President’s Report – Theodore W. Parsons III, MD, FACS

Happy Summer everyone. I sincerely hope your personal plans include some time with family and friends during this gorgeous time of year (unless you live in the south, where you have had gorgeous weather all year). Taking time to recharge is important to continued professional success!

The Society has had yet another very busy, and productive year. I want to express my gratitude to our many volunteer committee members, and especially to the Executive Committee members, for their time, effort, and dedication to the society. As we have been reviewing our progress in advancing our strategic goals on page 6 of the summer 2014 newsletter. Click here to view newsletter. I am so pleased to see the great work that has been accomplished. We have added new committees, greatly expanded membership service opportunities, made great strides in creating transparency in societal governance, and engaged in a number of new initiatives for our society. The dedicated work of our society presidents over the last several years has laid the foundation for this great progress. We all owe them a

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Thanks to the leadership of our President, Ted Parsons, and Carol Morris as our Education Chair, the society successfully co-branded 5 Tumor ICL’s, 1 symposium, 2 scientific podium sessions, and 3 scientific exhibits focusing on tumor related topics at this year’s AAOS Annual Meeting in Orlando Florida. With full participation from our membership, the MSTS Specialty Day was also a success, chaired by Patrick Lin and co-chaired by Joel Mayerson covering the topics of: Translational Research, Metastatic Disease, Orthopaedic Oncology in the Digital Age, Strategies for the Skeletally Immature Patient with Sarcomas of the Bone and a newer session was added which allowed for an interactive round table discussion: Starting an Oncology Practice in the Era of the ACA. We are now enthusiastically moving onward into the Annual Meeting in Detroit, Michigan.

As noted in Lor Randall’s Treasurer’s report, the Society’s assets continue to grow and, particularly with the help of our outstanding AAOS management team, assume a more stable structure. This, along with our recent strategic planning, should lay the foundation for a very solid organization going forward. We thank you, our members, for your contributions to this newsletter and will continue to work to make your newsletter increasingly worthwhile by expanding topics of importance to our membership. Please contact us with any suggestions for improvement including: additions for the next newsletter, tumor unknowns, and any constructive criticism. Your MSTS leadership is working hard to increase the value of your membership and we welcome your feedback.

Dr. Matt DiCaprio held another successful Sarcoma 5K fundraising event this spring, with several thousands of dollars received by the MSTS for research funding purposes. Well done, again, Matt!

The Research Committee, chaired by Dr. Michelle Ghert, has done some great work. Not only are we continuing with annual research grant opportunities with our collaboration with the MTF (as announced last year by Dr. Terek), we have a new funded study that will examine priorities in MSK oncologic research, and help guide our collaborative research opportunities with the OREF.

Our Education Committee, chaired by Dr. Carol Morris, has been busy with the usual AAOS Annual Meeting programmatic material, and additionally we have come to an agreement with the AAOS in a joint-branded virtual tumor review course. This will provide opportunities for many of our members to contribute, and serve as a no-risk revenue source to the society for the years to come. We will likely be filming content lectures this fall.

The Evidence Based Medicine Committee, chaired by Dr. Ben Miller, has been doing great work with the Clinical Practice Guidelines, and has put together a robust team that is tackling the registry issue for the society.

The Membership Committee, chaired by Dr. Michael Mott, will be rolling out the for[MD] web based Physician Collaboration Network in the next several weeks (a final contract has been signed), with a planned presentation scheduled at our upcoming annual meeting in October. This platform will provide for robust interaction with our members, and enhance our ability to share information without inundating our members. To that end, the executive committee has proposed a new email and survey policy, to be reviewed by the membership, in an effort to limit the volume of information sent to your inbox. More to follow on this initiative.

Speaking of the 2016 Annual Meeting, we are looking forward to a wonderful event in the Motor City. Dr. Michael Mott, the Program Chair, has a spectacular event planned. We will be holding a tumor-specific ICD-10 coding course the afternoon before the meeting officially starts (thanks to Dr. John Heiner, chair of our Practice Management Committee for his extensive help in organizing this event) which will be of great value to our members. Dr. Kaled M. Alextiar, a renowned radiation oncologist from Memorial Sloan Kettering, will be our Presidential Speaker, addressing current concepts in radiation treatments of sarcomas. Our signature event will be a dinner at the world famous Henry Ford Museum, with run of the house access to all the exhibits! And of course, along with our scientific program, we will hold an allied health professional program. This will be a ‘can’t miss event’ this fall, in the beautiful fall weather at the iconic Renaissance Center in Detroit.

