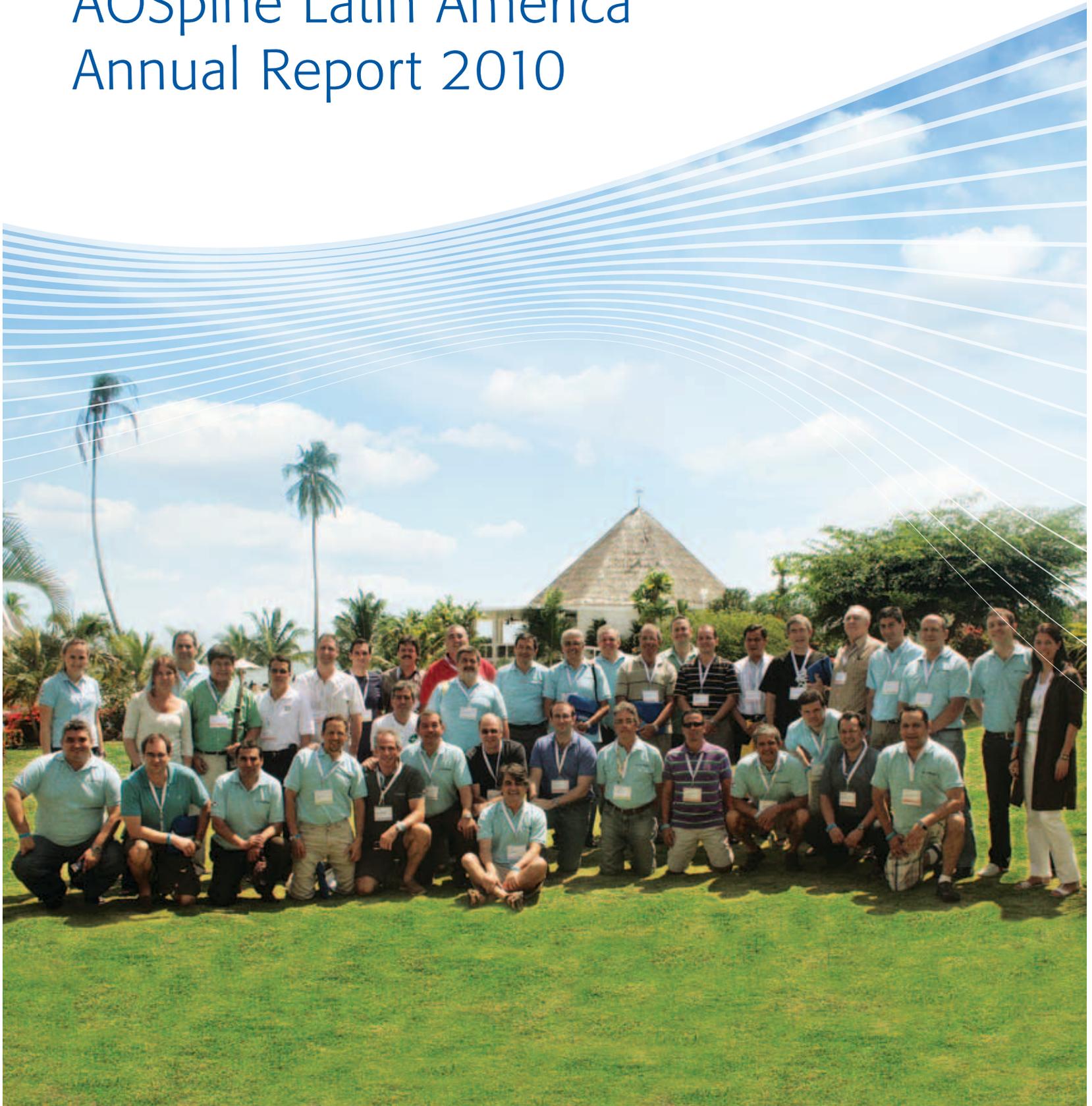


AOSpine Latin America Annual Report 2010



AOSpine Mission

Our purpose and responsibility is to shape our members skills and understanding of spine principles; to establish new values and incentives for the creation of knowledge, the sharing of wisdom, and the development of new tools and techniques that improve patient care, patient outcomes, and the cost effectiveness of spine surgery. [Excellence in Spine](#)

AOSpine Latin America Annual Report 2010

2010 was a remarkable year for AOSLA with the notable increase in Educational activities and the significant achievement of reaching our year-end goal of 1000 members in October.

Our success is based on a combination of understanding and respecting the region's diverse needs and cultures, and most importantly, working together as a team. By doing so, AOSLA was able to advance the AOSpine vision and mission of taking learning opportunities to spine surgeons within the region.

Through out the following pages you will find a detailed description of the activities realized during this year; we invite you to read and enjoy this report.

cover photo

Participants group at The Latin American Educational Meeting in Panama City, Panama – February, 2010

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Roberto Postigo



Chairperson's word

Dear friends:

We are at the end of the first decade of the 21st century, soon after AO has completed 50 years of life! Important data resulting from everybody's hard work and dedication helped AOSLA to reach the impressive mark of one thousand members.

Our former Chairman Dr. Marcelo Gruenberg gave us worldwide visibility by successfully heading innovative projects such as the virtual course under the direction of the tireless perfectionists Néstor Fiore and Germán Ochoa and their helpers, and many others, presented in this report. Among the 15 courses and 32 seminars, three courses were lab courses in anatomy, with cadavers and live surgery, 12 academic events and a great number of parallel activities produced in partnership with different regional specialized associations involved in the study of spine pathology.

Besides improving both our scientific knowledge and the care given to our patients, these achievements are important in disseminating innovation in a responsible and consistent way by means of supporting and encouraging research and ideas interchange over projects like the multi-centric global study in cervical myelopathy, the new proposals of classification and diagnosis of complex pathologies, the pioneer approach in priority setting in treating congenital and acquired changes of the craniocervical junction based on real cases and on the experience of our most well known members. This same team spirit is what has made possible another innovation among the many ones for the coming year that is the coming four-flag course directly involving four countries united by many geographic and scientific similarities that will join efforts to congregate people coming from Europe, Asia, North America and Middle East.

We are now increasingly more present in the continent with the imminent opening of new chapters in Bolivia and Uruguay (ongoing) for which we have to thank the entire board that measured no efforts in pursuing this goal, always counting on the professional and competent support from our regional office, today an example to all other regions.

Enjoy reading the achievements; they belong to us all.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Osmar Moraes'.

Osmar Moraes
Chairperson AOSpine Latin America



Estimados,

Chegamos ao final da primeira década do terceiro milênio após o aniversário de 50 anos da Fundação AO ! Números importantes que atingimos com o esforço e dedicação de todos que fazem a comunidade AOSLA, como a impressionante marca de 1000 membros.

Nosso Chairman anterior, Dr. Marcelo Gruenberg, nos colocou no cenário mundial ao liderar projetos inovadores de sucesso como os cursos virtuais dirigidos pelos incansáveis perfeccionistas Néstor Fiore e Germán Ochoa em conjunto com seus colaboradores, além de tantos outros que apresentamos neste reporte. Entre os 15 cursos e 32 seminários, 3 cursos foram em laboratórios de anatomia, cadavéricos, de cirurgia ao vivo, 12 eventos acadêmicos e o grande número de atividades em conjunto e co-produzidos com várias sociedades de especialidades que tratam das patologia de coluna vertebral em toda a nossa região.

São realizações em todos os seguimentos que visam melhorar o atendimento ao nosso paciente, melhorando nosso conhecimento científico, divulgando-o e produzindo inovações de forma responsável e consistente, através de apoio e incentivo a pesquisa local e aos intercâmbios. Participando de projetos globais como o estudo multicêntrico mundial de mielopatia cervical, ou liderando as novas propostas de classificação e diagnóstico de patologias complexas, como o pioneirismo de hierarquizar o tratamento das alterações congênitas e adquiridas da junção crânio-cervical, baseada em casos reais e a experiência de nossos mais ilustres membros. Este mesmo espírito de grupo que propicia mais uma inovação, entre tantas para o próximo ano, que será o curso de 4 bandeiras, envolvendo diretamente 4 países unidos por similaridade regional e científica, unindo esforços para congregar com representantes vindos da Europa, Ásia, América do Norte e Oriente Médio.

Estamos agora mais presentes no continente, com a fundação de novos capítulos na Bolívia e no Uruguai, em andamento, feitos que temos que agradecer ao esforço de todo o Board, por sua incansável atuação, sempre com o suporte profissional e competente de nosso escritório regional, hoje servindo de exemplo e modelo para todas as outras regiões.

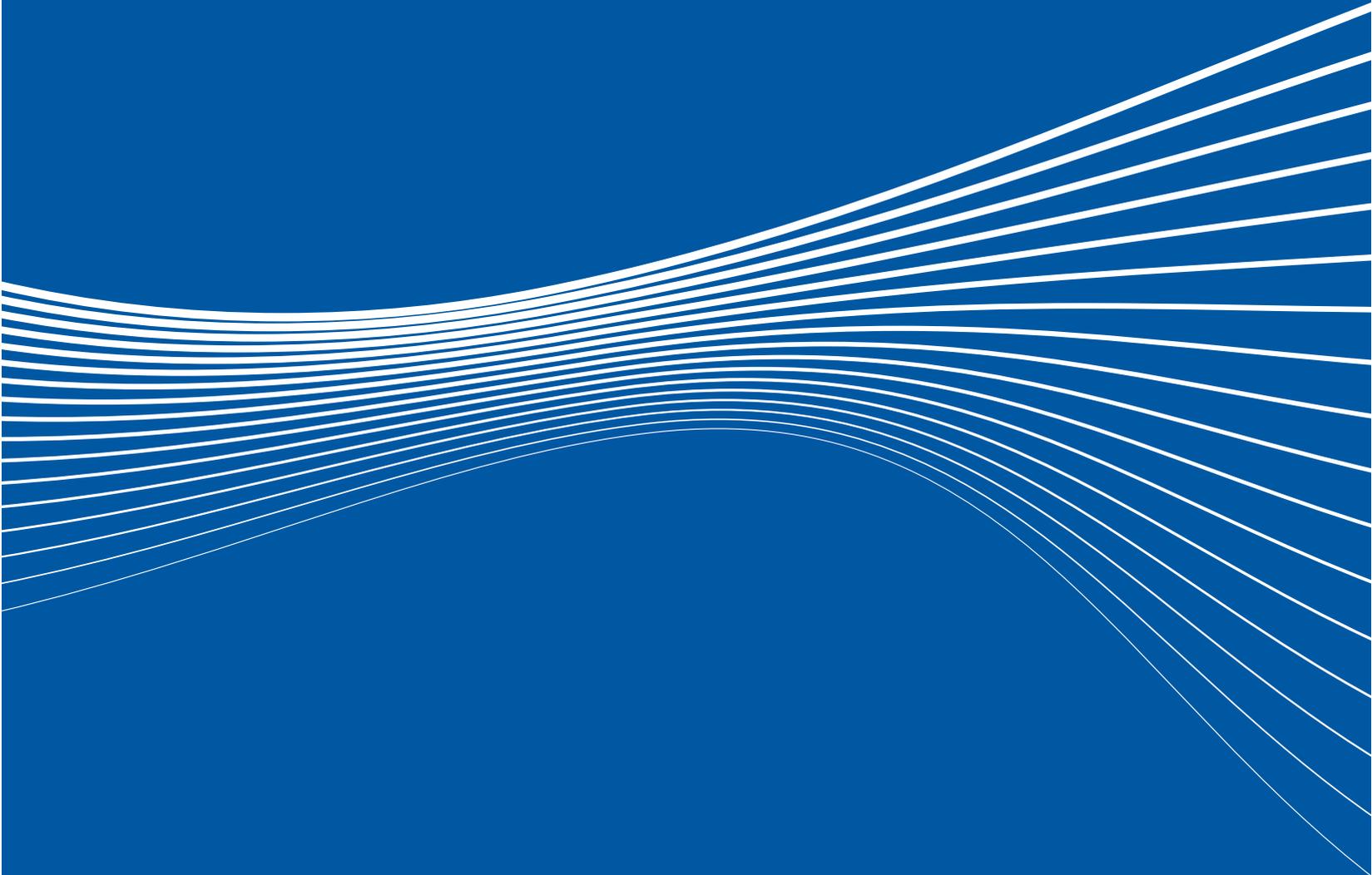
Apreciem a leitura dos feitos que são de todos nós,

Osmar Moraes
AOSPINE Latin America Chairperson

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Governance



Elections—the way we change

During the year a number of regional and local officers completed the third and final year of their elected term; thus creating the opportunity for other members to contribute to the organization.

In response, AOSLA ensured a smooth and democratic process by following the criteria and requirements detailed in AOSpine's Template of Governance to manage the election process. As a result, the following changes occurred:



Regional Board

Position	Name	Country	From	To
Chairperson	Osmar Moraes	Brazil	May 1, 2010	April 30, 2013
Education Ortho	Roberto Postigo	Chile	August 1, 2010	July 31, 2013
Community Development	Marcelo Valacco	Argentina	August 1, 2010	July 31, 2013
Spine Centers & Fellows	Andrés Rodríguez	Colombia	August 1, 2010	July 31, 2013

Country Councils

Panama	Position	Name	From	To
	Chairperson	Antonio Mock	July 1, 2010	June 30, 2013
	Education Ortho	Geovany Osigian	July 1, 2010	June 30, 2013
	Education Neuro	José Neira	July 1, 2010	June 30, 2013
	Community Development	Aldimarina López	July 1, 2010	June 30, 2013
	Research	Ricardo Mosquera	July 1, 2010	June 30, 2013

Bolivia	Position	Name	From	To
	Chairperson	Jaime Linares	September 1, 2010	August 30, 2013
	Education Ortho	Marcelo Sea	September 1, 2010	August 30, 2013
	Education Neuro	René Torrejón	September 1, 2010	August 30, 2013
	Community Development	Gueider Salas	September 1, 2010	August 30, 2013
	Research	Ramiro Villavicencio	September 1, 2010	August 30, 2013

Argentina	Position	Name	From	To
	Chairperson	Pedro Luis Bazán	November 1, 2010	October 31, 2013

Chile	Position	Name	From	To
	Education Ortho	Manuel Valencia	November 1, 2010	October 31, 2013
Mexico	Position	Name	From	To
	Chairperson	Martin Tejeda	November 10, 2010	November 9, 2013
Colombia	Position	Name	From	To
	Chairperson	Nestor Taboada	December 1, 2010	November 30, 2013

Boards

International Board

Board Member	Position	Country
Luiz Vialle	Chairperson	Brazil
Michael Janssen	Past Chairperson	USA
Jeffrey Wang	Education	USA
Keita Ito	Research	Netherlands
Karsten Wiechert	Community Development	Germany
Alain Baumann	Executive Director	France

Regional Board

Board Member	Position	Country
Osmar Moraes	Chairperson	Brazil
Marcelo Gruenberg	Past Chairperson	Argentina
Roberto Postigo	Education (Ortho)	Chile
Mario Taricco	Education (Neuro)	Brazil
Emiliano Vialle	Research	Brazil
Marcelo Valacco	Community Development	Argentina
Andres Rodriguez	Spine Centers & Fellowship	Colombia
Antonio Machado	Regional Director	Brazil

Country Councils and Delegates

Country Councils

Country	Chairperson	Education (Ortho)	Education (Neuro)	Community Development	Research
Argentina	Pedro Luis Bazán	on election	Juan Emmerich	Alejandro Morales	Osvaldo Romano
Bolivia	Jaime Linares	Marcelo Sea	René Torrejón	Gueider Salas	Ramiro Villavicencio
Brazil	Geraldo Sá Carneiro	Robert Meves	Ricardo Ribeiro	Carlos Tucci	Alexandre Fogaça
Chile	Samuel Pantoja	Manuel Valencia	Yokota Beuret	Enzo Mantelli	Milan Munjin
Colombia	Néstor Taboada	on election	Néstor Guzman	Nelson Morales	Leonardo Duplat
Costa Rica	Alexander Valverde	Oscar Uribe	Javier Brenes	Hugo Dobles	Miguel Esquivel
Ecuador	Mario Zumarraga	Monserrat Pavón	Juan Francisco Lasso	Elio Ramirez	Fernando Davalos
Guatemala	Juan Pablo de León Palacios	Erick Rodas	Rafael de La Riva	Arturo Guerra	Erny Guerra
Mexico	Martin Tejeda	Hernando Cuevas	Aurelio Ramirez	Gustavo Casas	Felix Sanchez
Panama	Antonio Mock	Geovany Osigian	José Neira	Aldimarina López	Ricardo Mosquera
Peru	Marcos Medina	Carlos Cárdenas	Michael Hinojosa	Benjamin Castillo de La Flor	Francisco Zambrano
Venezuela	Edgar González	Luis Lara	Marlon Diaz	José Duran Dautant	James Cardona

Delegates

Argentina

Ernesto Bersusky, Alejandro Betemps, Néstor Fiore, Eduardo Galaretto, Andrés Servio.

Bolivia

Carlos Urioste.

Brazil

Helton Delfino, Alexandre Sadao Iutaka.

Chile

Bartolomé Marré, Alejandro Urzúa, Omar Hernández, Patricio Bustos.

Colombia

Germán Ochoa, Pablo Vela, Ricardo Londoño, Ricardo Restrepo, Carlos Alberto Mora.

Costa Rica

Mario Solano.

Ecuador

Martha Hernandez, Luis Guijarro, Ernesto Vargas, Jaime Pavón.

Guatemala

Luis Cruz, Otto Alvarado, Gabriel Murga.

Mexico

Michael Dittmar, Roberto Chapa, Jesús Bernal, Juan Carlos Reina, Federico Cisneros, Catarino López.

Panama

Hector Crooks, Carlos Martinez, Laurent Bruggeman.

Paraguay

Reddy Simon, Juan Silva.

Peru

Alfredo Vásquez Rodríguez, Daniel Cauti De La Cruz, Raul Macchiavello, Hernan Valdivia.

Uruguay

Oscar Carreras, Edgardo Spagnuolo.

Venezuela

Manuel Alvarado, Víctor Davila, Jose Otero, Daniel Onay, Jose Finocchio.

