Minutes, ACOEP Membership Meeting, October 8, 2002
The President, Joseph J. Kuchinski, D.O., FACOEP called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

Minutes. A motion was made and seconded to accept the Minutes of the Membership Meeting of April 2002 as written.

Election of Board Members. Victor J. Scali, D.O., FACOEP, Chair of the Nominating Committee announced that four positions on the Board were open for election. The Nominating Committee identified six candidates from the membership. The identified candidates are – Peter A. Bell, D.O., Lisa DeWitt, D.O., Drew A. Koch, D.O., Joseph J. Kuchinski, D.O., Steven Parrillo, D.O., Jon-Pierre Pavezic, D.O. and Sandra L. Schwemmer, D.O. and nominations for additional candidates were solicited from the floor. There being no nominations from the floor, the nominating process was closed and members were asked to vote for four candidates. Ballots were collected and members of the Committee excused themselves from the meeting to count the ballots. Results would be announced prior to adjournment.

President’s Report. Dr. Kuchinski gave a brief report on his activities at the DO Day on the Hill and the attendance of the osteopathic profession on the Hill when the bill for PLI was approved by the House of Representative. The attendance was very positive and the provided a good impression for the
osteopathic profession. Dr. Kuchinski also discussed a new agency called, The Common Good, which the ACOEP may want to become involved with. Its purpose is to change the paradigm of medical funding in the U.S. The AOA has requested that Dr. Kuchinski represent the osteopathic profession with this organization. He reported that further information could be obtained at its website, www.commongood.org.

**President-elect Report.** Dr. Scali gave a brief report. He briefly discussed the research consortium and this has been tabled until such time as leadership has been developed and a FOEM grant has been secured. This has been discussed at the Research Committee and has been investigated by Dr. Scali.

**Secretary's Report.** Dr. Willoughby gave a brief report on her activities as Secretary. As Liaison to AOBEM she reported that they would like to disseminate information on COLA modules to ACOEP members. Other issues discussed were liaison activities to CoAEMSP and CECBEMS. Dr. Willoughby reported that a liaison relationship with the Council on Accreditation of EMS Programs (CoAEMSP) would required ACOEP to participate in the accreditation process, including site-visits to training sites. To be a parent organization we would join American College of Surgeons; American College of Cardiology; American College of Emergency Physicians; American College of Anesthesiologists.

**Treasurer's Report.** Dr. Brabson gave a brief report on the financial status of the College indicating that the budget was being finalized for FY2002 - 2003.

**Executive Director.** Ms. Wachtler gave a brief report on the status of the office and statistical information on the Membership of the College.

**Reports of Affiliated Organizations**

**Student Chapter.** Student Dr. Manhire presented a report on the activities of the Chapter during the last calendar year. She was pleased to report that the Chapter had re-written its Constitution and Bylaws and that the final version would be submitted to the Board for its approval following the meeting of the Chapter later today. She stated that the Chapter hoped to work with the Committee on Membership to develop a packet of information welcoming prospective student members to the specialty of emergency medicine and to provide them with an interactive CD that would provide them with simulated case studies and access to HIPPA information.

The Chapter is also currently seeking input into its program for 2003 and hopes to incorporate Risk Management and Research into a program.

**Resident Chapter.** No representative from the Resident Chapter was present to provide a report.

**Foundation for Osteopathic Emergency Physicians.** Ms. Wachtler provided a brief overview of the Foundation’s activities, explaining that the Board would be meeting later in the week. She informed the members of the activities surrounding the Foundation’s Second Annual Silent Auction and summarized items being presented for Auction.

**Reports of Liaison Organizations**

**American Osteopathic Board of Emergency Medicine.** Benjamin Field, D.O., FACOEP, Secretary of the Board presented an overview of the Board's activities and updated them on the status of the Continuing Osteopathic Learning Assessments (COLAs) that are under construction and the Continuous Certification in Emergency Medicine. Dr. Field expressed the need to establish a liaison between the College’s Committee on CME and the Board to ensure that the College’s Core Curriculum series coordinates with topics being tested in the COLAs.
American College of Emergency Physicians. Dr. Hill gave a brief summary of ACEP’s activities over the past six months. He explained ACEP was currently meeting in Seattle and that Dr. Suter was re-elected to its Board. He gave brief overviews of the following:

- Membership (22,763, as of August 31, 2002
- Task Forces on Professional Liability, Overcrowding and Terrorism
- Update on current legislation
- Comments on 2003 Medicare Physician Fee Schedules, proposed changes in EMTALA regulations and the 2003 Outpatient Prospective Payment System proposed rules.
- Misuse of CPT codes by Anthem Blue Cross & Blue Shield
- Recently passed policies on Expert Witness Testimony; Guidelines on Smallpox Vaccination of Healthcare workers and free membership for recent resident graduates.

National Association of EMS Educators. Dr. Willoughby presented her report on the Scientific Symposium and Membership Meeting in September 2002. She reported that the new EMS Instructor Curriculum, contracted by NHTSA, is now completed and the initial roll out to experienced EMS instructors was successful. Changes from this session will be incorporated into the final version, set for distribution in March 2003.

National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians. Dr. Willoughby presented her report on the meeting of June 2002. This semi-annual meeting included representatives from ACEP, NAEMSP, NAEMSD, NCSEMSTC, AAA, IAFC, NHTSA, ACS, AHA, US military and many others. Topics of this meeting included establishing NREMT as the national organization for EMS certification; the summary information from the EMS State Directors Survey and results from its Longitudinal Attributes Demographics Study (LEADS).

