“In 1967 I wrote to 20 program directors about the need to develop an organization of teachers and researchers in physical medicine and rehabilitation. Almost spontaneously from the group came the name — unanimously accepted — Association of Academic Physiatrists.”

ERNEST W. JOHNSON, MD
Hello Colleagues,

2017 was a year of looking back and moving forward – for our professional society and for myself. It marked the 50th anniversary of the Association of Academic Physiatrists (AAP), an organization that has been dedicated to serving and connecting academicians from its very start. It was also the year I began my term as President. I joined the AAP as a resident in 1994. My first Annual Meeting was in Albuquerque, New Mexico and it started a journey for me to become an academician with a charge to change the world. Over the years, I have found many mentors through the AAP who have helped me grow in academic leadership, research and education. Twenty-three years later, you passed your trust on to me to lead the AAP at the 2017 Annual Meeting in Las Vegas. Of all the appointments I’ve held over the years, I am most proud to follow in these footsteps of our specialty’s greatest minds, including Joel DeLisa, MD, who inspired my career path into physiatry.

Thank you to the AAP’s leaders, members, volunteers and partners for helping us shape the future. While we celebrated past presidents and flashback photos in 2017, we also built a roadmap for the future of our field:

• The AAP launched its 2018-2021 Strategic Plan.

• We convened a Women in Academic Physiatry Task Force to inspire gender equity in all career milestones among physicians. This task force is already making big moves, including workshops and a white paper!

• We created a Global Academic Physiatry Task Force to advance our mission globally. Be sure to join us for ISPRM’s 2020 World Congress, hosted by the AAP!

• ...and more in these pages!

I am proud to link arms with you and academic physiatrists across nations as we create the future of physiatry.

Sincerely,

John Chae, MD, ME

President
Looking Back at Education

Here’s how we worked to provide comprehensive educational opportunities for future educators, leaders, researchers, and administrators.

Making Education an Experience at Physiatry ’17

The AAP’s 2017 Annual Meeting in Las Vegas was our largest and most successful conference yet. Despite the last-minute relocation from Puerto Rico to Las Vegas, we drew a record-breaking crowd of 1,241 attendees and over 60 exhibitors and sponsors. With a special learning pathway on Rehabilitation Technology, over 260 physicians and researchers led plenary talks, educational sessions and workshops for physiatry professionals in every career stage.

One stand-out moment was our first Women in Academic Physiatry workshop, providing career development for women. As one attendee shared, “I loved hearing experiences from well-respected women physiatrists, whom I admire.”

Learning Anywhere, Anytime

Our Virtual Campus was full of lifelong learners looking to sharpen in their skills and earn continuing medical education (CME) credits. We launched four webinars; monthly CME activities for our American Journal of Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation; mentoring podcasts with topics ranging from career opportunities to physician wellness; Entrustable Professional Activities (EPAs) developed for physiatry residency programs; and our first American Board of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation (ABPMR) approved Maintenance of Certification activity!

Get active on our new Virtual Campus, campus.physiatry.org!
Looking Back at **Education**

**Developing Academic Leaders with PAL**

For over a decade, the AAP’s Program for Academic Leadership (PAL) has developed academic leadership skills in junior physiatry faculty. With a unique combination of education and one-on-one mentoring, it has propelled 100+ physiatrists to success in an academic setting.

**CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR 2017 GRADUATING CLASS!**

- Loren Davidson, MD, University of California Davis
- Sarah Hwang, MD, University of Missouri
- Timothy Hudson, MD, McGuire VA Medical Center
- Michael Mallow, MD, Thomas Jefferson University
- Karen Morice, MD, Albert Einstein College of Medicine
- Eric M. Wisotzky, MD, MedStar National Rehabilitation Hospital

“PAL helped me understand the infrastructure of academic medicine, so I can grow within it and lead my colleagues. It doesn’t end when the program ends, either: I still network with my cohorts and other PAL graduates.” – Karen Morice, MD

“The PAL program is a backstage pass to academic physiatry. What resonated with me is that there is no singular mold for an effective leader in academic medicine, and that a strong department is like a stock portfolio, diversity is key.” – Loren Davidson, MD
Here’s how we developed research infrastructure, benchmarks, and training to help our specialty grow.

