

## **ASAMS BOG Teleconference Meeting Minutes** **Wednesday, 7 August 2019 @ 1600 Eastern Time**

**ASAMS Mission:** The American Society of Aerospace Medicine Specialists (ASAMS) is a constituent organization of the Aerospace Medical Association (AsMA), the preeminent international multi-specialty organization dedicated to the advancement of aviation and space medicine. ASAMS is the primary specialty society serving as the voice for the professional needs of Aerospace Medicine physicians. ASAMS is dedicated to:

- Establishing standards for Aerospace Medicine to include core competencies and practice guidelines
- Representing and promoting the interests of physicians who specialize in Aerospace Medicine
- Promote and preserve the highest professional standards
- Interest young physicians and medical students in the specialty
- Increase the value of the specialty to prospective employers

**ASAMS Website:** <http://www.asams.org/>

### **ASAMS Board of Governance (BOG) Members:**

(NOTE: **bold** = present at meeting; **bold & italic** = emailed info)

President: **Dr. Chaz Shurlow**

1st Past President: **Dr. Chuck Mathers**

2nd Past President: Dr. Johann Westphall

3rd Past President: Dr. Pat Storms

Vice-President (President-Elect): **Dr. Dave Blocker**

Secretary: **Dr. Dai Tran**

Treasurer: Dr. Charlie Clinton

Membership: **Dr. Ramon Yambo-Arias**

Nominations: *Dr. Patricia MacSparran*

Ethics: **Dr. Jeff Jones**

Website: **Dr. Paul Young**

Constitution & Bylaws: *Dr. Mark Nassir*

MOC & Board Exam: Dr. Susan Northrup & Dr. Kim Toone

Education & Training: Dr. Timothy Burkhart

Publications: Dr. Dan Shoor

Space Medicine: **Dr. Rahul Suresh**

Members-at-Large: **Dr. Jim Elliott** ('17), Dr. Kim Toone ('16), Dr. Brian Agee ('15)

Emeritus Members: **Dr. Cheryl Lowry**, Dr. Walter Matthews, Dr. Mark Mavity, Dr. Dave O'Brien, Dr. Hernando Ortega, *Dr. Romie Richardson*

- 1) **Approval of Prior Minutes:** Voted "approval" of minutes from ASAMS Annual Meeting on Tuesday, 7 May 2019, during AsMA Conference
- 2) **ASAMS Officer Reports**
  - a. **President (Dr. Chaz Shurlow):** Would like to emphasize some priorities for this year:
    - i. Implement new ASAMS scholarship (see "Old Businesses" below for more details)
    - ii. Coordinate early the Board Review series to be presented at next AsMA in May 2020
      1. Dr. Mathers states needs subject matter experts for the topics & need to submit the abstracts to AsMA before deadline on 1 Nov 2019
      2. **Dr. Shurlow to contact Dr. Burkhart to reach out to RAM residency directors for assistance**
  - b. **Vice-President/President-Elect (Dr. Dave Blocker):** Thanking Dr. Yambo-Arias on smooth transition taking over Membership committee
  - c. **Secretary (Dr. Dai Tran):** Will email Dr. Young (Webmaster) previous minutes to post on ASAMS website

- d. **Treasurer (Dr. Charlie Clinton):** Per Dr. Shurlow, Dr. Clinton recently returned from deployment and currently PCS'ing. Per 7 May 2019 meeting: *ASAMS currently has total balance of \$16,119.25, of which \$13,871.25 is in the bank and \$2,248.00 is in cash.* During that meeting, **Dr. James Elliott** offered \$500 check for the ASAMS scholarship. After that meeting, **Dr. Al Parmet** provided a \$5000 check to support the ASAMS scholarship, which was subsequently matched by **Dr. Chuck Mathers** donating \$5000. **Dr. Chaz Shurlow** also donated \$1375.17 to cover the costs of the ASAMS breakfast and the gift for the outgoing ASAMS President at AsMA.
- i. **Dr. Mathers recommends sending thank-you letters to the folks who donated**

