journal of hand and upper extremity surgery. The genesis of the journal started with an unmet need of the members of the American Association for Hand Surgery who were specifically looking for greater opportunities to publish original manuscripts on hand surgery and rehabilitation. Dr. Susan Mackinnon was instrumental in spearheading the creation of HAND starting back in 2003.

As enthusiasm grew for our own journal, the Board of the AAHS authorized Dr. Mackinnon at the midsummer Board meeting to move forward to secure an Editor for the journal and initiate contracts with the publisher Springer. Three names were presented to the Board to potentially take the leadership role as Editor-in-Chief of the journal HAND. Dr. Elvin Zook, Dr. Rod Hentz, and Dr. Michael Wood were all fine candidates for this position. Ultimately the selection went to Dr. Elvin Zook who became the Editor-in-Chief of the journal in 2005. Dr. Chris Novak was selected as the Associate Editor and an Editorial Board assembled. The Editorial Board consisted of 23 members all from the United States (Figure 2).

This was indeed an exciting time for the American Association for Hand Surgery to now have its own official journal. The missions of the AAHS and HAND were aligned. The inaugural issue consisted of 61 pages with three original articles and an editorial highlighted by Dr. Zook (Figure 3). The three original articles were by Brian Rinker, MD on “Fingertip Reconstruction with Laterally Based Thenar Flap: Indications in Long
Term Functional Results”. The second article was by Kevin Chung, MD, who wrote on “The current status of outcomes research with carpal tunnel surgery”. The final original article for that issue was by Tony Smith, MD et al on “The Dissatisfied Hand Surgeons: What Causes Them to Change Jobs?” The rest of the journal was a compilation of abstracts and posters presented at the 2006 Annual Meeting of the American Association for Hand Surgery in Arizona.

HAND continued to grow in submissions and online downloads. The HAND logo, designed by Drs. Thomas Tung and Susan Mackinnon, was a reflection of the modern digital era in hand surgery and became a prominent figure at the Annual Meeting. By 2009 the journal had been included in PubMed Central and a Journal Committee had been assembled to include Drs. Jim Chang, Lee Osterman, Chris Novak, Steven McCabe, Mike Neumeister and Don Lalonde. The first few years of the journal were rather difficult and tumultuous from a financial point of view. Sponsors were few and marketing was limited. It was difficult to generate revenue to support the journal and the Association was losing money each year. It was even questioned from the Board of the American Association for Hand Surgery on whether to maintain the journal as a viable option moving forward.
In 2010, Dr. Zook’s term as Editor-in-Chief had finished and Dr. Michael Neumeister was elected by the Board as the new Editor-in-Chief. The cover was changed from black to white (Figure 4). At the same time a new contract was designed with the publisher Springer to improve the finances of the journal. Drs. Don Lalonde and Chris Novak were instrumental in guiding the Association through the negotiations with Springer to make the journal profitable. In 2011, an application was submitted for the journal HAND to become indexed in Medline. The initial submission was rejected but a counter submission a few years later was accepted and, in 2017, HAND was included in Medline. The combination of the Medline acceptance and a more opportunistic contract with our new publisher, SAGE, resulted in a dramatic surge of national and international recognition of HAND as a high quality much needed journal for promoting hand health across the world.

SAGE and the AAHS partnered in 2016. In the last three years HAND has become, not only profitable, but recognized around the world for its high standards and excellence in publications in hand and upper extremity. To that end, other societies have chosen HAND as their official journal including the Argentinean Hand Society, the Brazilian Society for Hand Surgery, and the Romanian Hand Society. The Editorial Board has expanded to over 40 members including two Associate Editors, Dr. Jonathan Isaacs and Chris Novak. The Editorial Board is now international with members from Italy, Argentina, Brazil, Romania, Germany, Sweden, Canada, Taiwan, India, Poland, Australia, the UK, and Japan.

HAND has become an incredible journal referenced by hand surgeons around the globe. It will continue to grow in the years to come with the support of our managerial company PRRI, including the work of Sarah Boardman and Karen Doyle, the marketing abilities of Yvonne Grunebaum and our publisher SAGE, and the overall direction of our Publishing Editor Lauren Hunt. A special cover remembering our roots was designed for the 50th anniversary of the AAHS (Figure 5).

HAND will continue to provide the latest of information and research for therapists and surgeons alike who aspire to correct hand maladies and promote hand health in the patients we treat.

Michael W. Neumeister, MD, FRCSC, FACS
Editor-in-Chief, HAND
CHAPTER VI: Hand Association News

Although there is little published data available about its inception, the AAHS Newsletter dates back to the early days of the AAHS. The Newsletter Committee first appeared in 1973 and was chaired by Dr. Donald Ditmars, Jr. The first Hand Surgery Newsletter Editor was Dr. Donald Ditmars, Jr., who held that post from 1972-1979. The AAHS Newsletter was renamed the AAHS Quarterly in 1994 by the AAHS Marketing Committee. The format was “expanded to more effectively and comprehensively inform out membership of societal activities as well as new developments on the frontiers of hand surgery.” That mission statement still reflects the vision of the AAHS Newsletter 25 years later.

Prior editions of the AAHS Quarterly may be accessed by members on the AAHS website at http://handsurgery.org/newsletter. I found it very interesting to read some of the columns as many of the issues hand surgeons were facing in the late 1990’s are still prominent issues today. In the AAHS Quarterly Summer 1997 issue, Editor James G. Hoehn, MD wrote, “In the rapidly changing world of medical reimbursement, there seem to be no solid positions to link to. Payments to physicians, hospitals, and other medical providers are dropping rapidly, affecting the mechanics and the quality of health care delivery and the quality of health care delivery to our patients.” It seems that little has changed or, possibly, things have come full circle.

The AAHS Quarterly changed from 4 publications per year to 3 publications per year in 2012 and became an online-only publication in December of 2016. The change to a digital newsletter offers significant flexibility with respect to content and length. Many of the features from the 1995 AAHS Quarterly are still in the Newsletter today. These features include the Coding Corner, Hand Therapist Corner, Hand Surgery Endowment report, and notes about the Annual Meeting. As Editor, I have attempted to add feature articles that would be of interest to AAHS members, including articles from AAHS Committees, a financial column, and other editorial type articles from leaders in hand surgery. The goal is to always keep improving and to bring articles of interest to AAHS members. It has been an honor to serve as Newsletter Editor.

John R. Fowler, MD

Hand Surgery Newsletter Editors
1972-1979 Donald M. Ditmars, Jr., MD
1979-1985 J. Joseph Danyo, MD
1985-1988 James W. Slavin, MD
1988-1994 Wallace H.J. Chang, MD

Hand Surgery Quarterly Editors
1994-2000 James G. Hoehn, MD
2000-2009 Peter C. Amadio, MD
2009-2010 Steven McCabe, MD
2010-2017 Thomas Hughes, MD
2017- John Fowler, MD
CHAPTER VII: Central Office

1996 -1998  
American Society of Plastic Surgeons (ASPS)  
Arlington Heights, IL

1998 - 2009  
Illinois State Medical Society (ISMS)  
Chicago, IL

2009 – 2010  
American Society of Plastic Surgeons (ASPS)/Specialty Association Management Services (SAMS)  
Arlington Heights, IL

2011 – Present  
Professional Relations and Research Institute (PRRI)  
Beverly, MA
APPENDICES

I. Current Constitution and By-Laws

Bylaws of the American Association for Hand Surgery

Article 1—Name

The name of this association shall be the American Association for Hand Surgery (“Association”), an Illinois not-for-profit corporation.

Article 2—Purposes

The purposes of the Association are:

(a) To foster the highest quality of hand care through the education of hand surgeons and other healthcare providers;

(b) To provide communication to the public about all aspects of hand care;

(c) To fund, foster and promote investigations, studies and research opportunities related to hand care;

(d) To promote and further the goals and professional and socioeconomic interests of hand surgeons and other healthcare providers;

(e) To engage in any and all lawful activities that may be incidental or reasonably related to any of the foregoing purposes, and to have and exercise all of the powers and authority now and hereafter conferred upon not-for-profit corporations under the laws of the State of Illinois.

Article 3—Membership

Membership is a privilege which is accorded by the American Association for Hand Surgery, based on merit to a person who meets the qualifications established herein. The Board of Directors may, at its discretion, waive some of the qualifications for membership in any class except for that of Active Membership.

Section 3.01 – Classes

There shall be seven (7) classes of membership as follows: Active, Affiliate, Candidate, International, Emeritus, Honorary and Retired.

Section 3.02 – Qualification of Active Members

Active membership shall be limited to surgeons who are certified by the American Board of Orthopedic Surgery, American Board of Plastic Surgery, the American Board of Surgery, or their Canadian or Osteopathic equivalents. An active member must be a licensed physician, who meets the qualifications as established by the Board of Directors which include, but are not limited to:

- Training in hand surgery
- A minimum of one (1) year active practice that includes hand surgery
- Engaged in active medical practice
Exceptions will be considered by specific application to the AAHS Board and Membership Committee for physicians (e.g. neurosurgeons, dermatologists, radiologists, etc.) who are not trained in hand surgery, but have demonstrated contributions to the care of patients with hand problems through medical practice, research, or academic activities to become Active Members of AAHS. Their membership application and recommendations will be considered by the Board.