Meetings

AOSLA Board Meeting

Topics discussed

- Preparation of Educational Workshop – Rio de Janeiro;
- Corporate Targets ITSOA / AOSLA 2010;
- Election process and possible candidates for AOSLA Board;
- Davos 2010 – Faculty and Board Meeting;
- General Comments Synthes LAT;
- Results of the online module Panama;
- Presentation of proposal for online AOSLA Platform;
- Panama Education Meeting – Agenda, objectives and methodology.

Date . February 3, 2010

Venue . Intercontinental Playa Bonita Hotel – Panama City

Board members . Roberto Chapa, Néstor Fiore, Alfredo Granai, Marcelo Gruenberg, Antonio Machado, Osmar Moraes, Mario Taricco, Pablo Vela.

Guest . Germán Ochoa.

Industrial partner . Sarah Mueller.

AOSpine Latin American Education Meeting

This meeting gathers over 40 delegates, including Councils, Education Officers and Chairpersons of different countries. Apart from being a strategic AOSLA event was an excellent opportunity to ensure the integration of the participants, strengthening ties of friendship and camaraderie, and introducing the new elected councils, with the main objective to strengthen and improve teaching skills of our Faculties, improving the quality of educational activities of AOSpine.

Date . February 3–6, 2010

Venue . Intercontinental Playa Bonita Hotel – Panama City

Chairpersons . Néstor Fiore (Argentina), Marcelo Gruenberg (Argentina).

Board members . Roberto Chapa (Mexico), Antonio Machado (Brazil), Osmar Moraes (Brazil), Mario Taricco (Brazil), Pablo Vela (Colombia).

Committee members . Raul Arjona (Panama), Pedro Luis Bazán (Argentina), Jesús Bernal (Mexico), Ricardo Ribeiro (Brazil), Carlos Cárdenas (Peru), Oscar Carreras (Uruguay), Gustavo Casas (Mexico), Hernando Cuevas (Mexico), Rafael de la Riva Rohrmoser (Guatemala), Juan Pablo de León Palacios (Guatemala), Marlon Diaz (Venezuela), Hugo Dobles (Costa Rica), Juan Emmerich (Argentina), Edgar Gonzalez (Venezuela), Néstor Guzman (Colombia),

Michael Hinojosa (Peru), Luis Lara (Venezuela), Juan Francisco Lasso (Ecuador), Jaime Linares (Bolivia), Marco Medina (Peru), Robert Meves (Brazil), Antonio Mock (Panama), Ruben Alejandro Morales Ciancio (Argentina), Samuel Pantoja (Chile), Monserrat Pavon (Ecuador), Ricardo Restrepo (Colombia), Erick Rodas (Guatemala), Andrés Rodríguez (Colombia), Geraldo Sá Carneiro (Brazil), Juan Marcelo Sea (Bolivia), Reddy Simon (Paraguay), Edgardo Spagnuolo Dondero (Uruguay), Alexander Valverde (Costa Rica), Mario Patricio Zumarraga Velasco (Ecuador).

Guests . Fabiana Reboiras (Argentina), Germán Ochoa (Colombia), Miriam Uhlmann (Switzerland).



“This was the first meeting of four days devoted exclusively to educational issues. We planned the annual academic activity of participating countries, strengthening the skills of the Faculties to make their presentations more interactive and to be better facilitators of discussion groups, we try to turn the key aspects to improve the quality and organization of AOSpine seminars and courses.”

Fabiana Reboiras

Education Strategy Workshop

Education Strategy Workshop

For the first time in the history of AOSpine, representatives of AOSI Board (global), AO Foundation, AO Education, AOSLA Board, AOS Brazil, Synthes (representatives of all regions) and AOSpine staff gathered with the main objective to establish long term strategic direction of AOSpine's educational programs, seizing the opportunity to hold the meeting between AOSLA Board and AOSpine International.

The representatives besides participated in the workshop, also had the opportunity to enjoy the fantastic scenery that the beautiful city of Rio de Janeiro offers.

Date . March 5–6, 2010

Venue . Copacabana Palace Hotel – Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

Chairperson . Luiz Vialle (Brazil)

Participants . **AO Foundation:** Norbert Haas (Germany), Paul Manson (USA), Jaime Quintero (Colombia), Markus Rauh (Switzerland), Urs Rüetschi (Switzerland).

AOSpine International Board: Zayed Al-Zayed (Saudi Arabia), Bryan Ashman (Australia), Alain Baumann (Switzerland), Jens Chapman (USA), Marinus de Kleuver (Netherlands), Marcelo Gruenberg (Argentina), Keita Ito (Netherlands), Michael Janssen (USA), Teija Lund (Finland), Venugopal Menon (India), Osmar Moraes (Brazil), Paul Pavlov (Netherlands), Luiz Vialle (Brazil), Jeffrey Wang (USA), Karsten Wiechert (Germany).

Industrial partners: Hansjürg Emch (USA), Alfredo Granai (Brazil), Scott Kramer (USA), John Meek (Hong Kong), Sarah Mueller (Switzerland), Konrad Tagwerker (Switzerland).

AOSpine Latin America: Roberto Chapa (Mexico), Néstor Fiore (Argentina), Alexandre Fogaça Cristante (Brazil), Robert Meves (Brazil), Ricardo Ribeiro (Brazil), Geraldo Sá Carneiro (Brazil), Alexandre Sadao Iutaka (Brazil), Carlos Tucci (Brazil), Mario Taricco (Brazil), Pablo Vela (Colombia), Emiliano Vialle (Brazil).

AOSpine: Nancy Holmes (USA), Andy Leung (Hong Kong), Antonio Machado (Brazil), Rafael Rocha (Brazil), Anne Smith Mary (Switzerland), Luana Torres (Brazil), Jane Wiedler (Switzerland).



AOSLA Education Meeting

This meeting had as main objective to discuss education projects and to introduce to the new Regional Chairperson Osmar Moraes the educational activities.

Date . June 21, 2010

Venue . Latin America Administrative Office – Curitiba, Brazil

Board members . Osmar Moraes (Brazil), Néstor Fiore (Argentina), Antonio Machado (Brazil).

AOSpine . Luana Torres (Brazil).

AOSLA Research Meeting

It was made a complete analysis of the projects in progress especially tuberculosis, the problems that are presenting, and mainly taking decisions to resolve them. It was also decided that it was necessary to seek new research centers in Latin America.

Date . September 17–18, 2010

Venue . Latin America Administrative Office – Curitiba, Brazil

Board members . Manuel Alvarado (Venezuela), Emiliano Vialle (Brazil), Antonio Machado (Brazil).

AOSpine . Leandro Nuñez (Argentina), Rodrigo de Haro (Brazil).

Community Development Meeting

The main objective of the meeting was to find out what works better for the region regarding to memberships benefits, discuss how to work with young surgeons, the different projects to work with residents and the relationships with local spine societies among others.

Date . September 24–25, 2010

Venue . Latin America Administrative Office – Curitiba, Brazil

Board members . Karsten Wiechert (Germany), Osmar Moraes (Brazil), Marcelo Valacco (Argentina), Carlos Tucci (Brazil), Antonio Machado (Brazil), Michael Fawcett (Switzerland—by teleconference).

AOSpine . Juan González (Brazil).

AOSLA Board Meeting

The Officers of the Regional Board met to deal with administrative matters as taking decisions about the educational events to be held in 2011 and especially to pass authority to the new Regional Officers Andrés Rodríguez, Roberto Postigo and Marcelo Valacco.

This meeting had the special participation of Jaime Quintero, elected AO International Chairperson and Luiz Vialle, AOSpine International Chairperson.

In recognition of the great contribution of the Officers who completed their term, Osmar Moraes, AOSLA current Regional Chairperson representing AOSpine gave a token of appreciation for the big contribution to the organization to Néstor Fiore, Roberto Chapa, Pablo Vela and Marcelo Gruenberg.

Date . July 31–August 1, 2010

Venue . Sheraton Hotel – Bogotá, Colombia

Board members . Osmar Moraes (Brazil), Roberto Chapa (Mexico), Néstor Fiore (Argentina), Marcelo Gruenberg (Argentina), Mario Taricco (Brazil), Pablo Vela (Colombia), Emiliano Vialle (Brazil), Roberto Postigo (Chile), Andrés Rodríguez (Colombia), Marcelo Valacco (Argentina), Antonio Machado (Brazil).

Guests . Luiz Vialle (Brazil), Jaime Quintero (Colombia).

Industrial partner . Sarah Mueller (Switzerland).



AOSLA Education Meeting



This meeting was held to discuss different matters related to the Diploma Project such as online Content; Face to face activities, material, certification and marketing.

Date . December 3, 2010

Venue . Latin America Administrative Office – Curitiba, Brazil

Participants . Germán Ochoa (Colombia), Emiliano Vialle (Brazil), Antonio Machado (Brazil), Luana Torres (Brazil), Sônia Budziak (Brazil), Rodrigo de Haro (Brazil), Juan González (Brazil).

Local Board Meetings

Country	Date	Participants
Peru	July 17, 2010	Marcos Medina, Carlos Cárdenas, Michael Hinojosa, Benjamin Castillo De La Flor, Francisco Zambrano, Antonio Machado.
Brazil	June 24, 2010	Geraldo Sá Carneiro (Chairperson), Ricardo Ribeiro, Alexandre Fogaça, Robert Meves, Alexandre Sadao Iutaka, Carlos Tucci, Antonio Machado.
Colombia	July 31, 2010	Néstor Guzman, Nelson Morales, Leonardo Duplat, Andrés Rodríguez, Antonio Machado.
Bolivia	August 21, 2010	Marcelo Sea, Jaime Linares, Osmar Moraes, Antonio Machado.
Argentina	November 6, 2010	Pedro Bazán, Antonio Machado.
Venezuela	November 6, 2010	Edgar González, Jose Duran Dautant, Marlon Diaz, Juan González.
Paraguay	November 13, 2010	Reddy Simon, Juan González.
Costa Rica	November 13, 2010	Alexander Valverde, Antonio Machado, Juan Pablo de León Palacios, Osmar Moraes.
Chile	November 30, 2010	Samuel Pantoja, Manuel Valencia, Roberto Postigo, Enzo Mantelli, Milan Munjin, Antonio Machado.

Educational activities



Education—Ortho officer's word

Dear friends and colleagues:

As new head of Ortho Education in the Latin American AOSpine Board, I am pleased to address you for the first time. My most cordial greetings go to all of you who are part of this AOSpine family, who dream of a better medicine to benefit our patients and enjoy teaching and academic activities.

2010 was full of AOSLA activities with a multiplicity of courses, symposia and seminars. Among them, events of the highest international level, with outstanding guests that brought prestige to our academic activities with special emphasis to the course in animals and the innovating course with cadavers. We've increased the number of AO training centers, a measure that will favor the concession of AO scholarships both of one year as well as shorter term internships, thus broadening the spectrum of physicians with access to this expertise.

The online teaching method has been consolidated this year with over ten countries connected in an exciting and attracting new modality successfully led by German Ochoa.

The Bogotá meeting in early August was important in laying down the objectives of each one of our forms of education. In that opportunity we were able to docket how to perform these activities and programmed AOSLA activities practically until 2013. We've also developed online education schemes for both instructors and students and, in a special way, created an Education Task Force for an ATLS like Diploma Project dedicated to the spine and to be delivered in three modules of progressive specialization. Such huge amount of work has been generated mostly by Dr. Néstor Fiore from Ortho Board of Education to whom I send my warmest recognition.

All these achievements wouldn't be possible without the support and ongoing cooperation from the Curitiba based AOSLA office and from Synthes whose unconditional support makes possible the accomplishment of all our projects.

I hope next year will materialize our aspirations and consolidate some of the projects already implemented this year.

Cheers to everyone.



Roberto Postigo
AOSpine Latin America – Education (Ortho)

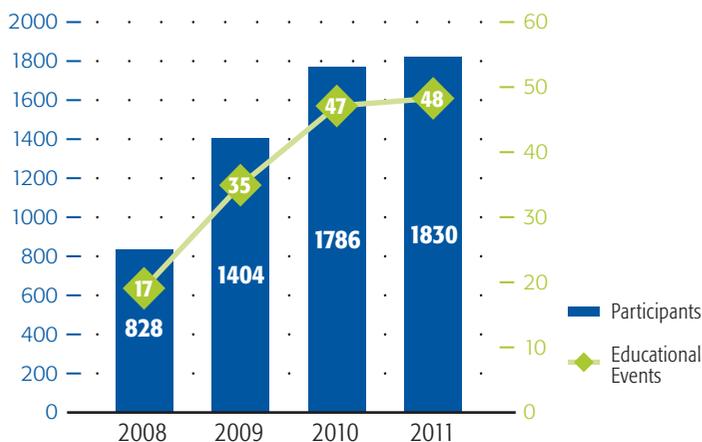
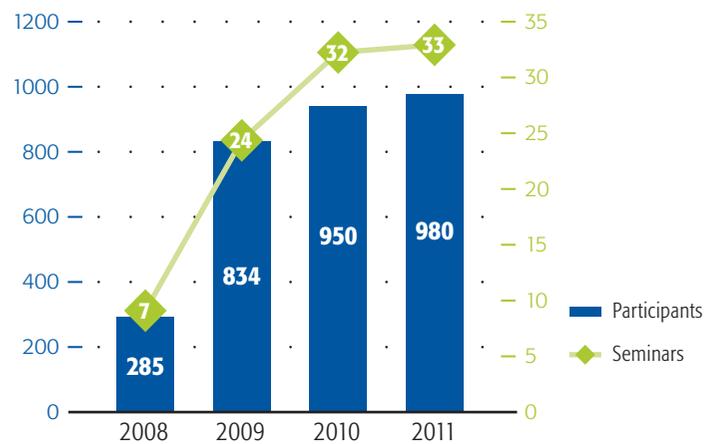
Courses and Seminars

AOSLA had a very productive year with a significant growing number of educational activities within the region, improving and maintaining our high standard aiming to reach the excellence.

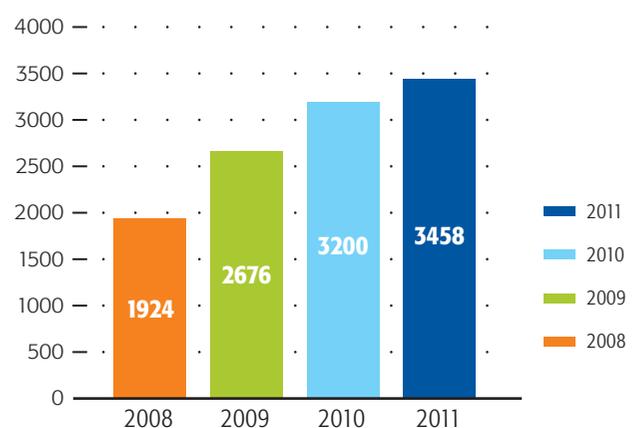
In the charts bellow, you will find an analysis that illustrates and compares the progression of AOSLA during the last 3 years and a forecast for 2011.

	2008	2009	2010	2011
Courses	10	11	15	15
Participants	543	570	836	850
Seminars	7	24	32	33
Participants	285	834	950	980
Educational events	17	35	47	48
Participants	828	1404	1786	1830
Participants x Days	1924	2676	3200	3458

Educational activities



Educational Days x Participants



Through the following pages you will find a detailed description of all these events.

AOSpine Seminar: Surgical Techniques for ORP

Providing ORP with the knowledge to better understand specific anatomy and the main techniques of spinal instrumentation.

Date . January 22–23, 2010

Venue . IMSS Unidad Médica de Alta Especialidad – Naulcapan, Mexico

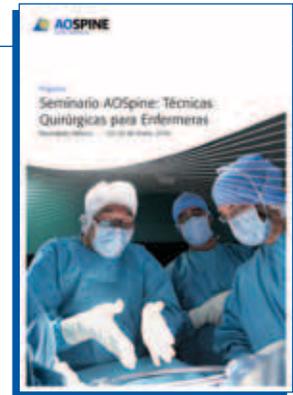
Chairperson . Gustavo Casas (Mexico).

National Faculty . Federico Cisneros, Gustavo Gonzales, Hugo Vilchis, Jesús Bernal, Jesús Contreras, Lino Torres, Ricardo Andaluz.

Surgical Nurses . Elizabeth Rosas, María Isabel Calzada, Maricela Flores, Olga Díaz.

Registration fee . Free

Number of participants . 43



AOSpine Seminar: Trauma – Degenerative – Tumor of the Cervical Spine

The main objective of this event was of putting the knowledge of residents aspiring to spine surgeons, the advances and techniques. It was made a presentation of cases and discussion of them, according to the AOSpine techniques in degenerative diseases, trauma and tumors of the cervical spine.

Date . March 19–20, 2010

Venue . Eurobuilding Guayana Hotel – Puerto Ordáz, Venezuela

Chairperson . Edgar González (Venezuela).

National Faculty . James Cardona, Jose Duran Dautant, Luis Lara, Manuel Alvarado, Marlon Diaz.

Guests . Carlos Milne, Raúl Silvera.

Registration fee . Free

Number of participants . 22



ISSLS Instructional Course



With the goal of integrating and establishing partnerships; AOSLA, the Spine Society of Argentina, and The International Society for the Study of the Lumbar Spine jointly promoted this course. The event was attended by Faculties from different regions around the world (South America, North America, Europe, Australia, Switzerland).

Date . March 25–26, 2010

Venue . Caesar Park Hotel – Buenos Aires, Argentina

Chairpersons . Carlos Solá (Argentina), Frank Phillips (USA), Marcelo Gruenberg (Argentina), William Marras (USA).

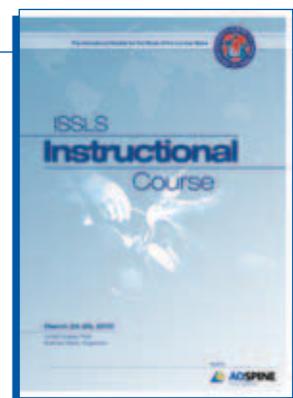
International Faculty . Christopher Colloca (USA), David Hall (Australia), Marek Szpalski (Belgium), Margareta Nordin (USA), Max Aebi (Switzerland), Robert Gunzburg (Belgium), Serena Hu (USA).

Regional Faculty . Luiz Vialle (Brazil).

National Faculty . Alejandro Betemps, Federico Gelosi, Juan Pablo Bernasconi, Marcelo Valacco, Néstor Fiore, Tomas Rudt.

