

# Midwest Podiatry Conference 2017

Enjoy Spring in the Windy City.

BY ANNEMARIE DRUFKE

The Midwest Podiatry Conference is a confederation of fourteen state podiatric medical associations. The state associations of Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, and Wisconsin are the founding members and make up the Executive Council. Regular members are the state associations of Arkansas, Kansas, Nebraska, North Dakota, Oklahoma, South Dakota and the Canadian province of Ontario. The mission is to promote the art and science of podiatric medicine and the betterment of public health through an annual program of continuing education and other professionally oriented instruction for member podiatric physicians. We strive to achieve a better rapport and understanding among the health professions, and increase public awareness of podiatric medicine through public relations activities.

The first Midwest Podiatry Conference was held in 1950 at the Chicago Marriott Hotel. Today, the meeting has grown to over 2,000 attendees and 200 exhibitors, making it one of the largest podiatric conferences in the country. The 2017 Midwest Podiatry Conference will be hosted by the Hyatt Regency Chicago, April 27-30.

## Programming

The 2017 program offers podiatric physicians two tracks of continuing education to choose from, featuring plenty of updates in pediatrics, sports medicine, surgery, biomechanics, radiology, emergency medicine, diabetes, and trauma.

Dr. John Grady, Scientific Chair for the Midwest Podiatry Conference, says, "I have never been as excited about any program as this year's Midwest program. We have some of the

by listening to him in this lecture. In addition, Dr. Ludger Gerdesmeyer is an orthopedic surgeon from Kiel, Germany who has done more research on radial shockwave therapy and electromagnetic therapy than anyone in the world and he will definitely improve your options when it comes to treating fasciitis, tendinitis, stress fractures, non-unions, and chronic pain. Dr. Michael Fredrickson, rehabilitation specialist from Stanford University, will blow your mind with his

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best known experts in specific areas that, I think, could be life-changing, and practice changing, when it comes to how we deal with complex foot and ankle pathology." Dr. Grady elaborates his excitement by explaining, "Dr. A. Lee Dellon is going to speak on neuropathy and chronic pain, on which he has done research for 30 years. Even if you've read his numerous articles, you're going to learn a lot

research on rehabilitation of athletes."

Also featured in the program is the 20th annual International Post Graduate Symposium (IPGRS). This program features research abstracts, submitted by residents and fellows from around the globe, which are displayed in the exhibit hall. The IPGRS culminates on Saturday in a top ten abstracts presentation in lecture for-

*Continued on page 58*



*Midwest Podiatry Conf. (from page 57)*

mat. Participants are judged on research and presentation skills, and prizes are awarded for first, second, and third place. Additionally, the top three are invited to join the MPC faculty for the following year's conference.

Past IPGRS participants agree that the conference is an excellent opportunity to receive recognition for their work, to network with fellow residents, and bring recognition to their residency program. Physicians who have attended the symposium described it as innovative and forward thinking. Residents and fellows are an important part of podiatry today and are the podiatric professionals of tomorrow. This symposium affords practicing DPMs the opportunity to know and understand the contributions that residents are already making in podiatric health.

A third track of continuing education, the Board Review program, has been dramatically expanded. The improved Comprehensive Board Review program now features lectures to prepare practitioners for both the ABFAS and ABPM certification exams. This program features three full days of sessions covering topics that will be on the exams and how they will be presented. Dr. Chad Webster helps create an environment where attendees can ask questions and learn from each other. 80% of recently polled attendees who attended the Midwest Podiatry Conference for the Board Review program passed their ABFAS exams.

Finally, the American Society of Podiatric Medical Assistants (ASPMA) will present two tracks of education, for both clinical and administrative assistants. They've also enhanced their offerings by hosting workshops on x-rays and wound care for clinical assistants. Additionally, prior to the conference, assistants also have the option to participate in a review course and take the test for their PMAC certification.

With so many choices, attendees have numerous opportunities to earn up to thirty-four hours of continuing education. We've also upgraded our exhibit hall, featuring 300 of the best exhibits concerning foot and ankle care.

## Extended Events

From board meetings to product luncheons to client receptions, the after-hours events are where the fun happens at the Midwest Podiatry Conference. Rosalind Franklin University's Scholl College of Podiatric Medicine will host their 33rd Annual Scholl College Scholarship Benefit & Networking Reception on Thursday, April 26th—immediately following the PICA lecture—from 6:30 to 8:00 PM.

University of Medicine and Science in 1963. He served his first term as the MPC President in 1989 followed by Presidential terms in 1996, 2003 and 2016. Dr. Becker passed away on December 25, 2016, and is survived by his wife Barbara and daughter Jodi. We will miss him dearly.

