



AOHC RECAP: Highlights from the 2011 American Occupational Health Conference (AOHC)

The 2011 American Occupational Health Conference (AOHC®) assembled more than 1,000 occupational and environmental medicine (OEM) professionals March 26-29, in Washington, D.C. A truly international meeting, attendees converged from around the world, hailing from Australia, Austria, Brazil, Canada, China, Dubai, Egypt, Finland, France, Germany, Guam, India, Japan, Mexico, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Philippines, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Thailand, United Kingdom, and Venezuela, to join their U.S. colleagues for ACOEM's 96th annual meeting.

The 2011 AOHC was timed impeccably with the renowned "cherry blossoms," a very special event in Washington heralding the beginning of spring, arriving in time to welcome attendees.

***"Vibrant community of the best and brightest
involved in occupational health!"***

Conference activities took place Saturday to Tuesday at the Grand Hyatt Washington, conveniently located in Penn Quarter atop a major Metro station. Ideally situated, it allowed participants to take in the city's sites and landmarks (and enjoy the cherry blossoms!) when they had a free moment.

Taking advantage of its location, this year's AOHC included an "ACOEM Power Hour: Wake Up to Washington!" early on Monday, a discussion of emerging issues related to OEM moderated by David Michaels, PhD, MPH, Assistant Secretary of Labor for Occupational Safety and Health (OSHA), and John Howard, MD, Director of the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH).

Again this year, we used Twitter to keep up on what was happening prior to and during AOHC in "real time." And, we saw a 50% increase in participation from AOHC 2010! Get on the bandwagon – sign up for AOHC 2012 "tweets" – and then you'll know what we know when we know it!

We also carried on our newest tradition of providing a "comment" tree at the meeting. At last year's AOHC in Florida we had an "orange" tree; this year our tree was – you guessed it – a cherry tree! Thanks to all attendees who contributed a "blossom" via a sticky note attached to our "tree" to provide comments and feedback – many of which are shared here in the conference recap.



AOHC 2011 Recap

This year's AOHC giveaway was an item coveted by techies and non-techies alike. The winner of the Apple iPad 2 was randomly selected from attendees who completed the on-line conference evaluation by the appointed deadline. The lucky winner from the Southeastern Atlantic component is now enjoying her new toy – surfing the web, checking e-mails, watching movies, and reading books – this iPad model even boasts two cameras for FaceTime video calling!

AOHC presented something for everyone! A diverse offering of pre-conference courses were held March 24-25, and were very well attended. The Opening Session/Sappington Lecture, Annual Membership Meeting, meetings of the House of Delegates and Board of Directors followed, along with the “tracked” OEM sessions (Clinical Practice; Management and Administration; Education and Scientific Research; Environmental Health and Risk Management; and Regulatory, Legal, Military and Governmental Practice). Meal discussions, worksite visits, exhibits, poster presentations, and social events were interspersed throughout AOHC which officially began March 26 with the Opening Session – the annual kick-off event. Also presented as a special feature on Sunday afternoon was a preview of the Occupational and Environmental Health Foundation's documentary that offered an inspiring look at the OEM profession!

“Great learning opportunities not only in the sessions, but also in ‘hallway’ discussions that invariably occur at conferences! No better venue for acquiring practical information that can be applied at point of service!”

MAKE NO SMALL PLANS!



On behalf of the 2011 AOHC Planning Committee, Dr. John Piacentino accepts a plaque of appreciation from President Natalie Hartenbaum.

