



MSTS Newsletter

Volume 20, Summer 2017

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President's Report – Robert H. Quinn, MD

Welcome to another Summer and another busy and productive year for the MSTS. First, I want to express my sincere gratitude to our many volunteer committee members, and especially to the Executive Committee members, for their time, effort, and dedication to the Society. Thank you also to our strong administrative support team: Amy Sherwood, Abu Muhammad, and Deborah Meyer. Congratulations and thank you to Dr. Joel Mayerson and Dr. Wakenda Tyler for a successful 2017 Specialty Day.

The energy and productivity of the Society is only as good as its members and committees. Our committees are busier

than ever and advancing the mission of the Society at a rapid pace. Our society remains financially sound. Enhanced efforts by the Finance Committee, chaired by Dr. Joel Mayerson, and the Industry Relations Task Force, headed by Dr. Joe Benevenia, should further our efforts to remain strong and maximize support in challenging financial times. Under the energetic leadership of Dr. Michelle Ghert, the Research Committee has facilitated some exciting grants in partnership with the Orthopaedic Research and Education Foundation (OREF), Musculoskeletal Transplant Foundation (MTF), and Dr. Matt Dicaprio's Sarcoma Strong fund raising efforts.

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MSTS Executive Committee

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President's Report, cont'd from pg. 1

New research priorities for the Society have been defined. A new MSTs Outstanding Mentor Award is being launched. Further details on all of these initiatives are in the Research Committee report.

Dr. Carol Morris and the Education Committee have completed the MSTs/American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons (AAOS) Pathology Course. All course material is now with the AAOS for programming and should be rolling out shortly. The Evidence Based Medicine Committee, under the leadership of Dr. Ben Miller, remains very active. The committee is currently creating a Clinical Practice Guideline (CPG) on "The Use of Imaging Prior to Referral to a Musculoskeletal Oncologist" and an Appropriate Use Criteria (AUC) on "Surveillance of Local Recurrence and Distant Metastasis after Surgical Treatment of Bone and Soft Tissue Sarcoma." They have published our first informational statement. They are working diligently to identify possible registry options for the Society. Dr. John Heiner and the Practice Management Committee continue to protect and advance our interests in the billing/coding world. New allograft codes have been approved by the American Medical Association Relative Value Scale Update Committee (RUC). Dr. Joel Sorger and the Fellowship Committee continue to advance issues of importance to our fellowship programs. They are currently working with the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME) to update fellowship requirements.

Recall that the Executive Committee, during Dr. Kristy Weber's term as President, initiated a strategic planning process in 2013 which resulted in the *MSTs Strategic Plan 2014 – 2017* as well as new vision and mission statements. Now that 2017 is upon us, we will be creating a new 3-year strategic plan in the year to come. The process will begin with a new member survey which will be coming your way in the near future. So, please stay tuned and participate in the process. We need your input!

Finally, our Annual Meeting in Denver is coming up quickly. We have an exciting venue planned and we look forward to seeing you all there! As you can see in this newsletter, there is currently a lot of

energy in the Society, from members of all age groups and practice types. We welcome your continued participation and feedback.

I look forward to seeing you in Denver!

Treasurer's Report – Joel Mayerson, MD

The Finance Committee will review our most recent quarterly fiscal status at our next meeting in July. The details of the annual budget were presented at Specialty Day and will again be presented at the Annual Meeting in Denver this fall. The MSTs remains fiscally sound as we continue to navigate the current challenges involving mergers within the orthopaedic industry.

We have again electively chosen to undergo an external audit to confirm our accounting. The results will be presented at the Annual Meeting. The Finance Committee was proud to announce our first Diamond Sponsor, Onkos Surgical, at Specialty Day. Sponsorship opportunities are available through our Corporate Partner Opportunities program and several other companies are in talks with the MSTs to finalize additional support through this program. The Finance Committee has begun to work with the newly developed Industry Relations Task Force that includes 3 presidential line representatives to continue to foster future corporate relationships with the MSTs.

Thanks to all of the members of the Finance Committee and the AAOS support staff, in particular MSTs's Financial Director, Anna Greene! Please do not hesitate to contact me with questions, concerns, or potential industry representatives who might be interested in participating in our Corporate Partner Opportunities program. Have a fantastic summer and I look forward to seeing you at the Annual Meeting in Denver.

2017 Dues Renewal

Friendly Reminder –
Please submit payment for your 2017 membership dues. Pay your 2017 Membership Dues [online](#).

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

Membership Committee – Michael Mott, MD, Chair

The Membership Committee is here to serve you! We are constantly looking for ways to improve and enhance your membership experience. If you have any ideas which you feel can improve membership in the MSTs please feel free to contact me or any membership committee member at any time.

