

Student Alumni Report

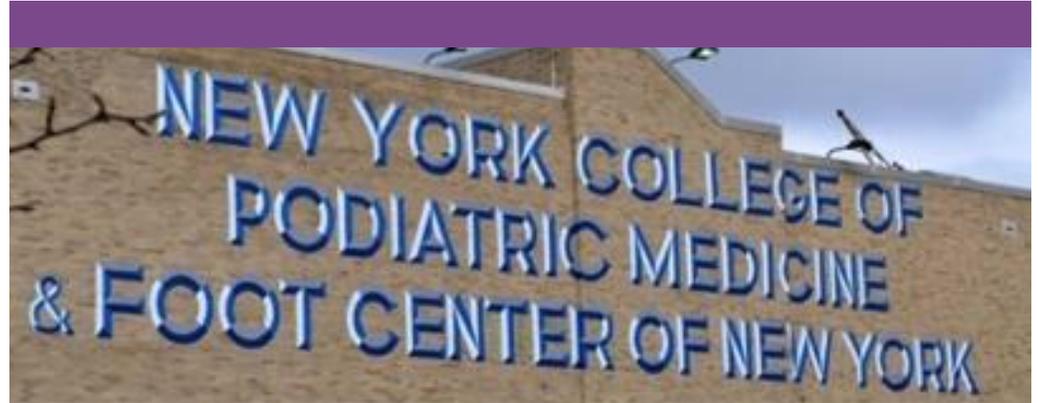


New York College of Podiatric Medicine's Alumni Association

Alumni Representatives: Adisa Mujkic (2013), Cailin Rubino (2014),
Prema Hampapur (2015), and Crystal Gunsch (2016)

Editor & Format Designer: Cailin Rubino (2014)

STUDENTALUMNIREPORTSPRING2013



Alumnus of the Quarter

Dr. Jose Loor

By: Cailin Rubino



**Dr. Jose Loor, Class of 2009,
Newly Elected Treasurer of the
Alumni Association**

Dr. Jose Loor graduated from NYCPM in 2009. Dr. Loor is not only heavily involved in NYCPM, but is very active in the podiatric community. In July 2012, after his residency, he was hired at NYCPM as a clinical instructor of Advanced Imaging, and he is a dual department faculty member in both the medicine and surgery departments. He is ABPS and ABPM qualified, having passed the qualifying examinations. Dr. Loor is a member of both the Associate American College of Foot and Ankle Surgery (AACFAS), and the American College of Foot and Ankle Orthopedics and Medicine (ACFAOM), as well as a founding member of the American Society of Podiatric Surgeons (ASPS). Dr. Loor is also the co-advisor of the NYCPM Radiology Club, and the newly appointed Treasurer of the NYCPM Alumni Association. . Additionally, he is a member of the New York Academy of Medicine, scientific chair for the NY division of the New York State American Podiatric Medical Association, and an Officer and Podiatrist for the Medical Service Corps in the United States Army Reserves. Dr. Loor is fully credentialed to practice at Lincoln Hospital, Metropolitan Hospital, and Nassau University Medical Center in Long Island.



Dr. Loor was born in Guayaquil, Ecuador. Both of his parents are doctors; his mother practices internal medicine, and his father is an oral and maxillofacial surgeon. Dr. Loor moved to Corona, Queens when he was four years of age, and remained there until the time he went to college. Dr. Loor attended Aviation High School in Long Island City, NY where he developed an interest in planes and the desire to potentially become a pilot. He found the engineering aspect mundane, but always had a passion and knack for science. Thus, after high school he went to Fordham University where he majored in Natural Science and Pre-medicine. While at Fordham, Dr. Loor was enrolled in ROTC. He was on track to become an officer, but declined to commission in the Air Force to explore other options.

