



AMERICAN  
COLLEGE OF  
OSTEOPATHIC  
SURGEONS

*ANYTIME. ANYWHERE. ACOS.*



ANNUAL  
CEREMONIAL  
CONCLAVE

1680 DUKE STREET, SUITE 500 | ALEXANDRIA, VA 22314

OCTOBER 2020 | A VIRTUAL CEREMONY

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The tradition, ceremony, and regalia used in the awarding of the title “Fellow in the American College of Osteopathic Surgeons” (FACOS) have their origin in the 11th and 12th centuries at European universities, where gowns distinguished academic doctors, masters, and bachelors from other segments of the population. Robes worn today have few modifications in design and still remain the sign of high office.

**THE GOWN** | The academic gown symbolizes the democracy of scholarship. It is usually black. The scarlet red used on the facing denotes God or “Great Physician” and blood, the life-giving fluid.

**THE HOOD** | The gold represents sunlight and distinguishes the surgeon as a student of the “Great Physician,” always seeking light and knowledge in the care of the sick, afflicted, and infirm. The gold and black lining also represents the colors of the American College of Osteopathic Surgeons, the body conferring the award.

**THE CAP** | When Roman law freed the slave, he was granted the privilege of wearing a cap. The academic cap is a sign of freedom and responsibility of scholarship. The gold tassel signifies the doctorate degree.

## SYMBOLS OF OFFICE

**THE GAVEL** | The presidential gavel, presented in 1958 by Mrs. Esther F. Martin, FACOS, in memory of her husband, Orel F. Martin, D.O., FACOS, a former College president and secretary, serves as a symbol of order, dignity, and progress.

**THE GOLD-HEADED PRESIDENTIAL CANE** | The cane, inscribed with the names of the College’s presidents, serves as a symbol that the incoming president may lean on the experience and wisdom of those who have preceded him or her.

OVER \$1000

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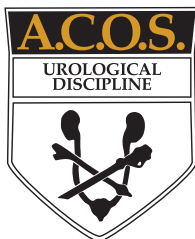
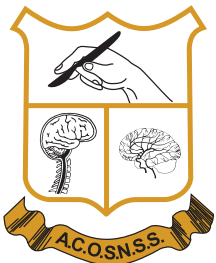
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THE ACOS IS COMMITTED TO PROMOTING EXCELLENCE  
IN OSTEOPATHIC SURGICAL CARE THROUGH EDUCATION,  
ADVOCACY, LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT, AND THE FOSTERING OF  
PROFESSIONAL AND PERSONAL RELATIONSHIPS.

CARDIOTHORACIC



AND VASCULAR  
SURGERY DISCIPLINE



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INAUGURAL ADDRESS

Eugene W. Laveroni, D.O., FACOS

As members of the osteopathic medical profession, in an effort to instill loyalty and strengthen the profession, we recall the tenets on which this profession is founded: The dynamic interaction of mind, body and spirit; the body's ability to heal itself; the primary role of the musculoskeletal system; and preventive medicine as the key to maintain health. We recognize the work our predecessors have accomplished in building the profession, and we commit ourselves to continuing that work.

## I PLEDGE TO:

- Provide compassionate, quality care to my patients;
- Partner with them to promote health;
- Display integrity and professionalism throughout my career;
- Advance the philosophy, practice, and science of osteopathic medicine;
- Continue lifelong learning;
- Support my profession with loyalty in action, word, and deed; and
- Live each day as an example of what an osteopathic physician should be.

## MEMBER PLEDGE

Your membership in the College comes with great distinction and responsibility. We entrust in you these four principles by which to chart your professional journey:

- First charge.....dedicate time to support and advance the osteopathic profession.
- Second charge.....support, promote, and defend the ACOS.
- Third charge.....volunteer and assist the ACOS in ways that allow you to share your expertise and skills.
- Fourth charge.....promote the furthering of osteopathic surgery education.