Registration fee: AOSpine Members: USD 293 / Non Members: USD 325

Number of participants . 131



AOSpine Seminar: Treatment Principles for Vertebral Deformities



Held in the atmosphere of friendship and camaraderie among orthopedists and neurosurgeons; this seminar stimulated discussion about the diagnosis and treatment of spinal deformities, while forging closer ties between scientists and academics.

Date . April 17, 2010
Venue . Atlantic City Convention Center – Lima, Peru
Chairperson . Carlos Cárdenas Mercado (Peru).
Regional Faculty . Samuel Pantoja (Chile).
National Faculty . Alfredo Vásquez Rodríguez, Daniel Cauti De La Cruz, Raúl Macchiavello.
Registration fee . Free
Number of participants . 42



AOSpine Surgical Approaches Course

For the third successful consecutive year, the AOSpine Latin American community received this course. The main objective allowed surgeons to identify the strengths and limitations of previous approaches to the column, and to have control in the field of Applied Anatomy and knowledge, prevention and treatment of complications.

The course was divided in 2 sections: theoretical and practical on animals, helping to fill a gap in the training of many professionals that work in the field of spine surgery as well as orthopedic surgeons, neurosurgeons, vascular and thoracic surgeons in general. The participants had a unique opportunity to conduct an experimental approach in an experimental scenario with the guidance of expert surgeons.



Date: April 22–24, 2010
Venue . PUCPR University – Curitiba, Brazil
Chairperson . Emiliano Vialle (Brazil)
Educational Director . Luiz Vialle (Brazil).
Regional Faculty . Pablo Vela (Colombia).
National Faculty . Alberto Capel, Andrei Amatuzzi, Carla Menini, Carlos Del Valle, Eduardo Von Uhlenfordd, Geraldo Sá Carneiro, José Augusto Araujo, Luis Eduardo Carelli, Nelson Bergonse, Ricardo Ribeiro.
Faculty Assistants . Akemi Sato, André Vidigal, Antonio Krieger, Camila Deneka Arantes de Souza, Christiano Simões, Gustavo Giraldo, Joana Bretas Cabral Rondon Guasque, Luiz Felipe Carvalho.
Table Instructors . Claudio Dorigo, Jerônimo Milano, Luiz Gustavo Dal Oglio da Rocha, Ubirajara Bley Filho.
ORP Faculty . Graziela Cancian Gomes.
Registration fee . AOSpine Members: USD 1,615 / Non Members: USD 1,900
Number of participants . 48



Course Evaluation

Average Faculty Performance	4,38 out of 5
Average Importance to Daily Practice ...	4,32 out of 5
Scientific Program Content	4,60 out of 5
Quality of Material Received	4,40 out of 5
Course Facilities	4,80 out of 5
Overall Course Evaluation	4,60 out of 5

AOSpine Seminar: Disc Replacement



The main objective was to update participants on developments in disc replacement discussing indications, complications and limitations of the method, as well as prospects of emerging technologies for the management of disc degeneration, having the participation of international and regional renowned Faculties.

Date . April 23, 2010

Venue . Pestana Hotel – Curitiba, Brazil

Chairperson . Emiliano Vialle (Brazil).

International Faculty . Jack Zigler (USA), Khai Lam (United Kingdom), Roger Härtl (USA).

Regional Faculty . Pablo Vela (Colombia).

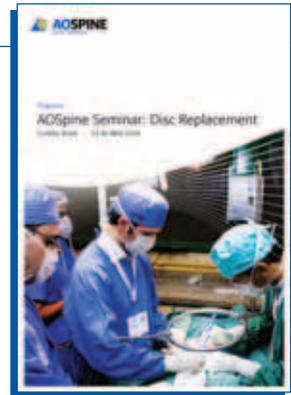
National Faculty . José Augusto Araujo, Luiz Vialle, Ricardo Ribeiro.

Virtual Faculty . Finn Christensen (Denmark).

Guest . Abilio Reis.

Registration fee . AOSpine Members: USD 250 / Non Members: USD 300

Number of participants . 60



AOSpine Seminar: Cervical Spine Surgery – Techniques and Learning from the Surgical Field

With focus on cervical spine surgery relied on the guidance of surgeons accustomed to more complex surgeries in the region with greater emphasis on surgical technics.

Date . May 07–08, 2010

Venue . Associação Catarinense de Medicina – Florianópolis, Brazil

Chairpersons . Alexandre Sadao Iutaka (Brazil), Ricardo Ribeiro (Brazil).

National Faculty . Ademar José de Oliveira Paz Junior, André Andujar, Daniel Santos Sousa, Diogo Rath Fingeri Barbosa, Gustavo Carriço de Oliveira, Luiz Eduardo Carelli, Marcio Papaleo de Souza, Waldemar de Souza Junior, Zaffer Maito.

Registration fee . Free

Number of participants . 30



AOSpine Seminar: Traumatic and Degenerative Pathology

The seminar addressed issues such as the evolution of an injured spinal cord, the different treatment options for acute cervical and thoracolumbar; allowing ample time for open discussions of typical cases. The seminar was based on concise presentations opening the opportunity to exchange views on the basic principles of trauma and spinal degeneration.

Date . May 14, 2010

Venue . Holiday Inn Hotel – Santa Fé, Argentina

Chairperson . Alejandro Betemps (Argentina).

National Faculty . Pedro Luis Bazán.

Registration fee . Free

Number of participants . 25



“Based on concise presentations and in 5 hours of discussion of typical cases were exchanged views on the basic principles of the degeneration and spinal trauma.”

Alejandro Betemps

AOSpine Seminar: Reconstruction and Multi Operated Spine

This workshop established the pathologies related to spinal reconstruction more common and their solutions, in addition to reviewing the lumbar pathology, its complications and its most common variants.

Date . May 15, 2010

Venue . Barceló Hotel – Guatemala City, Guatemala

Chairperson . Juan Pablo De León Palacios (Guatemala).

Regional Faculty . Jesús Bernal (Mexico).

National Faculty . Hugo Pezzarossi, Julio Luis Pozuelos Lopez, Rafael de la Riva Rohrmoser.

Virtual Faculty . Néstor Fiore (Argentina).

Registration fee . Free

Number of participants . 15



AOSpine Advanced Seminar: Lumbar Degenerative Disc Disease

The main objective of this seminar was to study the pathophysiology of lumbar disc degeneration as well as learn the clinical presentation of lumbar degenerative disc disease.

The seminar also sought to revise the traditional techniques of disc degeneration treatment, rehabilitation, fusion variants and to learn about new treatments.



Date . May 21, 2010

Venue . Borinquen Hotel – Guanacaste, Costa Rica

Chairperson . Alexander Valverde (Costa Rica).

Regional Faculty . Emiliano Vialle (Brazil).

National Faculty . Edgar Jiménez Masis, Francisco Brenes Villalobos, Jairo Garcia, Javier Gutierrez, Juan Jose Zúñiga, Mario Solano Salas, Miguel Mejia.

Registration fee . Free

Number of participants . 25



AOSpine Masters Symposium: Cervical Spine – Degenerative and Trauma

Concerned with maintaining and innovating education in spine surgery, in this country, AOSpine designed this symposium by presenting themes and stimulating discussions around clinical cases that are often seen in daily practice. Space was reserved in the program for the exchange of point of views, and debating on the best and updated management.



Date . May 28–29, 2010

Venue . Marriot Real Puebla Hotel – Puebla, Mexico

Chairperson . Roberto Chapa (Mexico).

International Faculty . K Daniel Riew (USA).

Regional Faculty . Geraldo Sá Carneiro (Brazil), Osvaldo Romano (Argentina).

National Faculty . Aurelio Ramirez, Jesús Bernal, Michael Dittmar, Sergio Anaya, Wadih Bitar Alatorre.

Registration fee . AOSpine Members: USD 234 / Non Members: USD 285

Number of participants . 40



Course Evaluation

Average Faculty Performance	4,36 out of 5
Average Importance to Daily Practice ...	4,44 out of 5
Scientific Program Content	4,70 out of 5
Quality of Material Received	4,50 out of 5
Course Facilities	4,45 out of 5
Overall Course Evaluation	4,60 out of 5

“This Symposium marked the beginning of change in course style as it was created in a format by which specific topics were presented and intentionally encouraging interactivity through exposure of clinical cases; clearly appreciated by the participants and teachers. Additionally we counted the presence of Dr. Daniel Riew, as an expert in the area.”

Roberto Chapa

AOSpine Seminar: Cervical Spine Pathology, Traumatic and Degenerative

This seminar aimed to review the most common disorders of the cervical spine associated with degenerative and traumatic pathology.



Using an interactive methodology, the Faculties and the participants worked through the presentation of clinical cases and discussed the latest trends in therapeutic reviewing clinical aspects of these diseases.

Date . May 28–29, 2010

Venue . Zuana Beach Resort – Santa Marta, Colombia

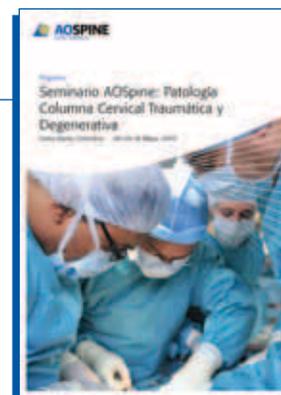
Chairperson . Néstor Guzmán (Colombia).

Regional Faculty . Mario Taricco (Brazil).

National Faculty . Jaime Segura, Mario Herrera, Nelson Morales, Pablo Vela.

Registration fee . Free

Number of participants . 45



AOSpine Seminar: Spinal Cord Injury

Among professionals and spine surgeons, were shared knowledge, concepts and criteria to optimize and improve treatment and quality of life of patients trying to highlight and establish the research and continuing medical education. It was attended virtually by Dr. Osmar Moraes from Brazil.



Date . May 29, 2010

Venue . Hotel El Panamá – Panamá City, Panamá

Chairperson . Raúl Arjona (Panamá).

Regional Faculty . Gustavo Casas (Mexico).

National Faculty . Antonio Mock, Carlos Briceño Sarasqueta, Hector Crooks, José Neira, Leonardo Barrios, Nelson Sopalda, Ricardo Ariel Gutierrez.

Virtual Faculty . Osmar Moraes (Brazil).

Registration fee . AOSpine Members: USD 50 / Non Members: USD 75

Number of participants . 18



AOSpine Seminar: Degenerative Trauma



This seminar covered issues such as cervical trauma, cervical degenerative pathology and cervical myelopathy in a very relaxed and friendly atmosphere guided by doctors Oscar Carreras as Chairperson and Néstor Fiore highlighting as Regional Faculty.

Date . June 5, 2010

Venue . Sheraton Hotel – Montevideo, Uruguay

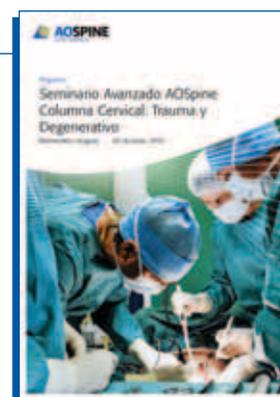
Chairperson . Oscar Carreras (Uruguay).

Regional Faculty . Néstor Fiore (Argentina).

National Faculty . Alejandro Cuneo, Carlos Rocca Siri, Edgardo Spagnuolo, Fernando Garcia, Fernando Nin, Gustavo Enrique Erlatz, Jorge Santo, Miguel Karsaclia, Washington Bermudez.

Registration fee . AOSpine Members: USD 30 / Non Members: USD 70

Number of participants . 33



AOSpine Advanced Seminar: Trauma

In this seminar participants discussed details that relate directly to the success of surgery with emphasis in the prevention and resolution of complications, using the best available evidence.

Date . June 12, 2010

Venue . Atton Las Condes Hotel – Santiago, Chile

Chairperson . Milan Munjin (Chile).

Regional Faculty . Alejandro Betemps (Argentina).

National Faculty . Cristian Santos, Dennis Witt, Enzo Mantelli, Francisco Ilabaca, José Fleiderman, Julio Urrutia, Lyonel Beaulieu, Manuel Valencia, Ratko Yurac, Roberto Postigo, Samuel Pantoja.

Registration fee . Free

Number of participants . 30



AOSpine Principles Course

This course is traditionally promoted and designed for spine surgeons in their early career, as well as orthopedists and neurosurgeons with a little more experience. The main objective is to discuss cases seeking the principles of diagnosis, indications and techniques in treating degenerative diseases, trauma and tumors of the spine, and especially to allow the practice of surgical techniques on artificial bones in a very interactive and informal environment.

The date of this course coincided with a Brazilian World Cup match from South Africa. The match was included in the program, giving the participants the opportunity to enjoy the game.

Date . June 24–26, 2010

Venue . Mercure Grand Hotel – São Paulo, Brazil

Chairperson . Geraldo Sá Carneiro (Brazil)

Educational Director . Mario Taricco (Brazil)

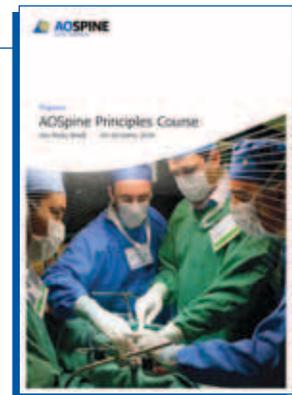
Regional Faculty . Alejandro Betemps (Argentina), Marco Medina (Peru), Pedro Luis Bazán (Argentina)

National Faculty . Alexandre Fogaça, Alexandre Sadao Iutaka, Carlos Tucci, Eduardo Von Uhlendorff, Fernando Dantas, Marcio Vinhal, Osmar Moraes, Ricardo Ribeiro, Robert Meves

Table Instructors . Alberto Gotfryd, Luiz Cláudio Rodrigues, Rafael Souza, Roberto Hita, Roger Brock

Registration fee . AOSpine Members: USD 1,307 / Non Members: USD 1,390

Number of participants . 44



Course Evaluation

Average Faculty Performance	4,46 out of 5
Average Importance to Daily Practice ...	4,51 out of 5
Scientific Program Content	4,68 out of 5
Quality of Material Received	4,42 out of 5
Course Facilities	4,64 out of 5
Overall Course Evaluation	4,58 out of 5

AOSpine Seminar: Infections and Tumors of the Spine

Doctors Mario Patricio Zumárraga and Monserrat Pavón were the Chairpersons of the seminar, which aimed to improve methods of diagnosis and treatment of spinal tumors, as well as update and enhance knowledge of spinal infections.

Date: June 25, 2010

Venue . Sheraton Quito Hotel – Quito, Ecuador

Chairpersons . Mario Patricio Zumárraga (Ecuador), Monserrat Pavón (Ecuador).

Regional Faculty . Andrés Rodríguez (Colombia).

National Faculty . Elio Ramirez, Fernando Davalos, Gilbert Sotomayor, Richard Douce.

Registration fee . Free

Number of participants . 20



“For AOSpine Ecuador it was a very pleasant challenge to combine two of the most common pathologies in our country, and to get a good number of assistants that participated in a very active way sharing their experiences with younger colleges. Beside that, the inclusion of an infection diseases specialist gave us another point of view.”

Monserrat Pavón

AOSpine Seminar: Lumbar Spine: Trauma, Tumor and Degenerative



Edgar Gonzalez, Chairperson of the seminar, lead a team of nine National Faculties aiming to improve methods of diagnosis and treatment of thoracic trauma.

Additionally, the seminar sought to strengthen national and international ties, and attempted to change concepts of the pathologies mentioned above.



Date . July 16–17, 2010

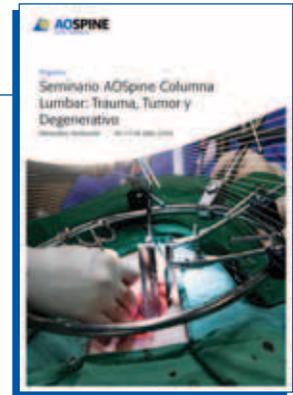
Venue . Del Lago Hotel – Maracaibo, Venezuela

Chairperson . Edgar González (Venezuela).

National Faculty . Antonio Avila, Cesar Covarrubia, James Cardona, José Duran Dautant, Jose Rafael Otero, Luis Lara, Marcos Garces, Maria Carolina Monzón, Marlon Díaz.

Registration fee . Free

Number of participants . 40



AOSpine Seminar: Degenerative Pathology and Minimally Invasive Spinal Surgery

This seminar answered questions about degenerative spinal diseases. Also discussed were the principles of treatment and surgical techniques for diseases, and introduced minimally invasive surgical alternatives and some controversies regarding the treatment of degenerative diseases.

Date . July 17–18, 2010

Venue . Libertador Trujillo Hotel – Trujillo, Peru

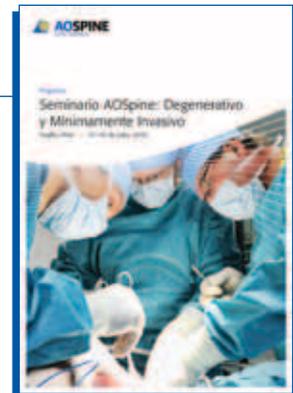
Chairperson . Marco Medina (Peru).

Regional Faculty . Pablo Vela (Colombia), Roberto Chapa (Mexico).

National Faculty . Alfredo Vásquez Rodríguez, Benjamín Castillo De La Flor, Carlos Cárdenas.

Registration fee . Free

Number of participants . 45



AOSpine Masters Symposium: Preoperative Planning and Decision Making in Spinal Surgery

This event was designed specifically for the discussion of cases. In order to improve the discussion format, the format of the program took place in reverse to the traditional. Faculty asked participants to pre-select the cases that they wanted to share. Within each presentation, the faculty presented a concise analysis of the patient before surgery, which were the variables taken into account to decide the treatment and what was the evidence that proved it.

To promote the contribution of the participants, the cases presented during the course were printed in the program. Additionally, the International Faculty Warren Yu and Klaus Schnake presented “guest-lectures”, with the traditional “Spine and Wine” for a more spirited discussion.

Date . August 05–07, 2010

Venue . Pestana Buenos Aires Hotel – Buenos Aires, Argentina

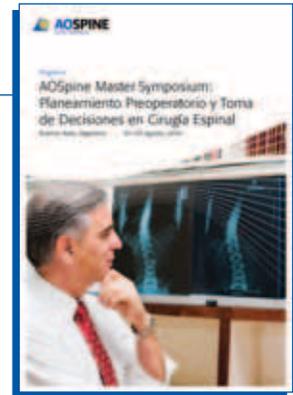
Chairperson . Alejandro Betemps (Argentina).

