



NCOPE Annual Report

2021

Improving Lives and Strengthening the Profession Through Education

Chairman's Message



To the Orthotics & Prosthetics Community,

On behalf of the National Commission on Orthotics and Prosthetics Education (NCOPE), I hope all is well with our family and friends in the profession. This letter serves as a preview of the annual report reviewing the past year and outlining future projects in accordance with the mission statement and established goals.

We know that 2020 was challenging in many ways however, 2021 proved to be just as challenging with virtual meetings and humanity still looking to get a grasp on a global pandemic. Last year ended with a return to live meetings at the regional and national levels and we can only hope this trend continues in future years. The school programs for training in the profession returned to on-campus learning and continue to grow as we speak.

The NCOPE mission, 'Improving lives and strengthening the profession through education' continues to gain strength as we welcome new programs into the education arena. Bluegrass Community College has just started a new technician program while Oakland University in Michigan has applied to become the first Practitioner Assistant program in the United States. The upcoming year should be the start of three new practitioner programs: Eastern Tennessee State, Salus University, and Midwestern University. It is very exciting to see the expansion of education to the profession, as this opens doors to a larger audience.

NCOPE, in keeping to one of our stated goals, has expanded its efforts to educate the profession on diversity and inclusion by designing workshops hosted at the AOPA National Assembly in Boston last fall and AAOP National Conference in Atlanta this past spring. Both workshops were very well attended. NCOPE is also working with sister organizations to increase awareness of the Orthotics & Prosthetics profession in hopes of attracting a wider group of interested students from all communities. NCOPE has awarded the Larry Lange Scholarship on an annual basis and now, I am proud to say NCOPE has added an NCOPE diversity award to expand the scholarship opportunities to minority students.

NCOPE formed a new Data Management and Analytic committee and the goal is to address the collection, procurement, processing, analysis, reporting, and sharing of O&P data collected by NCOPE. The Committee on Data Management and Analytics is dedicated to addressing issues related to knowledge, expertise, resources, and tools that may be needed for the O&P profession, O&P organizations, CAAHEP programs and NCOPE residency programs.

The financial health of NCOPE is still performing well throughout the challenges of the market fluctuations, the reduction of many expenses and a very talented financial advisor. I am proud to say that NCOPE was able to weather the storm and maintain a healthy balance sheet throughout all the challenges of the past two years.

As we look to the future, NCOPE is planning an education summit in 2023. A previous similar meeting was held in 2015 and the pandemic delayed planning for a future meeting. NCOPE will host experts from various O&P organizations along with representatives of the orthotic and prosthetic schools. The goal is to evaluate the current state of education and the profession and determine a pathway for the next ten years. NCOPE is constantly pursuing educational excellence for students, residents, and all levels of orthotic and prosthetic education.

In closing, this is my last annual report letter as Chair of NCOPE and words can never express my gratitude working with this organization. I really do not think most people understand the amount of work necessary to maintain the level of excellence that NCOPE maintains. Many individuals are responsible for NCOPE's success, including the leadership of executive director Robin Seabrook. Please take a moment to read the annual report and appreciate the work required to meet the mission and goals of this organization. It has been my honor to serve, and I thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Tom Karolewski".

Thomas P. Karolewski, CP/L, FAAOP
Chair

Accreditation at a Glance 2021

During 2021, NCOPE performed accreditation and approval services for the following programs and CAAHEP activities.

Education Programs

Orthotist/Prosthetist Level

California State University

Granted extension of submission of self-study till 2021 for *continued* accreditation. Virtual Site Visit in 2022.

Loma Linda University

Reviewed and approved additional pathway. April 2021. Comprehensive review due in 2022 for both pathways.

Northwestern University

Submission of self-study for *continued* accreditation. Virtual Site Visit September 2021. *Awarded continued accreditation* CAAHEP. November 2021.

University of Hartford

Submission of self-study for *continued* accreditation. Virtual Site Visit May 2021. *Awarded continued accreditation* CAAHEP. July 2021.

University of Pittsburgh

Submission of self-study for *continued* accreditation. Virtual Site Visit December 2021.

Assistant Level

Oakland University

Request for Accreditation Services
Submission of self-study for candidacy recognition. Program Director hired July 2021.

Pedorthic Level

Academy of Pedorthic Science/Kennesaw State University

Request for Accreditation Services for *initial accreditation*. February 2021.
Program *on hold* at end of 2021 due to replacing program director.