## CONTRIBUTIONS OF \$30,000 OR MORE

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MADIGAN ARMY MEDICAL CENTER | GENERAL SURGERY

*Extending The Golden Hour For Zone 1 Reboa: Improved Survival And Reperfusion Injury With Intermittent Versus Continuous Reboa In A Porcine Severe Truncal Hemorrhage Model*

2ND PLACE (OF 2) | AIMEE K. LARICCIA, D.O.

DOCTORS HOSPITAL OHIO HEALTH | GENERAL SURGERY

*Variability of Radiological Grading of Blunt Cerebrovascular Injuries in Trauma Patients*

2ND PLACE (OF 2) | JOHN P. KUCKELMAN, D.O.

MADIGAN ARMY MEDICAL CENTER | GENERAL SURGERY

*Plasma Co-Administration Improves Resuscitation with Tranexamic Acid or Prothrombin Complex in a Porcine Hemorrhagic Shock Model*

4TH PLACE | MATTHEW A. ROHLOFF, D.O.

METRO HEALTH UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN | UROLOGICAL SURGERY

*The Impact of Low Pressure Pneumoperitoneum in Robotic Assisted Radical Prostatectomy: A Prospective, Randomized, Double Blinded Trial*

5TH PLACE | PAULETTE C. DREHER, D.O.

HAHNEMANN UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL | UROLOGICAL SURGERY

*Lower Urinary Tract Symptoms and Sexual Dysfunction in the Bariatric Patient Population: A Comprehensive Review*

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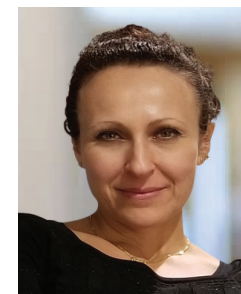
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OUR VISION

TO BE THE PRIMARY ORGANIZATIONAL HOME FOR ALL OSTEOPATHIC SURGEONS WHILE PROVIDING VALUABLE RESOURCES, EDUCATION, AND UNITING A STRONG COMMUNITY BASE THAT HELPS OUR MEMBERS DELIVER THE HIGHEST QUALITY CARE TO THEIR PATIENTS.





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IN RECOGNITION OF THEIR LONG-STANDING INVOLVEMENT, DEDICATION AND CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE COLLEGE AND THE OSTEOPATHIC COMMUNITY.

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### MELISSA SNYDER RICHARDSON, D.O., FACOS, MBA

Dr. Melissa S. Richardson, of Okemos, Michigan, has been selected to receive the ACOS Humanitarian Award that recognizes members' outstanding service to their community or state, the nation, and/or the international community. She was raised in northern New Jersey as the youngest of three daughters. Throughout her childhood, parents Bill and Judy Snyder modeled a strong Christian faith and a tireless work ethic. Melissa excelled academically and in multiple high school sports leading to a New Jersey State Championship in field hockey and a Division I college basketball scholarship at Manhattan College. During medical school, at the Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine, she was the first woman to complete a combined D.O./MBA program in conjunction with St. Joseph's University in 1989.



She completed her Internship and General Surgical Residency through Michigan State University at Botsford Hospital in Farmington Hills, Michigan. Certified in General Surgery in 2000, she became a Fellow of the ACOS in 2008. Dr. Richardson's expertise and practice focus is minimally invasive surgical procedures but also includes the full spectrum of General Surgery and trauma care. She has spent her entire career living in, and serving the Lansing, Michigan community. Dr. Richardson is employed within the McLaren Health System and has held many leadership roles including serving as a board member with both Mid Michigan Physicians and the McLaren Medical Group. Currently she serves as Chairman of the Department of Surgical Services at McLaren Greater Lansing.

