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## President's Report – Francis Y. Lee, MD, PhD



Dear MSTS Members, Colleagues, and Friends,

As my term as President of the Musculoskeletal Tumor Society (MSTS) comes to a close following our monumental 50th Anniversary Annual Meeting in Miami, October 28-31, 2026, I want to take a moment to reflect on an extraordinary year and express my deepest gratitude to all of you.

Serving as your President has been one of the greatest privileges of my professional life. Together over the past year, we have accomplished 'Impactful Milestones' that reflect the dedication, passion, and vision of our membership.

- **MSTS Member Engagement, Enhanced Connectivity, and Monthly Open Mic Sessions:** I intended to serve the entire MSTS membership, not just the MSTS board. To this end, we successfully bridged the gap between our general membership and the Board of Directors by introducing

'Monthly Open Mic' sessions. These vital forums empowered general members to share direct, transparent feedback on governance, membership value, and society elections, ensuring our leadership remains truly representative of our community. I received diverse and sometimes conflicting opinions through diverse communication channels, and I worked to reconcile differences between members and the board. I valued different opinions that open opportunities for re-thinking.

- **New MSTS Programs Fostering Early-Stage Investigators & Structured Mentorship:** Through the launch of open-mic member sessions, MSTS committed to the development of **MSTS Early-Stage Investigator Enrichment Programming** that will be tied to funding (One Award/year of \$25,000 for 3 years). We will continue this program for 2027 and 2028 cycles. Extension of this MSTS ESI EP for 2029 and 2030 cycles is under review now. We have invested heavily in the brilliant minds who will lead our field over the next decade. I, as MSTS President, also applied for an **NIAMS/NCI/NIH R13 Grant** (\$20,000) in February



CONFERENCE GRANT  
Department of Health and Human Services  
National Institutes of Health

Notice of Award Federal Award Date  
FAIN# R13AR087326 05/27/2026

**Principal Investigator(s):**  
Francis Young-In Lee, MD



Brian Snyder, MD  
Co-Investigator



Francis Hornicek, MD  
Co-Investigator



Francis Y. Lee, MD  
PI

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF ARTHRITIS AND MUSCULOSKELETAL AND SKIN DISEASES

**2026 MSTS-NIAMS-NCI R13 Early-Stage Investigator Award**  
Reception Honoring MSTS ESIs on Oct 28, 2026, and Scientific Sessions on Oct 29, 2026

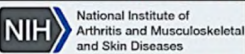
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|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|  <p>Julia Visgauss<br/>Duke U</p>        |  <p>Joshua Lawrenz<br/>Vanderbilt U</p> |  <p>Zachary Burke<br/>Cleveland C</p>      |  <p>Michael Colello<br/>Vanderbilt U</p> |  <p>Drew Ormseth<br/>U Florida</p> |  <p>Duncan Ramsey<br/>Oregon HSU</p> |  <p>Alex Christ<br/>UCLA</p>          |  <p>Ahmed Aoude<br/>McGill U</p> |
|  <p>Christopher Collier,<br/>Indiana</p> |  <p>Anthony Bozzo<br/>McGill U</p>      |  <p>Alexander Lazarides<br/>Moffitt CC</p> |  <p>Stephen Chenard<br/>Vanderbilt</p>   |  <p>David Clever<br/>WASU</p>      |  <p>Ana Belzarena<br/>U Missouri</p> |  <p>Joseph Ippolito<br/>Rutgers U</p> |                                                                                                                       |



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## Stop by Table #1

### ORAL PRESENTATION

Paper #19

The tetravalent death receptor 5 (DR5) agonist ozekibart (INBRX-109) in conventional chondrosarcoma: secondary efficacy endpoints from the randomized, registrational, phase 2 ChonDRAgon study

**Thursday, October 29**  
**2:50 PM – 3:40 PM**  
**Session 5**

Visit **INHIBRX.COM** to learn more about our programs.



Ozekibart (INBRX-109) is an investigational medicine whose efficacy and safety profile have not been established. It has not been approved by the U.S. FDA or other health authority for any use.

2025, and we received the Notice of Award in May 2026. We then received enthusiastic support from the AAOS (\$20,000), MTF (\$25,000), and OREF (\$5,000) to foster the mentorship program. I hope this new culture continues to evolve in the future.

We formed the MSTs Mentor Group, which will provide in-person mentorship for the MSTs Early-Stage Investigators. I sincerely thank MSTs General Members and Research Committee Members (Chair: Bang Hoang, MD) for providing creative ideas and strong support for these initiatives. MSTs has an unusually high number of NIH-/DOD-/VA-funded scholars compared to any other specialty societies. MSTs ESI EP leverages highly impactful MSTs mentors.

- **Global Collaboration and Partnerships:**

We deepened our collaborative bonds with international partner societies. Personally, I was able to connect with ISOLS, CTOS, EMSOS, APMSTS, SLATME, Madrid Bone & Soft Tissue Tumor (BSTT) Program, and BOOM. Let's welcome the Presidents of ISOLS (Dr. Peter Steadman), CTOS (Dr. Robin Jones), APMSTS (Dr. Yang-Guk Chung), EMSOS (Dr. Michiel van de Sande), Brazil (Dr. Ricardo Becker), SLATME (Dr. Juan Pablo Zumarraga) at the 2026 MSTs Annual Meeting. Dr. Francis Hornicek (Program Chair, 2010 MSTs Secretary, 2022-2024 ISOLS President) kindly arranged connections among global musculoskeletal tumor societies. I also traveled to many National Societies in Brazil, Colombia, Japan, China,

Korea, Argentina, Mexico, Greece, and the Philippines —strengthening our global network of research and clinical excellence in 2025-2026. I had the exceptional pleasure of traveling with MSTs Members, Drs. Jay Wunder, Michelle Ghert, Matthew Houdek, James Flint, and Andre Spiguel to participate in many national conferences. Furthermore, I continued to engage with Interventional Radiology/Oncology Societies (SIO/ISMIO/ECIO), and the Cancer and Bone Society (CABS) as a speaker. Many MSTs members are faculty members of the international Orthopaedic Oncology Pathology Review Courses (BSTT in Madrid).

