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Fall at Kent State University College of Podiatric Medicine (CPM) is buzzing with new energy and a renewed commitment to our mission – to educate students to be highly competent doctors of podiatric medicine. As summer winds down, we take time to recognize the tremendous contribution that the College of Podiatric Medicine (CPM) community is making to education, research, and service in the latest issue of the Footsteps Alumni Newsletter.

This August, CPM embraced 122 talented new students from across the country as first year podiatric medical students and welcomed back nearly 300 returning alumni for our Annual Alumni Reunion Weekend and $49 North Coast Foot & Ankle Symposium. Throughout the years, despite the considerable change that our College has endured, our undivided alumni community continues to join forces with our students in mind, as they hold the key to the future of our beloved profession. I hope that this issue inspires you to take pride in your ability to contribute to the growth of CPM by participating in our Giving Tuesday campaign this November, attending any of our CME events throughout the year or by giving to one of our funds dedicated to providing our students with the tools they need to have their best possible experience throughout their journey as student doctors.

Throughout our new fall issue you will read about how our alumni are finding new outlets to spread their love of podiatry and of service to youth around the world. You will hear stories of how our faculty, current students and alumni are leading the way in collaborative efforts in research and education. CPM continues to offer high quality CME events in prime locations, and I hope to see many of you at our 11th Annual Southeast National Conference this November 21 – 24th at the Walt Disney World Swan Hotel in Orlando, FL. All CPM alumni will receive a $100 discount on full-conference registration. You can register now by completing the tear-out registration form insert and using the enclosed pre-paid donation envelope.

Remember, you don’t have to wait for our next alumni newsletter to be delivered to stay up to date on what’s happening at CPM. I encourage you to take a moment to join our on-line community or update your contact information to keep up with the latest news:

- Like us on Facebook: @KSUCPM
- Connect with us on LinkedIn: KSUCPM
- Follow us on Instagram: @KentStateCPM
- Visit our website: www.kent.edu/CPM

Wishing you and yours a warm and peaceful fall season

Allan M. Boike, DPM, FACFAS
Dean, KSUCPM
GIVING TUESDAY 2019 – 
A MONTHLONG CELEBRATION OF CPM PHILANTHROPY

HOW YOU CAN MAKE THE MOST OF YOUR GIFT TO CPM INTERNATIONAL CLERKS THIS NOVEMBER.

Giving Tuesday, traditionally marked as the Tuesday after Thanksgiving, which occurs on Tuesday, December 3rd this year, is the unofficial worldwide beginning to a season of philanthropic giving to nonprofits. Keeping with tradition and following last year’s successful fundraising of $5,000 for the Gerard V. Yu Education Fund, Kent State University College of Podiatric Medicine (CPM) is encouraging you to get the most out of your gift to the College by participating in this year’s Giving Tuesday campaign. Why Giving Tuesday? Because for the entire month of November, your gift will be boosted or matched, meaning every dollar you give to CPM becomes so much more.

About This Year’s Campaign – CPM International Clerkships: CPM prides itself on creating new, exciting opportunities to equip its students with the skills to live their ambition and shape the future of the profession. It is for these reasons that CPM has chosen this year’s Giving Tuesday campaign to be International Clerkships. With Giving Tuesday on the horizon, CPM holds hope that with support from this year’s philanthropic campaign, students will have the opportunity to participate in a Diabetic Foot Clerkship at the San Donato Hospital in Arezzo, Italy. This groundbreaking clerkship, once funded, will be the first international clerkship for any college of podiatric medicine.

Interested CPM students will participate in a one-month clinical clerkship in the Diabetic Foot clinic at San Donato Hospital in Arezzo, Italy. Throughout the month, students will be scheduled to work a 40-hour week, gaining first-hand inter-professional education through structured multidisciplinary collaborations. The program will expose the student to a form of system-based healthcare that is entirely different than that of the United States.

During the Arezzo Clerkship, students will experience both inpatient and outpatient activities, surgical interventions, and noninvasive vascular testing including vascular ultrasound, vascular imaging, and endovascular surgery. Clinical exposure will be augmented by case discussions and lectures by diabetes specialists on topics including the diabetic foot, complications, infectious disease, musculoskeletal imaging, and vascular surgery.

