

To: ASC Board
From: Chris Eskridge
Date: November 1, 2024
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.

1. Membership Figures

We will finish the year with 3,118 members, 87 fewer members than we had last year at this time. I expect to see our membership stabilize in this 3,100 - 3,200 figure going forward. I will provide a demographic breakdown of our 2024 membership at the Spring Board meeting. FYI, I have attached the 2023 membership demographic breakdown to the on-line agenda.

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. All of the divisions have positive account balances and are doing well. This year, 54% of our membership are members of at least one division. See the Division 2024 members.doc report attached to the agenda.

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. They work together to help ASC run smoothly and to particularly make our 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

The San Francisco meeting is now 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! But there is one issue. At this point, there are 2,858 individuals registered for the meetings. This is 450 fewer than last year, yet, the hotels are overbooked, with 5,400 room nights sold. We are confused, and recognize that this may be the new norm. We will of course be collecting registration

information and use that in the future to help us as we estimate meeting needs.

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 9).