

NEWS RELEASE

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MMA ELECTS NEW OFFICERS

MINNEAPOLIS-The Minnesota Medical Association elected its officers for 2006-2007 on Friday, September 15 in Minneapolis at the MMA's 153rd Annual Meeting. The association develops policies on issues that affect patient care and physicians' practices and represents its members before various legislative bodies, regulatory agencies, and the private sector. The MMA is governed by a House of Delegates, which elects its officers. The House of Delegates elected the following MMA officers for 2006-2007:

President-elect: James J. Dehen, M.D.

Secretary-Treasurer: Carolyn McKay, M.D.

Speaker of the House: John W. Larsen, M.D.

Vice Speaker of the House: Lyle J. Swenson, M.D.

James J. Dehen, M.D., who was chosen president-elect, will assume the presidency of the MMA at the 2007 Annual Meeting. Dr. Dehen is board certified in general surgery and has been in private practice at Brainerd Medical Center since July 1988. He served as speaker of the MMA House of Delegates in 2003, and has been a member of several MMA committees.

Carolyn McKay, M.D., was elected secretary-treasurer. Dr. McKay is a pediatrician practicing in Minneapolis and Eagan. She is the current chair of the MMA Committee on Administration and Finance. She served as MMA treasurer last year. This year the offices of treasurer and secretary were replaced by the office of secretary-treasurer.

John W. Larsen, M.D., was elected speaker of the MMA House of Delegates. Dr. Larsen is a board-certified otolaryngologist who practices at and is president of Minnesota Otolaryngology, P.A., in St. Louis Park, Chaska, and Waconia.

Lyle Swenson, M.D., was elected vice speaker of the MMA House of Delegates. Dr. Swenson, who is board-certified in internal medicine, cardiovascular disease, and interventional cardiology, practices at St. Paul Cardiology.

G. Richard Geier, M.D., assumed the presidency of the MMA at the 2006 Annual Meeting. Dr. Geier, a practicing surgeon in Rochester, joined the Olmsted Medical Center in 1974 and served as its president and CEO from 1984 until 2000. He currently chairs the Board of Directors of the MMIC Group.

American Medical Association Delegates Re-Elected

Frank J. Indihar, M.D., was re-elected a delegate to the American Medical Association. Indihar is board certified in internal medicine and a fellow of the American College of Physicians. He currently serves as a vice president of HealthEast Care System, Inc. and is the CEO/medical director of Bethesda Rehabilitation Hospitals of St. Paul and Minneapolis.

Kenneth W. Crabb, M.D., was re-elected a delegate to the American Medical Association. Crabb is board certified in obstetrics and gynecology and has practiced in St. Paul since 1979. He is an adjunct professor in the OB Gyn Department at the University of Minnesota.

John M. Van Etta, M.D., was re-elected a delegate to the American Medical Association. Van Etta is a board certified internist and a fellow in the American College of Physicians who practices at St. Luke's Internal Medicine Associates. He is a clinical assistant professor at the University of Minnesota.

AMA Alternate Delegates Re-Elected

Benjamin H. Whitten, M.D., was re-elected an alternate delegate to the American Medical Association. Whitten is an internist who has been practicing in the Twin Cities since 1985. He has served on the MMA Board of Trustees and as the chair of the Uniform Credentialing Task Force.

Blanton Bessinger, M.D., was re-elected an alternate delegate to the American Medical Association. Bessinger is board certified in pediatrics and pediatric cardiology. He is a member of Ramsey Medical Society, the Minnesota Medical Association, and the American Medical Association, and is also a member of the AMA's Council on Constitution and Bylaws.

Michael B. Ainslie, M.D., was re-elected as chair by the MMA Board of Trustees.

Michael B. Ainslie, M.D., is a pediatrician and pediatric endocrinologist who practices at Park Nicollet Medical Center. He is the chair of the MMA Board of Trustees and has served as MMA treasurer.

The Minnesota Medical Association is a professional association of about 10,000 physicians, medical students, residents, and fellows.