



MSTS Newsletter

Volume 31, Spring 2023

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President’s Report – Michelle Ghert, MD, FRCSC



Michelle Ghert, MD, FRCSC

On behalf of the MSTS Executive Committee, I am delighted and privileged to share a behind-the-scenes update of our tireless efforts to provide the

greatest possible benefit for our Membership.

First, congratulations to Drs. Tessa Balach and Michael Mott and their team for organizing a fantastic meeting in Clearwater Florida! We all relished the Florida sunshine in December, and enjoyed, for the first time in three years, a fully in-person event. Kudos also to Dr. Santiago Lozano-Calderon and his team for putting together an extraordinarily educational experience at Specialty Day in Las Vegas. These were special meetings, not only because of their highly educational value, but because they provided ‘that special something’ of personal connection that was missing from our lives in 2020 and 2021.

We have a new look: The new MSTS logo has been adapted to a scalable version. In addition, we are working with Just Cause

Apparel to refine the logo for embroidery onto SWAG! We are planning to have the new fashion line available for release by the Annual Meeting in October. Thank you to Dr. Scott Porter and his team for assisting in this top-of-the-line apparel re-branding opportunity for MSTS.

We have an updated Strategic Plan: The MSTS Strategic Plan, and its four pillars of Membership, Education, Research and Advocacy, was updated just prior to the Annual Meeting in Clearwater and is now available to view on the MSTS website. We are committed to following the Strategic Plan and to using it as a touchstone at all Executive Committee Meetings. We would be happy to hear your feedback on the Strategic Plan at any time.

We own Metastatic Bone Disease: Dr. Felafsa Wodajo is leading the Metastatic Bone Disease Task Force, which has completed its preliminary report. The final report, in the form of a road map for our Society, will be available for the Membership by the Annual Meeting in October. Thank you to the volunteers on this critical Task Force, and for Dr. Wodajo’s leadership.

We are improving access to information. Dr. Tae Kim and the Communications Committee are in the process of migrating

the MSTS website to MemberClicks, which will be more user friendly and interactive. In addition, the minutes of the monthly Executive Committee Meeting are now available online to ensure transparency to our Membership.

We are a research powerhouse: MSTS members have led and continue to lead extraordinary research initiatives. These include the PARITY trial, the SAFETY trial (www.SAFETYrct.com), the MSTS/AAOS Registry, the raising of over \$700,000 of grassroots research funding through Sarcoma Strong – thank you Dr. Matt DiCaprio, and funding for metastatic bone disease through the AAOS – thank you Dr. Kurt Weiss. We continue to move onwards and upwards in research in our field, ensuring that we will have a positive impact on the care of our patients for many years to come.

We are going to Canada: Our Annual Meeting will be held in Canada for the first time in over 20 years! The Meeting will be held at the majestic Fairmont Banff Springs Hotel in Banff, Alberta, October 4-6, 2023. Banff is the Canadian crown jewel, and the ethereal beauty of the Canadian Rocky Mountains should be seen at least once in one’s lifetime. Meeting Chairs Drs. Jay Wunder and Peter Ferguson, are organizing

Continued on page 2

an exciting meeting with extended timelines compared to previous years. We will have an opening ceremony on the Wednesday evening, with a Canadian cultural guest speaker, Adam Shoalts (www.adamshoalts.com), a modern-day Indiana Jones. The meeting will have two full days of programming, including Dr. Gordon Guyatt as Presidential Speaker. Dr. Guyatt coined the term 'Evidence-Based Medicine' in 1990, and his impact on each and every field in Medicine is immeasurable. Finally, Melinda Ferguson is organizing a jam-packed social program including an MSTs Fun Run and a Western style BBQ and line dancing on Thursday evening.

We are going paperless: For the first time ever, our Annual Meeting will be fully paperless. We will be using an app for the meeting and will provide download details as soon as they are available. The app has a wide array of phenomenal interactive and informative features that will help us connect intellectually and socially. Posters will also be presented electronically on large electronic display boards, so no more printing, rolling up, and carrying your poster on the plane! Stay tuned for more updates on the paperless Annual Meeting.

We have dedicated organizational support: Thank you to Kerri Mink and Deborah Meyer, who transitioned with us from the AAOS and are preparing to focus solely on our Society. None of what we do could happen without you! Also, thanks to Cat

Radosta for all her contributions this past year.

