Spring Conference is Successful in Williamsburg

Attracting 155 registrants, the 2010 ACOP Spring Conference became one of the most successful meetings of the group. That number included 74 members, 58 students, 16 residents and 8 guests.

The program in Williamsburg was packed with exciting and entertaining features. A highlight was the afternoon devoted to current thinking on vaccines and was headed by Stan Grogg, DO, FACOP, Professor of Pediatrics at Oklahoma State University College of Osteopathic Medicine and the AOA-ACOP representative to the NIH Advisory Committee on Immunization Practice. In addition to Dr. Grogg’s “Update on ACIP Recommendations”, the session featured a practical consideration of parents’ concerns about immunization, and a discussion on related diseases before vaccines.

Also covered during the meeting were lectures on tattooing, substance abuse, depression, violence and sexually-transmitted disease.

Two speakers covered historical aspects. Ian Watson, PhD, grandson of James M. Watson, DO, FACOP, delivered the Watson Memorial Lecture describing the personal and professional life of his grandfather. Past President Arnold Melnick, DO, FACOP, presented the Emeritus Lecture on “Then... and Now.”

Judith Thierry, DO, FACOP, Program Chair for the Williamsburg meeting, commented about the meeting, “Looking out at our audience, with its strengths represented in so many ways: diversity of practice, integration of learning pathways (conduit), overwhelming student presence and their training institutions was inspiring. My mental image is of a room filled with attentive people of all ages, together listening with every ounce of brain matter.”

Added Neil Levy, DO, MBA, FACOP, ACOP Chairman of CME Programs, “It was an amazing sight. Almost no hall conferences, small private meetings or other distractions. Almost every attendee was present at almost every session. A great tribute.”

A splendid array of posters was displayed throughout the meeting, and specifically presented at the end.

Spring Conference is Successful in Williamsburg
**President’s Message**

Margaret A. Orcutt Tuddenham, DO, FACEP, FACOP
ACOP President

Energy, optimism, intense learning, collegiality, all describe the fabulous meeting in Williamsburg this past April. Kudos to the CME Committee chaired by Dr. Neil Levy and the Program Chair and Co-chair, Dr. Judith Thierry and Dr. Ed Spitzmiller.

We had a great, if unexpectedly lengthy, fun run and wonderful food and surroundings in historic Williamsburg. Excellent lectures and a strategic planning session rounded out the experience. Our next ACOP only meeting will be in April, 2011 and will take place in Pittsburgh. Details to follow!

I want to briefly discuss two issues facing the College, the first is the formation of the Section for Osteopathic Pediatricians within the American Academy of Pediatrics. Many of us, myself included, are members of AAP and more will be as we train more and more DOs in solely allopathic programs. The AAP is a huge organization with many member benefits, strong political clout and the ability to formulate policy and affect pediatric practice. It is not, however, the “home” we are for DOs, nor can the section ever provide the same benefits, unique to an osteopathic organization, that ACOP can. The section will not be an accredited provider of Category 1-A Osteopathic CME quite simply because it is not affiliated with the AOA. The Board of Trustees of ACOP has met with, and plans to meet again, with leadership of the section to work toward collaborative projects and explore joint or co-membership opportunities. We believe that each has something to offer Osteopathic Pediatricians and should benefit from each other’s existence. I will keep the membership updated as these talks and meetings occur.

The second issue isn’t really an “issue” as such, just another update as it were. The Board of Trustees, as well as several general members, met the day before the start of the scientific program at Williamsburg for an intense strategic planning session. Goals identified from that session are being actively structured so that general members will have an opportunity to participate in the growth of the College. Membership, CME, GME, wellness and advocacy all figure largely in our future and will be addressed. I will present the plan (I know, your eyes are already glazing over) in San Francisco. I hope each and every member will see these goals as a chance to be a larger part of the College and come forward with ideas, energy and innovation. We can and will grow larger, stronger and better together.

I look forward to seeing you in San Francisco, the program we have in store is fantastic and, well, how can you beat San Francisco for a good time?
Parents Speak Up

A thorough and complete program for helping parents to talk about sex with their children (especially teen-agers) has been available for a couple of years in a not-widely-known program created by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

One of their major projects is a packet (kit) entitled Ready to Talk, containing great materials for parents, and aids for group discussion leaders and workshop presentations. Part of their program includes a brochure Parents, Speak Up, a guide for discussing relationships and waiting to have sex. This booklet seems to be a focal point for the Parents Speak Up National Campaign that encourages parents to talk to their kids about sex and waiting to have sex.