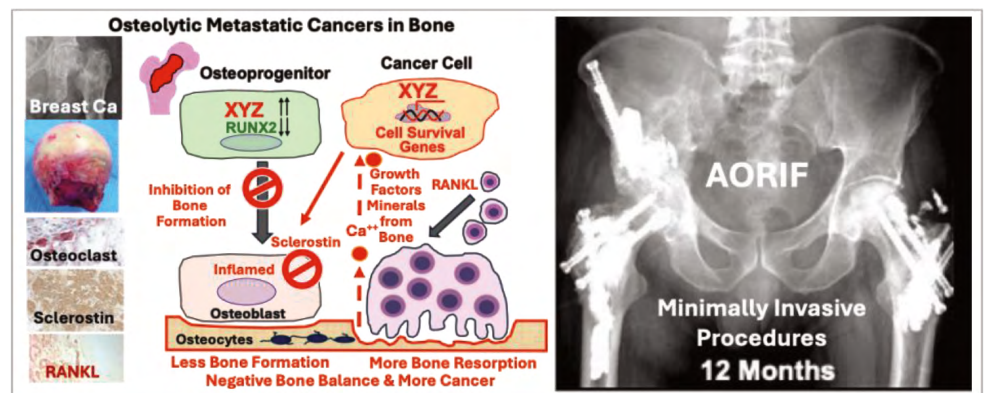
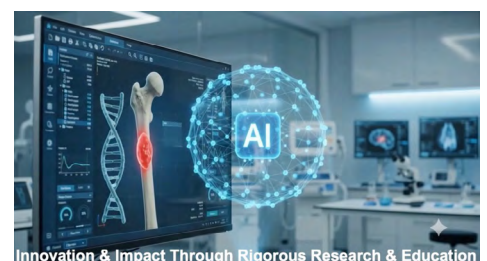
- **Advancing Skeletal Metastatology:**

We continued to champion innovation across our specialty, placing special emphasis on multidisciplinary care, advanced molecular & spatial transcriptomics research, and minimally invasive orthopaedic interventional

oncology techniques. On a personal note, I continue my NIH-funded research program on metastatic cancer- bone interactions with respect to novel molecular therapeutics that reprogram the bone to resist cancer-induced bone loss. Clinically, I continue to refine the AORIF (Ablation-Osteoplasty-Reinforcement-Internal Fixation) procedure to address metastatic cancer, bone biology, biomechanics, and clinical outcomes. We have partnered with the Society of Interventional Oncology (SIO) and the American Society of Surgical Oncology (ASCO) with respect to skeletal metastases.

- **Repositioning MSTs Early-Stage Investigators for the Era of Digital-Molecular Oncology:**

To keep pace with the rapid evolution of molecular oncology and immuno-oncology, the Musculoskeletal Tumor Society (MSTs) has strategically integrated dedicated



educational tracks and specialized sessions into its meeting curricula of the 2026 MSTs Annual Meeting. We aligned the MSTs Early-Stage Investigator Grant Program and Hatcher Fellowship so that our young members are proactively programmed to lead molecular, immune-oncological, and interventional clinical and translational research programs towards

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(formerly known as PVNS)

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---



PVNS=pigmented villonodular synovitis; TGCT=tenosynovial giant cell tumor.

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# President's Report – Francis Y. Lee, MD, PhD, cont'd from pg. 3

advanced patient care. In the 2026 MSTs Annual Meeting Program, abstract submissions overwhelmingly focused on the molecular oncology of osteosarcoma, chondrosarcoma, Ewing sarcoma, and skeletal metastases.

ing, we are grateful for 7 Diamond Sponsors and 25 other partners who shared the vision of innovative care for the patients.

and committed President who will make an 'impact' on the MSTs and global musculoskeletal tumor community.

\* pending membership approval on October 30, 2026



## • Fundraising for MSTs Early-Stage Investigators, Research, and Publications:

Before I started my term, I keenly sought after new potential industry partners, National Institutes of Health/NIAMS/NCI, OREF, AAOS, and MTF to enhance the MSTs Membership benefits. I applied for the NIH/NIAMS/NCI R13 Grant, AAOS Special Project Grant, OREF Support, and MTF Fund, which turned out to be very successful in enriching our MSTs-wide mentorship program. Furthermore, I was able to receive donations from my patients to support publications by our MSTs members. As an academic orthopaedic surgeon, I see the importance of publication for Early-Stage members for their career advancement, collaboration, and contributions to enhanced patient care. We will try our best to facilitate the rapid exchange of new knowledge and techniques, which are produced by the MSTs members. We are hosting the MSTs Golf Event at the 2026 MSTs Annual Meeting to support SarcomaStrong Foundation and the MSTs Publication efforts in lieu of fund on October 28, 2026. Dr. Nick Bernthal also facilitated the Fellowship Enhancement Fund (\$400,000) from our industry partner Zimmer-Biomet. Regarding the 2026 Annual Meet-

## • Pending Business:

As we look toward the future, we have also laid the groundwork for critical structural advancements to ensure our society remains modern, transparent, and inclusive:

- Extending Presidential Eligibility\*: Opening up presidential eligibility pathways to foster diverse leadership and fresh perspectives for the years ahead. It will be proposed that the current bylaws that limit Treasurer eligibility be amended from 3 to 5 years out of the Committee Chair roles. I hope there will be further changes to elect the most qualified, accountable,

None of these achievements or forward-looking initiatives would have been possible without the tireless work of our Board Members, Program Organizers, and every single 'MSTs Member' who gives their time and energy to our society. Your engagement—whether through our open-mic sessions, committee meetings, or scientific contributions—is the true heartbeat of the MSTs.

As I hand over the reins to the incoming leadership, I am more confident than ever in the bright future of our society and our specialty. Thank you for your trust, your support, and your lifelong commitment to improving the lives of patients battling bone and soft tissue tumors.

