

# ACFAS Update

VOLUME 24 ISSUE 6

NEWS from the AMERICAN COLLEGE OF FOOT AND ANKLE SURGEONS

## NASA Astronaut to Deliver ACFAS 2018 Keynote Address

No matter if you want to launch your career into the stratosphere or round it out with a smooth and successful landing, showing up and being present for the challenges you face each day can help you accomplish your mission.

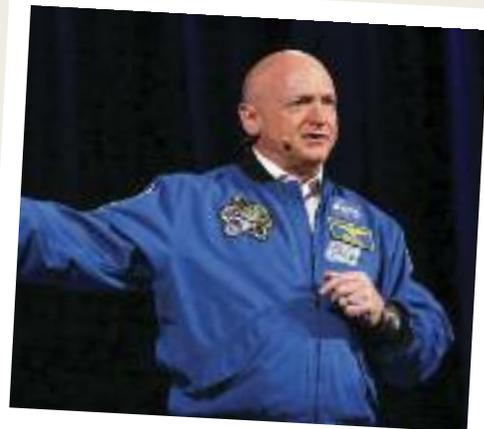
Captain Mark Kelly, NASA space mission commander and member of the Commercial Crew Safety Board at Space X,



knows better than anyone how focus, dedication and persistence can unleash your potential

to succeed in both work and life. Hear him share his experiences in the Navy, in outer space and on the ground during the ACFAS 2018 keynote address on March 22, 2018 in Nashville.

A decorated American astronaut, aviator and retired U.S. Navy captain, Kelly spent more than 50 days in space and commanded the space shuttles Endeavour and Discovery. He is also a *New York Times* bestselling author and cofounder of World View, a full-service commercial space launch provider.



**KEYNOTE SPEAKER**  
**CAPTAIN MARK KELLY, ASTRONAUT**

ACFAS 2018 takes place March 22-25 at the Gaylord Opryland Hotel in Nashville. **Save the date and visit [acfas.org/nashville](http://acfas.org/nashville) to book your hotel room now.**

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education

## ACFAS Patient Education CD Series The Perfect Complement to Your EMR

Enhance your electronic medical system (EMR) with the most trusted information on foot and ankle health—ACFAS' popular Patient Education CD Series.

Upload the PDF brochures from each CD to your EMR system and match them with diagnoses so the brochures become part of your chart note assessments. This can also help fulfill meaningful use requirements because your patients can then access the brochures through your EMR portal or receive printed copies upon checkout. And if the clinical sections of your EMR allow you to create a surgery packet with any needed paperwork, consents and policies for the intended surgery, you can add the applicable PDF brochures to the packet as an easy-to-understand reference for your patients and their families.

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Each CD is only \$95. Visit [acfas.org/patientCD](http://acfas.org/patientCD) to order all five volumes and pay shipping for just one.



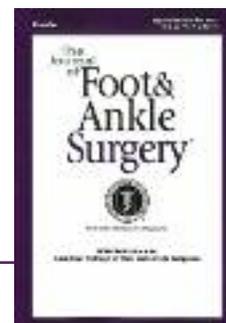
## Publish Your Research as a JFAS Open Access Article

Want your research to go global? Then publish an Open Access article in *The Journal of Foot and Ankle Surgery (JFAS)*.

The Open Access option brings your research to millions of readers worldwide, including nonsubscribers of the *Journal*, and gives them free, immediate and permanent online access to your work through ScienceDirect. You decide, through your user license, how readers can share and use your article. Plus, as an ACFAS member, you receive a 50 percent discount on the Open Access publication fee.

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## ACFAS Committee Spotlight: Practice Management Committee

Today's healthcare climate requires constant vigilance to stay ahead of the changes and requirements needed to practice medicine. ACFAS' Practice Management Committee (PMC) uses the outcomes of decisions made by government entities, the health insurance industry and the healthcare community at large to develop seminars and other resources to help ACFAS members manage their practices.

