The Midwest Podiatry Conference is a confederation of fourteen state podiatric medical associations. The state associations of Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri and Wisconsin are the founding members and make up the Executive Council. Regular members are the state associations of Arkansas, Kansas, Nebraska, North Dakota, Oklahoma, South Dakota, and the Canadian province of Ontario. Our mission is to promote the art and science of podiatric medicine and the betterment of public health through an annual program of continuing education and other professionally oriented instruction for member podiatric physicians. We strive to achieve a better rapport and understanding among the health professions, and increase public awareness of podiatric medicine through public relations activities.

The first Midwest Podiatry Conference was held in 1950 at the Chicago Marriott Hotel. Today, our meeting has grown to over 2,000 attendees and 300

**The Scholl Reunion on Friday Night is an event you don’t want to miss.**

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exhibitors, making it one of the largest podiatric conferences in the country! The 2016 Midwest Podiatry Conference will be hosted by the Hyatt Regency Chicago in Chicago, Illinois, March 31–April 3.

Programming

The 3rd Annual Workshop Wednesday will take place on March 30, preceding the MPC. The workshops offer an opportunity for hands-on training, and a chance to earn additional continuing education hours above and beyond the thirty-four hours of continuing education offered in the general program.

The 2016 program offers podiatric physicians two tracks of continuing education to choose from, highlighted by the PICA Risk Management lecture, an APMA Regional Lecture Series supported by Valeant Pharmaceuticals and the President’s Lecture.

Also featured in the program is the 19th annual International Post-Graduate Symposium (IPGRS). Newly expanded in 2015, this program features research abstracts, submitted by residents and fellows from around the globe, which are displayed in the exhibit hall. The IPGRS culminates on Saturday where the top ten abstracts are presented in lecture format. Participants are judged on research and presentation skills, and prizes are awarded for first, second, and third place. Additionally, the top three are invited to join the MPC faculty for the following year’s conference.

Past IPGRS participants agree that the conference is an excellent opportunity to receive recognition for their work, to network with fellow residents and bring recognition to their residency program. Physicians who attended the symposium during the past 18 years described it as innovative and forward thinking. Residents and fellows are an important part of podiatry today and will be the podiatric professionals of tomorrow. This symposium affords practicing DPMs the opportunity to know and understand the contributions that residents are already making in podiatric health.

A third track of continuing education, the Surgical Board Review program, is considered the most comprehensive program for anyone preparing for, or re-certifying, for one or both parts of the ABFAS examination. The “SBR” features three full days of sessions covering topics that will be on the exam and how they will be presented. The SBR creates an environment where attendees can ask questions and learn from each other. 80% of recently polled attendees who attend the Midwest Podiatry Conference for the Board Review program passed their exams.

Finally, the MPC is excited to once again partner with the American Society of Podiatric Medical Assistants (ASPMA) to present the Assistants Program at the 2016 Midwest Podiatry Conference. The program features two tracks of lectures hosted by the ASPMA, for both clinical and administrative assistants. Additionally, prior to the conference, assistants also have the option to participate in a review course and test for their PMAC certification.

Enhanced Conference Experience

Our commitment to promoting the art and science of podiatric medicine even extends to our exhibit hall! Once again, our exhibit hall will boast up to three hundred exhibiting companies offering the most innovative products and services to benefit your practice. Poster sessions will be placed in the rear of the exhibit hall, featuring submitted abstracts from the International Post Graduate Research Symposium. Last year, the poster sessions were a new addition and created quite the buzz during the meeting!

Extended Events

From board meetings to product luncheons to client receptions, the after-hours events are where the fun happens at the Midwest Podiatry Conference. The Scholl College of Podiatric Medicine hosts an annual reception on Friday evening that provides staff and alumni with dinner, dancing, entertainment, and plenty of networking. Additionally, many alumni classes view the Midwest Podiatry Conference as a great opportunity to host class reunions! With so much to do in Chicago, sponsoring and exhibiting companies have treated valued clients to all that downtown Chicago has to offer. And affiliated associations see the conference as an opportunity to provide board members with a spring update.

Online registration is open until April 3, 2016. Don’t miss your chance to save big before onsite registration begins! All online registrations automatically receive $20 off of their registration costs!

For more information, or to plan your trip, please visit www.midwestpodconf.org or call 630-537-9741 today and confirm your registration for the premier meeting for podiatrists and assistants. PM

AnneMarie Drufke and Jessica Mauger both contributed to this article. AnneMarie is the Meetings Coordinator for the Midwest Podiatry Conference and manages the production of the Midwest Podiatry Conference and the scientific program. Jessica Mauger is the Exhibits and Registration Coordinator for the Midwest Podiatry Conference and manages the exhibit hall as well as attendee registration.