

To: ASC Board
From: Chris Eskridge
Date: November 1, 2023
Re: Executive Director's Report

This has been a very busy six months since the last Board Meeting. This report will focus on the operational aspects of the organization. I can report that we continue to be financially sound, and remain a vibrant, active professional society. The Philadelphia meetings appear as if they will attract between 3,800 to 4,000 attendees.

1. Membership Figures

As of today, we have 3,205 members, roughly 50 more members than we had last year at this time. I expect to see our 2024 membership figure to be around 3,400, as the meetings will be in San Francisco, which is always a big draw.

2. Divisions

As usual, I try to stay in touch with the divisions, especially at this time of the year as they make their annual meeting plans. As noted in the financial report, all of the divisions have positive account balances and are doing well.

3. Committees

Our 30 or so committees and liaison representatives have all been active and have fulfilled their assignments in a timely fashion. I have stayed in touch with the committee chairs and liaison reps when needed.

4. Columbus Office Activities

The Columbus staff continues to perform above and beyond, handling the elections, getting the annual meeting program together and handling the myriad of meeting logistics, dealing with the newsletter, keeping the membership list and databases up to date, interacting with divisions and committee members, managing the webpage, and managing our funds in an orderly fashion. Our membership and meeting registration forms are particularly complicated (our members can join any of 19 divisions and can select from roughly a dozen different publications and choose to receive each of those in different ways), and that has required a significant effort on their part. They work together to help ASC run smoothly and to particularly make our growing annual meeting a seamless event. The staff continues to evaluate old vs new ways of handling their tasks, with a constant eye toward cost effectiveness. In sum, we have an extremely professional, dedicated, and committed staff who are focused on the health and well-being of ASC, who regularly go the extra mile, and who are always looking for ways to be more effective. We are very fortunate.

5. Annual Meeting Preparations

A. Philadelphia (2023) - We have worked with the Philadelphia Marriott hotel staff in the past and have an excellent relationship with them. Things are organized, the program book is being printed, the Fire Marshal has approved the meeting layout, bags and badges have been ordered, money has been collected, meeting room set-ups finalized, AV have been arranged, and food has been ordered...we are ready to go! At this point, there are 3,310 individuals registered

for the meetings, and as per above, we estimate that the final registration figures will be around 3,800 to 4,000.

B. San Francisco (2024) – We anticipate a very large meeting next year. We have run numerous meetings in the San Francisco Marriott, so we are somewhat familiar with the layout of the hotel, but given the anticipated size of the meeting, we are very much aware of the need to refresh our memory and to make sure we have a solid handle on the meeting space. We have been working with hotel staff and have already made one site visit to the hotel last Spring. We plan to travel to San Francisco this coming April, in conjunction with the Spring Board Meeting, to visit with the hotel staff in person and to review the hotel space and layout.

6. *Ice Cream Social*

The best is always last. Please note Thursday, 1:30 to 2:45 on your calendar for the Annual Meeting Ice Cream Social. I have aprons for all Board members as usual. The Ice Cream Social will be held in the Exhibit Hall (Salon E).