Section 3.03 – Qualification of Affiliate Members
Affiliate members shall be occupational therapists, physical therapists, advanced practice providers or other healthcare providers and scientists whose interests and contributions are related to the advancement of hand care or related research.

Section 3.04 – Qualification of Candidate Members
Candidate members shall be surgeons, residents, fellows, students, or other individuals in healthcare or research who are either in school, in training, or within two (2) years of completion of training in an accredited training program in the United States or Canada and whose interests and contributions are related to the advancement of hand care. Candidate Membership is limited to two (2) years following the completion of training at which time candidate members must convert to active or affiliate membership. Beyond this date, he/she is no longer eligible.

Section 3.05 – Qualification of International Members
International membership may be conferred by the Board of Directors on hand surgeons who reside and practice in countries other than the United States and Canada, who have achieved distinction in care of the hand in their own country, and who are members in good standing of their National Society and other healthcare organizations.

Section 3.06 – Qualification of Emeritus Members
Emeritus membership may be conferred upon retired surgeons who have all of the qualifications of Active members or retired Affiliate members who have all the qualifications of affiliate members, who are recognized for their outstanding contributions to the organization and to hand care. Recipients of this honor will be decided by the Board of Directors.

Section 3.07 – Qualification of Honorary Members
Honorary membership shall be conferred upon surgeons or other individuals who have achieved exceptional eminence and have distinguished themselves by their contribution to the science of hand care. Recipients of this honor will be decided by the Board of Directors.

Section 3.08 – Qualification of Retired Members
Retired members shall have been active or affiliate members of the Association and shall have all of the qualifications of active or affiliate members, except they shall no longer be actively engaged in the practice of hand surgery or therapy.

Section 3.09 – Members Entitled to Vote
Active and Affiliate members in good standing shall be entitled to vote on Association business and any committees they may serve upon. All other members may not vote on Association business, but may exercise voting privileges on any committee they may serve upon.

Section 3.10 – Duties, Fees and Assessments, Delinquency, Discipline and Resignation
(a) It shall be the duty of each member to keep on file with the designated office a current official address and, when available, an e-mail address to which all such notices required by applicable laws or by these Bylaws may be sent. The mailing of a notice to such addresses shall be the extent of the AAHS responsibility for such notice.
(b) All members shall pay annual AAHS dues as determined by the AAHS Board of Directors. Dues shall be payable on such date(s) and in such amounts and manner as may be determined by the AAHS Board of Directors. Any member whose dues are delinquent will be notified by registered mail two (2) months after the first day of the fiscal year. Members whose dues are in arrears are subject to disciplinary action by the Board of Directors, which may result in loss of membership in the Association.

(c) Funds may be raised by special assessment or any other means approved by a simple majority of the voting membership of the Association at a membership meeting or by mail or electronic ballot. Dues paying members are required to pay all assessments.

(d) A member may resign from the Association at any time.

Section 3.11 – Non-Discrimination

AAHS does not and shall not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, creed, gender, gender identity, age, national origin, ancestry, disability, marital status, sexual orientation, or military status, in any of its activities or operations. These activities include but are not limited to, election to membership, election to leadership positions and selection of volunteers and vendors.

Section 3.12 – Meetings of Members

(a) The annual meeting of the members of the Association shall be held at such a time and place as determined by resolution of the Board of Directors for the purposes of electing Officers and Directors and transacting such other business as may properly come before the membership.

(b) Additional regular meetings of the members may be held at such time and place as may be determined by resolution of the Board of Directors.

(c) Special meetings of the members may be called by the President or the Board of Directors or by written petition of ten (10) percent of voting AAHS members.

Section 3.13 – Notice of Meetings

Written notice stating the place, day, and hour of a meeting of members, and, in the case of a special meeting, the purpose(s) for which the meeting is called, shall be delivered not less than sixty (60) days before the date of the meeting, by the Secretary, or his or her designee, to each member of AAHS at the address shown for such member. Such delivery may be accomplished by U.S. mail, by facsimile, or by electronic communication. Attendance of a member at any meeting shall constitute a waiver of notice of such meeting except where the member attends the meeting for the express purpose of objecting to the holding of the meeting because proper notice was not given.

Section 3.14 – Quorum

Five (5) percent of the voting members of AAHS, present in person, shall constitute a quorum for the consideration of matters at any meeting of members. If a quorum is not present, a majority of the voting members present at the meeting may adjourn the meeting to another time. For purposes of mail or electronic voting, a quorum shall also be defined as five (5) percent of ballots returned by voting members.

Section 3.15 – Voting

Only Active and Affiliate members in good standing may vote on matters that are submitted for a vote. Each voting member shall be entitled to one vote on each matter. The affirmative vote of a majority of the voting members, present in person, at a meeting at which a quorum is present shall be the act of the
members, unless the vote of a greater number is required by law, the Articles of Incorporation or these Bylaws. The Board of Directors of the AAHS may authorize mail and electronic voting on such issues as it deems appropriate including but not limited to election of new members, election of officers, and changes and amendments to the Association by-laws. Mail or electronic voting may take place at any time as determined by the Board of Directors.

Section 3.16 – Proxies
Members may not vote by proxy on any matter.

Section 3.17 – Electronic Transmissions
For purposes of determining when any notice required under these Bylaws is effective, a notice shall be considered delivered when it is transmitted by electronic means or by facsimile to the address of the member appearing in the records of the Association. Actions provided for in these Bylaws that are required to be “in writing”, “to be written,” or to have “written consent”, and actions providing for “written notice” “written ballots”, “mailed ballots,” “written petitions” and similar actions, shall include any communication transmitted or received by electronic means and communicated transmitted or received by facsimile. Electronic signatures on the part of either Association or the member shall be effective for any such notices, communications or action.

Section 3.18 – Fixing Record Date for Voting
For the purposes of determining members entitled to notice of or to vote at any meetings of members, or in order to make a determination of members for any other proper purpose, the date on which notice of the meeting is sent out shall be the record date for such determination of members.

Article 4—Board of Directors

Section 4.01 – Composition
The Board of Directors shall consist of the six (6) officers; the President, President-Elect, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary, and Past President; plus the Treasurer-Elect, the four (4) Directors-at-Large (2 junior and 2 senior); and the three (3) Affiliate Directors of which two (2) must be therapists (CHT, OT, PT) and one (1) must be an advanced practice provider (PA, NP). All shall be voting members of the Board of Directors. In addition, a Candidate member currently in fellowship training or up to two years out of fellowship training shall serve as an ex-officio member with no voting privileges.

Section 4.02 – Elections
In addition to the Officers, the Board will be elected at the Annual Business Meeting or if so determined by the Board of Directors, by ballot pursuant to the procedures set forth in these bylaws.

Section 4.03 – Term of Office
The terms of office for the Officers are prescribed in Article 5. The terms of office of the remaining board members are: Treasurer-Elect, one (1) year non-renewable; Directors-at-Large, two (2) years non-renewable, Affiliate Directors, two (2) years non-renewable. The Candidate Board member shall serve a one (1) year, non-renewable term and must be a Candidate member for the duration of his/her term on the Board.

Section 4.04 – Authority and Responsibility
The Board of Directors is the governing body of the Association. The Board shall supervise, control, and direct the business and affairs of the Association, its committees and publications; shall determine its policies which shall be recorded in an official policy manual; shall actively promote its purposes; and shall supervise the investment and disbursement of its funds. The Board may adopt such rules and
regulations for the conduct of the Association’s affairs as it deems necessary or advisable. The Board of Directors may delegate portions of its authority and responsibility to the Executive Committee, but the Board of Directors is ultimately responsible.

**Section 4.05 – Responsibilities of the Directors at Large**
The Directors at Large shall be voting members of the Board of Directors and shall perform all duties assigned by the Board of Directors.

**Section 4.06 – Responsibilities of the Affiliate Directors**
The Affiliate Directors shall be voting members of the Board of Directors and shall perform all duties assigned by the Board of Directors.

**Section 4.07 – Responsibilities of the Candidate Board Member**
The Candidate Board Member shall represent the voice and perspective of the young hand surgeon/hand surgery fellow community and shall be a non-voting members of the Board of Directors. He/she shall perform all duties assigned by the Board of Directors.

**Article 5—Officers**

**Section 5.01 – Enumeration**
The officers of AAHS shall include a President, President-Elect, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Past President. Officers whose authority and duties are not prescribed in these Bylaws shall have the authority and perform the duties of the Board of Directors.

**Section 5.02 – Qualifications**
Officers shall be voting AAHS active members in good standing.

**Section 5.03 – Elections and Terms of Office**
The President, President-Elect, Vice President, Past President, Secretary, and Treasurer of AAHS shall be elected by action of the voting members of AAHS at an annual meeting, or if so determined by the Board of Directors, by ballot pursuant to the procedures set forth in these Bylaws. The President, President-Elect and Vice President shall hold office for one (1) year. The Secretary shall hold a term of two (2) years, non-renewable; the Treasurer shall hold a term of two years, non-renewable; the Past President shall hold a one (1) year term. The term of office of each regularly elected office shall begin following the conclusion of his or her predecessor’s term after the annual meeting of AAHS. Each officer shall hold office until a successor has been elected and qualified, or until such officer’s earlier death, resignation or removal in the manner hereinafter provided. Election of an officer shall not itself create any contract rights.