Comprised of 10 ACFAS members, a board liaison, and a staff liaison, the PMC keeps a close eye on issues affecting the profession as well as any changes in surgical billing and coding. It works with ACFAS faculty to

hold the seminar *Coding and Billing for the Foot and Ankle Surgeon* three times per year and creates tools to help ACFAS members and their office staff do their jobs better. The PMC has a robust agenda this fall, including:

- updating the 2018 coding and billing seminar based on input from attendee evaluations.
- determining what data should be collected from the next Member and Practice Survey, and
- analyzing how quality payment programs will affect members' practices.

As 2018 approaches, the PMC will continue to watch practice trends and will explore

## 2017-2018 EDUCATION PROGRAMS

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### November 4-5, 2017 (Saturday/Sunday) 3 Cs of Deformity Correction Seminar

The McCormick Scottsdale  
Scottsdale, AZ

### November 11-12, 2017 (Saturday/Sunday) Foot & Ankle Arthroscopy

Orthopaedic Learning Center  
Chicago, IL

**SOLD OUT**

### November 17-18, 2017 (Friday/Saturday) ACFAS on the Road—In the Trenches Workshop & Seminar

Torrance Marriott Redondo Beach  
Torrance, CA

### April 20-21, 2018 (Friday/Saturday) ACFAS on the Road—In the Trenches Workshop & Seminar

Charlotte Marriott SouthPark  
Charlotte, NC

### May 4-5, 2018 (Friday/Saturday) ACFAS on the Road—In the Trenches Workshop & Seminar

Detroit Marriott Southfield  
Southfield, MI

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\*To be waitlisted for sold-out courses, contact Maggie Hjelm at [hjelm@acfas.org](mailto:hjelm@acfas.org).

new ways of delivering information and educational opportunities to ACFAS members. "We strive to be the go-to source for ACFAS members' practice management needs," says PMC Chair Michelle Detweiler, DPM, FACFAS, "and we'll continue to provide guidelines and tools that members can implement immediately in their practice."

To get involved with the PMC, apply to join the committee by following the member selection process in the fall or contact Sarah Nicholson, JD, at [sarah.nicholson@acfas.org](mailto:sarah.nicholson@acfas.org).

# ACFAS Redistricting Divisions into Nine Regions

To better serve you as an ACFAS member at the local level, the College's 14 Divisions will be redistricted into nine Regions to balance them more financially and by membership size. This change, effective January 1, 2018, comes two years after the Division Presidents Council began the process to level the field in terms of local support across all membership areas.

The nine Regions will continue to offer local ACFAS programming, such as:

- student scholarships;
- grants for local resident and postgraduate fellow research;
- local ACFAS On the Road programs;
- resident Complications Courses; and
- other seminars, local educational offerings and member support.

“Through the dedication and collaboration of the Division presidents and ACFAS staff, we were able to complete this task and to help the College enhance its programming and communication with the students, residents and ACFAS members,” says Eric G. Walter, DPM, FACFAS, chair of the Division Presidents Council and member of the ACFAS Board of Directors. “We look forward to offering ACFAS members more focused local support after the new year.”

The ACFAS Region officers are excited to wrap up the redistricting process and to start working in their new geographies. Watch your email for notifications of ACFAS Region programming and plan to attend your new Region's membership meeting during lunch at the 2018 Annual Scientific Conference in Nashville in March.

## New ACFAS Regions

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### PACIFIC REGION

**Alaska, California, Guam, Hawaii, Oregon, Washington, British Columbia**

President: David Aungst, DPM, FACFAS, Santa Monica, California

Vice President: Amol Saxena, DPM, FACFAS, Palo Alto, California

Secretary/Treasurer: Devon Glazer, DPM, FACFAS, Mission Viejo, California

Director at Large: Kerry Sweet, DPM, FACFAS, Seattle

[acfas.org/regionpacific](http://acfas.org/regionpacific)

### BIG WEST REGION

**Alberta, Arizona, Colorado, Idaho, Kansas, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, South Dakota, Utah, Wyoming**

