Oklahoma Academy of Physician Associates
September 2024 Board Meeting
September 16, 2024, 6:30 – 8:30 pm
Via Zoom

Board Members present: Jeff Burke, Don Guthrie, Krista Barnes, Christy Niehues, Elizabeth DiSalvatore, Phil Green, Nicole Mason, Keith Plummer, Melissa Loftis, Audra Ball, Helga Price,

Board Members absent: Saura Douglas, Natasha Simonson, Jennifer Putnam, Jenna Smith

Others present: Tyler Powell, Jan Loftis, Jeanine Smith, Audrey Poole, Susan Thomas, Gavin Christie, Andrew Doak, Heidi Avery

I. Call to Order 6:32 PM

II. Approval of Agenda

- **Motion to approve the agenda made by Don Guthrie; Helga Price seconds. All in favor. Motion passes.**

III. Approval of Consent Agenda

1. August 2024 Board Meeting Minutes Approval
2. Student Reports

- **Motion to approve the consent agenda made by Phil Green; Krista Barnes seconds. All in favor. Motion passes.**

V. Reports

1. Legislative & Governmental Affairs – Don Guthrie, Jan Loftis
   - The Legislative Committee met on 08/22/2024 and was in full approval of the PA rules.
   - The Committee is working on details for the Town Hall meetings.
     - Town Hall areas – OKC North, OKC South, Tulsa North, Tulsa South, Lawton, Ardmore, McCalister
     - There will be more information to come.
   - The committee discussed OTP and has fully approved moving forward with OTP legislation.
   - PA Rules – Jan Loftis - The public hearing for the PA rules consisted of 38 written comments.

3. PAPAC – Audra Ball, Nicole Mason
    - PAPAC is making preparations for conference.
    - PAPAC will need help with the PAPAC table.
    - There will be a PAPAC section of the 2-hour legislative CME at the conference.
    - The golf tournament is coming up, but it may need to be cancelled because of the player minimum not being met.

4. Governance Committee – Jeff Burke
    - The Governance Committee met a few weeks ago. A number of changes were made to the committee list. Those changes were sent to the board to review prior to the meeting.
        - **Motion from the Governance Committee to accept the changes and current committee list. All in favor. Motion Passes.**
        - Changing of election times was discussed. This information was sent to the board prior to the meeting for reiview. The time line that was discussed is below:
            - March 3, 2025 - Board Meeting – Approve Ballot
            - March 4 - March 18, 2025 - Meet the Candidates - Elections (2 weeks)
            - March 19 - April 2 - Elections (2 weeks)
            - April 25 & 26, 2025 (Friday/Saturday) – Board Retreat
            - **Motion from Governance Committee to accept the new timeline for elections. All in favor. Motion passes.**

    - Liaison Position – Gavin Christie
        - Gavin Christie introduced himself and gave his background with the OAPA.
        - Gavin Christie then left the Zoom meeting so the board could discuss his application and the possibility of hiring him.
        - Gavin Christie's application and resume were sent to the Board prior to the meeting for review.
            - Don Guthrie and Krista Barnes stated that the budget was noted for a liaison position of 100k plus a 6% retirement. The position will be paid from the time it starts and will be prorated as a monthly salary.
        - The board discussed Gavin's ability to fill the Liaison position and his qualifications.
        - **Motion from the Governance Committee to hire Gavin Christie at 100k with the additional 6% retirement.**
            - **Discussion:**
                - Jeff Burke brought up to offer a 25k sign on bonus. The board discussed this and decided

to not offer the sign on bonus as the OAPA has never offered a sign on bonus to any of the other staff members.

- **All in favor. Motion passes.**

5. CME Committee – Saura Douglas, Christy Niehues, Susan Thomas
   - The last CME Committee meeting:
     - The committee picked the food for the lunches.
     - Bruna Varalli-Claypool and Alex Garcia will be back up speakers if needed.
     - Susan Thomas received approval for CME credit.
     - There is currently, 178 registered for in-person, 30 exhibitors, and $13,500 in sponsorship money.
     - The OAPA will send out a future conference survey to see about changing the conference layout.
     - Susan Thomas asked if the board wants to get together Wednesday night at the conference to socialize. The board stated they would like to.
     - Shannon from AAPA will be set up in a conference room after the 2-hour legislative CME to meet and chat with the board and attendees.

6. Awards Committee – Natasha Simonson
   - Natasha was not present.
   - **Motion from the Awards committee to approve the 2024 OAPA awards as listed in the awards handout. All approved. Motion passes.**

7. Executive Director Report – Susan Thomas
   - Speakers Ball: January 25th, 2025 at the OKC Convention center. It is $2500 a table. The board discussed and consulted Jan Loftis and decided on two tables for the Speakers Ball. This is already in the budget.
   - Susan Thomas went to LAS this year. She encouraged the board to attend next year. She spoke with Pennsylvania's Chapter President and they are putting in their legislation to call themselves Physician Associates OR Physician Assistants. This will keep them from having to open all their acts to change the name.
   - Several Chapters have a set PA Day at the capitol so that their PAs know every year and can make an effort to come.

