Welcome to the Winter 2016 OTA Newsletter! This edition of *Fracture Lines* recaps the Annual OTA 2015 Meeting in San Diego with links to meeting handouts, posters, and highlight presentation videos. Also included are previews of multiple upcoming events and OTA initiatives for 2016, including OTA Specialty Day to be held in conjunction with the AAOS Annual Meeting in Orlando. Be sure to review the committee reports for important updates, several announcements, and a progress report on research partially funded by the OTA studying bone healing in space with NASA.

The next edition of *Fracture Lines* will be released this Spring. Please be sure to send any suggestions, content and photos to HMir@FloridaOrtho.com.
FROM THE PRESIDENT, CONTINUED FROM PG. 1
Theodore Miclau, III, MD

growing body of information and disseminate it to the
global community.

At last summer’s strategic retreat, the OTA
Board of Directors assessed new ways to address
this need and engaged a publishing consultant to
assist with the process. Over the next year, the OTA
Board will continue to work to coordinate scientific
and educational content in the digital space, which
will include a multi-modal platform for education
and research. Through its talented membership and
partnerships, the OTA is uniquely positioned to shape
musculoskeletal injury care through well-integrated
digital media.

While I will be passing the gavel to Steve Olson
at Specialty Day in March, I look forward to seeing
this and other initiatives take form over the next
couple of years. It has been deeply gratifying to work
with the dedicated and gifted group of OTA Board
members, committee chairs, volunteers, and staff over
this past year, and I thank them for their support. I am
even more enthusiastic about the OTA’s future than
ever. Our members are leading efforts to translate big
information into impactful clinical practice.

CALL FOR ABSTRACTS –
2016 OTA AT GAYLORD NATIONAL HARBOR

Deadline: February 3, 2016 (11:59 pm CST)

• Abstract Application Link
• Abstract Application Instructions
• Symposia/Breakout Application

2016 WELCOME RECEPTION AUCTION

Plan on attending the 2016 Welcome
Reception and bid on unique auction
items to support the OTA Education and
Research Fund.

Photos are a
followup from
Holger Gruenert of
Pacific Instruments
who won
Andy Schmidt’s
house donation
at the 2013 auction.

Holger Gruenert winning the Ski Get Away.
Living in Hawaii since 2005, Holger was
looking forward to returning to his former
favorite sport.

This climb is called
The Fang in Vail, CO.
2015 Annual Meeting Follow Up

Annual Meeting Online Education
Video capture of Annual Meeting sessions will be available soon.

Handouts and ePosters:
- Annual Mtg Breakout Session - Friday
- Annual Mtg Breakout Session - Saturday
- Basic Science Focus Forum - Wednesday
- Basic Science Focus Forum - Thursday
- International Trauma Care Forum
- NP/PA Course - Thursday
- NP/PA Course - Friday
- NP/PA Course - Saturday
- Ortho Trauma Boot Camp - Wednesday
- Ortho Trauma Boot Camp - Thursday
- Young Practitioners Forum

Ted Miclau, MD 2015 OTA President’s Message
The $500 Check

Christian Krettek, MD
2015 John Border Memorial Lecture
Minimally Invasive Surgery - Past, Present and Future

Abstracts (Podium, Annual Meeting):
- Session 1: High Level Randomized Controlled Trials
- Session 2: Tibia / Knee
- Session 3: General Interest I
- Session 4: Pelvis and Acetabulum
- Session 5: Femur / Polytrauma
- Session 6: Foot & Ankle
- Session 7: Hip
- Session 8: Infection & General Interest II
- Session 9: Upper Extremity & Wrist
OTAs exhibit hall was bustling with activity.

2015 Border Memorial Lecturer Christian Krettek with OTA President Theodore Miclau, III.

OTA welcomes new members. (New member listing)

Dan Horwitz assists an attendee at a Boot Camp lab.

OTA posters were well attended. ePosters are available online at OTA.org.

OTA honors military members at the 2015 Military Reception.
Contest Winners:
Exhibit Hall Scavenger Hunt
Annual Meeting attendees participated in Exhibit Hall Scavenger Hunt by visiting the minimum number of required exhibitors in the Exhibit Hall. Program Chair, Bob O’Toole, pulled winners from eligible completed game boards.

Update your contact info here!

The OTA business office is excited to announce the successful transition to the OTA’s new Association Management System (AMS) which powers the business operations of the association, including member profiles, meeting registrations, research applications and much more.

If you have not updated your profile since November 2015, we invite you to login and update your profile by selecting the Forgot Username link on the website.

Profile Login Link – Click here to confirm/update your address, contact and practice information (you can even include your practice website and photo for patient searches!). From the main menu you can update your username/password, manage your email opt-in/opt-out preferences, donate to the OTA Research and Education Fund and pay your dues online.

Please be sure to update your username/password after confirming your contact information by selecting ‘return to menu’ in the upper left hand corner of your web browser and then selecting ‘Update Username/Password’ from the menu selection.

