

### Is There Still a Place for Face-to-Face Meetings?



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**Abstract:** There is definitely an essential place for face-to-face meetings. We renew bonds; affirm and expand diversity; learn and share as both students and mentors; advance the field to the benefit of our patients; and gain wisdom from experienced and devoted leaders.

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Please mark your calendars for AANA23, May 4-6, 2023, in New Orleans, Louisiana!

If AANA22 was any indication, there is definitely still a place for face-to-face meetings. The line of demarcation between professional relationships and friendships is thin to none, and it is a delight to reunite with close colleagues. At AANA22, many expressed joy, as well as relief, at the opportunity to attend. Last year, we wrote, “Face-to-face meetings facilitate great spontaneity, profound exchange, nuanced communication, personal sharing, and efficient and passionate occurrence of new ideas.”<sup>1</sup> AANA’s 40th Anniversary gathering was all of that and more, highlighted by disruptive and translational research and education destined to change attendees practice to the benefit of their patients.<sup>2,3</sup>

“Diversity must be kept front of mind” declared AANA Past President Mark Getelmen in his Presidential Address, and your *Arthroscopy* editors heartily support and endorse that position.<sup>4</sup> Under the direction of meeting Program Chair and AANA Treasurer Kevin Bonner, AANA22 demonstrated true commitment to action. Eric W. Carson delivered the Diversity Guest Lecture: “Why Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Matter in Arthroscopy and Sports Medicine in 2022 ... What I Have Learned.” Eric’s emotional sharing of his personal background was highlighted by all too many jaw-dropping accounts of challenges he has faced including a description of his having been wrongly restrained (in his white coat) and handcuffed by law enforcement officers one morning on his way to work due to the color of his skin. Eric concluded with an affirmative message: in 2022, it is not enough to simply “stand by”; each of us has an opportunity to “stand up for social justice, diversity, and equity.” For the first

time, the AANA Keynote Speaker was a woman. In her talk, “On the Edge: The Art of High-Impact Leadership,” Allison Levine shared insights gained, and leadership challenges overcome, as leader of the first all-female team to climb Mount Everest. And, again from Dr. Getelmen in the continued spirit of diversity, “A true highlight of the AANA Annual Meeting is the addition of our guest nations’ faculty. We are thrilled to welcome several nations from the Pan-Asian region, including Korea, Hong Kong, and Thailand. Faculty from these nations include some of the most talented surgeons, and their insightful perspectives add richness to the meeting from which we can all benefit.”

The benefits of globalism bring us back to the first issue of *Arthroscopy* in 1985 when founding Editor-in-Chief Ward Casscells wrote that the journal will be composed of “international editors who will keep us abreast of events transpiring in all parts of the arthroscopic world.”<sup>5</sup> Twenty-five years later, current Editor-in-Chief Lubowitz and our Editor-in-Chief Emeritus Poehling concurred, writing, “the fruits of this international collaboration will be more original scientific articles.”<sup>6</sup> In all realms, AANA’s commitment to diversity is espoused by actions larger than words.

A 40th Anniversary Meeting highlight was the release of the “AANA@40: Advancements in Education” monograph,<sup>7</sup> and of course we are partial to the chapter, “*Arthroscopy; Arthroscopy Techniques; Arthroscopy, Sports Medicine, and Rehabilitation: An Expanded Family of AANA Journals and Innovation.*” Among the many individuals acknowledged for their contributions to the journal, and anecdotes shared, was recognition of the service of our Journal Board of Trustees (JBOT) whose purpose, among others, is to help preserve the editorial freedom we so greatly value as well as to provide us with their critical guidance, assistance, and oversight. Similar to the AANA Board of Directors,<sup>8</sup> JBOT membership terms commence, and are updated, concomitant with the AANA Annual Meeting. We here

acknowledge outgoing JBOT Chair and AANA Past President Nick Sgaglione who flawlessly guided us from 2018 to 2022, and incoming JBOT Chair and AANA Past President John Richmond who, as the first chairperson who has served as a journal Associate Editor, will be a most valuable mentor. [Table 1](#) lists those who have served as JBOT chair over the years, and [Table 2](#) lists the current JBOT members.

**Table 1.** Chairmen of the Journal Board of Trustees

Chairman	Years of Service
John McGinty, M.D.	1985-1995
Richard Caspari, M.D.	1995-1998
Jerome E. Jennings, M.D.	1998-2006
Leslie S. Matthews, M.D.	2006-2010
Walter R. Shelton, M.D.	2010-2014
Richard K. N. Ryu, M.D.	2014-2018
Nicholas A. Sgaglione, M.D.	2018-2022
John C. Richmond, M.D.	2022-

**Table 2.** Journal Board of Trustees

John C. Richmond, M.D., Chairman
Kevin F. Bonner, M.D.
Thomas R. Carter, M.D.
Brian J. Cole, M.D., M.B.A.
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Louis F. McIntyre, M.D.

There is definitely still an essential place for face-to-face meetings. We renew bonds, affirm and expand

our diversity, and we learn and share as both students and mentors. Most of all, we benefit from the wisdom of our experienced and devoted leaders.

Jefferson C. Brand, M.D.  
Assistant Editor-in-Chief

James H. Lubowitz, M.D.  
Editor-in-Chief

Michael J. Rossi, M.D., M.S.  
Assistant Editor-in-Chief

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