Intriguing and helpful beyond most sex education books, this work features such headings and lead-in as Tips for Talking With Your Teens and What Do you Talk About? Each of the five major headings is replete with specific tips and wordings, listed as Conversation Starters.

Most pediatricians, voluntarily or by parental anxiety, find it necessary from time to time to answer parents’ questions, or give advice. This program offers a splendid, practical, down-to-earth approach, including written materials and a DVD and is available free of charge.

More information is available at www.parents.gov, but I found difficulty getting to talk to any knowledgeable person, or finding a unified source or specific website. After much fumbling, I reached Derek Karchner, of Rosenberg Communications, at 305-545-1141, and he was most helpful. If you have trouble, call him directly. Feel free to mention my name or ACOP.

Outstanding materials. Great graphics. Practical advice (in plain language). All this spoiled by lack of a single reliable source for proper communication. But persist. Order my name or ACOP. 1141, and he was most helpful. If you have trouble, call him directly. Feel free to mention my name or ACOP.

Youth Violence

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Study</th>
<th>United States 2010</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Of children and adolescents assaulted in the past year</td>
<td>46.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Of children bullied in past year</td>
<td>13.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Of students carrying a weapon to school in the past month</td>
<td>5.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of children treated in ER for violent injuries</td>
<td>720,371</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of gun homicides in U.S.</td>
<td>10,177</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leading cause in death in 10-24 year olds</td>
<td>2nd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of youth homicides daily in the U.S.</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Of youth homicides caused by guns</td>
<td>85%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Billion dollars caused by violence in the U.S.</td>
<td>2.3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
In a fact-packed and interesting Watson Memorial Lecture, Ian Watson, PhD, made his grandfather come alive and connected him to the attendees at the ACOP 2010 Spring Conference. He did it with biographical information and some wonderful old family pictures.

Like the sociologist that he is, he told his story fairly, lucidly and pulled no punches. As he said, “He died before I was born. I knew little of him until I started asking.” And his relatives came through with answers.

“My grandfather was born in Los Angeles in June, 1891,” Ian said, “and grew up there with visits back to New York where Nellie, my grandfather’s mother, went to visit her brothers and aging mother. Nellie, then Jones, married James Watson, from Dundee, Scotland, but they divorced in 1902 and Nellie remarried soon thereafter.

James graduated from Los Angeles Polytechnic High School in 1912, planning on mechanical engineering, but switched quickly, then graduated from the College of Osteopathic Physicians and Surgeons in Los Angeles in 1915 and was certified in 1916. Ian added, “He received an MD from Pacific Medical College in 1916, “but I haven’t been able to track down what this was.” Following this, James Watson interned at LA County Hospital from 1916-1920. He married Henrietta Ditewig in November, 1916.

In speculating on possible reasons why his grandfather became a doctor, Ian postulated that “His father spent the last forty years of his life as a naturopathic physician and faith healer, but my grandfather was acutely aware of the shortcomings of such a role -- lack of authority, education and so forth. And apparently, his father took him on long walks and told him he needed to get a real medical education.”

Dr. Watson’s only sister, Hattie, was born when he was nearly four years old and died just short of his eighth birthday. Ian commented that she died of some sort of infectious disease, and that became James’ specialty later on.

Dr. Watson went to Europe in 1923 to study in Bern, Switzerland, working at the Institute for Infectious Disease Research. He and Ian’s grandmother spent considerable time exploring Europe. Ian added, “He got a nice certificate from the University of Bern when he left, but unlike what I’ve seen in some of his biographical material, he didn’t get a degree there.”

In Los Angeles, Dr. Watson spent thirty years in pediatrics and infectious disease. He was chief of the department at L.A. County Hospital and also Professor of Pediatrics at COPS and founder of the Osteopathic Pediatric Society of L.A.

Among other stories Ian told about his grandfather:

“By 1931, when my father was born, my grandfather was deeply involved in his career with little time for family. His relationship with my grandmother had lost its spark. In the 1930’s, they separated for about a year. I think the case was that he had a rich life outside the home and used his work to escape from domestic ties.”