International Faculty . Klaus Schnake (Germany), Warren Yu (USA).

National Faculty . Carlos Mounier, Carlos Solá, Eduardo Galaretto, Ernesto Bersusky, Gabriel Rositto, Guillermo Holtmann, Jose Monayer, Jose Ricardo Prina, Juan Emmerich, Marcelo Gruenberg, Marcelo Valacco, Matías Petracchi, Miguel Busquet, Néstor Fiore, Osvaldo Romano, Pedro Luis Bazán, Ramiro Gutierrez, Ruben Alejandro Morales Ciancio.

Registration fee . AOSpine Members: USD 281 / Non Members: USD 330

Number of participants . 50



“This new format allowed the Faculty led discussion to expose in detail the analysis and therapeutic approach to each case, thus encouraging contribution of participants.”

Alejandro Betemps

Course Evaluation

Average Faculty Performance	3,64 out of 5
Average Importance to Daily Practice ...	3,67 out of 5
Scientific Program Content	4,56 out of 5
Quality of Material Received	4,00 out of 5
Course Facilities	3,67 out of 5
Overall Course Evaluation	4,33 out of 5

AOSpine Symposium: Column Of The Senescent – Today’s Challenges

Participants and faculties discussed recent developments, controversies and challenges in the management of Spine Pathology of the elderly, as well as issues such as osteoporotic vertebral fracture, Degenerative Cervical and Lumbar Pathology, with emphasis on the narrow channel, and the challenges of limited bone stock in senescent and management of deformities in the elderly.

Date . August 05–06, 2010

Venue . Sheraton Hotel – Santiago, Chile

Chairperson . Roberto Postigo (Chile).

Regional Faculty . Manuel Alvarado (Venezuela), Roberto Chapa (Mexico).

National Faculty . Alejandro Urzúa, Alvaro Silva, Andres Chahin, Andres Lisoni, Carlos Thibaut, Cristian Santos, Dennis Witt, Enrique Concha, Enzo Mantelli, Francisco Soto, Gonzalo Arriagada Ocampo, Jose Miguel Donoso, Julio Urrutia, Manuel Valencia, Marcela Chamorro, Marcelo Molina, Marcelo Perez, Marco Guerrero, Marcos Ganga, Margarita Gonzalez, Mauricio Campos, Milan Munjin, Nicolás Macchiavello, Oscar Eugenin, Patricio Yokota, Ratko Yurac, Roberto Larrondo, Rodolfo Labarca, Rodolfo Lopez, Ronald Shultz, Samuel Pantoja.

Registration fee . AOSpine Members: USD 135 / Non Members: USD 150

Number of participants . 24



Course Evaluation

Average Faculty Performance	4,16 out of 5
Average Importance to Daily Practice ...	4,34 out of 5
Scientific Program Content	5,00 out of 5
Quality of Material Received	4,83 out of 5
Course Facilities	5,00 out of 5
Overall Course Evaluation	4,83 out of 5

First AOSpine Principles Course

The first course of AOSpine principles in Bolivia took place on August 19–21 in the city of Santa Cruz de La Sierra, attracting over 40 participants from across the country, Colombia and Peru. The course provided participants with lively discussions on the presentations and great interaction. The course included practical exercises, where participants had the opportunity to apply theoretical principles to allow familiarization with the different resources needed for surgery.



Date . August 19–21, 2010

Venue . Camino Real Hotel – Santa Cruz, Bolivia

Chairperson . Juan Marcelo Sea Aramayo (Bolivia).

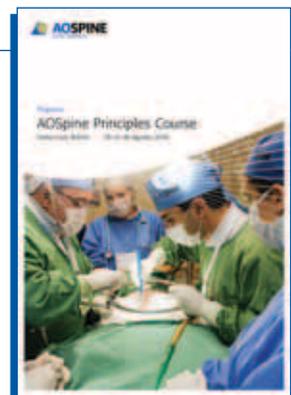
Educational Director . Néstor Fiore (Argentina).

Regional Faculty . Andrés Rodríguez (Colombia), Enzo Mantelli (Chile), Juan Emmerich (Argentina), Osmar Moraes (Brazil), Robert Meves (Brazil).

National Faculty . Carlos Urioste, Erwin Roberto Quintanilla, Gueider Salas, Jaime Linhares, Juan Valle, Ramiro Villavicencio, Rene Torrejón.

Registration fee . AOSpine Members: USD 300 / Non Members: USD 350

Number of participants . 40



Course Evaluation

Average Faculty Performance	4,58 out of 5
Average Importance to Daily Practice ...	4,15 out of 5
Scientific Program Content	3,60 out of 5
Quality of Material Received	3,20 out of 5
Course Facilities	3,40 out of 5
Overall Course Evaluation	3,60 out of 5

“This event was very important as it marked the beginning of the activities of the AOSpine Bolivian chapter which were elected at the end of this course.

A beginning course is for participants to share their experiences and thus can update their knowledge.

The dynamic participation of regional and national faculties was key as the audience experienced an environment that stimulated massive participation; which led to the maximization of benefit for the theoretical presentations and practical workshops; enabling the participants to become familiar with the instruments needed for surgery. At the end of the course participants felt satisfaction in all the activities performed with many thanks to all who contributed and especially to the tireless Dr. Néstor Fiore.”

Marcelo Sea

AOSpine Advanced Seminar: Deformities



The success of this event was directly related to the interaction of the 70 participants attending the sessions. Based on the exposure to the questions and experiences shared, it was possible to strengthen and update the knowledge of topics such as preoperative planning, advice on instrumentation techniques, and how to prevent and treat complications.

Date . August 27–28, 2010

Venue . Vitoria Hotel – Campinas, Brazil

Chairpersons . Carlos Tucci (Brazil), Robert Meves (Brazil).

International Faculty . Michael Daubs (USA).

Regional Faculty . Ernesto Bersusky (Argentina).

National Faculty . Alberto Gotfryd, Eduardo Von Uhlendorff, Fernando Façanha Filho, Henrique Jorge, Luiz Vialle, Marcelo Poderoso Araujo.

Registration fee . Free

Number of participants . 82



AOSpine Seminar: Principles for Resident – Trauma



The Chairperson emphasized the spinal cord lesions with an overview on the diagnosis, classification and treatment of trauma modules of cervical thoracolumbar. The course consisted of essays of the classifications and treatment options, and deepened the concepts through case discussions between Faculties and the participants.

Date . September 01, 2010

Venue . Hospital Español – Mendoza, Argentina

Chairperson . Pedro Luis Bazán (Argentina).

National Faculty. Alejandro Mengotti, Alvaro Borri, Marcelo Amaro, Marcelo Valacco, Matías Petracchi, Osvaldo Romano, Ruben Alejandro Morales Ciancio.

Registration fee . Free

Number of participants . 16



“With the presence of more than 40 participants, we met the objectives of introducing specialized doctors in training to the AOSpine philosophy on the study and treatment of traumatic spinal pathology.

The discussion of cases was in a friendly and highly academic level between each of the participants and Faculties.”

Pedro Luis Bazán



AOSpine Seminar: Principles

The seminar dealt with various issues highlighted by trauma, degenerative lumbar disc, and deformities. In a pleasant and relaxed atmosphere, different opinions were discussed and participant questions were clarified.



Date . September 11, 2010
Venue . Deville Salvador Hotel – Salvador, Brazil
Chairpersons . Alexandre Fogaça (Brazil),
Geraldo Sá Carneiro (Brazil).
National Faculty . Fabricio Barcelos,
Joilda Fontes Gomez, Maurício Gusmão,
Ricardo Cotias.
Registration fee . Free
Number of participants . 12



AOSpine Seminar: Basic Tools for the Publication of Medical Articles

As an example of the positive outcomes from maintaining close relationships with spine societies in the region, this seminar was hosted at the AMCICO (Asociación Mexicana de Cirujanos de Columna) annual meeting.

The Faculties prepared this seminar to discuss the most important and fundamental tools for the publication of articles in biomedical journals.

Date . September 13–14, 2010
Venue . Fairmont Princess Hotel – Acapulco, Mexico
Chairperson . Martin Tejeda (Mexico).
National Faculty . Jose Maria Jimenez, Michael Dittmar, Roberto Palapa García.
Registration fee . Free
Number of participants . 20



“A main concern of AOSpine is to spread clinical experience; therefore it is essential to promote the basic principles of publishing in order for these experiences to be best represented. AOSLA believes that this will encourage the writing of articles for publication in our area of Latin America. The response from our colleagues has been very enthusiastic, and this motivates us to continue making these types of courses with AOSLA.”

Martin Tejeda

AOSpine Seminar: Degenerative Diseases – Deformity

Issue related to idiopathic scoliosis, congenital, kyphosis, neuromuscular as well as adult degenerative were examined and discussed; followed by deeper discussions on the various procedures related to deformity. The seminar also presented new treatment perspectives, bringing together the experiences of the participants.

Date . September 24–25, 2010

Venue . Intercontinental Hotel – Cali, Colombia

Chairperson . Ricardo Restrepo (Colombia)



Regional Faculty . Eduardo Von Uhlendorff (Brazil), Roberto Chapa (Mexico).

National Faculty . Andrés Rodríguez, Carlos Alberto Carmona Lourdy, Carlos Felipe Forero, Carlos Montero, Fernando Helo Yamhure, Juan Uribe, Leonardo Duplat, Mario German Gonzalez Tenorio, Moises Gomez, Néstor Taboada, Victor Romero.

Registration fee . Free

Number of participants . 50



“Were presented, analyzed and discussed in this seminar the various branches of scoliosis, deepening from the various procedures that relate to the deformity of the spine. Additionally, presented new perspectives for treatment of this topic, bringing together experiences of the participants.”

Ricardo Restrepo

AOSpine Seminar: Degenerative Cervical – Lumbar

Aiming to expose participants to key spinal degenerative diseases, therapies process and today's treatment options, unifying local criterion treatment. The main topics were spine pathology and Unification of local criterion in the treatment.

Date . September 24–25, 2010

Venue . Crowne Plaza Hotel – Panama City, Panama

Chairperson . Antonio Mock (Panama).

Regional Faculty . Néstor Fiore (Argentina).

National Faculty . Aldimarina López, Alina Pupo de Martinez, Carlos Briceño Sarasqueta, Carlos Martínez Castañeda, Geovany Osigian, José Neira, Luis Pitty, Mitzadi Ordoñez, Nelson Sopalda, Raul Arjona, Ricardo Mosquera.

Registration fee . AOSpine Members: USD 60 / Non Members: USD 85

Number of participants . 15



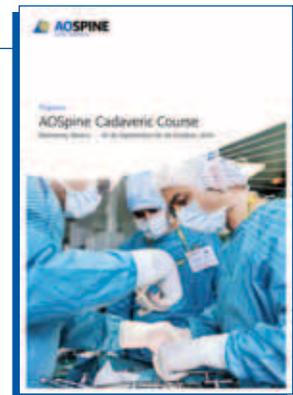
“I was surprised by the participation and integration among spine surgeons (orthopedic and neurosurgeons) during the seminar. The organization was outstanding, meeting the schedule exactly.”

Antonio Mock

AOSpine Cadaveric Course

In light of the ongoing commitment to offer the latest techniques in spine surgery; 20 participants had the opportunity to implement some of the latest surgical techniques on cadavers in a very realistic environment offered by the Faculty of Medicine TEC from Monterrey.

The topics discussed were cervical spondylotic myelopathy, instability, axial arthritis, tuberculosis, thoracolumbar fractures. Workshops were performed on minimally invasive treatments of posterior lumbar spine, focusing on when and why to use them.



Date . September 30–October 02, 2010
Venue . Safi Hotel and the Faculty of Medicine TEC of Monterrey – Monterrey, Mexico
Chairperson . Jesús Bernal (Mexico).
Educational Director . Néstor Fiore (Argentina).
Regional Faculty . Germán Ochoa (Colombia).
National Faculty . Aurelio Ramirez, Catarino López, Felix Adolfo Sanchez, Manuel Ojeda, Oscar Martinez, Ramiro Ramirez, Roberto Chapa.
Registration fee . AOSpine Members: USD 1,552 / Non Members: USD 1,600
Number of participants . 20

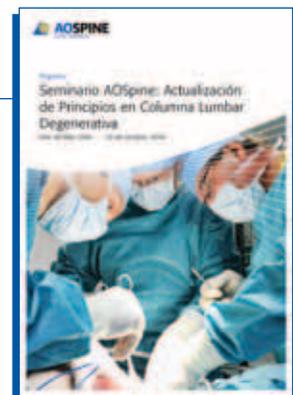


Course Evaluation	
Average Faculty Performance	4,48 out of 5
Average Importance to Daily Practice ...	4,56 out of 5
Scientific Program Content	4,50 out of 5
Quality of Material Received	4,50 out of 5
Course Facilities	4,50 out of 5
Overall Course Evaluation	4,50 out of 5

AOSpine Seminar: Update of Principles in Degenerative Lumbar Spine

This seminar addressed the principles of degenerative spine problems, with an emphasis on scoliosis and spondylolisthesis. Highlighting to make a good diagnosis, a proper study of images and measurements of deformity and above all how to make an effective and timely treatment.

Date . October 2, 2010
Venue . Sheraton Miramar Hotel & Convention Center – Viña del Mar, Chile
Chairperson . Patricio Yokota Beuret (Chile).
National Faculty . Enzo Mantelli, Franco Ravera, Gonzalo Arriagada, José Fleiderman, Karen Weissmann, Manuel Valencia, Marcelo Gálvez, Marcos Baabor, Milan Munjin, Nicolás Macchiavello, Paolo Massaro, René Corvalán, Roberto Postigo, Rodrigo Vallejo, Samuel Pantoja.
Registration fee . Free
Number of participants . 30

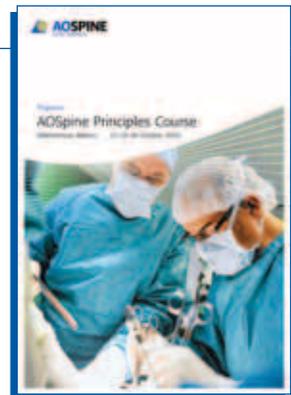


AOSpine Principles Course



With the objective of promoting a permanent scientific inquiry in spine surgeons of this country in pursuit of a continuing and increasing improvement for alternatives diagnosis and treatment of various diseases of the spine.

Also meeting one of the AOSpine objectives, this course was aimed to strengthen scientific and academic links, in an atmosphere of friendship and camaraderie among spine surgeons.



Date . October 21–23, 2010

Venue . Camino Real Villahermosa Hotel – Villahermosa, Mexico

Chairperson . Hernando Cuevas (Mexico).

Educational Director . Mario Taricco (Brazil).

Regional Faculty . Germán Ochoa (Colombia), Matías Petracchi (Argentina), Néstor Taboada (Colombia), Roberto Postigo (Chile).

National Faculty . Jesús Bernal, Gustavo Caldera, Roberto Chapa, Federico Cisneros, Gabriel Flores, Alfonso Nuñez, Lino Ruperto Torres Vallecillo.

Registration fee . USD 400

Number of participants . 48

Course Evaluation

Average Faculty Performance	4,45 out of 5
Average Importance to Daily Practice ...	4,50 out of 5
Scientific Program Content	4,79 out of 5
Quality of Material Received	4,33 out of 5
Course Facilities	4,47 out of 5
Overall Course Evaluation	4,87 out of 5

AOSpine Seminar for Residents: Trauma

This seminar, with emphasis in Raquiomedular Trauma with a complete revision about its diagnostic, classification and treatment.

The trauma modules of the cervical and thoracolumbar segment consisted of presentations of the classification and treatment options, going deep into the concepts through case discussions between Faculties and participants.

Date . October 22, 2010

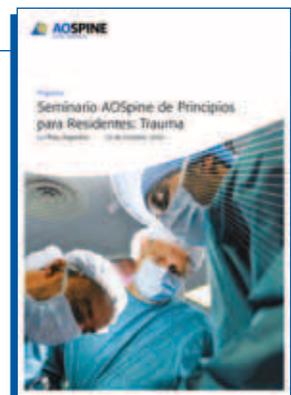
Venue . San Martín Hospital – La Plata, Argentina

Chairperson . Pedro Luis Bazán (Argentina).

National Faculty . Alejandro Mengotti, Alvaro Borri, Javier Mendez, Juan Emmerich, Néstor Fiore, Osvaldo Roman.

Registration fee . Free

Number of participants . 15



AOSpine Symposium: Advances in Tumor Spine Surgery

This Symposium had many characteristics that made it unique and very attractive.

During the three days was discussed a topic that requires a constant actualization due to its incidence and complexity, consequently, the main purpose was to get to know different ideas and incorporate new concepts to treat the patients. Therefore the symposium counted with an exceptional Experts group from North America and Europe, well-known as reference on tumoral pathology management.

On the first day was presented a live pig surgery and all its technical details. On the second and third day, apart of lectures, the seminar had case based presentations in order to optimize learning by discussion. By the end of this Symposium the participants definitely were stimulated.



Date . October 22–24, 2010

Venue . Universidade Católica do Paraná PUC and the Pestana Hotel – Curitiba, Brazil

Chairpersons . Marcelo Gruenberg (Argentina), Luiz Vialle (Brazil).

Course Educational Directors . Emiliano Vialle (Brazil), Laurence Rhines (USA).

International Faculty . Carlos Solá (Argentina), Charles Fisher (Canada), Michael Fehlings (Canada), Stefano Boriani (Italy), Ziya Gokaslan (USA), William Teixeira (Brazil).

Registration fee . AOSpine Members: USD 301 / Non Members: USD 350

Number of participants . 203



Course Evaluation

Average Faculty Performance	4,61 out of 5
Average Importance to Daily Practice ...	4,48 out of 5
Scientific Program Content	4,87 out of 5
Quality of Material Received	3,72 out of 5
Course Facilities	4,14 out of 5
Overall Course Evaluation	4,58 out of 5



AOSpine Seminar: Spinal Deformities – Pre-Congress of Orthopedics in Bolivia



The program of this course was aimed at discussing current topics and the more representative issues in how to deal with deformities which without question is one of the main challenges on the everyday routine of a spine surgeon.

It was in a great atmosphere that the participants had the opportunity to hear the personal experiences and to discuss the latest trends and technologies in an interactive environment.