Finally, I would like to acknowledge and thank all of our recent and current Committee Chairs Matt DiCaprio – Membership Chair, Wakenda Tyler – Education Chair, Kurt Weiss – Research Chair, Adam Levin – Practice Management Chair, Raffi Avedian – Fellowship Chair, Tae Kim, Communications and Technology Chair, Nick Tedesco – Guidelines and Evidence Based Medicine Chair, Felafsa Wodajo, Metastatic Task Force Chair and their committee teams, as well as the volunteers on the Executive Committee, including the Presidential Line: Ben Miller, Rajiv Rajani, Francis Lee, Mike Mott, and Members-at-Large: David Greenberg and Melissa Zimel. We are all busy being orthopaedic oncologists, and your voluntary commitment to our Society is the reason we continue to grow and flourish. **Thank you!!!**

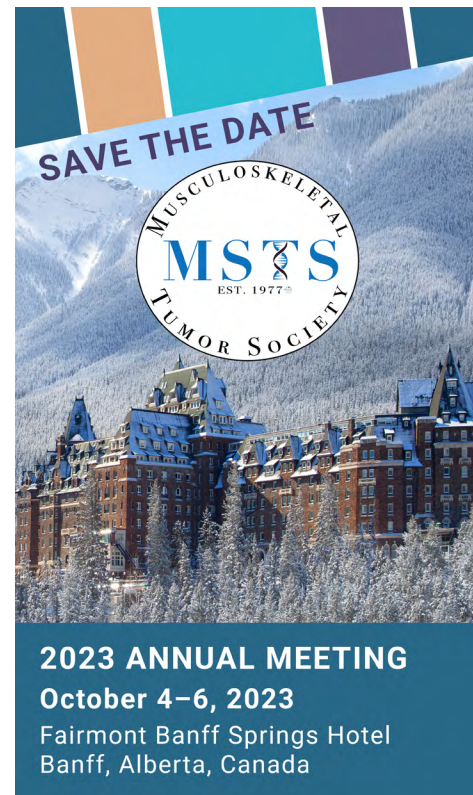
I continue to marvel at the opportunity I have been given to serve you as President. I would very much like to hear your thoughts and ideas. Please sign up for **Happy Hour with the President**, available every other Monday evening, through the following link: <https://outlook.office365.com/owa/calendar/HappyHour@msts.org/bookings/>. Bring the refreshment of your choice!

See you in Banff!
Michelle Ghert MD, FRCSC

Save the Date

MSTS is pleased to announce the date and location of our 2023 Annual Meeting! This meeting will take place October 4th through 6th at the Fairmont Banff Springs in Alberta, Canada.

Our preliminary agenda should be available soon – thank you to all that submitted abstracts! Please watch for future communications for more information. We look forward to seeing you in Banff!



SAVE THE DATE

MUSCULOSKELETAL
MSTS
EST. 1977
TUMOR SOCIETY

2023 ANNUAL MEETING
October 4-6, 2023
Fairmont Banff Springs Hotel
Banff, Alberta, Canada



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Specialty Day 2023 – by Santiago A. Lozano Calderón, MD, PhD

Specialty Day took place on March 11th in Las Vegas, Nevada during this past AAOS Annual Meeting. I want to especially thank Dr. Lukas Nystrom and Dr. Panos Papagelopoulos for all their help and hard work during the planning and execution of this activity. To all the presenters and moderators a huge thank you for their exceptional and outstanding presentations and for their generosity with their time and knowledge. To all the membership that participated a heartfelt thank you. Despite being the last day of a long conference week, we had 156 participants. Your feedback was very well received and we, as a committee, appreciate the very high rankings and participation that the Specialty Day 2023 received. We cordially

invite you to mark in your calendar Specialty Day 2024 in San Francisco, California which is taking place on Friday, February 16, 2024.

I could not finish without thanking the members of the Executive Committee for all their guidance, support and feedback and without thanking Deborah Meyer and Kerri Mink for their invaluable help and support behind the scenes.



MUSCULOSKELETAL
TUMOR SOCIETY
SPECIALTY DAY MEETING
MARCH 11, 2023



Musculoskeletal Tumor Registry Update – by Benjamin J. Miller, MD, MS

The Musculoskeletal Tumor Registry (MsTR) has now contracted with 28 institutions. We have completed the first stage of registry development and 5 institutions are in production and submitting data. We are still working to finalize a sustainable plan for easy incorporation of the registry structure into institutional EMRs and dissemination of smartforms to all the contracted centers. This has been a longer process than intended but there has been steady progress in our collaboration with Epic. For those of you waiting – we appreciate your patience and are as anxious as you are to get moving!

