The second Richard O. Schuster, DPM ('37) Memorial Biomechanics Seminar, held at NYCPM on November 15, 2014, was a resounding success by any measure. Over 100 professionals attended, about 80 of whom were NYCPM alumni. The lecture hall was SRO but silent as attendees paid rapt attention to all 11 of the high quality talks by podiatrists who are experts in sports-related biomechanics. Joseph C. D’Amico, DPM ('73), Professor of Orthopedics and Pediatrics and past chair at NYCPM, had initiated the idea of this seminar and obtained considerable funding courtesy of Jerry Seinfeld who was cured of intractable heel pain by Dr. D’Amico.

The mission of the seminar was to “re-establish lower extremity biomechanics as the cornerstone for the practice of podiatric medicine and surgery,” and Dr. D’Amico, the seminar’s scientific chair, who opened the seminar with a review of the contributions of Dr. Schuster to Sports Podiatry. Later he also spoke about “Mechanically Induced Knee Pain in the Adolescent Athlete.”

Most of the attendees were alumni, and most of the speakers were as well. J. David Skliar, DPM ('57) gave Part I of his talk about “Biomechanical Implications of the Foot in Relationship to Sports,” while John McNerney, DPM ('75), addressed “Treatment of Mechanically Induced Lower Leg Pain.” After lunch, Justin Wernick, DPM ('59) tackled “Equinus: Etiology, Compensation and Orthotic Therapy,” followed by Paul R. Scherer, DPM, who spoke about “The Mechanical Origins of Hallux Limitus and its Relationship to Hallux Rigidus and Hallux Valgus in Sports.” Louis Pack, DPM ('71), rounded out that session with “The Overlooked Triad: Its Role in Injuries, Sports Performance and Arthritis.” The day’s final session was delivered by Stephen Pribut, DPM ('77), who talked about “The 10 Most Common Running Injuries Seen in Practice.”

Additional speakers who shared their expertise included Jinsup Song, DPM, PhD, who addressed “Foot Type Mechanics: Influence of Race and Gender,” and Guido LaPorta, DPM, who concluded the morning session with “Normal Alignment Parameters of the Lower Extremity.” Dr. Skliar gave Part II of his talk about “Biomechanical Implications of the Foot in Relationship to Sports” in the afternoon.

Dr. Michael J. Trepal, DPM ('81), Vice President for Academic Affairs and Dean, extended his thanks to the NYCPM community, saying, “Many at NYCPM contributed to this feat,” and pledged that there will be another biomechanics seminar in the future.