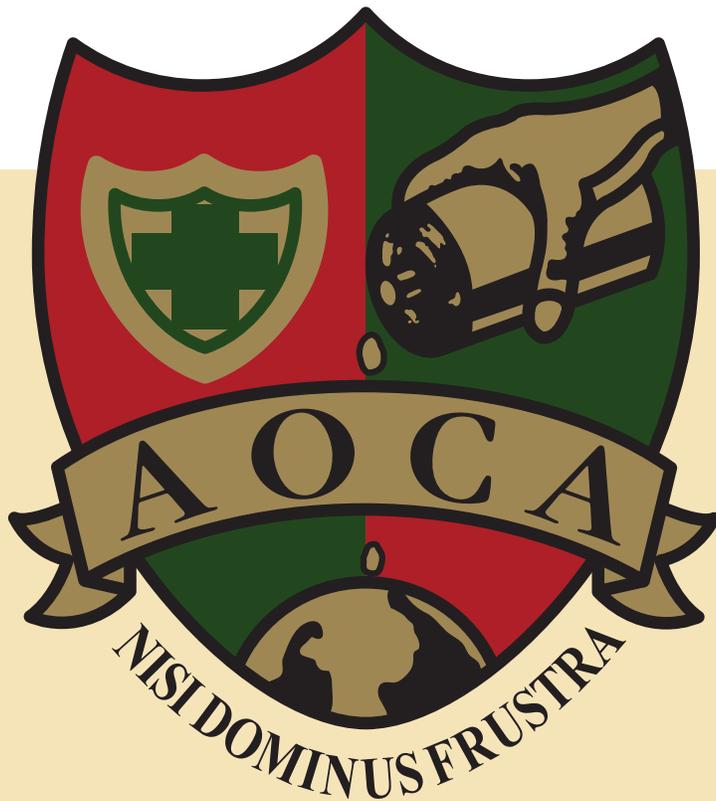
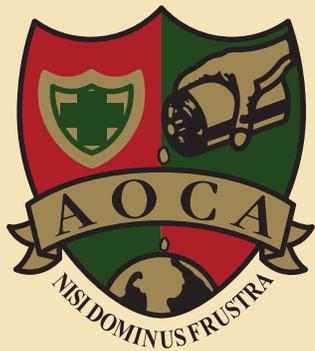


# Annual Report 2025



## **American Osteopathic College of Anesthesiologists**

*Join us for CME. Stay for your career.*



## TABLE OF CONTENTS

President's Message	4
Immediate-Past President's Message	5
Member Engagement Committee	6
Professional Education Committee Report	9
Future of the Field Committee Report	13
Legacy Committee Report	14
Awards & Honors Committee Report	15
Finance & Budget Committee Report	16
Board of Governors	17

### MISSION STATEMENT

AOCA is the primary resource for clinical education and professional development for physician anesthesiologists, and facilitates networking, advocates and promotes the practice of osteopathic anesthesiology.

### VISION STATEMENT

AOCA is the professional home for physician anesthesiologists, advancing and promoting the distinctive philosophy and practice of osteopathic anesthesiology.





## AOCA is dedicated to our members

### Quality Education

AOCA is committed to providing members with quality CME delivered by noted experts in anesthesiology through a diverse range of educational formats designed to meet professional needs. Members benefit from in-person conferences as well as the flexibility of virtual or streaming options. AOCA also offers engaging opportunities for one-on-one discussions with key physician leaders, providing invaluable clinical insights.

### Committed Community

AOCA fosters camaraderie by connecting members with peers and fellow professionals. Unique opportunities are available to build meaningful relationships within the osteopathic anesthesia community through participation in live meetings or informal connections beyond those events. AOCA creates a sense of belonging within a professional organization that values the osteopathic philosophy shared by its members.

### Career Success

AOCA supports members at every stage of their careers by serving as an advocate and resource. The organization enhances clinical services, hones leadership skills, provides a competitive edge for residencies and fellowships, and facilitates connections for research and training opportunities. Members can explore AOCA's extensive resources on its website and rely on the organization to prioritize career aspirations.



