President’s Editorial

On April 23, 2018, Stephanie Drew became the first female president of ACOMS. In her address to the members, she spoke about her goals for the future of the College, including expanding engagement with international affiliates, efforts to diversify the specialty, and continuing to offer high quality continuing education to members.

To learn more, a video of Dr. Drew expanding on these goals can be viewed here.

The following is an excerpt from her brand new editorial, *Women as Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons: Past, Present and Future*

Stephanie J. Drew, DMD, FACS
President, ACOMS
Associate Professor, Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery
Emory School of Medicine.

Five powerful factors that apply to societal conflict resolution are: diversity, understanding, respect, collaboration and parity. Professionals generally organize themselves as a “group or society” that shares ideas, provides mentoring and support, and protects common interests of the group as a whole. However, most people, including professionals in the group, often cite gender when identifying the professional. A surgeon should be identified solely as a surgeon, regardless of gender.

When an organization is largely composed of a single gender, it may be a challenge to add another gender of professionals. The new group will affect a cultural change within the organization, which may need to adapt to different perspectives offered and more diverse member needs. Understanding and respect for needed culture change is of utmost importance for a group’s survival. With an increasing number of women joining our amazing specialty, women will have the support and voice to mentor and encourage other women (and men) to join.

Without addressing these five factors, equality cannot be created.

Gender diversity in the specialty of oral and maxillofacial surgery is inadequate when speaking of equality at this time.

Continued
Specifically, the American Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons has calculated that practicing women make up only 8% of our specialty. Clearly, more progress is needed to achieve greater gender diversity.

Shedding light on the history of female dentists, and more specifically our female colleagues’ career paths in oral and maxillofacial surgery may lead us to an understanding of how slowly females have entered our specialty, the biases that may have prevented them from doing so, and whether a much needed cultural change will evolve as female trailblazers in our field begin to enter into leadership positions.

Read Women as Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons: Past, Present and Future in its entirety here.

Stuebner Scholars Program

ACOMS is now accepting submissions for the Elaine A. Stuebner Scholars Award. This essay-based competition awards one board-eligible or board-certified female oral and maxillofacial surgeon the opportunity to attend an ACOMS continuing education activity to advance her knowledge and skills. The program provides a scholarship award of up to $5,000 to go towards travel, lodging, and registration for an ACOMS activity, in addition to a one year complimentary ACOMS membership. The program aims to engage award recipients with other women mentors in the specialty throughout their careers to learn, to mentor in-turn, and to perpetuate the cycle.

Eligible participants should submit an essay, not to exceed 2,000 words, answering the question, “how will women shape the future of oral and maxillofacial surgery?” International surgeons, who are able to provide proof of board-eligibility or board-certification in their respective countries are also eligible to apply. The essay submission deadline is September 1, 2018. For more information and to apply, go to acoms.org/stuebner.

Established in 2016, the Stuebner Scholars Program honors Elaine A. Stuebner, the first woman certified as a diplomate to the American Board of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery. Since then, Shelley Abramowicz and Suganya Appugounder have been awarded Stuebner Scholarships and continue to engage with the College on the Committees for Continuing Education and Membership, respectively. The award fund is supported by Sustaining Sponsors: KLS Martin Group, Neodent, and Straumann. ACOMS continues to work towards fully funding a corpus account from which we will provide deserving female oral and maxillofacial surgeons opportunities to learn and grow long into the future. Corporate gifts of $5,000 or greater will be specially distinguished by perpetual recognition of the donating company as one of the Sustaining Sponsors of the award. If you would like to make tax-deductible gift, email info@acoms.org for more information or visit acoms.org/donate.
Continuing Education

ACOMS offers multiple opportunities for continuing education for your busy schedule. Our in-person courses often include hands-on experiences, while annual meetings are great opportunities to network and explore locations with a variety of activities for the whole family. Additionally, limited course sizes allow for increased interaction with expert faculty. If you are short on travel time, our online educational offerings are a quick and affordable way to earn CE credits. Members receive significant discounts on all in-person meetings and can access many online courses at no additional cost. Click on the links below to learn more and register.

September 15-16, 2018
Jacksonville, FL
Hands-on cadaver course on the Management of Maxillofacial Soft Tissue Injuries
acoms.org/trauma

November 10-11, 2018
Dallas, TX
7th Annual Residents Meeting
acoms.org/residents

February 24 - March 1, 2019
Telluride, CO
ACOMS and FACES 32nd Annual Winter Meeting
acoms.org/winter

April 7-9, 2019
Santa Fe, NM
40th Annual Scientific Conference & Exhibition
acoms.org/annual19

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Subscription to OOOO is a complimentary ACOMS membership benefit. The following articles are featured in the Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery section of the July issue. Visit oooojournal.net to read more.

**Featured In OOOO**

*Current practice in provision of alcohol assessment and support for patients following alcohol related facial fractures*
**Authors:** Kai H. Lee, Michael Qiu, Jiandong Sun  
**Abstract:** The algorithm for maxillofacial trauma management is well defined; however, provision of alcohol assessment for patients after trauma is not widely practiced. This study aims to investigate the rate of alcohol assessment achieved within the demographic characteristics of patients with facial trauma and the circumstances where this intervention was implemented.