Among our many goals for the year, perhaps the most critical is a data audit and review for accuracy and completeness, led by Data Elements Subcommittee Chair Nate Mesko with help from Megan Anderson, Meredith Bartelstein (new Steering Committee Member), and Joe Schwab. Adam Levin leads the Publications Subcommittee and, with assistance from George Calvert, Shalin Patel (new Steering Committee Member), and Kristy Weber, will be working on submitting abstracts, creating guidelines for authorship of publications originating from the MsTR, and envisioning a process

for reviewing and approving project proposals. Eric Henderson has created a multi-institutional and multi-disciplinary team with goals to submit a large grant proposal to create a patient-reported outcome instrument and performance measures for those treated for lower extremity bone sarcomas with limb salvage or amputation using the MsTR structure and function.

As always, we encourage all interested surgeons or institutions to join the effort! If any further questions or if you are considering joining the MsTR, please reach out to me or another Steering Committee Member, or explore <https://www.aaos.org/registries/> for additional information and contacts for you and your institutional support team

Survey Follow Up

A recent study from M.D. Anderson evaluated the variability in the management of isolated lymph node metastasis in extremity and truncal soft tissue sarcoma. A survey was conducted of our membership as well as that of the Society of Surgical Oncology regarding approaches to hypothetical soft tissue sarcoma clinical scenarios that involved potential or actual (clinically evident) lymph node metastasis. With responses from 73 orthopedic surgeons and 141 surgical oncologists, the study found little to no consensus in management approaches, regardless of training background. Orthopedic oncologists were more likely to offer targeted lymph node excision with adjuvant radiation and surgical oncologists were more likely to offer lymphadenectomy for confirmed nodal disease in clear cell and epithelioid histologies. The data highlights the need for evidence or consensus-based guidelines for the management of soft tissue sarcoma with regional nodal disease.

“There is immense power when a group of people with similar interests gets together to work toward the same goals.”– Idowu Koyenikan

Sarcoma Strong expanded fundraising efforts in 2023 with the addition of an Annual Dinner Gala. Our Inaugural event took place on February 25th at the Edison Downtown in Schenectady, New York. We had a sold-out venue with 250 guests. We highlighted, celebrated and honored our sarcoma warriors, their treatment and support teams, and the philanthropy of our generous community members. We inspired our community, learned the challenges of hosting such an event, and raised close to ~\$35,000 to fund sarcoma research.



With our continued growth and multiple revenue streams; the annual global run/walk event, the gala, and our merchandising shop we have started the process to fully incorporate Sarcoma Strong and obtain our own 501c3 status with the IRS. This will assist with the transparency of the expenses for each event and the revenue generated for sarcoma research.



Congratulations to this year’s Sarcoma Strong research funding awardees announced at specialty day in Las Vegas on March 11, 2023. Krista Goulding, MD from Mayo Clinic Arizona, received \$50,000 to study the feasibility of implementing individualized pre-habilitation for people scheduled for lower limb soft-



tissue sarcoma surgery. Anthony Bozzo, MD from MSKCC, was awarded \$25,000 to develop a multi-input convolutional neural network to predict outcomes in soft tissue sarcoma. Josh Lawrence, MD from Vanderbilt, was awarded \$25,000 to assess the utility of MRI radiomics and machine learning in the diagnosis of musculoskeletal soft tissue malignancies. We look forward to their contributions to our understanding of sarcoma.

Working with Tae Won Kim and his team on the Communications Committee, our goal is to have a Sarcoma Strong research section visible on the MSTs website with regularly posted research funding announcements, a list of all grant recipients since 2017 when funding commenced, and research progress reports and literature produced through these funding efforts.