The Kent State University College of Podiatric Medicine is currently seeking support for this one-of-a-kind international clerkship through donations to a scholarship for eligible students selected to participate in the amount of $3,000 per student. These imperative funds will serve to cover both housing and travel-related costs, allowing our students to focus on living their ambition for the betterment of podiatry.

STUDENT ELIGIBILITY

- Must be in good academic standing with no deficiencies at the Kent State University College of Podiatric Medicine.
- Must submit an application to participate in the Arezzo Diabetic Foot Clerkship Program. An interview may also be required by college administration and faculty.
- Must have a GPA of 3.0 or higher to be eligible.
- All travel, living, and additional insurance expenses are covered by the student.
- Must purchase medical travel and medical evacuation insurance.
- No health-related or other contraindications to international travel.
- Must have completed satisfactory drug test.
- Must be up to date on all required healthcare immunizations.

EVALUATION MECHANISM

- Students will be required to provide a log of the patients and types of pathology that were seen during the clerkship program.
- Students will be evaluated in writing by the faculty and director at San Donato hospital.
- Upon return, students will be required to provide a case presentation and written case report for submission.
In the thick of the wilds of West Virginia, you will find 14,000 acres of forested mountains, adjacent to more than 70,000 acres of national park in the scenic New River Gorge area, called The Summit Bechtel Reserve. This July, the wooded reserve was alive with tens of thousands of scouts from around the world, all gathered for the World Scout Jamboree, the official educational event of the World Organization of the Scout Movement (WOSM), hosted by Scouts Canada, Asociación de Scouts de México, and the Boy Scouts of America (BSA). While the World Scout Jamboree is hosted every four years, this year’s was significant for two reasons: The 2019 World Jamboree is only the second in history to be held in the USA (the first occurring in 1967), and for the first time ever, participants were able to visit the “Future of Podiatric Medicine” exhibit, a passion project spearheaded by 1987 CPM graduate, Bruce Blank, DPM. A team of volunteers manned the exhibit during the 12-day Jamboree to introduce hundreds of scouts to the world of podiatric medicine and surgery.

An Eagle Scout himself, Dr. Blank is no stranger to the world of scouting and the experience and savvy that it can offer today’s youth. During his stint as a volunteer in one of six MASH-like medical tents situated throughout the National Scout Jamboree in 2017 (which offsets the World Jamboree by two years) Blank saw an opportunity for podiatry to extend its reach into both the national and global scouting communities, and

started working on his dream of creating a podiatric medicine merit badge. After some investigative networking with CPM Class of 1974 graduate Dr. Paul Kinberg and meeting with two national leaders of the BSA in 2018 at BSA Headquarters in Dallas, Texas, a plan for a podiatric medicine exhibit was born, which would bring awareness of the profession and help to advance Dr. Blank’s mission to the merit badge. The new merit badge would fill a void in the current merit badge program where only the following medical disciplines are represented: Medicine, Dental Medicine and Veterinary Medicine.

A team of three Medical Directors was created which included Drs. Jason Harrill, Robb Mothershed and Blank. They were staffed by Mandy Nau, Career Promotion Strategist of the American Association of Colleges of Podiatric Medicine. One full year of planning later, the podiatric medicine exhibit came to life at the 2019 World Scout Jamboree. Scouts and other volunteers were introduced to the wide scope of practice of DPMs. Five workstations were created for the exhibit which included an introductory video, presentations concerning utilization of weight bearing CT scans, Foot and Ankle Surgery, Foot and Ankle Orthopedics and suturing/skin closure. Scouts and leaders actually participated in a hands-on workshop where they practiced suturing and other methods of skin closure. After visiting each of the exhibit’s five stations, participants received a special podiatric medicine patch designed for the event. Over the course of the 10-day exhibit, volunteer podiatrists introduced more than 600 scouts and leaders to podiatric medicine, and Dr. Blank ensures that this is just the beginning.

Gearing up for the next National Scout Jamboree in 2021, Blank plans to volunteer again as a member of the medical staff and hopes to be invited to bring the Podiatric Medicine Exhibit back to the scouts to further awareness and garner support for the merit badge. “Considering how important healthy feet and
ankles are to scouts and considering that we want more youth to be aware of podiatric medicine and surgery as a career choice, I think it’s an important merit badge to be recognized,” Blank says.