“My parents say that he could be charming, but also gruff and all-business. He was comparatively open-minded toward other cultures and traditions. He drank little, and liked happy movies, musicals and variety shows that took him away from his responsibility.”

“My father has memories of a lot of time sitting in the car in hospital parking lots on week-ends. My grandfather was checking up on his sick kids, even when he was dog-tired. My dad’s image of his father was of the most dedicated possible pediatrician.”

Ian pointed out, “My grandfather was still working in 1956 when he had a gallstone attack. For some reason, the gall bladder operation was postponed; complications ensued and he died in December, 1956, age only 65.”

And he concluded, “My father says that at the funeral there were somewhere between 500 and 700 people -- many who had had him as a pediatrician. Person after person came up to Dad and said how wonderful his father was and how they were so grateful for him and for his saving their child.”

What a portrait! Thank you, Ian. We’re glad to know you -- and your grandfather, our founder, James M. Watson, DO.
Traveling to attend CME conferences may not be always possible. In an effort to help meet the diverse needs of our members, the ACOP presented its first live web-streamed CME activity at the recent Spring Conference.

Featured in the webinar were “Update on Vaccinations” by Stanley Grogg, DO, FACOP (ACOP’s representative to the ACIP), “Vaccine Related Diseases in the Pre-vaccine Era” by Donna L. Weaver, RN, MN and “Addressing Parent’s Concerns About Vaccines” by Gary S. Marshall, MD. Although a few technical problems did occur in this first effort, the web-based technology offers unique opportunity for improved convenience and access to pediatric osteopathic CME credits.

There are a variety of internet-based CME activities available. In its most simple form, this includes answering questions after reading an online article, as available through the JAOA/AOA. In more complex formats, this includes interactive case-based modules with sequential learning packages that include asynchronous group or professor-based feedback and guidance. These more elaborate uses of the web may have the greatest education efficacy, but have resource and cost barriers to overcome. Simple live web-streaming may have value, especially in providing the audience rapid access to a “hot-topic”, particularly when the dissemination of the information needs to occur between traditional conference events.

Internet-based CME activities have educational success rates similar to traditional in-person CME activities. Ultimately, the success of an internet-based CME activity is an interactive process between the CME content, the format type (passive/interactive, multimedia), and the interest and comfort of the physician using computers and internet technology as a form of education.

The ACOP Board of Trustees met April 22, 2010 in Williamsburg, VA. The first of two sessions was a strategic planning meeting under the direction of a professional facilitator. This meeting was followed by the regular semi-annual board meeting.

During the strategic planning meeting, the board focused on the College’s Vision and Mission. Although a number of vision statements were created and assessed, the board agreed that the ACOP should be the leading professional organization for osteopathic pediatricians from medical school through postgraduate training and beyond; that osteopathic pediatricians’ professional development will be supported throughout their careers.

The board agreed that the ACOP’s main mission is to support the professional life of osteopathic pediatricians, proudly serving them and improving pediatric health and wellness. A new draft mission statement will be created that will include advocating for osteopathic pediatricians and promoting pediatric health and wellness. ACOP will be the premiere organization of osteopathic pediatricians, growing a healthier tomorrow.

The short term goals (less than 1 year) include enhancing our partnership with the AOA, developing a speaker’s bureau and aggressive marketing plan. The medium term goals (1-5 years) are to increase active membership by 20% (in 2 years) and to implement marketing and business plans. Finally, the long term goals (5+ years) include increasing our GME positions by 50%, increasing public visibility and growing the investment portfolio to $500,000.

The ACOP’s strengths and weaknesses were assessed by the group and ranked. The highest ranked strength was believed to be delivery of CME followed by physician leadership. The relatively small size of the organization was identified as the main weakness, particularly as it relates to marketing and branding.

During the regular board meeting, several important agenda items were discussed. The board approved of having the 2011 spring meeting in Pittsburgh, PA. Pittsburgh was selected based on the proximity of ACOP members within a day’s drive of the city. The first choice of dates will be April 7-10 and the meeting will either be held at the new Fairmont Hotel or classic William Penn Hotel.