Date . October 28, 2010

Venue . Radisson – La Paz, Bolivia

Chairperson . Juan Marcelo Sea Aramayo (Bolivia).

Regional Faculty . Eduardo Galaretto (Argentina), Ernesto Bersusky (Argentina).

National Faculty . Dieter Chávez Chuquimia, Eddy Antonio Dorado, Jorge Augusto Torres, Jose Villarroel.

Registration fee . Free

Number of participants . 26



AOSpine Advances Symposium: Trauma Degenerative, Tumor



Between 4 and 6 November this year was held on Margarita Island, Venezuela on topics such as cervical and toracolumbar trauma pathology, cervical and lumbar degenerative disease and tumor pathology, clinical case presentations, discussions and related topics, with excellent national and international teachers.

The course included the active participation of registrants, a highly interactive group, which led to success in a friendly environment with shared experiences and knowledge.

This fulfilled one of the goals which was to bring to the participants a set of knowledge and new experiences that will assist in the management of diseases and above all a sense of having formed strong bonds of friendship among participants and Faculties.

Date . November 04–06, 2010

Venue . Lidotel – Margarita, Venezuela

Chairperson . Edgar Gonzalez (Venezuela).

Educational Director . Pablo Vela (Colombia).

International Faculty . Randall Chestnut (USA).

Regional Faculty . Michael Dittmar (Mexico), Alexandre Sadao Iutaka (Brazil), Roberto Chapa (Mexico).

National Faculty . Jose Duran Dautant, Luis Lara, Manuel Alvarado, Marlon Díaz.

Registration fee . AOSpine Members: USD 950 / Non Members: USD 1,000

Number of participants . 34



Course Evaluation

Average Faculty Performance	4,40 out of 5
Average Importance to Daily Practice ...	4,51 out of 5
Scientific Program Content	4,48 out of 5
Quality of Material Received	4,00 out of 5
Course Facilities	4,19 out of 5
Overall Course Evaluation	4,30 out of 5

AOSpine Symposium: Trauma

This symposium was attended by column surgeons from the country under the educational mission of AOSpine, where was reviewed a wide variety of topics related to management of spinal trauma.

Following the custom of the educational model of the organization, it was all in the context of a discussion of cases, but especially with a participatory environment clearly in the midst of a great camaraderie for this time of learning was also a great personal experience.

Date . November 05–06, 2010

Venue . Hotel Radisson Royal – Bogotá, Colombia

Chairperson . Andrés Rodríguez (Colombia).

International Faculty . Zdenek Klezl (United Kingdom).

Regional Faculty . Marcelo Valacco (Argentina).

National Faculty . Constanza Bedoya, Edgar Celis, Fernando Hakim, Fernando Helo Yamhure, Javier Patino, José Mária Rodríguez, Luis Carlos Morales, Mario Herrera, Ricardo Londoño.

Registration fee: Free

Number of participants . 56



Course Evaluation

Average Faculty Performance	4,14 out of 5
Average Importance to Daily Practice ...	4,29 out of 5
Scientific Program Content	4,12 out of 5
Quality of Material Received	4,12 out of 5
Course Facilities	4,40 out of 5
Overall Course Evaluation	4,37 out of 5

AOSpine Principles Seminar

Faculties took the opportunity to exchange experiences among, orthopedists and neurosurgeons participants with a major interest in diseases of the spine.

The main objective was to define principles of spinal cord injury treatments, in addition to defining the treatment principles in degenerative diseases and emphasized how to prevent complications.

Date . November 05–06, 2010

Venue . San Diego Suites – Uberlândia, Brazil

Chairperson . Robert Meves (Brazil).

National Faculty . Diminson Braz, Fabiano Canto, Fernando Dantas, Guilherme Duarte de Castro, Ilton José Carrilho de Castro, Marcelo Batista Schioato, Marcio Vinhal, Paulo Marinho, Samuel Caputo de Castro.

Registration fee: Free

Number of participants . 16



AOSpine Cadaveric Course



This course was designed to share 2 hours of work on spinal surgical techniques and instrumentation. Faculties gave participants short theoretical explanations on various topics and then, some work was done together in the laboratory where different were developed for the same techniques selected.

Date . November 05–06, 2010

Venue . Facultad de Ciencias Médicas, La Plata University – La Plata, Argentina

Chairperson . Pedro Luis Bazán (Argentina).

Educational Director . Néstor Fiore (Argentina).

National Faculty . Alejandro Mengotti, Álvaro Borri, Jorge Lambre, Juan Emmerich, Osvaldo Romano.

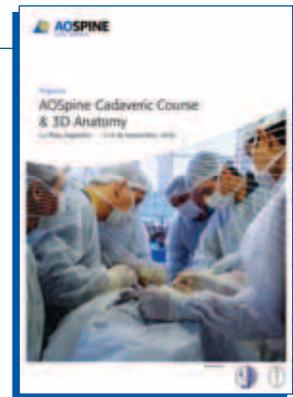
Special Guests . Geraldo Sá Carneiro (Brazil), Juan Marcelo Sea Aramayo (Bolivia), Roberto Postigo (Chile).

Registration fee . AOSpine Members: USD 1,350 / Non Members: USD 1,500

Number of participants . 13

Course Evaluation

Average Faculty Performance	4,10 out of 5
Average Importance to Daily Practice ...	4,15 out of 5
Scientific Program Content	4,77 out of 5
Quality of Material Received	5,00 out of 5
Course Facilities	4,77 out of 5
Overall Course Evaluation	4,92 out of 5



AOSpine Advances Symposium: Trauma, Degenerative and Deformity



Faculties and participants exchanged thoughts, experiences and behaviors related to congenital deformities, idiopathic or acquired and degenerative aspects of the spine. This course was focused on issues of great interest to those who treat disorders of the spine, based on a methodology for clinical case discussion and presentation of issues related to these, which allowed, guided with the input of the panel of invited experts, enriched the knowledge to make a correct diagnosis and to provide the best options for patients' medical or surgical treatment.

Date . November 12–13, 2010

Venue . Costa Rica Marriot Hotel – San José, Costa Rica

Chairperson . Alexander Valverde (Costa Rica)

Educational Director . Roberto Chapa (Mexico)

International Faculty . Marinus de Kleuver (Netherlands)

Regional Faculty . Marcelo Gruenberg (Argentina), Néstor Fiore (Argentina), Osmar Moraes (Brazil)

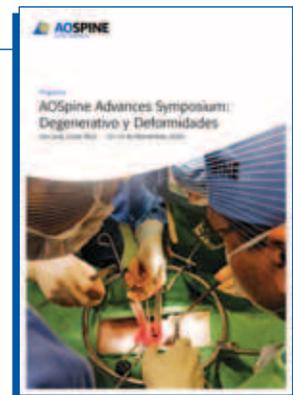
National Faculty . Edgar Jiménez Masis, Francisco Brenes Villalobos, José Pérez-Berríos, Mario Solano Salas, Patricio Alvarez Cosmelli

Registration fee . AOSpine Members: USD 450 / Non Members: USD 500

Number of participants . 23

Course Evaluation

Average Faculty Performance	4,61 out of 5
Average Importance to Daily Practice ...	4,50 out of 5
Scientific Program Content	4,10 out of 5
Quality of Material Received	3,89 out of 5
Course Facilities	3,71 out of 5
Overall Course Evaluation	4,20 out of 5



First AOSpine Seminar: Trauma and Degenerative



The first AOSpine Seminar created thinking about the need in this country to cultivate lifelong learning and stimulate scientific activity in young neuro and orthopedic surgeons, trying to help that spine Surgery is developed as a specialty independent if they are neuro or orthopedic surgeons who carry it out, but always aiming to the excellence in training and performance with the final goal which is the benefit of our patients.

The seminar dealt about Spinal Cord Injuries and Degenerative Diseases of the Spine, topics chosen for being the most frequent in daily practice and where some of the main goals were to share the experience of each of the participants that contributed to the growth of all in this specialty that progresses each day.



Date . November 12–13, 2010

Venue . Granados Park Hotel – Asunción, Paraguay

Chairperson . Reddy Simon (Paraguay).

Regional Faculty . Germán Ochoa (Colombia), Ricardo Ribeiro (Brazil), Samuel Pantoja (Chile).

National Faculty . Carlos Feltes, Celso Antonio Fretes Ramirez, Elio Marin Sanabria, Fabrizio Frutos, Juan Ramon Silva.

Registration fee . AOSpine Members: USD 55 / Non Members: USD 70

Number of participants . 20

AOSpine Seminar: Complications



This seminar was developed having in mind that with the increased number of surgeries also increase complications, the same as in one way or another could have been prevented and in some cases, the timely and appropriate management of complications, may mean greater satisfaction for both patients and surgeons.

For this reason, we reviewed the results expected from spinal surgery that occasion dissatisfaction among patients and their surgeons. Complications often are not surgically but the result of inadequate understanding of the disease, inadequate surgical planning and lack of resources and skills.



Date . November 20, 2010

Venue . Novotel Hotel – Lima, Peru

Chairperson . Alfredo Vásquez Rodríguez (Peru).

Regional Faculty . Geraldo Sá Carneiro (Brazil), Germán Ochoa (Colombia).

National Faculty . Carlos Cárdenas, Daniel De La Cruz, Francisco Salinas Malaga, Francisco Zambrano, Hernán Jose Valdivia Sosa, Jorge Felix, Marco Medina, Michael Hinojosa.

Registration fee . Free

Number of participants . 35

AOSpine Masters Symposium: Trauma

Fractures and spinal trauma seem to have not changed over the years, but society and its environment has changed, currently we find more public violence what changes patterns automotive accidents for penetrating injury crashes. The age of the working population has increased as well as longevity which creates fractures in particular conditions such as osteoporosis, preventing the immediate stabilization.

In this symposium, the AOSpine group gathered a group of spine surgeons, regional as well as foreigners with extensive experience in managing patients with spine trauma, in which the course was directed to expand the knowledge and tools for the management of complex fractures of the spine.

In the care centers and institutions of this country, every time we found more complex injuries that are not caused by automobile accidents already known, but by the public violence that we currently face.

In addition to the factor that the population becomes more long-lived and that this has generated another type of spinal injuries occurring more frequently, courses like guides us to the final treatment.

Date . November 19-20

Venue . Hotel Mision – Cuernavaca, Mexico

Chairperson . Michael Dittmar (Mexico).

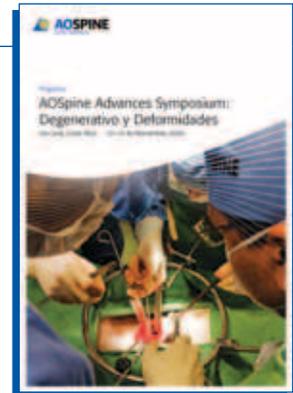
International Faculty . Carlo Bellabarba (USA), Frank Kandziora (Germany).

Regional Faculty . Luiz Vialle (Brazil).

National Faculty . Antonio Hurtado, Federico Cisneros, Gustavo Casas, Jorge Cabrera, Jose Jimenez, Roberto Chapa.

Registration fee . USD 500

Number of participants . 50



Course Evaluation

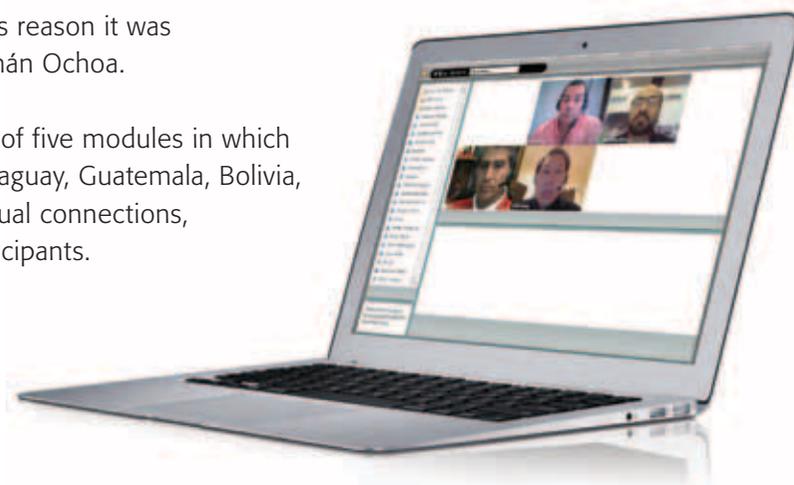
Average Faculty Performance	4,40 out of 5
Average Importance to Daily Practice ...	4,52 out of 5
Scientific Program Content	4,77 out of 5
Quality of Material Received	4,15 out of 5
Course Facilities	3,28 out of 5
Overall Course Evaluation	4,48 out of 5

Virtual education

The virtual course 2009 was a success, and for this reason it was held again in 2010 under the coordination of Germán Ochoa.

Beginning on April 17, the virtual course consisted of five modules in which various topics were addressed. Auditoriums in Paraguay, Guatemala, Bolivia, Colombia, El Salvador and Spain along with individual connections, used the latest technology with a total of 326 participants.

The fourth module was accompanied by all the Regional Board that was meeting in Bogota, Colombia, to make the transition to the Regional Board elected members and to discuss other administrative issues.



Module I – Spinal Injuries

Date . April 17, 2010

Course Moderator . Roberto Chapa (Mexico).

International Faculty . Carlos Villas (Spain).

Regional Faculty . Alejandro Betemps (Argentina), Ernesto Bersusky (Argentina), Javier Mata (Colombia), Michael Dittmar (Mexico), Milan Munjin (Chile).

Guests . Luiz Vialle (Brazil), Marcelo Gruenberg (Argentina), Osmar Moraes (Brazil).

Registration fee . Free

Number of participants in auditoriums . 68

Number of participants in individual connections . 70

Module II – Degenerative Disease

Date . May 29, 2010

Course Moderator . Néstor Fiore (Argentina).

International Faculty . Salvador Fuster (Spain).

Regional Faculty . Alexandre Sadao Iutaka (Brazil), Emiliano Vialle (Brazil), Enrique Osorio (Colombia), Ernesto Bersusky (Argentina), Geraldo Sá Carneiro (Brazil), Germán Ochoa (Colombia), Marcelo Valacco (Argentina).

Registration fee . Free

Number of participants in auditoriums . 53

Number of participants in individual connections . 73

Module III - Prevention and Complications Management

Date . July 31, 2010

Course Moderator . Osmar Moraes (Brazil).

Regional Faculty . Andrés Rodríguez (Colombia), Carlos Solá (Argentina), Geraldo Sá Carneiro (Brazil), Juan Emmerich (Argentina), Marcelo Gruenberg (Argentina), Mario Taricco (Brazil), Roberto Chapa (Mexico).

Registration fee . Free

Number of participants in auditoriums . 49

Number of participants in individual connections . 66

Module IV – Infections and Tumor

Date . September 18, 2010
Course Moderator . Pablo Vela (Colombia).
Regional Faculty . Jaime Segura (Colombia), Luiz Vialle (Brazil), Néstor Taboada (Colombia), Néstor Fiore (Argentina), Oscar Carreras (Uruguay), Pedro Luis Bazán (Argentina).
Registration fee . Free
Number of participants in auditoriums . 52
Number of participants in individual connections . 65



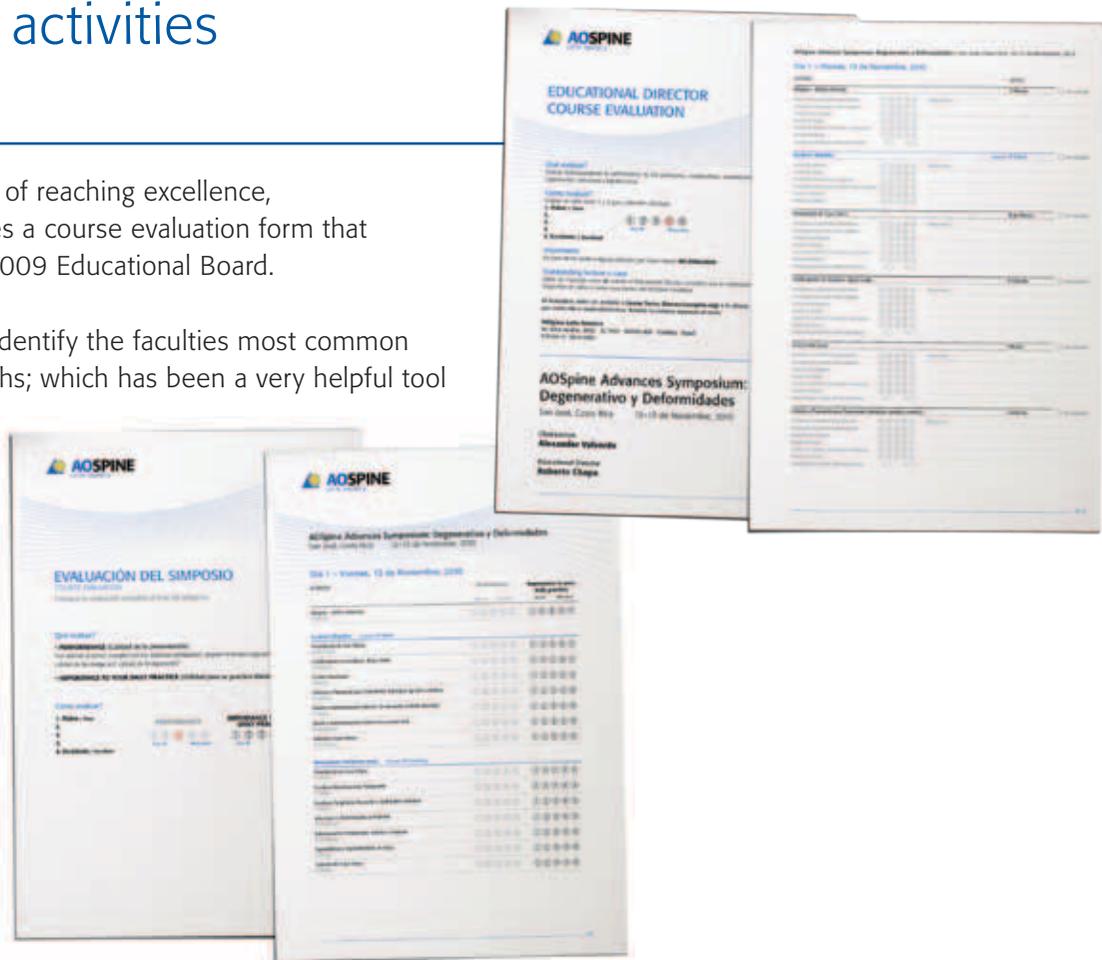
Module V – Surgery in Elderly Patients

Date . November 27
Course Moderator . Germán Ochoa (Colombia).
Regional Faculty . Carlos Montero Silva (Colombia), Juan Pablo de León Palacios (Guatemala), Néstor Fiore (Argentina).
Guests . Luiz Vialle (Brazil), Osmar Moraes (Brazil).
Registration fee . Free
Number of participants in auditoriums . 67
Number of participants in individual connections . 72

Educational activities evaluation

Having in mind the goal of reaching excellence, AOSLA continuously uses a course evaluation form that was developed by the 2009 Educational Board.