**Section 5.04 – Resignation and Removal**
(a) Any officer may resign at any time by giving notice to the President. A resignation is effective when notice is delivered unless the notice specified a date later than the date of delivery. The resignation of an officer need not be accepted in order to be effective.

(b) Upon the recommendation of the Board of Directors, any officer of AAHS may be removed when, in the judgment of the membership, the best interests of AAHS will be served by the removal. Such officers(s) may be removed only by an affirmative vote of two-thirds (2/3) of ballots returned by voting members for which written or electronic notice stating that a purpose of the vote is removal of one or more of such officers named in the notice is delivered to all members. Only the named officer(s) may be removed upon vote.
Section 5.05 – Vacancies
(a) Should a vacancy occur in the office of President, the President-Elect shall automatically succeed to that office and perform the duties thereof for the unexpired term. At the end of such term, that individual shall assume the office of President for the next full term.

(b) Should a vacancy occur in the office of Vice President, President-Elect, Secretary or Treasurer, the Board of Directors shall fill the vacancy from among the membership for the unexpired term. An individual appointed to fill a vacancy in the office of Vice President shall not succeed to the office of President-Elect, unless so elected by action of the voting members of AAHS.

(c) Should a vacancy occur in any other office, the Board of Directors may fill the vacancy from among the membership for the unexpired term.

Section 5.06 – Compensation
No officer shall receive payment for services as an officer, except that an officer may be reimbursed for reasonable expenses incurred in connection with his or her service as an officer.

Section 5.07 – President
President shall preside at all meetings of the Board of Directors and the Executive Committee, with the right to vote, and shall serve as an ex-officio member on all committees without voting rights. The President will have the authority to appoint special committees not provided for in the Bylaws to meet the specific needs of the Association, and shall make all appointments to standing and special committees unless otherwise provided for in these Bylaws. Together with the Treasurer, the President shall be responsible for the supervision of the Central Office. The President shall be empowered to disburse funds of the Association in the absence of the Treasurer in accordance with established financial policy, and shall have all other powers and duties common and incidental to the office of President, except as noted in this section. The President may assign special duties, responsibilities and/or liaisons to members of the Board of Directors.

Section 5.08 – President-Elect
The President-Elect shall be a voting member of the Board of Directors. The President-Elect shall perform such duties as the President may assign. The President-Elect will assist the President in the oversight of the Association executive function to facilitate Association business. If the President requests, is absent, or is unable to act, the President-Elect shall perform all duties and exercise all powers of the President. He/she shall succeed the President upon expiration of the President’s term of office. In event of the President’s death, resignation, removal, incapacity or refusal to perform any duty of his/her office, the President-Elect shall fill the unexpired term of office.

Section 5.09 – Vice President
The Vice President shall be a voting member of the Board of Directors. The Vice President shall perform all duties incidental to the office and others as assigned. The Vice President shall assist the President and President-Elect in the oversight of the Association executive function to facilitate Association business. The Vice President shall succeed the President-Elect upon expiration of the President-Elect’s term of office.

Section 5.10 – Secretary
The Secretary shall be a voting member of the Board of Directors. The Secretary shall perform the duties generally pertaining to that office. The Secretary shall give notice of and attend all meetings of the Association and keep a record of such meetings. He/she shall advise the President, Board of Directors, Executive Committee, and the membership on parliamentary procedures and shall rule on questions of
parliamentary law. He/she shall keep a roster of the members of the Association together with such data with respect to the members as may be of interest to the Association. The Secretary shall have charge of all papers, books, archives and other property belonging to the Association not otherwise provided for in the by-laws. He/she shall notify the officers and members of the Association of their election and notify members of their appointment on committees. He/she shall have charge of the correspondence of the Association, and shall conduct the same, making a report with respect thereto to the Board of Directors. He/she shall send to the Board of Directors the names and addresses of new members immediately after their election. He/she shall preserve a historical account of the activities of the Association.

Section 5.11 – Treasurer
The Treasurer shall be a voting member of the Board of Directors. The Treasurer shall collect and receive all of the dues and other funds accruing to the Association. He/she shall be accountable therefore to the Board of Directors of the Association, and he/she shall present a statement of accounts to the Association at such time as he/she shall be ordered by either the Board of Directors or the members of the Association. He/she shall keep proper books, records and accounts which shall be at all times open for examination by the Board of Directors or any officer. He/she shall deposit the funds of the Association in the Association’s name in such depository as shall be designated or approved by the Board of Directors. No funds shall be drawn from the treasury except for the purposes as shall have been duly authorized by the Board of Directors to provide for the successful management of the business of the Association. His/her accounts and funds shall be subject to audit annually by an auditing committee, which shall be appointed by the President, to examine his/her accounts and report thereon. The Treasurer shall be under bond upon such terms, conditions, and for such amount as shall be prescribed by the Board of Directors.

Section 5.15 – Past President
The Past President shall be a voting member of the Board of Directors and chair the Nominating Committee. The Past-President shall perform all duties incidental to the office and any other duties prescribed by the Board of Directors.

Article 6—Executive Committee

Section 6.01 – Composition and Term
There shall be an Executive Committee composed of five (5) officers, the President, President-Elect, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer. A member shall serve until the next Annual Meeting of the Association and until his/her successor to the position has been appointed, unless the Board of Directors designates a shorter term.

Section 6.02 – Duties
The Executive Committee may exercise the power of the Board of Directors between meetings to address operational, financial and programmatic issues. Each decision of the Executive Committee shall be submitted to the Board for ratification at its next meeting. Meetings of the Executive Committee may be called by the President who shall preside at the meetings. Three (3) members of the Executive Committee shall constitute a quorum at any meeting of the Committee.

Article 7 – Standing and Special Committees
A committee shall not take any action that is inconsistent with these Bylaws or that revokes or amends any previous action by the Board of Directors which is still in effect. Each standing committee shall have one or more directors as members, and all committee members serve at the pleasure of the Board of Directors. The President of AAHS shall serve ex-officio as a voting member of each committee with the
exception of the Nominating Committee and the Membership Committee. The following Committees are Standing Committees of the Association:

**Section 7.01 – Membership Committee**

Composition – The Membership Committee shall consist of two (2) subcommittees, an Active Subcommittee to review all Active and non-Affiliate applications, and an Affiliate Subcommittee to review all Affiliate applications. The Active Subcommittee shall consist of the Vice President as Chair and at least three (3) appointed Active members. The Affiliate Subcommittee shall consist of an Affiliate Director appointed by the President who will serve as Chair and at least (3) appointed Affiliate members.

Term of Membership – The Chairperson of the Membership committee shall serve a three (3) year term. Each member of the committee shall serve a three (3) year term. Terms shall be staggered, with the President appointing one (1) new Active member and one (1) new Affiliate member each year, and a Chairperson of the Committees every three (3) years. The Chairpersons’ terms will be in addition to any previous time served on the Committee. No person may serve more than six (6) years on this committee.

Duties – The Membership Committee shall receive all applications, letters of recommendation, and other correspondence and information relating to applicants. The Membership Committee shall make inquiry and investigation concerning each applicant's professional, ethical, conflicts of interest, and moral character. Its recommendations will be forwarded to the Board of Directors for deliberation and determination of those to be included in or deleted from the membership ballot.

**Section 7.02 – Nominating Committee**

Composition – The Nominating Committee shall consist of (2) subcommittees, an Active Subcommittee and an Affiliate Subcommittee.

The Active Subcommittee shall consist of the Immediate Past President who shall serve as Chair, two (2) Active members elected by the voting membership, one (1) Active member appointed by the President and one (1) Active member appointed by the Past President. Members of the Active Nominating Subcommittee may not be a past President of the Association, aside from the immediate Past President, and may not be within the Association Presidential Line.

The Affiliate Subcommittee shall consist of the President-Elect who shall serve as Chair, one (1) Affiliate Director appointed by the President, and one (1) Affiliate member elected by the voting membership. A call for Nominating Committee members will be sent to the general membership to identify candidates to be included on a ballot to be sent to the voting membership for election of the two (2) Active and one (1) Affiliate Committee members. A member of the Nominating Committee may not be nominated for a Board of Directors position while serving on the Committee.

Term of Membership – The term of membership in this committee is one (1) year.

Duties – The Nominating Committee shall conduct a call for nominations among the general membership for all positions with vacancies, with the exception of succession positions (Vice President, President-Elect and Treasurer-Elect). The Nominating Committee will consider all nominations, and prepare and submit a slate of one (1) nominee for each position to the Board of Directors. The list of nominees for all elected positions shall be sent to the members of the Association at least thirty (30)
days before the Annual Business Meeting where the slate will be elected. Nothing in these bylaws shall be construed as preventing nominations from the floor by any member entitled to vote at the annual meeting.