“It’s also key,” Dr. Blank continues, “to recruit more DPM volunteers to participate in these events. At the 2017 National, there were about six or seven podiatrists that volunteered. There were probably 150 MD and DO volunteers,” Blank recalls. “The point is, if we want to develop this merit badge, we need to show some real concern about scouting and, in turn, this will increase awareness of our profession. It is the difference between going to a stranger and asking them for help when you have no skin in the game, vs. asking as a respected partner. As a podiatrist, we’re currently the minority in a group of volunteers.” It is Dr. Blank’s hope that podiatrists across the country will feel called to volunteer and help boost podiatric medicine as an incredible career path for the thousands of teenage boys, and now girls, who attend the Jamboree as well as youth involved in Scouting year round.

The theme for this year’s World Jamboree was “Unlock a New World”, and thanks to Dr. Blank and his volunteers, we are confident that the “Future of Podiatric Medicine” exhibit did just that for the hundreds of scouts who now proudly display their new Podiatric Medicine Patch. If you are interested in volunteering at the 2021 National Jamboree, please visit cpcbsa.org/2021jamboree.

Thank you to the following corporations that helped make the “Future of Podiatric Medicine” exhibit a success:
- CurveBeam provided a video of weight-bearing CT scans for evaluation and treatment of foot and ankle conditions.
- Sutures, skin staplers, and Dermabond Prineo were donated by Ethicon, Inc.
- Non-invasive Zip Surgical Skin Closure devices were donated and demonstrated by Zipline Medical personnel.
- The Podiatry Foundation (Formerly The OCPM Foundation) provided grant support.
- Surgical Instrumentation, bone models and frames donated by Wright Medical Group
- Orthotics and iPad scanner donated by Controlled Step Orthotics
- AFOs donated by Drs. Blank and Harrill

Thank you to the following individuals and organizations for their financial or other contributions to the World Scout Jamboree “Future of Podiatric Medicine” exhibit:
- Advanced Video Presence and Photography
- American Association of Colleges of Podiatric Medicine
- AMEREX Corp
- American College of Foot and Ankle Surgeons
- American Podiatric Medical Association
- Bako Diagnostics
- Blue Orchid Marketing
- California Podiatric Medical Association
- Darco International, Inc.
- Mark Dollard, DPM
- Dr. Jill’s Foot Pads
- Dr. William M. Scholl College of Podiatric Medicine at the Rosalind Franklin University of Medicine and Science
- Oregon Podiatric Medical Association
- Georgia Podiatric Medical Association
- Jason Harrill, DPM
- Scott E. Hughes, DPM
- Illinois Foot Health Education Foundation
- Indiana Podiatric Medical Association
- Institute for Podiatric Excellence & Development
- IQ MED, LLC
- Kansas Podiatric Medical Association
- Kent State University College of Podiatric Medicine
- Michigan Podiatric Medical Association
- Richard Mittica, Controlled Step Orthotics
- George Nasser, DPM
- New Jersey Podiatric Medical Society – Eastern Division
- New Mexico Podiatric Medical Association
- New York College of Podiatric Medicine
- New York State Podiatric Medical Association
- North Carolina Foot & Ankle Society
- Ohio Foot and Ankle Medical Association
- Pennsylvania Podiatric Medical Association
- Pinnacle Practice Achievement
- The Podiatry Foundation
- Realm Labs, LLC
- Jonathan Robertozzi Memorial Scholarship Fund
- Temple University School of Podiatric Medicine
- Texas Podiatric Medical Association
- Christopher S. Seufferling, DPM
- Luke Vetti, DPM
- Rick Wilson, DPM
- Wisconsin Podiatric Medical Association
- Daniel Zinsmaster, Esq.
- Blake Zobell, DPM
Independence, Ohio – August 29, 2019. It has become tradition that each year, during the third week in August, Kent State University College of Podiatric Medicine (CPM) opens its doors to podiatrists around the country for a weekend of continuing education and alumni celebrations, all in the name of the college’s top priority – student scholarships. This year, CPM saw its most successful event in recent history, as nearly 400 community members, 270 of which being its own alumni, attended the North Coast Foot & Ankle Symposium. The 4-day symposium offered 25 continuing education contact hours, including workshops sponsored by Wright Medical, Legally Mine, USA, Erchonia Corporation, Podiatry Content Connection and Janssen Pharmaceutical, as well as a 15% discount from Podiatry Insurance Company of America (PICA).

