

“Fireside Chats” with New President Engage Membership

With the legendary skull gavel, newly-installed President Lancer Gates, DO, Kansas City, emphasized how many partners MSMA collaborates and coordinates with at both the private, state, and national level.

During his presidential inaugural address at the 165th Annual Convention, March 31-April 2 in Kansas City, he took the reins of MSMA from George Hubbell, MD, and highlighted how our Association worked with MAOPS during Physician Advocacy Day, for CME opportunities through the Virtual Osteopathic Conference, and co-sponsoring the upcoming Physician Wellness Seminar in



Lancer Gates, DO, accepts the skull gavel from outgoing MSMA President George Hubbell, MD at MSMA's 165th Annual Convention.

October. Dr. Gates also discussed how MSMA is effective because the leadership leans on the membership, and the membership leans on the leadership.

“MSMA leads on issues including addressing narcotic poisonings, supporting the collaborative practice agreement, preserving autonomy of the patient-physician relationship, preserving the fundamental ideals of our Hippocratic Oath, and many others,” he stated.

Dr. Gates pointed out that today more physicians are employed by hospitals than are in private practice. Many private medical practices and not-for-profit hospitals utilize non-compete clauses. The MSMA does not support the use of non-compete clauses by not-for-profit hospitals. The FTC is currently holding an open comment period regarding this plan to ban the use of non-compete clauses. He emphasized how MSMA will make every effort to recruit and engage both hospital employed physicians and privately practicing physicians.

To accomplish this, Dr. Gates stated: “Over the next year I plan to keep my finger on the pulse of the practice of medicine in Missouri by holding “Fireside Chats” with all Missouri physicians (MSMA members and non-members) every third Wednesday of the month at 7:00 p.m. via ZOOM.” (Visit msma.org/events for schedule and topics.)

He continued: “Newly-trained doctors are the lifeblood of MSMA. If we want to attract and engage them, then we need to address their educational costs and residency availability.”

Dr. Gates is a Hospitalist from Kansas City. His complete biography can be found at msma.org/governance. The two-day Convention attracted more than 250 attendees to Kansas City. Look inside for more Convention highlights, photos, resolutions, and new officers. Complete coverage in the May/

MSMA Votes to Redraw Statewide Member Districts

MSMA's original 10-district apportionment in Missouri was transformed at the recent House of Delegates to incorporate and support more rural districts and their physicians for a more nimble approach to representing its members.

Moving forward, each Councilor District will be entitled to one Councilor for each 250 active, retired, and resident members, or a fraction thereof, and shall be entitled to one Vice Councilor.

Current MSMA Districts 6 and 8 are combined into District 8 and comprises the counties of Barry, Barton, Bates, Benton, Cedar, Christian, Dade, Dallas, Greene, Henry, Hickory, Jasper, Johnson, Laclede, Lafayette, Lawrence, McDonald, Newton, Pettis, Polk, Ray, Saline, St. Clair, Stone, Taney, Vernon, and Webster.

Current MSMA Districts 9 and 10 are combined into District 6 and comprises the counties of Bollinger, Butler, Cape Girardeau, Carter, Crawford, Dent, Douglas, Dunklin, Howell, Iron, Jefferson, Madison, Maries, Mississippi, New Madrid, Pemiscot, Perry, Phelps, Pulaski, Oregon, Ozark, Reynolds, Ripley, Scott, Shannon, St. Francois, Ste. Genevieve, Stoddard, Texas, Washington, Wayne, and Wright.

Find your District Councilor at msma.org/governance or see page 7. Contact Jeff Howell at jhowell@msma.org.

165th House of Delegates Resolution Actions & Decisions

Below are the resolutions and actions taken at MSMA's 165th (2023) House of Delegates. For more information, contact Jeff Howell at jhowell@msma.org.

Resolution #1 – Access to Gender-Affirming Surgery and Hormone Replacement Therapy for Transgender and Gender-Diverse Individuals

Action: *Substitute Resolution #1 Adopted*

RESOLVED, that our MSMA supports legislation to protect access to gender-affirming care for adults over 18 years of age.

Resolution #2 – Access to Puberty-Suppressing Hormone Blockers for Transgender and Gender-Diverse Youth

Action: *Referred to MSMA Council*

RESOLVED, that MSMA supports access to medically-indicated puberty-suppressing hormone blockers for transgender and gender-diverse youth.