Section 7.03 – Program Committee

Composition – The Program Committee shall consist of the Program Chair(s), incoming Program Chair(s), the Immediate Past Program Chair(s) who shall serve in an ex-officio capacity, and two (2) Affiliate Directors appointed by the President of which one (1) shall be a therapist (OT, PT, CHT) and one (1) shall be an advanced practice provider (PA, NP). Additional members, including additional abstract reviewers, may be added by the Program Committee Chair(s) as needed without voting privileges.

Term of Membership – The Program Committee Chair(s) succeeds to the position from having previously served as incoming Program Chair(s). The term for each of these positions is one (1) year. Additional members of the Committee, excluding abstract reviewers, shall each serve a two year term. These terms shall be staggered, with the President appointing one (1) new member each year a slot is open. The term for the Affiliate Directors will be (1) year.

Duties – The Program Committee shall arrange the Scientific Program for the Annual Meeting. The Chair(s) shall also be in charge of coordinating with any other individuals/committees which help plan the Annual Meeting.

Section 7.04 – Bylaws Committee

Composition – The Bylaws Committee shall consist of the Secretary who shall serve as Chair, the Immediate Past Secretary, two (2) appointed Active members and one (1) appointed Affiliate member.

Term of Membership – Each member shall serve a three (3) year term. Terms shall be staggered.

Duties – The Bylaws Committee shall study the Association’s Bylaws and policies and propose changes thereto; review proposed changes submitted by the membership, evaluate policies and actions of the Association to assure that they are not in conflict with the Bylaws; and present recommendation to the Board of Directors.

Section 7.05 – Finance Committee

Composition – The Finance Committee shall consist of the Treasurer who shall serve as Chair, the President, the President-Elect, the Vice President, the Immediate Past President and the Treasurer-Elect who shall serve as ex-officio. The AAHS investment consultant will serve as an ad hoc member without voting privileges.

Term of Membership – All Committee members shall serve conterminous with his/her term on the Board of Directors.

Duties – The Finance Committee shall serve as the Association's internal auditor, formulate financial policies for recommendation to the Board of Directors, and develop the annual budget for Board approval. At the discretion of the chair, the committee shall meet regularly to assess the investment strategies of the Association.

Section 7.06 – Special Committees
Special Committees and ad Hoc Committees may be appointed and charged by the President with the approval of the Board of Directors, which will determine their powers, responsibilities, and terms of office.

**Article 8.0—Amendments**

**Section 8.01 – Procedure for Amendments of Bylaws**

Amendments may be proposed by an Active member to the Bylaws Committee or they may originate in the Bylaws Committee. Proposed amendments to these bylaws shall first be submitted to the Board of Directors for its recommendation. The proposed amendments and recommendation of the Board of Directors shall be communicated to the voting members of the Association electronically or by print at least thirty (30) days before a vote for adoption. If a vote is conducted electronically, voting members will have fourteen (14) days to return ballots. Ballots must be returned by not less than five percent (5%) of voting members for the vote to be valid. Favorable concurrence of two-thirds (2/3) of the votes cast shall be required for adoption of the amendments. Ballots shall be tallied by individuals appointed by the Board of Directors and/or administrative staff.

**Article 9—Discipline**

**Section 9.01 – Duties of the Board of Directors**

The Board of Directors may expel, call for the resignation of, or otherwise discipline any member if the majority of the Board of Directors shall find that the conduct of a member has been injurious to the good order, reputation or best interests of the Association, is in violation of its purposes or constitutes a failure to maintain the standards of conduct set forth in the Code of Ethics of the American Association for Hand Surgery. Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, the following shall, in each case, be considered to be conduct or conclusive evidence of conduct injurious to the best interests of the Association or in violation of its purposes:

(a) Conviction of felony or any crime involving moral turpitude.
(b) Suspension or termination of the right to practice medicine in any province, state or country by reason of a violation of a medical practice act or other governmental regulation.
(c) Grossly immoral, dishonorable or unprofessional conduct.
(d) Termination from an affiliate society for moral/ethical reasons.
(e) Non-voluntary loss of Board certification.

**Section 9.02 – Disciplinary Procedure**

Disciplinary questions shall be investigated by or under the supervision of the President or any other person designated by the Board of Directors. Any case, which, in the opinion of the President or other person designated by the Board of Directors, may warrant further consideration of disciplinary action, shall be referred by him/her to the Board of Directors.

If the Board of Directors decides that disciplinary action should be taken, the member against whom such action is contemplated, shall be sent, by registered or certified mail, not less than thirty (30) days prior to a meeting of the Board of Directors for the hearing of charges, a notice (a) stating the time and place of such meeting, and (b) informing him/her that disciplinary action against him/her will be considered at such meeting and that he/she may there appear in person or by his/her legal counsel, and give such evidence as he/she deems proper to show that disciplinary action should not be taken. The affirmative vote of not less than three-quarters of the members of the Board of Directors present at the meeting at which a quorum is present shall be required for the taking of disciplinary action.
Section 9.03 – Termination of Membership
A member, whose membership in the Association has been terminated, shall not hold himself/herself out or pretend to be a member of the Association.

Article 10—Resignation, Death, or Change of Status

Section 10.01 – Resignation or Death
All rights and privileges of any member shall terminate upon his/her resignation or death.

Section 10.02 – Change of Occupation or Status
Any member who changes his/her occupation or status in such a way as to render him/her ineligible for membership in this organization may, unless he/she resigns, be dropped from the membership roll by action of the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors has approved any member who, for reasons of moral turpitude or unethical practices, ceases to be a member of the Association and shall be so notified by the President after the action. A member who has thus lost his/her membership in the Association may be restored to membership in the Association by a majority vote of the Board of Directors.

Article 11—Offices

Section 11.01 – Registered Agent and Office
The Association shall have, and continuously maintain in the State of Illinois, a registered office and a registered agent whose office is identical to such registered office and may have other offices within or without the State of Illinois as the Board of Directors may, from time to time, determine. AAHS will hire and maintain an administrative support staff, to uphold these bylaws and maintain consistency annually.

Article 12—Contracts, Checks, Deposits and Funds

Section 12.01 – Contracts
The Board of Directors may authorize any officer or officers, agent or agents of the Association in addition to the officers so authorized by these by-laws to enter into any contract, execute and deliver any instrument in the name of or on behalf of the Association and such authority may be general or confined to specific instances.

Section 12.02 – Checks, drafts, etc.
All funds of the Association shall be deposited from time to time to an account of the Association in such banks, trust companies and other depositories as the Board of Directors may select. All checks, drafts or other orders for payment of money, notes, or other evidences of indebtedness issued in the name of the Association shall be signed by such officer or officers, agent or agents of the Association and in such manner as shall, from time to time, be determined by resolution of the Board of Directors.

Article 13—General Provisions

Section 13.01 – Books and Records
The Association shall keep correct and complete books and records of account and shall also keep minutes of the proceedings of its membership meetings and meetings of the membership committee and any other committees designated by the President, and meetings of the Board of Directors, and
shall keep at the registered or principal office a record giving the names and addresses of the members entitled to vote. An active member or his/her agent or attorney may inspect the books and records of account and the minutes of meetings of the Members and Board of Directors of this Association for a proper purpose, at any reasonable time. The records will be held electronically and have secured back up at all times.

Section 13.02 – Fiscal Year
The fiscal year of this Association shall begin on the 1 st day of January and end on the 31 st of December each year.

Section 13.03 – Audit
The accounts of the Association shall be audited in a manner determined by the Board of Directors at the end of each fiscal year and at such other times as may be deemed necessary by the Board.

Section 13.04 – Location
The principal office of the Association shall be at such place as the Board of Directors may from time to time designate.

Article 14—Indemnification of Directors and Officers
The Association shall indemnify, to the full extent permitted by law, every past and present Officer, Director and Committee Members of the organization. This indemnification shall be against expenses actually and necessarily incurred in connection with defense or settlement of any action, suit, or proceeding to which any individual is made a party as a result of having served in any of the foregoing capacities. This indemnification shall not apply to matters in which the individual is judged liable for willful misconduct and to matters as shall be settled by agreement predicated upon the existence of such liability.

The term “expenses” shall include attorney fees, court costs, costs of investigation, cost of preparation for an attendance at trials, the amounts of judgments, fines and penalties, amounts paid at settlement (unless paid to the Association), and other expenses necessary and reasonable incurred in connection with the defense or settlement of any action or proceeding.

The forgoing right of indemnification shall not be exclusive of any other rights to which the parties may be entitled. This indemnification shall be in addition to any other power or right of the Association to indemnify its Officers, Directors, and Committee Members.

Article 15—Parliamentary Procedure
The rules contained in Sturgis Standard Code of Parliamentary Procedure shall govern the Association in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with the Bylaws.