In the evenings following the symposium, the entire CPM alumni community was invited to partake in a series of social events in the Cleveland area. Friday night brought guests to The Corner Alley in downtown Cleveland, which joined current and past students together in a casual, social setting. Saturday evening saw the Alumni Awards & Hall of Fame Dinner at The Cleveland Museum of Natural History to honor 2019 alumni award winners as well as Hall of Fame inductees Winfield E. Butlin, DPM, Class of 1964, The Late Jay D. Lifshen, DPM, Class of 1976, and Steven P. Brancheau, DPM, Class of 1980. In addition, the classes of 1969, 1979, and 1994 celebrated their 50th, 40th and 25th reunions with their classmates throughout the weekend. Celebrations concluded with the Annual OPMSA Golf Tournament on Sunday at the Cleveland Golf Club.
KSUCPM FOOTSTEPS NEWSLETTER

HONORS CPM ALUMNI SCHOLARSHIPS

Metro Parks Seneca Golf Course, which is hosted each year by CPM students belonging to the Ohio Podiatric Medical Students Association (OPMSA).

A full listing of award recipients for the 3rd Annual Alumni Reunion Weekend are as follows:

- KSUCPM Service Award: David H. Gross, DPM, Class of 1971; Donna M. Pacchioni, EMBA
- Distinguished Alumnus Award: Christopher F. Hyer, DPM, Class of 2000
- Young Physician Professional Award: William T. DeCarbo, DPM, Class of 2004
- Thomas V. Melillo, DPM Full Tuition Scholarship Award: Kristen Brett, MSIV
- OPMSA Outstanding Podiatric Medical Student Award: Kayla Robinson, MSIV
- PICA Scholarships: Anne Cossogue, MSIV; Alex Schaeffer, MSIV

All weekend events were sponsored by OCPM Foundation, serving to enhance the education and practice of podiatric medicine nationally through generous giving, scholarship and grants to support innovative causes that will improve or invent new solutions in podiatry, and nurture the community of podiatrists in particular for educational and research projects.

SAVE THE DATE! Next year’s Alumni Reunion Weekend will be held August 13–16, 2020! Submissions for the 2020 Hall of Fame Inductees and alumni award recipients will be open October 1 – December 30, 2019. Nomination criteria and guidelines can be found at www.kent.edu/cpm/AlumniAwards.

WHERE IN THE WORLD IS KSUCPM?

On the road for CME events? We are too! Stop by the Kent State University College of Podiatric Medicine alumni table at the events below to register for coming events, get a replacement Kent State diploma, or just say “hi”!

- October 24 – 27, 2019 NEOAPM Fall Classic Seminar Cleveland, OH
- November 7 – 10, 2019 2019 Goldfarb Foundation Clinical Conference King of Prussia, PA
- November 21 – 24, 2019 KSUCPM 11th Annual Southeast National Conference Orlando, FL
  Use the tear-out form on page xx and enclosed donation envelope to take advantage of a $100 alumni discount on a full-conference registration.
  Online registration available at www.kent.edu/cpm/2019-southeast-national-conference
- January 24 – 26, 2020 NYSMPA Foundation for Podiatric Medicine New York, NY
- January 15 – 19, 2020 FPMA Science and Management Symposium Orlando, FL
- February 19 – 22, 2020 2020 ACFAS Scientific Conference San Antonio, TX
- February 26 – March 1, 2020 MPMA Great Lakes Conference Dearborn, MI
- March 13 – 15, 2020 No Nonsense Seminar Independence, OH
- May 14 – 16, 2020 OHFMA 104th Ohio Annual Foot & Ankle Scientific Seminar Columbus, OH
- May 21 – 23, 2020 KSUCPM Foot & Ankle Renaissance Florence, Italy
  For more information, visit www.kent.edu/cpm/Florence2020
- July 23 – 26, 2020 APMA Annual Scientific Meeting Boston, MA
- August 13 – 16, 2020 KSUCPM 3rd Annual North Coast Foot & Ankle Symposium KSUCPM Campus, Independence, OH
  For more information, visit www.kent.edu/cpm/2020-NorthCoastCME

THANK YOU TO OUR 2019 TITLE SPONSOR: OCPM FOUNDATION

Dean Allan Bolton, DPM, Class of 1962 and David Niccolini of the OCPM Foundation award CPM student Kristen Brett, MSIV, the Thomas V. Melillo Full Tuition Scholarship Award at the Alumni Awards & Hall of Fame Dinner.

www.kent.edu/cpm | 7
COLLEGE OF PODIATRIC MEDICINE FACULTY AND STUDENTS AWARDED NAN HILT WRITERS AWARD

The College of Podiatric Medicine (CPM) is no stranger to collaborative research efforts amongst faculty, students and alumni. In fact, this discernible collective atmosphere is often named by students as a leading factor in selecting CPM as opposed to one of the 8 other podiatry schools in the United States.