### 3) ASAMS Committee Chair Reports

- a. **Membership (Dr. Ramon Yambo-Arias):**
- i. Per 7 May 2019 meeting:
1. *Dr. Ramon Yambo-Arias is taking over as chair of the Membership committee from Dr. David Blocker*
  2. *Payment of ASAMS annual membership dues have transitioned online via AsMA website*
  3. *At present, 39 of 69 eligible members have upgraded to ASAMS lifetime membership. Currently, 150 are at risk of dropping off ASAMS membership roster due to non-payment.*
  4. *Those under student/resident membership (\$5 annual fee), when to no longer in training, should be upgraded to full membership (\$10 annual fee). There is an "associate membership," for 5 folks who are not aerospace medicine board eligible/certified or who are not AsMA member.*
- ii. Per Dr. Blocker's email on 17 May 2019:
1. *Per post-AsMA ASAMS membership roster, there are 236 members remaining on the list, with 6 additional expired members requesting renewal since yesterday. These and future member will be asked to update their membership info with us, then pay via the AsMA website with help from Gloria Carter.*
- iii. Per Dr. Blocker's email on 13 Jun 2019: *One of the most important things the ASAMS Membership committee does each year is to update our ASAMS membership roster with new AsMA Fellows and Associate Fellows, then share this info to congratulate them on their great career achievement and to encourage us all to continue growth in leadership and mentoring others.*
1. *In addition to updating our membership roster and sharing with the BOG, we would like to send out congratulation emails to them and to include our general membership/distro list. I recommend providing Dr. Shurlow, new ASAMS President, the opportunity to send out the email.*
  2. *Dr. Warren Silberman is POC for Fellows Group and Dr. Rowena Christensen was last year's POC for Associate Fellows Group, and both are ASAMS members*
- iv. UPDATE: **Dr. Shurlow to coordinate with Dr. Yambo-Arias to email ASAMS recognition of new AsMA Fellows and post on ASAMS website**
- v. UPDATE: After discussion, **BOG VOTED "YES" for not charging ASAMS membership fees for all students and residents**
1. Membership Committee to notify AMSRO (Aerospace Medicine Student and Resident Organization) regarding FREE membership
- vi. UPDATE: After discussion, **BOG VOTED "YES" for not increasing membership dues at this time**
1. Membership fee remains \$10 per year for ASAMs full membership, as well as for **ASAMS associate membership** (the latter allows limited membership in ASAMS for those who are not students but are not board eligible/board certified in Aerospace Medicine in the U.S; this includes international physicians, other physicians who work in our field but who are not ABPM eligible/certified, and non-physicians such as physiologists and nurses who are interested in being part of ASAMS)

- vii. UPDATE: Per Dr. Yambo-Arias, ASAMS currently has 205 active, 42 non-current, 150 full, and 35 new members
- b. **Nominations (Dr. Patricia MacSparran)**: Per 7 May 2019 meeting:
  - i. *Dr. Patricia MacSparran is taking over as chair of the Nominations committee from Dr. Russ Tontz*
  - ii. *Dr. Hernando Ortega selected as incoming AsMA President for 2019-2020*
  - iii. *New ASAMS members selected as AsMA Fellows announced during Honors Night on Thursday at AsMA Conference*
  - iv. UPDATE: **Dr. Shurlow to verify smooth Nominations committee chair hand-off to ensure timely submission of AsMA Fellows nomination list for next year**
- c. **Ethics (Dr. Jeff Jones)**: Per 7 May 2019 meeting:
  - i. *ASAMS BOG has agreed that the ASAMS Ethics Committee will serve as the core member of AsMA's ad-hoc ethics committee. This bylaw revision still needs to be approved by AsMA Council. ASAMS has been around for about 20 years, and now is an opportune time for us to step up to provide leadership for AsMA in this area. Reminder that the annual ethics session on Thursday afternoon at AsMA Conference.*
- d. **Website (Dr. Paul Young)**: Per 7 May 2019 meeting:
  - i. *Since Dr. Paul Young (Webmaster) unable to be present, Dr. Mathers provided update that Dr. Young has made tremendous improvements to the ASAMS website*
  - ii. UPDATE: Dr. Young requesting website feedbacks and updated email addresses for ASAMS officers. Will continue to post aerospace medicine job opportunities from Argent, etc, on the ASAMS website.
- e. **Constitution & Bylaws (Dr. Mark Nassir)**: Per email prior to 8 Aug 2019 telecon, no new updates
- f. **MOC & Board Exam (Dr. Susan Northrup & Dr. Kim Toone)**: Per Dr. Mathers at 7 May 2019 meeting: *MOC Part IV form is now available as fillable PDF on the ASAMS website to assist our members with completion. Since this PDF was reviewed by Dr. Susan Northrop, can email her for questions. Urging ASAMS members to participate in the practice analysis and content update for the American Board of Preventive Medicine (ABPM) core examination. Per AsMA Council meeting in Nov 2018, the costs for MOC and CME for AsMA Conference are now spread among all participants attending.*
  - i. Per Dr. Cheryl Lowry at 7 May 2019 meeting: *MOC is a moving target. ABMS (American Board of Medical Specialties) is allowing leeway for developing MOC more relevant and suiting for our specialty.*
  - ii. Per open discussion at 7 May 2019 meeting: *Goal is to make MOC as easy as possible, fulfilling parts I-IV at the same time. Deadline in mid-Sep 2019 for putting pilot program together. Trying to break down silos with other specialties and see which direction the "herd" is moving (for example, some specialties even screen members' personal websites to ensure professionalism).*
  - iii. ASAMS continuing to support practice analysis and content update for the ABPM core examination by recruiting volunteers from our membership to participate
- g. **Education & Training (Dr. Timothy Burkhardt)**:
  - i. Per Dr. Mathers during 7 Mar 2019 telecon: *Difficulties in finding speakers for the AsMA Board Review session in May 2019 have resulted in the session being cut short by AsMA. I'm asking the RAM program directors in an effort to revitalize this program to see if they would be interested in helping to organize and provide speakers for the Board Review session each year.*
  - ii. Per Dr. Mathers at 7 May 2019 meeting: *ASAMS has gained preliminary support from several aerospace medicine residency programs to assist with updating the Board Review program offered each year at the AsMA Scientific Meeting.*

