



AOSPINE Latin America Annual Report 2013



AOSpine—the leading global academic community for innovative education and research in spine care, inspiring lifelong learning and improving patients' lives.

AOSpine Latin America Annual Report 2013

Another year has passed and AOSpine has continued to break ground in the field of spine surgery through a series of different activities and projects, furthering its endeavor of promoting education and research on spine surgery throughout Latin America.

This report encompasses the various facets of the work carried out in 2013. It is based around the informative presentation of each educational activity performed this year, as well as descriptions of the current projects in the areas of Community Development, Fellowships and Research, as well as Education.

As a celebration of the tenth anniversary of the organization, we have included a special edition report entitled "AOSpine 10 years" in this year's volume, which features some of our renowned members sharing their experiences and impressions from their time with AOSLA. This celebratory issue reflects our satisfaction with, and pride in, the work that has been developed since the beginning of the organization, which has seen the achievement of many important milestones. During this decade of hard work, we have been able to build a solid membership base throughout the world, including Latin America, and have successfully promoted educational and research activities in several different countries. We are proud to celebrate 10 years of AOSpine, not only because of the continuous growth of the organization throughout the world, but also because it stands for 10 years of the development and expansion of our vision and principles and contribution to improving patient care.

We warmly invite you to enjoy the following pages of this Annual Report and get acquainted with our community and the work being developed.



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Chairperson's word



Estimados amigos

Estamos a unas cuantas semanas de culminar el año 2013 el cual consideramos fructífero y lleno de actividades tanto administrativas como académicas para AOSLA, en el transcurso del año se efectuaron las elecciones para Chairman, Educación Ortopedia, Centros de Referencia y Community Development con lo cual se conformó el nuevo Borad Regional en la mayoría de sus puestos y así dar inicio a una nueva etapa en espera de que este cambio sea productivo en todos los ámbitos, sobre todo contando con el apoyo de todos ustedes.

En el área académica se efectuaron un gran numero de Cursos, Seminarios y Symposiums en toda la región aplicando los principios del Curriculum, sin olvidar ya nuestro tradicional Curso Virtual el que tanta aceptación ha tenido, además de que en este año efectuamos varios cursos de cadáveres con muy buenos resultados de acuerdo a las evaluaciones, por lo que trabajaremos en seguir impulsándolos y de ser posible incrementarlos.

En este mismo campo educativo, se dio inicio al segundo ciclo del Programa de Formación Continua AOSPine, conocido como Diploma, en espera de que siga siendo aprovechado por una gran mayoría de compañeros, además seguiremos impulsando la formación de Faculties y Chairman ya sea de forma virtual o presencial.

Un área importante es la de investigación y es por eso que en conjunto con las demás especialidades de la región se realizo el AO Retreat en Lima en mayo pasado para poder identificar nuestras debilidades y aciertos, pero sobre todo conjuntar los esfuerzos entre los capítulos de AOSLA y con los del Officer de Investigación y oficina regional impulsar esta actividad, la cualafortunadamente ya empieza a dar frutos como lo verán en la sección de Investigación y poder prepararnos para presenta nuestros estudios en el próximo Global Spine Congress que se efectuará en Santiago, Chile, en Mayo de 2015.

Un factor de interés especial para este nuevo Board y la oficina de AOSLA es la comunicación, sobre todo con los capítulos y sus miembros y en base a eso hemos iniciado un programa de visitas para transmitirles las nuevas ideas o políticas de acción que se están llevando a cabo tanto a nivel regional como internacional, pero sobre todo el escucharlos, fortalecerlos, comentar las inquietudes o dificultades que presentan y darles la mejor de las soluciones y/o tomar las acciones adecuadas para su crecimiento, como por ejemplo es la relación que hemos efectuado con las Sociedades Médicas a nivel regional para realizar Seminarios o Symposiums en conjunto, logrando excelentes resultados y en espera de que esta sinergia vaya más allá, sobre todo en el aspecto de pesquias que a largo plazo fortalecerá nuestra posición a nivel mundial.

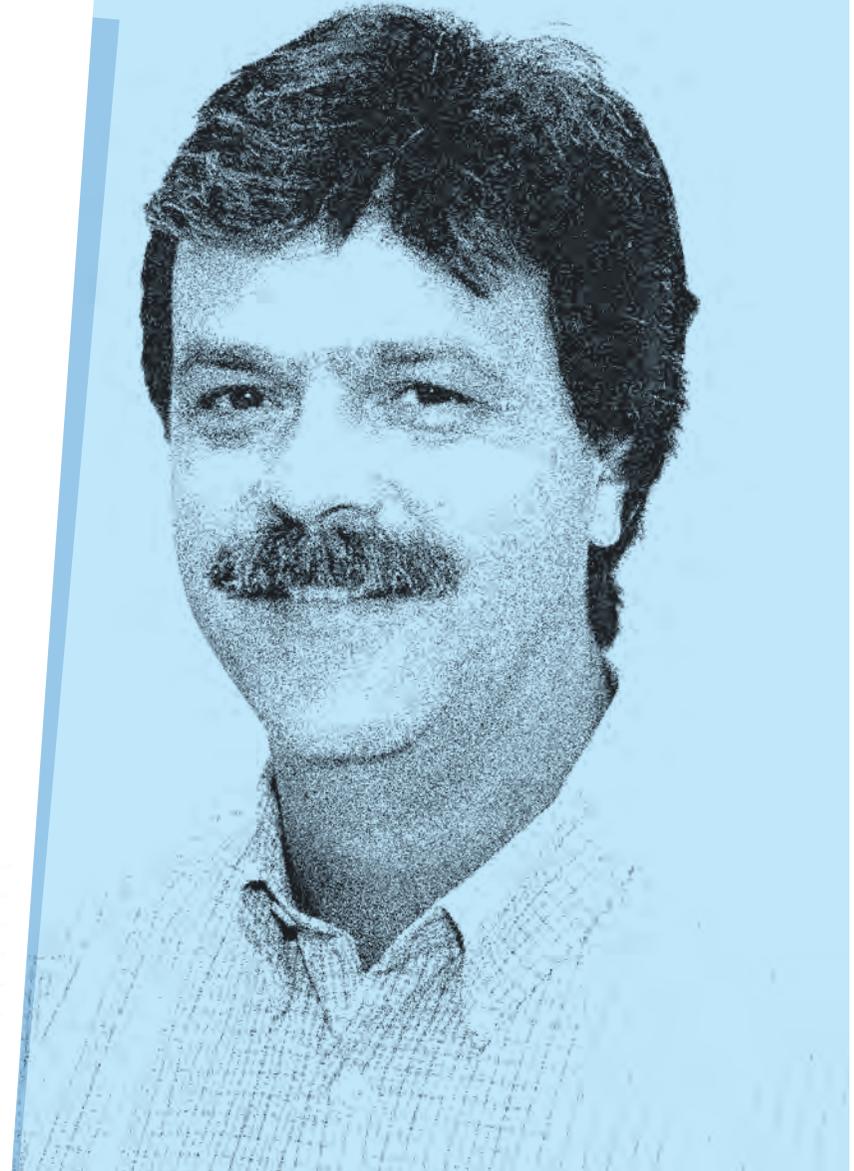
Community Development entre varias otras funciones es la comisión que analiza y valora el comportamiento de membresías y gracias al apoyo de todos ustedes hemos logrado mantener durante todo el año nuestro promedio de miembros activos pero tendiendo a la baja en la retención por lo que trabajaremos para realizar nuevos proyectos o estímulo para lograr que nuestros compañeros se mantengan y sigan beneficiándose de pertenecer a AOSPine.

Hay mucho más por expresar pero dejo el espacio a los responsables de las áreas para que externen su visión y por mi parte deseables a todos ustedes felices fiestas y lo mejor para este 2014 en compañía de sus seres queridos.

Sinceramente,

Roberto Chapa
AOSPine Latin America Chairperson

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Dear Friends,

We are only a few weeks away from the end of 2013 and it is a pleasure to look back and acknowledge that this has indeed been a fruitful year, filled with many productive administrative and academic activities. During this year, AOSLA completed the constitution of a new Regional Board with the elections for Chairperson and Education Ortho, Spine Centers & Fellowships and Community Development Officers. This is the beginning of a new phase for the region and, with the support of all our members, we expect this change to be productive in all areas. In the academic field, a large number of Courses, Seminars and Symposia were performed, applying the principles of the AOSpine Curriculum. Besides our traditional Virtual Course, with its continued large acceptance, this year also saw the development of several cadaveric courses with great results, inspiring us to continue performing and improving these activities.

Another positive aspect in the educational area was the beginning of the second cycle of the Continuing Education Program – internally known as Diploma – with the hope and goal that the Program will continue to be enjoyed by a large number of colleagues. An equally important factor is the continued promotion of the formation of Faculty members and course Chairpersons, for which we will continue the type of activity developed so far, be it virtual or face-to-face.

Taking the great importance of Research into consideration, this year's AO Retreat in Lima involved all specialties of the region in a discussion on publications. The event identified our strengths and weaknesses and built on the cooperation and collaboration of the AOSLA local Chapters and Research Officers, as well as the AOSLA Office, to push research activities with the goal of presenting the results of our studies at the next Global Spine Congress in Santiago, Chile, in May 2015.

Communication is a factor of special interest for this new Board, especially with the local Chapters. We have therefore started a visitation program to help transmit the new ideas or action policies to local Officers, also making it possible to listen to their opinions and get acquainted with their issues and difficulties. This allows us to better support them in solving their problems, and opens the door for more effective and adequate decision making in the promotion of their growth. Furthermore, we have been building important relationships with local Medical Societies throughout the region, helping to develop joint seminars and symposia, which are already generating excellent results. We expect this synergy to deepen even further, especially in regard to researches, which will strengthen our position at an international level in the long-term.

In the Community Development area – which is focused on analyzing and improving projects related to membership, among other things – we have been able to maintain our membership rates on average thanks to the support of the community. However, due to a drop out tendency, we will be focusing our work on developing new projects to keep our colleagues engaged in the organization and benefiting from AOSpine.

Although I feel there is much more to say, I would like to reserve this space for each area's responsible Officer to express their personal vision. I would also like to wish everyone happy holidays and happy new year in the best of health and in the presence of your loved ones.

Sincerely,



Roberto Chapa
Chairperson AOSpine Latin America

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Governance

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Elections 2013

In 2013, elections took place at country and regional levels. The results of these elections are listed in the following pages.

Regional Board

AOSpine Latin America would like to take the chance to thank everyone officially leaving their positions as of July 31st 2013 for the fantastic work done in their respective areas. During their term we were able to reach many milestones in the region, which clearly confirms their full engagement, hard work and support. Our deepest gratitude to the following former Board members:

Former Chairperson (April 2010 – 31st July 2013)

Osmar Moraes, Brazil

Former Community Development (August 2010 – 31st July 2013)

Marcelo Valacco, Argentina

Former Education Ortho (August 2010 – 31st July 2013)

Roberto Postigo, Chile

Former Fellowship & Spine Center (August 2010 – 31st July 2013)

Andrés Rodríguez-Munera, Colombia

International Board

Chairperson	Jeffrey Wang, USA
Past Chairperson	Luiz Vialle, Brazil
Education	Germán Ochoa, Colombia
Research	Daniel Riew, USA
Community Development	Carlos Tucci, Brazil
Executive Director	Alain Baumann, France

The new Board of AOSpine Latin America is formed as follows:

Chairperson	Roberto Chapa, Mexico
Past Chairperson	Osmar Moraes, Brazil
Education (Neuro)	Marco Medina, Peru
Education (Ortho)	Robert Meves, Brazil
Community Development	Samuel Pantoja, Chile
Research	Asdrubal Falavigna, Brazil
Fellowship & Spine Center	Ratko Yurac, Chile
Regional Director	Antonio Machado, Brazil

New Members The new members will begin their three-year term from 2013 onwards.

Country Councils and Delegates

This year, Country Councils from Argentina, Bolivia, Chile, Costa Rica, Cuba, Ecuador, Guatemala, Panama and Peru welcomed new Officers.

Local Chapters

Country	Chairperson	Education (Ortho)	Education (Neuro)	Community Development	Research
Argentina	Marcelo Valacco	Matías Petracchi	José Prina	Ramiro Barrera	Juan Pablo Guyot
Bolivia	Marcelo Sea	Marco Paredes	Miguel Duchen	Eddy Dorado	Martin Aliaga
Brazil	Alexandre Sadao	William Teixeira	Jerônimo Milano	Alberto Gotfryd	Délio Martins
Chile	Aliro San Martín	Manuel Valencia	Enrique Concha	Claudio Dintrans	Álvaro Silva
Colombia	Néstor Taboada	Jaime Segura	Miguel Berbeo	Constanza Bedoya	Mario Herrera
Costa Rica	Javier Brenes	Mario Solano Salas	Edgard Jimenez	José Perez Berrios	Luis Brenes Rojas
Cuba	Ernesto Fleites	Raul Candebat	Nestor Pulido	Enrique De Jongh	Carlos Santos
Ecuador	Martha Hernández	Marcelo Ochoa	José Vasconez	Jack Ordoñez	Carlos Arias
Guatemala	Julio Pozuelos	Gabriel Murga	Pedro Brol	N/A	N/A
Mexico	Martín Tejeda	Oscar Martinez	José Estrada	Jorge Cabrera	José Jimenez
Panama	Raúl Arjona	Dionisia Marin	Ricardo Bermudez	Mitzadi Ordoñez	N/A
Peru	Michael Hinojosa	Rene Chirinos	Arturo Morales	Pedro Soto	Alfonso Basurco
Venezuela	Rafael Otero	César Covarrubia	Marlon Díaz	Olga Morillo	Víctor Davila

*Elected in 2013

Delegates

Argentina

Ernesto Bersusky, Juan Emmerich, Marcelo Gruenberg, Néstor Fiore, Osvaldo Romano, Pedro Luiz Bazán, Rubén Morales.

Bolivia

Carlos Urioste, Gueider Salas, Jaime Linares, Ramiro Villavicencio, René Torrejon.

Brazil

Albert Brasil, Alexandre Fogaça, Emiliano Vialle, Geraldo Sá Carneiro, Mario Taricco, Ricardo Ribeiro.

Chile

Enzo Mantelli, Milan Munjin, Roberto Postigo, Yokota Beuret.

Colombia

Andrés Rodríguez, Jaime Quintero, Leonardo Duplat, Nelson Morales, Néstor Guzman, Pablo Vela.

Costa Rica

Alexander Valverde.

Dominican Republic

Giovanni Ureña, Iohan Fernandez.

Ecuador

Elio Ramirez, Fernando Dávalos, Gladys Pavón, Juan Lasso, Mario Zumarraga.

Guatemala

Arturo Guerra, Erick Rodas, Erny Leal, Juan Pablo De León Palacios, Rafael De La Riva.

Honduras

Carlos Roberto Contreras.

Jamaica

Ian Neil, Carl Bruce.

Mexico

Aurelio Ramirez, Felix Sanchez, Gustavo Casas, Hernando Cuevas, Michael Dittmar.

Nicaragua

Juan Bosco González, Manuel Orozco.

Panama

Antonio Mock, Geovany Osigian, José Neira, Aldimarina López, Ricardo Mosquera.

Paraguay

Juan Silva, Reddy Simón.

Peru

Benjamin Castillo, Carlos Cárdenas, Francisco Zambrano.

Uruguay

Oscar Carreras, Edgardo Spagnuolo.

Venezuela

Edgar Gonzalez, James Cardona, José Duran, Luis Lara, Manuel Alvarado.

Meetings

AOSLA Board meetings

Meeting I: Peru February 21, 2013

Venue

Marriot Hotel – Lima, Peru

Board Members

Asdrubal Falavigna, Andrés Rodríguez-Munera, Marcelo Valacco, Marco Medina, Osmar Moraes, Antonio Machado.