Dr. Loor found out about podiatry and attended the NYCPM Pre-Matriculation Program to see what it had to offer. While there, he said he was initially greeted by Lisa Lee, and found her demeanor to set the tone for the atmosphere at NYCPM; warm, friendly, and motivational. He said that he also met with Dr. Chusid who was the incoming Dean of Pre-clinical Sciences at the time. Being that he was always passionate about science, he was pleased to find her so adamant on ensuring the students are successful while continuing their education in pre-clinical sciences. Dr. Loor was intrigued by the academia and environment of NYCPM, but to make sure he was following the right path, he attended the NYCPM Pre-Matriculation Program a second time. During this time, he saw two surgeries that solidified his desire to become a podiatric surgeon. He saw a brachymetatarsia correction with mini-rail fixation and distraction performed by Dr. Jules and a Lapidus procedure performed by Dr. Trepal. After that Dr. Loor was sure that this is the profession he wanted to pursue because of the diversity the field entails.

Dr. Loor enjoyed his time at NYCPM and was fortunate enough to complete his residency at NYCPM. The best part for him was the variety of pathology he was exposed to with the inpatients, seeing a multitude of surgery, trauma, plastic surgery, limb deformity correction, Charcot reconstruction, and his advanced imaging rotation with Lenox Hill Radiology. During his last rotation of residency, Dr. Loor attended an AO Trauma Preceptorship program and is one of two podiatrists in New York that are AO members. He is scheduled to take an international AO Trauma course in Austria in September and will pursue an AO Trauma fellowship in the future. He aspires to become an AO faculty member in order to teach and host an AO Trauma Preceptorship for NYCPM students.

Recently, after attending a Cadet Boot Fit at the United States Military Academy in West Point, NY, Dr. Loor was re-inspired to commission as an officer in the U.S. Army Reserves Medical Service Corps. He is now credentialed as an officer and podiatrist in the 4220th Army Hospital in Shoreham, NY. Additionally, Dr. Loor is seeking to obtain his Executive Healthcare MBA through Adelphi University. Another one of his goals for 2013 is to get a private practice up and running.

In his free time, he enjoys spending time with his wife Rachael, six-year-old son, Brandon, and two-year-old son, Ryan. He enjoys being a dad and a good role model for his children. When asked where he sees podiatry going in the future, he stated that he believes there will be absolute parity between podiatrists and allopathic doctors and surgeons. Dr. Loor stressed how much he loves educating students and teaching young minds. His advice to students is to "Look it up!" He emphasized the importance of distinguishing professional medical opinions from facts. Despite what you hear, look up and research everything you can in order to be the most knowledgeable doctor you can be. Dr. Loor truly is an admirable doctor, passionate about his career and highly motivated to be heavily involved in various aspects of the podiatric community. He is a wonderful example of yet another successful and ambitious NYCPM alumnus.



Michael Stone Outstanding Professional Conduct Award

By: Crystal Gunsch

This past month, on February 11th, Mr. Robin Lenz was given the Michael Stone Outstanding Professional Conduct Award at the American College of Foot and Ankle Surgery conference in Las Vegas, NV. The American Board of Podiatric Surgery (ABPS) presents this exceptional award annually to one fourth-year student from each of the nine podiatric schools. These students are selected due to great service to their respective college, professional conduct throughout all four years, and a focused interest in foot and ankle surgery. All of which, Robin has certainly demonstrated.

Throughout his years at NYCPM, Robin has participated in numerous volunteer activities as well as conducted and presented various research projects. In 2011, Robin's first research project at NYCPM was awarded runner-up for the Ralph Ger Student Platform Presentation award for an oral presentation on the *Anatomic Study of the Transverse Occipital Ligament with Clinical Relevance*. Impressively, this research went on to be published in The Spine Journal, a prominent orthopedic journal. Robin's most recent research paper, *Pedal Presentation of Superficial Acral Fibromyxoma: A Case Report and Literature Review*, is currently in progress for JAPMA submission. When Robin saw an unknown lesion in the surgery clinic at NYCPM, he was inspired to put more research into what turned out to be a superficial acral fibromyxoma. The lack of information available in the field of podiatric medicine is a motivating force for Robin. "Each time I have a question about podiatry, I look up the answers, and often there is not enough research behind the answers," says Robin. "My goal is to help build on that literature, and perform research to help answer those questions better." Undoubtedly remarkable on its own, Robin was able to reach these accomplishments in his research while holding leadership roles as student body president during his third year, and president-elect the year prior.

