

Convention News

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Konopa Calls for Long-Range Planning

*** Standing Ovation For Dan Fox

Outgoing AAPA President Dan Fox received a standing ovation during the Academy's Business session Tuesday morning shortly before the opening of the House of Delegates.

Showing their appreciation for his leadership during the past year, the Delegates enthusiastically applauded the presentation of a plaque to Fox from the Academy's Executive Director Don Fisher.

Another well-known AAPA figure, Past President of two terms Tom Godkins, was also presented a special award. Godkins was recognized for his part in a more than two-year battle and ultimate victory to gain passage of a Congressional bill to provide Medicare/Medicaid reimbursement for PA services.

At the end of the business session Fox turned over the gavel and the official leadership of AAPA to James E. Konopa, P.A.-C.



James E. Konopa



Dan P. Fox

Delegates Hear New President

In his opening remarks before the House of Delegates Tuesday, new AAPA President James E. Konopa called for a five-year plan to be developed for the Academy.

Konopa noted that up to this point "the (PA) profession and the Academy have grown so rapidly . . . it was virtually impossible to develop long range plans."

To accomplish this planning Konopa said he has requested funding for the President Advisory Group to allow them to develop and present such a plan to the House of Delegates in 1979.

In other remarks the new President told Delegates "in the next seven hours issues will be addressed which will affect not only the academy but all PAs across the country. I remind Delegates of their responsibility to approach the issues in a manner which does not reflect personal emotions but does

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House of Delegates Adopt New AAPA Bylaws

Among the early actions of the House of Delegates yesterday was the adoption of revised bylaws for the American Academy of Physicians' Assistants. In reporting item 77-20 to the House, Reference Committee Chairman Maryann Ramos, P.A.-C. of New Jersey stated that "the Committee over-

whelmingly endorsed the principles of the bylaws, but expressed concern regarding the mechanism of committee structures and the selection of chairmen." Earlier in the week the AAPA Board of Directors adopted the bylaws which are now the governing rules of the Academy.

An issue which has generated considerable discussion among AAPA members over the past year has been about the appropriate stance the Academy should take regarding the endorsement of products and services. As a step to define the Academy's position, the

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House of Delegates

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House adopted the following policy statement:

The AAPA will not allow its name, symbol, or logo to be affixed to or used by any proprietary product or service unless such products or services are owned by the Academy or produced or provided under

contract for the Academy.

This policy should be interpreted so as not to prohibit the Academy from procuring for its members benefits such as insurance programs, loan plans, and lease arrangements so long as the Academy's name, symbol, or logo are not used by the companies providing these benefits

in advertising or other promotions for other than Academy members."

As of Convention News time the following resolutions were adopted: 8 (revised), 13, 16, 20, 21, 24 (revised), 27 (substitute), 28 (revised) 36, 37, 39 (revised), 41 (substitute), 42, 50 (revised), 51. Presidential recommendations adopted 1,2,5,6,7 (revised), 8,20, 26. Resolutions not adopted: 9, 12, 15, 22, 31, 32, 34, 38, 40, 43, 52, 54. Presidential recommendations 18 and 20 were not adopted. Presidential recommendations 9 and 26 were referred to committee.

A report of House action which occurred after the deadline for *Convention News* will appear in tomorrow's issue.



Marilyn Fitzgerald, AAPA/APAP Secretary to the Director, pauses to review materials prior to yesterday's reconvening of the House.

New President

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reflect a factual approach to the problem and a logical solution."

Konopa said the new bylaws to be considered by the House of Delegates "may well be" lacking in certain areas. However, he told the audience that the Academy's bylaws have been amended or rewritten in nine of the past ten years.

"No set of bylaws have ever been etched in stone," he stated, indicating that the growth of the Academy warrants such updating.

Communications Wanted

The Academy's Public Education Committee is seeking lines of communications with representatives from more State Chapters.

During an unofficial meeting Tuesday morning of the Committee and members of some State Chapters, the idea of opening broader lines of communications became a central theme.

According to a structure recommended in the Committee's Annual Report to the Academy the ideal situation would be for each State Chapter to have an appointed public relations or public education representative and for that person to be in close contact with regional representatives on the Committee.

During Tuesday's meeting it became evident that "everyone didn't get the word," and all agreed that a renewed effort should be made for a strong line of contacts.

For that reason the following Regional Representatives and the states they cover are listed. Please contact them if you need help, have a suggestion, or just want them to know who and where you are for future reference.

Region I—Md., Minn., Vt., N.H., Mass., R.I., Conn., Penn., N.Y., N.J., Del., W.Va.

Michael Sheldon
116 Woodlawn Ave.
Portland, ME 04102
H: 207/797-5769
O: 207/871-2381

Region II—Va., N.C., S.C., Ala., Ga., Fla., Ky., Tenn.

