



# Orthopaedic Research Society

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## Message from the President of the Orthopaedic Research Society

Dear Colleagues,

The last several years have been a very exciting time for the Orthopaedic Research Society. The Society has undergone remarkable growth. Over the last 10 years, we have observed an increase in membership from 1,852 to 2,499. Attendance at the Annual Meeting has expanded over these years by more than 60%. Our meeting last year in Las Vegas was our largest to date, with 3,722 attendees. The expansion and growth of our Society is due to its greatest resource, our members, and the breadth, depth, and excellence of the research that they bring to the Annual Meeting. We are realizing our goal of becoming the leading society in the world for the orthopaedic research.

The success of the ORS brings new challenges, and the Board of Directors has committed its efforts towards fostering continued excellence in our programs during these dynamic times. I am pleased to report that the Board has made substantial progress on one of our most challenging issues, the location of the Annual Meeting. In collaboration and through extensive discussion with the American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons leadership and Board of Directors we have arrived at a model in which the ORS and AAOS will share in a co-located meeting at those locations which have the space and resources necessary to support both a superb ORS meeting and an outstanding AAOS meeting.

The new approach going forward is to have alternating co-located or separate meetings, depending on the feasibility of the AAOS meeting site. The 2011 meeting is separate, with the AAOS meeting occurring in San Diego, CA and the ORS meeting located approximately 6 weeks earlier, in Long Beach, CA. In 2012 we will hold a co-located meeting with the AAOS in San Francisco, CA. This has been a popular site and we anticipate this to be a highly successful meeting. The ORS will again hold a meeting



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separate from the AAOS meeting in Chicago in 2013. An ORS task force is currently evaluating several sites, all of which have outstanding potential to provide an exciting venue for the 2013 Orthopaedic Research Society Annual Meeting. The AAOS is still developing their plans for future meeting locations and the ORS Board will be working with the AAOS to identify and maximize opportunities for a co-located meeting.

One of the most important aspects of the future meeting planning process has been the development of a co-programming committee that is composed of representatives of both the ORS and AAOS. The goals of this committee are to enhance the integration of content between the two meetings, and ensure that clinical areas and translational research continue as an important characteristic of the ORS meeting and at the same time bring basic and translational research to the AAOS meeting. This committee has the full support of both societies and its mission is independent of whether the meetings are separate or co-located. The partnership and communication with the AAOS will ensure an outstanding meeting experience for all of our members.

The ORS continues to make progress in other areas. The Journal of Orthopaedic Research remains the flagship publication of the Orthopaedic Research Society. The Journal's impact factor has continued to climb as has its visibility within the research community. We are currently in the process of negotiating a new contract for the Journal that will ensure continued growth for the next five years. Publishing is another area in transition, and we anticipate that the next few years will enable the Journal to bring key new features that add additional value for our members. In addition, we are exploring the potential possibilities of an online format for the Journal that will make research communications more effective. The Journal will continue as a critical component of the Society and will continue to expand its impact and reach.

I am very pleased to report that the Orthopaedic Research Society finances have been relatively stable during this period of financial fluctuation and turmoil. As reported at our Annual Meeting in Las Vegas, the Finance Committee's approach, which maximizes returns with minimizing risk, resulted in losses that were markedly less than market benchmarks. With improvement in the economy this year, our finances have continued to show returns above benchmark. The Finance Committee will continue to maintain a sound investment strategy and will provide strong stewardship and oversight of our finances.

A major change over the last several years has been the development of an open nomination and election process for leadership positions in the Society. This is a transparent process that permits all members of the Society participate. Recently, the Board has initiated a strategic planning process that has included a critical evaluation of the structure of our various committees and their organization. This process is part of



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our overall mission to enhance research, advocacy, communication with the public and other societies, and scientific mentoring activities.

Among all of our goals, the most important is to better understand the needs of our members and to identify improved ways to make the Orthopaedic Research Society more valuable to our members. During this year's meeting we will be hosting several listening forums where our members can provide important input. The 2010 meeting will also have some new features. The popular Short Talk sessions will be expanded and integrated with Poster sessions. The meeting will also introduce new "Spotlight Sessions" in which invited speakers provide presentations on their latest research findings, followed by relevant short presentations chosen from the submitted abstracts. Our popular educational workshop series will include "New Horizon" workshops that will introduce exciting new technologies and areas of research. We anticipate an exciting and dynamic meeting in New Orleans. We hope to see all of you there.

On behalf of the Board of Directors, I thank all of you for your support of the Society and your commitment to our future.

Sincerely,

Regis O'Keefe  
President  
Orthopaedic Research Society