Please note, the for[MD] website is active and available. It offers an online interchange for immediate sharing of membership ideas, interesting cases and other online interactions. The link to access MSTs' private community on for[MD] is: <https://formd.com/group/4319>

Login consists of your email address and your for[MD] password. If you have forgotten your password, then please go to the following link and follow the instructions. This will generate an email to reset your password: <https://formd.com/>

If you have never logged in before, you must activate your account. You can do this by requesting your invitation code by emailing info@formd.com. We welcome your participation in this platform.

The Membership Committee would like to welcome the following new members who were recently approved by the Executive Committee:

ACTIVE MEMBERS

Matthew W. Colman, MD
Yee-Cheen Doung, MD
Kelly Homlar, MD
Luka Matthew Nystrom, MD
Steven W. Thorpe, MD
Nicholas P. Webber, MD
Rosanna Wustrack, MD

ASSOCIATE MEMBER

Marcos Galli Serra, MD

CANDIDATE MEMBERS

Matthew G. Cable, MD
Caroline Chebli, MD
Juan Abelardo Augusto Pretell, MD
Matthew James Thompson, MD

Encourage your colleagues to join the MSTs! Membership application deadline is August 1, 2017. Learn more about membership requirements and classes of membership by visiting the [MSTs website](#).

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enough for
your patients.

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Evidence Based Medicine Committee

– Ben Miller, MD, Chair

The Evidence Based Medicine (EBM) Committee is continuing to work on two projects jointly funded by the AAOS and MSTs. The first is a clinical practice guideline “The Use of Imaging Prior to Referral to a Musculoskeletal Oncologist.” For the next several months, we will be working on formulating the guidelines in preparation for approval and dissemination. Second, Dr. Rajiv Rajani is the primary investigator on an appropriate use criteria “Surveillance of Local Recurrence and Distant Metastasis after Surgical Treatment of Bone and Soft Tissue Sarcoma,” which is in the middle of an initial stage of conference calls with a working group of radiologists and MSTs members.

Dr. Felasfa Wodajo has completed our [first Informational Statement](#), “Inappropriate Excision of Unrecognized Soft Tissue Sarcoma.” We thank all of the MSTs members who took the time to comment on the document, which has since been adopted by the MSTs Executive Committee and is available on the [MSTs website](#). Please help us put the word out by telling colleagues inside and out of orthopaedics about these recommendations so we can get the information into the hands of clinicians (e.g. general surgeons, primary care physicians) that may help us avoid inappropriate excisions and optimize timely referrals. Future topics include the evaluation of a destructive lesion of bone of unknown etiology and the treatment of metastatic disease of bone. We are always looking for new ideas, so please let us know if you have an idea for a topic in need of an information statement.

The effort to create an MSTs registry had some good news as we were awarded the OREF/MSTs grant to proceed with initial infrastructure building and a 12-center pilot study. All of us are very thankful to our members who contribute to the OREF, and in particular Dr. Carol Morris, whose contribution to the grant mechanism was specifically noted. Currently we are in discussions with the AAOS to determine if our vision will be able to be incorporated into a larger effort, recognizing that the

priority is a research-quality database that contains the functionality and data elements most important to our members and patients. The working group has been re-engaged to determine the details of our scientific goals and the administration of the platform.

MSTs Practice Management Committee

– John P. Heiner, MD, Chair

The allograft codes were approved in the spring at the American Medical Association Relative Value Scale Update Committee (RUC) meeting. Thank you to the MSTs membership for filling out enough surveys to get the codes valued. The three codes will have a final value approved by Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) this fall so hopefully CMS will not decrease the values from the approved values at the RUC. These are surgical add-on codes.

The three codes are:

1. Osteoarticular graft with fixation
2. Hemicylindrical cortical graft with fixation (i.e. parosteal osteosarcoma)
3. Cylindrical cortical graft with fixation (i.e. diaphyseal osteosarcoma)

Resection of the tumor and other codes can be billed separately.

The open biopsy codes became zero day global codes this year, so remember any follow-up visits should be billed separately. The AAOS and other societies are currently battling with CMS over the use of the 25 modifier. This modifier enables physicians to bill for separately documented and distinct services on the same day. This is a problem if you see a patient and bill an E and M along with an injection code on the same day. Needless to say this happens all the time. CMS and its subsidiaries does not want to pay the E and M even if it is well documented. This would also effect any other zero day global or minor procedure code (such as the biopsy codes). The AAOS has taken the position that this is interference in patient care and, if the documentation supports the services delivered, that both codes should be paid. The committee will keep you posted on the progress of this problem. If you have any payment problems with this let us know at info@msts.org.