AmTrav Winners

Congratulations AmTrav raffle winners: Dr. Emily Squyer and Jason Croft!
Dr. Squyer and Jason booked their 2015 Annual Meeting travel using OTA preferred travel agency, AmTrav, and were entered into a drawing.

Jason Croft will receive complimentary registration to the 2016 Annual Meeting at the Gaylord Resort in National Harbor, Maryland.

OTA Member, Dr. Emily Squyer will have her choice of waiving her 2016 OTA Member dues or the 2016 Annual Meeting Registration being comped.

Book with AmTrav and you could be the 2016 winner (see page 18 for details).

In 1995, the OTA held the first Residents Comprehensive Fracture Course concurrently with the OTA annual meeting. That year OTA members who volunteered to be faculty for this course received a tie as a “thank you” gift. The tie was a Frank Lloyd Wright design selected by Nancy Franzon, the OTA executive Director at the time. Now 21 years later these ties are uncommon, but not gone. For the past decade Drs. Mike Baumgartner and Steve Olson have made a practice of wearing this tie at the Annual OTA meeting, as shown in this picture. Steve Olson shared - during the meeting I will receive a text message of a picture of the tie – and I know Mike sent it. It is just a great example of the friendships and camaraderie that develops in our organization.
The OTA Education Committee is happy to report continued success of multiple educational endeavors.

One hundred and forty-six residents attended the Fall Resident Comprehensive Fracture Course in San Diego in October. The course has successfully transitioned from the general session and breakout format to the new modular format thanks to the hard work and dedication of Kyle Jeray, Course Chair and Toni McLaurin, Course Co-Chair. A big vote of thanks goes out to Dr. Jeray after 4 years of co-chairing and chairing this course. Toni McLaurin steps into the role of Course Chair in 2016.

The Residents Advanced Trauma Technique Course, is scheduled for January 29-30, 2016 in Orlando under the leadership of Rafael Neiman, Course Chair; and Phil Wolinsky, Course Co-Chair. Opening are still available, so urge your residency program directors to send their senior residents to this valuable and popular course. PGY 3-5’s are invited to participate, but residents at other levels who have completed the OTA Comprehensive Fracture Course are also eligible to attend. 

The Spring Residents Comprehensive Fracture Course will be held in Lombard, Illinois, April 13-16, 2016. Course leaders Brian Mullis, Course Chair; and David Weiss, Course Co-Chair, continue to make significant strides in standardizing the course content so the spring and fall comprehensive fracture courses are identical offerings. Please urge your residency program directors to send their junior residents to this course.

Fellows Course

The Fellows Course will again take place in Boston, April 7-10, 2016, under the leadership of Paul Tornetta, Course Chair. Registration is limited to current Trauma Fellows.

2016 Webinar Schedule

Moderator: William M. Ricci, MD
Faculty: Michael Archdeacon, MD; Ken Egol, MD; Michael Gardner, MD; and Kathryn Diemer, MD

Webinar description and registration – Provide to your patients!

February (Date TBD): “Preventing and Treating Surgical Infections in Orthopaedic Trauma”
Moderator: William Obremskey, MD
Faculty: Michael Weaver, MD; Frank Avilucea, MD; and Andrew Schmidt, MD

April 20: “What’s New in Open Fractures?”
Moderator: Robert Ostrum, MD
Faculty: Michael Gardner, MD and Seth Yarboro, MD

July 20: “Compartment Syndrome: A True Orthopaedic Emergency”
Moderator: Lisa Cannada, MD
Invited Faculty: Timothy Achor, MD and Aaron Perdue, MD

August 23: “Periprosthetic Femur Fractures: Solutions for 2016”
Moderator: Michael Gardner, MD
Faculty: Matt Graves, MD, George Haidukewych, MD; and Julius Bishop, MD

Continued on page 8
Video Theater and Library

The OTA is continuing efforts to build a comprehensive trauma video library and we need your help! Please consider submitting your video for inclusion at the 2016 OTA Annual Meeting Video Theatre and the OTA online video library. Video authors retain copyright, and license the video for educational use only.

View Online Video Theater

All members of the OTA, and other interested individuals, are invited to submit video. Award winners are chosen each year from all submissions received.

2016 Submission Deadlines


Authors will be notified by the OTA Video Library Review Committee one month after submittal deadline if their video was accepted. Authors may be required to make changes/improvements as recommended by the committee.

Questions: Please contact Aimee Spellman at spellman@ota.org or 847-698-1631

OTA Surgeon and Trauma Awareness Posters:

- Emergency Room Guide for the Management of Pelvis and Acetabular Posters
- Compartment Syndrome: A Limb-Threatening Emergency

AAOS / OTA Combined PSA Campaigns:

- Motorcycle Safety
- Falls Prevention
- A Nation in Motion
- Military and Civilian Medicine
- Distracted Driving
- ATV Safety

Following the tragic events in Paris, Colorado Springs and San Bernardino, the Disaster Committee will begin to revisit the concept of pre-credentialing of qualified surgeons particularly with respect to penetrating and blast injury management. A meeting is to be held at the Extremity War Injuries XI meeting in Washington, DC in January 2016 to explore further options in partnering with governmental agencies.

