



**Mitzi L. Williams DPM, FACFAS, FACFAP
Moraga, CA**

Academic Background

- B.S., Veterinary Science, Chemistry, Family Studies, University of Arizona, 2001
- D.P.M., Scholl College, 2005
- Foot and Ankle Surgical Residency Program, Scripps & Kaiser Permanente, 2005-2008

Diplomate, American Board of Foot and Ankle Surgery (ABFAS), 2011

Fellow, American College of Foot and Ankle Surgeons (ACFAS), 2011

ACFAS Leadership Experience

- Member, Annual Scientific Conference Committee, 2021-present
- Pediatric Section Editor, Journal of Foot & Ankle Surgery, 2021-present

Professional Leadership Experience

- Board of Directors, Podiatry Institute, 2022-present
- Faculty member, Podiatry Institute, 2008-present
- Faculty, American Academy of Foot and Ankle Osteosynthesis (AAFAO), 2014-present
- Faculty, AO, 2012-2013
- Healing the Children Mission: Surgical evaluation and reconstruction of pediatric deformities in Kathmandu, Nepal, 2007 & 2011
- Author of multiple peer review publications, book chapters, abstracts and manuscripts, as well as Children's books.
- Presenter at local, national and international scientific conferences

Current Position: Director, Pediatric Foot Deformity Center at Kaiser Permanente in Oakland, California.

Position Statement:

It is with great honor that I accept nomination to serve as a board member for the American College of Foot and Ankle Surgeons. For three years I have served on the Scientific Annual Conference Committee and taken pride in quality, knowledge, and mentorship. It is purely not enough to advance this field of medicine with knowledge alone. It takes one who continues to learn, maintains passion, and inspires others to advance. These qualities I find key in advancing our college. Inspiring a population in the process of career navigation to spark interest is important while likewise reaching out to a younger population prior to college is integral. This is mentorship. A relationship that teaches and inspires others to want to care for patients, develop shared decision making, and foster a drive toward surgical excellence maintains value.

Mentorship is key for our existing members as well. I know I am limited in the ability to teach others all the pearls in treating children with clubfoot in one course, for example, or provide a member all the information to avoid various complications from one talk. It is the relationship that stems from these events that promotes discussion, collaboration, sharing of cases, and navigating the challenges that arise. I stand for mentorship for growth of the profession and our incredible college. Promoting individual growth is valuable as well.

Our profession is unique in that we can carve out our own niche. We can become as specialized as we desire. We can allow ourselves to truly identify with our work and accomplishments. On the other side, this profession allows for other aspects of one's life to flourish as well. We can mature in a career that allows growth. By this I mean, we are not stagnant. Our desires and needs in life are always changing and we need a college that communicates this growth is normal. The notion of balance is hard for anyone to achieve. The idea of growth in a profession, changing goals, and changing needs is easier to understand. Accepting we are constantly changing is valuable when discussing the notion of balance.

Our career allows for constant growth. Our college is excellent with quality and will continue to provide support during growth and maturation of members. I believe in this as life can be both rewarding and messy. If elected, I want to promote mentorship. I want to inspire a younger population to enter this specialty of medicine. We will need this population to continue to represent our college well. I have developed a niche in this profession in the world of pediatrics. I have knocked down various barriers via communication, humility, surgical skills, and compassion. Integration of our profession and college is very important to me.

I will represent this college with dignity, grace and professionalism that hopefully inspires others. My patients and their families continue to inspire me. I hope I continue to inspire others in this upcoming role.