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AMERICAN
ORTHOPAEDIC
ASSOCIATION

The American Orthopaedic Association (AOA) Officially Endorses the International Orthopaedic Diversity Alliance (IODA)

Rosemont, IL, December 20, 2022 – The American Orthopaedic Association (AOA) has officially endorsed and committed to the principles of the International Orthopaedic Diversity Alliance (IODA) by becoming official signatories of the IODA Charter. IODA is a worldwide collaboration with a vision to unite leaders in orthopaedic surgery and industry to promote diversity, equity, and inclusion.

AOA President Wayne J. Sebastianelli, MD, FAOA, said, “The International Orthopaedic Diversity Alliance is dedicated to building a global orthopaedic culture in which everyone can thrive. AOA is proud to endorse IODA, reinforcing our commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion in the profession.”

IODA second-Vice President Matthew R. Schmitz, MD, FAAOS, FAOA, FAAP, commented, “The International Orthopaedic Diversity Alliance (IODA) was founded to improve diversity efforts within all aspects of orthopaedics. We applaud the AOA for signing on to our Charter and showing their commitment to diversity, not just in words, but in measurable actions.”

The AOA incorporated diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) as a strategic priority in 2017. Since that time, AOA has researched membership diversity, studied orthopaedic institutional DEI efforts, and collaborated with leading associations and non-profit organizations to encourage diverse populations to explore careers in orthopaedic surgery. By endorsing the IODA Charter, the AOA agrees to continue to develop and measure progress of strategic plans incorporating DEI efforts both within the organization and with their educational programs.

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About The American Orthopaedic Association (AOA)

Founded in 1887, and the first orthopaedic association in the world, The American Orthopaedic Association is a small, select organization of elected orthopaedic leaders.

Membership in The American Orthopaedic Association is an earned membership that comes at the end of a stringent peer-reviewed process. Fewer than 10% of practicing orthopaedic surgeons have achieved AOA Membership. Members of The American Orthopaedic Association are referred to as Fellows of The American Orthopaedic Association (FAOA). This designation after a surgeon's name means that the surgeon has achieved recognition for exceptional accomplishments and leadership in the orthopaedic specialty.

AOA programs are designed to provide leadership education for surgeons from residency through retirement. The AOA helps orthopaedic surgeons gain and enhance skills and concepts not taught during residency. This includes leadership development courses, content, and training for academic orthopaedists, and providing thought leadership on and solutions for critical issues facing the broad orthopaedic community. Find out more at www.aoassn.org, and follow us on Twitter @aoa1887, LinkedIn, and Instagram.

About The International Orthopaedic Diversity Alliance (IODA)

The International Orthopaedic Diversity Alliance is a worldwide collaboration with a vision to unite leaders in orthopaedic surgery and industry to promote diversity, equity, and inclusion. IODA aims to provide a global forum to promote diversity in orthopaedics through wide engagement, development of resources, support of diversity efforts and research. Membership is free and open to all in the healthcare sector. Learn more about IODA at <https://www.orthopaedicdiversity.org/>.