



Buckeye Osteopathic Physician



The Faces of Leadership in Ohio Osteopathic Medicine



THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE OHIO OSTEOPATHIC ASSOCIATION

Buckeye Osteopathic Physician

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LEADING FORWARD: **A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT**

In November 2024, I was part of our strategic planning workshop where we were challenged to visualize an image that encapsulates the Ohio Osteopathic Association. The first thing that popped into my head was my family around the Thanksgiving table. I confess I might have been a little hungry at that moment, but the vision was a bustling room containing young and old, loud and quiet, diverse and similar conversations.

I think of a table as a central gathering place. Frequently folks have common ties and goals. No doubt we are bound by our DO degree, a source of pride and uniqueness. For me, a rural family practitioner, our association has provided community, fellowship, advocacy, and leadership opportunities throughout my career.

With the demands of our daily workload, it's easy to stay in your lane without zooming out and seeing the large medical map. The OOA allows one to get out of the comfort zone and grow at many levels. Those who love to educate can go big and offer to lecture at our annual symposium or go small and offer to mentor a student. As an association, we strive to get more involved in advocacy so your professional voice is heard by those in government making decisions that impact health care.

In addition, there are plenty of opportunities for leadership development. I am personally grateful to those who gave me a nudge to nibble at first and then fill a larger plate by serving my local district. I've had the



joy of interacting with smart and energetic people who have both vision and passion. I find the beauty of leadership is the give and take. When multiple people contribute, the discussions become

richer and more meaningful. Different people at different times will bring different talents to different issues; I am part of an ensemble.

This year I am privileged to sit at the head of the table and I find myself giving thanks for the opportunity to be part of this dynamic organization. I can't help but smile as I survey the room. There has been a considerable investment in time, resources and communication to modernize your Ohio Osteopathic Association. We are truly striving to be an effective central hub to serve all Ohio osteopathic physicians and students. Please share feedback as we tweak the recipes.

The OOA has been enlarging and buffing up the table to make it more functional and welcoming. Membership fuels the kitchen so if you aren't a member we would love you to join because your dues support the best mission possible. ■

A stylized, handwritten signature in black ink.

EDWARD E. HOSBACH, II, DO



The Ohio Osteopathic Association Leads the Way

View the Ohio Senate
Health Hearing and
Supporting Documents:



DO DAY
OCTOBER 28, 2025

Thank you to the physicians, students and partners who joined us on October 28 in Columbus for the 2025 Ohio DO Day and for the legislative advocacy they engaged in to elevate the osteopathic voice at the Ohio Statehouse.

Participants attended a hearing of the Senate Health Committee, where OOA leaders presented on the state of osteopathic medicine in Ohio and answered lawmakers' questions. After a tour of the governor's ceremonial office, our advocates had lunch with Senator Terry Johnson, DO. The afternoon was filled with meetings with lawmakers. The group was divided into regions to target their conversations to the representatives and senators who serve them. ■

Executive INSIGHT

By Heidi A. Weber, MBA, CAE
Executive Director

We've been working on this Leadership Issue for months—and along the way, we've met so many outstanding leaders across Ohio. From retired physicians to brand-new students, everyone brings something unique to osteopathic medicine. Leadership doesn't always come with a title or a committee seat; sometimes it's quiet and needs a little encouragement, and other times it's confident and ready to jump right into the next opportunity. No matter the style, we are intentionally making space at the table.

There will *always* be room for our members—and for lapsed members who want to return and reconnect.

With programs like the revitalized Ohio DO Day in October 2025 and our first-ever White Coat Leaders Retreat in November 2025, the OOA is meeting members where they are—creating places to learn, collaborate, and feel part of something meaningful. The OOA is dedicated to being the osteopathic voice in Ohio and beyond, and engaged members make this work possible.

As we look ahead, we invite all DOs—especially those who haven't been active recently—to rejoin and help strengthen our collective voice. Your ideas, your presence, and your support truly matter.