*Detection of major histocompatibility complex molecules in processed allogeneic bone blocks for use in alveolar ridge reconstruction*
**Authors:** Tobias Fretwurst, Lames M. Gad, Thorsten Steinberg, Hagen Schmal, Robert Zeiser, Anna-K. Amler, Katja Nelson, Brigitte Altmann  
**Abstract:** Because processed allogeneic bone blocks contain remnants of cells and other organic material, the present study examined the putative presence of major histocompatibility complex (MHC) molecules in protein extracts derived from processed allogeneic bone blocks.

*Corrective outcome and transverse stability after orthognathic surgery using a surgery-first approach in mandibular prognathism with and without facial asymmetry*
**Authors:** Jinyuan Guo, Tongyue Wang, Jeong Joon Han, Seunggon Jung, Min-Suk Kook, Hong-Ju Park, Hee-Kyun Oh  
**Abstract:** The aim of the study was to systematically identify criteria used to diagnose patients with trigeminal nerve injury.

*Prognostic indicators of improved survival and quality of life in surgically treated oral cancer*
**Authors:** Giancarlo Tirelli, Annalisa Gatto, Pierluigi Bonini, Margherita Tofanelli, Zoran M. Arnež, Alice Piccinato  
**Abstract:** No published study has analyzed the prognostic factors of surgically treated oral squamous cell carcinoma (OSCC) in relation to both survival and quality of life (QoL). The aim of this study was to analyze postoperative QoL in relation to survival to identify which parameters can predict the long-term outcome allowing the best QoL.

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The ACOMS 39th Annual Scientific Conference & JKOMSF Pearls VII Meeting convened on April 21-23, 2018 in New Orleans. All attendees were invited to submit scientific abstracts for presentation at the conference in poster and oral sessions. Outstanding abstracts from OMS residents were entered in the Resident Abstract Competition and were eligible for cash prizes. We are pleased to announce the winners:

**First Place - Outstanding Oral Scientific Abstract:**
*Effects of Cannabis Use on Patients Undergoing Office Based Anesthesia: A Brief Literature Review and Case Report of 50 Outpatient Cases of IV Sedation in Marijuana Users*
Presented by Nicholas Mechas, DMD
Authors: Paul Deitrick, DMD, MD; Allen Fielding, DMD, MD, PhD
Temple University

**Second Place (tied) – Outstanding Scientific Poster**
The Opioid Crisis: What, Why, a Way Out!
Presented by Matthew Pham, DMD
Authors: Beatriz Tejera; Emily Eickhoff; Caitlin Magraw, DDS; Glenn Reside, DDS; Raymond White, DDS, PhD
University of North Carolina

**Second Place (tied) - Outstanding Oral Scientific Abstract:**
*How Well Do We Manage the Odontogenic Keratocyst? A Multicenter Study*
Presented by Brian Kinard, DMD, MD
Authors: Gentry Hansen, DMD, MD; Marshall Newman, DMD; Peter Dennis, DMD, MD; Tyler Haeffs, BS; Sebastian Perez, MSPH; Hamao Sakamoto, DDS, PhD; Martin Steed, DDS; Pamela Hughes, DDS; Meredith August, DMD, MD; Shelly Abramowicz, DMD, MPH

1Emory University School of Medicine
2University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center
3Medical University of South Carolina
4Oregon Health and Science University
5Harvard School of Dental Medicine

The abstracts will be published in *Oral Surgery, Oral Medicine, Oral Pathology, and Oral Radiology.*
Bias in pain management is an ongoing and complex issue in healthcare. Research has shown disparities in pain management in relation to race, ethnicity, gender, and socioeconomic status. Complicating matters, many instances of bias are implicit, creating a need not only to address the bias, but also to raise awareness of its existence.

Recognizing and addressing bias are imperative. Failure to treat pain or poorly treated pain can interfere with how patients recover from illnesses and procedures, which can potentially cascade into numerous patient safety and financial consequences, such as increased morbidity, hospitalizations and readmissions, and liability exposure. Additionally, bias in pain treatment may lead to misdiagnosis, unnecessary patient suffering, lack of patient trust in healthcare providers, communication lapses, and failure to provide patient-centered care.1

Researchers have studied and proposed a variety of techniques to reduce bias in pain management, and many OMS are taking steps to acknowledge and address this issue. Some strategies that have been recommended at the institutional level include:

1. Administering the Implicit Association Test (IAT) to assess subconscious feelings, attitudes, and thoughts among providers that may contribute to stereotypes and bias in treatment decisions

2. Surveying providers and staff to better understand how they perceive the organization’s policies and actions related to improving diversity and addressing discrimination

3. Developing a protocol to investigate reports of discrimination or unfair policies/practices

4. Supporting provider and staff training that raises awareness about bias in healthcare and teaches strategies that support health equality

5. Leveraging data capabilities to monitor and compare patient treatment and outcomes by race, gender, and socioeconomic indicators
6. Providing constructive feedback and innovative solutions at various levels (e.g., by department, care unit, staff role, or individual) to address issues of bias