The evaluation aims to identify the faculties most common weaknesses and strengths; which has been a very helpful tool for the development of tailored programs for specific groups of individuals.



Faculty development

The training courses are very useful because they provide tools allowing our faculties to develop and improve the necessary skills to transmit their knowledge using all the tips shown throughout the courses, such as: How to carefully prepare a presentation considering everything from speech, tone of voice, body language as well as considering the visual aids to be used through the presentation, the appropriate template, fonts, highlight, etc.

Participants get to present a lecture and watch over what they had done wrong and work on it during the course. In November this year, AOSLA trained some more faculties as you can see below:

AOSLA T4C

A special course targeted at all established, this-year course chairpersons, who had ideally completed the AOSpine Tips for Trainers course. The main purpose of the event was to establish a baseline competency for all AOSpine courses chairpersons.

The agenda included presentations on AOSpine (vision, mission and use of templates); relationships with Synthes (past, present, and future); differences between regional, national and international course organization; process of appointing chairpersons; the role of the chairperson. Needless to say that there were plenty of practical exercises and discussions, where participants could voice their opinions, ask questions and exchange experiences.

The success of this particular course could be noticed in all other AOSLA's 2010 courses, where high quality organization and state-of-the-art knowledge were the main features.

Date . February 3–6, 2010

Venue . Intercontinental Playa Bonita Hotel - Panama City

Chairpersons . Néstor Fiore (Argentina), Marcelo Gruenberg (Argentina),

Educators . Fabiana Reboiras (Argentina) Germán Ochoa (Colombia).

Guest . Miriam Uhlmann (Switzerland).



AOSLA Central American Faculty Training

Education is for AOSLA the platform to transmit and exchange knowledge about spine problems. To carry out an effective education we must take into consideration what faculties teach and how they do it, taking this into consideration, this is how the AOSLA Teacher Training (FPA) is directed. This was the first opportunity where we used two tools:

- 1) The first part online, on which material had already worked.
- 2) A get-together.

The main objective was to try to provide simple and practical elements, which are useful at the time of participation in educational activities to improve education in Latin America.



Date . November 11, 2010

Venue . Marriot Hotel – San José, Costa Rica

Chairperson . Néstor Fiore (Argentina).

Educators . Marcelo Gruenberg (Argentina), Fabiana Reboiras (Argentina).

Faculty training participants . Rafael de La Riva Rohrmoser (Guatemala), Juan Pablo de León Palacios (Guatemala), Iohan Fernandez (Dominican Republic), Javier Gutierrez (Costa Rica), Edgar Jiménez Masis (Costa Rica), Mitzadi Ordoñez (Panama), Julio Luis Pozuelos Lopez (Guatemala), Erick Rodas (Guatemala), Hector Torres R. (Costa Rica), Alexander Valverde (Costa Rica), Eduardo Huertas (Costa Rica).

The following table shows the faculties that have taken the AOSpine Faculty Training courses:

Name	Country	T4ED	T4C	T4T	AOSLA Faculty Improvement
Alejandro Betemps	Argentina			X	X
Alejandro Urzúa	Chile				X
Alexander Valverde	Costa Rica		X	X	
Alexandre Sadao Iutaka	Brazil			X	
Alexandre Fogoça	Brazil			X	
Alfredo Vásquez Rodríguez	Peru			X	X
Amancio Ramalho	Brazil			X	
Amauri Godinho	Brazil			X	
Andrés Cervio	Argentina			X	X
Andrés Rodríguez	Colombia		X	X	X
Antonio Mock	Panama		X	X	
Antonio Braconi	Brazil			X	
Armando Alpizar	Mexico			X	
Augustin Malzac	Brazil			X	
Aurélio Ramirez	Mexico			X	
Bartolome Marré	Chile		X	X	
Carlos A. Engelhorn	Brazil			X	
Carlos Cárdenas	Peru		X		
Carlos Legarreta	Argentina			X	
Carlos A. Mora Ojeda	Colombia			X	X
Carlos Mounier	Argentina			X	
Carlos Solá	Argentina			X	
Catarino López	Mexico			X	X
César González	Mexico			X	
Cristiano Menezes	Brazil			X	
Daniel Cauti De La Cruz	Peru				X
Daniel Onay	Venezuela				X
Delio Martins	Brazil			X	
Edgar González	Venezuela		X		X
Edgar Jiménez Masis	Costa Rica			X	
Edgardo Spagnuolo Dondero	Uruguay		X		
Eduardo Galaretto	Argentina			X	X
Eduardo Huertas	Costa Rica			X	
Eduardo Von Uhlendorff	Brazil			X	
Emiliano Vialle	Brazil	X	X	X	X
Erick Rodas	Guatemala		X	X	

Name	Country	T4ED	T4C	T4T	AOSLA Faculty Improvement
Ernesto Bersusky	Argentina			X	
Ernesto Carvalo	Venezuela			X	
Ernesto Vargas	Ecuador				X
Fabiano Canto	Brazil			X	
Federico Cisneros	Mexico			X	X
Fernando Façanha Filho	Brazil			X	
Fernando Helo Yamhure	Colombia			X	
Geraldo Sá Carneiro	Brazil		X	X	X
Germán Ochoa	Colombia			X	
Glays Pavon	Ecuador		X		
Guido Pugliese	Colombia			X	
Gustavo Casas	Mexico		X		
Helton Defino	Brazil			X	X
Hernán Valdivia	Peru				X
Hernando Cuevas	Mexico		X	X	
Hugo Dobles	Costa Rica		X		
Iohan Fernandez	República Dominicana			X	
Jaime Linares	Bolivia		X		
Jaime Raul Pavon	Ecuador				X
Jaime Segura	Colombia			X	
James Cardona	Venezuela			X	
Javier Brenes	Costa Rica			X	
Javier Gutierrez	Costa Rica			X	
Javier Martinez	Argentina			X	
Javier Matta	Colombia			X	
Jefferson Galvés	Brazil			X	
Jesús Bernal	Mexico		X	X	
Jorge Cancinos	Argentina			X	
Jorge Lambre	Argentina			X	
Jose Antonio Finocchio	Venezuela			X	
Jose Rafael Otero	Venezuela			X	X
Juan Carlos Reina	Mexico			X	X
Juan Carlos Valle Landa	Mexico			X	
Juan Emmerich	Argentina		X	X	
Juan Francisco Lasso	Ecuador		X		
Juan Marcelo Sea Aramayo	Bolivia		X		



Name	Country	T4ED	T4C	T4T	AOSLA Faculty Improvement
Juan Pablo De León Palacios	Guatemala		X	X	
Julio Luis Pozuelos Lopez	Guatemala			X	
Luis Arango	Colombia			X	
Luis C. Morales	Colombia			X	X
Luis Eduardo Rocha	Brazil			X	
Luis Guijarro	Ecuador				X
Luis Lara	Venezuela		X	X	
Luis Miguel Rosales	Mexico			X	
Luiz Gustavo Rocha	Brazil			X	
Luiz Felipe Carvalho	Brazil			X	
Luiz Vialle	Brazil		X	X	X
Manuel Alvarado	Venezuela		X	X	X
Marcelo Gruenberg	Argentina		X	X	X
Marcelo Valacco	Argentina			X	X
Marco Medina	Peru		X	X	X
Marcos Tebet	Brazil			X	
Marcus A. Mello Santos	Brazil			X	
Mario Herrera	Colombia			X	
Mario Patricio Zumarraga Velasco	Ecuador		X		
Mario Solano	Costa Rica			X	
Mario Taricco	Brazil	X	X	X	X
Marlon Diaz	Venezuela		X	X	
Martha Hernandez	Ecuador			X	X
Martín Tejeda	Mexico			X	X
Matías Petracchi	Argentina			X	
Mauricio Calais	Brazil			X	
Mauricio Gusmão	Brazil			X	
Mauro Volpi	Brazil			X	
Michael Dittmar	Mexico			X	X
Michael Hinojosa	Peru		X		
Miguel Alejandro Alfoso	Colombia			X	
Milan Munjin			X		
Mitzadi Ordoñez	Panama			X	
Néstor Fiore	Argentina	X	X	X	X
Néstor Guzman	Colombia		X	X	
Néstor Taboada	Colombia			X	X

Name	Country	T4ED	T4C	T4T	AOSLA Faculty Improvement
Osmar Moraes	Brazil		X	X	X
Oscar Carreras	Uruguay		X		
Oscar Martinez	Mexico			X	
Osvaldo Romano	Argentina			X	
Otto Alvarado	Guatemala			X	
Pablo Vela	Colombia	X	X	X	X
Patricio Bustos	Chile			X	
Patricio Zumárraga	Ecuador			X	X
Paulo Cavali	Brazil			X	X
Pedro Luis Bazán	Argentina		X	X	
Rafael De La Riva Rohmoser	Guatemala		X	X	
Rafael Marcon	Brazil			X	
Ramiro Gutierrez	Argentina				
Raúl Arjona	Panama		X	X	X
Raúl Machiavello	Peru				X
Reddy Simón	Paraguay		X		
Ricardo Andaluz	Mexico			X	
Ricardo Londoño	Colombia				X
Ricardo Prina	Argentina			X	
Ricardo Restrepo	Colombia		X	X	
Ricardo Ribeiro	Brazil		X	X	
Robert Meves	Brazil		X	X	
Roberto Chapa	Mexico	X	X	X	X
Roberto Postigo	Chile	X			
Rodolfo Lopez	Chile			X	X
Ruben Cardenas	Mexico			X	
Ruben Alejandro Morales Ciancio	Argentina		X		
Samuel Pantoja	Chile		X		X
Sergio Daher	Brazil			X	
Tulio Rangel	Brazil			X	
Ubirajara Bley	Brazil			X	
Victor Davila	Venezuela			X	X
Víctor Flores	Mexico			X	
Wagner Pasqualini	Brazil			X	
Yokota Beuret	Chile		X		

Education projects 2010

AOSLA Curriculum Implementation Strategy

Purpose

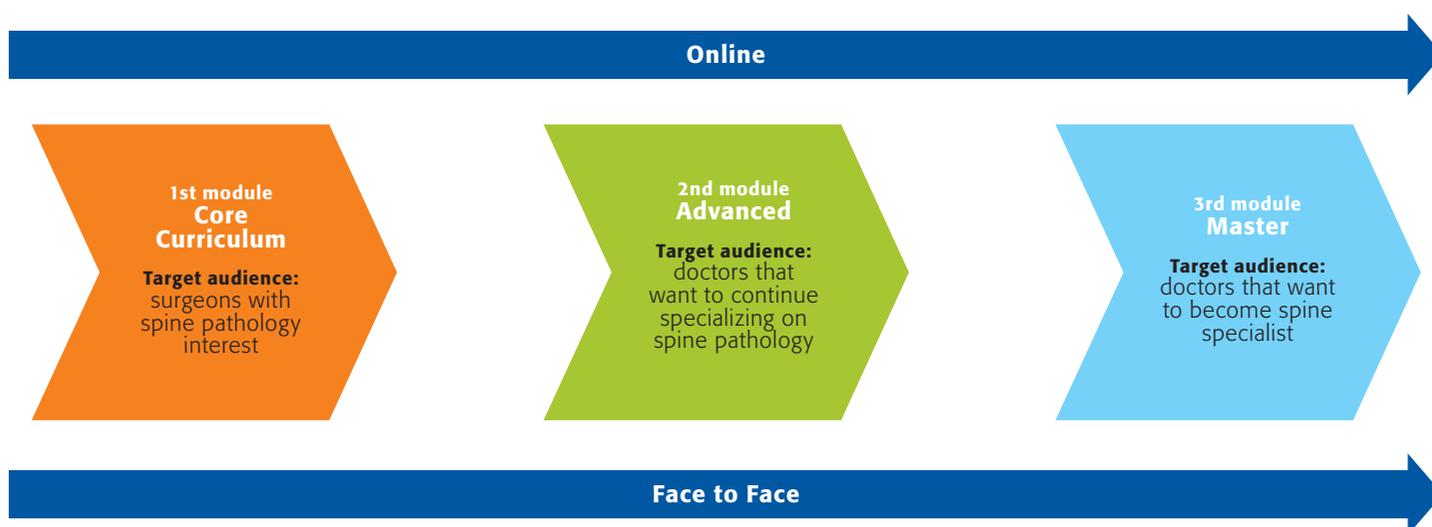
Implement a comprehensive educational program towards a consistent medical training in spine pathologies.

Characteristics

- Progressive educational content based on AOSpine Curriculum areas of pathology and having AOSpine Principles as foundation for patient management;
- Provide innovative and state-of-the-art education;
- Knowledge Evaluation and Certification;
- Complete Integration of AOSpine standards and activities:
 - AOSpine faculty network;
 - AOSpine Curriculum;
 - AOSpine Principles;
 - Face-to-face meetings and events;
 - AOSpine Online tools.

Program Framework

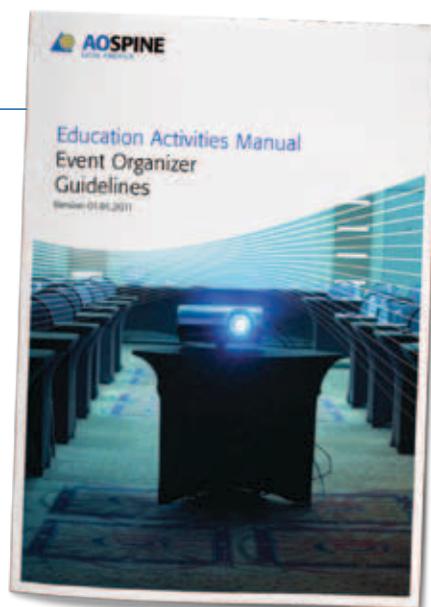
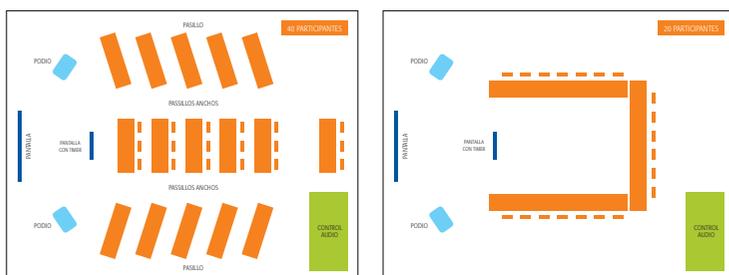
- Online content:
 - 3 Modules: Core Curriculum, Advanced, Master (concurrent to face-to-face).
- Face-to-face activities:
 - 3 Modules (concurrent to online).
- Supplementary material / activities;
- Examination and Certification:
 - Final examination and certification upon completion of full program.



AOSpine Latin America Event Organizer Guideline

Description

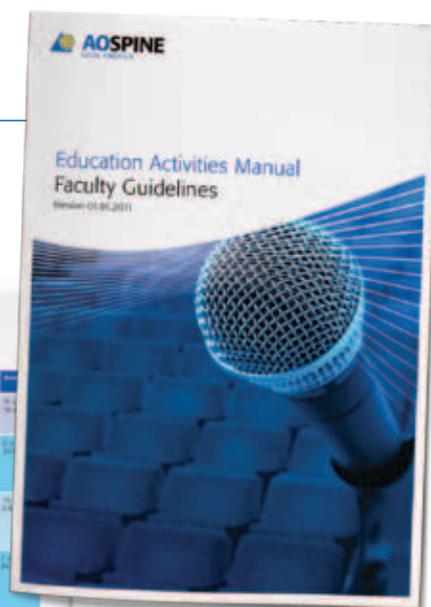
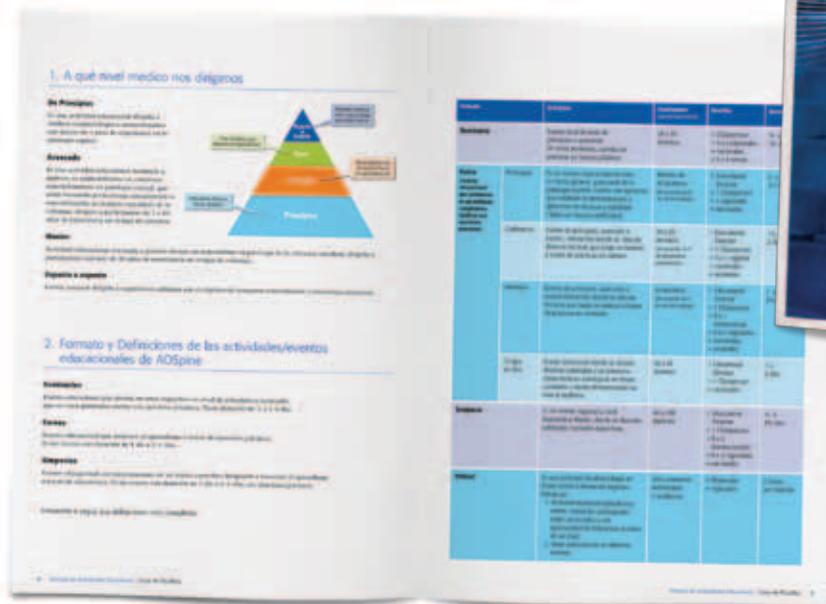
The purpose of this document is to unify AOSpine events logistics and administration, providing Event Organizers with the resource to guide the planning and organization of AOSpine educational activities in order to assure effectiveness for a successful educational experience.



AOSpine Latin America Faculty Guideline

Purpose

The idea of publishing this guideline is to update and inform faculties about the scientific activity in AOSpine Latin America. Its main purpose is that at the end of the reading, faculties would be able to define the type of activity such their own roles and responsibilities on the different formats of educational events where they are invited to participate.