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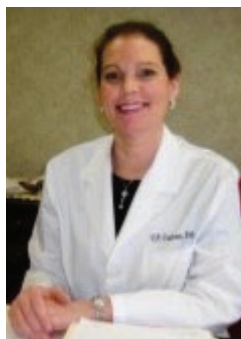
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Dr. Richardson's experiences in mission service began early in her resident training when she was provided the opportunity to travel into Mexico along with her church, providing surgical care as well as mobile medical clinics. This early exposure, and her Christian faith, fueled a great desire to continue mission work as a significant portion of her career. She has been traveling to the Northwest region of Haiti since 2014 providing surgical missions encompassing General, Urologic, and Reconstructive surgeries. Along with a diverse team of physicians and nurses, Dr. Richardson has been able to perform multiple otherwise unavailable surgeries within these resource poor communities. Working with the local Haitian medical staff, multiple patients were cared for and treated for diverse non surgical conditions including cancer, abdominal tuberculosis, and many other chronic medical conditions. Her mission team has provided financial, educational, and spiritual support to the facilities and people of Northwest Haiti. She has found the Haitian people to be joyful and grateful and feels these relationships have changed her life, and her family's lives, forever. Dr. Richardson feels so blessed to be able to share her skills, time, and faith with the Haitian community. She looks forward to many future mission trips to Haiti and beyond as the Director of Surgery for World Health Partnerships, a non profit she has helped establish. Her mission team includes her husband Dan, who is a D.O. Emergency Physician, and their 19 year old twins, Jacob and Grace.

CONSTANCE P. CASHEN, D.O., FACOS, FACS

The American College of Osteopathic Surgeons is pleased to present the Guy D. Beaumont Jr. ACOS Award of Academic Excellence to Constance P. Cashen D.O., FACOS, FACS for her outstanding organizational leadership and excellence in improving the quality of Osteopathic education.



Dr. Cashen graduated from Michigan State University College of Osteopathic Medicine in 1979. She completed her internship and surgical residency at Art Center Hospital/Michigan Osteopathic Medical Center in Detroit Michigan in 1984 under the guidance of Randolph G. Roulter D.O., FACOS and William G. Anderson D.O., FACOS.

As a resident, Dr. Cashen was heavily involved in residency curriculum development. On graduating she developed her surgical practice at Parkview Hospital in Toledo, Ohio. This expanded to Mercy St. Vincent Medical Center and in 2006 she opened the Osteopathic Surgery residency, receiving mentorship from surgery program directors in the OUCOM OPTI: Alison Cleary D.O., FACOS, Roger Classen D.O., FACOS, Allan Meshekow D.O., FACOS, and John Galante D.O., FACOS. Her graduates have gone on to successful practices, many taking on active leadership and educational roles.

A strong advocate of Osteopathic philosophy, Dr. Cashen worked on the AOA Bureau of Education and co-authored the chapter on Surgery for the Foundations of Osteopathic Medicine textbook, now in its fourth edition. She is currently a member of the ACGME's Osteopathic Recognition Appeals Board.

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## GUY D. BEAUMONT, JR., AWARD OF ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE - CONTINUED

Dr. Cashen has received numerous awards and held numerous medical staff positions and local/state committee posts. Her favorite awards include: the ACOS Resident Achievement Award, the Master Clinical Teaching Award from Ohio University College of Osteopathic Medicine, Preceptor of the Year award from LECOM, Ohio Osteopathic Association Trustee Award, and induction into the Mentor Hall of Fame of Ohio University Heritage College of Osteopathic Medicine.

Dr. Cashen considers one of her greatest academic achievements to be the seamless movement of her residency into full accreditation status with the ACGME. During the Single Accreditation process she has been an active member of the ACOS Residency Evaluation and Standards Committee. Most recently she represented formerly Osteopathic surgical residencies as a member of the Association of Program Directors in Surgery's focus group on the future of surgical education.

Throughout her career, Dr. Cashen has acknowledged the profound effect of her mentors. It has been her passion to pass this forward to inspire future generations of Osteopathic surgeons to uphold and pass on the philosophy and spirit of Osteopathic Medicine.

## HONESTY AND INTEGRITY

DEMONSTRATED BY HONESTY,  
PROFESSIONALISM, AND TRANSPARENCY IN  
COMMUNICATION AND ACTIONS





STEPHEN T. FISHER, D.O., FACOS, FACS

I am a Penn State graduate living in Buckeye Country. I attended Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine (PCOM). My rotating internship was done at Lancaster Osteopathic Hospital. I received my outstanding general surgery residency education at Doctors Hospital in Columbus, Ohio. I have been extensively involved in local, state and national osteopathic organizations. But enough about me, I am a product of people involved in my life.