Resolution #3 – Allowing Transgender and Gender-Diverse Individuals to Change Their Gender Marker on Birth Certificates

Action: *Resolution Not Adopted*

RESOLVED, that our MSMA opposes any efforts to deny an individual's right to determine their stated gender marker or gender identity on identification documents, including birth certificates.

Resolution #4 – Dobbs – EMTALA Emergency

Action: *Substitute Resolution Adopted*

RESOLVED, that our Missouri State Medical Association will advocate for policies to ensure that all patients in Missouri receive prompt, complete and unbiased emergency health care that is medical sound and evidence-based, in compliance with the federal Emergency Medical Treatment and Active Labor Act (EMTALA).

Resolution #5 – Dobbs – Liability Insurance Exceptions for Certain Criminal Conduct

Action: *Substitute Resolution Adopted*

RESOLVED, that the Missouri State Medical Association work with medical liability insurers and medical care facilities to discourage the termination of liability coverage or clinical privileges of any physician who has been charged with a crime arising from the provision of evidence-based healthcare; and be it further

RESOLVED, that this resolution be submitted to the American Medical Association House of Delegates.

Resolution #6 – Dobbs – Medical Staff Privileges Protections for Certain Criminal Conduct

Combined with Resolution #5 to create Substitute Resolution #5

Resolution #7 – Supporting Access to Evidence-Based Reproductive Healthcare

Action: *Substitute Resolution Adopted*

RESOLVED, that MSMA supports legislation that protects physician-patient autonomy, and opposes the criminalization of medically-necessary healthcare and policies that restrict Missourians' ability to access healthcare in Missouri and other state.



MSMA thanks the members of the Reference Committee who served and provided the final report to the House of Delegates. Front row, from left: Charles Van Way III, MD - District 7; Carlin Ridpath, MD - District 8, Chair; Chakshu Gupta, MD - District 1; standing, from left: Rachel Kylo, MD - District 10; and George Hruza, MD - District 3.



MSMA House of Delegates leadership, from left: Laurin Council, MD, Vice Speaker; Tim Swearingin, DO, Speaker; and Jo-Ellyn Ryall, MD, Parliamentarian.

Resolution #8 – Firearms Safety and Violence Prevention

Action: *Referred to MSMA Council*

RESOLVED, that our MSMA support legislation that supports red flag laws that allow the court to remove weapons from those at high risk of violence (mental illness, escalating threats, substance abuse and domestic violence) and support legislation for a universal background check requirement to purchase firearms.

Resolution #9 – Opposing Bans on Medical School DEI Requirements

Action: *Amended Resolution Adopted*

RESOLVED, that our MSMA oppose legislation that prohibits medical schools from requiring education on social determinants of health.

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Resolution Actions, continued

Resolution #10 – MSMA Human Rights/Discrimination Policy

Action: *Resolution Not Adopted*

RESOLVED, that MSMA human rights/discrimination policy be amended to read “All human beings are equal in dignity and rights and are therefore entitled to the same freedoms, without discrimination based on sex, color, creed, race, religion, disability, ethnic origin, national origin, sexual orientation, gender identity, age, or for any other reason unrelated to character, competence, ethics, professional status or professional activities.”

Resolution #11 – Waiver of Network Considerations in Emergencies

Action: *Referred to MSMA Council*

RESOLVED, that our Missouri State Medical Association will forward to the House of Delegates (HOD) of the American Medical Association (AMA), for its consideration at the AMA HOD Annual Meeting in Chicago in June of 2023, a proposal that our AMA will advocate and lobby for new laws and/or regulations that would compel health care insurers to waive their “network” considerations for their covered patients, and to reimburse hospitals and doctors at their typical “in-network” rates that existed at the time of onset of an emergency, in instances when care is provided to patients who have agreed to be transferred to a site that is typically considered by that insurer to be “out of network”, during times at which a Declaration of Emergency has been declared and placed in force by a State Governor or by the President of the United States, whether that state of emergency is the result of a natural disaster, an act of war, or a pandemic.

Resolution #12 – Pelvic Exams for Anesthetized Patients

Action: *Referred to MSMA Council*

RESOLVED, that our MSMA oppose non-consensual pelvic exams of anesthetized patients solely for learning purposes in the state of Missouri.

Resolution #13 – Price Caps for Drugs Developed Utilizing State Grants

Action: *Resolution Not Adopted*

RESOLVED, that our MSMA recognizes that policies and legislation that limit generic drug development, and therefore patients’ ability to afford and access medications, have negative repercussions for Missouri residents’ health and wellbeing; and be it further,

RESOLVED, that our MSMA supports legislation to implement price caps and ceilings for pharmaceutical drug prices which were developed through grants funded in part or in whole from the State of Missouri, and therefore Missouri taxpayers; and be it further,

RESOLVED, that our MSMA supports legislation requiring all pharmaceutical drug companies to sign a legally binding agreement to not exceed a predetermined out-of-pocket price for medications developed through grants that were partially or fully funded from the State of Missouri, and therefore Missouri taxpayers henceforth.