Continuing Education Coordinating Board for EMS. Dr. Willoughby presented her report from this agency’s meeting of March 2002. This composite Board has established standards for continuing educational presentations and utilizes physician and EMS professionals to review the content to ensure that they meet the criteria for national recognition.

Committee Reports

Coding and Reimbursement. Dr. Calabro’s report was submitted as written and summarizes the activities of this AOA Committee for the period of April 1 through September 30, 2002.

Committee on Undergraduate Medical Education. Dr. Jennings presented his report as written. He stated that the Committee is continuing to work on the student lectures and hopes to have the completed information next summer. These lectures will be up on the website when they are available. He reminded the members that the Student Case Competition would begin next January with information being sent out and in The Pulse. Members are developing a formal score sheet to be used by all reviewers. The Committee is also developing a survey for residents to determine their choice of training. Items being reviewed will be length of training; job placement; dual programs and loan repayment.

Graduate Medical Education. Dr. Balentine presented his report as written. He stated that the Committee is currently working to incorporate work hours in established programs to meet the July deadline and to reformat its basic standards in a format established and approved by the AOA.

Continuing Medical Education. Dr. Parrillo presented his report as written. He stated that all programs are on track and the coordinators will be working together to ensure that brochure information is on time. Additionally, he announced that the program, New Frontiers in Toxicology, will be held in Philadelphia next year and that a site is being research as we speak. He also stated that two new locations for the Spring Seminar have been contracted with for the period of 2004 through 2007. These venues are new and should be enjoyed by regular and new attendees to the program.
Emergency Medical Services. Dr. Olsson presented his report as written. His report emphasized the EMS survey, for which he presented a statistical report; the outcome of discussion of the AOA’s plan for national emergent credentialing of physicians, and the outcome of the review of the committee’s goals and objectives.

Governmental Affairs. Dr. Kuchinski presented the Committee’s report as written. He briefly covered legislation on Medical Malpractice Reform and Prescription Drug legislation and discussed the Medical Injury Compensation Reform Act.

Membership and Credentials. Dr. McGovern presented the Committee’s report as written. She presented a brief update on the AOA Matching Grant informing the Committee that its continuance is currently under review by the AOA. She also stated that the Committee would begin preparing the Resident Job Opportunity Booklet. This booklet will feature hospital profiles by region, including contact and salary information. The Committee is projecting that the first booklet should be ready for distribution shortly after the spring. Printing costs are expected to be borne by contract company advertisements.

The Committee is also developing a survey document to determine member satisfaction. The document will solicit anonymous input from members to ensure that honest input will be received.

The Committee is also contemplating the implementation of member discounts as an incentive for new member development. Items discussed were CME discounts and possible reduced rates for membership for members who bring in new members that remain members for a certain period of time.

Practice Management. The Committee’s report was presented as written. Dr. Scali explained that Policy 7, Public Utilization of AED’s will be presented to the Membership at its meeting later in the day, but the policy on Thrombolysis in CVA (Policy 8) has been withdrawn for further revision. Other items under consideration are Timeliness of Radiology Interpretation in the ED; development of a regular column in The Pulse and policy development for Chest Pain Centers, and ED Observation Centers.

Program Directors. Dr. Cynar presented the Committee’s report as written. He reported that the Committee has passed a resolution on retaining the current length of training in emergency training that was forwarded onto the Committee on GME for further study. Additionally, the members were made aware of revisions being considered in the basic standard for residency training in emergency medicine. The members also reviewed the Committee on Research’s resolution to include research in residency training as a mandatory part of residency training.

Publications Committee. Dr. Koch presented the Committee’s report as written. He emphasized the Committee’s review of the guidelines to publish case studies on either the website or in College publications. The Committee is still investigating advertising on the website and tabled further discussion until such time as further information can be developed. It was decided that a job site would be established on the site in early spring and jobs would appear for the period of one month. Also discussed was the creation of an on-line directory, however, further discussion was tabled until the spring.

Research. The Committee’s report was presented as written, noting the winners of the Resident Paper Competition.

First Place: Amy Schwartzman, D.O. for her research project titled, Does a Choice of Positions Decrease Anxiety and Increase Satisfaction During Pediatric Venipuncture in the Emergency Department Dr. Schwartzman is a resident at Genesys Regional Medical Center.

Second Place: Kevin Tomlinson, D.O. for his research project titled, Hypothermia in Trauma Patients: Are We Recognizing and Managing them Appropriately? Dr. Tomlinson is a resident at Genesys Regional Medical Center.
Third Place: Barry Gardenhire, D.O. for his research project titled, *Documentation of Pain in the Emergency Department: A Retrospective Study of Assessment and Reassessment by Physicians and Nurses*. Dr. Gardenhire is a resident at Genesys Regional Medical Center.

New Business

**Calculation of Ballots.** Dr. Scali announced the results of the tabulation of ballots for positions on the Board of Directors. The results were: Peter A. Bell, D.O., FACOEP; Lisa J. DeWitt, D.O., FACOEP; Joseph J. Kuchinski, D.O., FACOEP, and Steven J. Parrillo, D.O., FACOEP.

Dr. Scali thanked all of the physicians who ran for office and thanked Dr. Pazevic and Dr. Schwemmer for the contributions to the Board and College over the past few years.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned by the President, Joseph J. Kuchinski, D.O.

Respectfully submitted,

**Paula J. Willoughby, D.O., FACOEP**

Paula J. Willoughby, D.O., FACOEP
Secretary