President: Fred Mechanik, DPM, FACFAS, Fort Carson, Colorado

Vice President: Kelly Pirozzi, DPM, FACFAS, Scottsdale, Arizona

Secretary/Treasurer: Jeffrey McAlister, DPM, FACFAS, Phoenix

[acfas.org/regionbigwest](http://acfas.org/regionbigwest)

### GULF STATES REGION

**Alabama, Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Oklahoma, Texas**

President: Javier La Fontaine, DPM, FACFAS, Dallas

Vice President: Naohiro Shibuya, DPM, FACFAS, Temple, Texas

Secretary/Treasurer: Brian Carpenter, DPM, FACFAS, Paradise, Texas

[acfas.org/regiongulfstates](http://acfas.org/regiongulfstates)

### MIDWEST REGION

**Illinois, Iowa, Minnesota, Missouri, Wisconsin**

President: William Finn, DPM, FACFAS, Oak Park, Illinois

Vice President: Jeff Baker, DPM, FACFAS, Des Plaines, Illinois

Secretary/Treasurer: Adam Fleischer, DPM, FACFAS, Chicago

[acfas.org/regionmidwest](http://acfas.org/regionmidwest)

## GREAT LAKES REGION

### Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan, Ohio

President: Bruce Kaczander, DPM, FACFAS,  
Southfield, Michigan

Vice President: Daniel Zahari, DPM, FACFAS,  
Southgate, Michigan

Secretary/Treasurer: Zeeshan Husain,  
DPM, FACFAS, Rochester, Michigan

Director of Education: Marti Anderson,  
DPM, FACFAS, Delaware, Ohio

[acfas.org/regiongreatlakes](http://acfas.org/regiongreatlakes)

## SOUTHEAST REGION

### Florida, Georgia, Puerto Rico

President: Alan MacGill, DPM, FACFA:  
Coral Springs, Florida

Vice President: Barron Elleby, DPM, FA  
Austell, Georgia

Secretary/Treasurer: Joshua Daly, DPM  
FACFAS, Royal Palm Beach, Florida

Director at Large: Andre Williams, DPM  
FACFAS, Punta Gorda, Florida

[acfas.org/regionsoutheast](http://acfas.org/regionsoutheast)

## MID-ATLANTIC REGION

### Maryland, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia, Washington DC, West Virginia

President: Roland Ramdass, DPM, FAC  
Winchester, Virginia

Vice President: Erin Robles, DPM, FAC  
Washington DC

Secretary/Treasurer: Stanley Idiculla,  
DPM, FACFAS, Herndon, Virginia

[acfas.org/regionmidatlantic](http://acfas.org/regionmidatlantic)

## TRI-STATE REGION

### Delaware, New Jersey, Pennsylvania

President: Keith Cook, DPM, FACFAS,  
Newark, New Jersey

Vice President: Adam Budny, DPM, FACFAS,  
Altoona, Pennsylvania

Secretary/Treasurer: Jarrett Cain, DPM,  
FACFAS, Hershey, Pennsylvania

Director of Education: Jennifer Van, DPM,  
FACFAS, Philadelphia

[acfas.org/regiontristate](http://acfas.org/regiontristate)

## NORTHEAST REGION

### Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New York, Ontario, Quebec, Rhode Island, Vermont

President: Robert Fridman, DPM, FACFAS,  
New York

Vice President: Michael Theodoulou, DPM,  
FACFAS, Cambridge, Massachusetts

Secretary/Treasurer: Daren Bergman, DPM,  
FACFAS, Boston

Director at Large: Dominic Catanese, DPM,  
FACFAS, Bronx, New York

[acfas.org/regionnortheast](http://acfas.org/regionnortheast)



# ACFAS Member Working with CMS on Quality Measures Project



Bela A. Pandit, DPM, FACFAS

When **Bela A. Pandit, DPM, FACFAS**, learned of an opportunity to assist the U.S. Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) with its quality measures project, she knew this work could have a profound impact on the way she and other foot and ankle surgeons practice. She applied to join the project and was soon selected to serve on the non-spine orthopaedic surgical committee.