I was asked recently - what's my vision for the OOA? My response is to nurture a One Osteopathic Ohio.

Let's keep building a bright, welcoming, and connected One Osteopathic Ohio—together. ■

“

There will *always* be room for our members—and for lapsed members who want to return and reconnect.

”

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE OHIO OSTEOPATHIC ASSOCIATION FOR BEING NAMED THE 2026 AMERICAN OSTEOPATHIC ASSOCIATION ORGANIZATIONAL EXCELLENCE IN ADVOCACY AWARD RECIPIENT. THE OOA WILL ACCEPT THIS HONOR ON MARCH 25TH DURING THE 2026 AOA DO DAY EVENTS.

THANK YOU TO THE OOA MEMBERS AND COMMUNITY WHO SUPPORT OUR EFFORTS!

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OOA Advocacy Update

By Danny Hurley
Lobbyist, BT Strategies

The OOA brings advocacy directly to members through ongoing engagement and by investing in a government relations firm to represent osteopathic interests at the Statehouse. Our members power this work. Membership dues support and sustain a strong advocacy program, ensuring doctors have a voice in policy decisions. **OOPAC backs pro-osteopathic candidates on both sides of the aisle who champion the issues DOs care about.**

OOA has had a busy fall on the advocacy front, both in and outside the Ohio Statehouse. The 2026 elections will shape the health policy landscape in Ohio and nationally; scope-of-practice bills remain a top concern; and insurance reforms could change how prior authorizations, copays, and appeals are handled.

As things continue to change, OOA is actively engaged – meeting with lawmakers, testifying on bills, and coordinating with coalitions to make sure osteopathic voices are heard.

Ohio Statehouse

More than 40 OOA members gathered at the Statehouse for DO Day, meeting with nearly half of Ohio's legislators. The feedback from participants was excellent, and OOA is already planning another DO Day for 2026.

Among the legislation OOA is watching and that DO Day participants spoke to legislators about are:

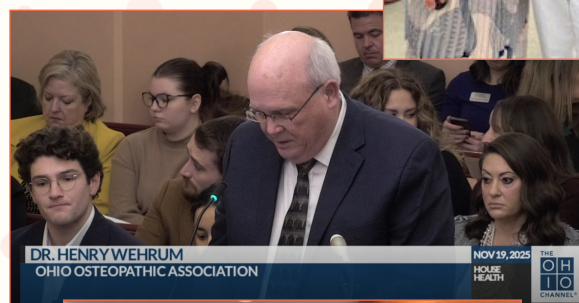
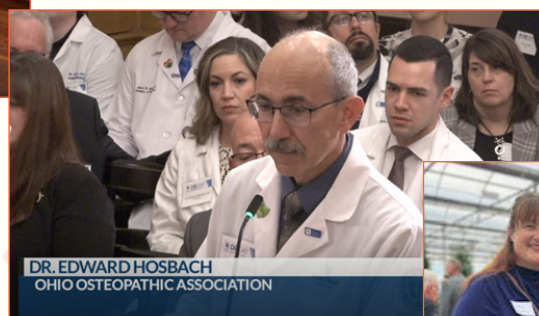
- HB 353: Would change the title from Physician Assistant to Physician Associate. The House Health Committee remains skeptical.

- HB 508: Would expand the APRN scope of practice. Opponent testimony was taken before Thanksgiving, but it remains in committee.
- SB 160: Non-medical switching bill. OOA was pushing hard to get it out of committee before year-end, but it has not yet moved beyond a third hearing.
- SB 301: A physician non-compete bill introduced by Sen. Terry Johnson, DO. It's in a favorable committee and could gain traction.

The Ohio Coalition of Primary Care Providers met in November to set priorities for 2026. Key focus areas are protecting Medicaid funding if federal support drops and vigilance around preserving evidence-based vaccine policy, as we see anti-vax bills pending and a new caucus forming.