Francis Tuttle Technology

Request for Accreditation Services. Submission of self-study for initial accreditation. July 2021.
Virtual Site Visit November 2021.

St. Petersburg College

Notification of not pursuing CAAHEP Accreditation and no longer taking cohort.
November 2021.

Technician Level

Blue Grass Community College

Request for Accreditation Services. Submission of self-study for candidacy recognition. Program Director hired July 2021.

Joliet Junior College

Submission of self-study for *continued* accreditation.
Virtual Visit to occur in 2022.

Spokane Falls Community College

Submission of self-study for *continued* accreditation.
Virtual Visit to occur in 2022.

St. Petersburg College

Submission of self-study for *continued* accreditation.
Virtual Visit September 2021.
Awarded continued accreditation CAAHEP November 2021.



Picture Courtesy University of Washington



Picture Courtesy Bluegrass Community & Technical College

Summary of 2021 Activities of NCOPE

Highlights of several accomplishments and activities this past year include:

- ❖ Recognition of NCOPE's 30th Anniversary in Fall 2021
- ❖ Creation of a Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Committee (DEI). The committee developed a two-hour workshop, titled "Dynamic Exploration of the Impact of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion in the Prosthetics and Orthotics Profession.". The presentation was given in Boston during the AOPA National Assembly.
- ❖ Review and edits to NCOPE's Bylaws and Policy Manual.
- ❖ Made enhancements to NCOPE Tracker including a resident dashboard, allowing residents to see missing data points from patient encounters.
- ❖ Coordinated accreditation activities for submission/review of self-studies and held Virtual Site Visits for three academic programs.
- ❖ Prepared and submitted accreditation renewal for the US Pathway for orthotist/prosthetist level to the International Society of Prosthetist and Orthotists (ISPO).
- ❖ Hosted an audit team from ISPO to review a representative master's program (Alabama State University), two residency programs and observation of the ABC examination.
- ❖ Participated in the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (CAAHEP) annual meeting in April and workshop in July, both virtually.
- ❖ Held two Board of Directors meeting and monthly executive committee conference calls. The first face to face meeting since the Pandemic was held in September 2021 with the March meeting held virtually
- ❖ Hosted a virtual recruitment fair for perspective residents and students seeking positions. It was renamed in 2021 to the O&P Residency Expo.
- ❖ Participated with 22 health professions in promoting a career in health to perspective students. This was NCOPE's fifth year participating in Health Professions Week.
- ❖ Started work and review on changes to the Residency Standards.



1991 – 2015



2016 - Present

Residency Accreditation Report

During 2021, NCOPE performed the following accreditation services:

Residency Sites Information:

Reviewed and accredited: 172 patient care facilities for Residency Programs

Number of accredited programs: 455

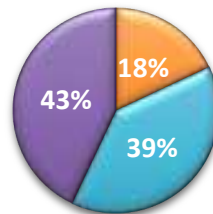
Resident Information Data:

Completed residency in 2021: 331 residents completed in 2021

Program Type:
61 -- O&P dual residency program
129 -- Orthotics residency program
141 -- Prosthetics residency program

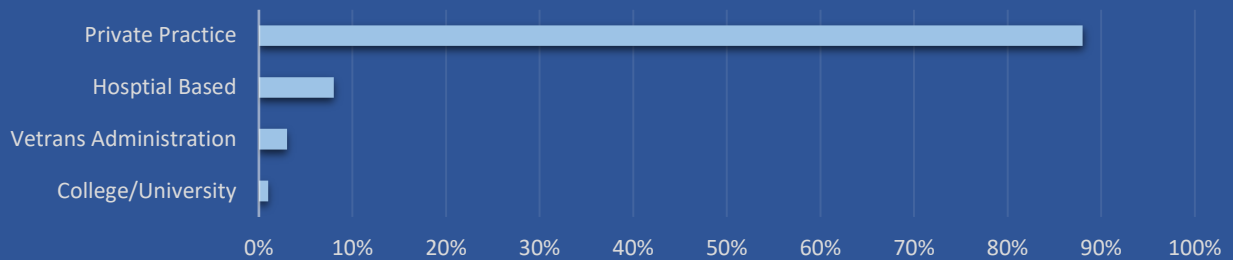
Program Track:
288 Clinical Track
43 Research Development Track