II. List of Presidents

Joseph Danyo, M.D.   1970-1972
Henry Burns, M.D.   1972-1973 (Deceased)
Ray A. Elliott, Jr., M.D.   1973-1974 (Deceased)
James Borden, M.D.   1974-1975
Kim K. Lie, M.D.   1975-1976
Frank L. Thorne, M.D.   1976-1977
Lawrence R. Werschky, M.D.   1977-1978 (Deceased)
Robert T. Love, M.D.   1978-1979
Arnis Freiberg, M.D.   1979-1980
Thomas J. Krizek, M.D.   1980-1981
George L. Lucas, M.D.   1981-1982
Garry S. Brody, M.D.   1982-1983
James G. Hoehn, M.D.   1983-1984
Peter C. Linton, M.D.   1984-1985 (Deceased)
Wallace H. Chang, M.D.   1985-1986
Austin D. Potenza, M.D.   1986-1987
Lee E Edstrom, M.D., FACS   1987-1988
C. Lin Puckett, M.D.   1988-1989
Robert J. Demuth, M.D.   1989-1990
Frederick R. Heckler, M.D., FACS   1991-1992
Robert D. Beckenbaugh, M.D.   1992-1993
David J. Smith, M.D.   1993-1995
James W. May, Jr., M.D.   1995-1996
Robert Brumfield, M.D.   1996-1997 (Deceased)
Peter C. Amadio M.D.   1998-1999
William M. Swartz MD, FACS   1999-2000
William Blair M.D.   2000-2001
Robert T. Buchanan M.D.   2001-2002
Alan E. Freeland M.D.   2002-2003 (Deceased)
Allen L. Van Beek M.D.   2003-2004
Richard A. Berger M.D.   2004-2005
Susan E. Mackinnon M.D.   2005-2006
Ronald E. Palmer M.D.   2006-2007
N. Bradly Meland M.D.   2007-2008
Scott Kozin M.D.   2008-2009
Nicholas B. Vedder M.D.   2009-2010
A. Lee Osterman M.D.   2010-2011
Steven McCabe M.D.   2011-2012
Jesse Jupiter M.D.   2012-2013
Donald H. Lalonde M.D.   2013-2014
Mark E. Baratz, M.D.   2014-2015
Michael W. Neumeister, M.D.   2015-2016
Peter M. Murray, M.D.   2016-2017
William C. Pederson, M.D.   2017-2018
Brian D. Adams, M.D.   2018-2019
W. P. Andrew Lee, M.D.   2019-2020
III. Meetings

a. List of Annual Meeting Locations and Dates

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<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tr>
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<td>January</td>
<td>10-13</td>
<td>Marriott's Desert Springs Resort</td>
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<td>Palm Desert, California</td>
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<tr>
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<td>January</td>
<td>8-11</td>
<td>Boca Raton Resort &amp; Club</td>
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<td>Boca Raton, Florida</td>
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<td>7-9</td>
<td>The Phoenician Resort</td>
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<td>Palm Springs, California</td>
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<td>2005</td>
<td>January</td>
<td>12-15</td>
<td>Wyndham El Conquistador Resort &amp; Golden Door Spa</td>
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<td>Fajardo, Puerto Rico</td>
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<tr>
<td>2006</td>
<td>January</td>
<td>11-14</td>
<td>Loews Ventana Canyon Resort</td>
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<td>Tuscon, Arizona</td>
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<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td>January</td>
<td>10-13</td>
<td>The Westin Rio Mar Beach Resort</td>
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<td>Rio Grande, Puerto Rico</td>
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<td>2008</td>
<td>January</td>
<td>9-12</td>
<td>Hyatt Regency Century Plaza</td>
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<td>Beverly Hills, California</td>
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<td>2009</td>
<td>January</td>
<td>7-10</td>
<td>Grand Wailea Resort</td>
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<td>Maui, Hawaii</td>
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<td>2010</td>
<td>January</td>
<td>6-9</td>
<td>Boca Raton Resort &amp; Club</td>
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<td>Boca Raton, Florida</td>
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<td>2011</td>
<td>January</td>
<td>12-15</td>
<td>Ritz Carlton Cancun</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Cancun, Mexico</td>
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<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>January</td>
<td>11-14</td>
<td>Red Rock Resort Casino &amp; Spa</td>
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<td>Las Vegas, Nevada</td>
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<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>January</td>
<td>9-12</td>
<td>Naples Grande Resort &amp; Club</td>
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<td>Naples, Florida</td>
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<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>January</td>
<td>8-11</td>
<td>Grand Hyatt Kauai Resort &amp; Spa</td>
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<td>Kauai, Hawaii</td>
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<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>January</td>
<td>21-24</td>
<td>Atlantis Resort</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Paradise Island, Bahamas</td>
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<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>January</td>
<td>13-16</td>
<td>Westin Kierland</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Scottsdale, Arizona</td>
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<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>January</td>
<td>10-14</td>
<td>Hilton Waikoloa Village</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Waikoloa, Hawaii</td>
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<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>January</td>
<td>10-13</td>
<td>Arizona Biltmore</td>
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<td>Phoenix, Arizona</td>
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| 2019 | January 30 – February 2 | JW Marriott Desert Springs  
Palm Desert, California |
| 2020 | January 7 – 11     | Marriott Harbor Beach  
Ft. Lauderdale, Florida |
b. Invited Lectures and Keynote Speakers

Invited Lecturers are invited by the President. Presentations may be on any topic. The Joint Presidential Keynote Lecturer is selected by the Presidents of AAHS, ASPN and ASRM.

2020

Innovation in Hand Surgery and the Challenge of Scott’s Parabola
Jesse B. Jupiter, MD

Artificial Intelligence
Anthony Chang, MD, MBA, MPH, MS

Editing the Genome: New Hope for Genetic Disorders (Joint Presidential Keynote Lecture)
Eric N. Olson, MD

2019

Physician Value, From Chickens to Checks to Relative Value Units
Daniel Nagle, MD

Truth and Transformation
Tyler Hamilton
Former Professional Cyclist and New York Times Best Selling Author

Inside the White House and Current Events (Joint Presidential Keynote Lecture)
Ann Compton, Legendary ABC News’ White House Correspondent (1973-2014)

2018

To Make a Thumb or to Not Make a Thumb - That is the Question
James R. Urbaniak, MD

Submarines - How and Why
Admiral John D. Butler, CBE

Towards Accelerated Biomedical Innovation (Joint Presidential Keynote Lecture)
Jeff Karp B.Eng. PhD

2017

Individualized Medicine: A View at the Crossroads of Promise and Practice
Alexander S. Parker, PhD

Man’s Inhumanity to Man
Peter J. Stern, MD

Miles O’Brien, Journalist (Joint Presidential Keynote Lecture)

2016

Quality in the Era of Healthcare Reform and Accountability
Charles D. Callahan, MD, PhD, MBA, FACHE
A Multidisciplinary Approach to Hand Transplantation: Surgery, Therapy, and Immune Modulation
W. P. Andrew Lee, MD

Rick Searfoss, Retired United States Air Force colonel, NASA astronaut and test pilot (Joint Presidential Keynote Lecture)

2015

When Can I Play Doc?
Michael Hayton, MD

The Neuroscience of Musical Creativity
Charles J. Limb, MD
Peabody Conservatory of Music; Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, Maryland

Piercing the Veil: The Frontiers of Neural Prosthetics (Joint Presidential Keynote Lecture)
Ramez Naam

2014

How I Do Flexor Tendon Repairs; Details Of Surgery And Early Active Movement Protocol
Jin Bo Tang, MD

The Power of Medicine
William P. Magee, Jr., DDS, MD

When Hawaii Bites Back (Joint Presidential Keynote Lecture)
Peter A. Galpin, MD, FACS

2013

A Tribute to my Teachers and Friends
Diego L. Fernandez, MD

The Mystery of Coincidences
Eduardo R. Zancolli, MD

Stranger Than Fiction (Joint Presidential Keynote Lecture)
Carl Hiaasen, Novelist

2012

Haptics: Science, Technology and Applications
Mandayam A. Srinivasan, PhD

More Unfortunate Lessons from War: Current Research on Unsolved Hand Trauma Problems
James Chang, MD

"Freakonomics" (Joint Presidential Keynote Lecture)
Steve Levitt, Economist

2011

Surgical Experiences While In Haiti
Stephen Sullivan, MD, MPH
Adventurer and author of Between a Rock and a Hard Place
Aron Ralston

Bob Woodruff, Author and ABC News Correspondent (Joint Presidential Keynote Lecture)

2010

National Trauma Data Bank, Acute Care Surgery and Regionalization of Trauma Care
John Fildes, MD

The Surgeon’s Role in Global Health (Joint Presidential Keynote Lecture)
Paul Farmer, MD, PhD

2009

The Art of Caring
Daniel Gottlieb, PhD, Phycologist and NPR Radio Host
Andrew W. Gurman, MD

2008

More Than Human: From Therapy to Enhancement
Ramez Naam

Neurovascular Dysfunction in Diabetes (Joint Presidential Keynote Lecture)
Aaron Vinik, MD

2007

Covering Medicine, Wars and Politics
Bob Jamieson

Music and Medicine: George Gershwin
Richard Kogan, MD

Identifying Targets for Clinical and Research Excellence in 2007 (Joint Presidential Keynote Lecture)
Richard H. Gelberman, MD

2006

Studying Axon Growth and Regeneration in Fluorescent Mice
Jeff Lichtman, MD, PhD

Observations: Extremity Injuries in the Global War on Terrorism (Joint Presidential Keynote Lecture)
Colonel Mark Bagg, MD