In membership news, the board unanimously approved a motion to raise active member dues from $300 to $400, effective immediately. Delinquent and dropped members will be offered the opportunity to renew at the old rate of $300. It was noted that it has been at least seven years since the dues were raised. In other membership initiatives, the ACOP will reinstitute a previous membership drive to attract DO members of the AAP.

The newly-named Pediatric Education Leadership Committee held its first meeting, offering a two-hour workshop on Dealing with the Unprofessional Clinical Educator: Teaching the Teacher. The workshop was led by Edward Packer, DO, FACOP, from Nova Southeastern University, and Michael Metts, DO, FACOP, from Des Moines University.

Opening the workshop was a video presentation by Dr. Metts showing examples of effective and inappropriate methods. Each of two teams then developed a list of the top five traits necessary to be a teacher, but both teams agreed that professionalism was an essential component.

Also reviewed at the meeting were the new Joint Commission requirements regarding The Disruptive Physician, and how these issues impact medical education. In addition, the Committee discussed the AAMC Compact Between Resident Physicians and Their Teachers.

The Committee will meet again in San Francisco in October. All members are welcome to attend. Interested members are urged to contact Dr. Packer at epacker@nova.edu with ideas for future workshops or with questions.
Drs. Levy, Packer and Foy take in some history

Poster Presentations were well attended.

“Alcohol and Substance Abuse” was presented by Sandra A. Brown, PhD

President Orcutt (center) thanks Drs. Backes and Bez for their service on the Board of Trustees

Donna L. Weaver, RN, talked about “Vaccine Related Diseases in the Pre-vaccine Era”

Jeanette Hill, DO, David Russell of Abbott Nutrition, Nancy Beery, DO and Scott Cyrus, DO

Colonial Williamsburg Fife and Drum Corps. parade
The American College of Osteopathic Pediatricians would like to thank our

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Two ACOP Authors Go International

Books by two ACOP members have gone international.


The text, *Medical Writing 101: A Primer for Health Professionals* by Arnold Melnick, DO, FACOP, has been adopted by the University of Brescia (Italy) as the official text for its several courses in Medical Linguistics (Medical English). His previous book *Professionally Speaking: Public Speaking for Health Professionals* was translated into Spanish and published in Mexico by Panorama Editorial.

Laura Stiles Honored By Texas Association

Laura H. Stiles, DO, FACOP (KCOM ’75) and long-time ACOP member, was honored last month for her 13 years of service in the House of Delegates of the Texas Osteopathic Medical Association.

She is a member of the TOMA Board of Trustees and has served on many committees and as an officer of her divisional society.

In 2008, she was awarded life membership in the TOMA for exemplary service to the profession and her patients. In 2009, she was named “#1 Pediatrician in Mesquite and also “#1 Pediatrician for Rowlett/Rockwall.”

Ryan Awarded Honorary Degree

Past President Michael E. Ryan, DO, FACOP, has been honored by the Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine with the honorary degree Doctor of Laws. The presentation was made at the PCOM commencement exercises in 2009.

Dr. Ryan’s term as ACOP’s chief officer in 1989-1990 was marked by many successes including the notable production of a fifty-year history of the college.

Long connected with the Geisinger Clinic and Health Services in central Pennsylvania, he is Chairman of the Janet Weis Children’s Hospital in Danville. Dr. Ryan holds the rank of Clinical Professor of Pediatrics at PCOM and at Temple University School of Medicine.

After receiving his DO degree from the Kansas City College of Osteopathic Medicine, Dr. Ryan interned at Tri-County Hospital and then served a pediatric residency at Geisinger, followed by an infectious disease fellowship at St. Jude Children’s Hospital in Memphis.

Resident Gets AAP Appointment

Jeffrey Bergman, DO, an ACOP resident member, has been appointed as liaison from the AAP Section on Medical Students, Residents and Fellowship Trainees to the AAP Committee on Pediatric Research.

Dr. Bergman, a second-year pediatric resident at Oklahoma State University, was selected from a group of applicants and will serve for a two-year term.

At Children’s Hospital, he is actively involved in research on methicillin-resistant staphylococcus aureus.

Blavo Receives Two New Honors

Cyril Blavo, DO, MPH, FACOP, former ACOP Board member, has received two more honors to add to his collection.

Recently, he was named by Success South Florida magazine as one of the 50 most powerful Black professionals in South Florida.