Other bills that are moving that could directly affect practice and patients include:

- HB 214: Creates a "Gold Card" program to speed up prior authorizations.
- HB 219: Sets network adequacy standards. →



- HB 220: Adds requirements for appeals and peer reviews of PA denials.
- HB 390: Addresses copay collection.
- SB 162: Limits insurance clawbacks.
- SB 164: Regulates use of AI in claims and PA processing.
- SB 165: Strengthens “prudent layperson” protections for ER visits.
- SB 207: Ensures copay assistance counts toward deductibles.
- SB 230: Allows pharmacists to test and treat RSV, COVID, and flu.
- SB 25: Restricts tanning bed use by minors.
- HB 162: Mandates parental access to medical records of a minor.
- HB 324: Restricts access to certain drugs with high adverse side effects.

2026 Elections

Ohio will be in the national spotlight again with the U.S. Senate race. Jon Husted is running to succeed Vice President J.D. Vance, and former Senator Sherrod Brown is trying to make a comeback. The outcome could decide which party controls the Senate.

In the other chamber, new congressional district maps were approved with bipartisan support. They may put longtime Democrats Marcy Kaptur and Greg Landsman in tough spots.

In the governor’s race, Vivek Ramaswamy is expected to be the Republican nominee, and Dr. Amy Acton is the lone Democrat in the race after Tim Ryan stepped aside. The OOA PAC sponsored a small, private fundraiser with Ramaswamy’s team to talk healthcare issues and will sponsor a fundraiser held for Dr. Acton soon.

DeWine Administration

Medicaid Director Maureen Corcoran stepped down at the end of October, and a longtime DeWine health policy aide has stepped in to lead the department. Meanwhile, Gov. Mike DeWine signed an order banning intoxicating hemp products like Delta-8, an order currently tied up in court. ■

April 23-26, 2026

**Hilton Columbus
at Easton**



Celebrating 50 Years of Osteopathic Education in Ohio

April 23–26, 2026

Hilton Columbus at Easton | Columbus, Ohio

The Ohio Osteopathic Symposium (OOS) offers practical, clinically relevant topics that provide innovative, timely information physicians can immediately apply in practice. The CME program offers a robust agenda packed with engaging, informative, and stimulating content presented by experts in their fields.

OOS 2026 will be held in conjunction with Ohio University Heritage College of Osteopathic Medicine's 50th anniversary and gala, presented by the Osteopathic Heritage Foundation (OHF), with the college sponsoring a research poster competition and related social events throughout the Symposium. The OOA is pleased to celebrate with Heritage College and OHF as they mark a half-century of osteopathic education in Ohio.

Learn. Connect. Celebrate.



**Visit the 2026 Ohio Osteopathic Symposium website
for registration, program, and more details!**

www.oos2026.org

The Ohio University Heritage College of Osteopathic Medicine's [50th anniversary](#) and [gala](#), presented by the Osteopathic Heritage Foundation (OHF), will be held alongside the Ohio Osteopathic Association's (OOA's) [annual statewide symposium](#), with the college sponsoring a research poster competition and a series of social events. The Heritage College is pleased to celebrate with the [OHF](#) and the [OOA](#) in marking a half-century of osteopathic education in Ohio.





Leading *by Example*

Dr. Douglas W. Harley is Vice Chief of Education for the Primary Care Institute at Cleveland Clinic. He is immediate past president of the OOA, the Ohio ACOFP and the Ohio Academy of Family Physicians and has served on committees with national associations.

OOA: You have a history of leadership in OOA, Ohio ACOFP and OAFP in addition to committee work with national associations. Why is it crucial to participate in these organizations?

Dr. Harley: My big mantra with it is: If we're not at the table, we're on the menu, meaning if we're not putting ourselves forward and being part of the decisionmaking component of what is happening in medicine and what is happening in politics, we're going to have to do whatever it is that's passed down but not have had an influence in the final product. Sitting in the (OAFP) board of directors meeting ... and listening to them talk about the six medical schools in Ohio ... I was the little lone voice as a second-year med student that said, hey, you guys keep forgetting about OU. It's just those little things, those little pieces of influence.

