

ACFAS ^{student resident} Update



NEWS FROM THE AMERICAN COLLEGE OF FOOT AND ANKLE SURGEONS

Forge Your Career Path at ACFAS 75

Be part of a celebration that's 75 years in the making—[register now](#) for the ACFAS 75th Anniversary Scientific Conference at The Mirage in Las Vegas, February 27–March 2. With hundreds of clinical and scientific sessions, challenging hands-on workshops and unlimited networking opportunities, ACFAS 75 will be the best venue to put your career path on an upward trajectory.



ACFAS Job Fair

If your New Year's resolutions include finding a new job, make the fourth annual ACFAS Job Fair your first stop once you arrive at the conference. Located in the Rotunda, the Job Fair gives you the opportunity to browse through open positions and to schedule onsite interviews with potential employers. A professional resume reviewer will also be available with tips on how to set yourself apart from other job candidates. All open positions and resumes received will be posted on PodiatryCareers.org before the conference in case you cannot make it to Vegas this year.

Funding for Eligible Manuscripts & Posters

The ACFAS Regional Divisions will once again provide funding to residents and postgraduate fellows who are presenting a poster or manuscript at ACFAS 75. Poster submitters are potentially eligible for \$250, and manuscript presenters are potentially eligible for \$500. See the application for complete rules for acceptance and provision of funds. The number of submissions received will determine the amount of support each Division can provide. Applications are due to your Division's president by February 10, 2017.

Recognized Fellowship Breakfast Fair

Thinking about a fellowship after you complete your residency? Come to the exclusive invitation-only Recognized Fellowship Breakfast Fair on Wednesday, March 1 from 6:30–7:30am at The Mirage.

Twenty-five of the ACFAS Recognized or Conditional Status fellowship programs will be represented. Program directors and current and past fellows will be stationed at tables to answer your questions about their individual programs and what they seek in a future program fellow.

All registered students, residents, postgraduate fellows and ACFAS Recognized or Conditional Fellowship Program Directors will be invited to attend. Look for your invitation in your ACFAS 75 registration packet.

ACFAS Board Liaisons Make the Rounds at Student Clubs

Four ACFAS Student Clubs welcomed visits from their board liaisons during the fall.

Randal L. Wraalstad, DPM, FACFAS, met with the AZPod Student Club in September. He participated in a club meeting and presented AZPod Student Club President Stephen Smith with the club's annual stipend check. Two club members, Brady James and Bryce Kruman, each won a pair of ACFAS scrubs in a raffle held during Dr. Wraalstad's visit.



Donald Curtis, DPM, FACFAS, Student Club advisor; Paige Danner, Student Club secretary; Garret Nguyen, Student Club vice president; Stephen Smith, Student Club president; & Dr. Wraalstad

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Later that month, John S. Steinberg, DPM, FACFAS, ACFAS president-elect, visited the NYCPM Student Club where he gave an overview of the College and spoke about his own experiences as an ACFAS member and board member. After a case discussion on limb salvage and a Q&A session with students on residency programs and the interview process, Dr. Steinberg presented the club officers with an annual stipend check.



John S. Steinberg, DPM, FACFAS, ACFAS president-elect; & NYCPM Student Club officers

In October, Sean T. Grambart, DPM, FACFAS, ACFAS president, visited Scholl's Student Club and gave two presentations — one on the value of belonging to ACFAS and another on second MTPJ deformity and the different stages of surgical complications.



Sean T. Grambart, DPM, FACFAS, ACFAS president; & Scholl Student Club officers

Eric G. Walter, DPM, FACFAS, conducted a pigs' feet suturing workshop in November at Kent State University. He taught KSUCPM Student Club members suturing principles, techniques and stitches and also took extra time to answer students' questions.



ACFAS Board member Eric G. Walter, DPM, FACFAS, assists a student in a suturing workshop during his visit to Kent State University.

Visit acfas.org for more on ACFAS Student Club events and activities.

Kent State Student Club Hosts ACFAS Board

On October 28, the KSUCPM Student Club welcomed the ACFAS Board of Directors and staff for a behind-the-scenes tour of the university's high-tech facilities, labs and lecture halls.

A panel of residency directors, including Eric G. Walter, DPM, FACFAS; John S. Steinberg, DPM, FACFAS; Thanh Dinh, DPM, FACFAS; and Byron L. Hutchinson, DPM, FACFAS; also held an open Q&A session with students and gave candid advice on how to best navigate the search for a residency position. Here is some of the valuable information they shared with students:

What Makes a Good Extern:

- Be engaged, motivated, polite and trainable.
- Be prepared. For example, if you are going in for a case, read up on it beforehand.
- Dress appropriately.
- Speak appropriately to patients and attendings.
- Study hard, ask questions and be on time.
- Help your residents and be a team player.

Externship Dos:

- Do some local sightseeing when you are visiting.
- Get along with externs from other schools and help each other out.
- Shine during any outside rotations. It will get back to your attending.
- Ask the residents, "How can I help?" You are auditioning for them.
- Be prepared when asked to give a presentation.
- If you do not know the answer to a question, say "I don't know," but find the answer and follow up.

Externship Don'ts:

- Don't try to be something you are not.
- Don't give patients medical advice.
- Don't sing in the OR.
- Don't overdo name-dropping.

Interview Dos:

- Make eye contact.
- Wear business attire.
- Project a positive attitude.
- Be honest about your schedule conflicts regarding other programs.

Interview Don'ts:

- Don't ask questions to which you should already know the answers. Show that you've done your research.
- Don't ask how much time you get off.
- Don't ask if the director is retiring.
- Don't come without any questions to ask, unless you've already spent a lot of time there.
- Don't drink too much at social events.
- Don't tell all programs, "You're number one!"
- Don't lock into only one program. You'll miss opportunities to check out others.

When visiting a program, can you ask to see surgical logs?

- Programs should be open to telling their strengths and weaknesses. Ask to see resident logs, but not on the first day.
- The hospital system sponsors students, but residents may go to other locations. It's good to ask.
- This would be hard to find out before you intern.
- Numbers matter when considering a program.
- Ask residents how much hands-on experience they actually get.

For programs that do not mandate externships, how many times do you need to visit to show interest?

- Once is probably not enough if you do not extern. Visit for more than one day, i.e., job shadow for a week.
- If you are at a program, visit the ones that are geographically close if you are planning to apply.
- For some, one visit is fine.
- Consider visiting on a weekend.
- Would you feel comfortable taking a residency for three years after visiting for only one day?

At the end of the visit, Dr. Walter presented Emily Zulauf, KSUCPM Student Club president, with an annual stipend check to help the club provide its members with future events, workshops and lectures.