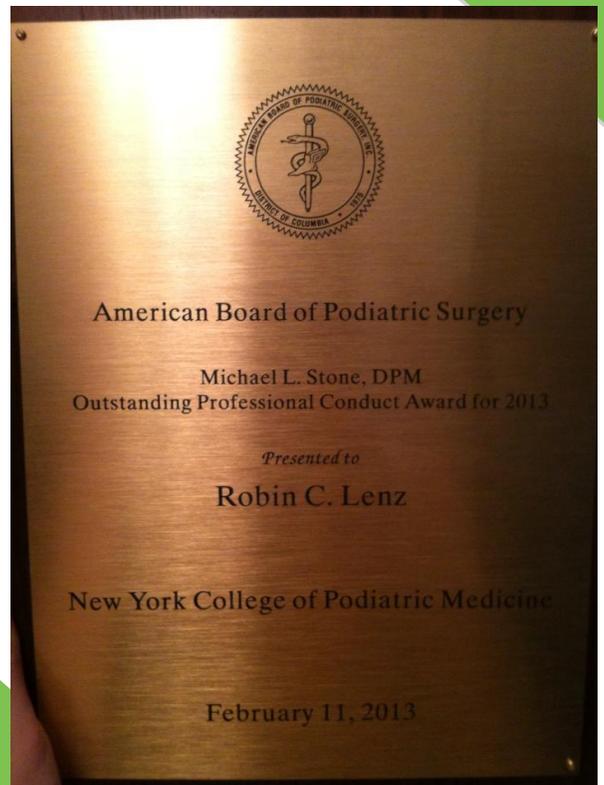
The aforementioned all contributed to Robin ultimately being awarded the Outstanding Professional Conduct Award. "I'm very proud of my work at NYCPM, but I think the Michael Stone award is the best thing I have received thus far," he states. "Michael Stone was a past president of ABPS, and I hear he contributed many amazing things to this field, which is one of my goals as well." Residency is fast approaching for Robin and he hopes to start performing surgery as soon as possible while continuing his research. Furthermore, by being involved with the American College of Foot and Ankle Surgery, Robin hopes he can encourage more people to publish research themselves.





*Above: Robin Lenz,
Proud winner of the
Michael L. Stone, DPM
Outstanding
Professional Conduct
Award for 2013*

*Right: Close-up of the
plaque given to Mr.
Lenz when he won his
award*



Get Ready for the Second Edition of the Podiatric Medical Review!

By: Prema Hampapur

The second edition of NYCPM's Podiatric Medical Review (PMR) is underway! PMR is peer reviewed journal which presents research conducted by students at the New York College of Podiatric Medicine (NYCPM). From literature reviews to original research, the PMR showcases a wide range of work.

PMR is run by NYCPM students. Acting as editor-in-chief, Jonathan Roy (2014) leads a team of 7 students in the process of getting the journal put together. Cailin Rubino (2014), Michael Gazes (2014), Timothy Miller (2015), Sameep Chandrani (2015), James Wright (2015), Virginia Parks (2015) and Amanda Maloney (2015) make up the student editorial board. Dr. D'Antoni is the faculty advisor. Various other faculty members are involved in the peer review process.

This year, nine manuscripts are currently in the peer review process. Each submission will be reviewed in a double blind system through several cycles. The process of putting together the journal has multiple steps. Manuscripts are submitted and undergo a pre-screening by the editor-in-chief. Once manuscripts have made it through the pre-screening, they are sent to a podiatric clinician and a student on the editorial board to be peer reviewed. Authors then have the opportunity to revise their manuscript based on suggestions provided during the peer review process and re-submit their piece which will then be approved or rejected. The process is very thorough, making PMR a reliable source of information and research.

PMR is funded primarily from the generous support of Mr. Louis Levine, NYCPM and the NYCPM Alumni Association. "I must say that this has been a truly rewarding experience to contribute to the revival of the PMR journal last under the leadership of Adisa Mukjic," states Jonathan Roy (2014). "I am fortunate to have the support from the faculty and student body for their participation and promotion of research in the podiatric field." The second edition of PMR is expected to be published late spring to early summer of 2013. The medical journal will be available online under the "clubs and organizations" tab on the NYCPM website, allowing all interested individuals to access and read it. "I hope that everyone can enjoy and learn from the research presented by NYCPM students in this upcoming volume of the PMR," Roy adds.