### Guiding Principles

*Principles that the AOCA incorporates into their programs, products, services, and overall organizational culture:*

#### FINANCIAL

AOCA is transparent regarding AOCA's financial status and fiduciary accountability while investing in strategic initiatives that are aligned with the strategic plan

#### ENGAGEMENT

AOCA provides crucial, relevant, and regular communication to the AOCA community to provide and encourage engagement

#### INCLUSION

AOCA encourages a culture that supports the osteopathic principles of equality and inclusion

# Incoming President's MESSAGE



Jessica Goeller, DO, MBA, FAOCA

For more than seventy years, AOCA has served as the professional home for osteopathic anesthesiologists. When few recognized our specialty, this College ensured that DO anesthesiologists had a voice in perioperative medicine. AOCA has advanced standards of practice, championed education and board certification, and fostered mentorship and innovation. Our members have built residency programs, influenced policy, and strengthened the presence of osteopathic anesthesiology across diverse practice settings. Today, that foundation keeps our College strong and forward-looking.

My journey with AOCA began in 2010 during my anesthesia residency, where I first experienced the strength of this community and its commitment to mentorship. Since then, I have had the privilege to serve in leadership roles, including chairing the 2020 Annual Meeting during its successful transition to a virtual format and serving on the Board of Governors, while growing professionally as a Fellow of the AOCA and academic leader.

It is an honor, therefore, to serve as the 72nd President of the American Osteopathic College of Anesthesiologists and the sixth woman to hold this office. I follow a long line of dedicated leaders and am grateful for the opportunity to help guide our next chapter.

Looking ahead, we will expand strategic collaborations to ensure a strong, unified voice for DO anesthesiologists. We will also thoughtfully leverage technology and advances in AI to broaden access to education, mentorship, and engagement, supporting members at every career stage.

Together, we will build on the legacy entrusted to us—protecting our identity, advancing our specialty, and ensuring AOCA remains the professional home for every DO anesthesiologist. I look forward to a year of collaboration and meaningful progress.

# Outgoing President's MESSAGE

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Ursula Landman, DO, FAOCA

It has been an incredible privilege and honor to serve as AOCA's fifth female president and to follow in the footsteps of so many distinguished leaders since our College was founded in 1952. I sincerely thank everyone in AOCA for their support, expertise, and trust throughout my term.

2025 was a year of success for our College, and I am proud of what we accomplished together. Your Board of Governors, along with our Executive Director, worked diligently to provide continued value to our members.

This year, AOCA hosted two in-person meetings with on-demand options, along with four webinars. We continued to bring together the brightest minds in osteopathic anesthesiology, serving as a hub for leadership development, professional education, and community building. We also signed the AMR Management Contract to support effective College operations and exceptional meeting planning services, while maintaining active leadership involvement through Executive Committee and Board meetings.

Additional achievements included conducting interviews with past presidents to preserve AOCA's history, raising funds for the Timothy D. Ernst Emerging Professionals Fund, launching the AOCA Job Board, hosting webinars for students and residents, and establishing the AOCA Mentorship Program. A successful meet-and-greet during our Annual Convention in Savannah further strengthened engagement among emerging professionals. Our "AOCA Proud" social media campaign also expanded our presence across multiple platforms.

A meaningful highlight of the year was receiving the AOA Outstanding Affiliate Award at OMED, recognizing AOCA's leadership, excellence, and contributions to the osteopathic medical profession.

I encourage you to get a colleague involved with AOCA. By expanding our community, we can continue advancing osteopathic anesthesiology and improving patient outcomes.

Thank you for being part of AOCA and for the privilege of serving as your President. I look forward to all that lies ahead for our College.

# Member Engagement

## COMMITTEE REPORT



Amanda Shakal, DO, FAOCA  
Committee Chair

### Committee Mission:

- Develop a three phased membership engagement plan for the next 5 years
- Determine and maintain membership value proposition
- Obtain a membership needs assessment and advocate for those needs to the BOG
- Support the marketing resources in development of a membership drive
- Recruit potential members and approve applications for membership
- Review CV's of new members for areas of contribution
- Develop a communication schedule
- Engage with the AOCA leadership and committee liaisons for content
- Guide AOCA office on social media content

The Member Engagement Committee strengthened AOCA's community by increasing member engagement and visibility across the organization. This year, the committee contributed to a higher active member renewal rate and expanded engagement among student and resident members through focused outreach and initiatives, including a Mentorship Program.

The committee also grew AOCA's social media presence to better connect members and highlight the College's work, and launched a new AOCA merchandise storefront, providing members with an additional way to show their pride and support. Together, these efforts reinforce AOCA as the professional home for osteopathic anesthesiologists at every stage of their careers.



◀ Click image to read  
a collection of AOCA  
[member spotlights](#)

# Testimonials

What our Members Had To Say...