At about the same time, South Florida Hospital News, in listing leading doctors in South Florida, named Cyril as one of two “Top Physicians” at Nova Southeastern University College of Osteopathic Medicine.

In reporting his qualifications, the News listed his outstanding community services, including the Broward County Regional Health Planning Council Board of Directors, United Way Health Impact Committee, and the Community Partnership Governance Board.

Among his humanitarian awards are the Heart Award of the Broward County Children’s Consortium, the Arnold Melnick Child Advocacy Award from NSU-COM and the Living Tribute Award from the NSU-COM Alumni Association. They also noted that he is a seven-time recipient of the Golden Apple Award for excellence in teaching at the medical school.

Cyril is Professor of Pediatrics and Public Health at NSU-COM, and Director of the Master of Public Health Program.

Locke Awarded MPH Degree

Robert G. Locke, DO, FACOP, Co-Editor of PULSE was recently awarded a Master of Public Health degree from Drexel University College of Medicine.

Rob, a subspecialist in Neonatology, is currently attending Neonatologist at A.I. duPont Hospital for Children and for the Christiana Care Health System, as well as several other hospitals. He is Associate Professor of Pediatrics at Thomas Jefferson University.

In the ACOP, he served for several years as a member of the Board of Trustees and in a number of other capacities, including representing ACOP as a member of the United States Breastfeeding Committee.

Besides his ACOP editorial role, he is a member of the AOA Editorial Committee, and has written or co-written 30 scientific journal articles, contributed chapters to two...
books and published 24 scientific abstracts.

He received his DO degree from the Des Moines University College of Osteopathic Medicine, interned at Metropolitan Hospital in Philadelphia and completed a pediatric residency at Kennedy Memorial Hospital in New Jersey. He completed his fellowship in neonatology at St. Christopher’s Hospital for Children, Temple University.

**FYI STAY IN THE KNOW!**

**Vaccine Handbook Now Available**

Following his Spring Meeting presentation, Gary S. Marshall, MD, Professor Pediatrics at the University of Louisville School of Medicine, distributed free copies of his 512-page book, *The Vaccine Handbook: A Practical Guide for Clinicians*.

Dr. Marshall is also Chief of the Division of Pediatric Infectious Diseases, and he discussed vaccines at the meeting.

A few of these complimentary copies are still available for ACOP members. Orders will be filled on a first-come, first-served basis until the supply runs out. Contact Bob Specht at bob@acopeds to request your copy.

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**APPENDIX**

**Answers ... Whose name is it?**

**Morquio’s Syndrome**

*Skeletal dysplasia with short trunk dwarfism, associated with other defects*

**Luis Morquio**

In 1929, Uruguayan pediatrician Luis (Louis) Morquio first described this syndrome, which is now attached to several other eponyms. He described a form of “family skeletal dysplasia” in the French literature.

He was born in 1867 and began his medical education in Montevideo at age 20. He graduated in 1890 and was awarded his doctorate in 1892. He then spent an intern year in France where he studied with such famous physicians as Marfan and Charcot, among others.

In 1894, on his return to Uruguay, he began a pediatric practice. While he was in Europe, however, his family had established a chair in pediatrics, and when he returned, he was appointed second in command. Morquio served as professor of internal pathology from 1895 to 1900. And in 1900, he was elevated to professor of pediatrics. He was one of the founders of the Sociedad Uruguaya de Pediatría in 1915.

Through his career, he retained his connections with his French colleagues, and he was elected to several academic societies. Among his many honors, he became an officer of the Legion d’Honneur, president of the international Save the Children Society and director of Clinica Pediaria y Peuricultura at the Institute of Clinical Pediatrics in Montevideo.

Morquio was an esteemed colleague of physicians around the world and his activities covered a variety of congenital and acquired disorders of children. In addition to a number of articles on pathology and hygiene of pediatrics, he published two pediatric textbooks in Montevideo, including the two-volume *Clinica Infantil*.

Unfortunately, he died unexpectedly in 1935 at the age of 68, but he left behind a great reputation and multiple medical contributions.

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**AMERICAN COLLEGE OF OSTEOPATHIC PEDIATRICIANS**

**Spring Conference**

April 7-10, 2011

Fairmont Hotel • Pittsburgh, PA

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PULSE | Summer 2010

American College of Osteopathic Pediatricians