Thank you, Carl Spease, D.O. for being my first D.O. mentor. You will never know how much your guidance influenced my life. Up to that point, I wasn't sure what an osteopathic physician was. Thanks to all of my professors in college and medical school that gave me knowledge and taught me how to think critically. I appreciate all the physicians donating their time during my medical school clinical rotations.

Thanks to all of the specialists involved in training me during my rotating internship. A special thanks to my trainers during residency for allowing me to hone my surgical skills. Three of my trainers were past presidents of the ACOS. I would like to make a special mention to the families of Richard Bracken, D.O., Jack Perez, D.O., JR Costin, D.O., John Urse, D.O. and William Bradway, D.O. I appreciate training given to me also by Richard Smialek, D.O., and Robert Brightwell, D.O. Thanks to all of my trainers at Grant Medical Center in Columbus, Ohio for my trauma training with a nod to Robert Falcone, M.D. I would also like to thank my trainers at Children's Hospital also in Columbus, Ohio with a special recognition to Denis King, M.D.

Thanks to all of the students, interns and residents in all specialties for making me keep one-step ahead for over 25 years. To this day, I continue to balance evidence-based medicine with experience. I had the privilege of being a trainer in my general surgery residency program. I have participated in training over 100 general surgery residents whom I now call colleagues. Thanks to all of those colleagues who have kept me grounded and humble.

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Thank you to the ACOS (my second family), ACOS Board of Governors (past and present), the ACOS community and Lane Lee, D.O., FACOS, FACS for bestowing on me the Charles L. Ballinger Distinguished Osteopathic Surgeon Award. I am truly honored.

And, most importantly, I want to thank my wife Diann of 31 years for organizing our family so that I could practice my craft. Without her organizational skills, I may have never seen my kids. We have 2 beautiful adult 'children' and now a daughter in law- thank you Casey, Stephanie and Conner for your understanding as I continue to find that work/life integration because as we all know, there is no balance. As Mark Twain so aptly stated: Find a job you enjoy doing, and you will never have to work a day in your life.

**ADAPTATION**

DEMONSTRATED BY VISIONARY, INSPIRING,  
AND REALISTIC LEADERSHIP; RESPONSIVE TO  
AN EVER- EVOLVING ENVIRONMENT



**DAWN TARTAGLIONE D.O., FACOS**

Dawn Tartaglione D.O., FACOS, grew up in northwest Missouri, adopted at birth by Ron and Peggy Wellington. She became the big sister to Christi, Rebecca, and Patrick. Her fondest memories of growing up are working on her grandparents' farm every Sunday after church during the summer. Her first exposure to osteopathic medicine was when she had a back injury at age 17 and her parents took her to an 88-year-old chiropractor. She thought he was amazing and when she said that she wanted to be a doctor and do what he was doing for people someday, he told her to read about osteopathy.



Dr. Tartaglione went to Truman State University in Kirksville, Missouri on a Pershing scholarship and graduated in 1990. She then worked for a year in Frederick, Maryland as a clinical scientist, where she was assigned to a laboratory at Fort Detrick. There she met and designed experiments with Wayne Mitchell, Ph.D. Dr. Mitchell had previously taught microbiology at the West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine and he encouraged her to stay on her path to become an osteopathic physician.

The Chicago College of Osteopathic Medicine (now Midwestern University) was her next stop and she completed her D.O. degree in 1995. Her neurosurgery residency took her to the Detroit, Michigan area and she completed her training through the Michigan State University Consortium in 2001.