- iii. UPDATE: Per Dr. Lowry's email on 7 Aug 2019:
  - 1. Dr. Ortega and I are heading to the ABPM summer meeting starting tomorrow. We will have a MOC update for next meeting.
  - 2. Regarding Board Review series, RAM program directors volunteered to staff this effort. Abstracts will be due to AsMA by 1 Nov 2019.
  - 3. Along the lines of ASAMS purpose/mission, UTMB Aerospace Medicine has developed an introductory/informative aerospace medicine lecture series that we will begin webcasting different lecture every 6-8 wks starting in Sep 2019. Intended audience is med students and residents to raise awareness about the specialty, initially thru AMSRO but will send links to ASAMS and AsMA as well. Each session will be about 1 hour and have a resident and faculty available to answer questions during/after the lecture.
- h. **Publications (Dr. Dan Shoor)**: No new update
- i. **Space Medicine (Dr. Rahul Suresh)**: No new update

#### 4) Old Businesses

- a. **ASAMS Scholarship (POC Dr. Chuck Mathers)**: Per Dr. Mathers at 7 May 2019 meeting: *ASAMS would like to offer \$500 scholarship for a person with a strong interest in pursuing a career in aerospace medicine. Applications for the first scholarship will likely open prior to AsMA Conference in May 2020. This scholarship would help better spread the words about ASAMS. For the scholarship criteria, would like to target someone earlier in career (i.e., undergraduate or medical student) who expresses interest in becoming an Aerospace Medicine specialist.*
  - i. At the 7 May 2019 meeting, *Dr. James Elliott offered a \$500 check for the scholarship. After the 7 May 2019 meeting, Dr. Al Parmet donated a \$5000 check to support the scholarship, which was subsequently matched by Dr. Chuck Mathers donating \$5000.*
  - ii. UPDATE: **Dr. Mathers working on setting up the ASAMS scholarship through the AsMA Foundation** (refer to **Attachment 1** for "Endowment Agreement between ASAMS and AsMA Foundation"). After brief discussion, **BOG VOTED "YES" for approval on verbiage in Attachment 1 to set up ASAMS scholarship through the AsMA Foundation.**
  - iii. UPDATE: Ms. Kseniya Masterova, the President of AMSRO (Aerospace Medicine Student and Resident Organization at website <https://www.amsro.org/>) would like to collaborate with ASAMS in selecting scholarship recipient. **Dr. Mathers to formalize agreement with AMSRO and get their inputs regarding scholarship criteria.**

#### 5) New Businesses

- a. **Updated Medical Guidelines for AsMA ATM Committee Review**: Jeff Sventek emailed Dr. Elizabeth Wilkinson (AsMA Air Transport Medicine Committee) to review 3 updated medical guidelines, accomplished by USAF RAM residents as part of their scholarly activities during their residency, for possible approval for posting on the AsMA website
  - i. Dr. Ortega was cc'ed on the email and forwarded to Dr. Shurlow asking "any benefit of branding this effort with ASAMS also?" (refer to **Attachment 2** for "Updated Medical Guidelines for Anemia, GI Diseases, and DCS")
  - ii. UPDATE: Dr. Shurlow said he had talked with Dr. Van Syoc, who stated clinical practice guidelines on ASAMS website are not current
    - 1. **Dr. Mathers recommends taking these off ASAMS website until we can review them**
    - 2. **Dr. Lowry recommends ASAMS emailing RAM program directors so they can meet at next AsMA to discuss developing and/or updating aerospace medicine clinical practice guidelines**

**6) Adjournment:** Meeting ending at 1703 Eastern Time

**Dai Tran**  
ASAMS Secretary

**Chaz Shurlow**  
ASAMS President

**Attachments:**

ATTACHMENT 1 - Endowment Agreement between ASAMS and AsMA Foundation  
ATTACHMENT 2 - Updated Medical Guidelines for Anemia, GI Diseases, and DCS