With warmest regards and deepest appreciation,

**Francis Y. Lee, M.D., Ph.D., honMBA**  
**President, Musculoskeletal Tumor Society (MSTS), 2025–2026**  
**Wayne O. Southwick Professor,**  
**Yale University School of Medicine**



## 50<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY MSTS ANNUAL MEETING

October 28 - 31, 2026  
JW Marriott Turnberry Conference Center – Miami, Florida

*Celebrating*  
**50 YEARS**

Francis Hornicek Jr., MD, PhD  
Chair

Francis Lee, MD, PhD  
President

[www.msts.org](http://www.msts.org)

# 2026 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Annual Meeting Update

## – Francis J. Hornicek, MD, PhD, Annual Meeting Program Chair



Our landmark 50th Anniversary Annual Meeting at the JW Marriott Miami Turnberry Resort features an expanded schedule and an integrated, hands-on technical workshop developed in close collaboration

with our Education, Fellowship, and Communication & Technology Committees. This immersive addition provides invaluable practical training alongside our multi-day scientific program, expert debates, more than 130 podium presentations, 200 posters, and 30 invited talks. Program highlights include the Presidential Invited Speakers, the MSTs-NIH/NIAMS/NCI-OREF-AAOS-MTF Early-Stage Investigator (ESI) Session, the Grantsmanship Course, a Mock NIH Study Section, an Interactive Tumor Board with unknown cases, and Industry Innovation Symposia.

It is exciting to see that MSTs research has shifted rapidly from traditional descriptive research to mechanistic molecular and immunological studies. This means our scholars have readily repositioned themselves to embrace the era of digital-molecular orthopaedic oncology, complementing traditional investigations into implants and techniques. As Annual Meeting Program Chair, a past Secretary of MSTs, and 2022–2024 ISOLS President, I am convinced that the 2026 Annual MSTs Meeting will be exceptionally impactful for attendees. To this end, I thank the 20 Annual Meeting Program Committee members who spent significant time reviewing and organizing abstracts: Megan Anderson, MD; Cecilia Belzarena, MD, MPH, PhD; Christopher Collier, MD; Brooke Crawford, MD; Matthew DiCaprio, MD; Gregory Domson, MD; Nicola Fabbri, MD; Ginger Holt, MD; Yvette Ho, MD; Eugene Jang, MD, MS; Joshua Lawrenz, MD; Lee Leddy, MD; Francis Lee, MD, PhD; Santiago Lozano-Calderon, MD, PhD; Shervin Oskouei, MD; Thomas Scharschmidt, MD; Steven Thorpe, MD, FACS; Julia Visgauss, MD; Melissa Zimel, MD.

### MSTs Presidential Invited Speakers

**Evanthalia Galanis, MD, Mayo Clinic**  
Professor of Oncology, the Sandra J. Schulze Professor of Novel Therapeutics, and Group Chair of the Alliance for Clinical Trials in Oncology  
**Talk Title:**  
1. Immuno-Viral-Therapy in Cancer

**Brian Snyder, MD, PhD, Harvard Medical School, OREF Vice President, Grant Committee Chair**  
**Talk Titles**  
1. Advocacy for Early-Stage Investigators  
2. Predicting Pathologic Fracture Risk on Imaging Studies: Translating Biomechanics to Clinical Practice

### External Invited Scholars

Our two Invited Scholars are Dr. Brian Snyder and Dr. Evanthalia Galanis. Both are not only distinguished scholars but also dedicated mentors, each leading robust, NIH-funded research programs.

**Dr. Evanthalia Galanis** is an internationally recognized expert in neuro-oncology and a clinician-investigator with a long-standing

interest in developing novel therapeutic approaches for cancer. Her practice-changing clinical research includes multiple national phase 2 and randomized phase 2/3 clinical trials of novel therapeutics for primary brain tumors and brain metastases. These trials include some of the first individualized medicine trials in neuro-oncology through

the North Central Cancer Treatment Group and the Alliance for Clinical Trials in Oncology. Furthermore, Dr. Galanis' research laboratory is actively developing and optimizing novel immunovirotherapy treatment approaches.

**Dr. Brian Snyder** is the Maurice Edmond Mueller Distinguished Professor of Ortho-  
*Continued on page 9*

### Educational Sessions: Invited Expert Talks (IETs)

**Session 1. Osteosarcoma & Molecular Oncology**  
**IET 1.** Growth Factors & Kinases in Tumors: CSF1, TK, Wnt5  
**Bang Hoang, MD**  
**IET 2.** Tumor Microenvironment  
**David Clever, MD**  
**IET 3.** Immuno-Viral-Therapy in Cancer:  
**Evanthalia Galanis, MD, Presidential Invited Scholar**

**Session 2. NIAMS/NCI/MSTs/OREF/AAOS Early-Stage Investigators**  
**IET 4.** Introduction of MSTs ESI Programs & Traveling Award Recipients  
**Francis Y. Lee, MD, PhD, NIH R13 Grant Principal Investigator, MSTs President**  
**IET 5.** Clinician Scholarly Pathway  
**Regis O'Keefe, MD, PhD**  
**IET 6.** Advocacy for Early-Stage Investigators  
**Brian Snyder, MD, PhD, Presidential Invited Scholar**  
**IET 7.** Developing Clinical Proficiency for Complex Cases at Your First Job  
**Nathan Mesko, MD**  
**IET 8.** Building Academic Orthopaedic Oncology Practice: Chair's & ESI's Perspectives?  
**Nicholas Bernthal, MD**

**Session 3. Grantsmanship & NIH/OREF Mock Study Section**  
**IET 9:** How to write the Best Translational Research Grant?  
**Kurt Weiss, MD**  
**IET 10:** How to prepare the best real-world clinical trial? research grant? **Michelle Ghert MD, FRCSC**

**Session 7. Skeletal Metastases**  
**IET 11.** Metastatic Cancer-Bone-Muscle Interactions (5 min)  
**Christopher Collier, MD**  
**IET 12.** Predicting Pathologic Fracture Risk on Imaging Studies: Translating Biomechanics to Clinical Practice  
**Brian Snyder, MD, PhD (OREF/ORS/POSNA) Presidential Invited Scholar**  
**IET 13.** Minimally Invasive Intervention for Skeletal Metastases: Pushing the Limit, **Francis Y. Lee, MD, PhD**

### Educational Sessions: Invited Expert Talks (IETs)

**Session 8. Pelvis & Spine**  
**IET 14.** Minimizing Complications: Traditional Pelvis Incision & Modular Prosthesis. **Ran Wei, MD**  
**IET 15.** En Bloc Resection of Spine Tumors  
**Xiaodong Tang, MD**  
**IET 16.** Molecular Oncology of Chordoma  
**Francis Hornicek, MD, PhD**  
**IET 17.** In-House Designing of Custom Implants for Pelvic Reconstruction. **Krista Goulding, MD, MPH**  
**IET 18.** Salvage of Failed Pelvis Reconstruction  
**Panos Papagelopoulos, MD, FACS**

