

The ACOFP represents more than 26,000 osteopathic physicians, residents, and students. Key initiatives include expanding osteopathic learning opportunities, increased advocacy efforts, expanded member benefits and engagement opportunities, and updating and integrating new technologies to better meet the needs of the ACOFP membership.

ACOFP Leadership

President, Brian A. Kessler, DO, FACOFP *dist.*, Lillington, NC bak9@me.com

President-Elect, Gautam J. Desai, DO, FACOFP *dist.*, Kansas City, MO GDesai@kansascity.edu

Secretary/Treasurer, Greg D. Cohen, DO, FACOFP *dist.*, Chariton, IA gdcohen@lchcia.com

Immediate Past President, David J. Park, DO, FAAFP, FACOFP *dist.*, Billings, MT dpark@rvu.edu

Executive Director, Bob Moore, MA, MS, FASAE, CAE, Chicago, IL bobm@acofp.org

This report focuses on the FMLC's three strategic issues being discussed at the August meeting:

Artificial Intelligence

ACOFP has assembled an internal task force to explore AI (Artificial Intelligence) tools and resources and periodically reports to the staff team. We have discussed terminology, how it is integrated in to tools we are already using, best practices, professional use cases, and what is on the horizon.

To date, ACOFP has been utilizing AI in the following ways:

- Content development (social posts, email, newsletters, blogs, etc.)
- Transcribe webinars and podcasts
- Analyze survey data
- Summarize long form content

Tools we have explored:

- Individual Productivity:
 - Reclaim – Automated Task Management
 - Spark – PCMA, Meeting Management
 - Perplexity – AI Reliable References and Medical Topic Guidance
 - ChatGPT/Bard - Writing and Summarizing, Building Surveys
 - Otter/Zoom – Meeting notes and summaries
 - MACQDA – Qualitative (non-numerical) data analysis
- Organization Wide AI Support
 - OVID GPT Pilot – Trusted Content Query for Journals
 - Betty Bot
 - Learning Management Systems
 - Auto Language Translation
 - AI Exam Proctoring
 - ACE Audit Trails
 - Summarize Evaluation Responses
 - Auto Generate Exam Items/Distractors
 - Trusted Content Querying

Continuing medical education provided on AI:

- Digital Health for Practicing Clinicians Certificate Program
 - Artificial Intelligence (AI) in Healthcare section
- Artificial Intelligence and the Future of Medicine
 - ACOFP '24
- A New Era for ERAS: The Dawn of Thalamus
 - Faculty Development Program Director's Workshop '24

Building Research Infrastructure

Funded by a grant from the ABFM Foundation, ACOFP has embarked on a multi-year research study to understand perceptions of family medicine to gain insights in specialty decision drivers.

[Year-one](#) of this study focused on gaining a better understanding of the osteopathic medical school landscape and factors that impact the specialty choice. ACOFP, in coordination with their research partner, AMC Consulting Services (AMC) engaged in research activities to gain this insight. [Read more about the research results](#). The project included several different phases with a specific focus on the following research activities:

- **In-person and virtual focus groups with students, residents, experienced physicians, and program directors within the osteopathic medicine community.** Student and physician participants represented a mix of individuals who were considering or have chosen family medicine practice and those that have chosen a different specialty. Focus group discussions explored a variety of topics to better understand factors that impact one's specialty choice. These factors included environmental components, personal characteristics, and benefits/trade-offs.
- **A literature review of past studies/published material on related specialty choice topics.** This literature review will create a library of content and address gaps in research for further exploration.
- **An in-depth survey designed to assess attitudes and perceptions about family medicine, and the drivers that influence one's specialty decision.** The survey, modeled after the Phillips/Charnley research "Third- and Fourth-year Medical Students' Changing Views of Family Medicine," sought to not only understand students' perceptions pre- and post- family medicine clinical rotation, but to specifically focus on osteopathic medical students throughout the United States, and at various stages of their medical school education.

Listening to feedback from our student volunteers who wanted further engagement from the literature review and Think Tank, ACOFP will partner with our existing student volunteers to identify 2-3 valuable findings from our [Year 1 research](#) to publish 2-3 papers based on this research.

Separately, our Foundation arm just approved the implementation of a joint program with the American Osteopathic Foundation (AOF) to fund one research grant of \$10,000 per year for the next three years, starting in 2025. More details will be forthcoming in late 2024.

POCUS

Point-of-care ultrasound (POCUS) training is being taught in medical schools and many specialty residency programs, most recently a requirement for Family Medicine residencies. At the same time, many practicing physicians received little or no POCUS training in their schooling or residency, leaving them ill-prepared to use it in practice or supervise students and residents using it. To address this gap, in June 2023, ACOFP began offering hands-on POCUS education with a workshop at the Direct Primary Care Summit. Due to its success and popularity within the ACOFP community, two (2) hands-on POCUS workshops were offered at the 2024 ACOFP Annual Convention and Scientific Seminars (April 2024) followed by the same two (2) workshops at the 2024 Direct Primary Care Summit (June 2024). All workshops reached the maximum capacity for learners while maintaining an appropriate learner to faculty ratio for optimal learning. Survey results from attendees of the April 2024 workshops were positive, with reviews of 4.9/5 for the Fundamentals of POCUS and 5/5 for the Advanced POCUS workshop.