An “Orthopaedic Blast injury” module has been added to the Residents Core Curriculum presentations. Click here for access to the core curriculum disaster presentation.

“Disaster Management Response Guidelines for Departments of Orthopaedic Surgery” is available in the JBJS Reviews January, 2016 edition. It highlights the fundamental considerations for preparation by an orthopaedic department for mass casualty events and presents an organizational plan that can be tailored to any academic or non-academic department.
Thanks to all who have donated in 2015.

**OTA Legacy Society**
(Lifetime Giving of $10,000 or greater)
Jeffrey O. Anglen, MD
Atlantic Provinces Orthopedic Society
Michael J. Bosse, MD
Timothy J. Bray, MD
James C. Binski, MD
Christopher T. Born, MD
Dr. and Mrs. Joseph Cass
Peter A. Cole, MD
William R. Creevy, MD
Florida Orthopaedic Institute, Tampa, Florida
James A. Goulet, MD
Ramón B. Gustilo, MD
Kyle J. Jeray, MD
Clifford B. Jones, MD, FACS
Gerald J. Lang, MD
Ross K. Leighton, MD
Todd W. and Jennifer Mailly
Theodore Miclau, III, MD
OrthoArizona, Phoenix, Arizona
Robert A. Probe, MD
William M. Ricci, MD
Thomas (Toney) A. Russell, MD
Andrew H. Schmidt, MD
John Schwappach, MD
Brian A. Sears, MD
Jeffrey M. Smith, MD
David C. Templeman, MD
Marc F. Swiontkowski, MD
Paul Tornetta, III, MD
USCF/SFGH Orthopaedic Trauma Institute

**2015 Sponsors Award** ($5,000 - $24,999)
Dr. and Mrs. Todd Mailly, Dr. and Mrs. Joseph Cass, San Francisco General Hospital

**2015 Members Award** ($1000 - $4,999)
Mark Anders, Michael Archdeacon, Curt Comstock, William Creevy, Thomas A. DeCoster, Gregory J. Delia Rocca, William DeLong, Ken Egol, Greenfield Hospital System, IU Health Methodist Orthopaedic Trauma, Kyle Jeray, Alan Jones, John P. Ketz, Joseph Lane, Ross Leighton, Douglas W. Lundy, Ted Miclau, Steve Morgan, Timothy O’Mara, Robert O’Toole, Todd Oliver, Steven A. Olson, Bob Ostrum, Brendan Patterson, Robert A. Probe, Bill Ricci, Matthew Rudloff, Andrew Schmidt, Brian Sears, Jeffrey M. Smith, Marc F. Swiontkowski, David Teague, Paul Tornetta, Heather Vallier, John Weinlein, David S. Weisman, Sharese White

**2015 Friends Award** ($250-$999)

**2015 Associate Award** (up to $249)

Thank you!
OTA Research Committee Meeting Update

The Research Committee met on August 21, 2015. After a day’s deliberations, grants were awarded in the following categories: $89,400 in Resident Grants (48 proposals reviewed); $404,790 in OTA Member Full Research Grants (30 proposals reviewed). Through a generous donation from Dr. and Mrs. Thomas A. Russell, the first International Research Grant was awarded in the amount of $49,050. Grant awards were announced at the OTA Annual Meeting in San Diego in October 2015 and funding began January 1, 2016.

2016 Full Grant Recipients
January 1, 2016 – December 31, 2016 Grant Cycle

Clinical Research Grant
(up to $40,000/year, 2 year grant cycle)
Title: The DECIPHER Study: DEterminants of Function and Clinically Important Outcomes in Proximal Humerus Fractures in the Elder Population: A North American Prospective CohoRt
PI: Emil H Schemitsch, MD, FRCSC
Co-PI: Michael D McKee, MD, FRCSC
Awarded Funds: $87,765  Funded by: OTA

Basic Research Grants
(up to $50,000 with $25,000/year max up to 2-year grant cycle)
Title: Antimicrobial Blue Light Therapy for Treatment of Post-traumatic Implant-related Infections in Orthopedics
PI: Tianhong Dai, PhD
Co-PI: Mark S Vrahas, MD
Awarded Funds: $50,000  Funded by: OTA

Title: The Effects of Locally Delivered Bone Marrow-Derived Cells on Fracture Healing in a Diabetic Rat Model
PI: Emil H Schemitsch, MD
Co-PI: Aaron Nauth, MD
Awarded Funds: $50,000  Funded by: OTA

Title: Does Time to Administration or Duration of Treatment with the Mast Cell Stabilizer, Ketotifen Fumarate, Effect Post-traumatic Joint Contractures?
PI: Prism S Schneider, MD, PhD
Co-PI: Kevin A Hildebrand, MD
Awarded Funds: $49,991  Funded by: OTA

Kathy Cramer Young Clinician Memorial Scholarship Award

The scholarship is in memory and honor of Kathryn Cramer, MD a dedicated and highly respected orthopaedic surgeon missed by many OTA colleagues.