The 2011 AOHC Planning Committee did an outstanding job of preparing for and executing this year's conference! “Thank you” to Chair, **John Piacentino, MD**, and committee members **Drs. Francesca Litow** and **Michael Sauri** (Clinical Practice Track), **Timothy Mallon** (Regulatory, Legal, Military, and Government Track), **Minda Nieblas** and **Craig Thorne** (Management and Administration Track), **Dana Thomas** and **Richard Thomas** (Environmental Health and Risk Management Track), **John Meyer** and **Virginia Weaver** (Education and Scientific Research Track), and **Paul Papanek, Rosemary Sokas**, and “early career” representatives **Tifani Grizzell** and **Gayatri Reddy** for their outstanding work. Providing support in an advisory capacity were **Drs. Edward Bernacki, Natalie Hartenbaum, Warner Hudson, Melissa McDiarmid, Mark Roberts, and James Seward.**

A special late-breaker session on “Occupational Health Issues in Japan/ Emergency Response” was organized after the Japanese earthquake and tsunami and moderated by **John Piacentino, MD**, the afternoon of March 28. The College would like to thank the following ACOEM members who came forward to contribute information on this topic before a standing-room-only crowd: **Myles Druckman, MD**, VP Medical Services, International SOS; **John Halpin, MD**, Medical Epidemiologist, NIOSH/CDC; **James Seward, MD**, Medical Director, Lawrence Livermore Laboratory; **Michael Ardaiz, MD**, Chief Medical Officer, U.S. Department of Energy; **James Remington**, Program Analyst, National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences; and **Les Yee, MD**, President, Skylark Health Strategies, Ltd.



EDUCATIONAL OFFERINGS

“A comprehensive high-level educational program with a good range of topics related to the delivery of occupational health concerns and services!”

AOHC offered participants a wide-range of opportunities for learning – **8 pre-conference courses**, **16 meal sessions**, **more than 50 educational sessions**, and **5 worksite visits** (Washington DC Fire Training Academy, U.S. Army Medical Research Institute of Infectious Diseases, Occupational and Environmental Aspects of the Pentagon, and two time slots for the National Zoo). The pre-



conference course lineup offered something for everyone – MRO Fast Track; MRO Assistant; HPM Clinic; Work Disability Prevention: Mastering Your Role in the SAW/RTW Process; OSHA Injury and Illness Recordkeeping Process; NIOSH-approved Spirometry Refresher; Occupational Medicine Board Review; and Foundations of Occupational Medicine, Segment 2.

Special Recognition – **Harold Hoffman, MD**, who has served for many years as Course Director for ACOEM’s Foundations in Occupational Medicine, formerly known as the Basic

Curriculum, was the recipient of a special award on Friday, March 25, as he presided over his last session during the pre-conference courses. Thank you, Dr. Hoffman!

And.....in a continued effort to practice “green” habits, we again made the AOHC handouts available to participants prior to AOHC through the ACOEM web site!

“AOHC provides cutting edge information as well as good basic principles and excellent reviews on various topics!”

The **William B. Patterson Memorial Lecture** was presented on Monday. This lecture honors the memory of Dr. Patterson, a member of the ACOEM Board of Directors, who as chair of the Committee on Ethical Practice in OEM, was spearheading the process of revising ACOEM’s Code of Ethics at the time of his death in 2008. This year’s lecture – *Ethical Challenges of Occupational and Environmental Medicine* – was presented by **Mark Rothstein, JD**, of the University of Louisville School of Medicine, author and editor of numerous books, chapters, and articles focusing on medical screenings of workers, ethical issues in occupational medicine, occupational health research, genetics, health privacy, public health, and scientific developments.

Tuesday afternoon, for those who opted to stay after the official close of this year’s AOHC, provided an opportunity to either attend the **ACOEM Capitol Hill Briefing**, where participants heard first hand from Senate and House staff on legislative and regulatory matters impacting the practice of occupational and environmental medicine, or participate in a special educational session on **Shift Work and Sleep**, a symposium offered by the University of Cincinnati and Rockpointe Corporation supported by a grant from Cephalon.



NETWORKING AND SOCIAL OPPORTUNITIES

“Great place to network with colleagues and learn how things are done in other parts of the country or other practice settings!”