“What I like about AOCA is the family-like environment and the way members truly care for one another. Because it’s a smaller organization, there are opportunities to get involved—whether that’s chairing a conference or serving on the Board of Governors—pathways that may not be as accessible in larger organizations. AOCA allows me to meet people, develop relationships outside my usual sphere of influence, and provides excellent learning opportunities through its conferences.”

– Wade Sewell, DO, FAOCA

“I’ve been part of the AOCA since my first year of medical school and I’ve been involved in committees, and I currently serve as the Board of Governor’s student member. Having these connections with these DO anesthesiologists is probably the reason I matched at my top choice program.”

– Samatha Currier, DO

“The AOCA is a long-standing organization maintained and invested in by anesthesiologists who care about progressing high-quality, evidence-based education. It offers current, relevant content that helps us continually grow as anesthesiologists in this unique field, while also fostering collegiality across the country and a strong sense of membership.”

– Helen Bean, DO, FAOCA



# BY THE Numbers

AOCA represents a diverse community of practicing, early career, retired anesthesiologists, residents in training and student members representing practices in academia, hospitals, private practice and more.



**524**  
Active Members  
(including Military  
and Associate  
Members)

**218**  
Life & Retired  
Members



**249**  
Emerging Professionals (Students,  
Residents, Fellows)

# Professional Education

## COMMITTEE REPORT

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Rafal Kopanczyk, DO, FAOCA  
Sean Washek, DO, FAOCA  
Committee Co-Chairs

### Committee Mission

- Produce Annual Convention and Sunday Seminar Webinar Series educational content
- Provide a national platform for osteopathic engagement
- Produce online CME content
- Maintain continuous educational engagement (year-round and from meeting to meeting)
- Provide content for members with needs for state and ongoing board certification
- Consider and be knowledgeable about expenses and revenues
- Promote attendance
- Maintain the AOCA's status as an AOA CME provider



# Mid Year Seminar

AUSTIN, TEXAS



”

“I felt this conference was excellent. Great hotel, food, meeting room. Ultrasound portion was excellent. Have already performed a PRNG block with excellent results. Our ortho Dr. was very happy with his patient’s pain relief/ progress. I enjoyed my time in Austin as I had rental car. Free parking at hotel was a plus! Great venue from my standpoint!”

Click image ▲ to watch a highlight from the AOCA Mid Year Seminar.

”

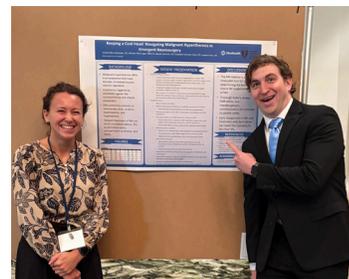
“Excellent overall conference - quite informative.”

“Excellent conference. Well-structured, hands-on ultrasound extremely beneficial. Fantastic lectures.”

“Excellent speakers and lecture material that I can use in my practice.”

“The lectures and workshops were organized well. Extremely informative.”

14  
hours of AOA  
Category  
1-A credits  
/ AMA PRA  
Category 1  
credits



15  
Speakers



84  
Registrants

# Annual Convention & Conclave

SAVANNAH, GEORGIA



## AOCA 2025 Annual Convention & Conclave



"This year exceeds all prior in quality and pertinence to current and cutting edge practices."

"The AOCA 2025 Annual Convention was a great place to learn new information for the practice of anesthesiology, see old friends and make new ones!"

"I thought the lectures were great, the program chair was very enthusiastic, and I learned so much. Fantastic experience."

"The speakers were excellent and included information that I can use every day in the OR. I learned new concepts and reviewed others, all making the meeting well worth my time."

"I was impressed with the enthusiasm of the management staff and BOG to embrace and make younger physicians and students feel welcome."

"I am consistently impressed by the quality of the speakers at this conference, and by the thoughtfulness that is used in the conference planning."

[www.aocainline.org](http://www.aocainline.org)

Join us for CME, stay for your career.

Click image ▲ to watch a highlight from the AOCA Annual Convention & Conclave

11  
Corporate  
Support  
Partners



276  
Registrants

33  
Speakers

26.5  
hours of AOA  
Category  
1-A credits  
/ AMA PRA  
Category 1  
credits



# Second Sundays

## Excellence in Clinical Care Webinar Series

### Goals and Objectives

1. Review the pros and cons of inpatient versus outpatient joint arthroplasty
2. Identify some patient-specific outcomes that may be affected by location of surgery
3. Discuss optimal intra-operative management and analgesic options for outpatient total joint arthroplasty



3

“This was a great lecture that provided both foundational and emerging issues within joint surgery. I will likely listen to it again. I would like to hear another presentation from this speaker at future conferences.”