The project's primary goal is to establish cost measures, which represent Medicare payments or medical care given to a patient during a care episode. These cost measures will then be aligned with a quality of care assessment that is compared to other physicians. "In other words," explains Dr. Pandit, "the cost of the surgery you perform and the care you provide before, during and after surgery should be in line with other surgeons." She notes that if your care deviates from an estimated cost, you may be penalized for not providing quality measures. "This is one of MACRA's core principles," she adds.

Dr. Pandit's work with the subcommittee has progressed in stages over the past few months. First, the subcommittee evaluated the 10 costliest orthopaedic surgeries to CMS, which included knee replacements, ankle fractures and bunionsectomies. Starting with knee replacements, the subcommittee identified which current procedural terminology (CPT) codes, such as MRI, durable medical equipment and other physician visits and tests, are related to the surgery. "It's almost like creating a whole package of what a knee replacement would entail," says Dr. Pandit. "Then we will move on to the other orthopaedic surgeries."

She hopes the CMS project will make foot and ankle surgeons more aware of the costs and reimbursement of the care they provide. She stresses that all foot and ankle surgeons are responsible for their own licenses and reputations and that they need to understand the costs they generate to CMS. "This may change how we practice, so we need to keep up with the standards," urges Dr. Pandit. For

example, she says, if no other foot and ankle surgeon is performing MRI testing before and after a routine bunionsectomy, but your employer still encourages you to do so, you could be penalized in incentive payments from CMS.

While Dr. Pandit predicts the changes occurring within CMS will remove some autonomy from how foot and ankle surgeons practice, she is optimistic that the focus on quality measures will help those who practice within a customary standard of care. "Based on what I have seen so far, this project will benefit those who practice surgery within this standard of care," she says. "It will provide a standard benchmark for practicing quality care and will also ensure that foot and ankle surgeons are in adherence with the government and on the same playing field as their colleagues."

The project is expected to be completed within the next few years. To learn more about it, contact Dr. Pandit at [drpandit@sbcglobal.net](mailto:drpandit@sbcglobal.net).

**“The cost of the surgery you perform and the care you provide before, during and after surgery should be in line with other surgeons.”** — Bela A. Pandit, DPM, FACFAS

patient outreach

## Take a New Look Promotes You at AAFP Conference

ACFAS' national public relations campaign, *Take a New Look at Foot & Ankle Surgeons*, exhibited to 3,500 attendees at the American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP) annual conference in San Antonio in September.

Marque Allen, DPM, FACFAS, D. Martin Chaney, DPM, FACFAS, and ACFAS staff answered FPs' questions and explained how foot and ankle surgeons' specialized expertise can benefit their patients. Many of the FPs who visited the College's booth said they already refer their patients to ACFAS members and spoke highly about their experiences.

Booth visitors received *When to Refer Guides* and other handouts detailing why foot and ankle surgeons' qualifications and training make them a valuable partner in patient care. They also received pens with the *Take a New Look* logo and website as a reminder on how to refer to foot and ankle surgeons.

Learn more about ACFAS' referral campaign at [TakeANewLook.org](http://TakeANewLook.org), and visit [acfas.org/marketing](http://acfas.org/marketing) to download health-care provider referral tools you can use in your own practice.



## New Student Club Presidents Take Office

ACFAS welcomes the new Student Club presidents for the 2017–2018 school year:

AzPod: Kyle Schwickerath, Class of 2020

Barry: Elizabeth Ansert, Class of 2019

CSPM: Lance Hopkin, Class of 2019

DMU: Zach Croy, Class of 2019

Kent State: Britain Wetzel, Class of 2019

NYCPM: Brent Blanck-Singer, Class of 2019

Scholl: Michael Savisky, Class of 2020

Temple: Anthony Samaan, Class of 2019

Western U: Thomas Yates, Class of 2020

ACFAS Student Clubs are located on all nine podiatric medical school campuses and provide Student Club Members access to ACFAS scholarships, Regional Division funding and onsite visits from members of the Board of Directors. The clubs regularly invite ACFAS members to speak on surgical techniques and help enhance students' academic curriculum.