2005

Courage, Wisdom & Risk
Terry Whipple, MD

Puerto Rico Historical Overview, Economics, Various Geographic Changes, Cultural Aspects/Ethnic Information/Demographics/Aspects of 3 Cultural Groups, Island Geography, Weather as it Relates to Hurricanes, Environment, Strategic Positioning of the Island, Ecosystem Information (Joint Presidential
Keynote Lecture
Marcial E. Ocasio-Melendez, MD

2003

Advanced in Management of Scapholunate Ligament Tears
Richard Berger, MD

An Eighteen Year Experience of Treating Upper Extremity Injuries in the NFL
Art Rettig, MD

Ancient Greek Coinage: The Stories from Smugglers to Sotheby’s
Arnold Peter Weiss, MD

2002

Hand Transplantation...The Latest News
Linda Cendales, MD

2001

Joseph Buckwalter, MD

2000

The Evolution of the AMA Guides from the First to the Fifth Editions
Frank E. Jones, MD

25 Years Replantation Surgery in Europe: A Personal Experience (Joint Presidential Keynote Lecture)
Alfred C. Berger, MD

1999

Volcanology
Janet L. Babb

1998

Portrait of a President
Fritz Klein

1997

Outcomes Matter Most: Measuring & Improving Surgical Care
Eugene Nelson, MD

1996

Congenital Hand Surgery
David M. Evans, FRCS
c. Danyo Presidential Invited Lecturers

The Danyo Presidential Invited Lecture is selected by the President. The presentation is on a hand or related topic.

2020
Inside Rodin’s Hands: Teaching Surgery Thru Art and Anatomy
James Chang, MD

2019
Balance Revisited
Andrew K. Palmer, MD

2018
On the Shoulders of Mortals
David P. Green, MD

2017
Healthcare Reform; The Promise and the Reality
Stuart L. Weinstein, MD

2016
"2051"
Robert C. Russell, MD
Heartland Plastic Surgery, Springfield, IL

2015
Volunteerism - A Way to Shape the Global Community
Scott Kozin, MD

2014
The Sensate Hand in Motion
Elisabet Hagert, MD, PhD

2013
Gain Without Pain, The Dawn Of Elective Surgery
James W. May, Jr., MD, FACS

2012
Digital Education - Where Have All the Books Gone?
Terry R. Light, MD

2011
Medicine is Too Serious to Take Seriously
Michael Hayton, BSc, MBChB, FRCS
2010
Transformation of Medical Education and Transformation of Health Care – A Critical Link
Richard Berger, MD

2009
Caring for the Disabled and Deformed In the Emerging World – What a Privilege!
Louis L. Carter, Jr., MD, FACS

2008
Handing Back Options
Allen Van Beek, MD

2007
Is It Fun Anymore?
Robert D. Beckenbaugh, MD

2006
The Decades of Tendon Research: The Search for Perfect Slide
Peter Amadio, MD

2005
1421: A Historical Detective Story
Gavin Menzies, MD

2004
Merging Science and Multidisciplinary Expertise: Nerve Allograft to Nerve Transfer
Susan Mackinnon, MD
Gen-X Out of Hand?
Elvin Zook, MD, PhD

2003
Innovation in Hand Surgery
Arnold Peter Weiss, MD

2002
Mayan Culture Around Us
Francisco Rosas

2001
Michael Wood, MD

2000
Nancy Dickey, MD

1999
Vincent R. Hentz, MD

1998

Diseases of the Presidents
John Texter, MD

1997

Hurricanes, the Dark Side of Nature
Dallas D. Raines

1996

A new surgical specialty (Fetal Surgery)
Michael R. Harrison, MD
IV. Awards

a. Clinician/Teacher of the Year Award

This special award is intended to recognize a single individual who has made a major contribution to clinical and/or teaching in the field of hand surgery. It is not necessary that this individual be a member of the American Association for Hand Surgery.

The President-Elect would nominate such an individual and present the nomination to the Board of Directors. The Board would opine as to the President-Elect’s nomination, and final confirmation would occur at the midyear Board meeting, prior to the award receipt at the Annual Meeting.

The award is not intended to be associated with any lectureship or commitment of presentation on the part of the recipient. The award would include a plaque for recognition and a $1,000 honorarium. No travel expenses or other reimbursement would be provided. A listing of the Clinician/Teacher of the Year would be included in the Annual Meeting program guide.

It would be intended that a single individual could not be presented with this award more than once. It would be intended that the President-Elect would present the Clinician/Teacher Award at the Annual Meeting, just prior to his or her taking office as President of the Association.

1995  Forst E. Brown, MD
1996  Robert Beckenbaugh, MD
1997  James Hoehn, MD
1998  Alan Freeland, MD
1999  Wyndell Merritt, MD
2000  Peter Amadio, MD
2002  Anthony DeSantolo, MD, Michael Jabaley, MD, Maureen Hardy, Sterling Mutz, MD
2003  Richard Brown, MD, Sue Michlovitz, PT, PhD, CHT
2004  Nash Naam, MD
2007  Miguel Saldana, MD
b. HAND Journal Award

The HAND Journal Award is given annually by the Journal Committee to the lead author of a paper which is identified by the Journal Committee, Editorial Board and membership as the most impactful and innovative paper from the previous year’s issues of HAND. This award is presented at AAHS Annual Meeting.

2020

Independent Variables Affecting Outcome of Carpal Tunnel Release Surgery
Greg P. Watchmaker, MD, New York University Hospital for Joint Diseases, New York City, NY

2019

Postoperative Pain Management Following Carpal Tunnel Release: A Prospective Cohort Evaluation
Andrew Miller, MD, Rothman Institute of Orthopedics, Philadelphia, PA

2018

A Multicenter, Prospective, Randomized, Pilot Study of Outcomes for Digital Nerve Repair in the Hand Using Hollow Conduit Compared With Processed Allograft Nerve
Kenneth R. Means, Jr., MD, The Curtis National Hand Center at MedStar Union Memorial Hospital, Baltimore, MD

2017

Achieving the optimal epinephrine effect in wide awake hand surgery using local anesthesia without a tourniquet
Daniel E. McKee, MD, McMaster University, Hamilton, Ontario, Canada

2016

A prospective randomized trial comparing the effectiveness of one versus two (staged) corticosteroid injections for the treatment of stenosing tenosynovitis
Emran Sheikh, MD, MALO Health & Wellness, Rutherford, NJ
c. Humanitarian Award

Developed in 2014, the Humanitarian Award was created to honor a deserving Association member who has made or continues to regularly make unique or special contributions, and/or personal sacrifices for the betterment of humanitarian efforts. The Award is presented during at AAHS Annual Meeting.

2020: Miguel Pirela-Cruz, MD
2019: Warren Schubert, MD
2018: Michael Murphy, MD
2017: Scott Kozin, MD
2016: Lynn Bassini, MA, OTR/L/ CHT
2015: Louis L. Carter, MD
d. International Reverse Surgery Fellowship Award

The International Reverse Surgery Fellowship was established in 2017. The program sponsors an international hand surgeon’s visits with AAHS member surgeons at their institutions with the aim to provide expert education so that the Fellow may return home to improve surgical education and patient care in their country. The selected International Reverse Fellow receives $10,000 to be used towards a 4-week visit to North America to travel to the institutions of and train with two AAHS member surgeons. The 4-week period will allow for travel and 1 week at each AAHS member institution. Post Fellowship reports and photos are published in Hand Association News, and the Fellow provides a presentation of his or her experience during the Annual Meeting.

2020: Clay Siosi, Lewi, MD, Solomon Islands
Travelling to: Texas Children’s Hospital, hosted by Dr. Chris Pederson and OrthoCarolina, hosted by R. Glenn Gaston, MD

2019: Thendo Netshoingolwe, MD, Johannesburg, South Africa
Travelled to: Massachusetts General Hospital, hosted by Kyle Eberlin, MD and Mayo Clinic, hosted by Peter Rhee, MD

2018: Boutros Farhat, MD, Kumasi, Ghana
Travelled to Massachusetts General Hospital, hosted by Kyle Eberlin, MD and Rothman Institute, hosted by Asif Ilyas, MD
e. Lean & Green Award

The Lean & Green Award was established in 2015 through a generous donation from Dr. and Mrs. Donald Lalonde to honor an AAHS member who has decreased the amount of waste generated by any activity related to hand surgery or therapy as well as decreased the total costs related to hand surgery or therapy, within their home institution or elsewhere. The qualifying contributions of this individual could include publications, presentations or other actions that had a significant impact on reducing the garbage production and/or costs of any activity related to hand surgery or therapy. This Award is presented at the AAHS Annual Meeting.