OOA: What inspires you to volunteer your time and talent to these organizations?

Dr. Harley: I think it's a desire to help people, not just patients but the next generation of learners. It is kind of that idea of hey, somebody's got to do it, why not make the time and I can do that?

OOA: For those who know you, how do you hope your volunteer engagement influences them to want to give back?



**Douglas W. Harley,
DO, FACOFP, FAAFP**

Dr. Harley: How we ask students, residents to do better in how they take care of patients is by demonstrating the behaviors we want to see. If enough people start talking about excitement about being a leader and what it can do for you professionally and emotionally and help your feeling of fulfillment, if enough people give you praise along the way, it can be incredibly helpful and fulfilling to you as well. Not everybody's meant to be the president of an organized medicine organization. Not everybody's meant to sit on a federal or a state committee. But sometimes it's simply ... being a member of an organization, paying your dues because that is what then allows you to fund those who are willing to step forward. Those little acts of membership is what allows us to do the work that needs done.

OOA: What are one or two issues that you're concerned about?

Dr. Harley: The workforce is going to be a big one that concerns me as far as having enough good, competent people going into medicine that are in it for the right reason of taking care of folks. The other is how we integrate technology. As we think about how future students write their personal statements, write their applications for med school, for residency, how much of that is AI generated? I think (AI is) going to either be a big triumph for medicine or a big downfall for medicine depending on how we decide to utilize it. Certainly, I worry for our patients, especially with the Big Beautiful Bill and Medicaid cuts ... we're going to see spikes in infectious diseases and vaccine-preventable diseases. What I would hate to see happen is for this stuff to take a backseat because people are not involved. The problem is that's how a lot of things like our HMOs got rolled out is because physicians said, "I just want to see patients, I don't want to deal with that other stuff. You take care of it." We didn't realize the heat was getting turned up on us until it was boiling. ■

Navigating Change

Dr. Jennifer J. Hauler is Chief Operating Officer at Houston Methodist Hospital with a background in osteopathic family medicine and emergency medicine. She is currently serving as a Trustee on the American Osteopathic Association Board of Trustees. Originally from Ohio and an OOA member, Dr. Hauler has lived in Houston for a year with her husband and son.



OOA: Understanding where you are now, are you doing what you thought you'd be doing when you graduated?

Dr. Hauler: Not at all. I was happily practicing, doing my thing, and found myself in a number of leadership positions, and through those leadership positions, I recognized the need to understand the other side of medicine, the business side of medicine. And so I went on to get a [masters in business administration], never, ever intending to leave clinical medicine, just planning to utilize that MBA to better support the leadership roles that I was in. I sort of viewed stepping into administration as walking away from medicine. The systems CMO [at a nearby hospital] was able to convince me that it ... was not walking away from medicine, it was actually a deeper step into medicine and a different way to serve. In a clinic or in an office or in an ED, I could assist 25 or 30 patients in a day, whereas as an administrator I could influence a decision that helps hundreds or thousands of patients.



Jennifer Hauler, DO

OOA: Why did you feel like you needed that business understanding?

Dr. Hauler: I jokingly say it's all because of a bladder scanner, and there was quite a bit of truth to that. We were interested in getting a bladder scanner in our freestanding emergency department. I knew all the clinical reasons why it made sense, and I was told, "Well, come up with a business proposal or a case for it." I had no idea how to do that, and so, that was sort of the decision path to go get a formal MBA.

OOA: Do you think there's anything that DOs can do to advocate for change?

Dr. Hauler: DOs are, by nature, they are educators. I don't love politics, but I understand that politicians are folks who, many times, they're asked to make healthcare laws, but they don't have a background in healthcare. So, get to know your local politicians, make yourself available as a resource, and say to them, "Listen ... if you need help understanding, use me as a resource." The other thing is, through our local, state, and national society, we have the ability through our House of Delegates to write resolutions. We create policy statements on how we believe, and those things are influential, and they do get picked up when our federal government has to make decisions.