**Building Skills in Medical Students**

The AAP is proud to offer summer externships to medical students, funded by the Craig H. Neilsen Foundation, the Roosevelt Warm Springs Foundation and the Foundation for PM&R. Out of 105 applicants in 2017, we selected 21 students to participate in our Medical Student Summer Clinical Externship (MSSCE) and 8 students for the Rehabilitation Research Experience for Medical Students (RREMS). Thank you to our 17 site sponsors and mentors who introduced these students to structured research and patient care. Based on their research in the program, RREMS participants presented scientific papers at Physiatry ’18!

“The best part of RREMS is the freedom that we were given as medical students to run this research project. It didn’t feel like was just jumping onto a project that my mentor created. This was really my project that I created and my mentor helped guide me through. It was a great learning experience.”

— STEVEN SINFIELD, DREXEL UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF MEDICINE

**Increasing Physiatric Research Capacity**

The AAP’s Physiatric Research Development Consulting Program provides customized assistance and recommendations for institutions seeking to expand or develop their research program. In June 2017, program leaders visited the University of Kentucky to conduct a needs-assessment, and will continue to work with them to implement or increase their capacity of research.
Looking Back at **Research**

**Developing Research Scientists with RMSTP**

Designed to address the shortage of physician scientists in physiatry, Rehabilitation Medicine Scientist Training Program (RMSTP) propels successful careers in rehabilitation research. This program provides research training, mentorship and career development for physiatrists committed to a future in academic medicine. Join us in recognizing these successes in 2017!

**CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR 2017 GRADUATES**

- W. David Arnold, MD, Ohio State Medical Center
- Daniel Herman, MD, PhD, University of Virginia
- Monica Rho, MD, Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago

**Awards**

RMSTP participants and graduates were a celebrated group in 2017. Here are some highlights:

- **Prakash Jayabalan, MD, PhD:**
  - Won the AAP’s Electrode Store Best Paper Award
- **Alejandra Camacho-Soto, MD:**
  - Received the Faculty Diversity Award
- **Monica Rho, MD:**
  - Accepted into the Feinberg Academy of Medical Educators
  - Received the Phala A. Helm MD Distinguished Lectureship at the UT Southwestern 19th Annual PM&R Scientific Day
- **John Ross-Rizzo, MD:**
  - Invited speaker for TEDxNYU’s Annual Conference: Re-Vision
  - Won the National Stroke Association (NSA)/ACRM Young Investigator Award in Post-Acute Stroke Rehabilitation
  - Highlighted in Mechanical Engineering Magazine with a feature on “Augmented Eyes”
- **Randel Swanson, DO, PhD:**
  - Selected as one of the “40 under 40” successful graduates from Rowan University

**Research Funding**

Securing your own funding is key to being an independent researcher. That’s why we guided trainees in applying directly to funding agencies for career development grant funding. RMSTP participants and graduates secured $55,000 in new funding in 2017 and applied for an additional $21,277,636 in grants that are under review by the following agencies:

**Government Agencies:** National Institute on Aging; National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke (NINDS); National Eye Institute (NEI); National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities (NINHD); National Science Foundation (NSF) Cyber Human Systems; United States Department of Defense (DOD)

**Not for Profit Agencies:** Ender’s Foundation

**Internal Institutional Support:** College of Medicine at Ohio State University, Johns Hopkins Older American Independence Center (OAIC), New York University, Washington University School of Medicine, Industry: Huawei Technologies.
Looking Back at Membership

Our members are at the heart of our success in advancing physiatry through education and research. Here’s how we built a stronger and more engaged membership base.

Focusing on Retention and Acquisition

The AAP’s membership reached its highest yet in 2017 with 1,676 total members! Our largest membership groups were residents and diplomates, and medical students and early career are the fastest growing categories! In addition, our Academic Partners (or our institutional members) reached a new high with 42 departments participating. With increasing member benefits, cohorts – including our new Veteran’s Affairs Council, and targeted campaigns, we will continue to make the AAP even more valuable to current and future members.

Exposing Students to the Field

In 2017, the AAP provided grant funding for Medical Student Physiatry Fairs at Albert Einstein College of Medicine/ Montefiore Medical Center, JFK Johnson Rehabilitation Network, Johns Hopkins University, MedStar National Rehabilitation Hospital, Rutgers New Jersey Medical School and University of Colorado. Over 300 students from 45 medical schools were introduced to the specialty through lectures, networking opportunities with residents and attendings, and hands-on demonstrations.

Empowering In-Training Physiatrists

In 2017, the AAP’s Resident/Fellow Council (RFC) launched the Resident/Medical Student Mentor Program with 21 matches and growing. “The mentor program allows residents to provide recommendations to medical students and help guide them through the process of rotations and applying for interviews,” shares RFC member and mentee Melissa Kirk, MD. “It is nice to offer this support as we just went through the process and can offer guidance especially for students without home institution physiatry programs.”