Keep an eye out for the journal this summer. We look forward to reading and learning more about the wonderful work done at NYCPM!

IPC's Mission Trip to Mexico!!

By: Cailin Rubino

Throughout the years, New York College of Podiatric Medicine (NYCPM) has hosted or participated in activities which have benefited many individuals. Whether it was a food drive, sports equipment drive, shoe drive, podiatric seminars, involvement in marathons, or free foot screenings. NYCPM students and faculty members have strived to serve and aid the community to the best of their capabilities. NYCPM's International Podiatry Club (IPC) was formed with the objective to extend podiatric service worldwide. In 2009, IPC went on a podiatric mission trip to Mexico with hopes of to extend our school name and provide medical help to those in need. With the support and help received from our students, respected faculty, and the NYCPM Alumni Association, this mission trip has been successful and has taken place annually ever since.

This mission trip was made possible by joining forces with the "Welcome Home Outreach Ministries" organization in Vicente Guerrero, Mexico. Every year, the outcome of the trip has been fantastic and humbling to those who attended. With the guidance of the attending faculty, the students were able to use their clinical skills to provide medical attention to those who needed it. Other than basic medical and foot care, our students scrub in and assist on surgical procedures. This is a great opportunity for those who attend.

This year, the International Podiatry club will be going to Mexico for the fifth year in a row with Dr. Sharon Barlizo. The team so far consists of 10 third year podiatric students. The scheduled date for the mission trip this year is from March 25-30, 2013. We wish them luck with their endeavors, and look forward to hearing from them when they return.



NYCPM students take the plunge for a good cause

By: Crystal Gunsch

Daniel Halayko and Corey Bess did not have cold feet when it came to running into chilly forty-degree water of the Long Island Sound, but they definitely had cold feet coming out! Continuing a NYCPM tradition, the President and Vice President of the Sports Medicine club courageously took on the task of representing the school at the Polar Bear Plunge on March 2nd. This year the plunge took place at North Hempstead Beach Park and proceeds were contributed to the Special Olympics New York.

In order to fundraise for this cause, the Sports Medicine club organized their school-wide ping-pong tournament for the third year in a row. Half the proceeds of the fundraiser went towards the Polar Bear Plunge/Special Olympics, while the other half will go to the winner of the tournament. Participants in the competition include fourteen students from four different class years, all with hopes to be the next NYCPM ping-pong champion.

Ping-pong, also known as table tennis, is one of the many sports participants of the Special Olympics partake in. The goal of these games is to help develop confidence, courage and promote a healthy lifestyle to the population living with intellectual disabilities. It is a fantastic cause that has a significant influence on all those involved and as always, the students of NYCPM did a great job in doing their part to contribute.



Daniel Halayko (left) and Corey Bess (right) at the Polar Plunge!



NYCPM wins 1st Place at the ACFAS Annual Scientific Conference!!!

By: Prema Hampapur

The American College of Foot and Ankle (ACFAS) held their scientific conference from February 11-14 in Las Vegas, Nevada at the Mandalay Bay and Resort and Convention Center. MDs, DOs and DPMs specializing in foot and ankle surgery from all over the country attended the conference. NYCPM had great faculty and student representation and took away the biggest honor and award: winning first place during the poster session.