2020: Joshua Abzug, MD
2019: Peter J. L. Jebson, MD
2018: Peter C. Rhee, DO
2017: Robert E. Van Demark, MD
2016: Mark E. Baratz, MD
f. Resident Essay Award

2019:

The Effects of Porcine Extracellular Matrix Nerve Wrap as an Adjunct to Primary Epineurial Repair
Philip J. Hanwright, MD
*Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, Baltimore, MD*

Multimodal Pain Management Regimen in Upper Extremity Trauma - A Randomized Controlled Blinded Study
Julian Zangrilli, DO
*Jefferson Health, Stratford, NJ*

2018:

Elbow Trauma and Plasminogen Deficiency Showing Functional Deficits in an Animal Model
Mihir J. Desai, MD
*Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN*

Long-Term Effects of Radiation Therapy for Benign Conditions of the Hand
Kalila Steen, MD
*University of Toronto, Toronto, ON, Canada*

2017:

Intratendinous Injection of Hydrogel for Reseeding Decellularized Human Flexor Tendons
Chao Long, MD
*Stanford University, Palo Alto, CA*

Infection Rates of Buried vs. Exposed Kirschner Wires in Phalangeal, Metacarpal, and Distal Radius Fractures
TJ Ridley, MD
*University of Minnesota, St Paul, MN*

2016:

A Randomized, Double-Blinded, Placebo-Controlled Clinical Trial Assessing the Therapeutic Efficacy of Botulinum Toxin in Treating Scleroderma-Associated Raynaud’s Phenomenon
Ricardo J. Bello, MD, MPH
*Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, MD*

Metacarpophalangeal Arthroplasty for the Management of Inflammatory Arthritis; An Analysis of 583 Arthroplasties
Eric Wagner, MD
*Mayo Clinic, Rochester, MN*

2015:

Early Active Motion Versus Protective Splinting Following Open Carpal Tunnel Release Surgery
Blake D. Murphy, MD
Division of Plastic Surgery, University of Ottawa, Ottawa, ON, Canada

PCLF as a Backbone for Chondrocyte Attachment and Proliferation Augmented by Platelet Lysate
Eric Wagner, MD
Department of Orthopedic Surgery, Mayo Clinic, Rochester, MN

2014

Changes in Blood Glucose Levels after Corticosteroid Injection in the Hand & Wrist
Daniel London, MD
Department of Orthopedic Surgery, Washington University, St. Louis School of Medicine, St. Louis, MO

2013

Long Term Outcomes of Proximal Row Carpectomy- A Systematic Review
Harvey Chim, MD
Department of Plastic Surgery, Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, OH
g. Research Grants

2020
Improving the Translation of Electrical Stimulation Therapies to Treat Nerve Injuries
Matthew Wood, PhD, Washington University, St. Louis, Missouri

2019
In-Vivo Imaging of Sarcomere Response to Peripheral Nerve Injury
Jason H. Ko, MD, Northwestern University, Chicago, Illinois
Targeted muscle reinnervation in a neuropathic pain model (AAHS/PSF Combined Pilot Research Grant)
Gwendolyn Hoben, MD, PhD, The Medical College of Wisconsin, Inc.

2018
Comparison of Sildenafil and Alprostadil in Angiogenesis in a Single Dose and Sustained-Release In-Vitro Model
Sara Low, MD, Einstein Healthcare Network, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Development and Testing of a Decision Aid for Patients with Dupuytren's (AAHS/PSF Combined Pilot Research Grant)
Melissa Roy, MD, University Health Network

2017
The effect of hamate osteotomy on carpal kinematics
Sanjeev Kakar, Mayo Clinic, Rochester, Minnesota
Partial Wrist Arthrodesis vs MFT scaphoid reconstruction: Wrist Kinematics (AAHS/PSF Combined Pilot Research Grant)
Sonya Agnew, Chicago Association for Research & Education in Science

2016
Investigations of Fat Grafting as a Treatment Modality for Skin Fibrosis in Scleroderma
Ryan Schmucker, MD, SIU School of Medicine, Springfield, Illinois
LGR6+ Epithelial Stem Cell Augmentation of Fracture Healing (AAHS/PSF Combined Pilot Research Grant)
Amanda Ross, MD, Southern Illinois University School of Medicine

2015
Cold Exposure Responses in Hand Trauma Patients with Cold Sensitivity
Christine Novak, PT, PhD, University of Toronto, Toronto, Ontario, Canada
Sensory Supercharge Nerve Transfer: Indications and Limitations (AAHS/PSF Combined Pilot Research Grant)
Amy Moore, MD, Washington University St. Louis

2014
A Randomized, Controlled Trial Comparing Combination Therapy of Ibuprofen + Acetaminophen versus Hydrocodone + Acetaminophen for the Treatment of Pain after Carpal Tunnel Surgery
Donald Lalonde, MD, Dalhousie University, New Brunswick, Canada
Botulinum Toxin Type A for Cold Sensitivity after Hand Trauma (AAHS/PSF Combined Pilot Research Grant)
Christine Novak, PT, PhD, University Health Network

2013

Peripheral Nerve Repair with Bioresorbable Metal
Sarah Pixley, PhD, University of Cincinnati, Cincinnati, OH

Schwann Cell Senescence: A Result of Chronic Denervation? (AAHS/PSF Combined Pilot Research Grant)
Scott T. Farber, MD, Washington University St. Louis

2012

Platelet-rich Plasma and Tendon Adhesions
Timothy S. Johnson, MD, The Pennsylvania State University College of Medicine, Hershey, PA

Outcomes of Corticosteroid Treatment for Trigger Finger by Stage (AAHS/PSF Combined Pilot Research Grant)
Janae Maher, MD, Scott and White Memorial Hospital

2011

Conduit Wrapping after Nerve Repair - Functional Analysis
Alexander Y. Shin, MD, Mayo Clinic

Altering Tendon Biomechanics after Flexor Tendon Repair (AAHS/PSF Combined Pilot Research Grant)
Samuel D. Buonocore, MD, Yale University School of Medicine

2010

Effects of Graft Variation in Peripheral Nerve Gam Regeneration in the Long Gap Model
Michael C. Nicoson, MD, Division of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery, Washington University

Tissue Engineered Skin for Upper Extremity Wounds
Natasha Luckey, MD, Southern Illinois University School of Medicine

The Effects of Fibris Glue on Peripheral Nerve Regeneration
Gregory H. RaFijah, MD, The Orthopaedic and Sports Medicine Center, University of California Irvine

Economic Analysis of Finger Replantation (AAHS/PSF Combined Pilot Research Grant)
Erika Sears, MD, University of Michigan at Ann Arbor

2009

The Effect of Overexpression of the Chemokines CCL-2 and CCL-22 on T Regulator Cell Trafficking and Transplant Tolerance in Rat Hindlimb Allotransplantation
Damon S. Cooney, MD, Southern Illinois University School of Medicine

Prospective Cohort study of Functional Outcomes and Return to Work Following Distal Radius Fractures
Jeffrey B. Friedrich, MD, University of Washington

A Functional and Histologic Comparison of Acellular Nerve Allograft and Cabled Nerve Autograft
Peter Tang, MD, MPH, Columbia University

2008
Detecting and Differentiating Sensory Signal in Peripheral Nerve by Intrafascicular Electrodes with Pressure Manipulation in Rats
Xiaofeng Jia, MD, PhD, Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, Baltimore, MD

Biomedical and Psychosocial Factors Associated with Pain and Disability after Peripheral Nerve Injury
Christine B. Novak, PT, MS, PhD (c), Toronto General Hospital, Toronto, Ontario

Induction of Immune Tolerance in Rat Hind Limb Allotransplantation by over Expression of IL-10 TGFβ within the Transplant Graft
Damon S. Cooney, MD, SIU School of Medicine-Div. of Plastic Surgery, Springfield, IL

2007
An Investigation of Modality-specific Nerve Regeneration
Thomas Tung, MD, Washington University, St. Louis, MO

Langerhans Cell Trafficking in Composite Tissue Allotransplantation
Mario G. Solari, MD, University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA

Steven J. McCabe, MD, University of Louisville, Louisville, KY

2006
A Prospective Study of Surgical Outcomes of Volar, Fixed-Angle Plate Fixation of Unstable Distal Radius Fractures
Steven C. Haase, MD, University of Michigan

Bioreactors in Tissue Engineering of Intrasynovial Tendon Grafts
James Chang, MD, Stanford University

Topical FK-506 Ointment Prolongs Hind-Limb Allotransplantation
Justin M. Sacks, MD, University of Pittsburgh

2005
The Effect of IL-10 Overexpression on the Biomechanical and Histological Properties of Healing Tendon
Sudheer C. Reddy, MD and Pedro K. Beredjiklian, MD and Louis J. Soslowsky, PhD, Department of Orthopedic Surgery, University of Pennsylvania

Neurochemical Response in Forlimb Tendons in a Rat Model of Upper Extremity Work-Related Musculoskeletal Disorder
Jane Fedorczyk, MS PT CHT; Mary Barbe, PhD; Ann Barr, PhD, PT, Department of Physcial Therapy, Temple University

Surface-Modified Biodegradable Conduits for Nerve Repair
Kacey G. Marra, PhD; Lizzie Santiago, PhD; W.P. Andrew Lee, MD, Division of Plastic Surgery, University of Pittsburgh

2004
Determine Influencing Residents’ Decisions to Pursue a Career in Hand Surgery: A National Survey
Kevin Chung, MD, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI
Application of Novel Auto-Fluorescing Mouse Model to Determine Where the Axons in the Terminal End of an End to Side Neurorrhaphy Come From
Terence Myckatyn, MD and Susan E. Mackinnon, MD, Washington University, St. Louis, MO