OOA: What advice would you give to a young physician who wants to serve on a national board?

Dr. Hauler: Talk to people. If you're looking specifically at a national board, the AOA every year will put out a sweep and ask for participants ... on bureaus, councils, and committees. That does not require you to have any past experience, necessarily, as a local or a state representative. Another option is to become active in your local and state societies, which then often filter leadership up to the national level.

OOA: What are issues you are concerned about right now?

Dr. Hauler: How we're going to finance the cost of healthcare is a problem, not only as a physician, but as a consumer as well. At some point, I will be a retiree, and I will need healthcare as well. How we're going to manage to provide quality healthcare and provide it to the number of people that we need to provide it to is a challenge from either side, for both as a physician and the payment structures for physicians to be able to attract the talent to provide the care, as well as from a consumer or a taxpayer, how are we going to pay for this and manage it? ■

Advocating for the Profession

Dr. Jason Jackson is a pediatrician in Columbus. He has participated in more than 10 DO Days on Capitol Hill and was part of the effort to pass the Lorna Breen Physicians Mental Healthcare bill in 2022. He pairs his legislative advocacy with community advocacy, including a project to improve the lactation and nutrition education in sexual and gender-minority parents in the NICU. Dr. Jackson is currently serving as the Vice President of the American College of Osteopathic Physicians.

OOA: Why is it important you lend your voice to advocate for the profession?

Dr. Jackson: I grew up in a small town in West Virginia and healthcare access was always a problem, so seeing that and experiencing some of it personally, I wanted to try to open eyes to what other people are facing. When we think of advocacy, we think of it as going to the Statehouse, or going to Capitol Hill and pushing for legislation, but there's ... every interaction you have with a patient or with a patient's family – having your patient there as they get older starting [to teach] them to take more control over their life and their medical decisions. Trying to work as a team [with the parents] to come together with what's best for that child is a form of advocacy that I think gets overlooked.

OOA: Why not let others do the advocating?

Dr. Jackson: If it's something that is important to you, and it's something that you're passionate about, then that's something you should be taking the lead in.

OOA: What would you recommend for students or residents who want to get involved with advocacy?

Dr. Jackson: Get involved in your student organizations, through your state organization or through SOMA at your school. Go to those organizations and find that mentorship to guide what that path looks like. You will take some wrong turns and have some bumps in the road and have to turn around. That, to me, is part of the fun of it. But you'll never know what you're capable of until you start trying. You're there to learn how to take care of your patient population and that does need to be your first priority, but if it's something that you're passionate about, you always find time for it.

OOA: What do you think makes advocacy efforts effective or ineffective?

Dr. Jackson: When you're designing an ask and it's something that personally affects you, or is something that you are passionate about and then coming at it from multiple angles [is effective]. As an advocate, you have to learn how to kind of improv and be willing to go, "Okay, this method didn't work. We're gonna regroup and try something else." Also, as hard as it is right now, is to not be confrontational. Advocacy has become kind of this "We need to win so that we don't lose," and that, in



**Jason R. Jackson,
DO**



my mind, is not an effective advocacy campaign. Finding something that you have in common or bringing it down into your local communities [is more effective]. In community advocacy, it has to be community focused and it has to be community led. You cannot come in and say, well, this worked when I did this activity with this group ... and we're going to bring it to your community because that may not be what they need at that time or value. The biggest thing I see when it is ineffective is it's too broad. You can't change all of healthcare at one time. You have to have a specific ask or a specific issue. If you don't have that, you really are riding a rudderless ship, and so you're not going to know if what you're doing is working and end up failing. Also you have to have buy-in from all of your stakeholders.

OOA: What are some issues that you are particularly concerned about?