AOSpine

Carlos Montero, Luana Torres, Luciana Garcia.

Guest

Roberto Chapa.

Industrial Partner

Sarah Mueller.

Topics Discussed

- Summary of the work developed in 2012 (Research, Fellowship & Spine Center, Community Development and Education);
- Latest updates on AOLAT Retreat in Lima;
- Update on the status of the DPS integration;
- Update on the status of current projects in Education, Research, Fellowship & Spine Center and Community Development;
- Update on the status of activities developed in Central America and the Caribbean;
- Governance: next elections;
- Diploma project: strategy for 2013;
- Educational plan 2013-2014.

Meeting II: Brazil May 17–18, 2013

The format of this meeting saw Officers, Chairperson and Project Managers gathered to discuss the relevant topics in their respective areas for two-hour sessions. At a general meeting afterwards, the results from the first gathering were presented. This meeting also saw the handover of the positions of Education Ortho, Fellowship & Spine Center and Community Development Officers.

Venue

Sheraton Hotel – Curitiba, Brazil

Board Members

Asdrubal Falavigna, Andrés Rodríguez-Munera, Marco Medina, Osmar Moraes, Ratko Yurak, Robert Meves, Roberto Chapa, Antonio Machado.

AOSpine

Fernanda Dias, Juan González, Luana Torres, Tatiana Carlini.

Topics Discussed

- Proposals and recommendations presented and discussed with the current and future Chairs;
- Update on the status of projects, planning and next steps;
- Update on the status of the Global Spine Congress – Santiago 2015;
- Update on the status of the Diploma project;
- Update on AOSEC's last resolutions;
- AOSLA Governance and Compliance;
- AOSLA's future plans and vision.

AOSLA Community Development Meeting–Argentina July 05, 2013

Venue

Hilton Puerto Madero Hotel –
Buenos Aires, Argentina

Board Members

Marcelo Valacco, Samuel Pantoja,
Osmar Moraes, Roberto Chapa,
Antonio Machado.

AOSpine

Carlos Montero, Ginesa Aviles, Luana Torres.

Topics Discussed

- Presentation on CD International and its current strategies, as well as the level of integration with the regions;
- Presentation on the CD projects carried out by AOSLA in 2013;
- Hand over of functions and responsibilities from the old to the new CD Officers;
- Vision and strategies for the future.



Meeting III: United States August 31, 2013

Venue

Sofitel Miami Hotel – Miami, USA

Board Members

Asdrubal Falavigna, Marco Medina, Osmar Moraes, Ratko Yurac, Robert Meves, Samuel Pantoja, Roberto Chapa, Antonio Machado.

AOSpine

Luana Torres.

Guest

Néstor Fiore.

Industrial Partners

Alfredo Granai, Nina Mendez, Sarah Mueller.

Topics Discussed

- Update on the status of projects, planning and next steps;
- Educational plan and AO policies;
- AOSLA Education in numbers;
- Update on the status and progress of the Global Spine Congress – Santiago 2015;
- Update on the Diploma project;
- AOSLA strategic vision;
- Vision and work plan for each area (Research, Fellowship & Spine Center, Community Development and Education).

Meeting IV: Chile November 22–23, 2013

Venue

Sheraton Hotel – Santiago, Chile

Board Members

Asdrubal Falavigna, Marco Medina,
Roberto Chapa, Samuel Pantoja, Ratko Yurac,
Robert Meves, Antonio Machado.

AOSpine

Carlos Montero, Luana Torres.

Topics Discussed

- Review of educational activities for 2014–2015;
- Educational strategy for 2015;
- Fellowship selection process 2014;
- Research International Commissions Report;
- Status of Research projects;
- Collaboration Guidelines with medical societies;
- Updates on the Boards.



Chapter Meetings

Argentina

Meeting I. **July 04, 2013**
Buenos Aires

Participants

Pedro Bazán, Matías Petrachi, José Prina, Ramiro Barrera, Juan Pablo Guyot.

Brazil

Meeting I. **July 06, 2013**
São Paulo

Participants

Alexandre Sadao, William Teixeira, Jerônimo Milano, Alberto Gotfryd, Delio Martins.

AOSpine. Luana Torres.

Chile

Meeting I. **November 06, 2013**
Santiago

Participants

Álvaro Silva, Manuel Valencia, Ratko Yurak, Roberto Postigo.

Industrial Partner. Giordanna Nuñez.

Cuba

Meeting I. **April 23, 2013**
Habana

Participants

Ernesto Fleites, Raúl Candebat, Néstor Pulido, Enrique Dejongh, Carlos Santos, Roberto Chapa.

Ecuador

Meeting I. **August 22, 2013**
Quito

Participants

Carlos Arias, Elio Ramirez, José Vasconez, Marcelo Ochoa, Mario Zumarraga, Martha Hernández, Roberto Chapa.

AOSpine. Antonio Machado, Carlos Montero.

Guatemala

Meeting I. **August 16, 2013**
Ciudad de Guatemala

Participants

Julio Pozuelos, Juan Pablo De León Palacios, Roberto Chapa, Guillermo Estrada, Edwin Quiñonez.

AOSpine. Luana Torres.

Mexico

Meeting I. **May 16, 2013**
Ciudad de México

Participants

Martín Tejeda, Oscar Martinez, José Estrada, Jorge Cabrera, José Jimenez.

Meeting II. **May 23, 2013**
Monterrey

Participants

Martín Tejeda, Oscar Martinez, José Estrada, Jorge Cabrera, José Jimenez.

Panama

Meeting I. **November 21, 2013**
Panamá City

Participants

Raúl Arjona, Dionisia Marin, Ricardo Bermudez, Mitzadi Ordoñez, Roberto Chapa.

AOSpine. Antonio Machado.

Peru

Meeting I. **June 12, 2013**
Lima

Participants

Michale Hinojosa, Alfonso Basurco, Roberto Chapa.

AOSpine. Luana Torres, Antonio Machado.

Industrial Partners

Jorge Heysen, Santigo Trujillo.

Meeting I. **July 12, 2013**
Lima

Participants:

Rene Chirinos, Alfonso Basurco, Alfredo Vasquez, Michael Hinojosa, Roberto Chapa.

Venezuela

Meeting I. **November 09, 2013**
Caracas

Participants

Rafael Otero, César Covarrubias, Marlon Díaz, Olga Morillo, Víctor Dávila, Roberto Chapa.

AOSpine. Antonio Machado.



Spine Centers & Fellowships

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Spine Centers & Fellowship officer's word

Dear Friends,

We are reaching the end of yet another year in which we continued the growth and expansion of our work in the Spine Centers & Fellowships area. It has been both a great pleasure and a challenge to carry on with the development of the Fellowships and Reference Centers Program in our region, moving forward with an important increase in the number of applications and AOSpine Centers. This program allows successful applicants access to the most up-to-date developments in spine surgery based around the AOSpine principles, with the purpose of transferring this learning experience to patient care.

In 2013, we maintained and strengthened the transparent selection process which was successfully implemented during the term of André Rodríguez. We have therefore focused our efforts on developing an effective follow-up system for our former fellows. This enables us to assess the importance of the AOSpine apprenticeship in their professional development, their current positions in their home countries and gather feedback on the strengths and weaknesses of our Fellowships Program.

We have also finished the process of continued audits of our Spine Centers and are ready to finalize the accreditation process for two new centers: Hospital Militar in Bogotá, Colombia, and Hospital del Trabajador in Santiago, Chile.

Our challenge for the next years is to continue the growth and consolidation of this program, as well as establishing feedback and follow-up tools to assess our fellowship and reference centers.

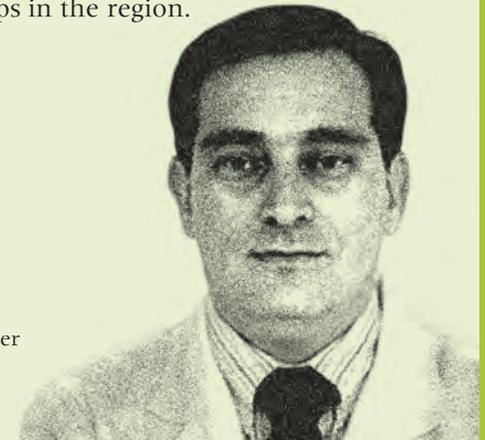
I must thank the different Spine Centers, local Chapters and Chairpersons for their support, which enabled and fostered the development and growth of our Fellowships Program in Latin America. I would also like to especially thank the directors of our reference centers for their support and availability, as their collaboration enabled this program to attain significant accomplishments and reach its established goals.

Finally, I would like to thank everyone who collaborated and supported the region, helping in the development of these projects and strengthening the AOSpine community in Latin America. My thanks also go out to those who trusted and believed in me as the head of Spine Centers & Fellowships in the region.

Best regards,



Ratko Yurac Barrientos
AOSpine Latin America
Spine Centers & Fellowships officer

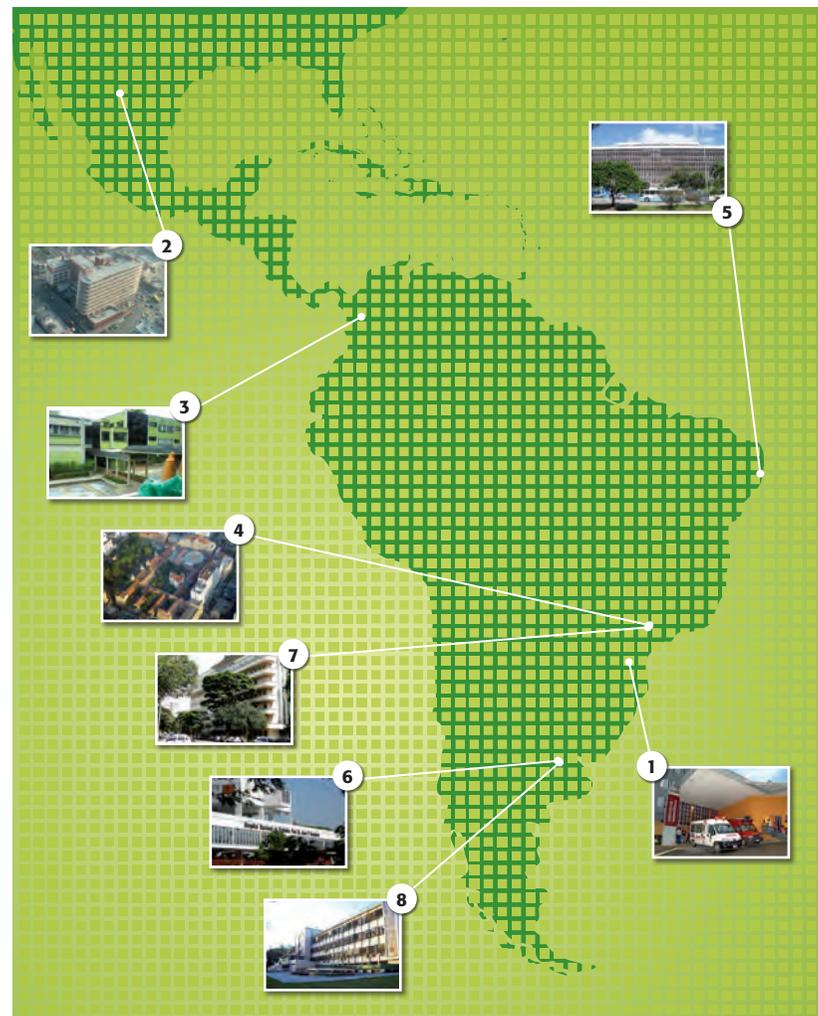


Spine Centers Latin America

The organization has been able to deliver effective and high quality training to a significant number of surgeons thanks to the support and the active participation of all the Spine Centers in Latin America in 2013. Both orthopedists and neurosurgeons have travelled from all over the region to one of the available Spine Centers in order to take an important step on their career path.

It is a privilege for AOSpine to be able to count on such a renowned group of reference centers and competent professionals to lead the fellowship programs on spine.

Spine Center	City, Country	Program Director
1 Hospital Universitário Cajuru	Curitiba, Brazil	Emiliano Vialle
2 Unidad Médica de Alta Especialidad	Monterrey, Mexico	Marco Salazar
3 Instituto de Ortopedia Infantil Roosevelt	Bogotá, Colombia	Carlos Montero Silva
4 Hospital Santa Casa	São Paulo, Brazil	Robert Meves
5 Hospital da Restauração	Recife, Brazil	Geraldo de Sá
6 Hospital Pediátrico Garrahan	Buenos Aires, Argentina	Ernesto Bersusky
7 Hospital das Clínicas	São Paulo, Brazil	Alexandre Fogaça
8 Higa San Martín de La Plata	La Plata, Argentina	Pedro Bazán



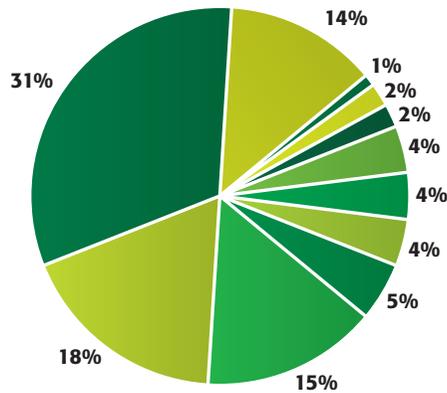
Spine Center application

Centers in Santiago, Chile, and Bogotá, Colombia, are in the final application stage for becoming new reference centers in the region.

Fellowship & Observership Program

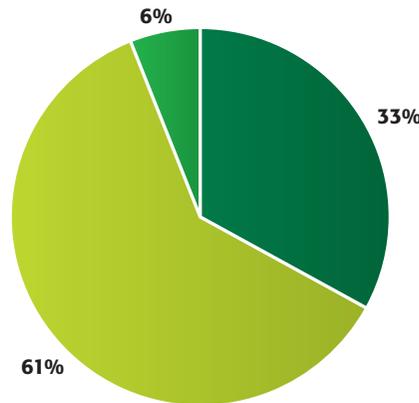
From 2006 to the present, a total of 111 fellows from several parts of the region have been trained in different programs by the leading specialists in the field of spine surgery. These programs allow doctors starting their medical career to share experiences and exchange knowledge with colleagues from around the world, constituting a fundamental part of their education.

Participation of fellows according to country of origin 2006/2013



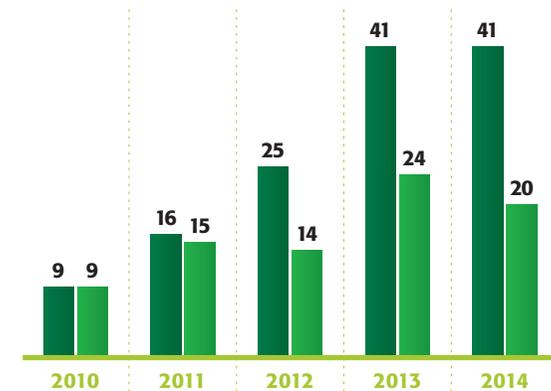
Country	Fellows	%
Brazil	35	31%
Argentina	21	18%
Colombia	16	15%
Peru	6	5%
Chile	4	4%
Ecuador	4	4%
Venezuela	4	4%
Bolivia	2	2%
International	2	2%
Paraguay	1	1%
Panama, Mexico, Nicaragua, Dominican Republic, Costa Rica, Guatemala	16	14%

Distribution of fellows according to programs 2006/2013



Type of program	Fellows	%
Long-term	36	33%
Short-term	68	61%
Observership	7	6%

Number of applications 2010/2014



Year	Applications	Approved
2010	9	9
2011	16	15
2012	25	14
2013	41	24
2014	41	20

- Includes observership program (launched 2011)
- 2014 ongoing

Fellowship Program 2013

The fellowship selection process for 2013 counted the highest number of candidates in its history. Spine surgeons from several countries in the region were able to benefit from the high quality trainings delivered at one of the Spine Centers in Latin America.

