

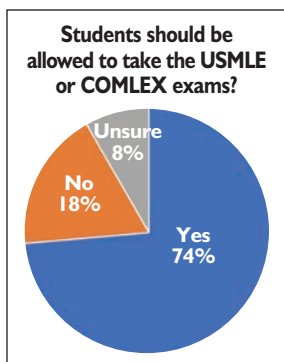
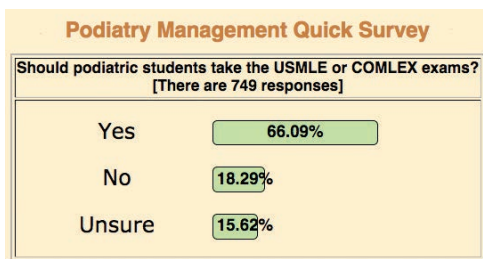
Listening to the Grassroots

BY BARRY H. BLOCK, DPM, JD

Today, podiatric associations and colleges are facing analogous situations, declining membership in associations and a declining student applicant pool. These situations threaten the survival of our medical specialty. Some are quick to blame the Millennials or Generation Xers, the logic being that these new generations are not joiners or supporters of organized and established institutions. While this might be a factor, it's not the primary factor causing this dis-association. The real key is that these institutions have turned a mostly deaf ear to the grassroots.



This is best evidenced by recent polls conducted by *PM News* and the American Podiatric Medical Students Association (APMSA) concerning the di-



PM News Quick Poll and APMSA Poll

rection of the profession. Although polls are not purely scientific, they do represent how both students and practitioners feel. Both survey results strongly indicate that podiatric students and practitioners should take the USMLE or COMLEX exams.

Despite this overwhelming consensus, the Council of Deans of podiatric schools of medicine vehemently opposes having students take the USMLE exam. Preparing for this exam will require extensive curriculum changes which most of the colleges of podiatric medicine are simply not willing or prepared to make.

Podiatric educators and political leaders of the profession deserve praise for the advancements made in podiatric medicine and surgery in the last few decades; however, if they ignore the will of students or those in the trenches, they do so at the peril of our profession.

Respectfully Submitted,

Barry H. Block D.P.M.

Barry H. Block, DPM, JD
Editor-in-Chief
bblock@podiatrym.com

Visit us on Facebook



Dedicated to Practice Growth and Prosperity Since 1982

Volume 38, Number 5

- Publisher: Scott C. Borowsky
610-645-6950
- Editor-in-Chief: Barry H. Block, DPM, JD
718-897-9700
- Managing Editor: Hermine S. Block, MS
- Desktop Publishing & Graphic Design: Stephanie Kloos Donoghue
stephkloos@optonline.net
- Senior Editor: Marc I. Haspel, DPM
- Director of Continuing Medical Education: David George, DPM
- Consulting Editors: David G. Armstrong, DPM
Bradley W. Bakotic, DPM, DO
John Bergmann, DPM
Nicholas Bevilacqua, DPM
Michael Brody, DPM
G. Dock Dockery, DPM
Robert Frykberg, DPM
Alison J. Garten, DPM
Lynn Homisak, PRT
Jon Hultman, DPM, MBA
Warren S. Joseph, DPM
Stanley Kalish, DPM
Jeffrey D. Lehrman, DPM
Hal Ornstein, DPM
Kenneth Rehm, DPM
Doug Richie, DPM
Jeffrey Robbins, DPM
Lee Rogers, DPM
Robert J. Snyder, DPM
- Advertising: David Kagan
Associate Publisher
1062 E. Lancaster Ave.
Rosemont Plaza, Ste. 15F
Bryn Mawr, PA 19010
215-808-0770 (m)
- Controller: Joseph W. Mellek
610-645-6944
accounting@kanec.com
- Circulation: Susan Mease

PODIATRY MANAGEMENT

1062 E. Lancaster Ave.
Rosemont Plaza, Ste. 15F
Bryn Mawr, PA 19010
(610) 645-6940
FAX: (610) 645-6943

E-mail: podiatrym@kanec.com

Website:

<http://www.podiatrym.com>

Copyright © 2019 and published by Kane Communications, Inc. at 1062 E. Lancaster Ave., Rosemont Plaza, Ste. 15F, Bryn Mawr, PA 19010 in the U.S. All rights reserved. No part of this periodical may be reproduced without the consent of Kane Communications, Inc. All material subject to this copyright may be photocopied for the non-commercial purpose of scientific or educational advancement. Printed in U.S.A.

Periodicals postage paid at Bryn Mawr, PA 19010 and additional entry.

Send Manuscripts and Letters to: bblock@podiatrym.com

Acceptance and publication by this magazine of an advertisement, news story, or product information does not imply endorsement or approval of the company, product, or service by this magazine or Kane Communications, Inc.