

ASAMS Annual Membership Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, 7 May 2019 @ 0700 Pacific Time
AsMA Conference

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 Board of Governance (BOG) Members:

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

President: **Dr. Chuck Mathers**

1st Past President: **Dr. Johann Westphall**

2nd Past President: Dr. Pat Storms

3rd Past President: **Dr. Dave O'Brien**

Vice-President (President-Elect): **Dr. Chaz Shurlow**

Secretary: **Dr. Dai Tran**

Treasurer: **Dr. Charlie Clinton**

Membership: **Dr. Dave Blocker & Dr. Ramon Yambo-Arias**

Nominations: **Dr. Russ Tontz**

Ethics: **Dr. Jeff Jones**

Education & Training: Dr. Timothy Burkhart

Website: Dr. Paul Young

Constitution & Bylaws: **Dr. Mark Nassir**

Publications: Dr. Dan Shoor

MOC: **Dr. Susan Northrup & Dr. Kim Toone**

Space Medicine: **Dr. Rahul Suresh**

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

Emeritus Members: **Dr. Romie Richardson, Dr. Cheryl Lowry**

1) Welcome Message from ASAMS President (Dr. Chuck Mathers)

- a. Thank-you to ASAMS BOG members for great work this past year, especially Dr. Dai Tran as Secretary and Dr. Chaz Shurlow as President-Elect
- b. ASAMS BOG had met quarterly via teleconference after AsMA in May 2018
- c. These meeting minutes are posted on ASAMS website at <http://www.asams.org/>

2) ASAMS Officer Reports

- a. **Vice-President/President-Elect (Dr. Chaz Shurlow):** See 6) below for remarks
- b. **Secretary (Dr. Dai Tran):** Recommended approval of meeting minutes from most recent ASAMS BOG teleconference on 7 Mar 2019. Will coordinate with Dr. Paul Young (Webmaster) to post on ASAMS website.
- c. **Treasurer:** Since Dr. Charlie Clinton (Treasurer) currently deployed overseas, Dr. Shurlow presented info Dr. Clinton had emailed: *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. Anticipate spending about \$1,500 to cover the breakfast for this meeting.*

- d. **Membership (Dr. Dave Blocker)**
 - i. Payment of ASAMS annual membership dues have transitioned online via AsMA website
 - ii. At present, 39 of 69 eligible members have upgraded to ASAMS lifetime membership
 - iii. Currently, 150 are at risk of dropping off ASAMS membership roster due to non-payment
 - iv. Those under student/resident membership (\$5 annual fee), when to no longer in training, should be upgraded to full membership (\$10 annual fee)
 - v. There is an “associate membership,” for 5 folks who are not aerospace medicine board eligible/certified or who are not AsMA member
 - vi. **Dr. Ramon Yambo-Arias** is taking over as chair of the Membership committee

- e. **Nominations (Dr. Russ Tontz)**
 - i. **Dr. Dave Blocker** selected by BOG as **ASAMS Vice-President (President-Elect)** for 2019-2020, taking over Dr. Chaz Shurlow’s position
 - ii. **Dr. Patricia MacSparran** selected by BOG as new chair of **ASAMS Nominations Committee**, taking over Dr. Russ Tontz’ position
 - iii. New ASAMS members selected as AsMA Fellows will be announced during Honors Night on Thursday
 - iv. Of note, **Dr. Hernando Ortega** selected as incoming **AsMA President** for 2019-2020

- f. **Ethics (Dr. Jeff Jones)**
 - 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 will be this Thursday afternoon.

- g. **Website:** Since Dr. Paul Young (Webmaster) unable to be present, Dr. Mathers provided update that Dr. Young has made tremendous improvements to the ASAMS website

- h. **MOC & Board Review:** Per Dr. Mathers, the 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. Dr. Mathers urges 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 2019, the costs for MOC and CME for AsMA Conference are now spread among all participants attending.
 - i. Per **Dr. Cheryl Lowry**, 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, 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).

3) **ASAMS Outgoing President Report (Dr. Chuck Mathers)**

- a. ASAMS is supporting the practice analysis and content update for the American Board of Preventive Medicine (ABPM) core examination by recruiting volunteers from our membership to participate.
- b. 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.

- c. The ASAMS Board of Governance has agreed that the ASAMS Ethics Committee will serve as the core member for AsMA's ad-hoc ethics committee. ASAMS looks forward to supporting AsMA in this capacity.
- d. ASAMS will be offering a \$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. **Dr. Hernando Ortega** commented should make this scholarship sustainable.
 - ii. **Dr. Jeff Jones** stated may need extra funding raising effort, even possibly raising membership dues. Also, other ways to promote ASAMS would be to pay first year of membership for graduating aerospace medicine specialists and to participate in speed mentoring during AsMA.
 - iii. **Dr. James Elliott** offered a **\$500** check for the scholarship, and challenged any ASAMS member to match
 - iv. NOTE: After the meeting, **Dr. Al Parmet** provided a **\$5000** check to support the scholarship, which was subsequently matched by **Dr. Chuck Mathers** donating **\$5000**. **Dr. Chaz Shurlow** also donated **\$1375.17** to cover the costs of this ASAMS breakfast along with the gift for the outgoing ASAMS President.

4) Words from Incoming AsMA President (Dr. Hernando Ortega)

- a. International work based on strong aerospace medicine foundation in US. Spread the words to sustain the ASAMS organization, collaborating with and bringing in new members from Navy, Army, UTMB, etc. Link up with the aerospace medicine residency programs. Emphasize importance of MPH, since clinical medicine is necessary but not sufficient. Participate in longitudinal assessment of MOC.

5) Dr. Chuck Mathers Passing Gavel to ASAMS Incoming President (Dr. Chaz Shurlow)

- a. Dr. Shurlow gave Dr. Mather a statue of an eagle as token of appreciate

6) Incoming President's Remarks (Dr. Chaz Shurlow)

- a. ASAMS has come a long way in the last year. For example, Dr. Dave Blocker has greatly improved membership, and Dr. Paul Young has tremendously updated website. Need to focus on the young people, and be better mentors. Need to continue to get the words out to grow the organization. Need to really excel and be relevant during changing times.

7) Adjournment: Meeting ended at 0758 Pacific Time

Dai Tran
ASAMS Secretary

Chaz Shurlow
Incoming ASAMS President