Finally, we want to recognize the continuing great work of Amy Sherwood, Abu Muhammad and Deborah Meyer, our society administrative support team, for their continuing hard work and dedication. Without them, little of this work would move forward.

As you can see, there has been a great deal of growth and expansion in the society, and a lot is going on! I encourage you to engage, and participate in those initiatives that are of interest to you. The life blood of any society is its membership! We value your participation, and seek your feedback! Please reach out to me or any member of the executive committee with comments and ideas... we welcome them!

See you this fall in Detroit!
Treasurer’s Report
- R. Lor Randall, MD, FACS

The Finance Committee had its quarterly meeting in June. The fiscal status of the Society is sound (with details presented at Specialty Day and will be presented again at our Annual Meeting this fall). We underwent an elective audit for 2015 and no adjustments to the internal statements were needed. The Finance Committee has drafted an Investment Policy which is going to be reviewed by the Executive Committee this summer. We have also reviewed proposals from several financial service organizations and may possibly be switching. Thanks to all the members of the Finance Committee and the AAOS support staff, in particular MSTS’s Financial Director, Anna Greene! Members, please do not hesitate to contact me with questions or concerns. Happy summer!

Membership Committee
- Michael P. Mott, MD, Chair

The membership committee is here to serve you! If you have any ideas which you feel can improve the membership experience please feel free to contact the chair or any membership committee member at any time.

For[MD] is our new online interchange for more immediate membership sharing of ideas, cases and membership interaction. Anticipate availability to our members in July, 2016.

The membership committee would like to welcome the following new members who were recently approved as full members by the action of the executive committee:
- Active – Nicholas Bernthal, MD
- Active – Omohodion Binitie, MD
- Active – Marco Ferrone, MD
- Active – Eric Ross Henderson, MD
- Associate – Ashish Mahendra, MD
- Active – Farbod Malek, MD
- Resident – Giovanni Paralitici, MD
- Associate – Amir Sternheim, MD
- Candidate – Steven W. Thorpe, MD
- Active – Benjamin Tuy, MD
- Candidate – Matthew Wallace, MD
- Candidate – Rodolfo Zamora, MD

Encourage your colleagues to join MSTS. The Membership application deadline is August 3, 2016. Learn more by visiting the MSTS website.

Evidence Based Medicine Committee
- Ben Miller, MD, Chair

The committee is continuing to progress in the clinical practice guideline for “Use of imaging prior to referral to a musculoskeletal oncologist.” The work group consists of 12 members from the American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons (4), American College of Radiology (3), and the MSTS (5), in addition to the four members of the EBM Committee. Currently the project is in the systematic literature review phase, to be followed by further discussion by the work group, and eventually ending in widespread dissemination of the findings and recommendations. We created a proposal for an additional project to create appropriate use criteria for surveillance after treatment of sarcoma. We have submitted this to the AAOS Board of Specialty Societies Quality and Patient Safety Action Fund, which is designed to provide financial support to projects such as this. Please look out for additional member opportunities to contribute to this project as part of a work group or voting panel in the months ahead.

Finally, the committee has begun preliminary work into determining the most appropriate course to create a society-wide tumor registry. While in the early stages, there has been a great amount of enthusiasm and support concerning this effort. We have 15 volunteers who have been tasked with vetting existing registries and databases, and determining the overall goals of the platform and data elements necessary to provide an important and lasting source of data into the future.

Research Committee
- Michelle Ghert, MD, FRCSC, Chair

The MSTS Research Committee is pleased to announce successful grant applications for MSTS members, as well as further funding opportunities as well as new MSTS initiatives.

MSTS/MTF Research Grant
The MSTS would like to congratulate Dr. Nicholas Bernthal for his successful MSTS/MTF Research grant application entitled ‘Modified Antimicrobial Coatings to Prevent Allograft Infection’. This grant provides up to $100,000 over 1-2 years to new investigators conducting research in musculoskeletal oncology research related to transplantation of allografts, bone regeneration, and biologic reconstruction.

Congratulations Nick! We look forward to an update on the progress of your study.

A call for proposals for the 2016 MSTS/MTF Research Grant will be posted later this year. Information regarding this grant is as follows:
- Research may be basic or clinical.
- The research must align with the mission of the Musculoskeletal Transplant Foundation

Who Applies?
- Principal Investigator (PI) or Co-Principal Investigator (Co-PI) must be an orthopaedic surgeon
- PhDs and DVMs are eligible to serve as PI but must have a primary academic appointment in an orthopaedic department and the Co-PI must be an orthopaedic surgeon.

