



Medici Cohortum

See a Need, Fill a Need

by 2LT Robert Brown,
USA



I want to welcome you all to this new Student Association of Military Osteopathic Physicians & Surgeons (SAMOPS). As you may or may not know, at the AMOPS convention in April of this year it

was decided to create a separate student organization. The idea was that a separate organization would be more responsive to the needs of military osteopathic students. Unlike many student organizations, we represent a diverse group of professional with a number of specialty goals.

Not only that, but our members belong to all uniformed services of the United States that maintain physician level providers. We represent a group of students that will become professional healthcare providers that are willing to stand up and say they were willing to serve the needs of the men and women of the United States armed forces during a time of war. Our niche, the need we fill, is



to help provide you the tools you will need to succeed as military osteopathic physicians.

This year we are laying the groundwork to provide not only you, but the people who come after you, the information and experiences you will need to succeed in your military career. All of the local chapters across the country were involved in the creation of a new Constitution and Bylaws for SAMOPS. It was a joint effort, with representation from everyone that allowed this to happen.

You should be proud of your student leadership in the creation of this document. Many of the people involved were completing their service specific officer training programs and yet still took time to be involved in the process.

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CDC Recommendations for Treating H1N1

CDC recommends the use of oseltamivir or zanamivir for the treatment and/or prevention of infection with swine influenza viruses.

* Oseltamivir (brand name Tamiflu®) is approved to both treat and prevent influenza A and B virus infection in people one year of age and older.

* Zanamivir (brand name Relenza®) is approved to treat influenza A and B virus infection in people 7 years and older and to prevent influenza A and B virus infection in people 5 years and older.



COMMUNICATIONS IS VITAL TO VICTORY

From the ancient field of battle to today's cyberspace, communication has always been held in high regards in the minds of the greatest leaders history has witnessed. It is my mission as the Vice President of SAMOPS to facilitate efficient and constructive communication for the benefit of all our student chapters nation wide.

A consistent flow of communication and sharing of our ideas will build a better organization at the national and local levels. We have been blessed with the best and brightest medical students willing to serve our country by caring for its warriors and their loved ones. SAMOPS is here to prepare the future of military medicine by supporting the student chapters and representing all military osteopathic medical students in the American Osteopathic Association.

It is my hope that we will be able to share stories form training, our successes in the field of medicine, and ideas to improve our service to

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The future of your organization is dependent on what we do this year and the precedence we set. Communication will be the key to this success. You have in front of you now the first tangible sign of this process. This newsletter is one of the many ways being developed to maintain lines of communication between chapters and the national organization.

Along with this newsletter, we are in the process of establishing a newsgroup and facebook page to allow instant communication between chapters and members. No one person can ever hope to know everything and no one chapter can think of everything. That said, many chapters have come up with new and innovative ways of assisting their members and by sharing what you have learned with everyone we will strengthen our entire organization. A wise man once said, "we can act in your behalf we cannot react in your behalf". As questions, concerns and ideas come up it is imperative that

our fellow colleagues. Your accomplishments on your campus may spur other osteopathic students to achieve the same if not more on another campus across the country if you are willing to take the time to share what you have done. After all, we are all in this together. Thank you and I hope to share your stories in our next newsletter!

Very respectfully,
ENS Vi Song Trinh, USNR, MC, OMS-III
National Vice President
SAMOPS



we communicate with each other to address these issues. We all want to act on your behalf.

As you start this new academic year, I want to thank you for your service. If you are new to SAMOPS and are just starting your journey into osteopathy, I say to you welcome! You are starting on a noble calling and one that you will never regret. I hope that you are all active in your local chapter and are able to squeeze every last drop out of what is available to you through your local chapter and the organization as a whole. The experiences you gain and contacts you make now will serve you throughout your career.

With best regards,

2LT Robert Brown, USA, OMS-IV
National President
Student Association of Military Osteopathic
Physicians and Surgeons



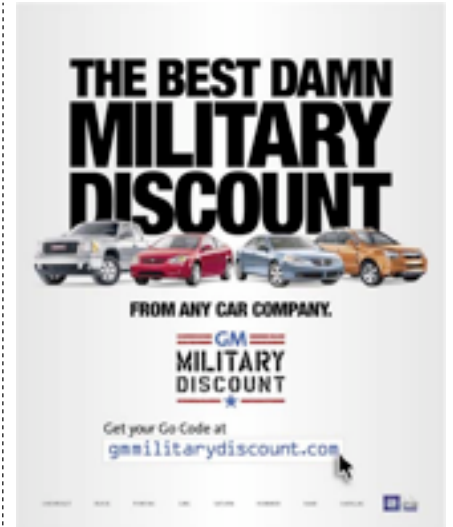
NEWEST CHAPTER SETS THE STANDARD

by 2LT Joey Larouche, USAF, RVUCOM Interim Treasurer

In 2009 Rocky Vista University (RVU) College of Osteopathic Medicine started its inaugural year. In a class of 152 students, 28 chose to commit their service to the armed forces, a number that is unparalleled by any other school. Part of the first year involved starting an SAMOPS Chapter at RVU. The RVU chapter was determined to be dedicated to service, education and excellence. With these goals in mind, "We Set the Standard" quickly became the club motto. The chapter formed a partnership with Fisher House, an organization that provides housing for the families of injured military personnel, as they stay at the military hospitals. The chapter intends on having a long standing relationship with Fisher House, with the commitment of multiple fundraisers and food/paper product drives solely directed towards helping the Fisher House cause.