This Spring, CPM faculty members from the Division of Pediatric and General Medicine, Dr. Rachel Johnson and Dr. Abe Osbourne, were selected to receive the Nan Hilt Writers Award for their publication “The Diabetic Foot Assessment”, which reviews the diabetic foot assessment that nurses in healthcare settings and other healthcare professionals should use when caring for a diabetic patient. The faculty members’ co-authors were none other than current University Hospitals Wound Care Fellow and CPM Graduate, Jess Rispoli, DPM, along with Class of 2019 CPM Graduate Craig Verdin. “The Diabetic Foot Assessment” was published in the January/February 2018 issue of Orthopaedic Nursing, a prominent, international, peer reviewed journal.

The editorial board for Orthopaedic Nursing selected Osbourne and Johnson's manuscript as the best clinical article in the 2018 volume year. Osbourne, Johnson, Rispoli and Verdin were presented with the Nan Hilt Writers Award at the Annual Meeting of the National Association of Orthopaedic Nurses (NAON) on Saturday, May 18th in Atlanta, GA.

The full article “The Diabetic Foot Assessment” can be viewed by visiting the following link: https://insights.ovid.com/pubmed?pmid=29369130.

Contributing Authors:
Rachel Johnson, DPM, RN, Assistant Professor, Department of Podiatric Medicine, Kent State University College of Podiatric Medicine, Independence, OH.
Abe Osbourne, DPM, MBA, Associate Professor, Department of Podiatric Medicine, Kent State University College of Podiatric Medicine, Independence, OH.
Jessica Rispoli, DPM, PGY3 Resident, University Hospitals Richmond Medical Center, Richmond Heights, OH.
Craig Verdin, MS, Podiatric Medical Student, Kent State University College of Podiatric Medicine, Independence, OH.

SHOE MUSEUM SPOTLIGHT: A LOOK AT ONE ALUMNUS’ IMPRESSIVE DONATION TO THE CPM SHOE MUSEUM

If you’ve paid a visit to Kent State University College of Podiatric Medicine (CPM) in the past three years, you may have been lucky enough to get a peek at the CPM Shoe Museum, and it’s likely been hard to forget. A pair of impressive glass display cabinets grace the 2nd floor academic corridor and have been holding the treasures and collectibles generously donated by CPM alumni since the Museum’s establishment in 2016. The cabinets were received as a generous donation from Class of 1966 CPM alumnus, Dr. Steve Berlin and the OCPM Foundation, in honor of the College’s Centennial Celebration. Shelves in the museum were quickly stocked with rare, lifelong collections of CPM alumni, including that of Dr. David H. Gross, Class of 1971, whose impressive donation was the very first to arrive in the Museum. Dr. Gross, a longtime advocate and staunch supporter of the College, was eager to ensure that his lifelong collection of button hooks, shoe horns, and array of podiatry collectibles found a home where they could be admired daily by students, faculty, staff and visitors to the Museum. The collection is certainly easy to appreciate: A total of 135 finely made instruments, with over 77 sterling silver items, including scarce art nouveau repousse pieces by Gorham, three rare ivory-handle pieces, eight fine French ivory examples and scarce foldable pocket or portable versions. Items in the lot are beautifully preserved, dated from the Civil War era to the 1920s.

The CPM Shoe Museum is happily accepting collections just like that of Dr. Gross. If you have items that you think would make a great addition to the CPM Shoe Museum, please contact CPM Library Director, Donna Perzeski at 216-916-7506. *CPM reserves the right to determine the retention or rejection of all donations.

Stay tuned for the Spring, 2020 issue of Footsteps for a look at our most recent Shoe Museum gift in memory of Dr. Robert Shafer, Class of 1954!
KSUCPM ADVISORY BOARD MEMBER HONORED WITH EMERITUS STATUS

The Kent State University College of Podiatric Medicine (KSUCPM) Advisory Board serves to provide leadership in the growth and development of the college, to raise, and recommend disbursement of funds for the benefit of the college and to perform any and all other functions necessary to accomplish said purpose.

