

Ohio Association of Physician Assistants
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
July 19, 2025

The OAPA Board of Directors convened via Zoom. Present were Board members Rotuno, Hart, Meyers, Kohler, Homoki, Mihalek, Wilson, Talboo, Bishop, Keller, E. Brown, Mathur, and Whittaker. Also present were Committee Chairs Freado, McDifft, and Schmitz, AAPA Delegates Barmasse, Bowby, J. Brown, Pagliaccio, Richardson, and Thompson, 7 SCSRs, and ED Vanneman.

President Rotuno called the meeting to order at 9:01 a.m. with a roll call. A quorum was present. He welcomed the newly-elected and re-elected board members: Madeline Meyers (President-Elect), Emily Kohler (Vice President), Jay Mihalek (R1), Amy Wilson (R2), Emily Brown (R6, *reelected*), Anu Mathur (R7, *reelected*), Allyson Whitaker (Student Representative) and shared appreciation for those whose terms had come to an end: Matthew Freado (Immediate Past President), Michell McDifft (Vice President), Tyler Fitzgerald (R1), Michele Gavin (R2), and Romal Patel (Student Representative).

Secretary-Treasurer Homoki introduced the March 2025 board of directors meeting minutes.

ACTION: Motion to approve the minutes. The motion carried.

President Rotuno provided the President's Report with a status update on OAPA's four strategic goals for 2025-2026: 1) Advancing PA advocacy through engagement and legislative outreach, 2) Enhancing OAPA educational opportunities for growth and sustainability, 3) Strengthening membership involvement and leadership development, and 4) Expanding pathways for future PAs through outreach and support.

Secretary-Treasurer Homoki reviewed the financial report.

ACTION: Motion to approve the financial report. The motion carried.

President Rotuno listed the Committee Chairs appointed for 2025-2026: Jenny Brantingham (Awards), Adrian Gorzite-Maxey (Education), Matthew Freado (Government Affairs), Anu Mathur (Membership), Michell McDifft (Public Relations), Leah Schmitz (Reimbursement), and Student Affairs (Scott Naples). The Communications and Diversity roles are TBD.

ACTION: Motion to confirm the Committee Chair appointments. The motion carried.

ED Vanneman presented the new Social Media Access Agreement for the board's consideration.

ACTION: Motion to confirm the new Social Media Access Agreement. The motion carried.

Membership Chair Mathur presented the Student Membership Term Length proposal, discussing how the proposal was developed and iteratively improved since initial introduction at the March 2025 meeting.

ACTION: Motion to extend the PA student membership duration from two years to program length plus 6 months. The motion carried.

Membership Chair Mathur presented the Pre-PA Membership Category Proposal, discussing how the proposal was developed and iteratively improved since initial introduction at the March 2025 meeting.

ACTION: Motion to create a Pre-PA membership category. The motion carried.

Both of these actions require Bylaws amendments to adopt. The wording will be developed and put forward to the membership in the coming months for consideration according to policy and procedure.

Government Affairs Committee Chair Freado discussed stakeholder meetings to advance PA legislative priorities and build relationships. The preceptor tax incentive was not included in the biennial budget as hoped, but the HB 353 PA Title Change bill has been introduced with strong co-sponsorship. OAPA has been engaging in legislator fundraisers and continues to plan the October 22 Ohio PA Advocacy Day.

Annual Conference Chair Meyers invited participants to the October 23-24 OAPA Annual Conference and discussed the CME offerings, posters, student and educator tracks, and PA Student Challenge Bowl.

ED Vanneman stated that the AAPA Delegates who are eligible for the role of Chief Delegate have not indicated an interest to serve in that capacity, so per policy, there is a need for the board to intercede.

ACTION: Motion to permit the AAPA Delegates to select a 2026 Chief delegate from among all 9 Ohio delegates in the manner of their choosing. The motion carried.

ED Vanneman discussed the 2026 Event Options report with historical event participation, comparative data, and financial calculations. OAPA has traditionally held two multi-day, in-person conferences, but post-Covid attendance has been only 50% of pre-Covid levels. Many similar organizations host only one annual conference to focus resources and maximize engagement while reducing direct and opportunity costs. Because 96% of Ohio PAs earn pharmacology CME elsewhere, offering this content only on demand is more profitable, allowing OAPA to focus on delivering one high-quality annual conference.