Our biggest event of the year is our 10th Annual Sarcoma Strong 5k Run/Walk. Each year our global outreach increases, and we are primed for continued growth this summer. In the Capital Region, we return to Saratoga Spa State Park to celebrate our 10-year anniversary for our in-person event. As of mid-April, we



*Raise Sarcoma Awareness
Advocate for Sarcoma Families
Raise funds for Research*

also have the following in-person sites for events:

Boston, Massachusetts led by Megan Anderson
Hamilton, Ontario led by Michelle Ghert
El Paso, Texas led by Rajiv Rajani
Pannasauken, NJ led by Christina Gutowski and Tae Won Kim
San Francisco, California led by Rosanna Wustrack and Melissa Zimel

Registration is open at: www.sarcomas-strong.com/run. Please share the link widely with your colleagues, staff, patients and contacts. Our fundraising goal for 2023 is \$150,000 and we hope to have our global participation exceed 2000 donors and participants. We are looking to increase the number of US institutions engaged with Sarcoma Strong activities to 20-25 sites. If you are interested in being more engaged or hosting a live or virtual event at your institution, please contact me by cell 518-378-6499 or dicaprm@amc.edu.

Another easy way to support our fundraising mission is to visit and share our merchandise shop at sarcomas-strong.com/shop and purchase some SarcomaStrong swag.

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Guidelines and Evidence Based Medicine Committee Update –

Nicholas Tedesco, DO, Chair

This has been a busy year for the Guidelines and Evidence-Based Medicine (GEBM) Committee! We have finally published the multidisciplinary, collaborative clinical practice guideline (CPG) on the management of metastatic disease and multiple myeloma of the femur. Please see our GEBM section of the MSTS website as well as the February 2023 issue of JAAOS for the full text.

Additionally, we have completed and finalized the MSTS-specific methodology we will be using for future CPG's by the GEBM committee. This took almost a year of diligent work with our committee and AAOS methodologists to ensure accurate, appropriate, transparent, and unbiased CPG's that will hopefully help bring clarity and consistency to our practices as well as drive future research by identifying significant gaps in the literature. The methodology includes a novel scoring rubric developed to help ensure accurate grading of the evidence in order to determine appropriate rationales for the individual PICO (*Patient Intervention*

Comparison Outcome) questions. It is also one of the few CPG methodologies out there that does not include "consensus" as a strength of recommendation. It was collectively felt by the committee that expert consensus defeats the purpose of an evidence-based literature review, and thus would be inappropriate in the high-stakes setting of caring for the complex oncologic patient. This is also published for full disclosure and transparency of the process in the GEBM section of the MSTS website.

The GEBM has also just completed the first ever all-MSTS CPG on management of metastatic humerus disease using and validating our novel methodology above. It was ratified and accepted by the executive committee in April of 2023, now with plans to submit to JAAOS for publication. Please be on the lookout for it in the coming months!

Finally, in order to serve the MSTS at large, we have developed a series of novel clinical practice assessments. These are

aimed at being an objective, evidence for vs. evidence against, literature review of new and emerging technologies. These are not meant to contain recommendations, but rather complete the assessment of the new technology to help you decide if it will or should change your practice or not. Because it will be early reviews of newer technology before a substantial amount of data exists, they will be sunset at 1 year when the next series of assessments will come out.

The GEBM Committee is here to serve the entire MSTS membership! If you have any ideas for clinical practice guidelines, appropriate use criteria, novel clinical practice assessments, or other quality improvement projects, please do not hesitate to reach out to myself or any GEBM committee members. Other current members include: Yee-Cheen Doung, Pietro Ruggieri, Matthew Colman, and Hennock Wolde-Semait.

Practice Management Committee – Adam Levin, MD, Chair

What a crazy ride it's been. As we prepare for the expiration of the declared Public Health Emergency for COVID-19 declaration, we've already incorporated telehealth services into many of our practices. Much of this was made possible by regulatory changes related to the PHE, so going forward please stay tuned for updates on these telemedicine service CPT codes and RUC valuations. Similarly, some states are adjusting their practices regarding interstate reciprocity, which may impact our ability to continue to perform telemedicine encounters across state lines.

Looking forward, the responses to the Practice Management Committee's survey to the MSTS membership related to coding was outstanding and very helpful in understanding our current and future needs. We are starting the process of exploring codes for open local adjuvant therapy (eg cryoablation). Many of the respondents expressed interest in assisting with

retrospective analyses of reimbursement patterns for musculoskeletal oncology procedures coded with a Modifier -22. An email was recently sent to those volunteers. This will be helpful to understand payor behavior better, as well as share best practices between institutions. Any others who may be interested are encouraged to reach out to me directly by email.