Dr. Jackson: As a pediatrician, the biggest area of concern is what is going to happen with our vaccination practices. Through swings of distrust of the healthcare system, as well as misinformation and disinformation, you are seeing diseases like measles and pertussis that are starting to pop up that, as a trainee, you didn't necessarily see. So learning how we can make a more effective way to reach out to those communities that may have a distrust of vaccinations, and how we can encourage them that this is rooted in science. Then, obviously, making sure not only are vaccines still there, but that they're available to families free of cost. The other one that I think is kind of a longer road is ... we're going to be seeing a physician shortage in the next 10 years. Making sure that we're supporting things like our graduate medical education, making sure that we're creating residency spots.

OOA: Do you have ideas for how to address these issues?

Dr. Jackson: Reaching out to the people who can make these policies and saying, "This is what the direct effect of some of these policies have been, and how can I help to inform you?" That white coat comes with the sense of you know what you're talking about, and respect. One of the biggest things is recognizing that advantage and that privilege and using it to help to do good. ■

NOTABLE LEADERSHIP

Anita M. Steinbergh, DO

Dr. Anita M. Steinbergh was appointed to the State Medical Board of Ohio in 1993 as the lone DO representative and, at the time of her retirement from the role in 2018, was the longest-serving member of the body. She held multiple terms as president of SMBO. Dr. Steinbergh says she thinks OOA approached her about applying because she had become very visible through her role as clinical assistant dean at OU-HCOM, leadership positions in OOA, and through her fraud investigation work with the Ohio Department of Human Services.

"The most important thing that I talked to students about (in years 3 and 4 of study), I encouraged all of them to become active in their profession and what does that look like," she said. "If I feel I can add value to the conversation, then I'm willing to serve."

SBMO has one seat for a DO among its 12 spots. "It sort of made the osteopathic medical profession very visible during those years," Dr. Steinbergh said of her contributions. "It's important to make sure the language in rules represents the osteopathic medical profession as well."

International licensure for DOs became a big topic for SMBO. "Twenty-four of those years I also served at the Federation of State Medical Boards," she said. "During that time, we had international licensure issues for DOs because many countries did not recognize DOs as fully licensed physicians.... Between FSMB and the AOA there were discussions and support...to improve the visibility of osteopathic physicians, or DOs, in other countries."

"Ten to 15 years ago we see that the first DO became the president and CEO of the FSMB and that was a huge move. When I first started at the FSMB, there was a lot of discrimination against DOs," Dr. Steinbergh said. "Then as fate would have it, we found ourselves with a DO heading that organization."

Katherine H. Eilenfeld, DO

Katherine H. Eilenfeld, DO, FACOI, is director of Regional Inpatient Palliative Medicine for Cleveland Clinic's West Submarket. She mentors residents and fellows and is clinical associate professor at Ohio University Heritage College of Osteopathic Medicine. She is vice president of the OOA Board of Trustees.

"When I was applying to medical school, I didn't even know what osteopathic medicine was but I knew, as I started looking into medical schools, that something was 'off' about the communications and missions I was learning about allopathic medicine. I was working as a phlebotomist and lab tech at my local hospital at that time, which is where I met Pat, a lab tech. When we talked about my personal philosophy about the kind of medicine I wanted to practice, she matter-of-factly said, 'Sounds like you want to be a DO.'"

When she looks to the future of the profession, Dr. Eilenfeld notes that she trained on paper charts, without ultrasounds or smart phones



but the advancements we have today came on in the middle of her preparation.

"I feel like I bridge two vastly different generations in osteopathic medicine ... which gives me a unique approach to how I see our future," she said. "I desperately want to help the younger generations understand and benefit from the fellowship and joy of being uniquely osteopathic while also gently guiding our profession towards a future that can keep us relevant and competitive. The secret is the simplicity of osteopathic medicine: caring for a whole person just makes sense."

Dr. Eilenfeld said something she loves about the profession was the residency program's way of exposing new DOs to other osteopathic physicians, which gave her experience with medical and procedural care and skills of empathy and communication.