**Session 10. Digital Health, AI, Robotics, Engineering**  
**IET 19.** Big data analysis in cancer biomarkers and outcomes  
**Brooke Crawford, MD**  
**IET 20.** AI in Orthopaedic Oncology: Machine Learning, Generative AI, Agentic AI, and Physical AI. **Tae Kim, MD**

**Session 11. Controversies in Soft Tissue Sarcomas**  
**IET 21.** Management of High-Grade Soft Tissue Sarcomas without Adjuvant Radiation Therapy. **Shintaro Iwata, MD**  
**IET 22.** Management of High-Grade Soft Tissue Sarcomas with Adjuvant Radiation Therapy. **Jay Wunder, MD, FRCSC**

**Session 12. Surgical Techniques**  
**IET 23.** Onco-Plastic Surgery for Primary Oncological Reconstruction  
**Pietro Ruggieri, MD**  
**IET 24.** Onco-Plastic Surgery for Failed Oncological Reconstructions  
**Adam Levin, MD**  
**IET 25.** Uni-Articular Knee Arthroplasty in Children  
**Eduardo Sadao Yonamine, MD**

**Session 14. Disasterplasty & Complications**  
**IET 26.** Salvaging Failed Arthroplasty Implants  
**Herrick Siegel, MD**  
**IET 27.** Management of Massive Bone Loss  
**Nicola Fabbri, MD**  
**IET 28.** Management of Disastrous Complications  
**Joseph Benevenia, MD**



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ANNUAL MEETING TO LEARN MORE

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pedic Surgery at Boston Children's Hospital and Harvard Medical School. Under his leadership, his multidisciplinary team brings together experts in orthopaedics, biomedical engineering, imaging science, and computational modeling to improve musculoskeletal care. Their research uses advanced imaging methods—such as contrast-enhanced CT and Raman spectroscopy—to yield detailed views of cartilage and bone quality. By combining non-invasive diagnostic techniques with computer models, like CT-based structural rigidity analysis, they offer clear, repeatable assessments of fracture risk and tissue strength.

## Invited Expert Talks

Nearly 30 invited expert talks will cover key areas that were not fully represented by abstracts. These talks feature leaders from top-notch academic centers across the U.S. and internationally.

## 50th Anniversary Ceremony: MSTs Impact on the Global Musculoskeletal Tumor Community and International Society President Session

The MSTs is celebrating the profound impact it has made over the past 50 years. The culmination of a lifetime of investigation by the Society's founders led to the development of limb salvage surgeries in conjunction with neoadjuvant therapy, the Enneking Tumor Staging System, metal prostheses versus allografts, and limb salvage versus amputation outcome studies. Today, our contemporary members are conducting state-of-the-art NIH/DOD-funded molecular oncology research, led by figures such as Kevin Jones (synovial

### Early-Stage Top 8 Poster 2-min Podium Presentations

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                |                                                                                                                                                                                       |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Poster 1 (2 min)</b><br><b>Reconstructing the Irreparable: A Novel Approach to Femoral Head Defects After Chondroblastoma Curettage</b><br>Cecelia Belzarena, MD, MPH, MBA                                  | <b>Poster 5 (2 min)</b><br><b>MRI Misses Residual Sarcoma: Pathologic Correlation After Re-Excision of Tumor Bed</b><br>Drew Ormseth, MD                                              |
| <b>Poster 2 (2 min)</b><br><b>What Factors are Associated with Amputation Versus Continued Limb Salvage Following Implant Removal in Lower Extremity Endoprosthetic Reconstruction?</b><br>Michael Colello, MD | <b>Poster 6 (2 min)</b><br><b>When Cartilage Misleads: Fibrocartilaginous Mesenchymoma Mimicking Chondrosarcoma on Core Biopsy</b><br>Julian Emerson Dilley, MD                       |
| <b>Poster 3 (2 min)</b><br><b>Venous Thromboembolism (VTE) in Patients with Metastatic Bone Disease Versus Malignant Primary Bone or Soft Tissue Tumors</b><br>Pablo Andres Patino, MD                         | <b>Poster 7 (2 min)</b><br><b>When the Implant Is Not the Problem: Decision Points to Prevent Soft-Tissue Failure After Hemipelvic Endoprosthetic Reconstruction</b><br>Ziyi Zhao, MD |
| <b>Poster 4 (2 min)</b><br><b>Diagnostic Performance of Interventional Radiology and Surgical Biopsies for Musculoskeletal Lesions</b><br>Danielle Brown, MD                                                   | <b>Poster 8 (2 min)</b><br><b>Hemiarthroplasty Versus Total Hip Arthroplasty for Metastatic Bone Disease of the Proximal Femur</b><br>Matthew Yeager                                  |

### Established-Stage Top 8 Poster 2-min Podium Presentations

|                                                                                                                                                                                                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Poster 9 (2 min)</b><br><b>Posterior Chest Wall Angiosarcoma with Dynamic Scapular Reconstruction using a Trapezius Osteomuscular Rotational Flap</b><br>Adeem Nachabe, MD                                 | <b>Poster 13 (2 min)</b><br><b>3D-Printed Cutting Guides for Joint Preservation of a Rare Juxtaarticular BCOR Sarcoma of the Proximal Tibia and Multidisciplinary Care Approach</b><br>Shachar Kenan, MD       |
| <b>Poster 10 (2 min)</b><br><b>Deltoid Reconstruction with Functional Pedicled Bipolar Pectoralis Major Muscle Flap for Shoulder</b><br>Lahin Amlani, MD                                                      | <b>Poster 14 (2 min)</b><br><b>A Propensity Matched Analysis of 1,101 Patients with TGCT Undergoing TKA: Impact of Prior Surgical Resection and Pexidartinib Usage on Complications</b><br>Amy Zeller, MD      |
| <b>Poster 11 (2 min)</b><br><b>Modified Compress Technique for Intercalary Limb Salvage in Children with Bone Sarcomas</b><br>Raffi Avedian, MD                                                               | <b>Poster 15 (2 min)</b><br><b>Primary versus Secondary Patellar Resurfacing in Oncologic Megaprosthesis Knee Reconstruction: A Multi-Institutional Retrospective Cohort Analysis</b><br>Alan T. Blank, MD, MS |
| <b>Poster 12 (2 min)</b><br><b>Successful Glenoid Reconstruction using a Distal Tibial Osteochondral Allograft Following Wide Resection of a Scapular Chondrosarcoma: A Report</b><br>Anna A. Khachatrian, MD | <b>Poster 16 (2 min)</b><br><b>Surgical Management of Metastatic Bone Disease: En bloc Resection with or without Reconstruction</b><br>Young Ho Lee / Yang Kook Chung                                          |

sarcoma); Bang Hoang, Kurt Weiss, Zachary Burke, Will Eward, and John Healey (osteosarcoma); Francis Y. Lee (cancer-bone interactions); Regis O'Keefe (bone and cartilage biology); Julia Visgauss, Richard