Applications and more information will be available soon on the MSTS website.
Grant Deadline: October 1, 2016

OREF/MSTS Clinical Research Grant in Orthopaedic Oncology
The MSTS would like to congratulate Dr. Lukas Nystrom for his successful OREF/MSTS Research grant application entitled ‘Transcutaneous Oxygen as a Predictor of Wound Healing Complications in Preoperatively Radiated Soft Tissue Sarcoma’. This grant provides up to $100,000 over 1-2 years to clinician researchers focusing on

2016 Dues Renewal

Friendly Reminder – Please submit payment for your 2016 membership dues. Pay your 2016 Membership Dues online.

Forgot your login information? Contact MSTS for assistance at 847/698-1625 or info@msts.org.

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Research Committee, cont’d from pg. 3

multi-center collaborative clinical research in orthopaedic oncology.

Congratulations Luke! We look forward to an update on the progress of your study.

A call for proposals for the 2017 OREF/MSTS Research Grant will be posted later this year. Information regarding this grant is as follows:

Who Applies?
- PI or Co-PI must be an orthopaedic surgeon.
- PhDs and DVMs are eligible if affiliated with an orthopaedic department and working with an orthopaedic surgeon.
- PI or Co-PI must be an MSTS member in good standing.

Applications and more information will be available soon on the MSTS website. Estimated Grant Deadline: January 2017

AAOS/ORS/OREF Clinician Scholar Career Development Program
The MSTS is pleased to sponsor MSTS Candidate Members Dr. Alexander Christ and Dr. Brian Walczak to attend the AAOS/ORS Clinician Scholar Career Development Program. The Program will be held September 15-17, in Rosemont, IL.

Congratulations Alexander and Brian!

Note: A call for applications for the CSCDP will go out in the MSTS Winter Newsletter.

MSTS Sponsoring Member to Attend PPCR Course
To all MSTS members interested in learning the methodological concepts of clinical research:

The MSTS is pleased to announce the sponsorship of one member to attend the 10th Annual Principles and Practice of Clinical Research (PPCR) course. This course will be held on September 22-23, 2016 at the Ron Joyce Business Centre in Burlington, Ontario, Canada. This course will provide participants with practical knowledge in current research principles that are fundamental, if not necessary in today’s world of clinical research. The interactive learning environment will allow participants to interact with renowned clinical researchers and gain invaluable insight into what makes a successful research study. The PPCR course will provide participants with a comprehensive foundation in the present state of health research methodology by covering evidence-based-medicine principles, levels of evidence, research ethics, funding opportunities, as well as data management and budgeting.

Last year, the MSTS supported Dr. Daniel Lerman to attend the 2015 PPCR Course. Danny had lots of positive comments to share after the course!

Further details of the course are available in the following link: http://www.cmecourses.ca/courses/id/5

All interested members are requested to submit a cover letter stating the reasons for interest in the course and the type of research study to be developed, as well as a current CV to info@msts.org by August 15, 2016. The course attendee will be expected to submit an MSTS/OREF clinical research proposal in early 2017.

News for Ongoing MSTS Funded Studies
The Prophylactic Antibiotic Regimens in Tumor Surgery (PARITY) trial now has 37 open sites across 7 countries and 5 continents. The first European patient was enrolled into PARITY by Dr. Roberto Velez in Barcelona, Spain in February 2016! Enrolment reached 150 patients in the spring of 2016. The trial is ongoing and the collaborative network requires further expansion. MSTS members interested in joining the trial are invited to register on the PARITY trial website (www.PARITYtrial.com) or contact Michelle Ghert at ghert@hhsc.ca.

Research Opportunities
For MSTS members undertaking research or advocating a position The Burden of Musculoskeletal Diseases in the United States: Prevalence, Societal and Economic Cost (BMUS) is an essential tool. It is the only publication analyzing data from multiple national databases and presenting it in a single resource which covers all major musculoskeletal disorders. For researchers it is typically used in preparing background and justification for research studies and grant applications, to describe impact, determine current practice, characterize populations, and justify sampling. For general communications, government relations and other advocacy purposes it is used for multiple purposes such as to describe the value of musculoskeletal care, the need for treatment, the importance of expanding access to treatment, and to advocate for policies that support expanded access. Content is all downloadable including data tables, graphs and slides which a ready to use, and fact sheets. A Report Builder enables users to run queries based on selected diagnostic codes. A new addition is a chapter on Sex and Gender differences. Published by the United States Bone and Joint Initiative (USBJI) of which MSTS is a member, the website can be accessed at www.boneandjointburden.org.