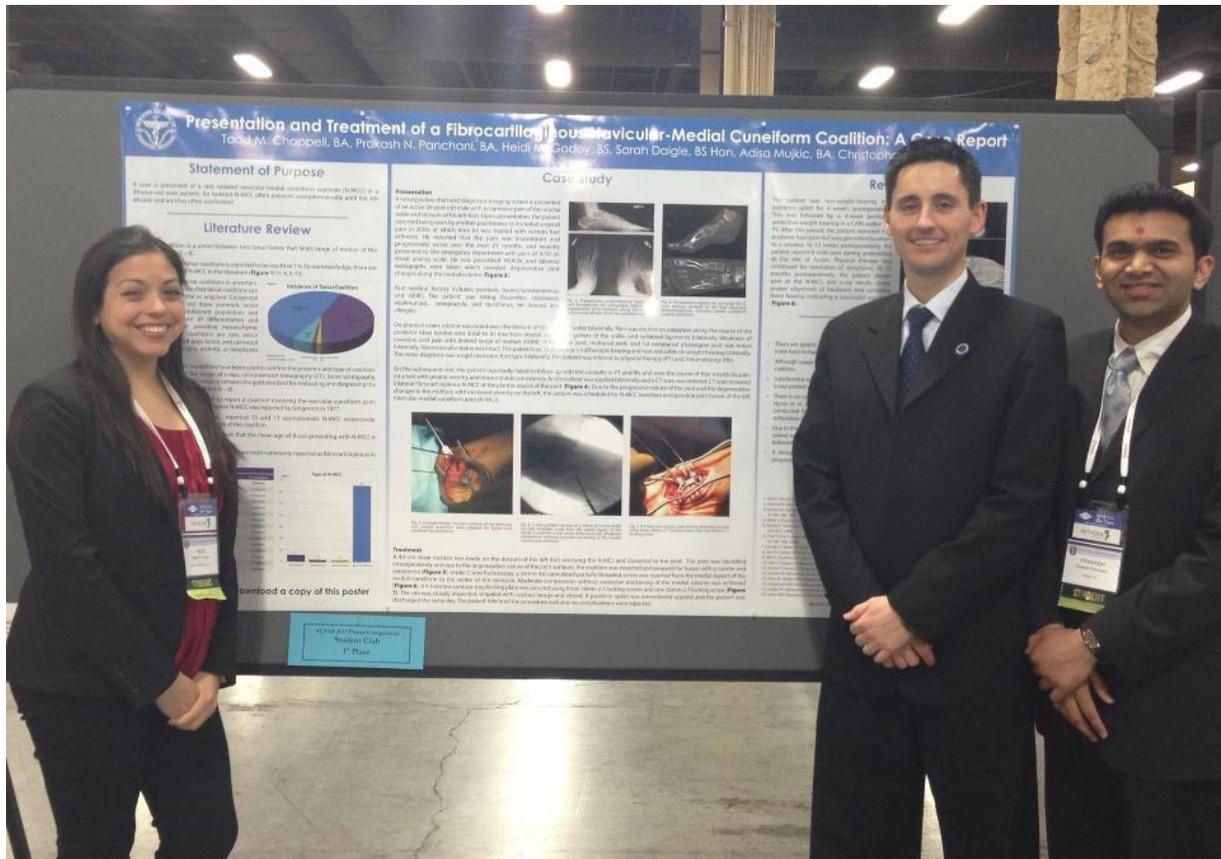
Students had the opportunity to present research during the poster session. Todd Chappell (2014), Prakash Panchani (2014), Heidi Godoy (2015), Sarah Daigle (2015), Adisa Mujkic (2013) and Christopher Lovell (2013) were the authors of the research submitted to the conference. Chappell, Panchani and Godoy all travelled to Las Vegas to present their work during the poster presentations. Over 300 posters were presented, and they covered three different formats: case study, scientific and student club. Individuals attending the conference had the opportunity to walk around and ask questions about research presented. Ultimately, various members from the ACFAS Conference Program Committee and directors of different ACFAS recognized scholarships decided who would win the \$1000 that is put towards club activities and workshops for members of ACFAS Surgery Club at the winning school.

For the first time, all nine of the podiatric programs submitted and presented posters. Students had the great opportunity of meeting one another and learning about the work currently being done. Chappell, Panchani, Godoy, Daigle, Mujkic, and Lowell presented research titled "Presentation and Treatment of a Fibrocartilaginous Navicular-Medial Cuneiform Coalition: A Case Report." Under the guidance of NYCPM faculty member, Dr. Johanna Godoy, the authors were able to conduct their research with one of her patients and put together a winning poster. NYCPM supported its students by the many faculty and administrative members who attended the conference. Dr. Trepal, Dr. Jules, Dr. Giannin Perez, Dr. Jaime Chaffo, Lisa Lee, Robin Lenz (2014) all supported Chappell, Panchani and Godoy during the conference. "ACFAS made many opportunities for us to network and mingle with the leaders in our field and they made us feel very comfortable there with them," states Chappell. "They were ready and excited to have us join them as foot and ankle surgeons and were happy to answer questions and get to know us."