**Dr. Steven Frydman** began his first Presidency of the MPC board in 1986. He served for many years as a

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This event will feature a certified career coach, who will provide the tools to successfully enhance your networking proficiency to make an impact on your personal and professional aspirations. Following the presentation staff and alumni are welcome to enjoy a complimentary cocktail reception and plenty of small group networking.

Additionally, many alumni classes view the Midwest Podiatry Conference as a great opportunity to host class reunions. With so much to do in Chicago, sponsoring and exhibiting companies have treated valued clients to all that downtown Chicago has to offer. And affiliated associations see the conference as an opportunity to provide board members with a spring update.

## Thank You to Our Retiring Board Members

It is with great sadness that we announce the retirement of Dr. Martin Becker, Dr. Steven Frydman, and Dr. Michael Ward. Each has served as an integral part of the Midwest Podiatry Conference Board of Directors, serving roles as Delegate through President. Their contributions have helped shape the foundation for the Midwest Podiatry Conference and paved the way for the new and exciting changes you continue to see year after year.

**Dr. Martin Becker** graduated from Dr. William Scholl College of Podiatric Medicine at Rosalind Franklin

University of Medicine and Science in 1963. He served his first term as the MPC President in 1989 followed by Presidential terms in 1996, 2003 and 2016. Dr. Becker passed away on December 25, 2016, and is survived by his wife Barbara and daughter Jodi. We will miss him dearly.

**Dr. Michael Ward** received his doctorate in podiatric medicine from the Illinois College of Podiatric Medicine. He received his surgical training with post-graduate work at the New Berlin Hospital and Clinic in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. In 1976, he established a private practice in Dubuque, Iowa and has since been very active in the podiatric community, serving as the Iowa Delegate to the APMA and MPC. He also served as President of the Iowa Podiatric Medical Society and the Midwest Podiatry Conference. We hope you join us in celebrating their achievements and thanking them for their dedication. With their departure, we would like to welcome our newest delegates:

**Dr. Radmila Samardzija** will succeed Dr. Martin Becker as our new Missouri Delegate. Dr. Samardzija received a Doctor of Podiatric Medicine degree from William M. Scholl College of Podiatric Medicine at Rosalind Franklin University of Medicine and

*Continued on page 60*

# PODIATRIC MEETINGS

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*Midwest Podiatry Conf. (from page 58)*

Science in 2008, then completed a podiatric surgical residency at John Stroger Hospital of Cook County/Advocate IL Masonic Hospital in Chicago. Dr. Samardzija practices in the greater Kansas City metro at Associated Podiatrists with her partners Dr. Donald Gentry and Dr. Daniel Shead. She is also on the board of the Missouri Podiatric Medical Association.

**Dr. Robert Sage** graduated from Kent State University College of Podiatric Medicine in 1998. He completed his residency at Mt. Sinai East Hospital in Richmond Heights, Ohio and is also board certified by the American Board of Podiatric Surgery. Dr. Sage is currently serving his term as President of the Wisconsin Podiatric Medical Association. Upon completion of his term, he will join the MPC board in place of Dr. Frydman and assume the role of Wisconsin Delegate.

**Dr. Nicole Jedlicka** was born and raised in Dubuque, Iowa. She completed her undergraduate studies at the University of Iowa in 2006 with a BS in Integrative Physiology/Exercise Science. She then attended four years of Medical School at Des Moines University. She completed her 3-year surgical training at Covenant Medical Center in Waterloo, IA. Following her 3-year surgical residency, Dr. Jedlicka joined Dubuque Podiatry, P.C. in 2013. Dr. Jedlicka continues to participate with the surgical residency program as an attending physician. Dr. Jedlicka is a member of the American Podiatric Medical Association, the Iowa Podiatric Medical Society, and the American College of Foot and Ankle Surgeons and is the newest Iowa Delegate for the Midwest Podiatry Conference.

Please join us at the 2017 Midwest Podiatry Conference, as we celebrate

our retiring board members, welcome our newest board members, and enjoy spring in the Windy City! Online registration is open until April 28, 2017. Don't miss your chance to save big before onsite registration begins. All online registrations automatically receive \$15 off of their registration costs! **PM**

*For more information, or to plan your trip, please visit [www.midwest-podconf.org](http://www.midwest-podconf.org) or call 312-427-5810 today and confirm your registration for this premier meeting for podiatrists and assistants!*



**AnneMarie Drufke** is the Director of Meetings & Continuing Education for the Midwest Podiatry Conference.