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MSMA House of Delegates Vote on New Policies

The policies below were developed out of resolutions submitted by MSMA members to the House of Delegates. For the complete list of policies and the year adopted, please visit the MSMA member-only area at msma.org/governance. Log-in is required.

Education Requirements – Medical Schools

The MSMA opposes legislation that prohibits medical schools from requiring education on social determinants of health. (2023)

EMTALA Medical Emergency

The MSMA will advocate for policies to ensure that all patients in Missouri receive prompt, complete, and unbiased emergency health care that is medically sound and evidence-based, in compliance with the federal Emergency Medical Treatment and Active Labor Act (EMTALA). (2023)

Graduate Medical Education Funding

The MSMA supports state legislation to implement state funding of GME positions in Missouri. (2023)

Loss of Liability Coverage/Clinical Privileges – Criminal Conduct

The MSMA discourages the termination of liability coverage or clinical privileges of any physician who has been charged with a crime arising from the provision of evidence-based healthcare. (2023)

Reproductive Healthcare – Access to

The MSMA supports legislation that protects physician-patient autonomy and opposes the criminalization of medically-necessary healthcare and policies that restrict Missourians’ ability to access healthcare in Missouri and other states. (2023)

Texting-and-Driving

The MSMA supports legislation that would prohibit texting and driving. (2023)

Transgender Healthcare

The MSMA supports legislation to protect access to gender-affirming care for adults over 18 years of age. (2023)



George Hubbell, MD, presents Jon Patterson, MD, with the Legislative Award.



MSMA's Resident and Fellow Section.



MSMA's Medical Student Section.



Left, Sana Saleh, MSMA Alliance President, and right, Jacqueline Nguyen, AMA Alliance President.

Resolution Actions, continued

Resolution #14 – Support for the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact

Action: Referred to MSMA Council

RESOLVED, that the Missouri State Medical Association support legislation that enrolls the Missouri Board of Healing Arts as a member of the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact.

Resolution #15 – Elected Officials on MSMA Executive Committee

Action: Resolution Not Adopted

RESOLVED, that the MSMA Constitution & Bylaws Committee review Chapter VII of the MSMA Bylaws to include a potential prohibition that MSMA members may not serve on the MSMA Executive Committee while serving as a publicly elected official at the state level of government; and be it further,

RESOLVED, that this resolution be referred to the MSMA Constitution & Bylaws Committee.

Resolution #16 – Council Parliamentarian

Action: Resolution Not Adopted

RESOLVED, that the MSMA Constitution & Bylaws Committee review and Chapter VI of the MSMA Bylaws to

include the appointment of a Council Parliamentarian; and be it further,

RESOLVED, that this resolution be referred to the MSMA Constitution & Bylaws Committee.

Resolution #17 – Support for State GME Funding

Action: Resolution Adopted

RESOLVED, that our Missouri State Medical Association (MSMA) support state legislation to implement state funding of GME positions in Missouri.

Resolution #18 – Texting-and-Driving

Action: Substitute Resolution Adopted

RESOLVED, that the Missouri State Medical Association support legislation that would prohibit texting and driving.

Resolution #19 – Resolutions

Action: Resolution Adopted

RESOLVED, that the MSMA Bylaws Chapter III, Section 1, be amended as follows:

Chapter III. House of Delegates

Section 1. The House of Delegates shall meet annually at the time and place of the Annual Convention. All resolutions must be received at the Association office no later than 21 days prior

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Leaders of MSMA's Women Physicians Section.



Jerry Kennett, MD, (center) accepts the 50-Year Physician Pin from Drs. Gates (left) and Hubbell (right).



Kirby Turner, MD, takes a survey on Medicare and Medicaid Expansion.



MSMA's Reference Committee.

Resolution Actions, continued

to the opening session of the Annual Convention to be accepted as business of the House of Delegates and will be included in the Delegate's Handbook. At the discretion of the Speaker, these conditions would not apply for resolutions of good wishes, condolences, congratulations and others of a personal nature.