7. Establishing accountability and expectations relative to implementing techniques to reduce bias and improve quality of care

8. Devising strategies to address the burden of high cognitive workload, which may result in providers defaulting to automatic reasoning and decision-making processes that are vulnerable to bias

9. Promoting diversity, empathy, and understanding throughout the organization via methods such as intergroup and equal-status contact, team building, positive association, and counter-stereotype exposure

10. Encouraging providers and staff to engage in individual efforts to address bias through ongoing education about debiasing techniques and cultural awareness

These strategies show promise in confronting the pervasive issue of bias in pain management, but more research is needed to identify new solutions, determine best practices, and evaluate the feasibility of introducing various techniques into clinical practice. For more information on this topic, read the full article titled Lurking Beneath the Surface: Bias in Pain Management.


Member Spotlight

Dr. Dan Oreadi joined the ACOMS Board of Regents this past April. He is an Assistant Professor at Tufts Medical Center and has been a member of ACOMS since 2009.

**When did you first join ACOMS and how did you become more involved in leadership roles for the college?**
I joined ACOMS first as a resident, and then once I completed my training, I decided to stay as a member. After a couple of years, I was offered the opportunity to take a role in the Membership Committee, and more recently, had the privilege to be elected to the Board of Regents for Region I.

**How did you decide to become an oral and maxillofacial surgeon?**
I developed an early interest during dental school and before I obtained my undergraduate degree, I had already realized that oral and maxillofacial surgery was deeply ingrained in my mind. There was nothing else I could see myself doing.

**What advice do you have for dental students and residents who are just embarking on their career?**
My main advice is for students to learn about the many options offered through the career of dentistry. Getting involved with the different specialties and learning from them will allow the student to make a clear decision about further training. Once they develop a passion for oral and maxillofacial surgery, I encourage those students to spend time in the OMS departments, learn from the residents and faculty, and work hard in order to get accepted to a residency position.

For the current residents, my advice is to enjoy residency and its many subspecialties, regardless of their post-training goals. OMS is constantly changing, so keeping up-to-date with new technologies is always a must. I will also encourage them to stay involved whether it is through their residency program, or through local and national societies, so that our specialty remains strong.

I still believe there is a lot of work for us to do in proving the societal benefit of oral and maxillofacial surgery. It is only possible as long as we continue to train great generations of surgeons year after year.
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Every Monday, we post a new Question of the Week, along with the answer, rationale, and references at acoms.org/qotw. Stay current on your surgical knowledge by quizzing yourself. You can subscribe to receive weekly notifications and if you’re studying a specific topic, you can search by keywords to view all questions relating to a particular subject. See how others answered recent questions below and follow ACOMS on Twitter to participate in the weekly poll.

**Question of the Week**

Which diagnostic test is most specific for confirmation of human papilloma virus (HPV) positive head and neck squamous cell carcinomas?

Answer: **HPV DNA**

Ways to prevent hematoma after rhytidectomy include all of the following, except:

Answer: **Limiting pain medication**

Therapeutic indications of Botulinum toxin (Botox®) include the following medical and dental conditions, except:

Answer: **Sjogren’s syndrome**

Visit acoms.org/qotw to view the correct answers and rationales. If you would be interested in assisting ACOMS with writing questions for Questions of the Week or Clinical Reviews, please contact kfludder@acoms.org.
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Membership Discounts

Congratulations to everyone who completed an OMS residency this season! ACOMS is pleased to offer complimentary membership for OMS in their first year after residency, as well as 50% off membership for the second year following residency. To take advantage of this offer, email us a photograph of your letter or certificate of proof. If your contact information is changing or if you did not complete your residency in June as planned, contact us so that we may update our records.

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- **CAREER CENTER**
  Discount on job postings for members recruiting for private practices and academic settings

Jumpstart Your Career

Visit the ACOMS Career Center to view opportunities in oral and maxillofacial surgery. The Career Center is available to all job-seekers at no cost. Job-posters that are members of ACOMS receive a discount on posts, which can include OMS, fellowships, and surgical and administrative staff positions.

- **Oral Surgeon**, Guthrie Clinic, Sayre, PA
- **Chair, Department of Surgery**, Vanderbilt University Medical Center, Nashville, TN
- **Endowed Professorship in Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery**, University of Maryland School of Dentistry, Baltimore, MD
- **Assistant Clinical Professor, CDM**, UNE College of Dental Medicine, Portland, ME
- **General Trauma Surgeon**, Eastern Maine Medical Center, Bangor, ME
- **Associate Oral & Maxillofacial Surgeon**, Wisconsin Oral Surgery & Dental Implants, West Allis, WI
- **Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery Associateship**, Jacksonville, FL
- **Director, Dental Oncology Clinic**, Ohio State University College of Dentistry, Columbus, OH
- **Senior Lecturer/Associate Professor in Prosthodontics**, University of Sydney School of Dentistry, Australia
- **Oral and Maxillofacial Radiology Unit Chief**, East Carolina University, Greenville, NC