We wish these new ACFAS leaders great success throughout the upcoming school year!

# 14 Fellowship Programs Receive Status with ACFAS

The ACFAS Fellowship Committee recently determined the following fellowships exceed the minimal requirements to be upgraded to Recognized Status with the College after their first successful year:

## **Penn Lower Extremity Plastic & Reconstructive Surgery Fellowship, Philadelphia**

Program Director: Albert D'Angelantonio, III, DPM, FACFAS  
[acfas.org/fellowshipdangelantonio](http://acfas.org/fellowshipdangelantonio)

## **CHI Franciscan Health Foot & Ankle Fellowship, Federal Way, Washington**

Program Director: Byron Hutchinson, DPM, FACFAS  
[acfas.org/fellowshipphutchinson](http://acfas.org/fellowshipphutchinson)

## **The CORE Foot and Ankle Advanced Reconstruction Fellowship, Phoenix**

Program Director: Ryan Scott, DPM, FACFAS  
[acfas.org/fellowshipscott](http://acfas.org/fellowshipscott)

## **NOFA Foot and Ankle Reconstruction Fellowship, Concord, Ohio**

Program Director: Jonathan Sharpe, DPM, FACFAS  
[acfas.org/fellowshipsharpe](http://acfas.org/fellowshipsharpe)

## **Henry Ford Allegiance Foot and Ankle Surgery Fellowship, Jackson, Michigan**

Program Director: Tudor Tien, MD, AOFAS  
[acfas.org/fellowshiptien](http://acfas.org/fellowshiptien)

The following fellowships have been granted Conditional Status with ACFAS since the programs are new to the College and have not yet had a fellow matriculate through:

## **Salt Lake Orthopaedic Foot & Ankle Reconstruction Fellowship, Salt Lake City**

Program Director: Gregory Anderson, DPM, FACFAS  
[acfas.org/fellowshipandersong](http://acfas.org/fellowshipandersong)

## **Orthopedic Center of Florida (OCF) Foot and Ankle Reconstruction and Trauma Surgery Fellowship, Fort Myers, Florida**

Program Director: Andrew Belis, DPM, FACFAS  
[acfas.org/fellowshipbelis](http://acfas.org/fellowshipbelis)

## **Foot and Ankle Fellowship of the Orthopaedic Institute of Central Jersey, Wall Township, New Jersey**

Program Director: Shane Hollawell, DPM, FACFAS  
[acfas.org/fellowshiphollawell](http://acfas.org/fellowshiphollawell)

## **FFLC Reconstructive and Limb Salvage Surgical Fellowship, Naples, Florida**

Program Director: Kevin Lam, DPM, FACFAS  
[acfas.org/fellowshiplam](http://acfas.org/fellowshiplam)

## **Foot & Ankle Specialists of Central Ohio Foot & Ankle Surgery Fellowship, Newark, Ohio**

Program Director: Daniel Logan, DPM, FACFAS  
[acfas.org/fellowshiplogan](http://acfas.org/fellowshiplogan)

## **Penn Presbyterian Podiatric Research Fellowship, Philadelphia**

Program Director: D. Scot Malay, DPM, FACFAS  
[acfas.org/fellowshipmalay](http://acfas.org/fellowshipmalay)

## **Active Orthopedics and Sports Medicine Podiatric Fellowship, Hackensack, New Jersey**

Program Director: Ralph Napoli, DPM, FACFAS  
[acfas.org/fellowshipnapoli](http://acfas.org/fellowshipnapoli)

## **Foot & Ankle Specialists of Central Ohio Foot & Ankle Surgery Fellowship, Smyrna, Georgia**

Program Director: Allen Raphael, DPM, FACFAS  
[acfas.org/fellowshipraphael](http://acfas.org/fellowshipraphael)

## **Emory Midtown Foot & Ankle Surgical Fellowship, Atlanta**

Program Director: Mohammad Sharif, DPM, FACFAS  
[acfas.org/fellowshipsharif](http://acfas.org/fellowshipsharif)

All Conditional Status programs are considered for Recognized Status with ACFAS after they have received status and the first fellow completes the program.