One way the RVU SAMOPS Chapter did this was to hold a military medical symposium. This symposium allowed students and physicians from around the country to learn about military medicine. The program even provided physicians with continuing medical education. The symposium ended with a fund raiser dinner, and all proceeds from the dinner went to the Fisher House.

The RVU Chapter looks forward to its future success while continuing past relationships. This upcoming September the club will hold its second symposium as it moves towards making it a yearly event. The RVU SAMOPS will continue to grow as future classes are added to the school, and the chapter will set the standard for years to come.



JOIN FELLOW MEDICAL STUDENTS AT THE NEXT
AMOPS
ANNUAL MEETING
IN
POMONA, CA
APRIL 22-25, 2010

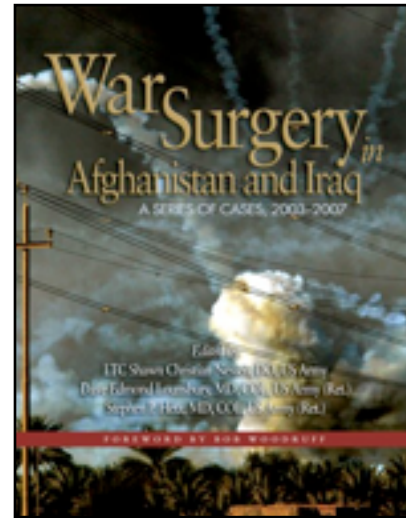


NEWS FROM THE NORTHWEST

by 2LT Angela Dunn, USA, PNWU SAMOPS President

Pacific Northwest University College of Osteopathic Medicine, in its inaugural year, started a student chapter of AMOPS. We recruited 11 members, an advisor, and elected officers. Most meetings the first year were organizational-adopting bylaws, setting chapter goals, and planning events. We held additional meetings to address questions about the summer officer training. On March 30th, we were fortunate to have COL John Fuchs, D.O., as our first guest speaker. His initial introduction to our group covered topics on team building, leadership, and understanding chain of command- all helpful tools for school success and when we cross over into the military model of medicine. He continues to be an invaluable resource and supporter of our club. We are also thankful for COL Bill Bograkos, D.O., who kindly donated multiple copies of the book,

“War Surgery in Afghanistan and Iraq”, to our new club. In a few weeks we are welcoming the OMS I’s and kicking off the academic year with our first annual PNWU-SAMOPS BBQ. We look forward to the continued military fellowship that SAMOPS brings to our university!



Excitement springing from the West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine AMOPS Chapter!

by 2LT Jennalee Gaiser, USAF, WVSOM SAMOPS President

As the new school year unfolds, our chapter seems to be growing quickly. Just by glancing at students on campus, we are proud to say that we have 50 military students just between the first and second years. I look forward to serving as President and am armed with the task of getting our members as informed as possible in the upcoming year. We just held a back to school barbeque and had a fantastic turnout. Roughly 50 first and second year military students talked candidly about their experiences while getting to know each other. Soon our chapter will host a Dinner and a Movie event for the entire student population showcasing the movie “Fighting for Life” which is a documentary on life as a military physician and the lives that are affected.

Looking at school events, the upcoming white coat ceremony and the Inauguration of our schools new president, Dr. Richard Rafes, is a time for our club to shine as we lead the ceremonies with our color guard. Some anticipated speakers that we have are 4th year students that have gone through their military rotations and JSGME Application, and doctors in our community who have had prior service, either HPSP or reserves. These speakers will help students better prepare themselves for their upcoming rotations, residency application, and most importantly, their time as a military physician. Overall, this coming school year looks to be one filled with events that will supplement a student’s understanding of their commitment and hopefully build excitement for the future.



'SAVING LIVES THAT DIDN'T USED TO BE SAVED'

Amanda Hickey (JDNEWS.COM - 21AUG2009)

A concept by Cmdr. James Hancock is saving lives of Marines and sailors who may not have returned from deployment alive before, Marine officials say.

The Camp Lejeune Naval Hospital director of medical services designed the mobile trauma bay, which can be connected to a large scale military vehicle. It provides doctors and corpsmen in a combat zone with everything they would have in the emergency room stateside with the sole exception of a CT machine, Hancock said.