“Excellent presentation, very informative.”

“Fantastic lecture with real pediatrics information that regular anesthesiologists can use. I would happily watch that lecture once a year every year.”

“This was a very high-yield, very clinically relevant lecture.”

Click image ▲ to watch a highlight from the Second Sunday webinar series

4  
Webinars



4  
hours of AOA  
Category 1-A  
credits

100+  
attendees  
per webinar

4  
Speakers



**We thank our College members for their continued engagement with AOCA’s high-quality CME offerings.** Whether in person or on demand, AOCA remains committed to supporting members in meeting their CME requirements. As we look ahead to 2026, we encourage members to invite their DO colleagues to join us for outstanding educational content delivered by expert presenters.

# Future of the Field

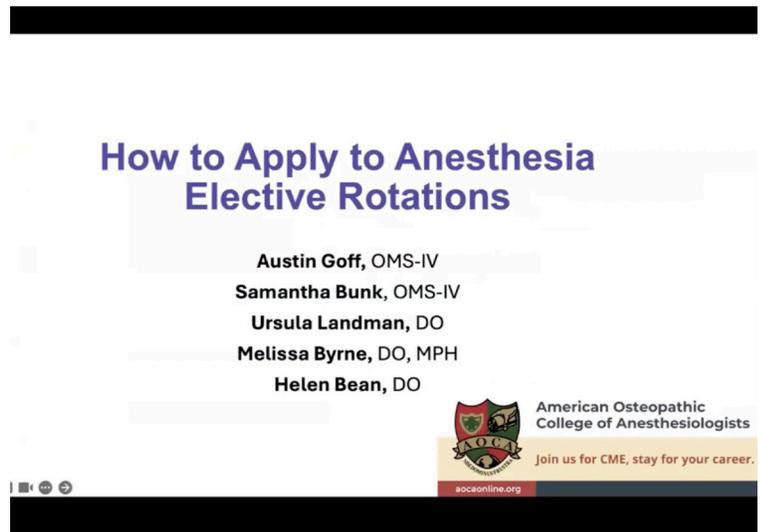
## COMMITTEE REPORT



Melissa Byrne, DO  
Committee Chair

### Committee Mission

- Engage with and support Residents and Osteopathic Medical Students
- Create mechanisms in which the AOCA acts as a conduit to support OMS into a successful matching into anesthesiology residencies
- Create/Maintain the AOCA ambassador program that supports AOCA members engaging with College of Osteopathic Medicine Anesthesiology Interest Groups
- Acknowledge osteopathic students and residents with AOCA awards
- Oversee the Timothy D. Ernst Emerging Professional Fund for the advancement of anesthesiology trainees



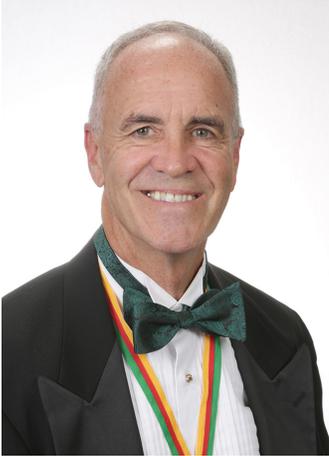
Click image ▲ to watch the  
Audition Rotations Webinar recording

**The Future of the Field Committee** supported osteopathic medical students and residents by strengthening pathways into anesthesiology and expanding engagement opportunities for emerging professionals. This year, the committee hosted an Audition Rotations Webinar to support medical students through the residency match process and developed the Emerging Professionals Program Track for the Annual Convention.

The committee also helped promote and select Student and Resident Board Members, ensuring trainee representation in AOCA leadership, and launched a new Medical Student Committee for the 2025–2026 term to further support early-career engagement and mentorship.

# Legacy

## COMMITTEE REPORT



James Griffin, DO, FAOCA  
Committee Chair

### PAST

#### Committee Mission:

- History and Tradition: Research and record the history of osteopathic medicine, osteopathic anesthesiology and the AOCA
- Legacy Fund: Research and develop the plan to create a legacy fund that would support the specific goals of educational endeavors of the AOCA

### PRESENT

The Timothy D. Ernst Emerging Professional Fund is designed to protect and promote the future of osteopathic anesthesiology by providing funding for the Timothy D. Ernst, DO AOCA Resident of the Year Award, the AOCA Student of the Year Award, the American Osteopathic Foundation Resident of the Year Award, the annual AOCA Scientific Abstract Session Award winners, and to develop new programs, products, and services especially for medical students, residents, and fellows to promote the field of osteopathic anesthesiology.