Name	Spine Center	City, Country	Program	From	To
Samuel Conrad	Hospital Cajuru	Curitiba, Brazil	Long-term	Feb-13	Jan-14
Eduardo Mariúba	Hospital Cajuru	Curitiba, Brazil	Long-term	Jul-13	Jun-14
Juliano Chaves	Hospital Cajuru	Curitiba, Brazil	Short-term	Mar-13	May-13
Juan Castro	Hospital Cajuru	Curitiba, Brazil	Long-term	Jul-13	Jun-14
Juan Sea	Hospital Cajuru	Curitiba, Brazil	Short-term	Sep-13	Nov-13
Luís Pereira	Hospital Cajuru	Curitiba, Brazil	Short-term	Jul-13	Aug-13
Irani Paez	Hospital das Clínicas	São Paulo, Brazil	Short-term	Oct-13	Dec-13
Richard Hernandez	Hospital das Clínicas	São Paulo, Brazil	Short-term	Apr-13	Jun-13
Vinicius Benites	Unfallklinik	Frankfurt, Germany	Short-term	Jul-13	Aug-13
Gustavo Montoya	Hospital Higa La Plata	La Plata, Argentina	Long-term	Jul-13	Dec-13
Edgar Cardena	Unidad Alta Especialidad	Monterrey, Mexico	Long-term	Feb-13	Dec-13
Dolores Posadas	Istituto Rizzoli	Bologna, Italy	Short-term	Feb-13	Mar-13
Mario Bran Garcia	Spine Educ & Research Institute	Denver, USA	Short-term	Feb-13	Apr-13
Lazaro Lutzky	Hirslanden Klinik St. Anna	Luzern, Switzerland	Short-term	Apr-13	May-13
Salvador Gutierrez	Hospital Garrahan	Buenos Aires, Argentina	Short-term	Jul-13	Sep-13
Napoléon Avendaño	Hospital Garrahan	Buenos Aires, Argentina	Short-term	May-13	Jun-13
Martin Medina	Hospital Garrahan	Buenos Aires, Argentina	Long-term	Jan-13	Jun-13
Jorge de Haro	Instituto Roosevelt	Bogotá, Colombia	Short-term	Mar-13	May-13
Diego Flores	Queen's Medical Centre	Nottingham, UK	Short-term	Jul-13	Sep-13
Alejandro Calniquer	Harborview Medical Center	Seattle, USA	Short-term	Apr-13	Jun-13
Jhonny Gómez	Hospital Garrahan	Buenos Aires, Argentina	Short-term	Oct-13	Dec-13
Jose Matheu	Instituto Roosevelt	Bogotá, Colombia	Observership	May-13	May-13
Ramiro Barrera	Hong Kong University	Hong Kong	Observership	Apr-13	Apr-13
Manoel Filho	Hospital das Clínicas	São Paulo, Brazil	Observership	Jul-13	Jul-13

Report from an AOSpine fellow

At the beginning of this year, I was selected to be a fellow at the Orthopedic Institute Rizzoli in Bologna, Italy, through the AOSpine Fellowship Program. After arriving in Bologna, I had the opportunity to participate in the annual course on musculoskeletal tumors, which takes place at Rizzoli and sees the participation of renowned professors and participants from all around the world.

My training commenced with activities taking place in the Oncological and Degenerative Spine Surgery division, under the supervision of Professor Stefano Boriani. We had daily meetings focused on case discussion, visits to the inpatient wards, classes for residents and around five or six surgeries per week. I had the opportunity to be present at several vertebrectomies (which is the specialty at this division), as well as participate in several projects to be published and observe different oncological pathologies which are less frequent in daily practice.

The work at the Institute is performed in a pleasant and friendly environment, which immediately makes one feel comfortable and integrated. All of Professor Boriani's teams are very friendly and willing to receive the fellows, interacting in a very productive way with the visiting staff.

I recommend my Latin American colleagues interested in oncological spine surgery to get acquainted with the Rizzoli center. Apart from being an excellent chance to observe the handling of this pathology, the area is very interesting and beautiful through its history, architecture and the local people. I am infinitely thankful to AOSpine for giving me this opportunity and also to Stefano Boriani, Alessandro Gasbarrini, Giovanni Barbanti Brodano, Simone Colangeli, Stefano Bandiera, Silvia Terzi and Riccardo Ghermandi, who made my fellowship at Rizzoli an unforgettable experience.

Dr. Dolores Posadas, Argentina
Fellow—Istituto Rizzoli, Italy
from June 2011 to July 2012



Dr. Dolores Posadas and
Dr. Stefano Boriani at
Istituto Rizzoli, Italy

AOSpine Fellowship history

The following is a detail of the participation of the different fellows by reference center, country of origin, and training periods from 2006 to date.

fellows at Hospital Cajuru–Curitiba, Brazil

Program Director: Emiliano Vialle

Name	Country	Program	From	To
Pablo Pazmino	United States	Short-term	Feb-06	Mar-06
Javier Ricardo Méndez	Argentina	Short-term	Mar-06	May-06
Miguel Alejandro A. Sarmiento	Colombia	Short-term	May-06	Jul-06
José Fleiderman	Chile	Short-term	Aug-06	Oct-06
Rafael Vazquez Preciado	Mexico	Short-term	Jul-06	Aug-06
Marlon González Rivas	Venezuela	Short-term	Aug-06	Oct-06
Daniel Mosquera Mayorga	Ecuador	Short-term	Oct-06	Dec-06
Maurício Santos Gusmão	Brazil	Long-term	Feb-06	Jan-07
Túlio de Moura Rangel	Brazil	Long-term	Feb-06	Jan-07
Rubén Cárdenas Morón	Mexico	Long-term	Jul-06	Jun-07
Carlos B. Ramírez	Colombia	Short-term	Feb-07	Apr-07
Alexander Valverde Retana	Costa Rica	Short-term	May-07	Jul-07
Marco Medina	Peru	Short-term	Aug-07	Oct-07
Syeed Ahmed	United Kingdom	Short-term	Sep-07	Nov-07
Marcos Ziegler	Brazil	Short-term	Oct-07	Nov-07
Rodrigo Medeiros	Brazil	Short-term	May-07	Jul-07
Leonardo Quiroz	Argentina	Short-term	Jul-07	Aug-07
Joel Abramczuk	Brazil	Short-term	Sep-09	Dec-09
Luiz Felipe C. Carvalho	Brazil	Long-term	Feb-07	Feb-08
Pablo Godinho	Brazil	Long-term	Jun-07	May-08
Fernando Coutinho	Brazil	Long-term	Feb-08	Jan-09
Rodolfo Paez	Colombia	Long-term	Jul-08	Jun-09
Andre Vidígal	Brazil	Long-term	Feb-09	Jan-10

Name	Country	Program	From	To
Juan Suarez Henao	Colombia	Long-term	Feb-09	Jan-10
Gustavo Giraldo	Colombia	Long-term	Jun-09	Jun-10
Christiano Simoes	Brazil	Long-term	Jul-09	Aug-10
Alesandro Cardoso	Brazil	Short-term	Jul-10	Oct-10
Alexandre Borba	Brazil	Short-term	Sep-10	Dec-10
Antonio Krieger	Brazil	Long-term	Feb-10	Feb-11
Charbel Jacob	Brazil	Long-term	Jul-10	Feb-11
Nicolas Gonzales	Argentina	Long-term	Jan-11	Dec-11
Allan Kato	Brazil	Short-term	Feb-11	Jun-11
Ramon Ferreira	Brazil	Long-term	Feb-11	Jan-12
Diego Loza	Argentina	Long-term	Jul-11	Jun-12
Orlando Colina	Venezuela	Long-term	Jul-12	Jun-13
Luiz Muller	Brazil	Long-term	Feb-12	Jan-13
Abel Carneiro	Brazil	Long-term	Jul-12	Jun-13
Yaidelys Garcia	Venezuela	Short-term	May-12	Jul-12
Olger Alarcon	Peru	Short-term	Feb-12	Apr-12
Samuel Conrad	Brazil	Long-term	Feb-13	Jan-14
Eduardo Mariúba	Brazil	Long-term	Jul-13	Jun-14
Juliano Chaves	Brazil	Short-term	Mar-13	May-13
Juan Castro	Colombia	Long-term	Jul-13	Jun-14
Juan Sea	Bolivia	Short-term	Sep-13	Nov-13
Luís Pereira	Brazil	Short-term	Jul-13	Aug-13

fellows at Hospital das Clínicas–São Paulo, Brazil

Program Director: Alexandre Fogaça

Name	Country	Program	From	To
Irani Paez	Venezuela	Short-term	Oct-13	Dec-13
Hugo Kunzle	Paraguay	Short-term	Oct-13	Dec-13
Richard Hernandez	Peru	Short-term	Apr-13	Jun-13
Manoel Filho	Brazil	Observership	Jul-11	Jul-11

fellows at Hospital Italiano–Buenos Aires, Argentina

Program Director: Marcelo Gruenberg

Name	Country	Program	From	To
Godoy Carrero Wilmer	Colombia	Short-term	Apr-06	May-06
Daniel Cauti De la Cruz	Peru	Short-term	Sep-06	Oct-06
Juan M. Sea Aramayo	Bolivia	Short-term	Sep-06	Nov-06
Paola San Martin	Chile	Short-term	Mar-07	May-07
Horacio resano	Argentina	Long-term	Jul-09	Jun-10
Fernando Alvarado	Colombia	Short-term	Oct-10	Dec-10
Maximiliano mereles	Argentina	Long-term	Jul-10	Jul-11
Pablo Diaz	Argentina	Long-term	Jun-11	May-12

fellows at Hospital Higa–La Plata, Argentina

Program Director: Pedro Bazán

Name	Country	Program	From	To
Tamara Gisela	Argentina	Short-term	May-12	Jul-12
Gustavo Montoya	Panama	Long-term	Jul-13	Dec-13

fellows at Instituto Infantil Roosevelt–Bogotá, Colombia

Program Director: Carlos Montero Silva

Name	Country	Program	From	To
Jorge de Haro	Mexico	Short-term	Mar-13	May-13
Jose Matheus	Guatemala	Observership	May-13	May-13

fellows at Hospital Garrahan–Buenos Aires, Argentina

Program Director: Ernesto Bersusky

Name	Country	Program	From	To
Joel Acevedo	Dominican Rep.	Short-term	Mar-11	May-11
Nicolas Coombes	Argentina	Short-term	Mar-11	May-11
Esteban Araya	Costa Rica	Short-term	Oct-11	Nov-11
Alfredo Gotfryd	Brazil	Observership	Oct -11	Oct-11
Javier Espinoza	Peru	Observership	Jul-11	Jul-11
Saul Barrera	Colombia	Observership	Aug-11	Aug-11
Fabrizio Aguilar	Ecuador	Short-term	Aug-12	Oct-12
Carlos Vargas	Peru	Short-term	Mar-12	Apr-12
Antonio Carvajal	Colombia	Long-term	Mar-12	Aug-12
Henry Solaque	Colombia	Short-term	May-12	Jun-12
Heber Torres	Colombia	Short-term	Oct-12	Nov-12
Martin Medina	Argentina	Long-term	Jan-13	Jun-13
Luis Brenes	Costa Rica	Short-term	Sep-13	Nov-13
Salvador Gutierrez	Mexico	Short-term	Jul-13	Sep-13
Napoleón Avendaño	Colombia	Short-term	May-13	Jun-13
Martin Medina	Argentina	Long-term	Jan-13	Jun-13
Jhonny Gómez	Colombia	Short-term	Oct-13	Dec-13
Daniel Barros	Brazil	Observership	Apr-12	Apr-12

fellows at Hospital del Trabajador–Santiago, Chile

Program Director: José Fleiderman

Name	Country	Program	From	To
Alfredo Jordán	Ecuador	Short-term	Mar-06	May-06
Javier Gutiérrez Bonilha	Costa Rica	Long-term	Apr-06	Mar-07
Alfredo Jordán	Ecuador	Short-term	Mar-07	May-07
Francisco Ilabaca	Chile	Long-term	Apr-07	Mar-08

fellows at Unidad Médica de Alta Especialidad–Monterrey, Mexico

Program Director: Marco Salazar

Name	Country	Program	From	To
Julian España	Colombia	Long-term	Aug-11	Feb-12
Edgar Cardeña	Mexico	Long-term	Feb-13	Dec-13

fellows at Hospital das Clínicas–Ribeirão Preto, Brazil

Program Director: Helton Delfino

Name	Country	Program	From	To
Carlos Fernando Herrero	Brazil	Short-term	Feb-07	Apr-07
William Contreras	Colombia	Short-term	Feb-07	Apr-07
Djalma Amorim	Brazil	Short-term	Feb-09	Apr-09
Aldimarina López	Panama	Long-term	Feb-09	Jan-10

fellows at International Spine Centers

Name	Country of origin	Spine Center	City, Country	Program	From	To
Luiz Gustavo Rocha	Brazil	Harborview Medical Center	Seattle, USA	Short-term	Mar-06	Jun-06
Manuel Valência Carrasco	Chile	Queen's Medical Centre	Nottingham, UK	Short-term	Jun-06	Jul-06
Leonardo Perez	Mexico	Queen's Medical Centre	Nottingham, UK	Short-term	Feb-07	Mar-07
Mauricio Gusmão	Brazil	Queen's Medical Centre	Nottingham, UK	Short-term	Jul-07	Aug-07
Luis Claudio Rodrigues	Brazil	Helsinki	Helsinki, Finland	Short-term	Aug-07	Sep-07
Jose Luiz Romeo Boulosa	Brazil	I.R.C.C.S Istituto Ortopedico Galeazzi	Milan, Italy	Short-term	Nov-07	Dec-07
Marcelo Valacco	Argentina	Harborview Medical Center	Seattle, USA	Short-term	Feb-07	Apr-07
Túlio Rangel	Brazil	Helsinki	Helsinki, Finland	Short-term	Aug-07	Sep-07
Guillermo Kahl	Argentina	Harborview Medical Center	Seattle, USA	Short-term	Jan-09	Mar-09
Juan Guyot	Argentina	Harborview Medical Center	Seattle, USA	Short-term	Jan-10	Mar-10
Felix Imposti	Argentina	Harborview Medical Center	Seattle, USA	Short-term	Jan-10	Mar-10
Cristiano Simões	Brazil	Istituto Rizzoli	Bologna, Italy	Short-term	Sep-10	Feb-11
Santiago Menendez	Argentina	Sint Maartenskliniek	Nijmegen, Netherlands	Short-term	Sep-11	Nov-11
Danilo Bernardi	Brazil	I.R.C.C.S Istituto Ortopedico Galeazzi	Milan, Italy	Short-term	Oct-11	Nov-11
Vinicius Benites	Brazil	Frankfurt	Frankfurt, Germany	Short-term	Jul-13	Aug-13
Dolores Posadas	Argentina	Istituto Rizzoli	Bologna, Italy	Short-term	Feb-13	Mar-13
Mario Garcia	Guatemala	Spine Educ & Research Institute	Denver, USA	Short-term	Feb-13	Apr-13
Lazaro Lutzky	Argentina	Hirslanden Klinik St. Anna	Luzern, Switzerland	Short-term	Apr-13	May-13
Diego Flores	Argentina	Queen's Medical Centre	Nottingham, UK	Short-term	Jul-13	Sep-13
Alejandro Calniquer	Argentina	Harborview Medical Center	Seattle, USA	Short-term	Apr-13	Jun-13
Ramiro Barrera	Argentina	Hong Kong University	Hong Kong	Observership	Apr-13	May-13

Fellowship 2014

After a year of hard work, the AOSLA Office has completed another successful selection process for the Fellowship Program. The 2014 fellowship process selected the following candidates to develop their training in Latin America or outside of the region.