The Memorial Scholarship Award will support two OTA-selected candidates each year to attend the ORS/OREF/AAOS Young Investigators Workshop and two candidates to attend the AAOS/OREF/ORS Clinical Scholars Career Development Program. Additionally, Kathy Cramer Memorial Scholarship Awardees will receive the following OTA benefits for the year they earn the award:

• An OTA assigned research mentor, if requested
• Complimentary OTA Annual Meeting Registration

Applications and deadlines will be available in December 2015 for the Young Investigators Workshop, and January 2016 for the Clinical Scholars Career Development Program.

Visit www.ota.org for application information as it becomes available.
Title: Evaluation of Local Tissue Concentrations and Bioactivity of Vancomycin Eluted from PMMA Implants in an Ovine Fracture Healing Model
PI: Thomas P Schaer, VMD
Co-PI: James Krieg, MD
Awarded Funds: $49,800 Funded by: OTA

Direct Topic Research Grants
(up to $50,000/year max up to 3-year grant cycle)

Title: Decreasing Systemic Inflammation to Improve Fracture Healing in Polytraumatized Rats
PI: Todd O McKinley, MD
Co-PI: Christopher H. Pape, MD
Awarded Funds: $117,234 Funded by: OTA
TOTAL AWARDED: $404,790

International Research Grants
(up to $50,000 with $25,000/year max up to 2-year grant cycle)

Title: Radiologic and Clinical Outcomes of Augmentation in Fragility Intertrochanteric Hip Fracture Treatment: A Randomized Multicenter Clinical Trial
PI: Rodrigo Pesantez, MD
Co-PI: Carlos Mario Olarte, MD
Awarded Funds: $49,050
Funded by: Dr. and Mrs. Thomas A. Russell
TOTAL AWARDED: $49,050

2016 Resident Grant Recipients
January 1, 2016 – December 31, 2016 Grant Cycle

Principal Investigator: Daniel Castano, MD
Co-Investigator: Edward J Harvey, MD MSc
Grant Title: Effect of Cryotherapy on Fracture Healing
Amount Funded: $18,390 Grant Funded by: OTA

Principal Investigator: Andrew J Sheean, MD
Co-Investigator: Michael Beltran, MD
Grant Title: Anterior Superior Iliac Spine Osteotomy Increases Surgical Exposure Through Both the Lateral and Stoppa Windows: A Cadaveric Study
Amount Funded: $11,010 Grant Funded by: OTA

Principal Investigator: Jocelyn T Compton, MD
Co-Investigator: J Lawrence Marsh, MD
Grant Title: The Effect of Sirtuin-1 on Chondrocyte Progenitor Cell Activity in Acute Cartilage Injury
Amount Funded: $20,000 Grant Funded by: OTA

OTA/GO Member Research Grant Opportunities
Pre-Proposal submission for the OTA / AO Full Grant Funding eligibility beginning January 2017.
Submission Deadline: February 29, 2016
Application Link - (will be coming soon)
Direct topic: Patient Outcome Measurement in Orthopaedic Trauma ($50,000/year maximum - 2 year funding cycle $100,000 maximum)
Eligibility: Either the principal investigator, or co-principal investigator, must be an OTA or AO member. The research must be conducted in North America.
OTA/GO Members will be notified of invitations to submit OTA/GO Full Proposals by April 30, 2016
Grants Policy

Attention Researchers: New Hip Fracture Grant Award!
RFP Coming Soon for funding beginning in 2016.
Directed Topic Details:
• Prospective Randomized Trial
• Patients 65 years and older
• Intra- and Extra-Capsular Hip Fractures
• Exparel Compared to Standard Pain Management
• Outcomes: Pain Management Requirements and Association Complications
The OTA EBQVS Committee has had a list of interventions to be used in the AAOS “Choose Wisely” campaign.

What is Choosing Wisely?

In 2012 the ABIM Foundation launched Choosing Wisely® with a goal of advancing a national dialogue on avoiding wasteful or unnecessary medical tests, treatments and procedures. Choosing Wisely centers around conversations between providers and patients informed by the evidence-based recommendations of “Things Providers and Patients Should Question.” More than 70 specialty society partners have released recommendations with the intention of facilitating wise decisions about the most appropriate care based on a patients’ individual situation. Please refer to the attached document for additional information.

How has AAOS been involved in Choosing Wisely?