Fellowship Committee

– Joel Sorger, MD, Chair

The AAOS has approved the findings and recommendations of the Fellowship Accreditation Task Force (FATF). This task force was created by the AAOS to address the continuing frustrations with the ACGME accreditation process and their mandates. What this means and how it will be implemented is still being debated. We continue to work with the Residency Review Committee (RRC) to help refine the requirements for ACGME accreditation of Orthopaedic Oncology Fellowships. subspecialties.

2017 MSTs Specialty Day

– Wakenda Tyler, MD, Co-Chair



The 2017 Specialty Day in San Diego, California was a stellar success. Thank you to all of the moderators, presenters and Specialty Day committee members for making it an educational experience for everyone. A very special note of thanks to Dr. Joel Mayerson for his tireless work on heading the committee and bringing everything together. Attendees at this year's meeting had an opportunity to hear about translational advances in sarcoma care, including targeted therapies on the horizon and how those therapies may change treatment moving forward. There were also sessions on practice management, updates on research advances in the MSTs, as well as a rousing panel discussion at the end, allowing our more senior members to discuss some of their most challenging cases and dilemmas in practice. For those of you who completed the post Specialty Day evaluation forms, your time is greatly appreciated. Your comments and feedback will help in the planning for next year's Specialty Day Meeting on Saturday, March 10, 2018 at the Morial Convention Center in New Orleans, Louisiana. We are anticipating a stimulating agenda from a plethora of great speakers, so hope to see you there.

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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 and new MSTs initiatives.

FUNDING ANNOUNCEMENTS

MSTs/MTF Research Grant

The MSTs would like to congratulate **Dr. Thomas Scharschmidt** for his successful MSTs/MTF Research grant application entitled *'Tension-induced Periosteal Expansion: A Strategy for Managing Segmental Bone Defects.'* This grant provides up to \$100,000 over 1-2 years to investigators conducting research in musculoskeletal oncology research related to transplantation of allografts, bone regeneration, and biologic reconstruction.

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

A **Call for Proposals** for the **2017 MSTs/MTF Research Grant** will be posted soon. 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, 2017

OREF/MSTs Clinical Research Grant in Orthopaedic Oncology

The MSTs would like to congratulate **Dr. Benjamin Miller** for his successful OREF/MSTs Research grant application entitled *'Improving Multi-institutional Collaboration by Creating a Sarcoma Registry.'* This grant provides up to \$100,000 over 1-2 years to clinician researchers focusing on multi-center

collaborative clinical research in orthopaedic oncology.

Congratulations Ben and team! We look forward to this exciting MSTs endeavor!

AAOS/ORS/OREF Clinician Scholar Career Development Program

The MSTs is pleased to sponsor MSTs Research Member **Dr. Dipak Ramkumar** to attend the AAOS/ORS Clinician Scholar Career Development Program (CSCDP). The Program will be held in September 21-23 2017, in Rosemont, IL.

Congratulations Dipak!

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

NEWS FOR ONGOING MSTs/OREF FUNDED STUDIES

PARITY

The Prophylactic Antibiotic Regimens in Tumor Surgery (PARITY) trial now has 45 open sites across 9 countries and 6 continents. Enrollment reached 254 patients in the spring of 2017 and the study is expected to reach the 50% mark of the 600 patient enrolment target this year! The trial is ongoing and the collaborative network welcomes 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.

Transcutaneous Oximetry as a Predictor of Wound Healing Complications in Preoperatively Radiated Soft Tissue Sarcoma (PI: Dr. Lukas Nystrom)

This prospective study is nearly one year into the MSTs/OREF funding cycle (7/1/2016-6/30/2018). The grant is being transferred to Cleveland Clinic as Dr. Nystrom is changing institutions. There are 2 sites actively enrolling patients (Loyola and Iowa) with 5 sites prepared to enrol (Cleveland, Medical University of South Carolina, Oklahoma University, UTHSCSA and University of Florida) once the institutional transfer is complete. Ten patients have been enrolled (25% of 2-year target). Great job Luke and team!!!

NEW INITIATIVE AIMED AT IDENTIFYING RESEARCH PRIORITIES IN ORTHOPAEDIC ONCOLOGY

The MSTs, in collaboration with the OREF, is pleased to report the completion of 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.'* This project involved a 3-stage process: 2 email questionnaires followed by an in-person consensus panel held at the MSTs Annual Meeting in Detroit, in October 2016.