Terek, and Sean Scully (chondrosarcoma); Thomas Temple (immunology); Anthony Bozzo, Jonathan Forsberg, John Healey, and Ahmed Aoude (AI); and Francis J. Hornicek (chordoma). Cutting-edge clinical trials are spearheaded by Michelle Ghert. It is fitting to see this uninterrupted legacy of impactful, NIH-funded research continue, given that Dr. Mankin—our first MSTs President and one of our founders—was himself an NIH R01-funded orthopaedic surgeon-scientist. Senior members of the MSTs will connect the past, present, and future of our Society's enduring legacy.

## Poster Sessions

In response to member feedback regarding the Annual Meeting, we have implemented enhanced communication

*Continued on page 10*

### MSTs Celebrating the 50th Anniversary Annual Meeting

#### A Special Session: Bridging the Past, Present, and Future

4:30 – 5:30 pm, Friday, Oct 30, 2026, JW Marriott Turnberry, Miami, Florida

|                                                                                                                         |                                                                                                                          |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>I. Opening Remarks:</b> Francis Hornicek, MD, PhD                                                                    | <b>II. National Anthem:</b> U Miami Doctor's Note                                                                        |
| <b>III. Special Session: Bridging the Past, Present, and Future:</b> Francis Hornicek, MD, PhD                          |                                                                                                                          |
| <br>Dr. Francis Hornicek<br>Panelist  | <br>Dr. Mark Gebhardt<br>Panelist     |
| <br>Dr. John Healey<br>Panelist      | <br>Dr. Herbert Schwartz<br>Panelist  |
| <br>Dr. Mark Scarborough<br>Panelist | <br>Dr. Steven Gitelis<br>Panelist    |
| <br>Dr. Joseph Benevenia<br>Panelist |                                      |
| <b>IV. Global Musculoskeletal Tumor Societies:</b> Francis Y. Lee, MD, PhD                                              |                                                                                                                          |
| <br>Dr. Francis Lee<br>MSTs           | <br>Dr. Peter Steadman<br>ISOLS       |
| <br>Dr. Robin Jones<br>CTOS          | <br>Dr. Michiel Van De Sande<br>EMSOS |
| <br>Dr. Yang Kook Chung<br>APMSTs    | <br>Dr. Juan Zumarraga<br>SLATME      |
| <br>Dr. Ricardo Becker<br>Brazil     |                                      |
| <b>V. Closing Remarks:</b> Francis Hornicek, MD, PhD                                                                    | <b>VI. Group Photo</b>                                                                                                   |

platforms for poster presenters. Many members emphasized that posters are an effective way to connect with new colleagues and discuss specific topics. In addition, the top-scoring posters by early-stage and established investigators will be featured as podium presentations, with the top three receiving Best Poster Awards in each category.

Social Events

The first reception is sponsored by the NIH/NIAMS/NCI-AAOS-OREF-MTF, honoring and fostering MSTs Early-Stage Investigators within nine years of their first faculty appointment. The second reception (sponsored by Insight Surgery) and third reception will provide wonderful opportunities to reconnect with old friends and meet new colleagues. There is also an optional industry sponsored event following the Thursday reception - see page 11. Live string music will be performed to celebrate the impact the MSTs has exerted on the musculoskeletal tumor field. The repertoire will feature resonating pieces by Mozart, Vivaldi, Schubert, Monti, and Shostakovich, alongside popular rock arrangements, Italian romantic songs, opera arias, and Broadway show tunes. Additionally, during the 50th Anniversary Annual Meeting Ceremony an a cappella group of medical students from the University of Miami Miller School of Medicine will perform the national Anthem for the Musculoskeletal Tumor Society.

Technical Innovation Workshop (Miami Anatomical Research Center (MARC) 8:00 AM – 5:30 PM | October 28, 2026)

Dedicated members of the Fellowship Programs and the Education, Fellowship, and Technology & Communication Committees have devoted their time to organizing our

**MSTS Technical Innovation Hands-on Cadaveric Workshop**  
A Collaborative Educational MSTs Program by Education Committee, Fellowship Committee, and Technology & Communication Committee  
Miami Anatomical Research Center (MARC), 8 am – 5:30 pm, Wednesday, Oct 28, 2026



Ginger Holt, MD



Cecilia Belzarena, MD



Santiago Lozano Calderon, MD



Valerae Lewis, MD



Krista Goulding, MD



Alexandra Callan, MD



Odion Binitie, MD



Thomas Scharschmidt, MD



Matthew Cable, MD



Lee Zuckerman, MD



Alan Blank, MD



Lucas Nystrom, MD



Nathan Mesko, MD



Rosanna Wustrack, MD

Registration: [www.msts.org](http://www.msts.org)

most comprehensive hands-on cadaveric technology workshop to date. Please note that space is limited. You can register via the following link: [MSTS Workshop Registration](#). This single workshop covers essential and advanced surgical techniques for approaches, resections, and reconstructions, including rotationplasty and lengthening.

Fundraising Golf Event 8:00 AM – 1:00 PM Wednesday, October 28, 2026



A special golf event is planned, bringing together 30 MSTs Golf Ambassadors and international attendees in collaboration with local hosts. Dr. Ron Trapana, Spine Surgeon

at the Department of Orthopaedic Surgery, University of Miami, and I organized this event, and we extend our sincere thanks to our sponsors and donors—including the family of a cancer survivor (Pines Ford), who generously offered a Ford vehicle for a hole-in-one prize.

Last, but certainly not least, I express my deepest gratitude to MSTs Staff, Kerri Mink and Deborah Meyer, for their tireless efforts to make this upcoming meeting such a resounding success.