8. PR Committee – Elizabeth DiSalvatore, Helga Price, Jennifer Putnam
   - Helga Price talked to Natasha Simonson and will be working with Audrey Poole to get with Mega Media.

9. Social Committee – Christy Niehues
    - There will be a tailgate theme for the reception at the conference. Dress up in your favorite team attire. We will have food, games, inflatables, and prizes.
    - The committee will be working with Don Guthrie and Jan Loftis on the Town Hall Meetings.

10. Research Committee – Nicole Mason
    - Nicole Mason went over a slide show that she put together.

11. PA Relations Committee – Jennifer Putnam
    - No report

12. Student Advisory Committee – Elizabeth DiSalvatore
    - The committee met and elected a student voting representative: Jenna Smith, OU-OKC.
    - The students know they must give an update at the General Membership Meeting.

13. Finance Committee – Krista Barnes, Don Guthrie
    - Reviewed the budget that was sent to the board prior to the meeting.
    - Don Guthrie –I didn't get a number from the PR committee for a budget, so I went off last year's numbers.
    - Jeff Burke – what is the 5k for the board retreat?
        - Don Guthrie – It is in there so we can do a 2-day/ overnight retreat if we want to. We do not have to use all 5k; it is included in the budget if needed.
        - **Motion from the Finance Committee to approve the presented budget. All in favor. Motion passed.**

VI. New Business
- NONE

VII. Old Business
- NONE

Adjourn: 8:31pm
- **Motion to Adjourn by Jeff Burkes; Phill Green seconds. All in favor. Motion passes.**

Oklahoma Academy of Physician Associates

2024-25 OAPA Committee List Final – September 20, 2024

Governance Committee

Chair: Jeff Burke	jburke4747@gmail.com	405.833.5203
Alex Garcia	onthepath3@yahoo.com	405.664.9886
Phil Green	pgreenpac@yahoo.com	580.262.3314
Krista Barnes	krista.barnes@icloud.com	580.574.9984
Haley Perez	perezhaley18@gmail.com	405.428.8299
Nichole Bateman	nbatemanpac@gmail.com	918.542.0105
Keith Plummer	orionranch1@yahoo.com	405.990.7391
Don Guthrie	daguthrie1952@gmail.com	405.550.3618
*Susan Thomas	susan-thomas@okpa.org	405.990.9353
*Gavin Christie	oapaliaison@okpa.org	405.570.4871

Legislative and Governmental Affairs Committee

Chair: Don Guthrie	daguthrie1952@gmail.com	405.550.3618
Alex Garcia	onthepath3@yahoo.com	405.664.9886
Natasha Simonson	natashasimonson@gmail.com	405.802.4452
Audra Ball	Audra.b.pac@gmail.com	405.921.3242
Don Flinn	dflinnpa@aol.com	405.568.8858
Sheila Walker	gunnclub@sbcglobal.net	405.401.3531
Robert Peevy	robpeevy@gmail.com	405.229.0593
Elizabeth DiSalvatore	lizleap96@gmail.com	405.637.5005
Helga Price	reneepa1@cox.net	918.906.5262
Sara Parr	sarahouse@okstatealumni.org	405.408.4851
Keith Plummer	orionranch1@yahoo.com	405.990.7391
Lisa Eckhardt	lde-pa@skyrock3.com	660.525.7482
Jeff Burke	jburke4747@gmail.com	405.833.5203
* Gavin Christie	oapaliaison@okpa.org	405.570.4871

PA Relations Committee

Chair: Jennifer Putman	txag1993@gmail.com	405.455.3322
Nicole Mason	nmstewar@gmail.com	618.781.8686
Robert Peevy	robpeevy@gmail.com	405.229.0593
Helga Price	reneepa1@cox.net	918.906.5262
Phil Green	pgreenpac@yahoo.com	580.262.3314
Lisa Eckhardt	lde-pa@skyrock3.com	660.525.7482
*Gavin Christie	oapaliaison@okpa.org	405.570.4871

Financial Affairs Committee

Chair: Krista Barnes	krista.barnes@icloud.com	580.574.9984
Don Guthrie	daguthrie1952@gmail.com	405.550.3618
Keith Plummer	orionranch1@yahoo.com	405.990.7391
Phil Green	pgreenpac@yahoo.com	580.262.3314
Courtney Patin	Courtney.patin.okc@gmail.com	405-650-3781
*Susan Thomas	susan-thomas@okpa.org	405.990.9353

Awards Committee

Chair: Natasha Simonson		
Tara Watson	trw2528@gmail.com	405.301.7106
Jeanine Smith	ljsmithpac@gmail.com	918.808.1103
Jennifer Putman	txag1993@gmail.com	405.455.3322
Melissa Loftis	melissaloftis8@msn.com	405.812-6044
Lee Luetkemeyer	leeluetkemeyer@hotmail.com	405.623-4312
*Susan Thomas	susan-thomas@okpa.org	405.990.9353
*Audrey Poole	info@okpa.org	405.406.7143