Among the numerous opportunities at AOHC to interact with other attendees was the **New Member Orientation** which attracted 80 new/potential members early Saturday morning to meet with various ACOEM leaders. This informal setting provided a chance to network and to learn more about the College while enjoy a continental breakfast! The **President’s Reception, Past Presidents’ Dinner, a New Fellows Reception, Section Leadership Breakfast, the Exhibit Opening Reception**, and committee, council, and section meetings, all allowed time to gather with colleagues and exchange ideas and information.



The **President’s Reception for Fellows and Honored Guests** was held Friday, March 25, where **Mark Roberts, MD; Donna Smith, PhD; and Mitchell Garber, MD**, were honored with the **2011 President’s Awards**. This award recognizes individuals who have made significant contributions to the career of ACOEM’s president, helping to achieve his/her objectives and thereby contributing to the leadership success at ACOEM.

“Top-Tier networking events! This intimate meeting allows time for one-on-one conversations with others in the specialty!”



History came to life at Saturday evening’s **Exhibit Opening Reception**, where Thomas Jefferson, George and Martha Washington, and Uncle Sam joined in the ribbon cutting ceremony and provided some very interesting conversation with attendees and the 55 exhibitors on hand! Abstract poster presentations were also featured and the hors d’oeuvres were enjoyed by all! The **Exhibit Hall** was open a full day on Sunday and offered a complimentary lunch for attendees who had planned ahead and secured a

ticket during the conference registration process.

The **New Fellows Reception** was held on Sunday and attended by many of the Fellows who were later introduced at the Annual Membership Meeting/Luncheon. The Fellows were greeted by **Dr. Steven Pike**, Chair of the Fellowship Examiners, and ACOEM’s outgoing president, **Natalie Hartenbaum, MD**, who both provided a warm welcome to these members who acquired Fellow status this year. For those not attending the Fellows reception, Sunday’s optional social event, a visit to the **International Spy Museum**, provided an evening of intrigue for all who dared! The event included a buffet dinner and a look into the secretive world of espionage and intelligence gathering.



Monday evening’s **Past Presidents’ Dinner** was attended by 25 ACOEM past presidents, along with their honored guests. **Tommy Thompson**, former Health and Human Services Secretary, was the guest speaker.

The **ACOEM Booth** and **Registration area** saw a flurry of activity throughout AOHC! The ever-efficient ACOEM staff helped attendees glide through the registration process while distributing this year's giveaway – a reusable ACOEM carrying bag – handy for all of those conference materials (and a great place to store Tootsie Pops – a conference favorite – for a mid-afternoon snack)!



The **Booth** provided a glimpse of ACOEM's face on the web – displaying the updated features found on our newly designed, reorganized, and transformed site. And you



may have caught a snippet of **Michael Santoro, MD**, of Seattle, winner of ACOEM's inaugural **Video Essay Contest** sponsored by the Task Force on Expanding Awareness of OEM, starring in his video depicting the practice of an "occ doc" (available through ACOEM's link to YouTube). Numerous medical books were on display and available for purchase – and an array of materials were laid out for perusing and learning more about ACOEM and OEM, including information on the new 3rd edition of *Occupational Medicine Practice Guidelines*, hot off the

press in June, and its electronic counterpart, APG-I. Following last year's success, also available for purchase this year were ACOEM logo items – polo shirts, journal, canteens, and key chains.

OPENING SESSION – AWARDS CEREMONY AND SAPPINGTON LECTURE

"The plenary session with the Sappington presentation was excellent!"



Natalie Hartenbaum, MD, ACOEM President, welcomed participants to the Saturday morning **Opening Session** and lead attendees in a moment of silence to remember the recent tragedy in Japan. **Dr. Dana Thomas**, Component President of Metropolitan Washington COEM, was then introduced and provided a personal welcome to her hometown. Other highlights of the session followed – the presentation of ACOEM's annual awards, including the



Knudsen Award – the highest honor given in OEM created in

1938 by William S. Knudsen (1879-1948), then president of General Motors and an advocate for worker health and safety – and the keynote C. O. Sappington Memorial Lecture which serves as a forum from which to address major issues in the field of OEM.