ACTION: Motion to hold only one in-person, multi-day conference in 2026, the OAPA Annual Conference. The motion carried.

ED Vanneman will follow up with the Board in the coming months with further discussion on the matter.

President Rotuno is in discussion with Education Chair Gorzitze-Maxey about virtual CME. Membership Chair Mathur encouraged social sharing, including a PA student, new graduate, and Pre-PA events. The next OAPA Board of Directors meeting will be held virtually via Zoom on October 16, 2025, from 7-9 p.m.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:38 a.m.

To the OAPA Board of Directors,

On behalf of President Rotuno, your unanimous written consent is requested. Please contact oapa@ohiopa.com with any questions prior to consenting.

Provide your affirmative response by signing here no later than Friday, September 12, at 9 a.m.

Appoint Committee Chairs

Committee chair appointments were approved at the July 2025 Board meeting, however, a few roles remained unfilled at that time. Since that meeting, President Rotuno has appointed the following Committee Chairs for the 2025-2026 term:

- Student Affairs Committee Co-Chair Jenna Joseph (*Co-Chair Scott Naples, already approved*)
- Communications Committee Co-Chairs Douglas D. Long and Emily Keller
- Diversity Committee Chair Bridget Mansell

MOTION: To confirm the Committee Chair appointments.

Clayton M Rotuno

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Emily Wilson

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Maddie A Meyers

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09/10/2025 01:16:47 UTC
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Natalie Talbot

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09/10/2025 16:28:35 UTC
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Nathana C. Hart, DAC

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Courtney Bishop

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Karen P. Hark

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Emily Keller

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Emily A. Kohler

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Emily Brown

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Jay Mihalek

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Ana Hather

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Allison Whitaker

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09/12/2025 19:30:30 UTC
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To the OAPA Board of Directors,

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Support Five Candidates for the PA Policy Committee of the State Medical Board

Per ORC 4730.05, "Three members [of the PAPC] shall be physician assistants appointed from a list of five individuals recommended by the Ohio association of physician assistants."

Per OAPA policy, "When one or more pending vacancies occur on the PAPC...SMBO will request a list of candidates for the number of available seats from OAPA. SMBO will notify OAPA if a currently seated OAPA member wishes to remain seated on the PAPC for a subsequent term. OAPA will notify the membership of a pending vacancy on the PAPC and solicit candidates by electronic means. Notification will include details of the responsibilities of serving on the PAPC. Interested candidates who are not currently seated on the PAPC will provide a letter of interest and a current CV to OAPA by a deadline specified in the solicitation. The BOD will review and finalize a list of candidates to send to SMBO by the required deadline with support from the ED. SMBO will be responsible for making the final appointment to the PAPC."

There are two openings on the PA Policy Committee (PAPC) of the State Medical Board. SMBO confirmed that they would only like a list of five (not ten) individuals from OAPA for these two seats. PAs are also permitted to apply directly to SMBO, bypassing OAPA. The two PAs who are vacating the PAPC seats are term-limited. We notified the membership of this opportunity in August and received 10 applications, the materials for which have been provided to the OAPA Board for review.

The Executive Committee conducted a preliminary review and recommends these five as OAPA's candidates: Alexander Cook, Jonathan Corrigan, Douglas Knight, Douglas D. Long, and Mike Schetter.

MOTION: To recommend the five identified candidates to the State Medical Board of Ohio for consideration for appointment to the Physician Assistant Policy Committee.

Clayton M Rotuno

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09/09/2025 22:10:20 UTC
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Madelene A Meyers

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09/12/2025 03:46:24 UTC
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Mathan C Hart, DO

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09/10/2025 15:41:14 UTC
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Karen P. Brown

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Emily A Keller

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Jay M. Whicker

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Amy Wilson

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Natalie Talbot

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Courtney Bishop

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Emily Keller

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Emily Brown

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Ana Hartur

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Allison Whittaker

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