Thank you to our generous donors for their support. [View the Donor Legacy Wall.](#)

### FUTURE

The Copper Kettle Society recognizes those who support AOCA's enduring commitment to excellence in anesthesiology. Estate giving is a meaningful way to invest in AOCA's future while maintaining financial flexibility. Gifts made through a will, retirement plan, or life insurance policy help advance resident training, education, and key initiatives—strengthening AOCA's impact beyond what dues alone can provide.

[Learn more](#) about the lasting benefits of estate giving through the AOCA Copper Kettle Society.



Click image ▲ to watch an interview with AOCA's first female President, M. Adele King, DO, FAOCA



# Awards & Honors

## COMMITTEE REPORT



Suzanne Huffnagle,  
DO, FAOCA  
Committee Chair

### Committee Mission:

- Acknowledge the success and support the recognition of DO anesthesiologists with professional awards:
  - FAOCA, Arnold P. Gold Humanism, M. Adele King Professional Service, DSA, AOCA Resident of the Year, AOCA Student of the Year
- Oversee and maintain the promotion requirements for the distinction of Fellow of the AOCA
- Recruit nominations for qualified individuals for the AOCA awards
- Interact with committee chairs and the Board of Governors to solicit nominations

## 2025 Fellows

### Ellesse Credaroli, DO, FAOCA

Sponsored by: Jennifer Hargrave, DO, FAOCA, FASA

### Thomas Anthony Olen, DO, FAOCA

Sponsored by: Robert Snyder, DO, FAOCA

### Danny Resser, DO, FAOCA

Sponsored by: Raymond Depa, DO, FAOCA

### Sean Washke, DO, FAOCA

Sponsored by: Suzanne Huffnagle, DO, FAOCA, FASA & Jane Huffnagle, DO, FAOCA, FASA

### Distinguished Service Award

**James Griffin**, DO, FAOCA, FASA  
AOCA Past President

### M. Adele King, DO Professional Service Award

**Samantha Currier**, DO  
OhioHealth Doctors Hospital

### Arnold P. Gold Humanism Award

**Anita Gupta**, DO, MPP, PharmD, FASA  
Adjunct Assistant Professor, Johns Hopkins School of Medicine  
Full Professor, University of California School of Medicine  
Riverside  
Professor, Anesthesiology, Loma Linda School of Medicine  
Clinical Professor, Rowan Virtua School of Osteopathic Medicine  
Physician, University of California San Diego Physician Network

