

DPM Class of 2015: Your First Year of Membership Is on Us

Congratulations to the DPM Class of 2015! All first-year podiatric surgical residents receive a complimentary first-year membership to ACFAS thanks to the Regional Divisions' support. Your dues for the first year are waived (a \$118 savings), plus you'll receive all cost benefits of membership, including a subscription to the *Journal of Foot & Ankle Surgery (JFAS)*, and member pricing on conferences, products and services. You'll also have access to the College's website and to the *Journal* through the new *JFAS* iPad app.

Applications for membership are available through acfas.org. Joining now will provide an additional two months of membership, through September 2016, and will put *JFAS* in your mailbox that much sooner!



Post-Grad Fellow Profile: Mark Prissel, DPM, AACFAS



Mark Prissel, DPM, AACFAS
Orthopedic Foot & Ankle Center
Westerville, OH

From early in residency, Mark Prissel, DPM, AACFAS, had his eye on the Advanced Foot & Ankle Surgical Fellowship at the Orthopedic Foot & Ankle Center (OFAC) in Westerville, Ohio. "I visited OFAC during my second year in residency and was impressed; I knew I wanted to continue my training there," Dr. Prissel explains. He was "ecstatic" to be offered the fellowship, and within just the first few months, he noticed an overall improvement in his surgical techniques and clinical acumen.

A typical day at OFAC for Dr. Prissel starts early with the majority of time spent in the OR. When he is not in surgery, Dr. Prissel sees patients in the office or works on research projects. He also shares a fellow's clinic one day a week with the other two fellows in the practice.

Training alongside two MD/DO foot and ankle fellows in a multidisciplinary practice is a highlight of Dr. Prissel's fellowship and what appealed to him most in his search for extended training. "The three of us make a strong team at OFAC—we are constantly learning from and teaching each other," he says.

Within the practice, Dr. Prissel is regarded as a "junior attending" as much as a fellow, which encourages ownership in clinical decision-making and patient care. "OFAC is very high-volume, which provides great exposure to pathology and offers repetition," says Dr. Prissel. "Working directly with internationally respected, fellowship-trained foot and ankle surgeons continually hones my clinical abilities and decision-making skills," he adds.

For those who wish to apply for a fellowship, Dr. Prissel advises not to think of it as a way to fill a void in previous training but as an opportunity to expand on well-rounded background and skills and to bring the candidate to the "leading edge" of the profession. "Unlike residency training, fellowships have a specific focus, so depending on your career aspirations, only a few fellowships may be available that are a good fit for you.

From now until the end of his fellowship, Dr. Prissel intends to continue to push himself to become a "better surgeon, clinician and researcher as well as gain expertise in practice management." "I want to do all I can to be a proven leader and lifelong learner to begin changing lives."

Fellowship Application Deadlines Fast Approaching

Kick start your career after residency by applying for a fellowship; it's a great opportunity to hone your surgical skills and technique alongside the best in the profession.

Many fellowships have application deadlines in the late summer and fall, so visit acfas.org to browse through a complete list of available fellowships and apply now.

Also, for the first time, a MD-led fellowship program, Foot and Ankle Trauma Fellowship at OhioHealth Grant Medical Center, was recently granted Conditional Status by the ACFAS Fellowship Committee. The program will be considered for upgrade to full Recognized Status once the first DPM candidate matriculates through the program.

If you're considering a fellowship but would like more information, check out these free ACFAS podcasts:

- [Investing in My Future: Is It Worth Another Year?](#)
- [What is Fellowship Like: By Fellows, for Fellows](#)
- [Foot and Ankle Fellowships...Why They Might be Right for You](#)

Dean Profile: Robert M. Yoho, DPM, MS, FACFAS



Robert M. Yoho, DPM, MS, FACFAS
Des Moines University
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Des Moines, Iowa

In the nearly 20 years that Robert M. Yoho, DPM, MS, FACFAS, has served as dean of Des Moines University's (DMU) College of Podiatric Medicine and Surgery (CPMS), the College has enjoyed many successes—its students consistently achieve high-pass rates on the national board exam and make lasting contributions in the areas of patient care, scholarship, leadership and service long after graduation. Much of this success can be attributed to the attention Dr. Yoho and DMU faculty give to CPMS curriculum to ensure that it meets the needs and expectations of an ever-changing student profile.

One aspect of CPMS' curriculum that makes it unique is the balance between full-time faculty's hands-on clinical instruction in the DMU Foot and Ankle Teaching Clinic and the higher-volume external podiatric clinical rotations. "Our third-year, two-week emergency medicine simulation rotation, combined with medicine and vascular surgery clinical rotations, provides students the opportunity to interact with other medical specialists and students," explains Dr. Yoho.

During the first two years of CPMS' DPM program, students also take basic science courses alongside DO, MSA and MBS students. "Our students complete a medical school basic science curriculum, which is only possible when you're held to the same academic standards as our osteopathic or allopathic colleagues," says Dr. Yoho. "This integrated curriculum prepares students for the national board exam, creates both formal and informal opportunities for interprofessional medical education and instills a sense of confidence students carry with them throughout their four years at DMU and beyond."

What Dr. Yoho finds most rewarding is working with faculty and students for the common goal of graduating podiatric physicians who become leaders and excel at what they do. "DMU graduates have and will continue to have a strong influence on the podiatric medical profession," Dr. Yoho affirms. "What was once an osteopathic medical college has now become a graduate medical university and an established model for podiatric medical education."