Award Presentations



William S. Knudsen Award – **Douglas A. Benner, MD**. This award recognizes an individual who has made outstanding contributions to OEM. Dr. Benner was cited for his contributions through his exemplary efforts as a member on numerous ACOEM committees and his component leadership at the Western Occupational and Environmental Medical Association (WOEMA) that was responsible for leading their Board in strategic planning efforts resulting in its current mission – Education, Leadership, and Service. He was also recognized as a valued advisor on such diverse topics as utilization review, medical provider networks, and the permanent disability rating schedule, grounded in his years of experience and vast knowledge of occupational medicine. In addition, through his work at Kaiser Permanente, Dr. Benner has given freely of his time and expertise to the state of California's efforts on workers' compensation reform.



Meritorious Service Award – Kurt T. Hegmann, MD, MPH. This award recognizes an ACOEM member who has provided laudable service to the College. It was presented to Dr. Hegmann for his tireless work to expand the visibility of ACOEM and OEM. In particular, his exceptional work as editor of ACOEM's *Occupational Medicine Practice Guidelines* has resulted in major revisions to all of its chapters, and as editor-in-chief, he has been responsible for maintaining the highest scientific standards for reviewing evidence-based literature, thus ensuring the most rigorous, reproducible, and transparent occupational health guidelines available. Dr. Hegmann has generously donated his time and expertise in helping the College advance its mission.



Health Achievement in Occupational Medicine Award – Jennifer H. Christian, MD, MPH. This award is presented to an ACOEM member for a specific or unique achievement in the field of OEM. Dr. Christian received this award for her efforts in disability prevention and as an emissary of occupational medicine to the world of industry, government, and disability management. She was cited for her leadership roles at ACOEM, including chairing the group that developed the "Preventing Needless Work Disability" guideline and leading the task group that authored "The Attending Physician's Role in Helping People Stay

Employed." She was also recognized for her work as chair of ACOEM's Work Fitness and Disability Section, as a member of the Disability Panel for the ACOEM *Occupational Medicine Practice Guidelines*, as former chair of the Stay-at-Work/Return-to-Work Process Improvement Committee and Workers' Compensation Committee, and service as a Delegate to ACOEM's House of Delegates.



Robert A. Kehoe Award of Merit – Edward J. Bernacki, MD, MPH. This award, named for its first recipient, is bestowed upon an individual who has shown distinction in and made significant contributions to OEM. Dr. Bernacki was recognized for his leadership at Johns Hopkins where he revitalized the Occupational Medicine Division, and his work on the design of an Internet-based workers' compensation claims management system which allows claims to be tracked and linked so that a hazardous situation, once reported, can be promptly corrected. He was also honored for his contributions to academic excellence and research and his numerous scientific papers including those related to

hearing loss and depression screening programs. Dr. Bernacki was also cited for his years of service on the ACOEM Board of Directors, in particular, for his work during his presidency that resulted in an ACOEM/OSHA alliance to focus on musculoskeletal disorders. In addition, one of his major initiatives was to make occupational medicine a significant force in ensuring productivity.

Adolph G. Kammer Merit in Authorship Award – This award, named for first editor of the *Journal of Occupational and Environmental Medicine (JOEM)*, recognizes an outstanding article published in *JOEM*. The recipients were lead author **Reiner Rugulies, PhD, MPH**, of the National Research Centre for the Working Environment, Copenhagen, Denmark, and co-authors **Birgit Aust, DrPH; Johannes Siegrist, PhD; Olaf von dem Knesebeck, PhD; Ute Bültmann PhD; Jakob B. Bjorner, MD; and Hermann Burr, PhD**, for their outstanding contributions to the medical literature as exemplified by the paper, "Distribution of Effort-reward Imbalance in Denmark and Its Prospective Association with a Decline in Self-rated Health," published in the August 2009 issue of *JOEM*. While the authors were not able to attend the meeting in person, Dr. Hartenbaum accepted the award on their behalf and extended the College's congratulations to our colleagues in Denmark!