### Timothy D. Ernst, DO AOCA

### Resident of the Year Award

**Alexander Luong**, DO  
OhioHealth Doctors Hospital  
*Nominated by: Matthias Franzen, DO*

### Alexandra Tsivitis, DO

Stony Brook Medicine  
*Nominated by: Ursula Landman, DO, FAOCA*

### AOCA Student of the Year Award

**Elyssa Thomas**, OMS-III  
NYITCOM  
*Nominated by: Ursula Landman, DO, FAOCA*

### American Osteopathic Foundation (AOF)/AOCA Outstanding Resident of the Year Award in Anesthesiology

**Casey White**, DO  
Detroit Medical Center | Wayne University  
*Nominated by: Muhammad Jaffar, MD*

# Finance & Budget

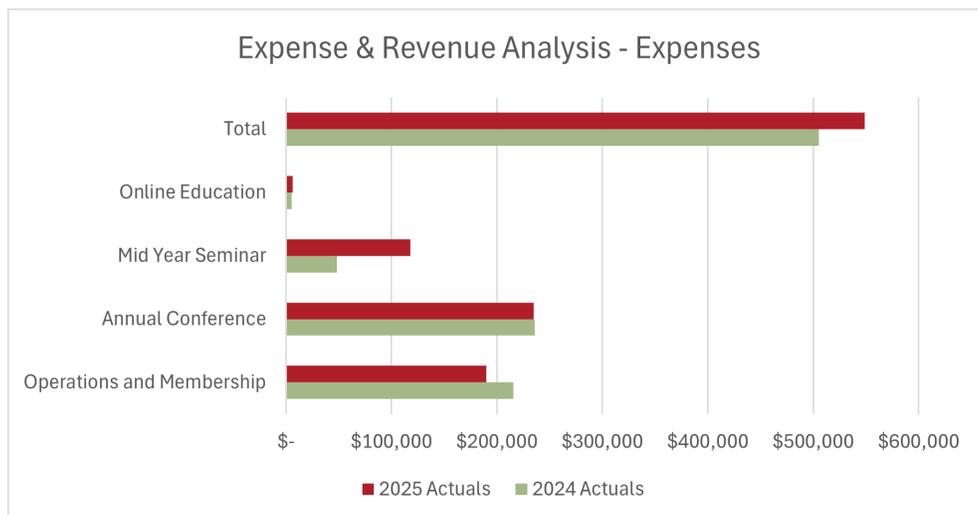
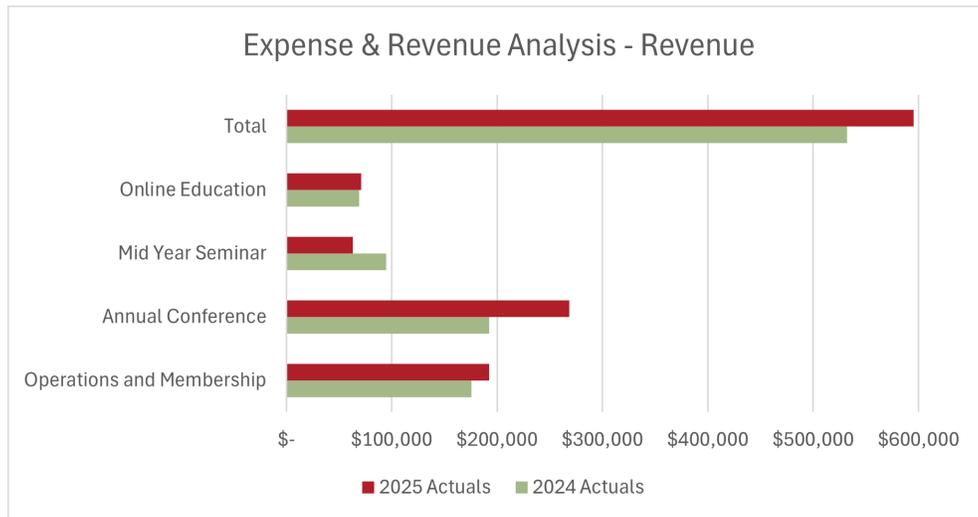
## COMMITTEE REPORT

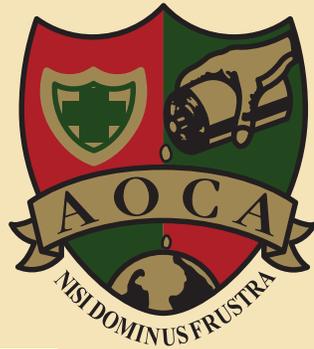


Karen Flotildes Romo, DO, FAOCA,  
Treasurer/Secretary

### Committee Mission

- Review monthly financial reports
- Create the annual budget for BOG approval
- Consider potential revenue streams for the College
- Review and develop longitudinal financial projections of AOCA initiatives





## CONTACT

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800-842-2622

[www.aocaonline.org](http://www.aocaonline.org)

[office@aocaonline.org](mailto:office@aocaonline.org)

201 E. Main Street, #810  
Lexington, KY 40507

## CONNECT

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[@AOCA-American-Osteopathic-College-of-Anesthesiologists](https://www.facebook.com/AOCA-American-Osteopathic-College-of-Anesthesiologists)



[@aocaonline](https://www.instagram.com/aocaonline)



[@company/american-osteopathic-college-of-anesthesiologists](https://www.linkedin.com/company/american-osteopathic-college-of-anesthesiologists)

## BOARD OF GOVERNORS 2025

### OFFICERS

#### President

Jessica Goeller, DO, MBA, FAOCA

#### Vice President

Allan Escher, DO, FAOCA

#### Treasurer/Secretary

Karen Flotildes Romo, DO, FAOCA

#### Immediate Past President

Ursula Landman, DO, FAOCA

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### GOVERNORS

Ashley Bailey-Classen, DO, FAOCA

Dana Darwish, DO, FAOCA

Aaron Douglas, DO, FAOCA

C. Patrick Henson, DO, FAOCA

Steven Insler, DO, FAOCA

Rafal Kopanczyk, DO, FAOCA

Roy Skousen, DO, FAOCA

Elizabeth Gray, DO – Resident Member

Robert Szczypta, OMS-IV – Student Member