Dr. Tartaglione became a Fellow of the ACOS in 2008 and began her service to the College as a Neurosurgery Discipline officer, joining the Board of Governors in 2010 as President of the Neurosurgery section. She was privileged to serve as Secretary-Treasurer for two years. Her service to the College continued when she was elected President of the ACOS, serving first as President-Elect followed by President for the 2015-2016 term. She was humbled to receive a Presidential Citation in 2018 from Dr. Ray Morrison for her tireless commitment to ACOS, and for promoting women

System. He has been a member of the surgical audit committee at his hospital since 1993 and became chairman of that committee in 2004. He is a member of the Michigan Osteopathic Associations 49er's club (invitation only). He has maintained membership in many professional organizations including the American Osteopathic Association, the Michigan Association of Osteopathic Physicians and Surgeons as well as the Society of Vascular Surgery, the Michigan Vascular Society, and the Society of Vascular Technology. He was named multiple times as one of Detroit's Top Docs by his peers, most recently in 2019. He unselfishly served as chairman of "The Spag" golf outing (named for the late Louis Spagnuolo, D.O., (who was a mentor to him as well as a member of the ACOS) for Botsford Hospital staff for over 20 years, raising money for his local community. Dr. Laveroni's accomplishments would not have been possible without the support of his wife Gail and daughter Abigail.

**SURGICAL EXCELLENCE**

DEMONSTRATED BY AN ENDURING COMMITMENT TO PROMOTE AND SUPPORT THE HIGHEST QUALITY OSTEOPATHIC AND COMPASSIONATE SURGICAL CARE



## EUGENE W. LAVERONI, JR., D.O., FACOS

Incoming President Eugene W. Laveroni, Jr., D.O., FACOS is a 1985 graduate of University of Health Sciences: College of Osteopathic Medicine in Kansas City. He completed his internship, general surgery residency as well as his vascular surgery residency at Botsford Hospital in Farmington Hills, Michigan, serving as Chief Resident in his final two years. He was named Outstanding Resident of the Year in 1989-1990.



While a surgery resident, he joined the ACOS in 1987 and was inducted in 1992. He became a Fellow of the College in 1997. As a member of the ACOS, he participated in several committees. He served as an examiner as well as a board member on the American Osteopathic Board of Surgery for many years. He served as Program Co-Chair for the Cardiothoracic and Vascular Surgery discipline at the 2013 Annual Clinical Assembly of Osteopathic Surgeons. He was elected to the ACOS Board of Governors in 2016. In 2017, Dr. Laveroni won the prestigious ACOS Orel F. Martin Medal.

Education has played a major role in his career. He is an associate professor for Michigan State University College of Osteopathic Medicine. Through the years, he helped to train both general surgery and vascular residents at Botsford Hospital. He has given multiple lectures locally and nationally including at the ACOS Annual Clinical Assembly. He graduated from the Beaumont Health Physician Leadership Academy in 2015.

Excellence in patient care is something that he has focused on throughout his career. As Medical Director of Surgical Services and following as Chief of Surgery, he was a surgeon champion for his hospital, working with several collaboratives in the state of Michigan to improve patient safety and outcomes. Locally he received the Distinguished Physician Award at Botsford Hospital in 2006. He has served as Staff Treasurer for Beaumont Health-Farmington Hills since 2010. In 2014, he served on the Clinical Leadership Council as a member of the Quality Leadership Clinical Transformation Team during the joining of Botsford Hospital and two other health care systems, forming the newly created Beaumont Health

in medicine. She served as a Board Examiner for the American Osteopathic Board of Surgery from 2005 through 2011. She has also had the opportunity to teach as an Assistant Professor at Michigan State University, Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine, and Drexel University.

Dr. Tartaglione is honored to serve on the Board of the American Osteopathic Foundation and is currently the Vice President of that board and Chair of the Development Committee. She is also the Vice President of the Truman State University Foundation Board and enjoys the ongoing connection to Kirksville, Missouri. She completed the Ohio University's Heritage College of Osteopathic Medicine Health Policy Fellowship in 2019 and is the incoming President of the Delaware State Osteopathic Medical Society.

Her twenty-year career as a neurological surgeon has consisted of nine years in the Detroit area, nine years in Oklahoma City, and two years now in Dover, Delaware. Her position as the Medical Director of Neurosurgery allows her to continue to practice full time and has been a terrific opportunity for her.

