



J.Robert Cladden Orthopaedic Society  
a Multi-Cultural Organization

**President's Message**

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**"YES WE CAN"**

As we all know, January 20, 2009, was an epic day in America. I am confident that several years ago, very few of us would have thought a black man could have been elected President of the United States in our lifetimes. The class ceiling has not only been cracked but removed. The American Dream is still out of reach for a large segment of our society in some instances, such as minorities, women, the poor and disabled, etc. JRGOS' mission and objective, "to increase diversity in the orthopaedic profession, improve musculoskeletal patient care by improving culturally competent care and eliminate musculoskeletal healthcare disparities in underserved groups" is just as important today as it was January 19, 2009. Thus, we must remain focused and vigilant in our goals so that one day an organization such as ours will be unnecessary.



At our Annual Luncheon in Las Vegas, February 26, 2009, there will be an election of new Officers and members of the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors has proposed a slate of young, energetic individuals who I am sure will get us closer to reaching our goals and objectives, despite our societal economic problems, world strife and this new era of funding brought on by the Department of Justice.

Please, despite the fact the color of the face of the President of AAOS and the United States of America has changed, bear in mind the battle for equality and opportunity for a lot of Americans remains unchanged. Thus, your involvement and energy is still important because with everyone working together, "yes, we can".

Thank you for the opportunity of allowing me to serve you and I look forward to seeing you in Las Vegas.

**In Memoriam**



**In Memoriam**

The JRGOS lost a board member, colleague and friend with the untimely death of **Enyi Okereke, MD**. **Dr. Okereke** was a Foot and Ankle Specialist from the University of Pennsylvania. He was a frequent scientific presenter at the annual NMA Meeting. Dr. Okereke had a fatal heart attack while working on a medical Mission in Nigeria. Condolences to wife, Moriam and family

**Robert L. Satcher, MD**, was the Steel Lecturer at the annual Mid-American Orthopaedic Society Meeting held at the Omni Orlando Resort in Champions Gate, Florida.

**Augustus A. While, III, MD, PhD**, attended the installation of **Dr. Cato T. Laurencin** as Vice-President for Health Affairs and Dean of the University of Connecticut School of Medicine.

**Look Who's Talking . . .**

**Installation**

**JRGOS @ AAOS**

**Nominating Committee**

**Member-at-Large**

**Congratulations!**

**Ramon L. Jimenez, MD** and **Augustus A. White, III, MD, PhD**, will serve on the nominating Committee for AAOS for the upcoming year.

**Michael Lloyd Parks, MD**, has been slated as an AAOS Member-at-Large (under age 45). **Dr. Parks** is an attending at the Hospital for Special Surgery, is a graduate of the AAOS Leadership Fellows Program and is currently serving on the AAOS' Board of Councilors.

Congratulations to **Dr. Melvin D. Law**, **Dr. Norman Chutkan** and **Dr. Darryl Dykes** who were all elected into the AOA Class of 2008. Dr. Law is a spine surgeon at Premier Ortho & Sports in Nashville, Tennessee. Dr. Chutkan is a Professor of Orthopaedic Surgery at the Medical College of Georgia and Dr. Dykes practices at the Twin Cities Spine Center in Minneapolis, Minnesota.



## Fall for AAOS

## AAOS' 2<sup>nd</sup> Unity Summit

The following JRGOS Members attended the AAOS' Fall Meeting in Dallas, Texas: **Oheneba Boachie-Adjei, MD; James A. Hill, MD; Ramon L. Jimenez, MD; Michael Lloyd Parks, MD; Raymond O. Pierce, MD; and E. Anthony Rankin, MD.**

Leaders from 28 orthopaedic organizations, including 25 Specialty Societies, took part in the Second Orthopaedic Unity Summit, which was held in Dallas, Texas, on October 2, 2008. The purpose of the Second Summit was to evaluate the outcomes and build upon the achievements in increasing unity that resulted from the initial Summit and to explore ways to expand the relationships between AAOS and the Specialty Societies. A Unity Survey was conducted in the summer of 2008 in order to gather feedback from the Specialty Societies on AAOS/Society collaboration and to evaluate the progress of the AAOS Unity Initiative. Twenty-three of the twenty-six Societies that received the survey responded. Overall, the results were very good, with 91% of the respondents indicating that the AAOS Unity Initiative meets or exceeds their expectations. In regard to the AAOS' attitude toward unity, 91% of the respondents indicated that it was better now than in 2004; none indicated that the AAOS attitude was worse.

AAOS President **E. Anthony Rankin, MD**, gave an up-to-date report on the newly formed "Center for Orthopaedic Advancement". This Center was formed as a direct result of the current uncertainty surrounding industry funding for orthopaedic research and education. Academy leadership met with the five largest orthopaedic device manufacturers and learned more about the significant changes in the ways companies would distribute funds for orthopaedic education in the future. **Dr. Rankin** stated that it was too early in the game to say exactly how the Center would work; however, it will be in place to respond to industry when a decision is made as to how industry funding will be achieved in the future.