Francis J. Hornicek, MD, PhD  
Annual Meeting Program Chair



## EVOLVING TGCT CARE: Navigating Complexity, Advancing Outcomes

Please join us at the MSTS Annual Meeting to explore optimizing management of TGCT by attending the session:

### ***EXPERT DISCUSSIONS ON COMPLEX CASES IN TGCT: REAL-WORLD PERSPECTIVES***

Presented by:



**Alysia Kemp, MD, FAAOS**

University of Texas,  
MD Anderson Cancer Center  
Department of Orthopaedic Oncology



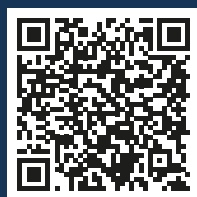
**Alexander Christ, MD, FAAOS**

University of California, Los Angeles  
Department of Orthopaedic Surgery

*JW Marriott Turnberry Conference Center, Miami, Florida*

***Thursday, October 29, 2026  
8:00 – 9:00 pm ET  
Veranda Ballroom***

*Please register using  
the QR code*



MSTS, Musculoskeletal Tumor Society; TGCT, tenosynovial giant cell tumor

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## Advocacy Taskforce Update – Kelly Homlar, MD, Chair

The MSTs Advocacy Taskforce was created to evaluate our Society's current footprint in the health policy arena and develop a path forward to engage MSTs members in meaningful advocacy and establish MSTs as the trusted voice for musculoskeletal oncology in U.S. health policy. Over the past year, we have focused on building the infrastructure necessary for coordinated and effective advocacy; increasing the visibility of advocacy activities and opportunities for our membership; and strengthening partnerships with aligned organizations to amplify the Society's impact. We are excited that this work will now continue through the transition of the Advocacy Taskforce into a permanent **MSTS Health Policy Committee**.

The past several months have been particularly active for health policy and physician advocacy. On July 14, 2026, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) released the proposed **2027 Medicare Physician Fee Schedule (PFS)**. The proposal includes several significant changes with implications for orthopaedic surgeons and our patients, including a roughly 1.6% decrease in the Medicare conversion factor; substantial reductions in work RVUs for major joint arthroplasty procedures; a proposed 50% payment reduction for the lower-valued service when a separately identifiable office/outpatient E/M visit is performed on the same day as a procedure with a 0-, 10-, or 90-day global period (modifier -25); and additional changes to the methodology used to calculate practice expense RVUs.

More broadly, CMS continues to signal a

shift away from reliance on AMA Relative Value Scale Update Committee (RUC) surveys and toward what the agency describes as "more objective, routinely updated and auditable cost data." The ultimate methodology and data sources for this transition remain under development. MSTs believes it is critical that physicians remain meaningfully involved in this process. Physicians bring an essential understanding of the resources, complexity, and clinical decision-making required to provide high-quality patient care, and that expertise must be represented as CMS considers fundamental changes to physician payment methodology.

Throughout the summer, we highlighted these proposals to the MSTs membership through social media and encouraged members to contact CMS and their members of Congress using the AAOS and AAHKS advocacy action centers. **Individual physician engagement matters.** These action alerts take less than a minute to complete, and the collective response of the physician community helps policymakers understand both the magnitude of these issues and their potential impact on patient access to care. We strongly encourage all MSTs members to participate when these advocacy opportunities arise.

MSTS members also participated in the **AAOS National Orthopaedic Leadership Conference (NOLC), September 27–30, 2026, in Washington, D.C.** NOLC is the largest annual orthopaedic advocacy event, bringing orthopaedic surgeons from across the country together to discuss federal health policy and meet directly with

members of Congress and their staff.

Key advocacy priorities this year included:

1. **The proposed 2027 Medicare Physician Fee Schedule** and the potential impact of physician payment reductions on patient access to orthopaedic care.
2. **Long-term Medicare physician payment reform**, including establishing a sustainable payment model that reflects increases in the cost of providing care.
3. **Protecting physicians and patients from insurer "clawbacks"** through the *Protecting Approved Care Act*, which would limit Medicare Advantage plans from retroactively denying or reducing payment for previously authorized care after that care has been provided.
4. **Prior authorization reform** through the *Improving Seniors' Timely Access to Care Act*, which would streamline and increase transparency in the Medicare Advantage prior authorization process.

The transition to a permanent Health Policy Committee represents an important next step for MSTs. Musculoskeletal oncology is a small specialty, but the policies being debated in Washington directly affect our ability to provide timely, high-quality care to patients with complex and often life-threatening conditions. **Our voice matters—and it is strongest when our members are informed, engaged, and willing to participate.**

### Donate through OREF



MSTS and OREF share a vision of improving care for patients through our support for high quality research.

Did you know you can support both MSTs and OREF at the same time? Make an OREF Annual Fund gift and you can add on a gift for MSTs.

It's a quick and easy way to support two great organizations. Visit [oref.org/annual](https://oref.org/annual).

### Support MSTs by Donating to the OrthoPAC

Make TWICE the difference with the same dollar! OrthoPAC will match any \$5k, \$1k or \$100 PAC contribution with a donation to a 501(c)(3) charity of your choice – visit <https://www.aaos.org/advocacy/pac/>

