

To: ASC Board
From: Chris Eskridge
Date: October 18, 2016
Re: Executive Director's Report

This has again been a very busy six months since we last met. We continue to be financially sound, and remain a vibrant, active professional society. The New Orleans meetings are turning out to be larger than expected, with perhaps as many as 3,800 coming. In sum, over the last six months, things have moved along, and we have engaged in the normal flow of business, as normal as anything is with this very dynamic and active organization of ours. A few detailed thoughts:

1. *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 are doing well, with solid membership and positive account balances. All of the division chairs have been notified that we would like a report from them now every October, in time for the annual meeting.

2. *Committees*

Our more than 30 committees and liaison representatives have 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.

3. *Policy and Procedures Manual*

We made all of the updates to the Policy and Procedures manual subsequent to the Spring Board Meeting, and posted it on the web.

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 registration forms are particularly complicated (our members can join any of 10 divisions and can select from 7 different journals and choose to receive each of those journals in different ways), and that has required a significant effort on their part. As I have reported previously, the staff continues to evaluate old vs new ways of handling their tasks, with a constant eye toward cost effectiveness. They work together to help ASC run and to make each growing annual meeting a seamless event. 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 save ASC money. We are very fortunate.

5. *Annual Meeting Preparations*

- A. New Orleans (2016) - We did our site visit last Spring in conjunction with the Mid-year Board Meeting and lined things up. We have worked with the hotel staff since of course. The hotel is full, the overflow hotel is full, things are organized,

the program book is printed, the Fire Marshal has approved things, bags and badges have been delivered, money has been collected, room sets and AV have been arranged, food has been ordered....we are ready to go!

- B. Philadelphia (2017) – Susan Case and I traveled to Philadelphia last Spring and got a good look at the Philadelphia Marriott. Given our growth, we signed an overflow contract with the Marriott Courtyard, which is right next door.
- C. Atlanta (2018) – Susan Case and I will be traveling to Atlanta in February to do a site visit. We have been to the Atlanta Marriott several times before, so we are aware of the general layout and just need to get a handle on any new construction and fine-tune our meeting space needs

6. *Ice Cream Social*

I saved the best until last as always. All current Board Members are invited to participate in the Ice Cream Social which will take place from 1:30 to 2:45 on Thursday in the Exhibit Hall. The event will again be sponsored by Wiley...get ready to do some scooping, as the aprons are ready!