This study was 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. The final report has been submitted to *Clinical Orthopaedics and Related Research* for publication. A total of 80 participants from 16 countries contributed to the MSTs consensus project.

The top four research priority questions identified in this process are:

- (1) Does less-intensive surveillance of patients with sarcoma affect survival?
- (2) What are the survival outcomes over time for orthopaedic oncology implants?
- (3) Does resection versus stabilization improve oncologic and functional outcomes in oligometastatic bone disease?
- (4) What is the natural history of untreated fibromatosis?

Work is underway by MSTs members and international collaborators to answer these important research priorities! Stay tuned!

Register Today

**2017 MSTs Annual Meeting
September 27 - 29, 2017**

Grand Hyatt Denver,
Denver, Colorado

(Details on page 9.)

MSTS Outstanding Mentor Award



This honor will be awarded annually in recognition of exceptional mentorship of younger members of MSTS. The Award recognizes the essential role of mentorship in academic development in orthopaedic oncology.

Prize

Recognition at the MSTS Annual Meeting and an honorary plaque

Criteria

Recognition of exceptional mentoring may include, but is not limited to:

1. Providing opportunities for member professional growth as a clinician, researcher and/or educator.
2. Modeling active membership in MSTS and encouraging members to do the same.
3. Commitment to advancing a member's career through interpersonal engagement, guidance and the sharing of experience and expertise.

Submission Requirements

How to nominate an MSTS Member for the MSTS Outstanding Mentor Award:

1. **Nomination Cover Letter:** A cover letter stating the full name, designation, institutional affiliation, department, address, telephone number and email address of the nominee.
2. **Nomination Letters of Support (two required):** Describe in detail why the nominee deserves to be recognized for outstanding mentoring. Nomination letters of support must be no more than two pages in length typed in Times New Roman 12 pt. font and single spaced.
3. **Submission:** The cover letter and letters of support as a single package in pdf format should be emailed to the *MSTS Nomination Committee* at info@msts.org with the heading – **MSTS Mentor Award Nomination**.
4. **Submission deadline:** July 31st 2017

We look forward to reviewing submissions and announcing the Award at the Annual Meeting in Denver in September!

Annual Meeting Program Committee

– Kevin Raskin, MD, Chair

Great news! The MSTS 2017 Annual Meeting is September 27-29, 2017 in Denver, Colorado at the Grand Hyatt Denver. Come prepared for a wonderful time to meet and interact with your MSTS colleagues. The meeting will kick-off with a welcome reception on Wednesday evening. Thursday will encompass a full day of educational programming and after making connections with colleagues, exploring new technologies/products in the exhibit hall, attendees will enjoy an evening of food and fun at the Downtown Aquarium. The meeting will adjourn on Friday afternoon. [Register Today!](#)

Education Committee

– Carol D. Morris, MD, Chair

Annual Meeting

The 2017 AAOS meeting was a successful meeting for our organization. We provided 5 well-attended and highly-evaluated Tumor Instructional Course Lectures (ICL), scientific exhibits, posters, and podium presentations on a wide range of topics as well as a symposium on extreme limb salvage. The feedback from all of the educational sessions was excellent. Specialty Day was also well-attended with an outstanding program.

Thank you to everyone who submitted ICL and symposia applications for next year's meeting.

On-line Pathology Course

The AAOS/ MSTS is completed and will be on-line starting next month. This was a large undertaking for our society and we are confident that it will be well received and successful. The Education Committee appreciates the support of the membership and Executive Committee for its support.

Future Endeavors

With the on-line course behind us, we seek continued opportunities to provide educational opportunities to our membership. Please do not hesitate to reach out to the Education Committee with your ideas at info@msts.org.

National Orthopaedic Leadership Conference

Robert H. Quinn, MD - Board of Specialty Societies Presidential Line Representative
Michael P. Mott, MD - Board of Specialty Societies Member Representative

The National Orthopaedic Leadership Conference (NOLC) meeting was held April 26-29, 2017 in Washington, DC. Your Board of Specialty Societies (BOS) representatives met with our congressional members to help carry forth and present our voices to our federal government. Agenda items are determined by the AAOS Board of Councilors (BOC)- Board of Specialty Societies (BOS) leadership. The ideas included for this year's visit to the Hill included seeking support for repealing the Independent Payment Advisory Board

(IPAB); repealing the Ban on Physician-Owned Hospitals; and Medical Liability Reform, specifically the ACCESS Act.

If you would like a copy of the Summary of the Spring 2017 NOLC meeting please contact the MSTS at info@msts.org.

Remember to support the Orthopaedic Political Action Committee (PAC) in order to maximize the opportunity we have to present our voice to Congress!