Spine Centers & Fellowships



Spine Centers & Fellowships officer's word

Dear Colleagues:

Already at the sunset of the year 2010 it is always good to look back and reflect on what was done and all that remains to be done. In terms of the office I represent in the Latin American Board, we were able to carry out the process of renewal and opportunity characteristic of the AO global organization especially in regard to AOSpine.

Dr. Pablo Vela gave over his post after serving with utmost care and dedication all missions entrusted to him. He was very much behind the development of the fellowship programs in several centers in Latin America. His and AO's strong support were paramount in making possible to many colleagues to complete their educational processes. Prior to my election he worked out the basis of creating an observership program which, since my taking over the job, we have been tuning up its regulations, its economic viability for both trainers and trainees.

To better define the profile of the people coming to our courses, we advance a survey made after one of the courses on AOSpine Principles given in Santa Cruz, Bolivia. The information gathered there will provide us with an opportunity to better support the already existing fellowship programs as well as to reinforce programs in process such as Observership.

Over the next meetings we will continue the process of generating other training alternatives to keep on going with AOSPINE's primary mission which is education. Suggestions and the involvement of the entire community are always welcome in this mission entrusted to me

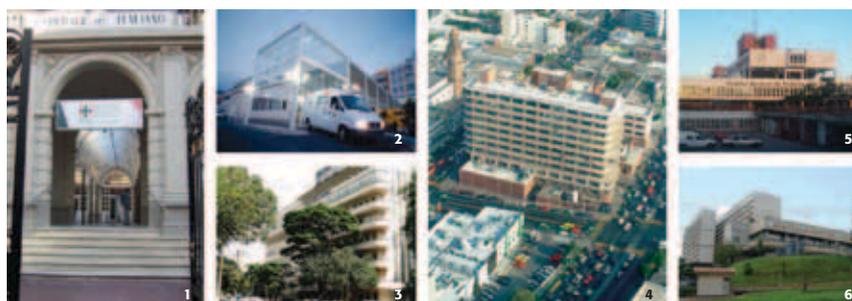
Cheers,



Andrés Rodríguez
AOSpine Latin America – Spine Centers
& Fellowships

Spine Centers

During 2010 AOSLA incorporated 2 new Spine Centers. Hospital das Clinicas from Brazil and IMSS 21 from Mexico. These centers add not only more options for Fellows of our region but also two entire spine experts teams able to support our growing community.



Spine Center	Location	Program Director
Hospital Italiano 1	Buenos Aires – Argentina	Marcelo Gruenberg
Hospital Universitário Cajuru – Pontifical Catholic University of Paraná 2	Curitiba – Brazil	Luiz Vialle
Hospital Universidade de São Paulo 3	São Paulo – Brazil	Alexandre Sadao Iutaka
Hospital de Ortopedia y Traumatologia IMSS 4	Monterrey – Mexico	Roberto Chapa
Paediatric Hospital “Prof Dr Juan P. Garrahan” 5	Buenos Aires – Argentina	Ernesto Bersusky
Hospital das Clínicas da Faculdade de Medicina de Ribeirão Preto – USP 6	Ribeirão Preto – Brazil	Helton Defino

Fellowships

The fellowship program is increasingly recognized within the region, receiving more and more applications for Centers of spine surgeons who want to improve their skills and knowledge in spine surgery.

For this, AOSLA has short and long terms programs. Find below a list of current fellows:

Short term

Name	Country	From	To	Spine Center
Felix Imposti	Argentina	Jan 04, 2010	Mar 31, 2010	Harbowview Medical Center
Juan Pablo Guyot	Argentina	Jan 04, 2010	Mar 31, 2010	Harbowview Medical Center
Alessandro Cardoso	Brazil	Jul 01, 2010	Oct 01, 2010	Hospital Universitario Cajuru
Cristiano Simões	Brazil	Sep 01, 2010	Nov 30, 2010	Rizzoli Institute
Alexandre Borba	Brazil	Sep 01, 2010	Dec 01, 2010	Hospital Universitario Cajuru
Fernando Alvarado	Colombia	Oct 01, 2010	Dec 01, 2010	Paediatric Hospital “Prof Dr Juan P. Garrahan”

Long term

Name	Country	From	To	Spine Center
Antonio Krieger	Brazil	Feb 01, 2010	Feb 01, 2011	Hospital Universitario Cajuru
Charbel Jacob	Brazil	Jul 01, 2010	Jun 01, 2011	Hospital Universitario Cajuru
Maxililiano Meirelles	Argentina	Jul 01, 2010	Jul 01, 2011	Hospital Italiano de Buenos Aires

Report from an AOSpine Fellow

Being able to be part of the AOSpine family was one of the most important things for my medical formation as a Spine surgeon. I had the great privilege to perform my AOSpine fellowship in Curitiba, supervised by Dr. Luiz Vialle and his staff. During the year I spent there, I was able to discuss and learn all about the pathologies of the spine, and had a unique opportunity to perform several procedures, always under a supervision and guidance of one of the staff team. In our clinical meetings, which occurred every Monday morning, we had the chance to learn and specially up-date our knowledge based on the most actual literature and technology. Nevertheless, we could learn also from the experience of the group, especially from Dr. Vialle. One thing that became very clear in my mind was a phrase that Dr. Vialle always repeated to us: "Have the knowledge, before using the technology".

Staying away from home and family imposes its difficulties, however the dedication given to us by the staff members, and on the other hand, the dedication required from us, made it possible to create a new family, and to learn not only technical skills in spine surgery but also to have a lifetime experience that helped me to improve as a surgeon and person.

The AOSpine office was always supportive and worked to avoid and eventually solve any kind of problems that might appeared. The contact was always direct with the office personnel and promptly attended.

During my fellowship, I had the opportunity to attend to several courses in Brazil and also outside the country. I was able to meet spine surgeons very respected worldwide in the "spine surgery world" and to share their experience and knowledge.

One thing in my opinion that was very important also was to develop a critic sense in a way that I could get the latest information from the most respected literature in the world, and be able to judge its utility in the treating of the patients.

Our activity went way beyond discussing cases and operating. Opportunities to do research on the spinal cord injury in animal models were provided to us. The academic part of the program as in publishing articles is one of the greatest advantages of the program. Due the large amount of patients and different sorts of pathologies, retrospectively and prospectively works are within the opportunities given to the spine fellow.

Shortening the distance between the spine surgeons worldwide and giving equal opportunity to the access and share the knowledge is the most important thing about being a AOSpine member. Once I finished my fellowship in Brazil, it was provided me, by AOSpine, the opportunity to expand my training and come to Italy into one the most respected centers for treatments of oncological spine pathologies in the world, under the supervision of Dr. Stefano Boriani at the Rizzoli Institute.

So far I am enjoying a lot this new experience, and once again my AOSpine family is still growing...



AOSpine Fellow Cristiano Simões and Dr. Stefano Boriani, from Rizzoli Institute – Italy

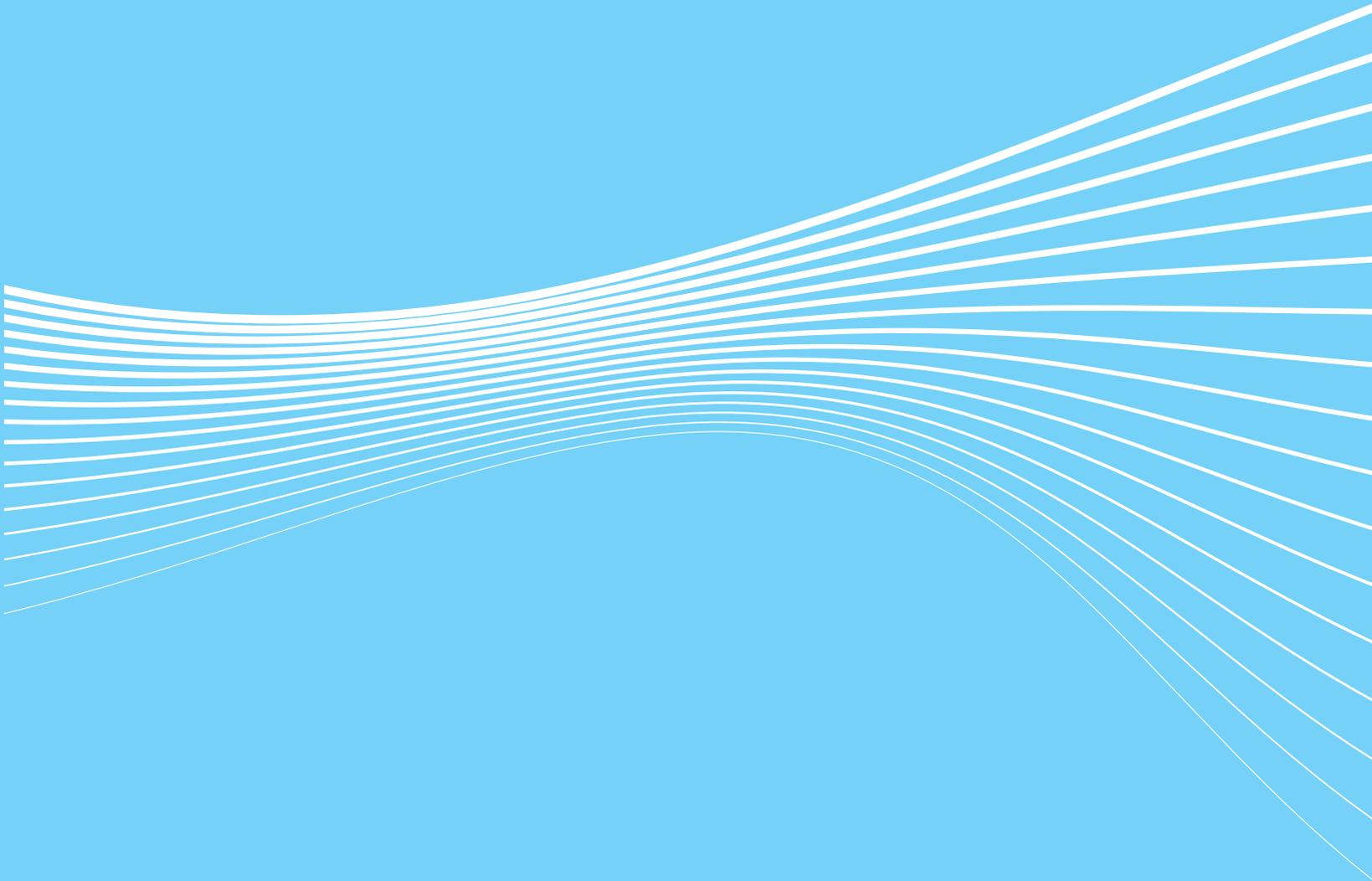
Christiano Esteves Simões
AOSpine Fellow

Observership

Observership is a new AOSpine Fellowship program designed for surgeons who want to assist specific kinds of surgical procedures and techniques. This program lasts from 1 day up to 2 weeks. As any Fellowship Program, an Observership is granted to AOSpine Members approved in a regular process of candidature. However, considering the short period of the program duration and aiming a faster approval time, AOSpine demands fewer documentation and Officers approval for the Observership.

Following the same principle AOSLA will open a call for Observership Centers that due the short period of each program will be required a lower number of procedures and documentation. It is expected to have the first Observership centers and program in 2011.

Research



Research officer's word

Dear AOSpine members,

It's a pleasure to report to you on the research activities carried out in Latin America during the year of 2010.

As research officer I was able to actively participate in the decision making process on spine surgery research, namely the Spine Research Network, a group of experts in intervertebral disc regeneration. I have also represented AOSLA in selecting the winners of the HIW award research fellowships and of the main AO Foundation project for this year which was the scholarship for studying fracture fixation in osteoporotic bone. In spite of not having any representative from Latin America among the winners, it was nice to see that the number of applicants to this kind of grants increased significantly.

We have kept close contact with people interested in developing research projects. Such contact was possible thanks to Dr. Leandro Nuñez and to Rodrigo de Haro who advised and supported the elaboration of projects, following up closely and appropriately the development of such work.

Important to point out how closely the international community is watching our original projects and how they want to participate in some of them already under way. People from South Africa, India and China want to join our studies on tuberculosis, syringomyelia and basilar invagination. On a separate arm, but within our protocol, the Italian chapter wants to get involved in the A3 study on fractures.

Our on-line research projects keep going, now with support from AOCID so we can obtain demographic data on treatment routines in our region and, consequently, determine real research needs in our region.

For the coming year we want to rise the number of studies by means of a new assessing and financing system and by certificating the already existing study projects.

Cordially,



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'E. Vialle', written in a cursive style.

Emiliano Vialle
AOSpine Latin America – Research

Spinal Tuberculosis

The main objective of the present study is to compare two available surgical treatments for spinal tuberculosis –anterior and posterior approach – in terms of surgical complications and the neurological and functional development, disease outcomes and the patient’s quality of life. The two main investigators leading this project are Manuel Alvarado (Venezuela) and Shashank Kale (India).

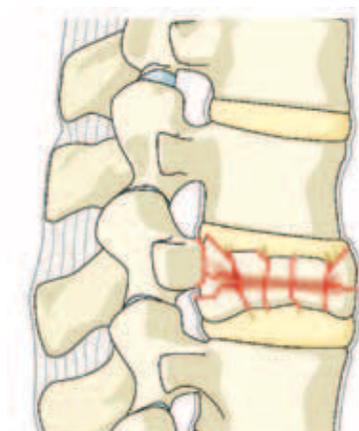
As this disease is present in almost all continents, the main investigators decided to search centers all over the regions. The list of the centers and their current status are illustrated in the chart below.



Code	Investigator	Center	Status
VEN 01	Manuel Alvarado	Hospital Vargas de Caracas	Approved to start enrolling patients
IND 01	Shashank Kale	All India Institute of Medical Sciences	Approval Expected for December 2010
ECU 01	Luis Guijarro	Hospital Eugenio Espejo	Approved – 2 patients
BRA 01	Alexandre Sadao Iutaka	Hospital das Clínicas, Universidade de São Paulo	Approval Expected for December 2010
IND 03	Prashant Kekre	Sundaram Medical Foundation	Approval Expected for December 2010
SAF 01	Robert Dunn	Groote Schuur Hospital	Approved – 6 patients

In 2010, two more investigators were incorporated to the study: Martha Hernandez-Galvez, from Ecuador and Madgy Youssef, from Egypt. Both of them received the documentation and it is expected to start enrolling patients in 2011.

A3 Fractures



The Argentinean chapter of AOSpine started this project in 2009 and Pedro Luis Bazán, the coordinator of this investigation, is working together with Alejandro Betemps. Since there is a very limited literature about this subject in Latin America, the main goal of this project is to compare the surgical and conservative treatment outcomes for this kind of fracture and understand the criteria for the choice between the methods.

All centers have already submitted the protocol to the Ethical Committees and patients enrolling shall start on 2011.

SRS-22



SRS-22 Validation: Carlos Tucci presented this project, which consists on validating the SRS-22 form of Idiopathic Scoliosis to Portuguese. The process of validation consists in translations and retranslations from the original in English to the targeted language. Afterwards, the patients will evaluate the readiness of the document. This is the first and only tool that evaluates the quality of life of scoliosis patients that will be available in Brazilian Portuguese.

Code	Investigator	Center	Status
CAM 1	Carlos Tucci	PUC – Campinas	Approved – 15 patients
SAP 1	Alexandre Fogaça	Ortopedia – HC USP	Approved – 25 patients
GOA 1	Murilo Daher	UFG	Approved – 15 patients
CUR 1	Emiliano Vialle	Hospital Cajuru	Approved to start enrolling patients
CUR 2	Luis Eduardo Munhoz da Rocha	Hospital Pequeno Príncipe	Approved to start enrolling patients

Basilar Invagination

The main objective is to be able to establish a correlation between dynamic and conventional RM images in patients with primary BI candidates to surgery so as to define the surgical approach. Secondly, the incidence of the different oncologic entities associated with primary BI will hopefully be determined together with their geographic distribution. Geraldo Sá Carneiro (Brazil), Atul Goel (India) and Mario Taricco (Brazil) were in charge of this project.

In 2010 Dr. Hildo Azevedo, has been in charge of the Protocol revision in order to adequate the document for the Brazilian regulations. Meanwhile Atul Goel (Main Investigator from India) will start to enroll patients on early 2011.