## Viva Las Vegas!

## Annual Luncheon

### FEBRUARY EVENTS

#### JRGOS Annual Luncheon

##### Keynote Speaker:

**Cato T. Laurencin, MD, PhD**

*Academic Orthopaedic Surgeon: Thoughts at Mid-Career Point*

**February 26, 2009**

**Flamingo Hotel – Scenic Room**

**12:15 – 2:30 PM**

#### JRGOS Mentoring Workshop

**February 26, 2009**

**Flamingo Hotel – Laughlin II**

**2:30 – 5:30 PM**

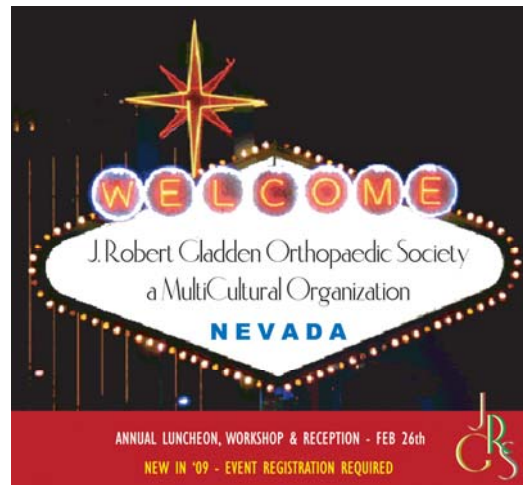
#### JRGOS Mentoring Reception

*For Students, Residents and Fellows*

**February 26, 2009**

**Venetian Hotel – Room**

**6:00 – 9:30 PM**



## Mentoring Workshop

## Reception

Visit the Venetian Hotel Ballroom, Level 2 Hall D, to view the 2009 JRGOS/BOS Poster, entitled, "Explaining Variation in Values of Biological Joint Markers".

## Posters

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual ALAS Luncheon

The American Association of Latino Orthopaedic Surgeons (ALAS) will hold its 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Membership Luncheon Friday, February 27, 2009, at 12:00 PM in the Cooper Room at Harrah's Hotel. The Keynote Speaker will be Charles A. Rockwood, MD. All are welcome!

## AAOS Instructional Course

**"Communication for All Your Patients"** (Course #307), will be held Friday, February 27, 2009, from 8:00 AM to 10:00 AM at the Venetian Hotel, Room 4301. Please register on-site if you wish to attend.

Course Description: This instructional course lecture is designed to help residents and orthopaedic surgeons understand the needs and communication preferences of our diverse patients – to help improve trust, compliance and outcomes. As a pioneer in the diversity effort, you know it is critical to understand health care disparities and practice culturally competent care in order to successfully treat the rapidly changing patient population.

Also, specifically to help orthopaedic educators, this course illustrates how to integrate real-world health disparities research, cultural competency and patient communication techniques with clinical content. It's a must for anyone who teaches residents or creates CME programs. Plan to attend!

**Editorial by Raymond O. Pierce, Jr., MD**

**CHANGE** is the slogan that the new administration brings to Washington. It is hard to tell what these changes will be, but the people who have been chosen to carry out health policy have been cause for speculation. Timing is the most important element when it comes to a new administration proposing major health care policy changes. Most people blame the failure of the Clinton proposed health care plan on the delay that occurred between the election and introduction of the proposed plan. The Obama team has proposed a plan will be in place by the end of the first term; however, that time line is being seriously challenged by the nation's economic crisis, record Federal deficits and mounting foreign debt. One Coalition, Sierra Club, along with the AFL-CIO, has asked the incoming administration to address health care reform as a part of its economic recovery efforts. Fifteen Senate Sponsors of the Healthy American Act have outlined a "roadmap" for building bipartisan consensus on health reform - ignoring the fact the new administration has held nationwide town hall meetings on healthcare reform to get input from citizens.

The Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC) has predicted that there will be a shortage of 124,000 physicians by 2050. These numbers are based on the present number of physicians entering the workforce and the healthcare needs of an increasing population. If there is any form of universal healthcare coverage, the overall demand would go up by 4%, which would increase the shortfall by 22% or 31,000 physicians. The suggested increase in medical school capacity is not expected to reduce the projected shortage. The AAMC suggested that, in addition to the proposed increase in medical student capacity, there also be active recruitment of minorities into medical schools because studies show they are more likely to work in underserved areas, which are predicted to be the hardest hit by the shortage.