Global Leadership in Occupational Health Award – Martin Sepulveda, MD. This award, co-sponsored by ACOEM and the National Business Group on Health (NBGH), honors an individual who demonstrates excellence in leadership in implementing programs that improve the health and productivity of the workforce. Dr. Sepulveda, Vice President of Integrated Health Services at IBM, was honored for being a visionary leader in health and productivity with a distinguished record in building global health programs for IBM. Unfortunately, he was unable to attend AOHC this year.

Corporate Health Achievement Award (CHAA) – The CHAA recognizes organizations with outstanding employee health and occupational and environmental medicine practices. After undergoing a rigorous review by an expert panel to assess four categories – Leadership and Management, Healthy Workers, Healthy Environment, and Health Organization – **Tooele Chemical Agent Disposal Facility**, a joint project of **URS Corporation** and the **U. S. Army**, was chosen as the deserving recipient. URS Corporation, an engineering, construction, and mechanical services organization, administered the project of eliminating the nation’s stockpile of chemical weapons, while Tooele was singled out for its stellar record of safety, health, security, and environmental protection as it performed the task, both having been exemplary in their practices during this time. Accepting this award was **Dr. Gary Matravers**, Medical Director at the Tooele facility, and URS representatives **Guy Stevenson, Gary McCloskey, Terry Thomas, and Paul Anderson**.



Resident Research Presentation Awards – These awards are presented annually by ACOEM’s Resident and Recent Graduates Section and the Academic Section to encourage residents and recent program graduates to share their research, clinical techniques, or theory development in OEM. Eight residents – **Stephanie Barnhart, Anne Christensen-McDonough, Geoffrey Jacoby, Alisa Koval, Barbara Meade, Stasia Muhlner, Nnaemeka Odo, and Brigilda Teneza** – were honored for their research which was presented March 27 at Session 2204.

C. O. Sappington Memorial Lecture

“This year’s Sappington Lecture was the best I’ve ever heard!”



This year’s Sappington Lecture was delivered by **Dr. Mark Rosekind**, a distinguished member of the National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB). Dr. Rosekind, nominated by President Obama and confirmed by the Senate to serve a 5-year term that began in 2010, brought a long career in transportation safety to his role at the NTSB. He is an internationally recognized expert in fatigue management who has conducted research and implemented programs in diverse settings, including all modes of transportation, and has published more than 150 scientific, technical, and industry papers. He is the recipient of the NASA Exceptional Service Medal and the Presidential Citation for Outstanding Safety Leadership, and is a Fellow of the World Economic Forum in Sweden. Dr. Rosekind spoke on **“Fatigue Management: Embrace Change to Enhance Safety and Health.”** The Lecture honors ACOEM member Clarence Olds Sappington, MD, the first American to earn a DrPh degree, and has been presented annually since 1953.

HIGHLIGHTS FROM ACOEM'S ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Colleagues gathered Monday, March 28, for the **Annual Luncheon and Membership Meeting**. The meeting included an address by outgoing President Natalie Hartenbaum, MD, the **Fellowship Ceremony**, presentation of the **ACOEM Outstanding Achievement Award**, an address by **Dr. Olivia Carlton**, Society of Occupational Medicine (SOM) President, and introduction of **ACOEM's new Board of Directors**, including the inaugural address from incoming **ACOEM President, Dr. Warner Hudson**, along with recognition of the new **House of Delegates officers**.

2011 Class of Fellows – One of the largest classes ever, 70 members attained Fellowship in ACOEM this year! Fifty new Fellows were in attendance at the ceremony to be recognized in person for their achievement. Dr. Hartenbaum presented individual medallions as a memento of this honor.

Congratulations to the ACOEM Fellowship Class of 2011!