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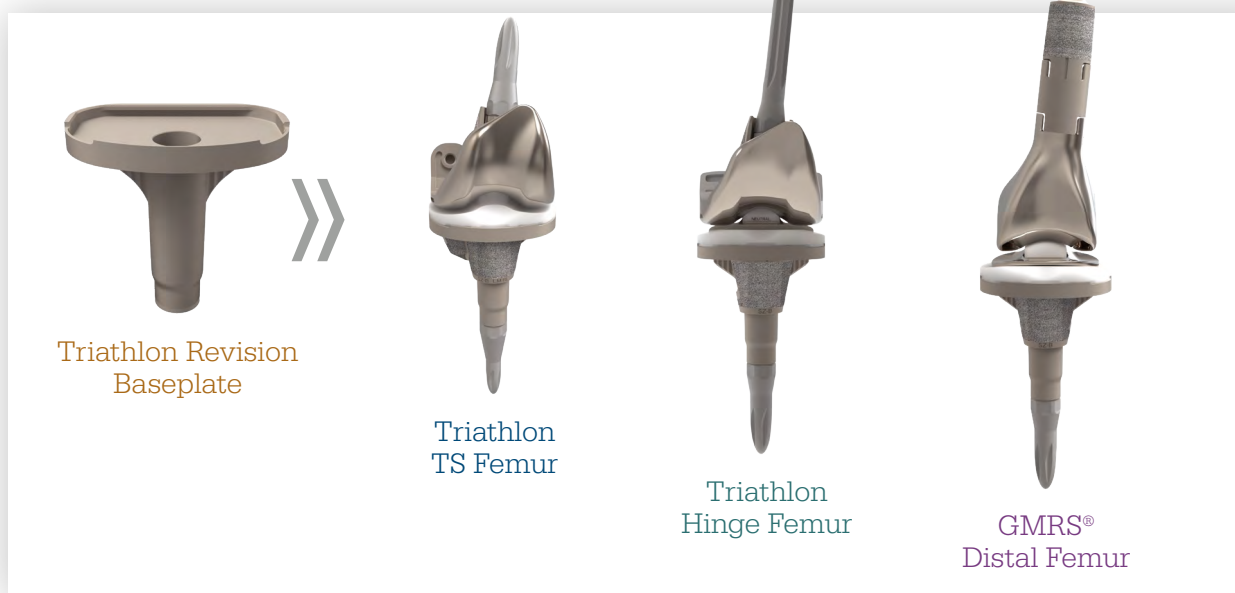
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## Communications Committee Update – Cecilia Belzarena, MD, Chair

The Communications Committee continues to strengthen MSTs communications across the website, social media, e-blasts, and newsletters. Our focus remains on keeping members informed, expanding the Society's visibility, supporting educational and advocacy initiatives, and making reliable musculoskeletal oncology information more accessible to patients and families.

The MSTs website continues to serve as the Society's central communication and educational hub. A recent 28-day analytics report recorded approximately 5,500 active users, including 5,200 new users, and 31,000 website interactions. Organic search generated nearly 3,000 sessions, demonstrating that MSTs content is increasingly discoverable to people seeking information online. Annual Meeting pages were among the most frequently visited content, reflecting strong interest in the Society's educational programming and events. The committee also continues to monitor the website regularly and coordinate updates to ensure that content remains current, functional, and easy to access.

Patient education remains an important area of growth. We continue to expand and refine the Patients' Topics Library and Conditions We Treat sections with clear, accurate information about bone and soft-tissue tumors, diagnostic testing, treatment, and survivorship. Disease-specific patient pages are already attract-

ing meaningful traffic. By developing these resources, MSTs is becoming a more visible and trusted source of information for patients and families seeking guidance about musculoskeletal tumors.

Our social-media presence also continues to grow. Through Instagram, we engage MSTs members, patients, the general public, and colleagues from other professional societies. We share educational opportunities, research and grant announcements, advocacy updates, Society news, and information about important events, including webinars, the Annual Meeting, and the Innovation Course. Our audience and engagement continue to increase, extending the reach of MSTs beyond its membership.

LinkedIn has become another important platform for professional outreach and is approaching 600 followers. It allows us to share valuable information with members and connect with the broader orthopaedic, oncology, research, and healthcare communities. Together with our monthly e-blasts and seasonal newsletters, these platforms help ensure that members receive timely information about educational programs, funding opportunities, committee activities, career opportunities, and other Society initiatives.

The committee continues its member spotlight series, highlighting the individuals who contribute to our specialty and the Society. These profiles allow members

to learn more about their colleagues' professional experiences, perspectives, and contributions while showcasing the expertise and diversity within MSTs. The series has been well received and continues to strengthen engagement among members and across career stages.

In collaboration with the MSTs Advocacy Task Force, the Communications Committee helps amplify important legislative, regulatory, and reimbursement issues affecting our members and their patients. The Advocacy Task Force identifies and develops the relevant advocacy priorities and messaging, while our committee supports their efforts by sharing approved information and calls to action through MSTs communication channels. Recent communications have helped inform members about proposed changes to the Medicare Physician Fee Schedule and other issues affecting access to specialty musculoskeletal oncology care. When appropriate, we also provide members with clear opportunities to participate and make their voices heard.

The Communications Committee remains committed to making MSTs communications timely, coordinated, and useful. We appreciate the continued contributions of our committee members, MSTs leadership, and members who submit content, share Society communications, and help amplify the voice of MSTs.

## Membership Committee Announces New Survey Request Process

The MSTs Membership Committee has formalized a new process for survey requests and distribution. The goal was to create a fair process that will enable our members to distribute relevant and worthwhile surveys to colleagues while minimizing the survey fatigue that exists in our field. This process will be subject to review by the Executive Committee for future revision.

The new process is as follows:

1. Author will submit completed MSTs Survey Submission form (at least one submitting author required to be

member of MSTs) to the Membership Committee.

2. There will be an **annual** submission review by MC for scoring/discussion/selection utilizing defined scoring rubric.
  - a. MC will select several surveys based on scoring to be distributed to MSTs membership via **annual** email and link on website.
  - b. MC may select high-impact survey based on scoring to be distributed at MSTs Annual Meeting.

- c. Can consider time-sensitive surveys selected by MC to be distributed/performed on more urgent basis.

The survey investigators will update the MSTs MC on status or manuscript completion for tracking purposes and to provide follow-up to the membership.

[Click here](#) to learn more and to access the Submission Form.

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1. Izakovcova P, Borens O, Trampuz A. Periprosthetic joint infection: current concepts and outlook. EFORT Open Rev. 2019;4(7):482-494. doi: <https://doi.org/10.1302/2058-5241.4.180092>.
2. Premkumar A, Kolin DA, Farley KX, et al. Projected economic burden of periprosthetic joint infection of the hip and knee in the United States. J Arthroplasty. 2021;36(5):1484-1489. doi: [10.1016/j.arth.2020.12.005](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.arth.2020.12.005).
3. Data on file. Onkos Surgical, Inc.

\* *In vitro* testing.

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# MSTS Welcomes Allied Health Professionals to MSTS Membership

Your allied health professionals are a vital part of team and MSTS recognized their importance in patient care. Allied health professionals are important to you, and they are important to MSTS.

MSTS is pleased to offer Allied Health membership to non-physician healthcare providers who are active in the care of patients with musculoskeletal tumors or who provide practice, surgical or research assistance in the field of musculoskeletal oncology. Eligible applicants include nurses, nurse practitioners, physician assistants, and physical therapists.