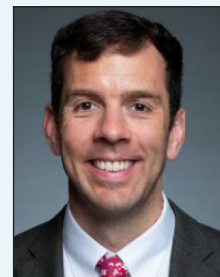
"When I started in practice I felt confident in my ability to deliver both well, and now it is a deep privilege to help do the same for our osteopathic medical community," she said. "The fellowship and camaraderie in this profession is unlike anything I've ever experienced. It's what keeps me returning to local and national conferences alike where you can reconnect with old friendships and make new connections easily and often!" ■

Daniel M. Krajcik, DO

Daniel M. Krajcik, DO, MBA, is an associate staff physician with the Cleveland Clinic Primary Care Institute in Avon, Ohio, and coordinator for the osteopathic curriculum in the Family Medicine Residency Program. He is also clinical assistant professor of family medicine at the Cleveland Clinic Lerner College of Medicine of Case Western Reserve University and adjunct clinical assistant professor at the Ohio University Heritage College of Osteopathic Medicine.

"Being a young leader means having the courage to take initiative. You don't need all the answers; showing up demonstrates your readiness to learn and grow. My advice for young leaders is to just dive in," he said. "I began my leadership journey as a medical student serving as Student Government President. While the experience presented challenges and occasional shortcomings, the support provided by our Deans—Dr. Johnson and Dr. Burke—was instrumental in my development."

Dr. Krajcik serves on the AOA's Bureau of Emerging Leaders and as a Liaison Representative to the OOA Board. He said after completing those terms he hopes to continue to engage with AOA, OOA and OU-HCOM.





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Chicago COM Honors Dr. Paul A. Martin with Leadership Award

The Chicago College of Osteopathic Medicine Alumni Association has bestowed a leadership award on Ohio's Paul A. Martin, DO, FACOFP dist.



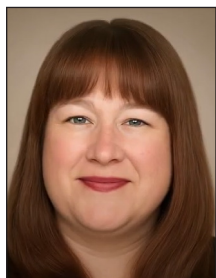
The Dr. Karen J. Nichols Leadership Award is bequeathed to alumni and friends of CCOM for their outstanding achievements and service to the college and community.

Dr. Martin, of Beavercreek, was selected for his extraordinary leadership in furthering the osteopathic profession. He was recognized at the CCOM Reunion on Oct. 17 in Illinois.

Dr. Martin is a past president of the Ohio Osteopathic Association, ACOFP, the Ohio Chapter of ACOFP, the Dayton District Academy of Osteopathic Medicine, and the current President of the ACOFP Foundation. He also serves as a Clinical Family Medicine Professor at the Ohio University - Heritage College of Osteopathic Medicine. He is a member of the Adjunct Faculty and Animal Research Review Committee at the University of Dayton.

AOF Recognizes Dr. Katherine H. Eilenfeld with Emerging Leader Award

The American Osteopathic Foundation in collaboration with the Ohio Osteopathic Association selected Katherine H. Eilenfeld, DO, as the 2025 Ohio State Emerging Leader.



The award recognizes exceptional physicians in their first 10 years of practice who engage in advocacy, community service and philanthropy.

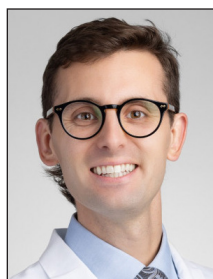
Dr. Eilenfeld is director of Regional Inpatient Palliative Medicine for Cleveland Clinic's West Submarket. She mentors residents and fellows and is clinical associate professor at Ohio University Heritage

College of Osteopathic Medicine. She is vice president of the OOA Board of Trustees.

Dr. Eilenfeld was honored during the AOF Awards Gala during the American Osteopathic Association's 2025 OMED Conference in Nashville.

Dr. Nicholas W. Salupo Earns National Accolade

The American College of Osteopathic Internists selected former Cleveland Clinic Foundation fellow Nicholas W. Salupo, DO, as the 2025 recipient of the Anthony J. Malcoun Memorial Award.



The award is named for Anthony J. Malcoun, DO, MACOI, who demonstrated excellence in clinical teaching in the field of nephrology and was known for outstanding compassion.