The Practice Management Committee is committed to understanding how our members are valued – by our patients, our healthcare centers, payors, and the community at large. Along this line, a grassroots group is interested in engaging members of our organization regarding advocacy related to rotationplasty – understanding of the procedure and its outcomes, patient support, P&O resources, and improving the overall patient experience. We are also keeping in contact with the Office of Government Relations at the AAOS about ways to advocate for our

patients' and members' interests. While we investigate various avenues to help clarify how we can be valuable to others, if you have additional thoughts and considerations as to where we can best provide value to our members, please contact me at any time at alevin25@jhmi.edu.

Many thanks to the volunteer members of the Practice Management Committee, and on their behalf I'd like to wish everyone a very happy and healthy spring.

2023 Dues Reminder

Have you paid your 2023 dues? Your 2023 membership dues have been sent from msts@memberclicks-mail.net. Simply click on the invoice link in the email to pay your dues! No login or password is required. If you have questions on your dues, please contact the MSTS Management Team at info@msts.org.

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Benjamin Miller, MD
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John Neilson, MD
Vincent Ng, MD
Lukas Nystrom, MD
Mary O'Connor, MD
Richard O'Donnell, MD
Rajiv Rajani, MD
Richard Terek, MD
William Ward, MD

*Donations to MSTs from 10-1-2022
thru 5-31-2023*

Membership Committee – Matthew R. DiCaprio, MD, Chair

Our membership remains strong with several new members being welcomed or changing membership status during our two application cycles each year. As reported at the Business meeting in Las Vegas, our member numbers by category are as follows:

| | |
|--------------------|-----------|
| Active Members: | 209 |
| Associate Members: | 18 |
| Affiliate Members: | 5 |
| Emeritus: | 34 |
| Candidate Members: | 92 |
| Resident Members: | <u>27</u> |
| Total Membership: | 385 |

We welcomed 15 new members and 7 members who changed membership categories at specialty day during the annual AAOS meeting. Congratulations to our new members who all had outstanding applications and will help advance the mission of our society with their contributions.

Active Members

Alexander Bryant Christ, MD
John Groundland, MD
Richard (Trey) William Gurich, Jr, MD

Associate Member

Oleg Vyryva, MD – *new member*

Candidate Members

Ashley Bee Anderson, MD
Anthony Bozzo, MD – *new member*
Zachary Burke, MD
Victoria I. Clark, MD – *new member*
Joseph Keith Kendal MD, MSC, FRCSC – *new member*
Grant McChesney, MD – *new member*
Gavin Mills, MD – *new member*
Julia Quirion, MD – *new member*
Devon Tobey, MD – *new member*
Patrick Qi Wang, MD – *new member*
Shawna Watson, MD – *new member*
Babe Westlake, MD

Resident Members

Alyssa Cook, MD – *new member*
Alana Munger, MD – *new member*
Spencer Richardson, MD – *new member*
Paul Anthony Rizk, MD – *new member*
Morgan H. Whitmore, MD – *new member*

There are two areas we are focused on regarding member categories. Although we are first and foremost an orthopaedic surgical society, we would benefit from having other members of our multi-disciplinary teams present at our meetings. Please consider inviting a colleague to an upcoming meeting to expose them to the benefits of our

society. Who knows they may even consider membership within our society which would help increase our diversity of thought and experiences.

The second area that remains a challenge for the membership committee is Candidate members whose membership expires without submitting an application to transition to an Active member. The Candidate category has a time limit of 7 years, to allow members to complete fellowship, start their practice, become ABOS board certified, and to become AAOS fellows. Once those have been obtained it is best for the Candidate member to update their membership category to Active.

Our next **membership application deadline is September 7th, 2023**. Please review your member status and update if needed and help our member diversity by bringing a colleague to Banff in October!

Click on link to apply or update membership: <http://msts.org/index.php/membership/become-a-member>

For any questions pertaining to membership please feel free to contact me at dicaprm@amc.edu.

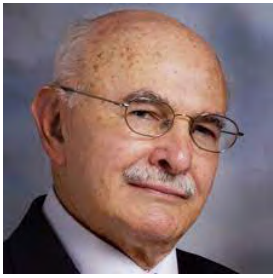


Delivering Comprehensive Solutions for Significant Bone Loss



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In Remembrance



Norman Jaffe, MD (1933-2022), one of our founding members of MSTs passed this past Fall. Although not an orthopaedic surgeon himself, Norman Jaffe was deeply involved in the MSTs. Jaffe, in his mid-80s, attended almost all MSTs annual meetings, and he was present at the 2019 meeting in New York City. As a pediatric oncologist himself, Jaffe reached important milestones in treating osteosarcoma among children.