Resolution #20 – Council Representation

Action: Resolution Adopted

RESOLVED, that the MSMA Bylaws Chapter IV, Section 5, be amended as follows:

Chapter IV. Election of Officers

Section 5. Each Councilor District shall be entitled to one Councilor for each 250 active, retired and resident members, or a fraction thereof, in that Councilor District as of August 31 of the preceding year. Each District shall be entitled to one Vice Councilor; and be it further

RESOLVED, that current MSMA districts six and eight be combined into district eight, so that the new district eight will be comprised of the following counties: Barry, Barton, Bates, Benton, Cedar, Christian, Dade, Dallas, Greene, Henry, Hickory, Jasper, Johnson, Laclede, Lafayette, Lawrence, McDonald, Newton, Pettis, Polk, Ray, Saline, St. Clair, Stone, Taney, Vernon, and Webster; and be it further

RESOLVED, that current MSMA districts nine and ten

be combined into district six, so that the new district six will be comprised of the following counties: Bollinger, Butler, Cape Girardeau, Carter, Crawford, Dent, Douglas, Dunklin, Howell, Iron, Jefferson, Madison, Maries, Mississippi, New Madrid, Pemiscot, Perry, Phelps, Pulaski, Oregon, Ozark, Reynolds, Ripley, Scott, Shannon, St. Francois, Ste. Genevieve, Stoddard, Texas, Washington, Wayne, and Wright.

Resolution #21 – Commendation for Rep. Jon Patterson, MD

Action: Resolution Adopted

RESOLVED, that the Missouri State Medical Association commends Dr. Patterson for his excellent prior service to the state and its citizens as a member of the House of Representatives.

Resolution #22 – Resolutions by Medical Students

Action: Resolution Not Adopted

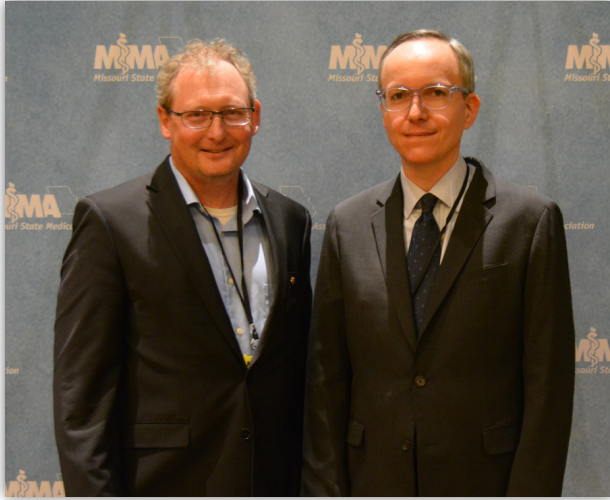
RESOLVED, that the MSMA Constitution and Bylaws Committee review Article IV of the MSMA Constitution and Chapter III, Section 3 of the MSMA Bylaws to consider prohibiting medical students from:

- (1) Serving as delegates at the MSMA House of Delegates, and
 - (2) Submitting resolutions to the MSMA House of Delegates;
- and be it further,

RESOLVED, that this resolution be referred to the MSMA Constitution and Bylaws Committee.

2023 Convention General Sessions & Speakers

Miss a General Session? Presentations can be downloaded at msma.org/convention-wrap. Please note, no CME is available post-convention.



Health Equity Opportunities for Doctors and State Medical Associations by William Jordan, MD, MPH, (right), and moderated by Lancer Gates, DO (left).



The Opioid Epidemic: Striving to Provide Holistic Care to Patients Who Use Drugs by Nathan Nolan, MD, MPH, MHPE, (right), and moderated by David Barbe, MD. Photo with George Hubbell, MD, MSMA President.



Environmental Health: An Overview for Missouri Physicians by Elizabeth Friedman, MD, MPH, (left), and moderated by George Hubbell, MD, (right).



Marijuana/Cannabis Guidance for Medical Providers: Follow the Science by Roneet Lev, MD, FACEP, (left), and moderated by Brian Biggers, MD, (right).

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MSMA Elects Leadership: 2023-2024

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Joanne Loethen, MD, Kansas City

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Rachana Raghupathy, MD, St. Louis

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Jay Devineni

University of Missouri - Columbia

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Join MSMA President Lancer Gates, DO, every third Wednesday of the month at 7:00 p.m. for his series of "Fireside Chats" throughout his presidential year.

All members and non-members are invited. Topics will include "What Missouri Physicians Need From MSMA," "Future Physicians and How MSMA Can Help," and others.

Visit msma.org/events for dates, times, and registration.
 We'll see you at the Fireside Chat!