Richard M. Abraham, MD, FACOEM
J. Charles Alexander, MD, MPH, FACOEM
Oluremi A. Aliyu, MD, MPH, FACOEM
John S. Andrews, MD, MPH, FACOEM
Bengt B. Arnetz, MD, PhD, FACOEM
Dean B. Baker, MD, MPH, FACOEM
George E. Batayias, MD, FACOEM
Rosalyn B. Beaty, MD, MPH, FACOEM
Michael R. Bell, MD, MPH, FACOEM
Konstantin V. Berestnev, MD, MPH, FACOEM
Adonis E. Bernardo, MD, MPH, FACOEM
Claude G. Cadoux, MD, MPH, FACOEM
Gary Caplan, MD, MPH, FACOEM
J. Kerry Collins, MD, FACOEM
Greg P. Couser, MD, MPH, FACOEM
Fabrice Czarnecki, MD, MPH, FACOEM
Laurance Durante, MD, MPH, FACOEM
Marion J. Fedoruk, MD, FACOEM
Don C. Fisher, MD, MS, FACOEM
Robert M. Gabel, MD, MS, FACOEM
Robert E. Gaetjens, MD, MPH, FACOEM
Laura G. Gillis, MD, MPH, FACOEM
Stephen L. Goldman, MD, FACOEM
Hetzal Hartley, MD, MPH, FACOEM
Chalonda Hill, MD, MPH, FACOEM
James J. Hill, MD, MPH, FACOEM
Jeffrey A. Jacobs, MD, MPH, FACOEM
Christopher J. Jankosky, MD, MPH, FACOEM
Kathleen T. Jenkins, MD, MPH, FACOEM
Paul M. Johnson, MD, MPH, FACOEM
Allison L. Jones, MD, MS, FACOEM
Anjali Kalra, MD, MPH, FACOEM
Laurie A. Kardon, MD, MPH, FACOEM
Kenneth M. Lankin, MD, MPH, MBA, FACOEM
Timothy N. Lee, MD, MS, FACOEM

Paula T. Lenny, MD, MPH, FACOEM
Steven E. Lerman, MD, MPH, FACOEM
Michael J. Levine, MD, MPH, FACOEM
Scott C. Levy, MD, MPH, FACOEM
David G. Lukcso, MD, MPH, FACOEM
Robert J. MacMillan, MD, MPH, FACOEM
Ravinder Mamtani, MD, MBBS, FACOEM
Roy Marokus, MD, MPH, FACOEM
Gregory J. Martin, MD, MPH, FACOEM
Scott P. Morris, MD, MPH, FACOEM
Robert P. Naparstek, MD, FACOEM
Philip D. Parks, MD, MPH, FACOEM
Kenneth G. Phillips, MD, MPH, FACOEM
Amanda R. Phillips-Savoy, MD, FACOEM
John D. Piacentino, MD, MPH, FACOEM
Terrence Rempel, MD, MPH, FACOEM
A. Gayle Rhodes, MD, MS, FACOEM
Marie L. Roy, MD, FACOEM
Kaochoy Saechao, MD, MPH, FACOEM
My Linn Sawyer, MD, MPH, FACOEM
John P. Seymour, MD, MPH, FACOEM
Scott J. Spillmann, MD, MPH, FACOEM
Ryung Suh, MD, MPH, FACOEM
Kirtland D. Swan, MD, FACOEM
Ramon Terrazas, MD, MPH, FACOEM
Theodore F. Them, MD, PhD, MPH, FACOEM
Dana L. Thomas, MD, MPH, FACOEM
Craig M. Uejo, MD, MPH, FACOEM
Clayton G. VanBalen, MD, MS, FACOEM
Theodore A. Wafart, Jr., MD, MPH, FACOEM
Christina Y. Wang, MD, MPH, FACOEM
Virginia M. Weaver, MD, MPH, FACOEM
Barbara L. Yakes, DO, FACOEM
Leslie M. Lee, MD, MPH, FACOEM
Doris H. Zhong, MD, MPH, MS, FACOEM

SOM President Address – For the last few years, officers of ACOEM and SOM, our British counterpart, have attended each other’s annual conference. This professional bond was perpetuated when **Dr. Olivia H. Carlton, SOM President**, continued the tradition by addressing the ACOEM membership again this year. ACOEM Vice President, Ronald Loeppeke, MD, has reciprocated this exchange by attending SOM’s June Meeting in Belfast, U.K.