In September 2012, the AAOS Board of Directors was presented with a list of 11 items, 5 of which were selected and submitted to the Choosing Wisely campaign: Routine use of post-operative venous duplex ultrasound after THR/TKR; Needle lavage for patients with symptomatic OA of the knee; Initiating antibiotic treatment in patients with suspected periprosthetic joint infection until after cultures from the joint have been obtained; Glucosamine and/or chondroitin sulfate or hydrochloride being prescribed for patients with symptomatic OA of the knee; and Lateral heel wedges as a treatment for patients with symptomatic medical compartmental OA of the knee. The selection process included reviewing all AAOS clinical practice guideline recommendations supported by “strong” or “moderate” evidence.

ACTION ITEM: The AAOS BOS Research and Quality Committee members have worked with their specialty societies to develop a top 5 list of non-indicated tests and/or procedures that can be put forward for “Choosing Wisely”.

OTA BOD has approved these “Choose Wisely” Recommendations for judicious use of:

A. Pre Op Non-orthopaedic Evaluation
   1. Routine cardiology consult for geriatric patients.

B. Pre Op Orthopaedic Evaluation
   1. CT scans of nondisplaced fractures.
   2. CTAs for patients with injuries without soft or hard signs of vascular injury.
   3. Routine post-op x-rays at 2 to 3-week for well-fixed fractures in reliable patients.
   4. CT scans done at referring hospitals.
   5. Routine screening for DVTs in multiple trauma patients.

C. Interventions
   1. Routine internal fixation of isolated displaced clavicle fractures in all patients.
   2. Open reduction and internal fixation of Upper Extremity fractures in Elderly patients: Distal radius, olecranon, proximal humerus fractures.

D. Post op Care to be utilized
   1. Routine physical therapy for geriatric hip fracture patients
   2. Vitamin D and Calcium in all Geriatric patients with fractures

Health Policy Committee
Doug Lundy and John Campbell, MD

Comprehensive Care for Joint Replacement Model (CJR)

Many of us are reading about the new payment models. One that is being done more frequently is bundled payment. The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) has a goal of improving care to their beneficiaries. Hip and knee replacements are the most common inpatient surgery procedures for Medicare patients. In 2014 there were over 400,000 procedures costing more than $7 billion performed in the U.S.

There is now much more transparency of the charges from hospitals around the U.S. This has revealed the significant variability of the fees hospitals charge. This variability is a cause for concern. A quote from the CMS website says:

“This alternative payment model will contribute to the Medicare goals set by the Administration of having 30 percent of all Medicare fee-for-service payments made via alternative payment models by 2016 and 50 percent by 2018. Effective implementation of the CJR model will improve the quality and efficiency of care for Medicare beneficiaries, which is essential to creating a health care system that delivers...

Continued on page 13
**Health Policy Committee, continued from pg. 12**

better care, spends our dollars more wisely, and leads to healthier Americans."

This model requires the participant hospitals accountable for the cost of the episode of care for this procedure. It includes all participants in the care of the patient. The episode begins with admission of the patient and ends 90 days post discharge. There is a flat fee paid for the episode of care. This fee is then divided among all the providers. The theory is this will incentivize the caregivers to coordinate care throughout this continuum.

CMS is planning on including hip fractures in this program. They will use some risk stratification to set different target prices for these patients.

The CJR model is going to be implemented in 67 geographical areas around the country. These sites needed to have a core urban population of at least 50,000. A list of these area can be found at the CMS website. These areas include approximately 800 hospitals. There is no application process for this will be required in those areas. A list of these hospitals is available at: https://innovation.cms.gov/initiatives/cjr, under the tab Additional Information.

There are many changes in payments, quality measures, and systems to manage patients that are being implemented. It is vitally important to stay educated and abreast of the new models as they are being implemented. There is no question that modifications will be made as some models show success and others fail. However, change in the system is occurring at a rapid pace. Those of us who understand these models can take advantage of these changes. Only time will tell what will be successful.

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**Membership Committee**

*Peter Cole, MD*

**Next Membership Application Deadline:**

**May 1, 2016**

Watch for the online application on the OTA website in February. The May 1st submission deadline will ensure Annual Meeting member discounted registration and the many other member benefits if your application is approved.

*View the fall new member list online.*

Congratulations to all new OTA members!

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**Humanitarian Committee**

*Saqib Rehman, MD*

The OTA is proud to announce that Rajiv Maharjan, MD has been selected as one of the scholarship recipients of the 2016 AAOS International Scholars’ Program supported by the OTA through a generous donation by Todd Mailly, MD. As an AAOS-OTA International Scholar, Dr. Maharjan will attend the 2016 OTA Annual Meeting and will also be hosted by OTA members at their respective Trauma centers. Considered a “rising star” in academic orthopaedic trauma, Dr. Maharjan was selected by the AAOS International Committee with input from the OTA Humanitarian Committee. Dr. Maharjan is Associate Professor in the Department of Orthopaedics at BP Koirala Institute of Health Sciences, Nepal.