New Initiative Aimed at Identifying Research Priorities in Orthopaedic Oncology
The MSTS, in collaboration with the OREF, is pleased to support a new initiative that aims to identify research priorities in our field. The project, entitled ‘Moving forward through consensus: A protocol for a modified Delphi approach to determine the top research priorities in the field of orthopaedic oncology’, involves a 3-stage process: 2 email questionnaires followed by an in-person meeting to be held around the MSTS Annual Meeting in Detroit, October 5-7 2016. All MSTS members and international PARITY collaborators will be invited to participate. Members of the OREF staff will attend the in-person meeting to assist in identifying funding mechanisms. This study is funded by an Innovation Grant (McMaster Surgical Associates) and the study protocol is published in the British Medical Journal (Open): BMJ Open 2016;6:e011780. doi:10.1136.
We Need You!
Current MSTTS Committee Openings

There are plenty of opportunities to be involved with the increasing spectrum of MSTTS programming. Please apply for a position that suits your interests, younger, mid-career, and older members alike. We need your ideas, the benefit of your experience, and wisdom. The MSTTS is now accepting volunteer applications for the following positions:

- **Treasurer**
  Eligible applicants must be a current committee chair or former committee chair who has served in the last three years. This is a six (6) year leadership commitment that leads through the Presidential Line.
  
  To apply for Treasurer, please click [here](#).

- **Executive Committee – Member-at-Large**
  Eligible applicants must be an Active or Associate member in good standing at the time of application. This is a two (2) year term.
  
  To apply for the EC Member-at-Large, please click [here](#).

- **2017 Nominating Committee – Member-at-Large**
  Eligible applicants must be an Active or Associate member in good standing at the time of application. This is a one (1) year term.
  
  To apply for the 2017 Nominating Committee Member-at-Large, please click [here](#).
The 2016 AAOS meeting was a successful meeting for our organization. We provided 5 well-attended and highly-evaluated Tumor Instructional Course Lectures on a wide range of topics as well as a symposium on soft tissue tumors. The feedback from all of the educational sessions was outstanding. Specialty Day was also well-attended with an outstanding program. Thank you to everyone who participated.

Going forward, the AAOS is considering developing a “track” system for subspecialties at the Annual meeting. There would be 2 tracks—one for generalists and 1 for orthopaedic oncologists. The goal is to provide education at the basic and subspecialty level to meet everyone’s needs. We will discuss this further at our business meeting in the Fall.

On-line Pathology Course
The AAOS and MSTS have reached an agreement regarding the on-line virtual tumor course. This course will be an interactive orthopaedic pathology review course covering General Tumor Principles, Benign Bone Tumors, Malignant Bone Tumors, Soft Tissue Tumors, and Metastatic Disease. As we begin the final planning stages of this endeavor, there are still plenty of opportunities to participate. We are looking for novel interactive educational formats to engage course participants. For those of you with special expertise or interest in this new teaching platform, we hope you will volunteer to be part of the faculty. For those of you that have already committed to faculty positions, please note you will be receiving a request soon to schedule taping lectures at our Annual Meeting in Detroit this fall. We are very excited about our new venture. If you are interested in learning more, please email me directly at cmorri61@jhmi.edu.

The MSTS Practice Management Committee has been focusing on three main items over the past several months. The first is to been set up the coding course which was discussed at the business meeting of the MSTS. The coding course will be given by Karen Zupko and Associates, Inc. (KZA) who does all the courses for the AAOS and is a partner of the AAOS. The course will be from 3-6pm on the Wednesday that the MSTS meeting starts. It will end right before the evening cocktail party. Hopefully this will let people who want to participate get a late morning or early afternoon flight into Detroit to be able to attend the coding course. The course will focus only on Orthopaedic Oncology though it will have several other general points that will help you in your practice especially in the use of coding modifiers and ICD-10. There will be a booklet supplied with the course that participants can take home to use as a refresher. Your orthopedic coders from your practice are welcome. Hopefully this will be a useful course that has immediate practicality for the surgeon. We will have a Q&A period at the end so if you have specific coding questions we would be happy to answer them. The Practice Management Committee will be participating in the course.

With the advent of ICD-10 a lot of people have pointed out that malignant soft tissue tumors aren’t featured very prominently and are in the C49.0 section. We have contacted the Center for Disease Control which controls ICD-10 in the United States and is the interface with the World Health Organization. One of the people at CDC was on a conference call with us and we have requested that we submit some changes that we thought would be helpful to add greater specificity to the code. Several other groups are also submitting also proposal changes for C49.0. We are trying to work with the American College of Surgeons. This is probably going to be an ongoing task that may not have a very quick resolution. Hopefully within the next year we can reach a conclusion with the CDC.

