

Karen J. Nichols, DO, MA, FACP, MACOI, CS-F is the Immediate Past Chair of the ACGME Board of Directors, serving from 2020-2022, being elected to the board as one of the first four DOs in 2015. She was Dean of Midwestern University/Chicago College of Osteopathic Medicine from 2002-2018. She was the founding IM Chair at MWU/AZCOM and Assistant Dean for GME, facilitating the creation of two sponsoring institutions in remote rural Arizona. A graduate of Kansas City University/College of Osteopathic Medicine (KCU-COM), she holds a master's degree in Management, with a specialty in Health Care Administration. Dr. Nichols held the rank of Professor of Internal Medicine at MWU/CCOM and MWU/AZCOM and is now Adjunct Faculty at both institutions.

Dr. Nichols received the highest awards from American Osteopathic Association (AOA), American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine, Arizona Osteopathic Medical Association (AOMA), Illinois Osteopathic Medical Society, and KCU-COM. She just received the Lifetime Achievement Award from the American Osteopathic Foundation. Dr. Nichols holds nine honorary degrees.

She has served as President of AOA, American College of Osteopathic Internists, and the AOMA, being the first woman to hold all those positions. Dr. Nichols created the Costin Institute for Osteopathic Medical Educators in 2003, a fellowship program for educators at COMs, which has now graduated over 300 Costin Scholars. Her book "Physician Leadership: The 11 Skills Every Doctor Needs to be an Effective Leader" is being well received. Dr. Nichols speaks nationally on leadership, dilemmas at end-of-life and outreach issues for osteopathic medicine, having made over 900 presentations.