In addition to the poster session, many other lectures and workshops took place. Forums were created so conference attendees could discuss current trends and the future of foot and ankle surgery. Lisa Lee planned a event one evening, allowing NYCPM alumni to meet each other, faculty and current NYCPM students. "It was great meeting fellow graduates from NYCPM," Panchani says. Ted Kennedy Jr. began the conference with the keynote speech and the conclusion of the conference was held at the Stratosphere where individuals were allowed to mingle and network. "It was like spending 6 hours in surgery lecture each day and it was amazing," says Chappell. "We were exhausted but came away from the conference with a lot of knowledge and confirmation that ACFAS is all about education and moving our profession forward!"

On behalf of the NYCPM family, we offer our congratulations to the student researchers and their wonderful win!



Heidi Godoy, Todd Chappell, and Prakash Panchani at the conference proudly standing by their winning poster!

APMSA House of Delegates Mid-Winter Meeting

By: Crystal Gunsch

A large group of students from all nine podiatric colleges met on January 31st to February 2nd in Nashville, TN for the American Podiatric Medical Students Association (APMSA) House of Delegates mid-winter conference. With meetings for each of the three days from 9 AM to 5 PM, eight students from NYCPM successfully represented the school on many significant items pertaining to podiatric students nationwide. Important items discussed at the meeting included DPM clerkship resolution, the Legislative Conference Award, and proper national recognition of Pi Mu Delta, an honors service organization. The last two of which, NYCPM students played a very intimate role in assuring success.

Garrett Moore, a class of 2014 NYCPM student and Student Body President, wrote the proposal for the Legislative Conference Award. This national award will provide the opportunity for a selected podiatric student to attend the APMA Legislative Conference, which is held every year in Washington, DC. Garrett's hopes for this award are for students to be able to partake in lobbying for podiatry when they otherwise may not be able to due to financial constraints. This award will cover transportation, lodging, and daily allowances by the APMSA. Virginia Parks, the APMSA delegate for the Class of 2015, presented the proposal at the mid-winter conference and it passed! The award will go into effect in 2014.

Furthermore, Garrett was also responsible for turning Pi Mu Delta, an honors service organization that has been well known and recognized at NYCPM for decades, into a true national organization. He rewrote the charter, presented it to the eight other podiatric schools, and six are now implementing the organization. The other three colleges are expected to soon follow. Pi Mu Delta recognizes the service students do for their school and for the podiatric field as a whole.

All in all, the students who attended the APMSA mid-winter meeting did a fantastic job representing NYCPM's student body in a professional, and enthusiastic manner. Trey Tomlinson, the Class of 2016 APMSA delegate, says, "For our first time attending a meeting it was a great learning experience. Amanda Riley [Class of 2016 APMSA alternative delegate] and I are excited to see what we can accomplish

for podiatric students both locally and at a national level." The efforts of the student delegates do not go unnoticed and it is very encouraging to see the great accomplishments they are making each and every year.

Picture: House Of Delegates Meeting in Session



ALUMNI REPS



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Is there anything you would like to see in the next issue of the Student Alumni Report? Perhaps you have an Alumnus you would like to nominate for our Featured Alumnus Article. As the Alumni Representatives and staff of the Student Alumni Report, we appreciate your input and feedback. Please feel free to contact any of the class Alumni Reps to make suggestions for future editions of the Student Alumni Report.



The Alumni Association Executive Board with Past and Present Presidents.

From Left to Right: Dr. Alan Bass, Vice President; Dr. Arthur Gudeon, President; Dr. Debra Weinstock, Secretary; Dr. Terry Spilken, Past President and Dr. Steven Plotka, Treasurer.



Photo courtesy of Dr. Barry Block.