Outstanding Achievement Award Recipients – This award recognizes the work of committees, councils, sections, or other groups of volunteers within ACOEM. This year’s award was bestowed upon two recipients. The **ACOEM Ethics Committee**, **William Buchta, MD**, Chair, and members **Drs. Cheryl Barbanel, Paul Brandt-Rauf, David Drury, Arvind Goyal, William Greaves, Daniel Jiminez, David Lukcso, Gary Rischitelli, William Shaw**, and **Laura Welch**, were recognized for their comprehensive response to a request from the AMA for comments on revisions to its Code of Ethics. The second recipient was the **Maintenance of Certification Committee** chaired by **Denece Kesler, MD**, and members **Drs. Karl Auerbach, Beth Baker, Cheryl Barbanel, Michael Bledsoe, Victoria Cassano, Barbara Gibson, Rose Goldman, William Greaves, Phil Harber, Natalie Hartenbaum, Kurt Hegmann, Tim Key, Patrick Laraby, David Louis, Christopher Martin, John Meyer, Thomas Pace, James Tacci**, and **Eric Wood** for creating and updating our MOC Part 4 module that is now a model used by several medical specialty societies as they seek to develop their own MOC content. Special thanks went to **Glenn Merchant**, the ABPM Advisor on this project, and ACOEM staff member **Mary Lunn**.

Passing the Gavel – New Officers and Directors Installed/House Officers Recognized



Outgoing President, Natalie Hartenbaum, MD, passed the symbolic gavel of office to ACOEM’s new President, **T. Warner Hudson III, MD**, who was among 7 physicians to take office during AOHC. Dr. Hudson is Medical Director, Occupational Health Facility, for the University of California, Los Angeles, and holds a medical staff appointment at the Ronald Reagan Medical Center. In turn, Dr. Hudson presented Dr. Harbenbaum with a special plaque commemorating her service to ACOEM and its Board of Directors.

Other officers installed for 1-year terms on the ACOEM Board were President-elect, **Karl Auerbach, MD**, and Vice President, **Ronald Loeppeke, MD**. **Beth Baker, MD**, continues her role as Secretary/Treasurer for the second year.

Members installed as Directors for 3-year terms (2011-2014) were **Drs. Alan Engelberg, Dean Gean, Amanda Trimpey**, and stepping into the new position of Young Physician Director, **Dr. Mark Taylor**. Retiring Board members **Drs. Pam Hymel, Anthony Burton, Marilyn Howarth, and Mark Roberts** were acknowledged and thanked for their many years of service. In addition, new officers of the ACOEM House of Delegates for 2011-2012, Speaker, **Dan Janiga, MD**, Speaker-elect, **Melissa Bean, DO**, and Recorder, **James Butler, MD**, were recognized – their installation had taken place prior to the opening of AOHC.



In addition, free registration for AOHC 2012 was awarded to a lucky participant in a drawing held during the ACOEM Annual Membership Meeting. Prior to AOHC, postcards were mailed out as a meeting reminder and attendees had a chance to win if they brought their postcard to conference and deposited it in preparation for the drawing. A New York OEMA component member is the envied recipient who will be enjoying AOHC next year in Los Angeles, compliments of ACOEM!

AN ARRAY OF ANCILLARY ACTIVITIES

“The conference was a rich blend of educational programs, networking, intellectual stimulation, and professional growth!”