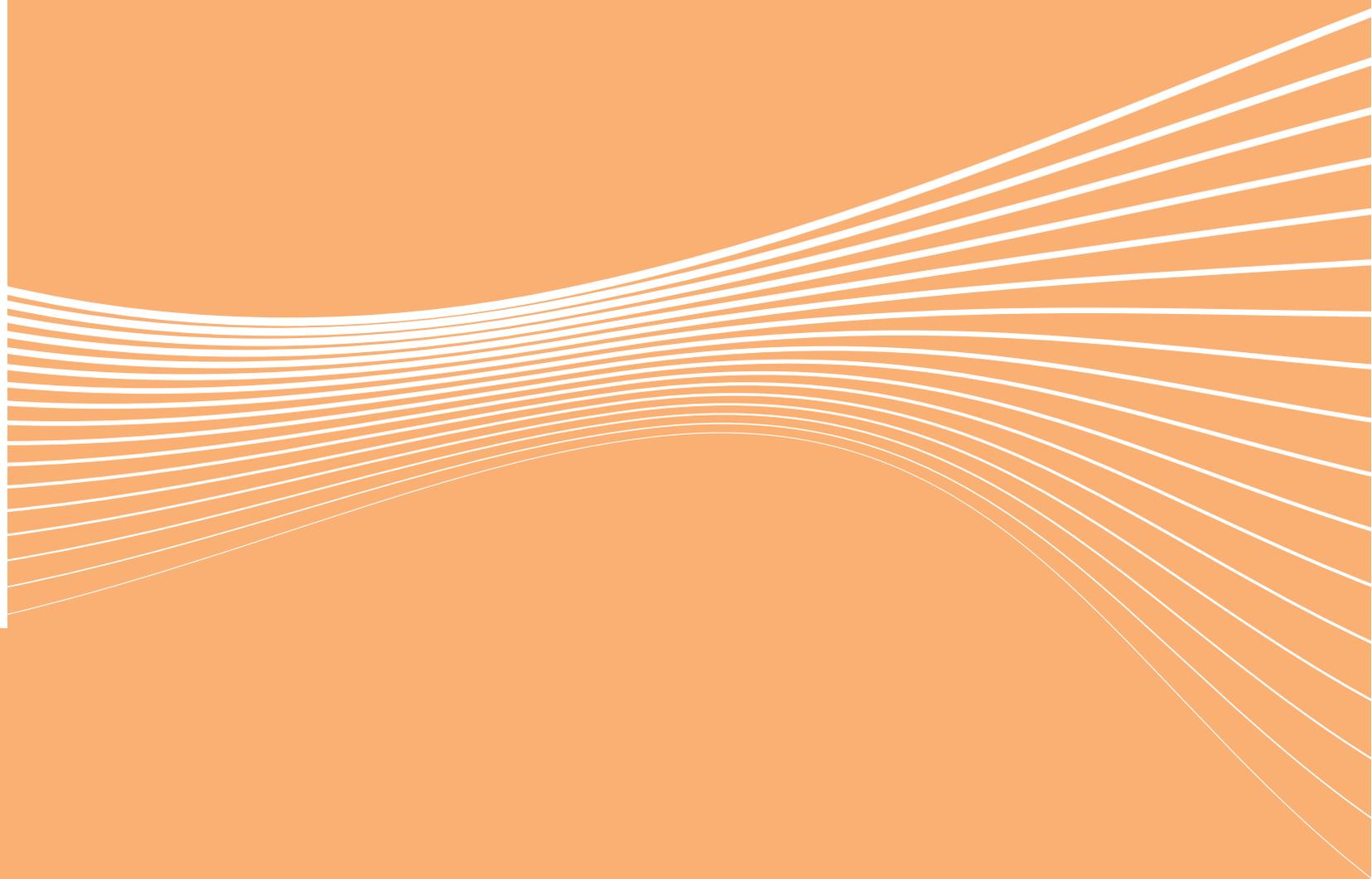


Syringomyelia

The aim of this research project is to compare and determine the correlation between the image of the cine MRI in operated and unoperated patients. The information obtained surgically in patients with idiopathic syringomyelia or associated with another malformation, will enable the prediction of parameters in the clinical evolution of patients.

Manuel Alvarado and Leandro Nuñez have reviewed the study protocol and incorporated the same Dynamic RM method used in the Basilar Invagination developed by Sergio França. Manuel Alvarado has already submitted the protocol for the IRB appraisal. Satish Rudrappa (Main investigator from India) will receive the English version to be used in his research.

Community Development



Community Development officer's word

Dear Colleagues:

I am writing to give you the welcome to AOSpine. I am extremely pleased with my decision to join the Community Development Commission and succeed Roberto Chapa from Mexico, and invite you to this project. I find it a way of communicating with colleagues, discuss all related issues and exchange knowledge

In the last three years AOSpine has gone from strength to strength and established itself as a widely accepted academic and scientific group in the spine world. Many events were developed in Latin America, specifically 15 AOSpine courses, 32 official seminars, international and regional meetings, lounges and booths, etc. etc. AOSpine was present in different Spine Societies congresses in the region giving academic support: SINCOL in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, XVI Congreso de la Sociedad Argentina de Patología de Columna Vertebral in Mendoza, Argentina, AMCICO held in Acapulco, Mexico, and Congreso de Ortopedia y Traumatología held in La Paz, Bolivia.

The key goal for 2010 in Latino America was to reach up to 1000 members and in October we became the third region entering into the millennium group. On the other hand, we developed synergies with LASEC (Latin American Spine Education Committee) because the education is an important and natural channel for expanding and retaining membership.

Our plan for 2011 is to maintain contact with country chapters every 3 months to discuss and follow up on their marketing projects, developing contents in local languages (articles translation and discussion, case base, web lectures, etc). Also continue to establish partnerships with academic societies (fellowships, lounges, member's benefits). It is important to identify areas to develop, many educational resources and its local particularities.

Responding to feedback from the AOSpine Community, the International Board approved the realignment of the membership benefit. The new portfolio separates benefits into two packages, AOSpine (100 CHF/year) and AOSpine Plus (150 CHF/year). Students, residents and ORP's would have 50% discount. The complete packages were launched on November 28.

Today AOSpine has a membership of around 8000 surgeons, researchers, and allied spine professionals and continues to grow, taking the AO model to a new level by providing new programs, new ideas, and a team committed to spine.

Welcome to AOSpine!



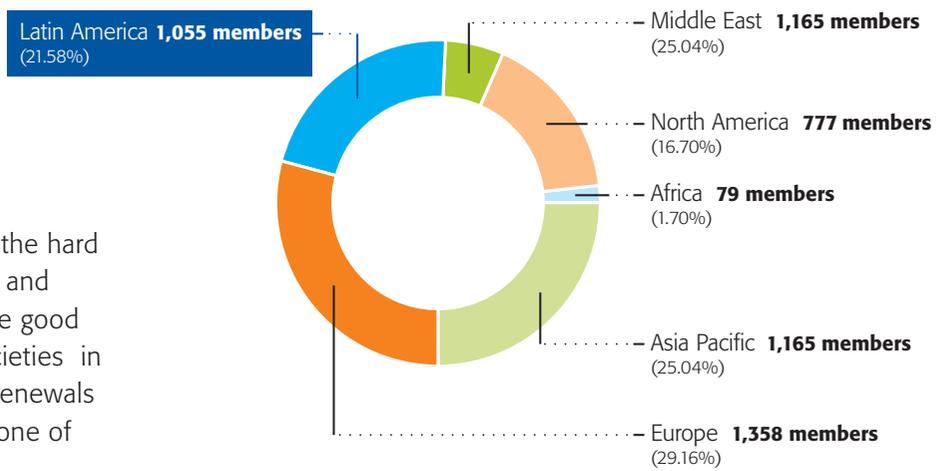
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Marcelo Valacco'.

Marcelo Valacco
AOSpine Latin America – Community
Development

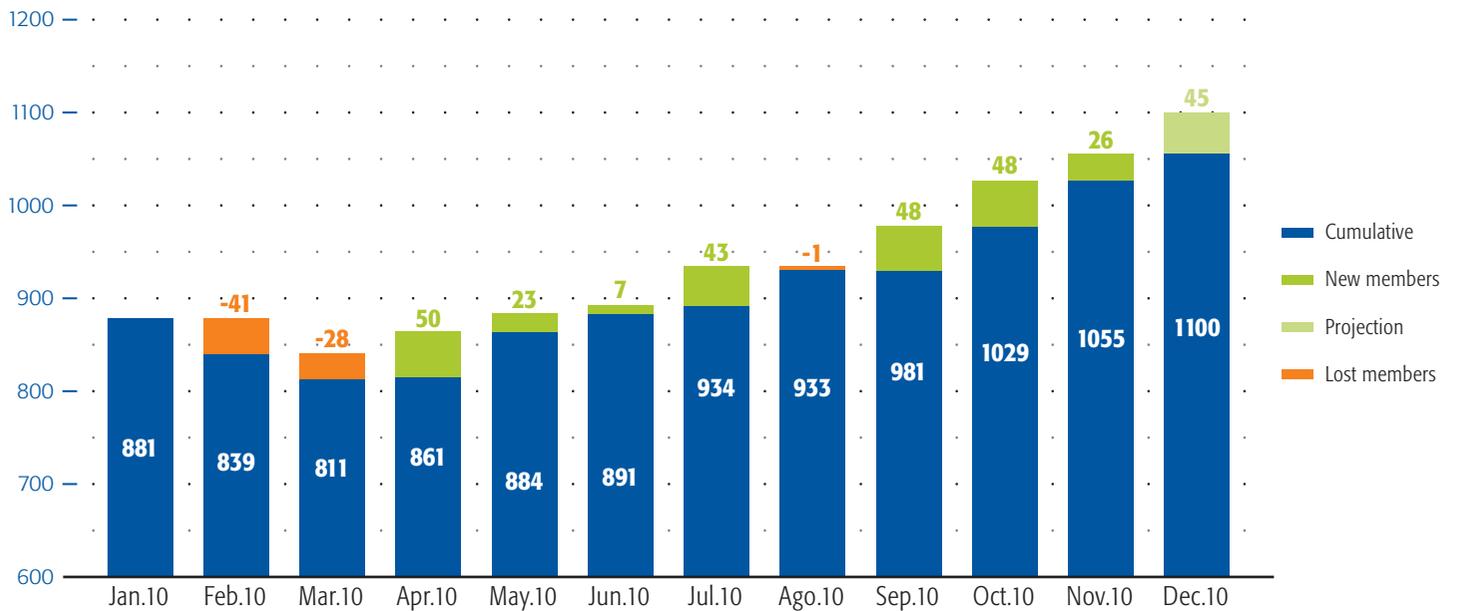
Members

The 1000 memberships set to AOSLA for the end of 2011, was surpassed in October, becoming the first region to achieve its annual objective.

This great victory was achieved thanks to the hard work of the regional board, local chapters and office, managing different strategies as the good relationship with the different column societies in the region as well as a careful control of renewals among others, being members retention one of the biggest challenge of the institution.

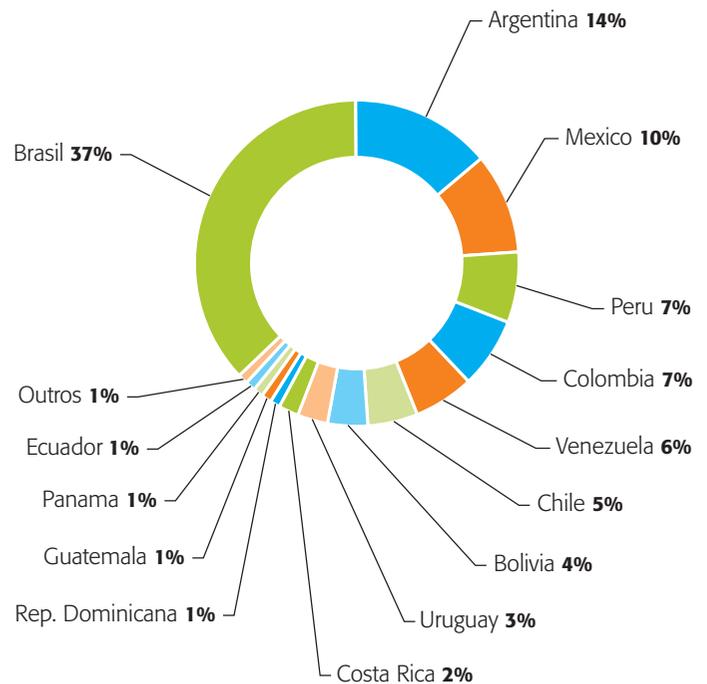


Membership evolution in Latin America



Country	Members	Associates	%
Brazil	387	811	36,57%
Argentina	143	276	13,43%
Mexico	105	305	10,00%
Peru	76	101	7,24%
Colombia	70	192	6,67%
Venezuela	58	174	5,52%
Chile	55	168	5,24%
Bolivia	44	26	4,19%
Uruguay	34	18	3,24%
Costa Rica	24	78	2,29%
Guatemala	14	60	1,33%
Ecuador	13	55	1,24%
Panama	11	45	1,05%
Dominican Republic	9	12	0,86%
Paraguay	4	12	0,38%
Jamaica	3	3	0,29%
Nicaragua	3	12	0,29%
Puerto Rico	2	8	0,19%
El Salvador	0	5	0,00%
Total	1055	2361	100%

*Membership status as of December 4, 2010



AOSpine presence in Latin America

Continuing with the good relationship with the various spine societies in the different countries of our region, AOSpine was present at several events with special spaces where members could enjoy a peaceful environment for a break in the intense agenda of these events. Several members took advantage to update their personal information, upload the photo and others renewed their memberships, network with colleague and a lot of new members joined to the organization.



X Congresso de Cirurgia Espinhal

April 29–May 1, 2010
São Paulo, Brazil



Simpósio Internacional de Coluna
SINCOL

August 5–7, 2010
Rio de Janeiro, Brazil



XVI Congreso da Sociedade Argentina
de Patologia da Coluna Vertebral

September 2–4, 2010
Mendoza, Argentina



XI Congreso Nacional AMCICO

September 11–15, 2010
Acapulco, Mexico

XIX Congreso Nacional de
La Sociedad Boliviana de
Ortopedia y Traumatología

October 26–29, 2010
La Paz, Bolivia



Videos in local languages



Together Education and Marketing departments started a program that consists of filming pre-selected lectures at course venues with the purpose of generate a base of clinical case studies and lectures for Latin American members in their native language.

This program comes to complete the educational material and is available in web casts on the AOSpine site.

2011 calendar

With the main idea of keeping surgeons up to date on their daily routine, AOSpine prepared the 2011 calendar to distribute them among those who dedicated time and effort to the organization as a token of appreciation.



AOSpine associates survey

In June this year, AOSpine International launched an online Associates survey to identify areas for improvement and set new directions for the Community Development organization and it's membership program.

The Associates survey sought key information about demographics, key factors impacting spine care professional career development and perception of AOSpine & the Membership Program. A total of 1060 respondents contributed to this project and as result s have shown that 73% of the Latin American participants have intention of joining the AOSpine Membership Program and gave the different reasons why they have not joined yet.

Take a look of other interesting information of this survey:

53% of the respondents are **Orthos** and **39%** are **Neuros**

45% use the internet for **professional purposes** daily

57% prefer a **hard copy** of the publications

AOSpine Latin America office

In the AOSLA administrative office located in Curitiba, Brazil, 5 people work willing to help and resolve the different needs of the organization.

The office has all the necessary amenities for the daily routines and a conference room where different types of meetings are held during the year.



Antonio Machado is the Regional Director of AOSLA and his main duty is to manage the region's financial budget and give guidance to all country councils of the region ensuring that they comply with AOSI/AOSLA guidelines and policies. He also oversees Education, Research, Fellowships and Spine centers and Community Development areas.



Rodrigo de Haro is the Research and Spine Centers Project Manager managing all research projects, gives support to all Spine Centers and helps the fellowships with all the necessary paperwork to complete the application to this program.



Luana Torres is the Education Project Manager being responsible for AOSpine Educational events in the region. Also she handles all administrative and organizational aspects of Academic courses and supports the development of AOSpine Online Education systems.



Juan González is the Community Development Project Manager and his duties consist of organizing and developing AOSpine Marketing events in the region such as lounges, members' evolution and renewal strategies, web page innovation and support for members.



Sônia Budziak is our Education Business Assistant. She is responsible for the educational flyers and programs, giving support on the preparation of courses and seminars.

The year in review



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1 R. Postigo, M. Gruenberg, M. Valacco, M. Taricco, E. Vialle, A. Rodríguez, O. Moraes (Regional Board Members) in Bogotá, Colombia

Regional Board Members receiving a token of appreciation for their collaboration with the organization

- 2 Marcelo Gruenberg and Osmar Moraes
- 3 Néstor Fiore and Osmar Moraes
- 4 Roberto Chapa and Osmar Moraes
- 5 Osmar Moraes and Pablo Vela

6 Visit of Markus Rauh, CEO and Chairperson of AOVA, in March

7 Fellows Christiano Simões and Gustavo Giraldo visiting the administrative office

Education Meeting – Panama City, Panama

- 8 Néstor Fiore and family visiting the Panama Canal
- 9 Roberto Chapa, Osmar Moraes and his wife Solange and Ricardo Ribeiro visiting the Panama Canal
- 10 Edgar González having a good time with a folkloric dance

Education Strategy Workshop – Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

11 Jeffrey Wang, Jens Chapman Karsten Wiechert visiting the Sugar Loaf in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil



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Approaches Course – Curitiba, Brazil

12 Augusto Araujo, Geraldo a and his wife during the Faculty dinner
13 Alain Baumann enjoying a nice talk with the Faculties during the Faculty dinner

ISSLS Course – Buenos Aires, Argentina

14 Faculty dinner

Disc Replacement Seminar – Curitiba, Brazil

15 Jack Zigler, Emiliano Vialle and Khai Lam

Degenerative Symposium – Puebla, Mexico

16/17 Faculty Osvaldo Roman and participats enjoying the Tequila Discussion

Principles Course – São Paulo, Brazil

18/19 Participants cheering for Brazil in the world cup game during the Principles Course in São Paulo, Brazil

20 Joerg Auer, Chairperson of the AOVET Education Commission, visited the AOSLA office this year

Degenerative Seminar – Trujillo, Peru

21 Hotel Staff preparing the Pisco Discussion



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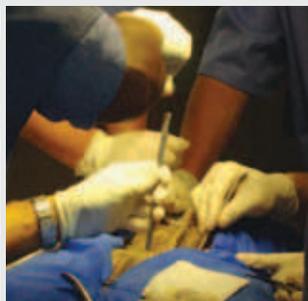
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Principles Course – Santa Cruz, Bolivia

22 Faculties participating of the pre-meeting
23 Faculty dinner at Principles Course in Santa Cruz, Bolivia

Deformities Seminar – Campinas, Brazil

24 Carlos Tucci enjoying the coffee break
25 Michael Daubs and Carlos Tucci

Cadaveric Course – Monterrey, Mexico

26 Participnats giving their opinion

Cadaveric Course – La Plata, Argentina

27/28 Faculty and participants

Deformities Seminar – La Paz, Bolivia

29 Marcelo Sea, Eduardo Gallareto and Ernesto Bersusky
30 Members networking in the AOSpine Lounge at the National Congress of Bolivia Orthopedics

AOSLA office – Curitiba, Brazil

31 Karsten Wiechert, Carlos Tucci, Marcelo Valacco, Antonio Machado and Osmar Moraes in a Community Development meeting



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Tumor Symposium – Curitiba, Brazil

- 32 Michael Fehlings, Luiz Vialle and Stefano Boriani
- 33 AOSLA Staff receiving participants
- 34 Martha Hernandez renewing her membership
- 35/36 Participants at the Symposium
- 37 Michael Fehlings, Zya Gokaslan, Marcelo Gruenberg, Stefano Boriani, Luiz Vialle, Charles Fisher, Peter Langer and Laurence Rhines at Faculty Dinner

38 Osmar Moraes does not measure efforts to stay connected

Trauma Seminar – Asunción, Paraguay

39/40/41 Faculty dinner at Reddy Simon's house

AOSpine—the expert community
dedicated to spine care

The AOSpine community—delivering the knowledge, experience, and evidence to improve patient care, patient outcomes, and ensure cost effective spine surgery.