Name	Origin	Spine Center	City, Country	Program	From	To
Jean Castelo	Peru	Hospital das Clínicas	São Paulo, Brazil	Short-term	Jan-14	Mar-14
Luis Lamus	Venezuela	Hospital das Clínicas	São Paulo, Brazil	Short-term	Apr-14	Jun-14
Armando Rojas	Colombia	Hospital da Restauração	Recife, Brazil	Short-term	Apr-14	Jun-14
Reinel Junco	Cuba	Hospital Garrahan	Buenos Aires, Argentina	Long-term	Jan-14	Jun-15
José Corredor	Colombia	Hospital Santa Casa	Curitiba, Brazil	Long-term	Fev-14	Jul-14
Alejandro Fuente	Mexico	Hospital Universitário Cajuru	Curitiba, Brazil	Short-term	Mar-14	May-14
Germán Olmedo	Argentina	Hospital Universitário Cajuru	Curitiba, Brazil	Short-term	Jun-14	Ago-14
William Contreras	Colombia	Hospital Universitário Cajuru	Curitiba, Brazil	Short-term	Sep-14	Nov-14
Wellington Ueda	Brazil	Hospital Universitário Cajuru	Curitiba, Brazil	Long-term	Fev-14	Dec-15
*	–	Hospital Universitário Cajuru	Curitiba, Brazil	Long-term	–	–
Sergio Terraza	Argentina	Hospital San Martín	Buenos Aires, Argentina	Long-term	Apr-14	Dec-14
Julian Zuluaga	Colombia	Hospital Roosevelt	Bogotá, Colombia	Short-term	May-14	Aug-14
Lucas Aurich	Brazil	INT Klinik für Wirbelsäulen Chirurgie	Schwarzenbruck, Germany	Short-term	May-14	Jul-14
*	–	Istituto Rizzoli	Bologna, Italy	Short-term	–	–
Angel Soto	Mexico	Universitary Hospitalary Complex	Santiago de Compostela, Spain	Short-term	Oct-14	Oct-14

*Selection process should close by December 2013



Research

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Research officer's word

Dear AOSpine members,

An entire year has now once again passed quite quickly, and fortunately I had the pleasure of continuing to perform some fascinating work as AOSpine Latin America Research Officer. During this time, I have had the opportunity to meet all kinds of interesting people, whose brilliant ideas inspired me to contribute to the improvement of research in Latin America. Considering all this support, I would like first of all to thank all these friends for their collaboration with the organization.

One of our main achievements in 2013 was the development of two multicenter projects performed by Latin American researchers, which aimed at evaluating the local scientific production. These studies were very important for assessing the research being produced by spine surgeons in our region, their main areas of interest and journals of publication, as well as the difficulties usually encountered when conducting a scientific project.

These projects helped identify some of the reasons that contribute to the limitation of scientific publications by Latin American doctors, thereby making it possible to develop and implement strategies to change these circumstances. One of these strategies is the investment in quality education in research, to increase both quantity and quality of scientific publications. As a result of this

plan of action, several research education symposia and meetings were developed in different countries. Given their success and the overall positive response from the community, activities of this type will be maintained, strengthened and increased in the years to come.

In addition to these activities, we have started an international project focusing on mentorship, which is offered to all AOSLA members. A good example of this successfully implemented project was a study which had the AOSpine Research Chairperson, Daniel Riew, as their mentor. The project started with a call opened to AOSLA members and authors from all over Latin America participated.

A side project was developed in which a database of all AOSLA members interested in research was compiled through an online survey. The main objective was to map those doctors in Latin America who would be interested in developing research, building a network for future team work for specific projects based on participants' interests and abilities.

The AOSpine community will be informed of ongoing research projects and their progress, including information on how to

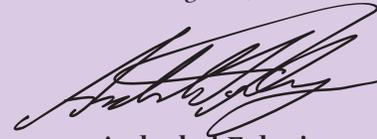
participate in the studies. AOSLA is also developing projects to assist with language and statistical consultancy for those members interested in developing a study, so as to support local investigators. The implementation of a group of reviewers to assess potential investigation projects will help strengthen these projects. Finally, the creation of a research fellowship is an integral part of our plans for the future, providing further support for research centers and investigators in the region.

As Research Officer, it has been an enjoyable challenge and opportunity to help identify and stimulate possible research groups, promoting the exchange of experiences between researchers from the local Chapters, and being able to offer the tools for inter- and multidisciplinary work. There is no need for prior knowledge to conduct a research study; only the drive to do so.

It is of utmost importance to understand that the goal of scientific training is not only to publish papers, but also to offer improved patient care through the collection of relevant data. Through research, we are able to show the community and health providers which treatments, materials and diagnoses are most effective for our patients. We will continue with our pursuit of improving spine surgery research in Latin America, providing the global spine

community and their patients with excellent work, regardless of the difficulties faced in the region. We will have the chance to show the results of our research projects at the Global Spine Congress that will be held in 2015 in Chile.

Kind regards,



Asdrubal Falavigna
AOSpine Latin America
Research officer



Research Grants

The AOSpine Latin America Grants Program is currently supporting four projects in the region – two of them beginning in 2011, and two in 2012. All projects have been receiving regular stipends from the organization to develop cutting-edge research in spine surgery in Latin America. These projects – both basic science and clinical studies – were awarded the grant after a meticulous selection process

conducted by the AOSLA Selection Committee.

The following table presents a list of the mentioned projects with the respective investigator in charge. Some of the projects have already presented publications and we look forward to other published articles to follow in the next year.

Project	Principal Investigator	Country
<p>Title: Percutaneous therapy in rats submitted to medullar trauma.</p> <p>Objective: To evaluate the effect of mesenchymal stem cells obtained from human adipose tissue on the cauda equina of rats submitted to thoracic spinal cord contusion injury. The analysis will provide a comparison of the results related to functional recovery after spinal cord injury between percutaneous injection of stem cells in the medullar cone, and the results of previous studies performed by the group, in which the injection of stem cells was used directly into the lesion site.</p>	Christiano Simões	Brazil
<p>Title: Evaluation of the role of phospho-calcium metabolism in the risk of pseudoarthrosis in patients operated from lumbar degenerative scoliosis.</p> <p>Objective: To evaluate the phospho-calcium metabolism in a group of patients submitted to surgical correction of degenerative lumbar scoliosis. The study will relate this data to the presence and characteristics of pseudarthrosis.</p>	Juan Pablo Guyot	Argentina
<p>Title: Analysis of the efficacy of hyperbaric therapy and physical activity for motricity, histological and oxidative damage, and infertility in a rachimedullar trauma model.</p> <p>Objective: To determine the effectiveness and the best parameters for THB and AF to promote neurological recovery and fertility. The project will be conducted in four phases: evaluation of the effectiveness of THB and AF and their optimal application parameters; evaluation of the effectiveness of AF associated with BD; evaluation of the fertility of rats after the TRM; and evaluation of the effectiveness of THB in sperm mobility and fertility.</p> <p>Abstracts publications: 2</p> <p>Manuscripts Publications: 2</p>	Asdrubal Falavigna	Brazil
<p>Title: Prospective evaluation of the postoperative results of minimally invasive treatment of vertebral metastases.</p> <p>Objective: To evaluate the intraoperative and postoperative use of minimally invasive techniques of fixation and decompression of the spine in patients affected by vertebral metastasis.</p>	Álvaro Silva	Chile

Research projects

International mentoring and multicenter study

In 2013, AOSLA initiated the development of an international mentoring and multicenter project for the first time. The study, entitled “Surgical planning and neurologic outcome after anterior approach to remove a disc herniation at the C7–T1 level in 19

patients”, was performed in participation with different spine surgery centers in Latin America. Daniel Riew, from the Washington University in Saint Louis, USA – and also AOSpine Research Chairperson –, was the international mentor in charge of the project.

Investigators

The following table presents a list with the participating investigators and institutes from Latin America.

Investigators	Institute	Country
Asdrubal Falavigna Orlando Righesso Olivia Egger de Souza Pedro Guarise da Silva	Universidade de Caxias do Sul	Brazil
Alejandro Betemps	Instituto de Rehabilitación Psicofísica	Argentina
Rangel Guimarães	Universidade do Estado do Rio de Janeiro	Brazil
Marcus Ziegler	Hospital São Lucas da PUC–RS	Brazil
Pablo Fernando Vela de los Rios	Hospital Universitario San Jorge	Colombia
Daniel Riew	Washington University, St. Louis	United States

Results

Data collected from 19 cases indicated that the standard anterior cervical supramanubrial approach can be used for most C7-T1 discectomies and fusions. Despite the fact that this is a single-level discectomy and fusion, the participant researchers consider that a stand-alone cage would be inadequate. Taking this into consideration, the use of an anterior cervical plate is recommended. Post-operative and radicular pain disappears immediately and, in the majority of the cases with intrinsic hand motor deficits, normal motor function is re-established.

Status

The project has obtained peer-review acceptance in the Spine Journal, in press.

Sponsor

AOSpine Latin America.

Fractures A3

Objective

The complete name of this international project, normally referred to as “FA3”, is “Comparison of surgical versus conservative treatment of AO Type A3 thoracolumbar fractures without neurological deficits”. Its main purpose will be to evaluate whether patients with thoracolumbar fractures, without neurological deficits, exhibit a faster rate of recovery and better improvement of functionality when surgically treated, in comparison to patients submitted to conservative treatment. This study specifically aims to measure whether surgically treated patients have a higher average difference in their scores on the Roland-Morris Disability Questionnaire (RMDQ), between baseline and a six week follow-up, than patients submitted to the conservative treatment. A total of 140 patients with thoracolumbar fractures will be assigned either conservative or surgical treatment, depending on the surgeon's decision, in order to collect and assess the necessary data.

Principal Investigators

Emiliano Vialle, from the Pontifícia Universidade Católica do Paraná, Brazil, as Latin American regional coordinating investigator; and Giuseppe Barbagallo, as regional coordinating investigator in Europe.

Co-Investigators

AOSpine Latin America will take part in this project with four renowned centers in the region participating. The following table lists the locations and the respective co-investigators of this international and multicenter study.

Co-Investigators	City, Country
Asdrubal Falavigna	Porto Alegre, Brazil
Milan Munjin	Santiago, Chile
Osmar Moraes	São Paulo, Brazil
Manuel Cunha e Sá	Almada, Portugal
Wilco Peul	Leiden, Netherlands
Roman Harcuba	Liberec, Czech Republic
Pietro Mortini	Milano, Italy
Bernhard Meyer	Munich, Germany

Clinical Research Organization

AO Clinical Investigation and Documentation (AOCID).

Project Manager

Ivo Schauwecker.

Consultant for Latin America

Shandher Tovar.

Status

The study is currently being developed in the aforementioned centers.

Sponsors

AOSpine Latin America and Giuseppe Barbagallo.

Responsiveness of depression and its influence on surgical outcomes of lumbar degenerative diseases

Objective

The aim of this study is to demonstrate the responsiveness of depression after surgery in cases of lumbar degenerative disease, verifying the impact of this condition on surgical outcomes.

Principal Investigator

Asdrubal Falavigna, from the Universidade de Caxias do Sul, Brazil.

International Mentoring

Joseph Cheng, from the Vanderbilt Medical Center, USA.

Status

The project is currently in the data analysis phase.

Sponsors

AOSpine Latin America.

Cost-benefit in spine surgery in Latin America

Objective

This project aims to collect information on the costs of surgery in different Latin American countries, with the objective of performing a cost-benefit study on the different types of surgery in Latin American countries.

International Mentoring

Joseph Cheng, from the Vanderbilt Medical Center, USA.

Status

This project is currently being developed.

Sponsors

AOSpine Latin America.

“Assessing the evolution of publications by Brazilian spine surgeons in the last decade” and “Scientific production of Latin American spine surgeons in 12 years”

Objective

These studies performed a PubMed search on research published by spine surgeons in different countries of Latin America. The AOSLA Research Officers and Council members from Brazil, Argentina, Chile and Mexico were invited to perform an investigation in their own countries, collecting data on studies published between January 2000 and December 2011.

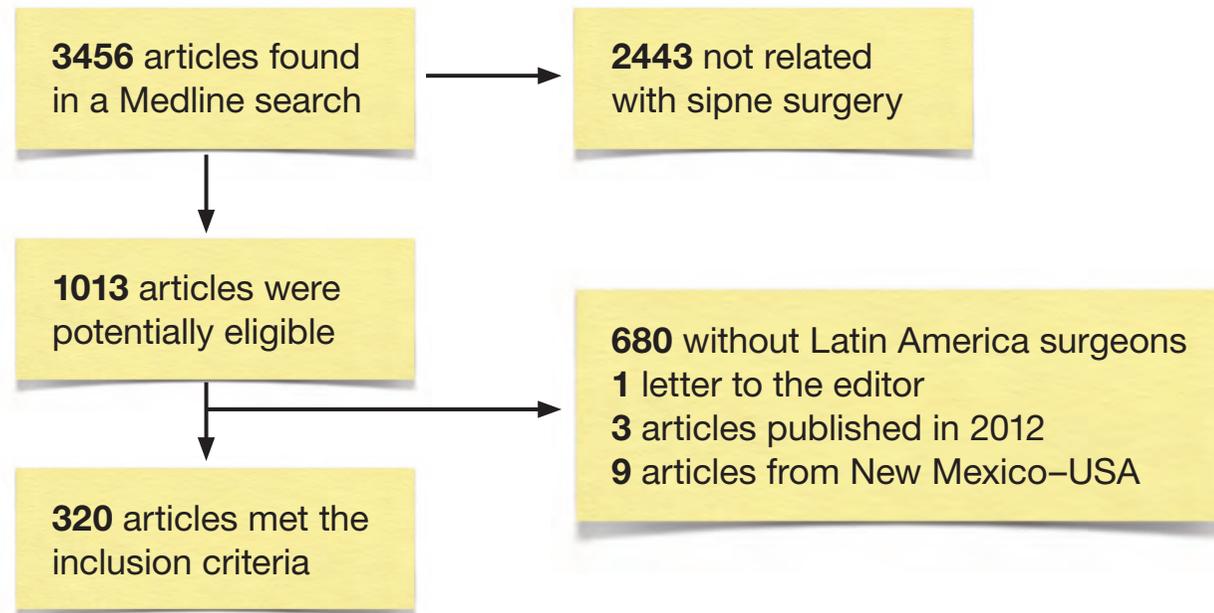
Investigators

The study had the participation of researchers from different countries in the region, as shown in the following table.

Investigators	Institute	Country
Asdrubal Falavigna Alisson Roberto Teles Pedro Guarise da Silva	Universidade de Caxias do Sul	Brazil
Ricardo Vieira Botelho	Hospital do Servidor Público Estadual Francisco Morato de Oliveira	Brazil
Délio Martins	Universidade Federal de São Paulo – Escola de Medicina Paulista	Brazil
Juan Pablo Guyot	Hospital Universitario Fundación Favaloro	Argentina
Helton Luiz Aparecido Defino	Faculdade de Medicina de Ribeirão Preto da Universidade de São Paulo	Brazil
Álvaro Silva Gonzalez	Clínica Alemana – Universidad del Desarrollo	Chile
José Maria Jiménez Avila	Unidad Médica de Alta Especialidad – Centro Médico Nacional del Occidente	Mexico

Results

These investigations showed a clear growth in the number of publications by Latin American spine surgeons over the last twelve years.



Relevance

This research helped AOSLA assess the difficulties in performing a scientific project and provided the necessary information on how to initiate research projects, conduct them in an ethical and efficient manner, and follow them through until their final phases.