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**Nominating Committee**

*Theodore Miclau, III, MD*

**OTA Member Nominations**

Calling all OTA Members attending the spring 2016 Business Meeting during Specialty Day on Saturday, March 5. Nominations for the 2016 OTA Nomination Committee will be accepted from the floor. The nomination committee, elected by OTA’s voting members and chaired by Dr. Ted Miclau, will recommend the next 2nd President Elect, a Member-at-Large and a new Membership Committee member for approval at the fall Business Meeting, October 6, 2016.

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*Rajiv Maharjan, MD*
The Federal Government May Well Be Taking Your Money! Please Help the OTA!

Douglas W. Lundy, MD, MBA, FACS

The landscape of governmental laws and regulations regarding healthcare is extremely complicated and confusing. A litany of acronyms and unfamiliar terms makes compliance with these programs an extremely challenging proposition for physicians. The incentive phase of the governmental programs has concluded, and physicians who do not comply are now being penalized on their Medicare payments. Many orthopaedic surgeons are either completely in the dark about all these changes, or they are so confused by the rules that they stay in a state of denial.

The OTA is striving to make this quagmire navigable for its members. One of the biggest issues facing orthopaedic trauma surgeons is that we do not have any relevant Performance Measures that we can attest. The Evidence Based Value & Quality Committee (EBVQS) chaired by Bill Obremskey, MD is working hard to develop Performance Measures that are appropriate for the work that you and I do as trauma surgeons.

As you may recall, the ongoing problem with Medicare was the Sustainable Growth Rate (SGR). This caused a crisis every year or so when Congress had had pass reactive legislation or we would all receive a massive cut in our Medicare payments. The cure for this problem was a law called Medicare Access & CHIP Reauthorization Act of 2015 (MACRA). Without getting to technical and becoming part of the problem I addressed earlier, MACRA will demand that physicians enter into one of two programs to avoid payment penalties starting in 2018. Physicians who do not engage in either of these programs will receive cuts in their Medicare payments up to 9%!

The bottom line is this:
- When MACRA is in full effect, we will either have to participate in either the APM (Alternative Payments Models) or MIPS (Merit-Based Incentive Payment System) pathways.
- A significant portion of MIPS will be satisfactory participation in the before mentioned Performance Measures.
- One of the optimal methods to report Performance Measures is through a QCDR (Qualified Clinical Data Registry).
- The OTA is hard at work developing its own QCDR that will serve as an OTA member benefit that you can use to attest your Performance Measures.

We need your help! To effectively implement the QCDR, the OTA will need fifty orthopaedic surgeons to participate in the registry to satisfactorily attest to Center for Medicare & Medicaid Services. If you are currently participating in an Accountable Care Organization (ACO), they may be attesting to your participation thereby exempting your need to participate in PQRS. Be aware however that there is talk on the national level that the ACO exemption may be eliminated! If you are not in an ACO and you are not participating in PQRS, the OTA needs you to help us get the QCDR validated so that everyone can use it in the future! Please contact me at lundydw@resurgens.com if you can help the OTA make the QCDR one of the best benefits of being an OTA member!

Post-Traumatic Osteoarthritis: Recent Advances in Understanding the Sequela of Joint Injuries and Implications for Forestalling the Onset and Progression of Osteoarthritis

The Journal of Orthopaedic Research (JOR) is pleased to announce a special issue dedicated to post-traumatic osteoarthritis (PTOA). Taken together, a large body of epidemiologic, experimental and basic research has made it increasing clear that excessive single or repetitive mechanical forces applied to synovial joints cause progressive loss of the articular cartilage and changes in synovium and bone that together cause the clinical symptoms of osteoarthri-

tis. Recent basic research has dramatically advanced understanding of how these forces trigger biologic responses that destroy articular cartilage. This work has great potential to lead to breakthrough improvements in methods to forestall the onset and progression of osteoarthritis.

Deadline: January 31, 2016

Additional Information
OTA Members, Drs. Melissa Kacena and Todd McKinley, collaboration with NASA and DOD aims for long-term space flight, to heal injured veterans, treat osteoporosis and more through research on International Space Station.

Melissa Kacena PhD, Associate Professor of Orthopaedic Surgery, Anatomy and Cell Biology and Biomedical Engineering, August M. Watanabe Translational Scholar and Showalter Scholar at Indiana University School of Medicine, and Todd McKinley, MD, Professor of Orthopaedic Surgery and Anatomy and Cell Biology at Indiana University School of Medicine, are partnering with the National Aeronautics and Space Administration and the Department of Defense to study bone regeneration on the International Space Station. The goal of this unique partnership is to make new discoveries in bone regeneration for osteoporosis, bone healing for fractures and bone disorders and enable spaceflights to distant planets, like Mars.