We Need You! Current MSTS Committee Openings

The MSTS is now accepting volunteer applications or nominations for several key positions. There are plenty of opportunities to be involved with the increasing spectrum of MSTS programming. You are encouraged to apply for a position that suits your interests, or nominate a member for a particular position. We are seeking to benefit from the ideas, experience and wisdom of younger, mid-career, and more seasoned members alike.

Applications are being accepted 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. Please read the [job duties](#) for a full description of this role, and the other MSTS Officer positions.

To apply for Treasurer, please click [here](#).

To nominate an individual for this position click [here](#).

Executive Committee – Member-at-Large (Under 40)

Eligible applicants must be an Active or Associate member in good standing at the time of application and under the age of 40 on September 28, 2017. This is a two (2) year term. Please read the [job description](#) for additional information about this role.

To apply for the EC Member-at-Large, please click [here](#).

To nominate an individual for this position click [here](#).

2018 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. Please read the [job description](#) for additional information about this role.

To apply for the 2018 Nominating Committee Member-at-Large, please click [here](#).

To nominate an individual for this position click [here](#).

Other Open Committee Positions

- **Education Committee Chair** (1 position)
View description [here](#).
- **Education Committee Member-at-Large** (2 positions)
View description [here](#).
- **Membership Committee Member-at-Large** (2 positions)
View description [here](#).
- **Research Committee Chair** (1 position) View description [here](#).
- **Research Committee Member-at-Large** (2 positions)
View description [here](#).
- **Fellowship Committee Chair** (1 position)
View description [here](#).
- **Finance Committee Member-at-Large** (1 position)
View description [here](#).
- **Annual Meeting Program Committee Member-at-Large** (2 positions)
View description [here](#).

- **Practice Management Committee Member-at-Large** (2 positions)
View description [here](#).
- **2019 Specialty Day Program Committee Vice Chair** (1 position)
View description [here](#).
- **2019 Specialty Day Program Committee Member-at-Large** (1 position)
View description [here](#).
- **Evidence Based Medicine Committee Member-at-Large** (2 positions)
View description [here](#).

NOTE: Open committee positions are reviewed and appointments are made by the MSTS Executive Committee. To apply for any of the open positions, please click [here](#).

To nominate an individual for this position click [here](#).

The applications for all positions will remain open until July 31, 2017. Visit the MSTS Volunteer page on the website for additional information about all open positions: <http://msts.org/aboutMSTS/Volunteer.html>

If you have any questions regarding the open positions, please feel free to reach out to us at info@msts.org. Thank you!

NOTE: The Treasurer, Executive Committee Member-at-Large, and 2018 Nominating Committee Member-at-Large applications are reviewed by the Nominating Committee. The Nominating Committee will develop and present the slate of candidates to the voting membership prior to the September MSTS Member Business Meeting. The slate requires a full election by the membership during the September MSTS Member Business Meeting at the MSTS Annual Meeting.



Register Today!

Registration is now open for the 2017 MSTS Annual Meeting

September 27-29 in Denver, Colorado!

[Click here to register today.](#)

Make plans now to join us at the 2017 MSTS Annual Meeting at the Grand Hyatt Denver. The 2017 meeting will include exceptional education sessions, vital research presentations, industry exhibits, and great social and networking opportunities.

The 2017 MSTS Annual Meeting will include an evening Welcome Reception on Wednesday, September 27th. In addition, attendees will enjoy an evening of food, fun and adventure at the Downtown Aquarium on Thursday, September 28th. Attendance at both special events are included in your registration!

Attendee Category

MSTS Members (Active, Associate, Affiliate, Candidate and Emeritus)	\$475.00
MSTS Resident Members	\$300.00
RN/PA/Research/Allied Health Professionals	\$300.00
Non-Members	\$575.00
Spouse/Guest **	\$125.00 **

Registration Fee

The Spouse/Guest registration includes the Welcome Reception and the Downtown Aquarium. Spouse/Guest participants **ARE NOT eligible to attend any education courses or meetings.

Please note: There will not be a Nurse and Allied Health Professionals Course held in Denver.

Housing is now open – book your room today.

To receive the MSTS group rate at the Grand Hyatt Denver, please [click here to make your room reservation.](#)

The housing deadline is **September 5, 2017.**

MSTS Room Rates

- Single/Double Occupancy - \$219.00 per night
- Triple Occupancy - \$244.00 per night
- Quadruple Occupancy - \$269.00 per night

Please contact us at info@msts.org with any questions. We look forward to seeing you in September.



Musculoskeletal Tumor Society

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