Catherine Vangellow
1202 Medical Center Drive
Wellington, NC 28401
H: 919/256-3213
W: 191/763-3213

Region III—Minn., Wis., Mich., Iowa, Ill., Ohio, Mo., Ind.

Raymond J. Krystyniak
516 W. Diversay Pkwy., 3A
Chicago, IL 60614
H: 312/477-0920
O: 312/883-6400 pager 288

Region IV—Kans., Okla., Ark., Miss., La., Tex.

Lewis M. DeVore
3508 Simmons Drive
Del City, OK
H: 405/672-4923
O: 405/271-4919

Region V—Mont., Wyo., Colo., N. Mex., N. Dak., S. Dak., Nebr.

Nancy Staible
10542 Hoyt Street
Broomfield, CO 80020
H: 303/466-0593
O: 303/232-1885 ext. 470

Region VI—Wash., Idaho, Oreg., Utah, Nev., Calif., Ariz., Alaska, Hawaii.

Randy D. Danielsen
4180 W. 5415 South
Kearns, UT 84118

Student Action Sets Precedent: Ratify Constitution and Bylaws

SAAAPA adopted a new constitution, which according to past president Steve Nunn, "helps define the identity of SAAAPA and our relationship with the Academy." The student PA organization never had a Constitution before and their action on Tuesday set a precedent. In further action of the SAAAPA membership their bylaws were revised.

Responding to an inquiry about the goals he has for SAAAPA in the next year, newly elected President Bill Hultman from Western Michigan's PA Program said: "Immediately, I want to relax." With the objectives the new administration has in mind, their period of relaxation will be short.

Hultman further stated: "I am really interested in trying to involve the regional chairmen in the communications process and expand the regional system established last year."

Tom Essex, new SAAAPA Vice President sees for the future "more student membership participation."

We've gotten a lot done with the students convening at this meeting," Tom stated, "and the new Constitution and revised Bylaws provides a framework with which we can build an even more viable student association."

The new student officers are William C. Hultman, (Western Michigan) President; Thomas Essex (University of Oklahoma) Vice President; Suzi Hughes (Bowman Gray) Representative-at-Large; and Wendell Wharton, Jr. (Drew) Secretary. Congratulations!



Student Meeting

Early Risers Get Early Bird

An awakening group of Conference attendees listened to Don Detmer, M.D., Associate Professor of Preventive Medicine and Surgery at the University of Wisconsin, early Tuesday morning as he spoke on *Evaluating Peripheral Vascular Disease*.

Dr. Detmer told the audience in the Early Bird Plenary Session about the essentials of peripheral vascular evaluation and their significance. He reviewed the examination skills and the basic signs and symptoms of the disease. Discussions included the indication for and use of dopplers in vascular evaluation and clinical management.

The Early Bird session was the only presentation in Tuesday's Plenary Session, but starting at another Early Bird session today *The Hand: Evaluation and Treatment of Injuries to this Vital Structure* will be presented by Bruce Fichandler, P.A.-C., from the Section of Plastic and Reconstruction Surgery in the Yale New Haven Medical Center.

A total of eight other topics concerning counselling the female patient will be discussed in two Lederle Symposiums today. The first begins at 9 a.m., the second at 1:30 p.m. Both will be held in Colosseum Rooms V, VI and VII.



Neal Cohn (left) and H. William Monroe

ERF Receives First Donations

The first contribution to the Academy's Educational and Research Foundation (ERF) will come as a joint effort of two insurance firms, Insurance Designers, Inc. of Alexandria, Virginia, and Bercanus Insurance Company, Ltd.

Bercanus is the underwriter of the Academy's malpractice insurance program and Insurance Designers serves as agent for the new AAPA term life insurance being offered to AAPA members for the first time at this convention.

The amount of the contribution will be based upon a two percent return of the gross premiums. Using 1977 figures, the dollar amount which would be donated to the ERF is expected to be at least \$3,000 in the first year.

Neal Cohen, President of Insurance Designers, and his partner, H. William Monroe will be at the membership booth during the convention to answer questions about malpractice insurance and the new term life insurance.

The Academy's Board of Directors voted to establish the ERF in October 1977 primarily as a means of providing loans and scholarships for physician assistant students.

NEWS exhibit



Todd Burns and Howard Hollinger stop at the Merck Sharp & Dohme booth to review product information.



Sandy Similes and Tom Leidenheimer of St. Louis at Ayerst Exhibit.



Paul Webster, Specialty Representative based out of San Jose, California, for Squibb Pharmaceuticals is available at their convention booth to answer questions.



Alex Lyle reviews latest issue of *The PA Journal* which is published by Williams and Wilkins.

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