The Bone Healing in Space mission, which is partially supported by an OTA research grant, will launch on June, 2016, from Cape Canaveral, Florida, and travel to the International Space Station via the SpaceX Falcon spacecraft. Indiana University School of Medicine orthopaedic researchers will manage the research project from Kennedy Space Center while monitoring the ground control studies and working with astronauts aboard the Space Station to perform the laboratory work. The results from this mission are anticipated to benefit orthopaedic patients and space life sciences.

**Long-Term Space Flight**

Astronauts in spaceflight experience bone loss at an alarming rate. In fact, during a single month, an astronaut in space will lose the same amount of bone that someone on Earth with osteoporosis loses in an entire year. The pathomechanical adaptive mechanisms resulting in accelerated bone loss remain unclear. This research will improve understanding the causes of bone loss in space and be used to combat bone loss in astronauts subjected to long-term spaceflight missions such as the anticipated mission to Mars.

**Fracture-Healing for Military and Beyond**

Severe open fractures, typically encountered by military personnel or civilians from high-energy mechanisms often lead to prolonged periods of restricted weight-bearing and are often accompanied by segmental bone defects. In this experiment, we will explore a novel intervention aimed to heal segmental bone defects and determine mechanistic efficacy in weightlessness. We will leverage the microgravity of spaceflight to interrogate our intervention in an accelerated osteoporotic environment, simulating complex fracture reconstructions encountered after severe fractures.

**Milestones**

Preparing for and managing a research mission in space is full of hurdles and successes. As the research team prepares for launch, they are detailing their progress in a weekly blog, where topics range from challenges of research on mice in space to their recent trip to NASA Ames. OTA members are invited to follow along with the team as they prepare for space and overcome the many trials and tribulations. Subscribe to the blog and receive their weekly blog post in your inbox.

This is just one of the two missions to space that are being constructed. In early 2017, additional research will be performed at the International Space Station on bone cells and their responsiveness to different bone healing drug treatments.

To learn more about this research and the positive impacts it could have, visit the mission website and subscribe to the blog.
OTA Member Trauma Practice Profile

The Practice Management Committee of the OTA is asking for your help developing a Trauma Practice Profile of OTA members. This is in follow up to the OTA Salary Survey from 2012. The results will be available this spring on the OTA Members only website. Your participation is vital to develop a profile of our members’ practice. Please complete to give us a solid database for your information and use.

OTA Member Trauma Practice Survey

India as OTA 6th Annual 2016 Guest Nation

32nd Annual Meeting
National Harbor, Maryland
October 5-8, 2016

International Trauma Care Forum
National Harbor, Maryland
October 5, 2016

includes India Guest Nation Speaker’s Symposium

Guest Nation Attendees receive Discounted Member Registration Rate of $250 ($500 value)

Guest Nation Invitation to Apply for OTA International Membership - Deadlines to Apply - May 1, 2016 and November 1, 2016

• Application Fee Waived for Guest Nation Applicants ($50 USD value) 2016 Online Membership Application Available February 2016

• Complimentary 2016 Membership Dues

OTA Members in the News

Dr. Miclau addresses IOACON while Drs. Dunbar and Gardner look on.

OTA President, Dr. Theodore Miclau was a guest speaker at the 60th Indian Orthopaedic Association Conference in Jaipur, India, December 9-14, 2015.

Many thanks to Drs. Miclau, Dunbar, and Gardner for representing OTA at IACON. We look forward to welcoming IOA as the OTA 2016 Guest Nation.

Dr. Lewis Zirkle, founder and president of the SIGN Fracture Care International (right) and CEO Jeanne Dillber (left)

SIGN Fracture Care International’s president and its CEO have been awarded Afghanistan’s second-highest honor for the organization’s work in the country.

Dr. Lewis Zirkle, founder and president of the Richland-based nonprofit, and Jeanne Dillner, its CEO, were given with the Allama Sayed Jamaluddin Afghan Medal during a recent visit. Dr. Mohammad Ismail Wardak, a SIGN program manager, also was honored.

They were recognized for treating more than 5,000 patients by providing education and SIGN implants and instruments throughout Afghanistan.

Read the full story in the Tri-City Herald here.
The Fall Meeting is one of the AAOS’ most prominent leadership events. It supports dialogue concerning critical issues affecting orthopaedic surgeons, their patients, and the delivery of quality health care. In addition, the event provides forums for the Board of Councilors (BOC) and the Board of Specialty Societies (BOS) to conduct their business, such as opening hearings, business meetings, and committee meetings. Members of the AAOS Board of Directors (BOD), the Leadership Fellow mentors and mentees, and physicians and staff from several state orthopaedic societies participate in the AAOS Fall Meeting, too. Two hundred fifty-two (252) people attended the 2015 Fall Meeting in Denver, Colorado, making this the largest attended Fall Meeting on record, despite it being a “closed” meeting. Full Summary Available Online

OTA in the Leadership Fellows Program

The OTA has always had a strong representation in the AAOS Leadership Fellows Program and this year is no exception!