After chemotherapy became commonplace in the late 1970s, pediatric oncologists, like Norman Jaffe, became gateways for referrals to orthopaedic oncologists. Nevertheless, many clinicians at that time were skeptical of Jaffe's interventions in chemotherapy. After the 1976 death of Sidney Farber, a pioneering figure in chemotherapy and an institutional leader at the Boston Children's Hospital, Jaffe moved to the MD Anderson Cancer Center in Houston, where he established a highly successful career before retiring in 2006. Although Jaffe himself is not an orthopaedic surgeon, Jaffe's legacy in the field of orthopaedic oncology cannot be underestimated – he pioneered the multi-disciplinary care regime for bone sarcomas in children, regularly contributed to MSTs meetings, and gave a founder's lecture for the MSTs. He will be remembered and missed.



James O. Johnston, MD (1931-2023), a distinguished surgeon and educator, passed away peacefully at the age of 92 at his home in Hawaii. Dr. Johnston was born in Detroit, Michigan, and earned his B.S. in Chemistry from Albion College before going to medical school and doing his residency at the University of Michigan. His first post-training positions were serving in the United States Navy at Oak Knoll Naval Hospital and working at Highland Hospital in Oakland. He then joined Kaiser Permanente Oakland, serving as Chief of Orthopedics for twenty-six years. He helped shape Orthopedics in the San Francisco Bay Area by taking roles in administration and education at Kaiser Permanente, the University of California San Francisco (UCSF), St. Mary's Hospital, and Highland Hospital. He was a pioneer in the field of Orthopedic Oncology and developed numerous foundational innovations and techniques.

Dr. Johnston's expertise was evident in his numerous academic and organizational accolades. He published dozens of papers and chapters across a spectrum of Orthopedic Oncology topics and was an expert in bone and soft tissue tumors, pelvic reconstruction, and limb salvage techniques. He was a sought-after speaker and visiting professor in Orthopedics, Radiology, and Pathology.

As an active member of various professional organizations, including the American Orthopaedic Association, the Musculoskeletal Tumor Society, International Skeletal Society, and the International Society of Limb Salvage, he consulted with physicians and patients worldwide. Following his long career at Kaiser Permanente, Dr. Johnston would transition to UCSF, where he held esteemed positions, including Professor Emeritus. He leaves behind generations of residents who have benefited from his academic and clinical training.

Education was Dr. Johnston's passion, and he was honored with multiple teaching awards from faculty and residents from institutions worldwide. He was also honored with the American Orthopaedic Association 2014 Distinguished Clinician Educator Award. The annually awarded UCSF and Kaiser James O. Johnston teaching awards, as well as Kaiser's JOJ Orthopedic Symposium, demonstrate his continued impact on teaching, research, and clinical excellence.

Dr. Johnston and his wife MaryBee were staunch and generous supporters of UCSF Orthopedics and established the James O. Johnston Endowed Chair for Education. A strong proponent of immunotherapy for treating cancer, they have also established a foundation to support and advance this research.

Dr. James O. Johnston leaves behind a legacy of excellence in orthopedic education, research, and practice. His passion for teaching and commitment to his profession will be deeply missed by his colleagues, students, and patients.

Practice Management Committee, cont'd from pg. 6

recently sent to those volunteers. This will be helpful to understand payor behavior better, as well as share best practices between institutions. Any others who may be interested are encouraged to reach out to me directly by email.

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Many thanks to the volunteer members of the Practice Management Committee, and on their behalf I'd like to wish everyone a very happy and healthy spring.

MSTS 2022 ANNUAL MEETING ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

THANK YOU

The Musculoskeletal Tumor Society extends sincere appreciation to the following exhibitors for their generous support of the MSTS 2022 Annual Meeting.



DIAMOND EXHIBITORS



Medtronic



BRONZE EXHIBITORS

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Biocomposites
BoneSupport, Inc.
Carbofix Orthopedics, Inc

Deciphera Pharmaceuticals
IlluminOss Medical
Implantcast North America
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MTF Biologics
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