## Applicant Requirements:

To be considered for Allied Health membership, all applicants must:

- Hold a valid and unrestricted license.
- Submit a membership application including a current CV and one letter of recommendation from an MSTS

member in support of the membership.

## Allied Health Membership Benefits:

- Member rate for MSTS Annual Meeting registration fee
- Member rate for AAOS Specialty Day course registration fee
- Member rate for MSTS Nurses and Allied Health Professionals registration fee
- Quarterly MSTS electronic newsletter
- Access to Members Only material on MSTS website
- Eligible to be selected for MSTS Member Spotlight on website
- Opportunity to develop leadership skills through committee involvement



We are happy to offer this new membership category and hope that you will encourage the eligible allied health professionals on your team to join MSTS!

[Click here](#) to download the membership application. The deadline to receive applications for the next membership review is **Monday, February 1, 2027**.

## Thank You to our 2026 Donors

We extend our sincere appreciation to the members and donors who have supported MSTS this year.

The donations listed below were credited from January 1 through September 21, 2026.

Odion Binitie, MD  
Felix H. Cheung, MD  
Maureen Collins  
Yang-Guk Chung, MD  
Matthew DiCaprio, MD

Cynthia Emory, MD  
C. Parker Gibbs, Jr, MD  
Robert Guglielmino  
Eric Henderson, MD  
Izuchukwu Ibe, MD

Shintaro Iwata, MD, PhD  
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Michael Monument  
John Curtis (JC) Neilson, MD

Rajiv Rajani, MD  
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William Ward, MD, FACS  
Rosanna Wustrack, MD  
Melissa Zimel, MD



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### Membership Committee

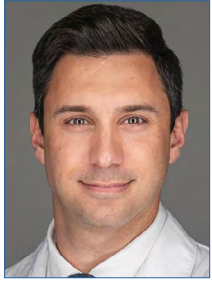
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### Members-at-Large

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# 2027 MSTS Specialty Day: Conversations That Move Our Field Forward

## – Alexander Lazarides, MD, 2027 MSTS Specialty Day Program Chair



Alexander Lazarides, MD  
Chair



Samir Sabharwal, MD  
Vice-Chair



James Wittig, MD  
Member-at-Large

One of the things I value most about MSTS Specialty Day is that it gives us a chance to do something a little different. We spend much of the year presenting our newest data and reporting outcomes. But Specialty Day gives us the opportunity to ask a different set of questions: Where do reasonable surgeons still disagree? What is actually changing our practice? What are we getting wrong? And what can we learn from our patients, our colleagues, and one another?

Those questions have been at the center of planning for the 2027 MSTS Specialty Day at the AAOS Annual Meeting on Saturday, March 6. The planning committee including Drs. Matthew DiCaprio, Samir Sabharwal, James Wittig and myself, has been hard at work creating an innovative program. Our goal is to create a program that is interactive, candid, clinically relevant, and reflective of the breadth of our society.

We will open with **“Cases That Divide Us,”** a series of case-based debates tackling questions in sarcoma care for which there is no easy algorithm: How much margin is enough when oncologic clearance comes at a substantial functional cost? Have we sometimes taken limb salvage too far? And

when a tumor is technically resectable, does that necessarily mean we should operate? Speakers representing different generations and practice perspectives will take opposing positions, with audience polling and discussion built into each case.

From there, **“What Is Actually Changing Our Practice?”** will examine AI, molecular oncology and ctDNA, immunotherapy, navigation, robotics, augmented reality, and patient-specific technology. Rather than simply celebrating innovation, we will ask our faculty to distinguish hype, hope, and standard of care. In other words, what is ready today, what may change practice tomorrow, and what might we be overselling?

**Research** will of course have a place in the program. We anticipate highlighting MSTS- and Sarcoma Strong-supported research, including work in infection prevention, comparative oncology, tumor evolution, and molecular oncology. We want Specialty Day to showcase not only established investigators, but also the emerging ideas and investigators who will shape the next generation of our field.

Just as importantly, we want to make sure that a meeting devoted to improving musculoskeletal oncology care includes

voices beyond our own. **“Beyond Survival: What Sarcoma Patients Need From Us”** will bring together Orthopaedic oncology, plastic surgery, psychosocial oncology, patient advocates, survivors, and caregivers to discuss lymphedema, radiation injury, reconstructive challenges, and the toxicities that may never appear in our complica-

tion tables. A patient and caregiver forum will ask perhaps the most important question of the day: What do you wish your surgeon had known?

The afternoon will turn to lessons that are rarely found in textbooks. In **“The Case That Changed Me,”** senior leaders in our field will each discuss a case that permanently changed how they practice, specifically focusing on failure, rescue, changing dogma, and what they wish they had understood earlier in their careers. We hope that pairing these perspectives with the voices of younger faculty and emerging leaders will create the kind of honest cross-generational discussion that makes MSTS special.

We will close with **“One Patient, Many Paths: Complex Decisions in Musculoskeletal Oncology”** a multidisciplinary tumor board bringing together Orthopaedic oncology with colleagues from other specialties to discuss approaches to metastatic bone disease and complex benign disease. Through progressive case reveals and audience voting, every specialty will have to commit to a recommendation and then defend it.

And, of course, MSTS Mystery Cases will return. Some traditions should remain untouched!

Throughout the day, we are intentionally bringing together a diverse array of participants including young attendings, established leaders, multidisciplinary colleagues, patient voices, and international perspectives from a vast array of practice environments and backgrounds.

The program is still being finalized, and we look forward to announcing additional faculty over the coming months. I am incredibly grateful to everyone contributing their ideas, expertise, and time. Most importantly, I hope you will join us. Save Saturday, March 6, 2027, for MSTS Specialty Day at AAOS. Come ready to vote, debate, challenge your assumptions, hear perspectives outside your own. And perhaps you will leave practicing a little differently than when you arrived.

See you at Specialty Day.



## SPECIALTY DAY 2027

Las Vegas, Nevada

March 6, 2027

7:30 am – 3:30 pm

### Specialty Day Planning Committee

Alexander Lazarides, MD, Chair

Samir Sabharwal, MD, Vice Chair

James Wittig, MD, Member-at-Large



Details at [www.msts.org](http://www.msts.org)



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