Status

The study has been completed and published in the World Neurosurgery and European Spine Journal.

Sponsors

AOSpine Latin America.

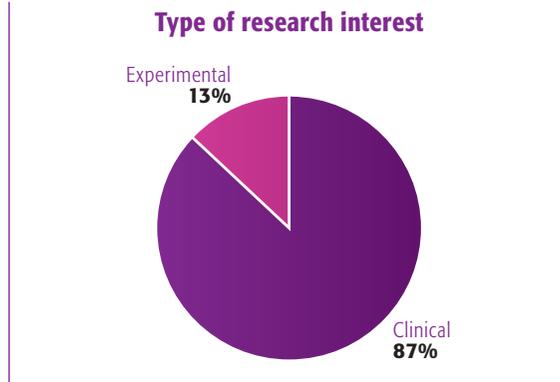
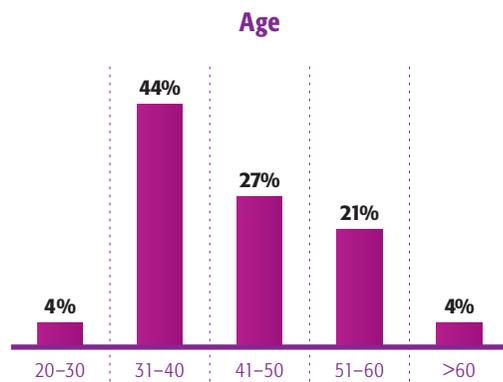
Research database survey for AOSLA members

Objective

The objective of this project was to identify members of AOSpine Latin America who would be interested in research activities. The goal was to develop a database containing the names of interested members and the areas in which they would like to perform research work. Based on the response of 133 members, an important network was established among these researchers.

It is expected that this "Multicenter International Research Group" will be a significant starting point for increasing scientific production and publications in Latin America.

Some of the information collected on the AOSLA members is presented in the following charts.

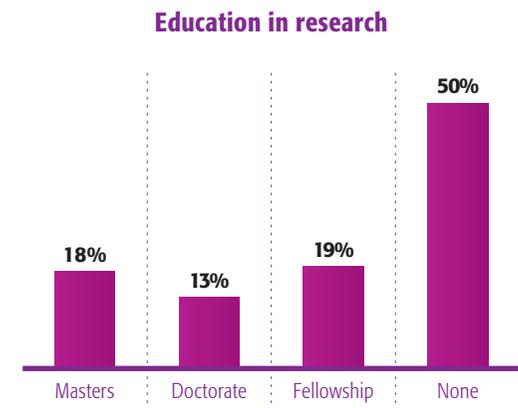
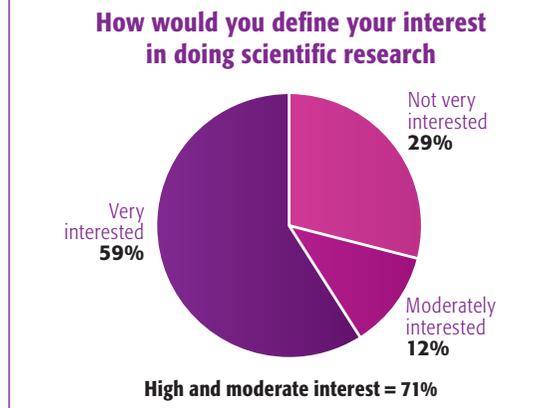


Status

Finished.

Sponsors

AOSpine Latin America.



Educational Activities

Research Meetings

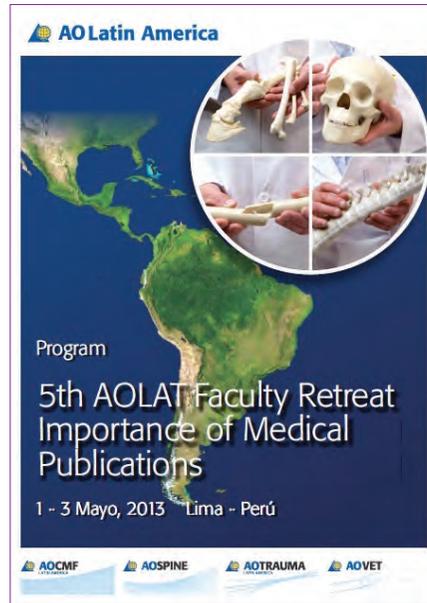
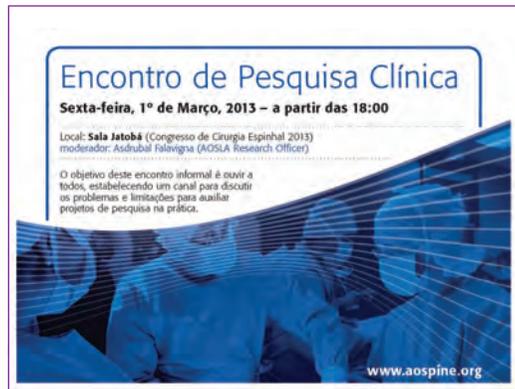
On March 1st, the Meeting for clinical research took place at the Congress of Spine Surgery in São Paulo, Brazil.

Objectives

The meeting aimed at discussing and defining steps for initiating international research projects.

International Faculties

Daniel Resnick and Joseph Cheng.



From May 1st–3rd, the AOLAT Retreat in Lima, Peru saw the participation of over 90 members of the Latin American Faculty from three clinical divisions.

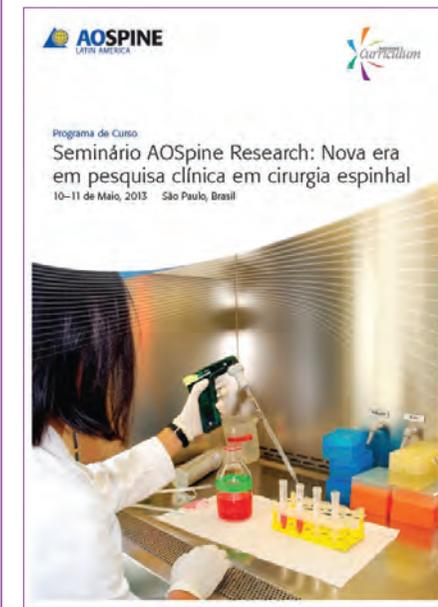
Objectives

The participants were able to share their experiences and knowledge on the relevance of medical publication in the region. The event was a unique opportunity for the 26 AOSLA Faculty members to continue developing the educational work and strengthen the network for knowledge discussion.

On May 10th–11th, AOSLA carried out the AOSpine Research Seminar: New era in clinical research in spine surgery.

Objectives

This seminar focused on bringing relevant knowledge about research, stimulating joint scientific activities through the exchange of experiences. Furthermore, it intended to identify the active research centers in the region, providing education and qualification regarding clinical research.



In June, another educational research activity was held at the 16th Congresso Gaúcho de Educação Médica, which saw the participation of 600 students from Medical Schools across the Southern region of Brazil.

The Congress took place at the Universidade de Caxias do Sul with Asdrubal Falavigna, AOSLA Research Officer, as the Chairperson of the activity.



Also in June, the AOSpine Pre-Congress Advanced Seminar: Evidence-based medicine was held the day before the AMCICO.

Objectives

The event aimed at covering the foundation of evidence-based medicine, as well as featuring discussions about developing, writing and publishing scientific articles. Both the Seminar and Congress were held in Mérida, Mexico.

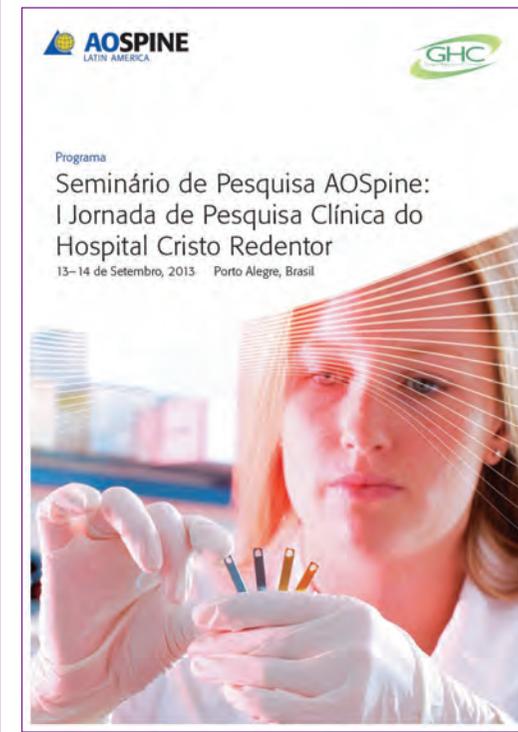
Chairperson

José Maria Jimenez.



In September, the AOSpine Research Seminar: 1st Journey in clinical research from the Hospital Cristo Redentor took place in Porto Alegre, Southern Brazil.

Asdrubal Falavigna, the Chairperson of the activity, created a space for the discussion and exchange of experiences related to clinical research themes, supporting researchers in the development of the basic knowledge needed to conduct studies and giving tips on how to overcome the difficulties in this process.



Virtual meetings

Objective

AOSLA is currently holding online meetings with all local Officers, members and research course participants who are interested in a larger involvement in research on spine surgery. Through these meetings, the organization expects to continue to nurture the upcoming research groups and further push multicenter studies.

The main objective of the virtual meetings is to exchange ideas and raise awareness among the local Officers about the different projects being developed in the region. These steps are fundamental to the formation of clinical and experimental study groups, which will help to produce relevant research in the future. These meetings also perform a very important role in informing the AOSLA members interested in research about the status of the ongoing projects, giving them the chance to actively participate in the studies.

Status

The virtual meetings are currently being held on a regular basis.

Sponsors

AOSpine Latin America.



Research development programs & projects

AOSLA Research book: “Principles and basic steps to perform scientific projects and to publish”

Objective

As a result of the previously described activities, AOSpine Latin America Research identified the necessity of improving basic knowledge among members from the region. To this end, AOSLA is supporting the production of a book which will serve as a basic assistance tool for research in general. The book will be coordinated and edited by Asdrubal Falavigna, AOSLA Research Officer, and José Maria Jimenez, Mexico Research Officer. All the local Research Officers from the Latin American Chapters have been invited to contribute in the authorship of the material.

The book is composed of 28 chapters, divided into three sections: the first refers to the development of an idea; the second is focused on the reasons behind the performance of scientific studies and publishing; and the third focuses on how to publish. The volume will be available in Portuguese and will also be translated into Spanish.

Status

The chapters are currently under review and being translated for publication in 2014.

Sponsors

AOSpine Latin America.

AOSpine Latin America scientific support

Starting in the next months, the AOSLA Office aims to develop a series of support tools for researchers. This will include linguistic support for research translations and statistical and methodological scientific support, among other things. The latter will be provided by a pool of reviewers from the local Chapters, who will assess and help shape potential projects. Furthermore, a database with cases, research ideas and sketched projects will be offered for those who wish to get involved in developing research. These opportunities will be available for all members from the region who would like to perform relevant studies.

Status

This project is currently being developed.

Sponsors

AOSpine Latin America.

Publications

Books

In the first half of 2013, AOSpine Latin America began teaching and publishing together with several Medical Schools in Brazil.

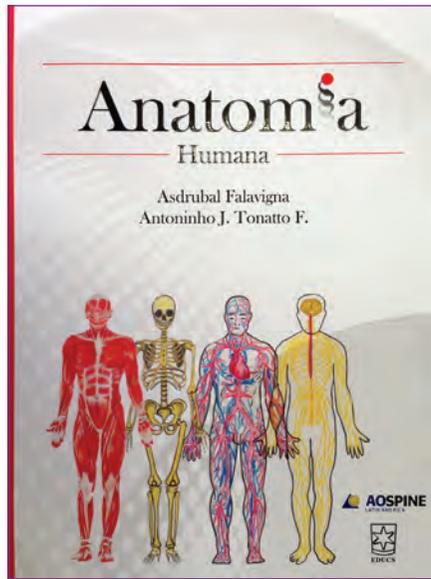
The final product is an Anatomy and Neuroanatomy book, available in print and digitally.

Status

This project is completed.

Sponsors

AOSpine Latin America,
Fundação Universidade de Caxias do Sul.



Manuscripts

As a result of several educational and research activities, and thanks to the efforts of all the people involved in the projects who dedicated their time and knowledge to our research activities, several publications have been featured in different renowned international journals. Some of them are listed below.

- *Assessing the evolution of publications by Brazilian spine surgeons in the last decade.*
EuroSpine J 10.1007/s00586-013-2824-3
- *Stem-cell treatment in disc degeneration: what is the evidence?*
Coluna/Columna. 2013; 12(1): 61-3
- *Experimental model of spinal cord injury (sci) in rats: management guidelines.*
Coluna/Columna. 2013; 12(1): 70-2
- *Minimally invasive approaches for thoracic decompression from discectomy to corpectomy.*
J Neurosurg SCI 2013;57:175-92
- *Mesenchymal stem cells.*
World Neurosurgery. DOI 10.1016/j.wneu.2013.02.026
- *Surgical planning and neurologic outcome after anterior approach to remove a disc herniation at the C7-T1 Level in 19 patients.*
Accepted to be published on Spine Journal.
- *Scientific production of Latin American spine surgeons in the last decade.*
Under review.



Community Development

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Community Development officer's word

Dear AOSpine Friends and Members,

Another year went by in which AOSpine proudly continued to be the largest international spine community, delivering high quality education and research and, most importantly, fostering the training of hundreds of spine surgeons. All these actions, undertaken through the different projects developed by the organization, lead to improving spine care throughout the world.

Our main goal is not only to remain the largest and most active international spine community, but also to grow as such, contributing to the wellness of our patients. We also know these achievements are only made possible through the constant support and participation of a growing community of active members.

The delivery of high quality education by AOSLA, together with the outstanding administrative work provided by the office in Curitiba, has allowed our region to maintain a robust membership base. The challenge of increasing the approximately 1200 memberships in Latin America has been taken head-on by the Community Development Commission, and the new strategies initiated in 2012 have been very effective in improving the retention rate of members. This progress will continue with an ambitious action plan, outlined at the AOSpine Community Development Commission meeting this September. The strategic plan includes a standardized marketing strategy, an increased AOSpine presence at

local spine-related meetings, and improved support for the research area. In addition, it also aims at boosting membership application and retention rates by substantially improving web-based communications, support systems and networking. These strategies will definitely add a significant value to the membership, promoting our growth in the community.

I am thankful for the confidence from our members and look forward to the challenge of leading the Community Development in our region, achieving our goal of making the largest and best spine community even larger and better!

Sincerely,

Samuel Pantoja
AOSpine Latin America
Community Development officer



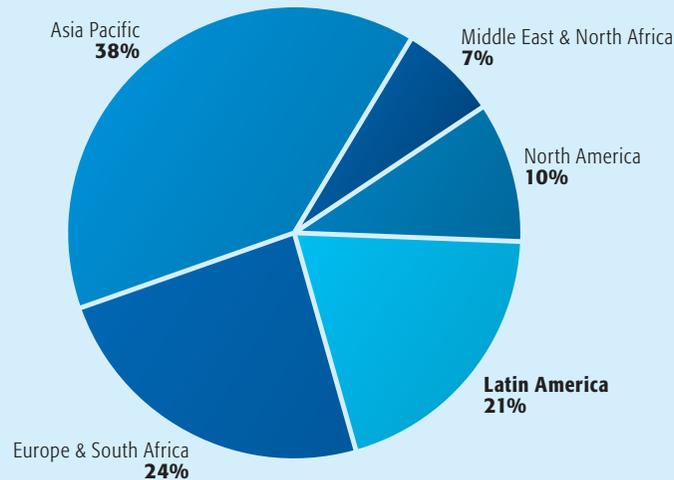
Membership

The success of the work developed in the last years in our educational activities is reflected by the increase in the number of members we were able to record for 2013. In comparison to 2012, the year has seen an increase of 12% in the total number of members, which stands as proof of the mutual commitment of both the members and our community.