OKC Foundation Committee Members

Saura Douglas	saura.douglas1@gmail.com	405.824.1988
Tara Watson	trw2528@gmail.com	405.301.7106

Public Relations Committee

Co-Chair: Elizabeth DiSalvatore	lizleap96@gmail.com	405.637.5005
Co-Chair: Helga Price	reneepa1@cox.net	918.906.5262
Co-Chair: Jennifer Putman	txag1993@gmail.com	405.455.3322
Natasha Simonson	natashasimonson@gmail.com	405.802.4452
Melissa Loftis	melissaloftis8@msn.com	405-812-6044
Audra Ball	audra.b.pac@gmail.com	405.921.3242
Jeanine Smith	ljsmithpac@gmail.com	918.808.1103
Mike Pflughoft	mikepa1200@yahoo.com	405.474.5976
Lisa Eckhardt	lde-pa@skyrock3.com	660.525.7482
*Susan Thomas	susan-thomas@okpa.org	405.990.9353
*Audrey Poole	info@okpa.org	405.406.7143
Gavin Christie	oapaliaison@okpa.org	405.570.4871

Social Committee

Chair: Christy Niehues	oapasecretary@gmail.com	405.760.5272
Tara Watson	trw2528@gmail.com	405.301.7106
Amanda Garner	amgarner007@gmail.com	850.207.8434
Elizabeth DiSalvatore	lizleap96@gmail.com	405.637.5005

Sara Parr	sarahouse@okstatealumni.org	405.408.4851
Taylor Winzeler	Taylor.Winzeler1@gmail.com	405.706.8471
Courtney Patin	Courtney.patin.okc@gmail.com	405-650-3781
Jeanine Smith	ljsmithpac@gmail.com	918.808.1103
*Audrey Poole	info@okpa.org	405.406.7143
*Susan Thomas	susan-thomas@okpa.org	405.990.9353

Student Advisory Committee

Chair: Elizabeth DiSalvatore	lizleap96@gmail.com	405.637.5005
Audra Ball	audra.b.pac@gmail.com	405.921.3242
Christy Niehues	oapasecretary@gmail.com	405.760.5272
Saura Douglas	saura.douglas1@gmail.com	405.824.1988
Johnnie Gilpen	jgilpen@gmail.com	405.919-9511
STUDENT MEMBERS		
President: Jenna Smith, OU-OKC	Jenna-smith@ouhsc.edu	918.948.2262
Andrew Doak, OU-Tulsa	andrew-doak@ouhsc.edu	303.915.7919
Courtney Adler, OCU (April 2024)	cadler@my.okcu.edu	405-206-8503
Heidi Avery, NSU (Jan-2024)	averyh@nsuok.edu	918-206-5618
Cali Fletcher, OSU (July 2024)	cali.fletcher@okstate.edu	469.396.2600

Research Committee

Chair: Nicole Mason	nmstewar@gmail.com	618.781.8686
Melissa Loftis	melissaloftis8@msn.com	405-812-6044
Robert Peevy	robpeevy@gmail.com	405.229.0593
Audra Ball	audra.b.pac@gmail.com	405-921-3242
Johnnie Gilpen	jgilpen@gmail.com	405.919-9511

CME Committee

Co-Chair: Saura Douglas	saura.douglas1@gmail.com	405.824.1988
Co-Chair: Christy Niehues	oapasecretary@gmail.com	405.760.5272
Alex Garcia	onthepath3@yahoo.com	405.664.9886
Theresa Gavula	gtgavula@gmail.com	405.250.7580
Amanda Lewis	anlewis@nrh-nrh-ok.com	405.408.8722
Don Guthrie	daguthrie1952@gmail.com	405.550.3618
Jennifer Compton	jjcompton55@gmail.com	918.808.4749
Jeff Burke	jburke4747@gmail.com	405.833-5203
Courtney Abernathy	abernathycg@yahoo.com	580.819.0370
Ashley McCrary	frchld007@gmail.com	918.770.1756
Lee Luetkemeyer	leeluetkemeyer@hotmail.com	405.623.4312
*Susan Thomas	susan-thomas@okpa.org	405.990.9353
*Audrey Poole	info@okpa.org	405.406.7143

*Non-voting committee member.

Recommended Awards for 2024
October 3, 2024

Rural PA of the Year – Gina L. Powers, PA-C

PA of the Year – Amanda Laughlin, PA-C

Physician of the Year – There will be 2 awards this year. See names below.

1. Larry Lovelace, D.O.
2. Melanie Barrett, M.D.

Honorary PA Award – There will be 2 awards this year. See names below.

1. State Senator Adam Pugh
2. Representative Collin Duel

Roger G. Whittaker Award – Courtney Abernathy, PA-C

Lifetime Membership – Max Swenson, PA-C

President Service Award – Don Flinn, PA-C

President's Plaque – Saura Douglas, PA-C

OAPA Memorial Scholarship:

Student Name: Caroline E Carson, PA-S

In Honor of: Eddie Noel, PA-C