Program Type Attended in 2021



O&P Dual Orthotics Prosthetics

Organizational Type





Picture Courtesy University of Pittsburgh



Picture Courtesy Century College

2021 Accredited Educational Programs Listing

Orthotist/Prosthetist Level Programs (CAAHEP Accredited)

Masters = 13

Alabama State University
California State University
Concordia University/Century College
Baylor College of Medicine
Eastern Michigan University
Kennesaw State University
Loma Linda University
Northwestern University
Florida International University/International Institute of Orthotics & Prosthetics
University of Hartford
University of Pittsburgh
University of Texas - Southwestern
University of Washington

Technician Level Programs (CAAHEP Accredited)

Associate Degree/Certificate = 5

Century College
Francis Tuttle Technology Center
Joliet Junior College
Spokane Falls Community College
St. Petersburg College



Picture Courtesy Century College

Pedorthic Education Courses (NCOPE Accredited)

Pedorthic Courses = 3

Academy of Pedorthic Science/Kennesaw State University
Francis Tuttle Technology Center
St. Petersburg College



Picture Courtesy Northwestern University



Picture Courtesy Northwestern University

National Commission on Orthotic and Prosthetic Education
Statement of Financial Position
December 31, 2021 and 2020

	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>
ASSETS		
Current Assets:		
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$1,011,566	\$667,122
Certificate of Deposit	-	-
Investments	2,139,684	1,919,199
Accounts Receivable	2,400	-
Prepaid Expenses	<u>7,903</u>	<u>5,080</u>
Total Current Assets	\$3,161,553	\$2,591,401
Fixed Assets:		
Fixes Assets - Net	<u>1,886</u>	<u>6,498</u>
Other Assets:		
Deposits	<u>1,700</u>	<u>1,700</u>
Total Assets	<u>\$3,165,139</u>	<u>\$2,599,599</u>
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS		
Current Liabilities:		
Accounts Payable	\$ 8,983	\$ 5,365
Accrued Leave & Salary	29,818	28,328
Due to Affiliate	90,101	100,166
Deferred Revenues (including long-term)	<u>472,250</u>	<u>464,150</u>
Total Liabilities	<u>\$601,152</u>	<u>\$598,009</u>
Net Assets:		
Unrestricted	\$2,559,987	\$1,997,590
Restrictions	<u>4,000</u>	<u>4,000</u>
Total Net Assets	<u>\$2,563,987</u>	<u>\$2,001,590</u>
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	<u>\$3,165,139</u>	<u>\$2,599,599</u>

National Commission on Orthotic and Prosthetic Education
Statement of Activities
Years Ended December 31, 2021 and 2020

	2021	2020
Revenues and Other Support:		
Contributions	\$ 30,023	\$ 34,027
Program Fees:		
Residency Fees	800,274	910,610
Application Fees	107,775	95,775
School Accreditation Fees	34,200	36,600
Other Program Fees	18,441	20,440
Interest and Dividends	30,181	41,675
Realized Gain/(Loss) on Investments	24,524	3,033
Unrealized Gain/(Loss) on Investments	93,234	209,686
Net Assets Released from Restrictions		
Satisfaction of Program Restrictions	26,000	34,000
Temporarily Restricted	(26,000)	(34,000)
 Total Revenues and Other Support	 \$1,138,652	 \$1,351,846
 Expenses:		
Residency Accreditation	\$513,478	\$538,836
Primary Accreditation	265,721	370,599
Governance - Administration	85,286	88,725
Fund Raising	4,632	4,619
 Total Expenses	 \$ 869,117	 \$1,002,779
Changes in Net Assets	\$269,535	\$349,067
Net Assets, Beginning of Year	\$1,732,055	\$1,382,988
 Net Assets, End of Year	 \$2,001,590	 \$1,732,055

2021 Officers and Board of Directors

Officers

Thomas Karolewski, CP/L, FAAOP
Chair

Mark Clary, CPO, FAAOP
Treasurer

Susan Ewers Spaulding, M.S., CPO
Vice-Chair

Michael P. Madden, CPO, LPO, FAAOP
Secretary

Directors

Wendy Beattie, CPO, FAAOP
Jonas Ljung, MSPO, CPO
Erin Ruxton, CPO, LPO
Sheryl Sachs, MSPO, CPO
Edward Strachan, CPO

June McKoy, MD, MPH, JD, MBA, *Public Member*
Marilys G. Randolph, PhD, PT, *Public Member*
Robin C. Seabrook, *Executive Director*