Considering this excellent outcome, AOSpine Latin America is thankful for the trust that participants and Faculty members have been putting in the organization through their decision to continue being a part of our community.

In the following pages, the development of memberships in 2013 is illustrated through charts featuring statistical information for the national, regional and international levels.

Global Membership evolution overview



Region	Members	%
Asia Pacific	2308	38%
Europe & South Africa	1469	24%
Latin America	1243	21%
North America	609	10%
Middle East & North Africa	415	7%
Global	6044	

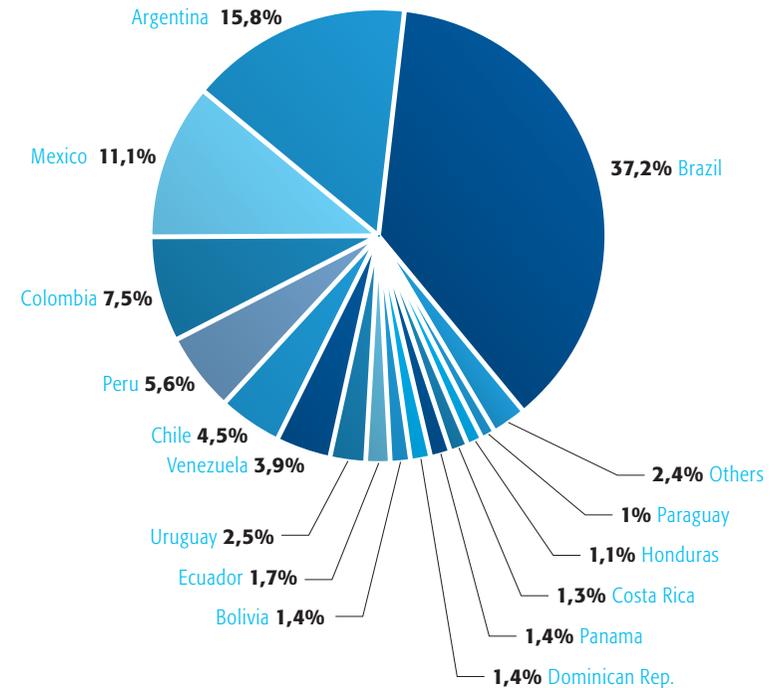
*Statistics as of December 31st, 2013

Membership evolution in Latin America

Members and associates by country

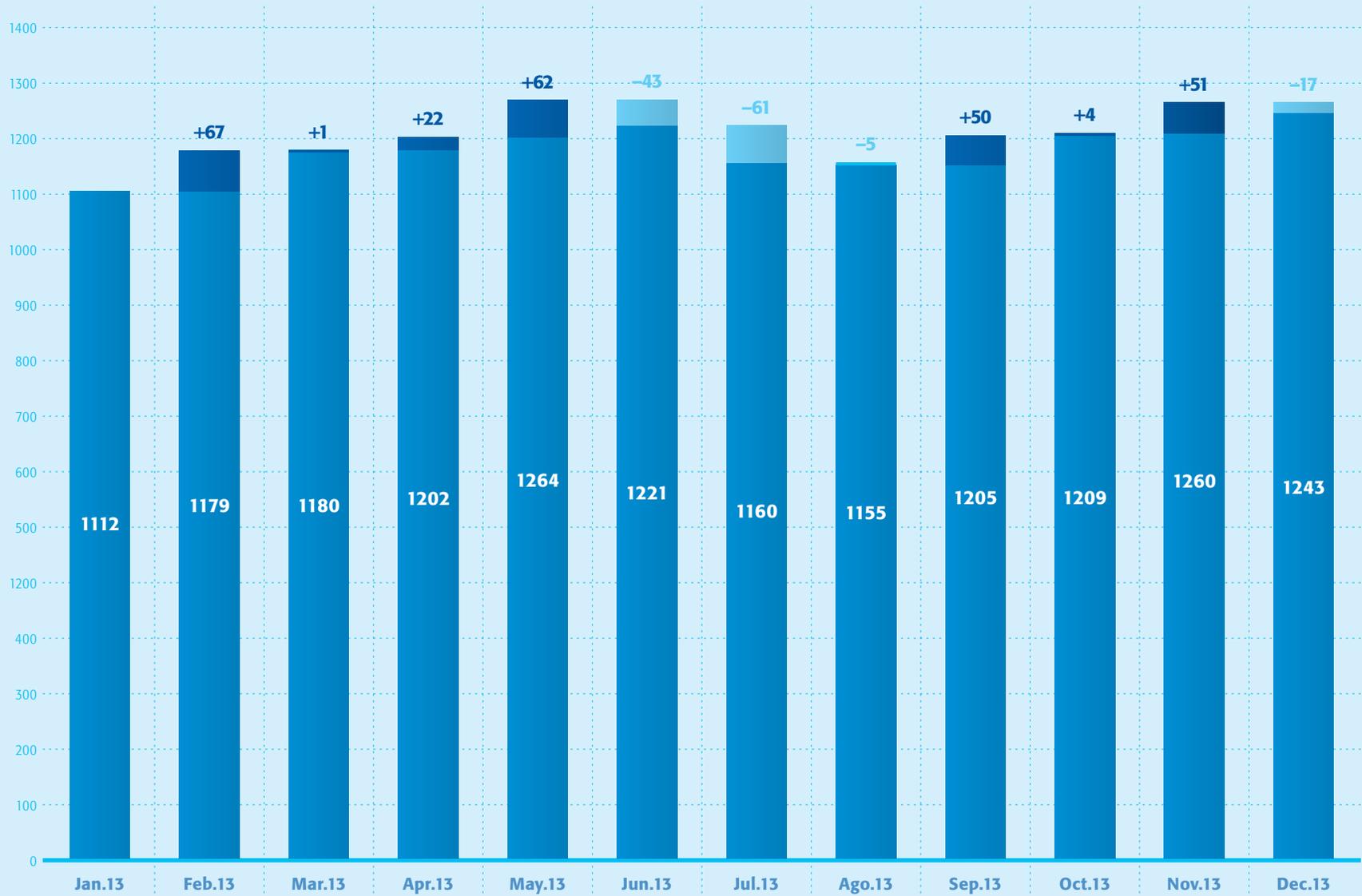
Country	Members	Associates	%	
Brazil	462	1241	37,2%	
Argentina	196	537	15,8%	
Mexico	138	763	11,1%	
Colombia	93	461	7,5%	
Peru	69	199	5,6%	
Chile	56	257	4,5%	
Venezuela	49	317	3,9%	
Uruguay	31	41	2,5%	
Ecuador	21	94	1,7%	
Bolivia	18	88	1,4%	
Dominican Republic	18	79	1,4%	
Panama	18	46	1,4%	
Costa Rica	16	119	1,3%	
Honduras	14	7	1,1%	
Paraguay	13	39	1,0%	
Guatemala	9	87	0,7%	
Nicaragua	9	74	0,7%	
Cuba	9	54	0,7%	
Others	Jamaica	1	9	0,1%
	El Salvador	1	7	0,1%
	Barbados	1	2	0,1%
	British Virgin Islands	1	0	0%
	Puerto Rico	0	11	0%
	Belize	0	3	0%
	French Guiana	0	2	0%
	Trinidad and Tobago	0	1	0%
Total	1,243	4,538	100%	

Participation in AOSpine Latin America members by country



*Statistics as of December 31st, 2013

Membership evolution in 2013



Statistics as of December 31st, 2013

AOSpine presence in Latin America

AOSpine Advanced Pre-Congress Seminar (Congress of Neurosurgery): Trauma

Date. April 24, 2013

Venue. Habana Libre Hotel – Habana, Cuba

AOSpine Advanced Pre-Congress Symposium (14th Brazilian Congress on Spine): Spinal cord at risk

Date. April 27, 2013

Venue. Costão do Santinho Resort – Florianópolis, Brazil

AOSpine Advanced Pre-Congress Seminar (AMCICO): Evidence-based medicine

Date. June 26, 2013

Venue. Fiesta Americana Hotel – Mérida, Mexico

AOSpine Advanced Trans-Congress Seminar (AMCICO): Tumor

Date. June 27, 2013

Venue. Convention Center Siglo XXI – Mérida, Mexico

AOSpine Advanced Trans-Congress Seminar (SEOT): Frequent pathologies of the spine

Date. August 23, 2013

Venue. Hilton Colón Quito Hotel – Quito, Ecuador

AOSpine Advanced Pre-Congress Seminar (ASPECIVE): Spinal fractures

Date. September 26, 2013

Venue. Swissotel – Lima, Peru

AOSpine Advanced Seminar: Spinal fractures

Date. September 28, 2013

Venue. Santo Domingo Hotel – Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic

AOSpine Advanced Trans-Congress Seminar (Neuropinamar)

Date. November 29-30, 2013

Venue. Del Bosque Hotel – Pinamar, Argentina

Communication Plan 2013

In 2013, AOSpine Latin America launched **Facebook** and **Twitter** accounts as part of the regional communication plan. The main objectives of this action are:

- Keep our community up-to-date with all our activities: latest news, courses, seminars, congresses, online educational activities, benefits, grants, fellowships and observerships programs, etc. The advantage is that all this information will be available in the local languages (Spanish and Portuguese).
- Enhance the interactivity between AOSLA and its members and associates, as well as between the members and associates themselves, thereby getting closer to our community and better understanding their needs and requests. This will allow us to

adapt our offers to our members' needs and provide an even better service.

- Share videos, flyers, pictures from our events and educational courses. These platforms are excellent ways to gain knowledge, have a visual memory of the events and social activities, and stay informed.



AOSpine Latin America



@AOSpine_Latam

We would like to invite all our members, associates and spine professionals to join our **Facebook** and **Twitter** accounts, to participate actively in both platforms and share our information with their own communities!

Community Development projects for 2014

A new application process to request participation in congresses of Orthopedics and Neurology societies will be officially implemented in 2014. This process has been structured in accordance with the following guidelines:

Objective

The aim of this project is to create a formal process to regulate the participation of the organization at non-AOSpine events (congresses). The process starts with the request to participate in non-AOSpine academic activities (organized by medical societies) and goes through different stages, until its finalization with an assessment of the participation or investment results.

Scope

The objective will be met through the creation and implementation of the following elements:

1. Formal letter with instructions sent to members of the Chapters and Regional Board

Content:

- Information about the process and its objective;
- Information about application deadlines;
- Information about the application steps and approval of the request (Regional Board).

2. Application form

Content:

- Information about the society in charge of the organization;
- Information about academic contents and logistics;
- Confirmation of Faculty members who will participate;

- Assignment of scientific and logistic responsibilities (Commitment Term).

3. Participation Guideline

Content:

- All relevant information pertaining to the different types of participation, as well as the description and definition of the responsibilities of each party.

4. Assessment

Content:

- Number of participants per congress;
- Number of participants per AOSpine activity;
- Number of membership subscriptions;
- Number of visits to the AOSpine stand;
- Type of questions and information requested.





Education

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Education Ortho and Neuro officers' word

Dear Friends,

We would like to take this opportunity to warmly welcome you as members of the AOSpine family and thank for your participation in our educational activities. We would like to highlight the most significant achievements of 2013, which helped strengthen the bonds across the AOSpine Latin America community and further the progress in the region.

The interest and engagement in the educational activities offered by AOSpine has continued to grow: the total number of events increased by 35% in comparison to 2012 and saw a 15% increase in the number of participants. One of the main highlights was the Principles Course organized by the Brazilian Chapter, in which a new format was used, promoting more interaction through discussions in small groups.

We also carried on with a very successful implementation of the AOSpine Curriculum in 100% of our events. This accomplishment was a result of the Faculty development projects from previous years, which guaranteed an effective use of the Curriculum guidelines in exploring the competences and learning outcomes to be used. The figure of the Virtual Educational Advisor also ensured the use of these guidelines in smaller events, such as seminars. From now on, the Education team will be focused on developing new program templates based on a modular framework, as well as developing tools for quality assessment.

This year also saw pilot implementations of the AOSEC standardized templates for Principles Courses in selected events. These templates assist the Chair in preparing a standardized course, based on clinical cases or lectures. The templates are a useful, global and very dynamic tool, and the feedback received in these courses will help AOSEC consolidate this concept for its official launch in 2014.

The constant work with Faculty formation continued to be developed through Faculty Training courses in different countries, always aiming at providing the highest possible quality for our community. In February, Chairperson and EA trainings were held in Lima, providing the Chairs and EAs in charge of activities in 2013 with the adequate training to perform their role.

Furthermore, AOSLA continued with the successful formula of the Virtual Course, already in its sixth edition. The course has become an institution in the region and enjoys great recognition from the participants, bringing quality education to surgeons all across Latin America. The system innovations allowed the two courses (Principles and Advanced) to be an even greater success, providing participants with a high quality transmission and lots of opportunities for interaction.

Another relevant activity is the Continued Education Program, which saw the first group of participants concluding the first cycle

and beginning Cycle 2, which was officially launched in September. In order to reinforce the Program's structure, an official agreement has been signed with the Universidad Nacional de La Plata (Argentina) to develop a range of integrated activities related to the Program, including the issuing of joint certificates. The Program Director, Néstor Fiore, and his team will be working intensively to develop the final cycle of the Program and strengthen the interactivity among participants and Faculty members in 2014.

This year we were also able to finalize the development of our Faculty Database, an information system in which data about Faculty's activities, interests and fields of expertise are compiled and processed. This tool will allow the organization to track and follow up on Faculty activities and performance, presenting an important end-use for the planning of future activities.

Finally, it is fundamental to thank everyone – participants, Faculty and Board members – who collaborated on these projects and enabled their development, offering a sincere and inestimable commitment to our activities. We would like to express our gratitude to our friends at the AOSLA Office, for our work and success would not be possible without them, and to also welcome the new members. We are sure that the organization will continue

to evolve and move forward thanks to the commitment of all of you who are a part of our community.

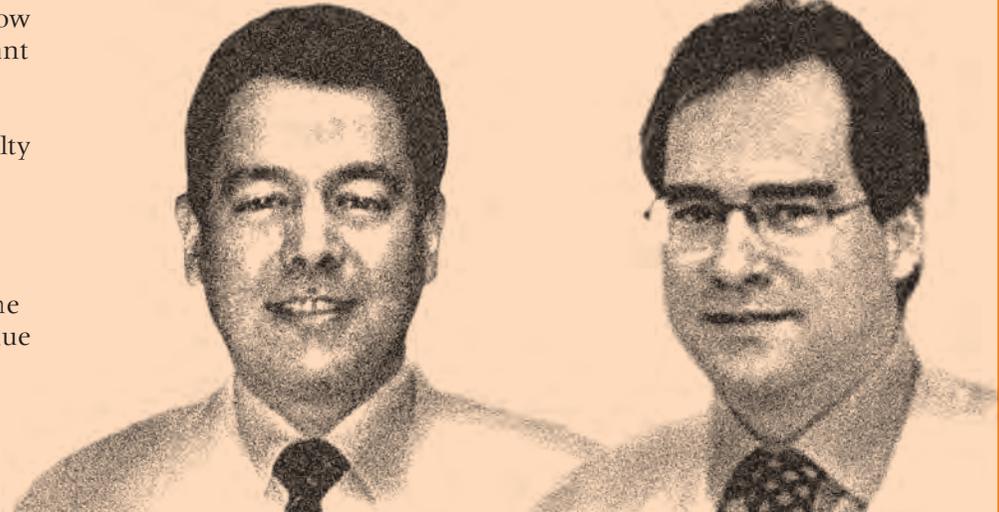
Kindest regards,



Marco Medina
AOSpine Latin America
Education–Neuro officer



Robert Meves
AOSpine Latin America
Education–Ortho officer

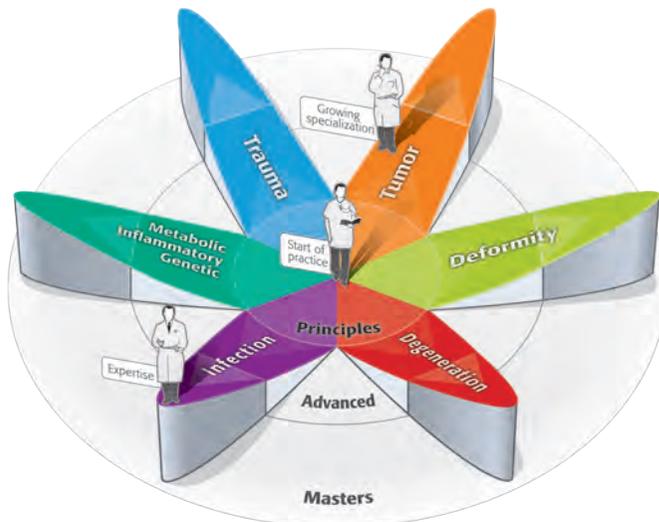


Educational Projects 2013

AOSpine Curriculum

The AOSpine Curriculum is a learning framework which encompasses content from six areas of spine pathology. Knowledge is delivered based on competencies and learning outcomes, providing surgeons with the most relevant tools to perform effectively across the different areas of spine surgery.