Dr. Salupo was a nephrology and hypertension fellow at the Cleveland Clinic Foundation. After receiving his DO at Marian University College of Osteopathic Medicine in Indianapolis, he completed his internal medicine residency at Kettering Grandview Medical Center in Dayton. There, Dr. Salupo was chief resident from 2022 to 2023.

During his fellowship, he has also assisted with the Cleveland Clinic Lerner College of Medicine nephrology course, facilitated lectures on Humanism in Medicine for Cleveland Clinic internal medicine residents, and worked with the National Kidney Foundation and American Society of Nephrology on an initiative to expand dialysis access.

Dr. Salupo is now practicing in Dayton.

OU-HCOM Student Inducted into Political Action Honor Society

Amisha Saini, OMS-III, has been appointed to Omega Beta Iota, the National Osteopathic Political Action Honor Society. OBI was created in 2007 to promote the role DO students and professionals play in shaping healthcare policy.

Induction into OBI is a distinguished achievement, awarded to osteopathic

medical students and mentors who have demonstrated excellence in political involvement, legislative advocacy, and public service.

Ms. Saini is a medical student at OU-HCOM and is the Clinical Central Representative for the class of 2027. She is National Programs Representative for AACOM Council of Osteopathic Student Government Presidents and National Coordinator of the T.O.U.C.H. Program.



OU-HCOM Names New Leaders

Ohio University has placed two prominent osteopathic physicians in leadership roles at the university and within the Heritage College of Osteopathic Medicine.

Jennifer L. Gwilym, DO, FACOFP, FAAFP, CS, has been appointed Interim Senior Dean of the Ohio University Heritage College of Osteopathic Medicine. She will serve as the college's chief academic officer, overseeing academic policy, accreditation, faculty affairs, curriculum quality improvement, and medical education innovation.



Kenneth H. Johnson, DO, FAAO, has been promoted to Vice President of Health Affairs and Senior Strategist for Health Partnerships at Ohio University.



Dr. Johnson previously served as the Executive Dean of the Heritage College of Osteopathic Medicine for 13 years. In his new role, Dr. Johnson will lead university-wide initiatives across health education, research, and strategic partnerships, while continuing to provide leadership and vision for the Heritage College.

Congratulations to Dr. Gwilym and Dr. Johnson! ■



Grateful. Inspired. Energized.

Last November, the Ohio Osteopathic Association hosted its inaugural White Coat Leaders Retreat, uniting more than 40 students, residents, and physicians for two days of focused leadership development, advocacy dialogue, professional growth, and community building.

A heartfelt thank you to the outstanding attendees from OU-HCOM (Athens, Dublin, and Cleveland) and LECOM (Erie and Seton Hill), whose engagement and curiosity elevated every discussion. We were equally grateful for the participation of our practicing physicians and the speakers who generously shared their time, experiences, and insights. Speakers included Dr. Nate Overmire, Dr. Sean and Olivia Johnson, panelists Dr. Lauren Noftz, OMS Lauren Boyd and OMS Emily Hollar, Allison Ditmer, Dr. Ed Hosbach, and Dr. Kristin Oaks.

From conversations on healthcare leadership and policy, to balancing family life and building a professional voice, this retreat reinforced what we all know to be true: **Ohio's osteopathic future is strong, motivated, and ready to lead.**

Thank you again to everyone who invested their weekend in this experience. The OOA is proud to support the journey and honored to help foster the next generation of osteopathic leaders.

Special thanks to the Ohio Osteopathic Foundation for its generous support, which made this weekend possible. ■

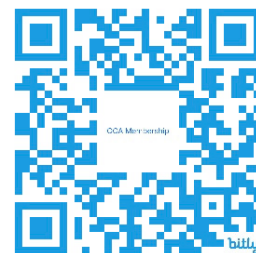


It's Membership Renewal Time!

As the osteopathic community continues to grow across Ohio, our collective strength depends on participation from every specialty and practice setting. Renew your OOA membership and help shape the future of osteopathic medicine.

Questions? Contact OOA HQ at info@ohiodo.org.

Thank you for your continued support!



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