House of Delegates

The 90th Session of the ACOEM House of Delegates was held March 25. Presentations by Drs. Alan Engelberg, Dan Janiga, and Melissa Bean were followed by an address given by ACOEM officers – President Natalie Hartenbaum, MD, who reviewed the past year’s accomplishments, and Secretary/Treasurer Beth Baker, MD, who provided a financial report. Barry Eisenberg, CAE, ACOEM Executive Director, also presented an ACOEM update. In the absence of Stephen Frangos, MD, Membership Committee Chair, the report on membership activities was given by Miles Hoffman, ACOEM Director of Membership. In addition, the House Internal Affairs Work Group presented its slate of candidates to run for the Board in the upcoming fall election. Six resolutions were approved and have been sent to the ACOEM Board for discussion at their summer meeting.

During the HOD meeting, Dan Janiga, MD, formally took office as Speaker of the House, and Melissa Bean, DO, and James Butler, MD, were installed as Speaker-Elect and Recorder respectively. The culmination of the day was the annual “Rag Tag” Dinner, a highly anticipated event for the HOD, held offsite at Mie N Yu Restaurant in Georgetown – a great time was had by all!

Board of Directors

ACOEM’s Board of Directors met twice as is customary during AOHC – an all day meeting on Friday, March 25, and again after the induction of its new leaders on Monday afternoon. And, it was business as usual – discussions, actions, a bit of give and take, and a whole lot of ideas on the table until next time at their summer meeting!



The ACOEM Board of Directors for 2011-2012: Back row left to right – Mark Taylor, Director; William Buchta, Director; James Tacci, Director; Michael Fischman, Director; Dan Janiga, Speaker of the House of Delegates; Amanda Trimpey, Director; Melissa Bean, HOD Speaker-Elect; Alan Engelberg, Director; Dean Gean, Director; Charles Yarborough, Director; Michael Holland, Director. Seated left to right – Marianne Cloeren, Director; Karl Auerbach, President-Elect; Beth Baker, Secretary-Treasurer; Warner Hudson, President; Natalie Hartenbaum, Immediate Past President; James Seward, Director; Brian Svazas, Director. Not pictured – Ron Loepke, Vice President.

CALIFORNIA HERE WE COME – DON'T MISS NEXT YEAR'S AOHC IN LOS ANGELES!

Mark your calendars for AOHC 2012 when we will return to California and convene at the Hyatt Regency Century Plaza in Los Angeles from **Sunday, April 29 to Wednesday, May 2**. Pre-conference courses will be held April 27 and 28, with post-conference events on May 3. The hotel block will open for registration later this summer and AOHC registration will open in December. Additional details will be forthcoming soon on the ACOEM web site!



Paul J. Papanek, MD, Chairman of the Board of ACOEM's Western Component (WOEMA) and staff physician for Kaiser Permanente, Department of Occupational Medicine, Los Angeles, will chair AOHC 2012. Educational content planning along with all the finer details of worksite visits, extracurricular activities, guest offerings, and the like, is underway! Session proposals and individual scientific abstracts are accepted on line through our paperless submission process.

Proposals for sessions will fall into one of the following categories: Occupational Health and the Entertainment Industry; Disability Management; Health and Productivity Management; Quality and Best Practices in Workers Comp; the Soft Side of Medicine; Clinical Skills; Occupational Medicine Practice Support; New Administrative/Policy Information; Maritime Medicine; Infectious Disease Updates; or the Electronic Health Record (EHR).

TAKE ADVANTAGE OF AOHC 2011 CME OPPORTUNITIES



Even if you could not attend this year's meeting, there are still a number of ways to participate in AOHC 2011! In partnership with our recording company, Mobiltape, ACOEM is providing an on-line library of AOHC 2011 session recordings. If you attended AOHC and want to receive additional CME or MOC credits – or if you did not attend and want to earn up to 96 CME credits – this is the opportunity for you! **(CME/MOC is available through June 30, 2012.)**