In May of 2019, Mrs. Donna M. Pacchioni, EMBA was honored with Emeritus Status and continues to serve in this capacity. Emeritus Status is given to members of the board who have longevity and have completed outstanding, loyal, and faithful service, and whom are appointed at the recommendation of the board and the campus dean. As an Emeritus member, Mrs. Pacchioni can be available for consultation and advice, and may attend all meetings of the board, but shall not be entitled to vote.

Mrs. Pacchioni served on the OCPM Board of Trustees from 2000 to 2012 and served on the KSUCPM Advisory Board from 2012 to May of 2019 when she was honored with Emeritus status. She served as the first chairperson after the merger with Kent State University from 2012 to 2013. Mrs. Pacchioni served as a mentor to the dean and other board members with her insight, direction, and assistance with proper board procedures. She provided an objective balance to the board with her strong financial and educational background providing precise and well-thought analysis in all board matters. She possessed a strong work ethic, passion, and loyalty to the college.

In August of 2019 during the Alumni Reunion Weekend Dinner and Awards Presentation, Mrs. Pacchioni was honored with the 2019 KSUCPM Service Award. Typically this award is only given to alumni, but Mrs. Pacchioni was an exception given her numerous years of service, support and strong dedication to the college.

Mrs. Pacchioni is currently the Interim Chief Financial Officer at Kentucky Country Day School, in Louisville, KY. She recently retired as CFO at Hawken School in Cleveland, OH, after seventeen years. Prior to her time in independent schools, Donna worked for National City Corporation as controller, head of the Kentucky retail bank, and head of deposit products. While with Hawken School, Mrs. Pacchioni worked on bond financing, property acquisition and construction, a school merger and other major projects. Hawken School had a recent history of innovation and she partnered with the Head of School and other administrators to successfully launch those innovations.

On behalf of the advisory board and the entire KSUCPM community, we thank you Donna for your service!
Every summer, members of Kent State University College of Podiatric Medicine (CPM) faculty, staff and student bodies pack up and head to the American Podiatric Medical Association (APMA) Annual Scientific Meeting. The meeting, dubbed The National, is hosted in a new US city each year, with this year’s location being Salt Lake City, UT. While CPM’s alumni booth graces The National exhibit hall in every city, if you were at the conference in Salt Lake City this July, you may have noticed CPM garnering a bit more attention than usual! Here are a few big wins CPM snagged during this year’s Annual Scientific Meeting:

**A $5,000 Scholarship from Sebela Pharmaceuticals**

Earlier this year, Sebela Pharmaceuticals announced that it would be awarding an unrestricted $5,000 Step Up scholarship to a student from a school of podiatric medicine. Attendees at The National were able to vote for the winning school once a day during exhibit hours and thanks to YOU, CPM brought the scholarship home! Big thank you to everyone who voted!

**CPM Student Tung Dao, MSIV Took Home the Student Quiz Bowl Trophy**

The APMA Student Quiz Bowl is a National Meeting tradition in which one representative from each of the nine accredited podiatry colleges answer categorized questions with weighted point values based on the difficulty of the question. The final question of each round allows contestants to wager their points. After three rounds, the finalist from each round competes for the trophy. For the second year in a row, CPM is bringing home the trophy! Congratulations to this year’s winner, Tung Dao, MSIV, on his victory! We are so proud!