The selection of two top researchers as science advisers, both of whom have lobbied for new federal dollars, may help to raise the lid on NIH funding, which as been stagnant for the past five years. There are also several Bills that address health disparities that are likely to be introduced during the 111<sup>th</sup> Congressional Session. These Bills should receive attention as part of a broader strategy to eliminate health disparities and improve the nation's health.

One of the concerns of the JRGOS is that the changes proposed eliminate some of the favorable aspects of the present system. There are also programs in place that deal with loan forgiveness for physicians who practice in underserved areas. Medicare & Medicaid have their problems, but overall, have stood the test of time in providing services for our seniors and the underserved.

We look forward to the new administration and, while we agree that some changes are needed to our healthcare system, we are optimistic that these changes will not negatively affect the vision and mission of the JRGOS.



**The Timothy L. Stephens, Jr., MD, Orthopaedic Fellowship** in the amount of \$916,000 over 10 years is specifically designed to assist minority medical students overcome barriers to diversify in the pursuit of specialized Orthopaedic study, research and clinical practice. The program will run from January 1, 2008, through December 31, 2017, with annual funding in the amount of \$91,600.

Candidates include students in the second year of medical school and beyond and will be totally embedded into the educational, surgical and research activity of Case UHHS Orthopaedic Residency Program under the direction of Randall Marcus, MD.

The funds are disbursed through St. Luke's Foundation of Cleveland, Ohio. The Foundation is committed to supporting diversity in the medical profession and support efforts of hospitals to train, recruit and maintain African-American and Latino/Hispanic physicians.

**Getting to Equal: Strategies to Improve Care for all Patients**

April 2-4, 2009 at the Fairmont Copley Plaza Hotel – Boston

Program Chairs: **Augustus A. White, III, MD, PhD** and Leonor Fernandez, MD

For more about this course: <http://cme.med.harvard.edu/cmeups/custom/02924220/index.htm>

## Website Corner

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Did you know you can view JRGOS Las Vegas event information and download registration forms on the JRGOS website? You can also easily pay your dues, change your address and learn how to nominate a JRGOS member for the 2009 JRGOS Alvin H. Crawford Mentoring Award. Log on anytime . . . [www.gladdensociety.org](http://www.gladdensociety.org)

## Membership Information

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You should have recently received your 2009 JRGOS Membership Dues Invoice. Lack of industry support has radically affected our financial picture. Timely payment of your dues balance is urgently requested at this time. Please remit payment today in order to help us maintain our productivity and continue to carry out the Society's mission and goals.

## 2008-2009 New Members

### WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

**Mr. Rashad Booker, MD**  
Philadelphia, PA

**Adaobi Chikelue**  
Houston, TX

**Gregory H. Dairyo, MD**  
Chicago, IL

**Eldra W. Daniels**  
Silver Spring, MD

**John C. Elfar, MD**  
Rochester, NY

**Jamila D. Goldsmith**  
Grand Rapids, MI

**Kaya I. Jackson**  
Nashville, TN

**Opeyemi E. Lamikanra**  
Atlanta, GA

**Kenneth C. Nwosu**  
Los Angeles, CA

**Abimbola Adebisi Obafemi**  
Greensboro, NC

**Anthony Emmanuel Quinn**  
Reno, NV

**Marco Rodriguez, MD**  
New Orleans, LA

**Kim M. Ruby**  
Los Angeles, CA

**Manish K. Sethi, MD**  
Brookline, MA

**Allison Tucker**  
Atlanta, GA

## Elections

The proposed slate of Officers, Directors and Committee Chairs, developed by the JRGOS Nominating Committee is awaiting approval by the Board of Directors.

### OFFICERS

**Charles L. Nelson**  
President

**James A. Hill**  
Past President

**Alvin H. Crawford, MD**  
Vice-President

**Melvyn A. Harrington, MD**  
Secretary

**Eleby R. Washington, MD**  
Treasurer

### DIRECTORS

**Darryl C. Dykes, MD**  
Director-at-Large

**Coleen S. Sabatini, MD**  
Director-at-Large

**Riley J. Williams, MD**  
Director-at-Large

**Damayea I. Hargett, MD**  
Resident  
Director-at-Large

### SR. ADVISORY BOARD

**Charles H. Epps, Jr., MD**  
Senior Advisory Board

**Cato T. Laurencin, MD, PhD**  
Senior Advisory Board

**Augustus A. White, III, MD, PhD**  
Senior Advisory Board

### COMMITTEE CHAIRS

**Darryl W. Peterson, MD**  
Membership

**Bonnie Simpson Mason, MD**  
Mentoring

**Michel E. Trice, MD**  
Scientific

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## VISIT OUR NEW WEBSITE

[www.gladdensociety.org](http://www.gladdensociety.org)

The final slate will be presented to the general membership for voting on-site in Las Vegas during the Members' Business Meeting held during our Annual Luncheon. Please remember to **register** for the event.