

AAO-HNS/F 2017 Leadership Forum & BOG Spring Meeting Re-Cap – Otolaryngologists Unite in Alexandria, VA!

The AAO-HNS/F 2017 Leadership Forum & BOG Spring Meeting held March 10-13 in Alexandria, Virginia, was a great success due to the 200+ dedicated Academy members who took time out of their demanding schedules to participate.

The event included a weekend of leadership discussions, Board of Governors (BOG) meetings, informative keynote speakers, advocacy updates, and mentoring/networking opportunities. The AAO-HNSF designated a maximum of 5.75 AMA PRA Category 1 Credit(s)[™] for sessions at the meeting. The conference, one of many AAO-HNS benefits, allowed Academy members the opportunity to engage in peer-to-peer interaction with specialty and state society leaders.

The BOG Spring Meeting commenced on Friday, March 10, with an inaugural State OTO Society Roundtable. The Roundtable gave society leaders, Executive Directors, and Society Administrators a chance to network, share best practices, and improve collaboration between different states and regions. Following the Roundtable event, attendees had the chance to socialize with their colleagues during a welcome reception which included medical-based exhibitors.

Saturday and Sunday schedules consisted of practice-based sessions, professional/leadership development, advocacy updates, AAO-HNS Section meetings, and BOG-related committee business. Sunday afternoon offered the BOG General Assembly & AAO-HNS/F President-Elect Candidates Forum. During the Forum, Albert L. Merati, MD, and Eben L. Rosenthal, MD, detailed their vision for the future of the specialty and responded to questions from the meeting attendees.

On Monday, AAO-HNS leaders representing the Board of Directors, Board of Governors, ENT PAC, the Section for Residents & Fellows-in-Training, the Young Physicians Section, and the Women in Otolaryngology Section met with Congressional staff and legislators on Capitol Hill concerning issues impacting the specialty. Topics discussed included repeal of the Affordable Care Act, reauthorization of the Early Hearing Detection and Intervention (EHDI) program, scope of practice issues, and proposals permitting over-the-counter access to “basic” hearing aids for mild-to-moderate hearing loss.

Many presentations offered at the meeting, including a set of slides that recap the BOG Spring Meeting, can be accessed on the [AAO-HNS ENTConnect site under the BOG Community](#) (AAO-HNS log-in required).

Looking forward to next year’s meeting? Mark your calendars for the AAO-HNS/F 2018 Leadership Forum & BOG Spring Meeting, March 9-12, at the Westin Alexandria Hotel!

For questions, please contact BOG@entnet.org.