This framework is comprised of three progressive levels (Principles, Advanced and Masters) that ensure an effective structure for developing a progressive learning path for the participants of AOSpine educational activities.



Full Implementation courses

Six events in 2013 were selected for a full Curriculum implementation, consisting of program alignment plus pre- and post-course participants' self-assessment. The list of the events with full implementation is presented next.



AOSpine Principles Course

Paipa-Boyacá, Colombia – April 18–20, 2013

Chairperson Nelson Morales | **Educational Advisor** Roberto Chapa



AOSpine Advanced Symposium: Degeneration–Current controversies

Buenos Aires, Argentina – July 05–06, 2013

Chairperson Pedro Bazán | **Educational Advisor** Néstor Fiore



AOSpine Advanced Central America Symposium: Trauma and infection

Ciudad de Guatemala, Guatemala – August 16–17, 2013

Chairpersons Juan Pablo De León Palacios, Julio Pozuelos | **Educational Advisor** Roberto Chapa



AOSpine Advanced Symposium: Trauma

La Paz, Bolivia – September 26–27, 2013

Chairperson Jaime Linares | **Educational Advisor** Pablo Vela

* Implementation of pre- and post-course self-assessments did not take place due to logistics issues



AOSpine Advanced Symposium: Trauma

Brasília, Brazil – November 01–02, 2013

Chairpersons Alexandre Sadao, Marcelo Gruenberg | **Educational Advisor** Roberto Postigo



AOSpine Advanced Symposium: Deformities

Bogotá, Colombia – November 29–30, 2013

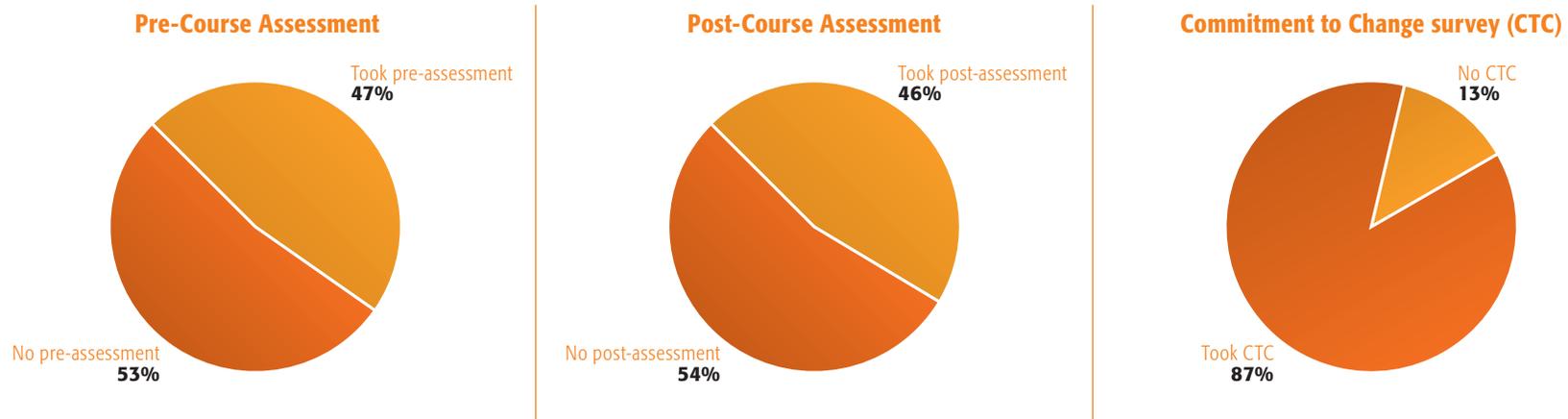
Chairperson Néstor Taboada | **Educational Advisor** Emiliano Vialle

The following table presents the participation level for each course, showing the number of participants (percentage) engaged in each activity.

Activity	Venue	Total Participants	Pre-Course Assessment	Post-Course Assessment	Commitment to Change
AOSpine Principles Course	Paipa-Boyacá, Colombia	33	70%	39%	97%
AOSpine Advanced Symposium: Degeneration–Current controversies	Buenos Aires, Argentina	82	47%	38%	77%
AOSpine Advanced Central America Symposium: Trauma and infection	Ciudad de Guatemala, Guatemala	22	14%	36%	100%
AOSpine Advanced Symposium: Trauma	Brasília, Brazil	57	70%	65%	75%
AOSpine Advanced Symposium: Deformities*	Bogotá, Colombia	59	34%	54%	–
Total		253	91 (47%)	89 (46%)	168 (87%)

*The AOSpine Advanced Symposium on Deformities has not generated any results yet.

The following graphs present the overall percentage of participants who took part in the assessments and surveys during the implementation courses, in comparison to the percentage of participants who did not complete these questionnaires. These percentages are in regard to the total number of participants taking part in the implementation courses (253 participants).



Overview of the full implementation courses

Continuing a tendency from previous years, the largest difficulty in the implementation process remains obtaining satisfactory response levels for the self-assessments (both pre- and post-course). Nonetheless, a significant increase can be noticed when comparing the results generated in 2013 to the rates from 2012. The post-course self-assessment saw an increase of 15% compared to the previous year (from 23% to 38%), and the Commitment to Change increased from 75% to 87%. As for the pre-course self-assessment rates, a slight increase was also observed (from 44% to 52%).

The analysis of the alignment of programs to the Curriculum has shown that progress has been made in regard to the indication of competences and learning outcomes to be used in each course. However, it is important for the Chairs to continue developing the habit and culture of creating specific learning outcomes for every activity performed, aiming to provide the Faculty with a simple and easy-to-use guide on how to develop their lectures.

Next year the Education team will be working on structuring a more efficient communication process between EAs or VEAs and Chairpersons in order to achieve these goals, as well as maintaining the successful work in the EA and Chairperson trainings and developing program templates for both principles courses (standard) and advanced courses (modules).

Support projects

This year has seen the region emphatically working on implementing some new projects to give adequate support for the Curriculum implementation processes. These projects will be briefly described in the following.

Chairperson and Educational Advisors trainings

At the beginning of 2013, all Chairpersons in charge of educational activities for the year were invited to participate in the new Training for Chairpersons, in Lima. Supported by Faculty members and the educational team, the Chairs had the chance to get acquainted with the AOSpine Curriculum, identifying participants' needs and linking the corresponding learning outcomes to the activities to be developed.

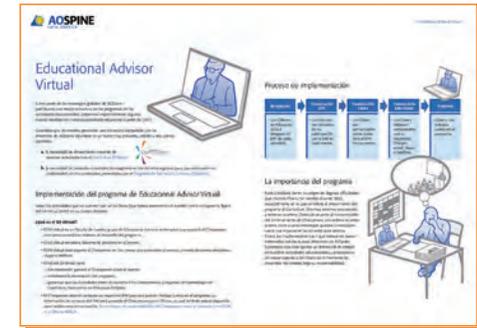
At the same time, a training for Educational Advisors also took place in Lima, which included twelve new EAs from the region. The format of the training focused on a clear definition of the learning outcomes for every activity, as well as their implementation in accordance to the Curriculum guidelines.

Both trainings presented a valuable opportunity for our Faculty members to learn through practical and interactive activities, obtaining tangible results in the educational activities at both an organizational and content-based level.

Virtual Educational Advisor (VEA)

In 2013, we were also able to successfully implement and consolidate the position of Virtual Educational Advisor in activities which do not have an on-site EA (usually seminars). The main objective of the position is to support the Chairperson with the alignment of the educational program to the Curriculum guidelines, providing orientation via e-mail or conference calls.

The following table lists the events with the participation of a VEA.



Event	Date	Venue	Chairperson	Virtual EA
AOSpine Advanced Seminar (Caribbean Neurosciences Symposium): Spinal trauma	Jan 26	Montego Bay, Jamaica	Andrés Rodríguez	Roberto Chapa
AOSpine Advanced Pre-Congress Seminar (Central American Congress of Neurosurgery): Trauma and degeneration in cervical pathology	Mar 22	San José, Costa Rica	Alexander Valverde	Pablo Vela
AOSpine Advanced Seminar: Trauma	Apr 05	Posadas, Argentina	Enrique Gutierrez	Pedro Bazán
AOSpine Advanced Seminar: Spinal cord trauma and lesion	Apr 05	Maracaibo, Venezuela	Victor Dávila	Pablo Vela
AOSpine Advanced Seminar: Degeneration of the spine	Apr 19–20	Arequipa, Peru	Hernán Valdivia	Marco Medina
AOSpine Advanced Seminar: Complications in degenerative spinal surgery	May 05	Concepción, Chile	Ratko Yurac	Mario Taricco
AOSpine Principles Seminar: Deformities	May 18	Belo Horizonte, Brazil	Alberto Gotfryd	Emiliano Vialle
AOSpine Advanced Pre-Congress Seminar (AMCICO): Evidence-based medicine	Jun 26	Mérida, Mexico	José Jiménez	Asdrúbal Falavigna
AOSpine Advanced Trans-Congress Seminar (AMCICO): Tumor	Jun 27	Mérida, Mexico	Michael Dittmar	Asdrúbal Falavigna
AOSpine Advanced Seminar: Trauma	Jul 13	Salvador, Brazil	Délio Martins	Alexandre Sadao
AOSpine Advanced Seminar: Degeneration and infection	Sep 27	Asunción, Paraguay	Juan Silva	Néstor Fiore
AOSpine Advanced Seminar: Deformities—Adolescent idiopathic scoliosis	Oct 04–05	São Paulo, Brazil	Eduardo von Uhlendorff	Emiliano Vialle
AOSpine Advanced Seminar: Pediatric deformity	Oct 26	Córdoba, Argentina	Almicar Beyot	Pedro Bazán
AOSpine Advanced Pre-Congress Seminar (Congress of the Peruvian Society of Neurosurgery): Tumor and degeneration	Oct 30	Lima, Peru	Michael Hinojosa	Marco Medina
AOSpine Principles Seminar for Residents: Trauma and degeneration	Nov 01–02	Monterrey, Mexico	Félix Sánchez	Martín Tejeda
AOSpine Advanced Seminar: Handling osteoporotic fractures	Nov 09	San José, Costa Rica	José Pérez-Barrios	Germán Ochoa

Chairperson form

In 2013, 100% of our events saw the implementation of the Chairperson form, which assists the Chairs in the selection of which competences to use in the program of the educational activity.

Program templates

The program templates represent a global tendency at AOSpine to develop a structure for long-term, continual learning throughout all activities. This structure must be in compliance with the international educational platforms, with excellence in education as its objective. The use of program templates, the alignment of contents to the Curriculum framework and the Continuing Education Program are some of the tools which provide support for the Chairpersons and Faculty members when performing the activities. These tools assure that all activities developed by AOSpine are in accordance with the highest standards of educational quality, always based on the needs presented by our community.

- Standardized templates for Principles Course
AOSEC created two templates with the objective of preparing a global standard course syllabus for the Principles Courses – one based on clinical cases and another based on lectures – with modules and specific learning outcomes, as well as guidelines for the Faculty on suggested practices, educational methods and a support package.

The year 2013 saw a world-wide pilot implementation of these templates, including the following events in Latin America.



AOSpine Principles Course

Ciudad de México, Mexico – May 17–18, 2013

Chairperson Aurelio Ramírez | **Educational Advisor** Martín Tejeda

Number of participants 48



AOSpine Principles Course

São Paulo, Brazil – June 06–08, 2013

Chairperson William Teixeira | **Educational Advisor** Alexandre Sadao

Number of participants 46



AOSpine Principles Course

Monterrey, Mexico – May 24–25, 2013

Chairperson Martín Tejeda | **Educational Advisor** Roberto Chapa

Number of participants 24

The Education Commission has been working on evaluating the results of the pilot implementations. The report on the results is expected soon, with the aim of improving the official implementation in the regions in 2014. The main goal is that all Principles activities next year will be formatted according to one of the proposed templates.

• **Modular templates for Advanced Courses**

The AOSLA Education team has been working on modular templates for the advanced level activities in the region. These templates will be aligned to both the Curriculum and the Continued Education Program, providing a more structured framework for the future activities. The templates suggest a series of themes to be developed in different types of educational events, organized in accordance to the most relevant spine pathologies. The current model being developed is composed of 21 modules, whibe combined according to the event's proposal and objective.