NCOPE Staff

Robin C. Seabrook, *Executive Director*
Chris Robinson, MS, MBA, CPO, ATC, FAAOP(D), *Clinical Resource Director*
Eric Watters, *Residency Program Coordinator & Accreditation Assistant*
Claire Doyle, *Residency Program Assistant*

Active Committee Roster for 2021

Governance

Bylaw & Policy Committee

Edward Strachan, CPO - *Chair*
Erin Ruxton, CPO
Michael Madden, CPO
Jonas Ljung, CPO
Marjorie Reif, M.Ed., PA-C, CMA
Robin Seabrook – *Staff Liaison*
Claire Doyle - *Staff Liaison*

Executive Committee

Thomas Karolewski, CP, FAAOP– *Chair*
Mark Clary, CPO, FAAOP
Susan E. Spaulding, MS, CPO
Michael Madden, CPO, LPO, FAAOP
Robin C. Seabrook – *Staff Liaison*

Finance Committee

Mark Clary, CPO, FAAOP - *Chair*
Thomas Karolewski, CP, FAAOP
June McKoy, MD, MPH, JD, MBA
Sue Spaulding, MS, CPO
Robin C. Seabrook – *Staff Liaison*

Residency Education

Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Committee

Marilys G. Randolph, PhD, PT, *Chair*
Stacey Brown, Resident
Sydney Ezell, CPO
June McKoy, MD, MPH, JD, MBA
Jonas Ljung, MSPO, CPO
Edward Strachan, CPO, *Board Liaison*
Chris Robinson, MS, MBA, CPO, ATC, FAAOP(D) - *Staff Liaison*
Robin Seabrook - *Staff Liaison*

Larry Lange Travel Fellowship Award Selection Committee

William Barringer, CO – *Chair*
Tyler Klenow, CPO, FAAOP
James Campbell, CO, FAAOP
Alyssa N. Perry, CPO
Catherine Carter, ABC Executive Director
Edward Strachan, CPO - *Board Liaison*
Robin Seabrook – *Staff Liaison*
Eric Watters – *Staff Liaison*



Picture Courtesy Loma Linda University

Residency Review Committee (RRC)

Charles W. Kuffel, MSM, CPO, FAAOP
Stephanie D. Langdon, CPO, FAAOP(D)
Thomas Karolewski, CP, FAAOP
Sheryl Sachs, CPO
Megan Christ, CPO
Claire Doyle – *Staff Liaison*
Robin Seabrook – *Staff Liaison*

Regional Residency Liaison (RRL)

Michael Carroll, CPO (Region 1)
Alex Shimkus, CPO (Region 2)
Kathleen Carroll, CO (Region 3)
Sarah Bui, CPO (Region 4)
Morgan Oxenrider, CPO (Region 5)
Sydney Ezell, CPO (Region 6)
Theresa Field, CPO (Region 7) – *Chair*
Rochelle Dumm, CPO (Region 8)
Robin Seabrook – *Staff Liaison*

Residency Standards Committee

Sheryl Sachs, MSPO, CPO - *Chair*
Mark Clary, CPO, FAAOP
Thomas Karolewski, CP/L, FAAOP
Megan Christ, CPO
Wendy Beattie, CPO, FAAOP
Edward Strachan, CPO
Chris Robinson, MS, MBA, CPO, ATC, FAAOP(D) - *Staff Liaison*
Robin Seabrook - *Staff Liaison*

Resident/Student Activities Committee

Jonas Ljung, CPO, *Chair*
Sheryl Sachs, CPO
Erin Ruxton, CPO
Nina Bondre, CPO – Project Manager
Shree Thaker– Communications Specialist
Robin Seabrook – *Staff Liaison*
Chris Robinson, MS, MBA, CPO, ATC, FAAOP(D) – *Staff Liaison*



Picture Courtesy Loma Linda University



Picture Courtesy University of Pittsburgh



Picture Courtesy International Institute in Orthotics & Prosthetics/Florida International University



Picture Courtesy International Institute in Orthotics & Prosthetics/Florida International University



Picture Courtesy University of Washington



Picture Courtesy Bluegrass Community & Technical College

**National Commission on Orthotic and Prosthetic
Education Mission**

***Improving Lives and Strengthening the Profession
Through Education***



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NCOPE.org

NCOPE is a nonprofit national organization that works in cooperation with the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Accreditation Programs (CAAHEP) in accreditation activities for educational programs for the orthotics and prosthetics profession. NCOPE also accredits residency programs.