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ORGAN DONATION ASSOCIATION ELECTS NEW LEADERSHIP



Boyd Ward



Rick Hasz



Nancy Knudsen, M.D.

VIENNA, Va. – May 17, 2011 – On May 10, the Association of Organ Procurement Organizations (AOPO) announced its incoming Executive Committee leadership for the 2011-2012 year. Boyd Ward will serve as President-Elect, Rick Hasz will serve as Member-At-Large and Nancy Knudsen, M.D., will serve as Medical Advisor-Elect.

“These are critical and exciting times for our field of practice, with challenges and opportunities at all levels. With this rich depth of knowledge and experience in the Executive Committee leadership, and our strong membership support, AOPO is well positioned to accomplish its mission and embrace the future,” said Elling Eidbo, executive director of the Association of Organ Procurement Organizations.

Currently, Ward serves as the Executive Director of Arkansas Regional Organ Recovery Agency (ARORA) in Little Rock. Ward has served on the AOPO Legislative and Regulatory Affairs Committee since 2002 and has chaired the committee in 2010-2011. With a diverse career that spans private, public, and non-profit organizations, Ward intends to focus his presidency on leadership development and advocacy. Ward will serve on the Executive Committee for three years until 2014 as President-Elect, President and Immediate-Past President.

Rick Hasz joined Gift of Life Donor Program in Philadelphia, Pa., in 1993 and has been the Vice President of Clinical Services since 1999. Mr. Hasz's extensive clinical experience will aid him in his position as the representative of all the AOPO Councils. The Member-At-Large is elected to a two-year term.

Dr. Nancy Knudsen was appointed the "physician champion" for organ donation at Duke University Medical Center in 2004. She has served as the primary Medical Director for Carolina Donor Services in Greenville, N.C., since 2005. Knudsen is involved with donor management, quality initiatives and national efforts to educate intensivists. Knudsen will serve for two years, as Medical Advisor-Elect and then Medical Advisor.

Returning Executive Committee members for 2011-2012: Tim Brown becomes President; Jeffrey Orlowski, Immediate-Past President; Michael Souter, M.D., Medical Advisor; and Kent Holloway continues as Secretary/Treasurer. AOPO also thanks Ms. Suzanne Conrad, Immediate-Past President, Ms. Teresa Shafer, Member-At-Large, and Dr. Charles Wright, Medical Advisor, for their invaluable work as they rotate off the committee this June.

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About AOPO

AOPO is a non-profit, national organization representing all federally-designated organ procurement organizations (OPOs). The association represents and serves OPOs through advocacy, support and the development of activities that will maximize the availability of organs and tissues for transplantation and enhance the quality, effectiveness and integrity of the donation process.

ABOUT OPOs

OPOs are federally-designated non-profit organizations that are responsible for coordinating organ and tissue donation across the United States, bridging the gap between the generous donation of organs and tissues and the thousands in need of these gifts.