ACFAS highly recommends taking on a specialized fellowship for the continuation of foot and ankle surgical education after residency. If you are considering a fellowship, visit [acfas.org/fellowshipinitiative](http://acfas.org/fellowshipinitiative) to review a complete listing of programs and minimal requirements.



## Dues Invoices Arriving Earlier to Make It Easier for You to Pay

You asked for more time to pay your annual dues before the holiday rush begins, and we listened! You will receive your annual ACFAS member dues renewal reminder one month earlier—in October—to give you more time to pay. Watch your email for renewal instructions for the 2018 calendar year, coming soon. The deadline for payment will remain the same: December 31, 2017.

### In Memory

Michael C. Arrand, DPM,  
AACFAS  
Sterling Heights, MI

J. Philip Davidson, DPM,  
FACFAS  
Hubbard, OH

## A New Patient's Journey Can Start Anywhere.

Word of mouth and insurance compatibility are only half of the story. ACFAS members can get the full picture with a free downloadable guide at **[Officite.com/Oct/Update](http://Officite.com/Oct/Update)**.

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BENEFITS  
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## Diabetes Educators: Your Partners in Foot and Ankle Surgery



For patients living with diabetes, comprehensive foot and ankle care is a must. This often requires the combined expertise of both a foot and ankle surgeon and a diabetes educator (DE) who use a team approach to treat the foot and ankle conditions most commonly associated with diabetes.

Foot and ankle surgeons and DEs typically collaborate on high-risk foot types, such as Charcot deformity, active ulcerations/non-healing wounds and patients with a history of amputation. John S. Steinberg, DPM, FACFAS, ACFAS president-elect and codirector of the Center for Wound Healing and director of the Diabetic Limb Salvage Research Fellowship at MedStar Georgetown, works regularly with DEs in his practice to develop treatment plans for patients. “We coordinate patient education and co-manage each case to optimize environmental factors, nutrition and medical compliance,” says Dr. Steinberg. “This can be key when preparing a patient with diabetes for reconstructive foot and ankle surgery,” he adds.

One challenge that can arise in the working relationship between foot and ankle surgeons and DEs is how to best balance the treatment timeline for patients. Dr. Steinberg notes that DEs often follow a longer timeline whereas foot and ankle surgeons prefer to move treatment along more quickly. “To compromise, we work together to develop an optimal treatment plan for patients who should have surgery right away versus those who will do best with nonsurgical care and can therefore move on a slower timeline,” he explains.

Partnering with a DE in a patient’s treatment plan also helps foot and ankle surgeons better manage their time and patient loads. Dr. Steinberg says since few foot and ankle surgeons are able to spend significant time speaking with patients about diet and exercise, a DE can help motivate patients to stay healthy throughout the course of their treatment.

To keep the patient engaged and involved so that s/he follows both the foot and ankle surgeon’s and DE’s guidance, Dr. Steinberg

recommends using shared visits when possible so the patient can see firsthand how the team is working in concert. “When the logistics of this are not possible,” he notes, “then strong communication between providers will be needed and should be reviewed with the patient to show that the foot and ankle surgeon and DE are interacting and on the same page.”

Dr. Steinberg says communication as well as a strong understanding of what each provider does and can do for the patient are vital to a successful working relationship between a foot and ankle surgeon and a DE.

Visit [TakeANewLook.org](http://TakeANewLook.org) to learn more about how the College is working to educate DEs on why they should refer their patients to ACFAS members. You can also visit the ACFAS Marketing Toolbox at [acfas.org/marketing](http://acfas.org/marketing) for resources you can use to gain referrals from DEs.

**“Strong communication between providers will be needed and should be reviewed with the patient to show that the foot and ankle surgeon and DE are interacting and on the same page.”** — John S. Steinberg, DPM, FACFAS



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# ACFAS Update

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[TAKEANEWLOOK.ORG](http://TAKEANEWLOOK.ORG)

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