We are also going ahead with a coding proposal for bulk allografts that we frequently use in orthopedic oncology. This is being sponsored by the AAOS with MSTS as the presenting society. The code proposals will be going in this summer. They will be initially vetted at the fall AMA CPT Meeting in Austin, Texas. The members of the committee hopefully will at least get some work value assigned to allograft design, sizing, and insertion. The resecting of the tumor and the fixation of the allograft will both still be separately billable. This will go in as a Z code which is intraoperative work only. If you have any other requests of the Practice Management Committee or things you would like us to focus on please contact me directly at heiner@ortho.wisc.edu.

Day Committee also goes out to those participants that completed their surveys to tell us what you liked and what we can improve upon. The 2017 Specialty Day Committee and the Executive Board have reviewed the feedback and plan to incorporate many of the suggestions to make next year’s meeting one not to miss. We look forward to seeing you in San Diego!
MSTS Executive Committee (EC) members serve on the AAOS Board of Specialties (BOS) and also attend the National Orthopaedic Leadership Conference (NOLC). The NOLC was held in Washington, D.C. in early May. There were four MSTS EC representatives, Joseph Benevenia, MD, MSTS Presidential Line Representative, Michael Mott, MD, MSTS Communications Representative, John Heiner, MD, Health Policy Representative and Joel Sorger, MD, Vice Chair, Fellowship Match Oversight Committee Representative who attended the NOLC. The year’s NOLC focused on hill visits to address licensing difficulties for team doctors travelling across state, delays of CJR, and changes to the meaningful use criteria. There were six symposia at the NOLC on ACA and MACRA, GME Funding, Running for Office, Telemedicine, State Government and How it Affects Orthopaedic Practice, and 21st Century Cures Senate Health Innovation Proposal. A synopsis of these symposia developed by the BOS Communications Committee members will be available on the for[MD] platform in late July. The next NOLC will occur in Washington, D.C. April 26 - 29, 2017

Tumor Unknown Quiz

21 y/o male with 4 week history of painful right forearm mass which began 1 week after playing tennis for several hours, as well as associated parasthesias. Radiographs and CT were ordered by outside institution, but due to patient having cochlear implants, he was unable to undergo MRI.

Pathology Imaging:

1: Low power image of loose myofibroblastic stroma resembling nodular fasciitis and representing the earliest phase of the lesion.

2: High power image of very immature woven bone with prominent osteoblastic rimming representing the next phase of disease.

3: High power image of remodeling, but more mature woven bone with osteoblastic rimming representing the next phase of disease.

4: Low power imaging demonstrating the bone formation within skeletal muscle, cementing the diagnosis.

Answer to Tumor Unknown from Winter 2016 Newsletter:
Primary Epithelioid Sarcoma of Bone.
Great news! The Annual Meeting is October 5-7, 2016. Please come prepared for a wonderful time to meet and interact with your MSTS colleagues. This year’s meeting features a pre-meeting coding course, an outstanding educational content as supplied by our members, and plentiful opportunities for social interaction. Please note, there is a concurrent allied health program for our valued co-workers. Detroit should offer easy ingress and egress.

To further pique your interest, first and foremost, the meeting will have a true international appeal as it opens with a welcome reception which, while on US soil, will overlook across the river to the south and the skyline of Windsor, Ontario.

Our signature dinner event will be on Thursday at the Henry Ford Museum which has been consistently rated one of our country’s top historical museums. No worries about competition as we will have the run of place to ourselves. Check out Rosa Parks’s bus and the Oscar Meyer Weiner mobile. Americana at its best.

Additionally, and perhaps more importantly, Detroit has made a remarkable comeback in particular with a renaissance in regards to a newfound “foodies” culture. There are ample opportunities to explore and satisfy everyone’s appetite. Please refer to Molly Abraham of Detroit News 2015 best restaurants or Sylvia Rector of the Detroit Free Press for ideas. Venues can range from pedal bars to fine dining and I would recommend being adventurous. Reservations are recommended. Detroit is anxiously awaiting for your arrival for education, entertainment and camaraderie.

The 2016 meeting will include exceptional education sessions, vital research presentations, industry exhibits, exhibitor product theater and great social and networking opportunities. To receive the MSTS group rate of $165.00 per night, please click here to make your room reservation. The housing deadline is September 12, 2016.

Register Today!

Registration is now open for the 2016 MSTS Annual Meeting at the Detroit Marriott at the Renaissance, October 5-7 in Detroit, Michigan! Click here to register today.

This year, we are pleased to offer our attendees the option of attending an ICD-10 Coding Course during the MSTS Annual Meeting. This three-hour course will be held on Wednesday, October 5, 2016 from 3-6pm and is specifically designed for MSTS. You can also view a Preliminary Schedule here.