“AAP’s Resident/Medical Student Mentor Program has been of great benefit for me. My resident mentor has provided excellent navigation, support and advice. Both the residency application process and medical school in general can be overwhelming at times, and I am thankful for the guidance I have received as a member of this program.”

— JACOB MOORE, AT STILL UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE
Looking Back at Advocacy

Here’s how we worked with key influencers to expand awareness for physiatry and promote issues significant to research and education.

Weighing in on Issues that Matter

The AAP was proud to publish a position paper titled “Federal Funding of Disability and Rehabilitation Research” – and work with subject experts on many more to be released in 2018! In addition, as an active member of the Disability and Rehabilitation Research Coalition (DRRC), we shared feedback on important issues such as access to rehabilitation care in health care reform legislation. We also joined the ranks of over 150 organizations who are doing their part to reverse burnout on the National Academy of Medicine’s Action Collaborative on Clinician Well-Being and Resilience.

Supporting Congressional Briefings

In June, the AAP and its leaders participated in a Congressional Briefing sponsored by the Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC) on ‘VA and Academic Medicine: Partnering for Veterans’ Health’. Later that month, we co-sponsored a Congressional Briefing on ‘The Value of Rehabilitation and Habilitation Services and Devices in America’s Healthcare System’. Sen. Tammy Duckworth (D-IL) and Rep. Glen Thompson (R-PA) joined us to speak on the value of rehabilitative medicine.

Mobilizing Our Members & Leaders

In September, the AAP Board of Trustees visited Capitol Hill to educate policymakers about physiatry and advocate for investment in rehabilitation research and graduate medical education (GME).
Looking Back at 
AJPM&R

The American Journal of Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (AJPM&R) is the AAP’s official medical journal. Here’s how we took steps in making it the premier journal for academic physiatry.

Growing Our Reach & Relevance
AJPM&R continues to grow in its worldwide presence. In 2017, 50 countries submitted articles to be published – up from 45 the year prior! In addition, the journal is becoming more prestigious and competitive as we lowered our acceptance rate, increased the number of published randomized control trials (RCTs), and increased the number of full text views.

We published two supplements in 2017, an added bonus to our digital and print subscribers. These supplements delved into the International Spinal Cord Injury Survey (InSCI) and Rehabilitation and Recovery Through Technology.

Submit Your Work to AJPM&R!
AJPM&R publishes cutting-edge basic and clinical research, clinical case reports, education and administration articles, and in-depth topical reviews covering all aspects of physiatry. What’s more, research abstracts are translated into Spanish and some full-text articles into Chinese! Submit your paper at www.editorialmanager.com/ajpmr.
## Statements of Financial Position

**Year-Ended August 31, 2017**

### Assets
- Cash and cash equivalents: $817,514
- Accounts receivable: -
- Investments: 1,249,073
- Prepaid expenses: 23,668
- Royalty receivable - net: 15,049
- Property and Equipment - net: 18,947
- Security deposits: 8,036

**Total Assets:** $2,132,287

### Liabilities and Net Assets
- Accounts payable: $1,748
- Accrued expenses: 39,082
- Deferred revenue: 135,272

**Net Assets**
- Unrestricted: 1,849,383
- Temporarily restricted: 3,948
- Permanently restricted: 102,854

**Total net assets:** 1,956,185

**Total Liabilities and Net Assets:** $2,132,287

### Revenue, gains and other support:
- $2,159,485

### Net investment income:
- $94,579

### Expenses
- Operation expenses: $1,834,749
- Reserve expenses: $212,530

**Change in net assets:** $206,785
A Heartfelt Thank You

We are deeply grateful for all of our members, volunteers and partners who support the AAP’s mission by being a part of our academic family. We would also like to recognize the following organizations and individuals for their generous donations – an investment in the future of physiatry, recruitment, education and research. The AAP’s programs that foster the next generation of physiatrists such as PAL, RREMS, MSSCE, the DeLisa Lectureship Fund and the Ernest W. Johnson Scholarship continue to thrive thanks to your support.

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Roosevelt Warm Springs Foundation
Foundation for Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation
International Spinal Cord Injury Survey - InSCI
Allergan
Mayo Clinic
Merz Neurosciences
TIRR Memorial Hermann
Johns Hopkins Medicine
Ipsen Biopharmaceuticals
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American Board of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation
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The Electrode Store
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Moving the AAP and Physiatry Forward

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