



## MUSCULOSKELETAL TUMOR SOCIETY

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### MSTS Year-in Review (October 2013 – October 2014)

The Musculoskeletal Tumor Society (MSTS) continues to make great strides in becoming a stronger and healthier Society. Your Executive Committee and other MSTS volunteers have spent a considerable amount of time during the past 12 months discussing input we received from you, our members, to strengthen the Society. You told us you wanted more transparency, additional volunteer opportunities, better member engagement, enhanced educational programming, more research opportunities, and tactical communications. With your feedback, we were able to create the **MSTS Strategic Plan 2014-2017**, which has helped current leaders and will help future leaders steer MSTS's resources to achieve the clearly defined goals of Education, Membership, Organizational Excellence, and Research. We outlined our path in the **MSTS Strategic Plan 2014-2017** less than 12 months ago, though we have accomplished a great deal within a short amount of time. Below are just a few of our successes to date:

- **Education**
  - Implemented a successful and profitable 2013 Annual Meeting.
  - Altered the 2014 Annual Meeting Program based on registrant feedback
    - Piloted a Mentor Lunch
    - Hosted a formal poster presentation
    - Gave awards for "best poster" and "young investigator"
  - Implemented a successful and profitable 2014 Specialty Day.
  - Presented successful symposia and scientific exhibits during the 2014 AAOS Annual Meeting.
  - Presented symposia during the 2014 ORS Annual Meeting.
  - Increased our co-branding activities with the AAOS for its 2015 Annual Meeting.
  - Developed an education needs assessment
  - Developed CPT codes for Orthopaedic Oncology Fellowships (for the RRC)
- **Membership**
  - Audited MSTS's membership, which led to updating member records and collecting past dues; surpassed budgeted past dues revenue.
  - Increased responsiveness to members' inquiries via phone and email.
  - Developed our first-ever membership marketing plan.
  - Created a new resident membership category.
  - Recommended the approval of 29 new members and 8 upgrade requests from candidate to active member – our largest pool of applicants in recorded history.
  - Altered the membership review/acceptance procedures for faster processing
  - Enhanced communications through the creation of the "MSTS News" and an improved Society newsletter
- **Organizational Excellence**
  - Managed the creation and adoption of the Society's strategic plan.
  - Developed and adopted needed policies, such as antitrust, confidentiality, privacy, whistleblower, travel, etc.
  - Improved financial reporting.
  - Sought and received tax-exemption status in Texas.
  - Developed the Volunteer Solicitation Program for increased transparency, fair volunteer selection, and increased member engagement.
  - Altered our governance structure, thus creating more opportunities for involvement and member input:
    - Reconfigured the Education Committee;
    - Created an Annual Meeting Program Committee;
    - Expanded the Specialty Day Program Committee;
    - Expanded the Membership Committee

- Expanded the Nominating Committee
  - Expanded the Executive Committee
  - Provided members with more opportunities to share their thoughts and concerns.
  - Active business meetings with open mic/consent agenda
  - EC meetings/calls with strategic focus/consent agenda
  - Formal MSTS representation within the AAOS' Board of Specialty Societies
- **Research**
    - Developed a personal relationship with the FDA regarding custom device exemptions; held two private meetings with FDA leadership to discuss Membership's concerns.
    - Awarded the 2014 MSTS/OREF Research grant.
    - Participated in the Strike Out Cancer program.

While we have made significant enhancements to our Society, to your membership, and to your membership experience, we aren't through yet. Your new Executive Committee will continue the good work and will continue to champion your interests. Be on the lookout for Society surveys seeking your input on a number of issues. And remember, you can always reach out to your Executive Committee members and our Management Team ([info@msts.org](mailto:info@msts.org)) with a concern or an idea. Thank you for your continued interest in the MSTS.