The OTA is represented by Wade Gordon, MD, Walter Reed National Military Medical Center and he is being mentored by Nirmal Tejawani, MD, NYU Medical Center. Also represented as LFP mentors are Andrew Pollock, MD and Lisa K. Cannada, MD.

New AAOS Leadership Appointments

Congratulations to the new OTA Members selected to the AAOS leadership slate:

M. Bradford Henley, MD, MBA
Nominated to the AAOS Slate for Treasurer

Robert D. Zura, MD
ABOS Representative

Lisa K. Cannada, MD
Board of Specialties Chair-Elect

ACS TQIP Best Practices in the Management of Orthopaedic Trauma
Philip Wolinsky, MD and Gregory Della Rocca, MD

In November, 2015, the American College of Surgeons (ACS) Committee on Trauma (COT) released a new set of best practice guidelines for the management of orthopaedic trauma patients. This represented a collaborative effort between the OTA representatives on the COT along with other COT members and staff. A total of nine “best practices” were described, covering many aspects of orthopaedic trauma patient care, including: open fractures, compartment syndrome, damage control orthopaedic surgery, management of pelvic fractures with associated hemorrhage, and others. Per the document, “These best practice guidelines represent a compilation of the best evidence available for each respective topic. In areas where the literature is inconclusive, incomplete, or controversial, expert opinion is provided.”

Development of the orthopaedic trauma best practices required many months of work on the part of numerous individuals. Members of the OTA’s COT group who participated extensively with their development included Philip Wolinsky (ortho COT group chair), Gregory J. Della Rocca, James R. Ficke, Langdon Hartsoc, M. Bradford Henley, and Bruce H. Ziran. Other OTA members with substantial contributions included Steven A. Olson and Patrick D. G. Henry. Substantial comments and revisions were made based upon extensive OTA involvement, including by the EBQVS committee (chaired by William Obremskey) and the Board of Directors. Ultimately, a document was created that was fully approved and co-branded by the Orthopaedic Trauma Association.

I would like to thank all of those OTA members and staff involved with the development and approval of these guidelines. This represents yet another example of worthy collaborative efforts put forward by our society with others. It is our hope that these best practices will provide guidance to your hospitals regarding care of the orthopaedic trauma patient.

View the final document here: ACS TQIP Best Practices in the Management of Orthopaedic Trauma Or, view it directly through the TQIP website (Trauma Quality Improvement Program).
• **Job Opportunities**: Visit the OTA’s [Job Opportunities page](#) for available orthopaedic trauma positions.

• BOS Washington January Update

• **December 4 BOS Washington Update New Job Opportunities** – Orthopaedic Surgeon, Fellowship and Physician Assistant jobs available.

• BOS Washington Update Archive

• **6th Annual AAOS/OTA Orthopaedic Trauma Update Course**

  March 31 - April 2, 2016
  Hilton La Jolla Torrey Pines, La Jolla, CA

  Give your trauma team an update on challenges in trauma care, decision-making skills, and coding and practice tips. This newly updated course offers an interactive experience with engaging dialogue through small faculty-led roundtable sessions, case presentations, and lively point-counterpoint debates. Faculty adjusts their lectures and case presentations to meet registrants’ experience level and evolve their skills. View course details and register at [aaos.org/3248](http://aaos.org/3248).

• **Need travel arrangements for Specialty Day? Family vacations? 2016 Annual Meeting?**

  Book with AmTrav and you could be the 2016 winner.

### AmTrav for Airline Reservations

**AGAIN IN 2016** – AmTrav is OTA’s preferred travel agency.

To welcome OTA travelers to AmTrav, all attendees booking via the OTA personalized travel link, will be entered into a drawing for your choice of:

• 2017 Complimentary Dues or
• 2017 Complimentary Annual Meeting Registration.

AmTrav’s goal is to make traveling for OTA attendees as easy as possible. No one airline company is preferred. The lowest airline rates on all airlines, including Southwest, are provided to you. You choose and you keep all airline points. AmTrav provides 24/7 in-house support through a team of highly experienced travel agents and a convenient, online OTA specialized booking tool at [http://www.amtrav.com/ota](http://www.amtrav.com/ota).

**Service Fees:**

1. Website: [http://www.AmTrav.com](http://www.AmTrav.com) $9 charge for airline booking; no fee for hotel or car online booking.
2. Phone: 800-795-8371 or 312-629-0590 $29 charge to book travel via phone call.
3. EmailTravelerSupport@AmTrav.com Never a charge for email support.

### Research Surveys – A Valuable OTA Membership Benefit!

Don’t overlook the OTA membership as a vehicle when you are conducting surveys. As a member, the OTA will make your survey link available to the OTA membership. These surveys are accessible via the OTA website: [OTA Survey Page](#) and [OTA Survey Policy](#).