The innovation that has saved at least nine lives and several limbs is what earned Hancock the Legion of Merit award, said Maj. Gen. Paul E. Lefebvre, deputy commanding general of II Marine Expeditionary Force.

"Not only did Doc put this thing together, Doc exposed himself on numerous occasions, and that's Navy medicine," said Lefebvre.

Hancock was presented the award for his service as commander of Shock Trauma Platoon, 2nd Battalion, 7th Marines, United States Marine Corps Forces Central Command at a 7:30 a.m. Friday ceremony, that he said was embarrassing.

"If it was up to me, they would've handed it to me in the office," he said.

But if he'd received the award in his office, 12-year-old Connor wouldn't have been able to pin the award on his father's chest while Hancock's daughter, Abigail, 14, and wife, Karen, watched from just feet away.

Hancock was deployed with 2/7 from March 2008 through Nov. 2008, and has since returned to Afghanistan with his mobile trauma bay and a traumatic brain injury team.

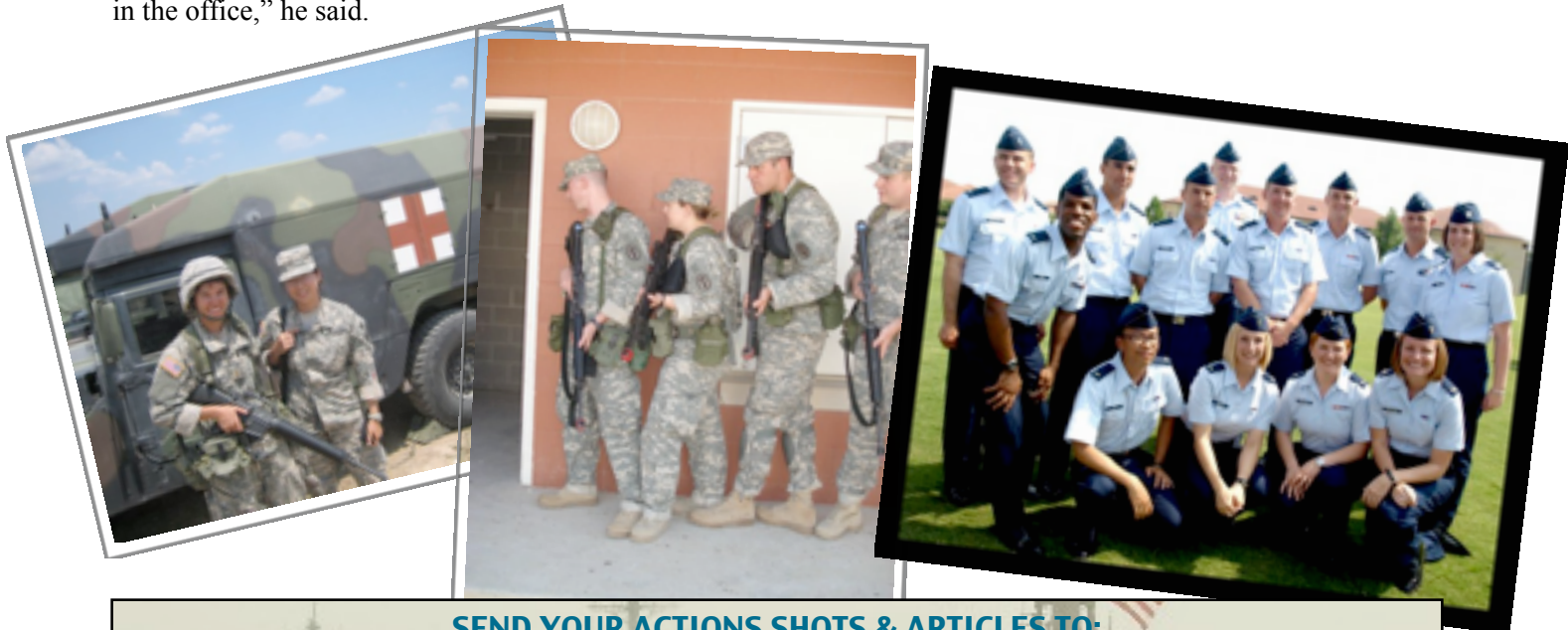
Hancock will again leave for Afghanistan next week with six mobile trauma bays, he said. Before they leave, however, the bays will be at the Naval Hospital.

"I can take the exact same thing I have here in the mercy room of the trauma bay and have it 50 feet from the fight so people are (taken care of) immediately," Hancock said of the mobile trauma bays.

Hancock recalls two Marines he treated during his deployment with 2/7. The duo lost their legs and a lot of blood among other injuries, he said.

The two Marines recently sent him a picture of them standing on prostheses in Las Vegas.

"We're saving lives that didn't used to be saved," he said. "... We're treating guys that never would have made it."



SEND YOUR ACTIONS SHOTS & ARTICLES TO:

visong.tring@gmail.com

Articles may be updates from chapters, your opinions on an important issue, news about military medicine, or anything humorous related to the military!