2003

The Role of Proteoglycans in Idiopathic Carpal Tunnel Syndrome
Michelle Tucci, PhD, Mississippi State University

The Effects of FK506 and Cyclosporine A on Nerve Regeneration and Functional Recovery in a Rat End-to-Side Model
Michael Nonkov, MD, Microsurgical Research Center

Gene Expression Analysis of Dupuytren's Disease
Andrew Zhang, MD, Stanford University

2002

Limb Transplantation without Chronic Immunosupression in a Large Animal Model
Shehan Hettiaratchy, MA, BM, BCh, FRCS

Cortical Plasticity Following Thumb Amputation, Toe Transfer and Rehabilitation
D.J. Anastakis, MD, Med, FRCSC, FACS, Toronto Western Hospital

Transplantation of Limb Allografts without Chronic Immunosuppression: Inducing Tolerance to the Cutaneous Tissue
Jamal Nazzal, MD

Neural Stem Cell Transplantation Enhances Peripheral Nerve Regeneration
T. Shane Johnson, MD

The Role of Cux 1 in Mammalian Limb Development
Peter D. Witt, MD

2001

Prevention of Skin Rejection in an Orthotopic Miniature Swine Model
David Mathes, MD, Massachusetts General Hospital

Improved Venous Flap Survival: Effect of Angiogenesis Enhancement, Nitric Oxide Production Blockage and Inflammatory Product Inhibition
Allen T. Bishop, MD, Mayo Clinic, Division of Hand and Microvascular Surgery

Neuroprotecting Motor Neurons after Avulsion using Adenoviral BDNF
Konstantino Papakonstantinou, Microsurgical Research Center

2000

VEGF Promotion of Neoangiogenesis in Conventional Nerve Grafts
Allen T. Bishop, MD, Mayo Clinic

Short Opponens Splinting for First Carpometacarpal Joint Osteoarthritis: An Objective, Subjective, and Radiographic Assessment of Soft versus Hard Splinting
Susan Weiss, OTR/L, CHT, All Florida Orthopaedic Associates
Healing of a Critical Size Femoral Bone Defect Using Adipose-Derived Mesenchymal Stem Cells  
Prosper Benhaim, MD, UCLA Medical Center

Role of Free Radicals in Cytokines in Ischemia Flaps  
Feng Zhang, MD, PhD, University of Mississippi Medical Center, Division of Plastic Surgery

Effect of Fructose 1,6 Diphosphate on Muscle Flap Survival  
Sheila Lindley, MD, University of Mississippi Medical Center, Department of Orthopaedic Surgery

1999

Tolerance to Vascularized Musuloskeletal Tissue Allografts in Miniature Swine  
Judy Bourget, MD

CMC Arthroplasty with Tissue Engineered Cartilage Interposition Grafts  
James Chang, MD, Stanford University Medical Center

Modulation of Scarring in Peripheral Nerve Grafts: The Role of Transforming Growth Factor-Beta  
Yvonne L. Karanas, MD

1998

Acceleration of Peripheral Nerve Regeneration following Fk506 Administration  
Vaishali B. Doolabh, MD, Division of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery, Washington University School of Medicine

Autogenous Skeletal Myoblast Transplantation for Focal Muscle Injury  
Jennifer J. Marler, MD, Laboratory for Tissue Engineering, Harvard Medical School Department of Surgery

Molecular Basis of Ectrodactyly in the Dactylaplasia Mouse  
Peter Witt, MD, Division of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery, Washington University School of Medicine

1996

Molecular Basis of Limb Development: The Role of Fgf-8 Expression in the Postgastrulation Mouse  
Peter D. Witt, MD, St. Louis Children's Hospital

Induction of Tolerance to Vascularized Composite Tissue Allografts by Intrathymic Injection of donor Alloantigen  
Sheldon R. Cober, MD, Division of Plastic Surgery, Massachusetts General Hospital
h. Vargas International Hand Therapy Teaching Award

The Vargas International Hand Therapy Teaching Award is named in honor of Dr. Miguel Vargas, a hand surgeon who practiced in Puerto Rico and was an international emissary for education.

The Award is an outgrowth of the AAHS's mission. Its intent is therapy outreach - to foster an exchange of educational ideas between therapists in the AAHS and in the host country to result in improved patient care for upper extremity problems. The Vargas Award is hand therapy education driven. Education is the foremost purpose and mission of the Award, with a portion of the trip emphasizing hands-on postoperative care of the upper extremity in host countries where surgery is applicable and possible. As volunteers, awardees will collaborate with others to provide informative hands-on training to improve patient care and host site education.

The Vargas Award is bestowed annually. One grant reimbursing up to $5000 in trip-related expenses, including supplies needed for the mission, will be made to the therapist Award recipient.

2020
Kimberly G. Kraft, PT, DPT, CHT
Ghana

2019
Lisa Flewelling
Ghana

2018
Susan Blackmore, MS, OTR/L
Bhutan

2017
Catherine M. Sullivan, BScPT
Ghana

2016
Aviva Wolff, OTR/L, MA, CHT
Guatemala

2015
Adam Crelling, MS
Ghana

2014
Gayle Severance, MS, OTR/L
Ghana

2013
Julianne Howell, PT, MS, CHT
Guatemala
2010
Paula Galaviz, MS, OTR, CHT
Armenia

2009
Donna Breger Stanton, MA, OTR/L, CHT, FAOTA
Thailand

2008
Mary Nordlie, MA, OTR, CHT
Egypt

2006
Donna Pendleton, PT, CHT
Lorna Ramos
Cluj-Napoca, Romania

2005
Emily Altman PT, CHT
Ecuador

2004
Sharon Dest, OTR/L, CHT
Paula Galaviz, OTR/L, CHT
Guatemala

2003
Paul Brach, PT, CHT
Susan Michlovitz, PT, PhD, CHT
Brian Adams, MD
Lee Osterman, MD
Chinle, Arizona

2002
Veronica Fernandez, PT
Alan Freeland, MD
Miguel Saldana, MD
Mark Baratz, MD
Various US Locations

2001
Gail Groth, OTR/L, CHT, MHS
Scott Kozin, MD
Uganda

2000
Karen Henehan-Flink, OTR/L, CHT
Terry Light, MD
Lithuania

1999

Katherine Ann Schofield, OTR, CHT
Nash Naam, MD
Egypt

1998

Lynn Bassini, MA/OTR, CHT
Alan Freeland, MD
Venezuela

1997

Colette Jewell, ORT/CHT
Paul Weeks, MD
Kenya

1996

Lynne Feehan, MScPT
Somprasong Songcharoen, MD
Thailand
V. Membership

a. Current Member Roster

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Dahl, Jason M., MD
Daly, Charles A, MD
Dang, Jimmy B., DO
Daniali, Lily N., MD
Dann, Adam J.
Das, Dipan, MD
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Rettig, Lance A.
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Rich, John T., Jr., M.D.
Richard, Marc J., MD
Richardson, Wilford, MD
Rickards, Enass N., MD
125
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<td>Weiss, Arno W., Jr., M.D.</td>
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<td>Weiss, Lawrence E., MD</td>
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<td>Weiss, Paul R., MD, FACS</td>
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<td>Whipple, Terry L, MD</td>
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<td>White, Colin</td>
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<td>Wong, Anselm H.</td>
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<td>Wongworawat, Montri D., MD</td>
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<td>Woo, Alice</td>
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<th>Porter, L Joe, MD</th>
<th>Stayman, J Webster, III, M.D.</th>
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<td>Macht, Steven D., MD</td>
<td>Powers, Edward W., MD</td>
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<td>Abrams, Reid, MD</td>
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<td>Zimmermann, Istvan, MD</td>
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b. In Memoriam

Beauchene, James G, M.D.
Benson, William F., MD
Brumfield, Robert H., Jr., MD
Chou, Kent H., MD
Costarella, Robert J., MD
Davenport, Gordon, MD
Davidson, Nancy, M OTR/L
Defiebre, Bruce K., MD
Dobyns, James H., MD
Ecker, Herbert A., Sr MD DDS
Floyd, Waldo E., MD
Freeland, Alan E., MD
Freshwater, M Felix, MD
Galaviz, Paula G., MS, OTR, CHT
Ganos, Doreen L., MD
Gerson, Gordon N, M.D.
Glanz, Sanford, M.D., BS
Grant, David A, MD
Groth, Gail
Harkins, Paul D, MD
Haskell, David, MD
Heimburger, Richard A., MD
Kelly, Alexander P, M.D.
Kleinert, Harold E, M.D.
Krizek, Thomas J, MD
Lewis, Edward C., II, M.D.
Linscheid, Ronald, MD
Littler, J William, MD
McArthur, W.R., M.D.
Misol, Sinesio, M.D.
Morgan, Hiram B., MD
Morgan, L. Richard, MD
Nauss, Thomas J., MD
Resnick, Charles T., MD, FACS
Ryu, Jaiyoung, MD
Sakellarides, Harilaos T, MD
Santamarina, Rodrigo, MD
Sengelmann, Robert P., MD
Shapiro, Robert L., MD, DDS
Sharp, Jacob, MD
Swanson, Alfred B., MD
Wittenstrom, Eugene C., MD
Zarem, Harvey, MD, FACS