**CPM Faculty Win 3rd Place in Poster Competition**

CPM faculty and students won 3rd place in the research poster competition! The poster, titled “Inaccuracy of Forefoot Axial Radiographs in Determining the Coronal Plane Angle of Sesamoid Rotation in Adult Hallux Abducto Valgus Deformity. A Study using Weight-Bearing CT Scanning” was authored by faculty members Larry Osher, Jill Kawalec and Duane Ehredt, Jr., and former students Kelsi Nutter (Class of 2019), Joseph Fleck (Class of 2018) and Kiarash Bakhaj (Class of 2016). This study questioned the use of the standard pre-operative forefoot axial (FFA) view, used by both orthopedic and podiatric surgeons to evaluate the hallux valgus deformity, that does not put the foot in a weight-bearing position. The research compared the sesamoid rotation angles measured from this x-ray view against CT scan views of the foot in two different weight-bearing positions. The results clearly demonstrated significant differences in the angles between the two extreme weight-bearing positions, calling into question the pre-operative accuracy and usefulness of “industry standard” FFA studies, thus potentially impacting surgical practice worldwide.
“If society will not admit of a woman’s free development, then society must be remodeled,” Elizabeth Blackwell proclaimed. Elizabeth sent multiple letters requesting admission to multiple medical schools, only to receive an equal number of rejections. One medical school dean, perceiving her presence as a threat to the male contingent, wrote “You cannot expect us to furnish you with a stick to break our hands with.” Elizabeth would go on to become the first women to receive a medical degree in the United States in 1849.

In lower extremity healthcare, as well as many other medical specialties, it has not been easy for women to succeed in traditionally male-dominated roles. According to the American Pediatric Medical Association (APMA), the profession was almost exactly 75% men and 25% women in 2015 (Beth Shaub, 2016, as cited in Delzell, 2016). This year, the 52% female Kent State University College of Podiatric Medicine (CPM) incoming class of 2023 offers a shimmer of equality across the profession, not familiar to Elizabeth Blackwell or CPM classes of the past.

But while gender demographics both in the classroom and in the operating room have shifted toward parity over time – in some specialties more than others –challenges remain. Though a well-respected surgeon and faculty member, Dr. Christina Pratt, CPM Assistant Professor in the Division of Pediatric & General Medicine asserts that still in 2019, there are discrepancies in the way women are perceived in the profession. “As a female physician and surgeon in a historically male-dominated profession, it many times comes with concern that people perceive you as being weak, as more assistant than leader, and that your work or ability may not be taken as seriously as your colleagues or by your patients. With that, it is admittedly more difficult to enter and command an operating room. It can be more difficult to earn patient rapport,” she claims. But that doesn’t stop Dr. Pratt from taking control of the impact she can make, fighting what often feels like an uphill battle, “A way to overcome this is perhaps to ignore any perception of inability or inadequacy, to take it upon yourself to become well-educated and well-trained, and with continued and active involvement within our profession.”

While a balanced profession will undoubtedly require an overdue modernization of old-school perceptions, the face of podiatry is changing, as proven by the majority of female students in the class of 2023. “There is a sensitivity and an insight and perspective that can be provided quite exceptionally by your female surgeon,” Dr. Pratt appeals. CPM is working to empower today’s female students and cultivate them into leaders of tomorrow and of generations to come, and Dr. Pratt is eager to be a part of this trend as she works with CPM Enrollment Management to interview prospective incoming students each year.

“I look forward to watching the incoming female student physicians take on leadership positions within the College and eventually, within our profession,” Pratt concludes, “I would encourage them to not be afraid to step out of comfort zones, seek out challenges, and appreciate being a part of actively changing statistics in medicine.”

Sources:
SAVE THE DATE

Foot & Ankle Renaissance
MAY 21 – 23, 2020
Kent State University Florence Campus
# The 11th Annual Southeast National Conference

**November 21 - 24, 2019 * Walt Disney World Swan Hotel**

**REGISTER HERE & MAIL US YOUR FORM**

## Registration Form

Complete this registration form and use the pre-paid donation envelope inside your Fall 2019 Footsteps to submit your registration!

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### The 11th Annual Southeast National Conference Rates

*All rates apply to both APMA and Non-APMA Members*

- $299 - CPM Alumni: All OCPM or KSUCPM Graduates
- $399 - Early Bird Registration: Before 11/12/19
- $475 - Standard / Walk-In Rate: 11/13 - 11/24/19
- $250 - Weekend Only: Saturday & Sunday only
- $265 - Disabled & Military: ID Required
- $100 - Resident

**$**

**Total Payment** (please check and fill out all boxes and indicate total payment amount)

**Payment Method** *(American Express is no longer accepted)*

- Check (payable to KSUCPM)
- Visa
- MasterCard

Card #  
Exp. Date:  
3-Digit Security Code:

Name on Card:
Signature

*Registrations will be accepted if received by EOB on 11/12/19. Registration at the door will be available beginning at 7am on 11/21/19.

Cancellation Policy: Cancellations prior to 30 days before the seminar will receive a 50% refund or full credit for future meeting. After this date, no refunds are applicable."