

OFPSA UPDATE: REFLECTING BACK

By Regina Simo, MD, Past President

As the AAFPRS liaison of the OFPSA and past OFPSA president, in September, I sat at the Fall Meeting in Washington, D.C., and could not be more proud of our organization and how far we have come. For those that have come before me, Candy, Lynn, Beth, Carlie, and those after me, Tracy, it is always our goal to make it better than how we found it—and Tracy did more than that. The past two years have been phenomenal. I thank Tracy Drumm for her dedication and hard work. I congratulate our incoming OFPSA president Kristi Fritz and look forward to seeing us continue our growth.

Even more so, the physician support that we have now is so exciting. As I listened to the panel of past AAFPRS presidents speak at our Fall Meeting—Keith A. LaFarriere, MD, our biggest and longtime supporter; Steven J. Pearlman, MD; Tom D. Wang, MD; and Ira D. Papel, MD—thank you for giving us the respect that we have worked so hard to earn.

I remember the days of appearing in front of the Academy Board of Directors at midnight (as we were last on the agenda) to ask for our annual \$5,000 for support from the Academy. This basically covered our meeting room and if we were lucky, a speaker. Today, we gain our own sponsorships and there is an enormous amount of volunteer work that goes into raising dollars through local support. With Ann and Steve's help, we make sure not to cross boundaries with sponsorships and are still able to support our organization through outside funding.

The OFPSA has had many dedicated leaders over the past year and physicians' support that has brought us where we are today. Thank you Ann Jenne, Rita Chua Magness, Steve Duffy, and the rest of the staff, for giving

us the support that we need to continue.

I am proud to be a part of this organization and can't wait to see where we go from here. If you are not sending a staff member to the meeting and you don't know about us—contact me or any individual mentioned above. We are happy to educate you. Kristi, we wish you the best of luck in your journey with this organization. Know that all of us will be with you every step of the way.

You may contact me at any-time at regina@anaturalyou.com.

Moving Forward

By Kristi Fritz, President

Let me start off by saying, Thank you Regina!

As the new president of the OFPSA, I would like to express my appreciation to the members of this organization for electing me. I am truly looking forward to this incredible journey. I also have to thank Tracy Drumm for her ability to pave the way for me; she is a true trailblazer! Tracy has done an amazing job over the past two years as president, and I have some very big shoes to fill!

I think I speak for every member of this organization, when I say that our greatest appreciation goes out to the surgeons and members of the AAFPRS. Each year we are lucky enough to attend the Fall Meeting, and return home with a wealth of knowledge to share with our co-workers. Year after year, our rate of new attendees grows, and we can only thank the doctors for their support in making that feasible. I personally want to express gratitude to Dr. Papel and Theda C. Kontis, MD. They have made it possible for me to attend the Fall Meeting for many years. I genuinely believe that I am an improved profes-



sional due to the knowledge I have attained through the OFPSA.

Dr. LaFarriere mentioned on the panel that the OFPSA meetings were once perceived as a treat or a reward for the staff to attend, but now have become mandatory for everyone. I can't agree more, and that comment only attests to how important this organization and our meetings have become.

As our team of officers plan for the 2013 meeting, I think about how each president has left their personal mark on the organization and the industry. I pledge that the mark I leave will be considerate of what my peers are expecting of me. I will attempt to influence members as much as my predecessors have achieved for me. I encourage any suggestions or ideas from members, as that is what the organization is all about...continuous support. I am looking forward to an exceptional year!

Please contact me by e-mail me if you have any questions about the OFPSA program; Kristi@facial-plasticsurgery.com. ■

If you are interested in joining the Organization of Facial Plastic Surgery Assistants (OFPSA), please contact Ann H. Jenne, AAFPRS staff liaison, at aholton@aafprs.org.

Please note that in order to register for the AAFPRS Fall Meeting as a facial plastic assistant, you must be an OFPSA member. Don't delay your participation; join today.