She has always enjoyed performing a variety of brain and spine procedures and in 2012 she began performing deep brain stimulation procedures on Parkinson's and Tremor patients and this has been truly rewarding work. The hundreds of medical students and residents that she has taught have truly made her work more enjoyable.

The mentors and teachers that took the time to teach her to perform surgery and make decisions with the best interest of the patient in mind can never be thanked enough. She would have never had such a terrific life without the anesthesiologist that she always wants in her operating room, her husband of 28 years, Andrew.



LARRY G. ARMSTRONG, D.O., FACOS, FACS  
 ACOS President Larry G. Armstrong, D.O., FACOS, FACS is the Chief of Staff and Chair of Neurosurgery at Washington Regional Medical Center in Fayetteville, Arkansas.



Dr. Armstrong began his collegiate career studying Chemistry, Biochemistry, and Biology. After college, he worked as a chemical analyst for Mobil Oil Research and Development, The International Fertilizer Development Center, and Reynolds Aluminum. Feeling the need to pursue a medical career, Dr. Armstrong gave up his career in analytical chemistry and began working as a mechanic- taking classes to prepare for his medical school application. He began his medical school career at University of North Texas Health Science Center Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine in the fall of 1990, graduating in 1994.

Dr. Armstrong completed a Surgical Track Internship at Ohio University Doctors Hospital and Neurological Surgery Residency under the training of Program Director Gregory Z. Mavian, D.O., FACOS, finishing his residency in 2000. He also completed an 8-month Infolded Neurosurgical Spine Fellowship at The University of Arizona Health Science Center in Tucson in 1998. Dr. Armstrong received awards as a Neurosurgery Resident, including the prestigious Resident Achievement Award, First Place Neurosurgery Poster Award, and the Robert C. Erwin Literary Award.

Dr. Armstrong joined OrthoNeuro in Columbus, Ohio in 2000. From there, he relocated to Smith, Arkansas where he practiced with Cooper Clinic Neurosurgery. He moved his practice to Washington Regional Medical Center in 2004, where he has practiced for the last 15 years.

Dr. Armstrong served his country in the United States Army Reserve completing his service after 16 years with the rank of Lieutenant Colonel.

Dr. Armstrong serves as Clinical Adjunct faculty for NYIT-ASU COM, ARCOM, and LMU-Debusk. He serves additionally as Clinical Faculty for UAMS and Harding University as a Clinical Preceptor. He is consistently named in Arkansas Magazines as "Best Neurosurgeon in Northwest Arkansas."

In addition to his role as President, Dr. Armstrong has served in many roles for the Neurosurgery Discipline of the ACOS, including: Governor, Chair, Chair-Elect, and Secretary Treasurer. He also served as Secretary Treasurer of the ACOS. Dr. Armstrong serves as a Board of Trustees Member for the Arkansas Osteopathic Medical Association and on a Special Advisory Committee to the Dean of the Arkansas College of Health Education. He also serves on numerous committees at Washington Regional Medical Center.

Dr. Armstrong is a member of the American College of Osteopathic Surgeons, American Osteopathic Association, Congress of Neurological Surgeons and the American College of Surgeons. He has served as an examiner for the American Osteopathic Board of Surgeons and is a Fellow of the American College of Osteopathic Surgeons as well as the American College of Surgeons.

Dr. Armstrong met his wife, Laurie, in 1986 while working as a chemist for Mobil Oil in Dallas, Texas. She selflessly helped him pursue his dream of becoming a physician, supporting him throughout medical school as an elementary teacher. Dr. Armstrong has 2 children: Shelby, a graduate of NYIT-ASU COM who is now an Emergency Medicine Resident at Integris in Oklahoma City and Cameron, a graduate of the University of Arkansas who is now working in Hotel Management at the Adolphus Hotel in Dallas, Texas.

Dr. Armstrong loves to exercise daily, either running or riding his bike. He enjoys reading books, playing tennis, water and snow skiing, and family time.