



Ronald G. Ray, DPM, FACFAS, WCC, PT Great Falls, MT

Academic Background

- B.S., Physical Therapy, California State University at Long Beach, 1985
- DPM, California College of Podiatric Medicine, 1992
- Podiatric Resident/Fellow, Waldo Podiatric Surgical Residency Program, Seattle, WA 1992-1995
- AO Fellowship in Orthopaedic Surgery, Harborview Medical Center, Seattle, WA, 1994-1995

Diplomate, American Board of Foot and Ankle Surgery, 2000
Fellow, American College of Foot and Ankle Surgeons, 2000

ACFAS Leadership Experience

- Chair, Surgical Skills Committee, ACFAS, 2018 – present
- Member, Leadership Development Committee, ACFAS, 2021 – present
- Member, Nominations Committee, ACFAS, 2020 - 2021
- Poster Reviewer, Poster Exhibits, ACFAS, 2018
- Member, Surgical Skills Committee, ACFAS, 2017 – 2018
- Chair, Manuscript Committee, ACFAS, 2003
- Chair, Poster Exhibits, ACFAS, 2002
- Surgical Skills Course Committee Member, ACFAS, 2002 – 2003
- Section Editor, Journal of Foot and Ankle Surgery, 2001 - 2010

Professional Experience

- President and Co-Founder, Race Montana, Inc., 2010 - present
- Member, Credentials Committee, ABFAS, 2007- present
- Chair, Continuing Education Committee, MPMA, 2003 – present
- Member, Continuous Certification Committee, 2021 – present
- Member, Cognitive Examination Comm., ABFAS, 2019 – 2020
- President, MPMA, 2019 – 2021
- President – Elect, MPMA, 2017 - 2018
- Chair, CBPS Rearfoot/Ankle Exam Comm., ABFAS, 2011 - 2019
- Treasurer, Montana Podiatric Medical Association, 2016 - 2018
- Board of Directors, ABFAS, 2004 - 2010
- Served as President, Vice President, and Treasurer, ABFAS, 2007-2009
- Chair, Oral Rearfoot/Ankle Exam. Comm., ABFAS, 2003 - 2011
- Oral Examiner, ABFAS, 1999 - 2014
- Chair, Manuscript Committee, ACFAS, 2003
- Chair, Poster Exhibits, ACFAS, 2002
- Member, Credentials Committee, Benefis Healthcare, 2001 - 2003
- Member, Written Rearfoot/Ankle Exam. Comm., ABFAS, 1999 - 2002
- President, Montana Podiatric Medical Association, 1999 - 2001

Current Position:

Benefis Foot & Ankle Clinic, Benefis Health System, Great Falls, MT

Platform Statement

The American College of Foot and Ankle Surgeons has dedicated itself to optimizing the educational process to enlighten its membership on multiple levels. Historically speaking, educating members has been an objective initiated by the early leaders of the American College of Foot Surgeons. The College has continued to provide education on multiple fronts but is now finding it more challenging to compete with industry. Our industry partners, who generously contribute to our institution, also provide surgical based, weekend education at no expense to the surgeon. While acting as Chair of the Surgical Skills Committee, we as a group have strived to provide major upgrades and modifications to our surgical skills courses as a means of adapting to the changing tide of education. We have partially succeeded, but still have not captured the complete interest of our membership. The future will involve combining a full day, comprehensive surgical based program with our finest faculty the day before the Annual Scientific Meeting (ASC) gets underway. The goal is to capture your interest and put your surgical skills to work before attending the ASC starting in 2023.

The other option is to offer virtual surgical demonstrations for a variety of procedures and conditions in a case presentation format 3-4 times per year and awarding CME at a reasonable cost. The concept would involve 2-3 hour focused clinical and surgical demonstrations by ACFAS faculty in industry lab facilities. Your input on this process will be invaluable to tailor this concept to meet educational needs and desires.

ACFAS also needs to be able to uniquely educate individuals who have a keen interest in leadership and education within the college. Many organizations have produced Leadership Development Programs to hone skills of physicians who desire to be involved in either leadership, education or both at multiple levels. I am very excited to be a part of a committee developing such a program for ACFAS. The Leadership Development Program will involve a number of unique modules to stimulate the skills of our future leaders. My hope is that this will eventually evolve into an entire track dedicated to the education of interested members on how to develop and deliver presentations at our various educational events (On the Road, Surgical Skills Courses, ASC, etc.). I was recently exposed to the educational platform developed by AO North America to prepare speakers to present at AO courses. The program is quite specific, purposeful and involves hands-on experiences in a group environment. I envision future ACFAS educators going through a similar program to heighten and fine tune their skill level to further enhance the quality of our educational programs. I see this as a natural progression in the overall education for the Foot and Ankle Surgeon of the future.

ACFAS has a history rich in educating its membership, that we must uphold through ongoing re-assessment. I look forward to the opportunity to support ACFAS endeavors as a member of the Board of Directors.