Tumor		Trauma		Degeneration		Infection		Deformity		Metabolic, Inflammatory, Genetic		Complications						
5 events	20 modules	4 events	16 modules	6 events	24 modules	1 event	4 modules	3 events	12 modules	1 event	4 modules	1 event	4 modules					
A Benign primary bone tumors	Module 1. General topics	A Cervical spine trauma	Module 1. Politraumatism. General topics	A Degenerative pathology of the cervical spine	Module 1. Cervical disc herniation	A Infection	Module 1. Non-specific primary infections	A General topics on spinal deformity	Module 1. General topics	A Metabolic, inflammatory and genetic pathology	Module 1. Inflammatory arthritis 1	A Complications in spine surgery	Module 1. Neurological complications					
	Module 2. Specific topics		Module 2. Specific topics. Upper cervical spine		Module 2. Cervical spinal canal 1		Module 2. Specific spondylodiscitis tuberculosis		Module 2. Idiopathic scoliosis		Module 2. Inflammatory arthritis 2		Module 2. Dural lesions					
	Module 3. Specific topics		Module 3. Specific topics. Lower cervical spine 1		Module 3. Cervical spinal canal 2		Module 3. Postoperative infections		Module 3. Congenital malformations		Module 3. Metabolic affections		Module 3. Disassembling materials					
	Module 4. Specific topics		Module 4. Specific topics. Lower cervical spine 2		Module 4. Degenerative cervical pain		Module 4. Vertebral infections sequelae		Module 4. Neuroparalytic deformities		Module 4. Genetic affections		Module 4. Vascular lesions					
B Benign secondary bone	Module 1. General topics	B Lower cervical spine trauma	Module 1. Politraumatism. General topics	B Degenerative pathology of the lumbosacral spine	Module 1. Lumbar disc herniation	B Idiopathic scoliosis	B Kyphosis	Module 1. Idiopathic scoliosis. General topics and orthopedic treatment	B Disc pathology	B Lumbar deformity in adults	B Complications in spine surgery	B Complications in spine surgery	B Complications in spine surgery					
	Module 2. Specific topics		Module 2. Specific topics. Lower cervical spine 1		Module 2. Lumbar spinal canal 1			Module 2. Adolescent idiopathic scoliosis 1						Module 2. Cervical pain	Module 2. Adolescent kyphosis	B Complications in spine surgery		
	Module 3. Specific topics		Module 3. Specific topics. Lower cervical spine 2		Module 3. Lumbar spinal canal 2			Module 3. Adolescent idiopathic scoliosis 2						Module 3. Thoracic spine	Module 3. Congenital kyphosis		B Complications in spine surgery	
	Module 4. Specific topics		Module 4. Specific topics. Lower cervical spine 3		Module 4. Lumbar spinal canal 3			Module 4. Juvenile and infantile idiopathic scoliosis						Module 4. Lumbar spine 1	Module 4. Post-traumatic kyphosis			B Complications in spine surgery
C Metastasis	Module 1. General topics	C Thoracolumbar spine trauma	Module 1. Politraumatism. General topics	C Degenerative pathology of the thoracolumbar-sacral spine	Module 1. Thoracic disc herniation	C Disc pathology	C Lumbar deformity in adults	C Disc pathology	C Lumbar deformity in adults	C Lumbar deformity in adults	C Complications in spine surgery	C Complications in spine surgery	C Complications in spine surgery					
	Module 2. Specific topics		Module 2. Thoracolumbar trauma 1		Module 2. Lumbar pain: discogenic, facetary, instability									Module 2. Adolescent idiopathic scoliosis 1	Module 2. Cervical pain	Module 2. Adolescent kyphosis		
	Module 3. Specific topics		Module 3. Thoracolumbar trauma 2		Module 3. Alterations in body balance									Module 3. Adolescent idiopathic scoliosis 2	Module 3. Lumbar spine 1	Module 3. Congenital kyphosis	C Complications in spine surgery	
	Module 4. Specific topics		Module 4. Thoracolumbar trauma 3		Module 4. Adult scoliosis									Module 4. Juvenile and infantile idiopathic scoliosis	Module 4. Lumbar spine 2	Module 4. Post-traumatic kyphosis		C Complications in spine surgery
D Intradural tumors	Module 1. General topics	D Thoracolumbar and sacral-pelvic spine trauma	Module 1. Politraumatism. General topics	D Degenerative pathology of the cervical, thoracic, lumbar and sacral spine	Module 1. Cervical spine	D Disc pathology	D Lumbar deformity in adults	D Disc pathology	D Lumbar deformity in adults	D Lumbar deformity in adults	D Complications in spine surgery	D Complications in spine surgery	D Complications in spine surgery					
	Module 2. Specific topics		Module 2. Thoracolumbar trauma 1		Module 2. Thoracic spine									Module 2. Adolescent kyphosis	Module 2. Cervical pain	Module 2. Adolescent kyphosis		
	Module 3. Specific topics		Module 3. Thoracolumbar trauma 2		Module 3. Lumbar spine 1									Module 3. Adolescent kyphosis	Module 3. Lumbar disc herniation	Module 3. Congenital kyphosis	D Complications in spine surgery	
	Module 4. Specific topics		Module 4. Sacral-pelvic trauma		Module 4. Lumbar spine 2									Module 4. Juvenile and infantile idiopathic scoliosis	Module 4. Lumbar pain	Module 4. Post-traumatic kyphosis		D Complications in spine surgery
E Tumors in general	Module 1. General topics	E Thoracolumbar and sacral-pelvic spine trauma	Module 1. Politraumatism. General topics	E Degenerative pathology of the cervical, thoracic, lumbar and sacral spine	Module 1. Cervical disc herniation	E Disc pathology	E Lumbar deformity in adults	E Disc pathology	E Lumbar deformity in adults	E Lumbar deformity in adults	E Complications in spine surgery	E Complications in spine surgery	E Complications in spine surgery					
	Module 2. Metastasis		Module 2. Thoracolumbar trauma 1		Module 2. Thoracic spine									Module 2. Adolescent kyphosis	Module 2. Cervical pain	Module 2. Adolescent kyphosis		
	Module 3. Intradural tumors		Module 3. Thoracolumbar trauma 2		Module 3. Lumbar spine 1									Module 3. Adolescent kyphosis	Module 3. Lumbar disc herniation	Module 3. Congenital kyphosis	E Complications in spine surgery	
	Module 4. Primary bone tumors		Module 4. Sacral-pelvic trauma		Module 4. Lumbar spine 2									Module 4. Juvenile and infantile idiopathic scoliosis	Module 4. Lumbar pain	Module 4. Post-traumatic kyphosis		E Complications in spine surgery
F Lumbar deformity in adults	Module 1. General topics	F Thoracolumbar and sacral-pelvic spine trauma	Module 1. Politraumatism. General topics	F Degenerative pathology of the cervical, thoracic, lumbar and sacral spine	Module 1. Adult lumbar scoliosis	F Disc pathology	F Lumbar deformity in adults	F Disc pathology	F Lumbar deformity in adults	F Lumbar deformity in adults	F Complications in spine surgery	F Complications in spine surgery	F Complications in spine surgery					
	Module 2. Specific topics		Module 2. Thoracolumbar trauma 1		Module 2. Adult lumbar scoliosis									Module 2. Adolescent kyphosis	Module 2. Cervical pain	Module 2. Adolescent kyphosis		
	Module 3. Specific topics		Module 3. Thoracolumbar trauma 2		Module 3. Adult lumbar scoliosis									Module 3. Adolescent kyphosis	Module 3. Lumbar disc herniation	Module 3. Congenital kyphosis	F Complications in spine surgery	
	Module 4. Primary bone tumors		Module 4. Sacral-pelvic trauma		Module 4. Multioperated lumbar spine									Module 4. Juvenile and infantile idiopathic scoliosis	Module 4. Lumbar pain	Module 4. Post-traumatic kyphosis		F Complications in spine surgery

Total: 21 events—seminars/symposia (eg: A, B, C, etc.)
 84 modules (eg: Tumor B 2, Degenerative C 4, etc.)
 Each event has four 4,5 hour modules (half day)
 All modules take the same time, so they can be combined as necessary.

Innovation

The Brazilian Chapter moved to develop a new pilot model for Principles Courses so as to improve the impact level of educational activities on surgeon's daily practices and the interactivity of the courses, thereby bringing the participants and Faculty closer together.

The general structure of this pilot includes materials for pre-course study, an introductory module with clinical cases and two or three short lectures (of seven minutes length each) which help emphasize the main concepts used in the discussion. Participants are divided into two separate groups, each with a moderator presenting clinical cases, and then divided into subgroups (six people

per Faculty member). The discussion of the clinical case is conducted in the small groups, with the support of the assigned Faculty member, with one representative of each group presenting some key points to be discussed with the moderator and the other subgroups later on.

According to the local Chapter, this model offers advantages such as: improved learning retention (through case discussion); less anxiety for participants, as discussions are conducted in small groups; closer contact between participants and lecturers generating higher learning satisfaction; and improved interaction during the activity.



Action items for 2014

The following projects will be developed and implemented in 2014 with the objective of continuing to improve and solidify our educational basis.

Accreditation

AOSLA will be working on the establishment of agreements with academic societies or regulatory entities to accredit our educational activities, so as to guarantee higher standards in terms of recognition for our educational activities.

Program templates

We will be implementing and consolidating the use of program templates in Principles Courses, Advanced Symposia and Seminars with the objective of providing a standard quality education based on the AOSpine Curriculum.

Standardized pre- and trans-course meetings

Besides the daily assessment of the event with feedback sessions, we will be working on the implementation of a meetings guideline with the purpose of conducting more effective pre- and trans-course meetings, helping to ensure the revision of learning outcomes and audience's needs.

Assessment process and Faculty selection

Aiming at conducting a more efficient Faculty selection for different educational activities, we will be working on the revision and adjustment of assessment tools for events – both at a participatory and Faculty level. The process of elaborating the educational plan in the region will also be reviewed.

Continuing Education Program

In 2012, AOSpine Latin America proudly launched its first educational program focused on doctors' continued education, exclusively for members. The Continuing Education Program (internally also known as "Diploma Project") was successfully implemented as a progressive three-year education plan, based on the pathologies of the spine. The contents are delivered both through face-to-face and online activities and are aligned to the AOSpine Curriculum guidelines.

In 2013, the first group of participants finished the first cycle of studies and prepared to begin Cycle 2, which was officially launched this September.



Cycle 1

Progression

The first Cycle of the Program completed its first year online this August. Since its launch, 350 people have requested to be enrolled in the Program's Cycle 1, taking part in the activities provided by the 23 topics of study, their respective exams and more than 50 interactive clinical cases. The materials are available on a Desire2Learn online platform, which also provides online forums and assistance to participants' through e-mail. Over 30 participants have already finished the initial activities, having passed the exams and obtaining a solid basis for their continued studies in the following cycles.

The Cycle 1 of the Program is constantly progressing, having its activities reassessed, revised and improved, in order to obtain the best possible educational outcome. These efforts are already generating beneficial results, as illustrated by the positive comments received from participants on a regular basis.

"The Continuing Education Program is excellent. The Program was developed with a lot of effort and it is of utmost importance for my education and the attention I have to give to my patients. For me, it is a very unique and much appreciated opportunity to learn and I absolutely could not miss it."

Oswaldo Molina
Cycle 1 participant

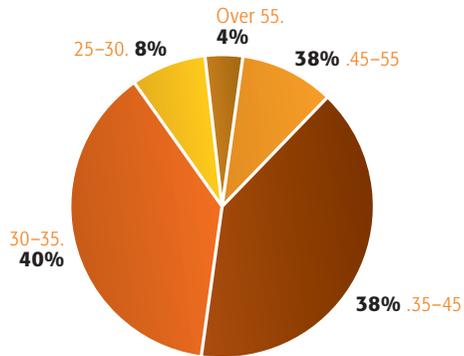
"The Cycle 1 of the AOSLA Continuing Education Program allowed me to review and reincorporate basic concepts of great importance in my daily practice. The study guides are ordered and clear and are of excellent quality. I would recommend any spine specialist, no matter their academic and surgical level, to take part in this further education program. The most important and useful aspect for me in the first cycle was the constant interaction with the Program experts, which makes one really feel a part of the AOSpine community."

Juan C. de Battista
Cycle 1 participant

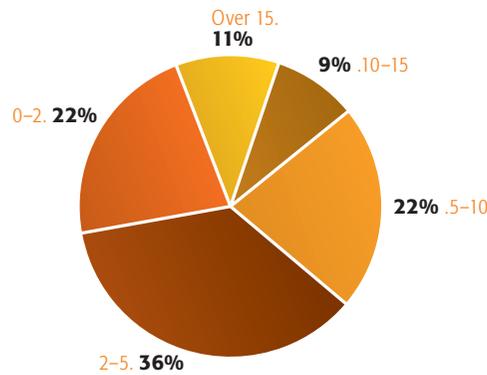
Participants' profile

In a recently conducted survey of active participants, AOSLA was able to acquire relevant data about their demographic profile, enabling the project's team to better assess the Program's target audience.

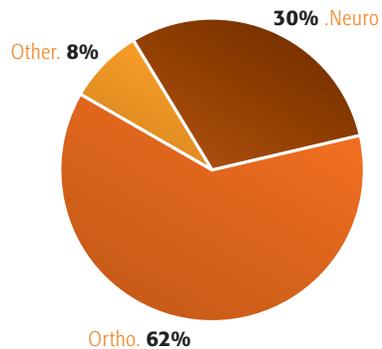
Participant's age (in years)



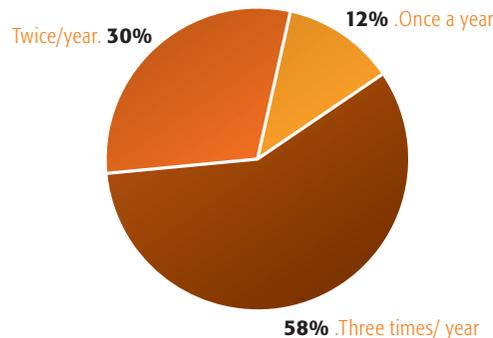
Experience in spine (in years)



Specialty



Frequency of continuing education courses



The participants currently attending Cycle 1 (N=306) are distributed throughout Latin America, as shown in the following map:



Survey results

Participants were also asked to give their level of satisfaction with the different aspects of the Program. The majority of results were positive, showing a high level of satisfaction among the users. When asked to rate their satisfaction level from 0 to 5 (0 being the lowest and 5 the highest), most users gave a high score for both content and the virtual learning space. The following tables present the percentage of users who gave a score 4 or 5 for the respective features.

Satisfaction level with the virtual learning space

Item	4/5 scores – %
Functionality	89,5%
Friendliness	88,7%
Layout and design	80%

Satisfaction level with the contents

Item	4/5 scores – %
Articles	91%
Interactive cases	92,8%
Exams	84%

Satisfaction level with the structure of the course

Item	4/5 scores – %
General structure	92,8%
Scheduling	80,3%
Workload	80,5%
Face-to-face activities	75%



Cycle 2

In addition to the new Cycle 1 class started in the second half of 2013, this September AOSLA proudly launched the new cycle of the Program, with advanced level contents. The list of themes covered in Cycle 2 is shown in the following table.

CYCLE 2			CYCLE 2		
Module	Topic	Authors	Module	Topic	Authors
Module I Anatomy	1. Anterior approaches	Ricardo Ribeiro, Brazil José Augusto Araújo, Brazil	Module VI Degenerative	1. Recurrent lumbar disc herniation	Mario Taricco, Brazil
	2. Posterior approaches	Enzo Mantelli, Chile		2. Cervical myelopathy surgery	Aliro San Martín, Chile
Module II Physiology and Biomechanics	1. Spinal instrumentation: principles	Eduardo von Uhlendorff, Brazil		3. Flatback syndrome	Marcelo Valacco, Argentina
Module III Trauma	1. Surgical treatment of injuries in the C0, C1 and C2	Alexandre Sadao, Brazil		4. Degenerative and lytic spondylolisthesis in adults	Roberto Postigo, Chile Gonzalo Arriagada, Chile
	2. Surgical treatment of injuries in the lower cervical spine (C3-C7)	Pedro Bazán, Argentina		5. Adjacent segment disease	Osvaldo Romano, Argentina
	3. Surgical treatment of thoracolumbar injuries	Milan Munjin, Chile		6. Axial pain due to degenerative disc	Samuel Pantoja, Chile
Module IV Tumor	1. Spinal metastasis surgery	Denis Witt, Chile Roberto Postigo, Chile	Module VII Infection	1. Infection after spinal instrumentation: clinical aspect and diagnosis	Michael Dittmar, Mexico William Teixeira, Mexico
	2. Primary benign bone tumors surgery	Roberto Postigo, Chile Gonzalo Arriagada, Chile		2. Infection after spinal instrumentation: treatment	Germán Ochoa, Colombia Jaime Segura, Colombia
	3. Primary malignant bone tumors surgery	William Teixeira, Brasil	Modulo VIII Inflammatory- Metabolic- Genetic	1. Inflammatory arthritis in cervical spine	Alejandro Betemps, Argentina
Module V Deformity	1. Kyphosis due to neurofibromatosis	Ignacio Dockendorf, Chile		2. Osteoporosis: surgical treatment	Carlos Montero, Colombia
	2. Low grade spondylolisthesis in children	Eduardo von Uhlendorff, Brazil	Anexxes	1. Dynamic fixations	Pablo Vela, Colombia
	3. Idiopathic scoliosis surgery	Ernesto Bersusky, Argentina		2. Cervical disc prosthesis (ProDisc-C)	Néstor Taboada, Colombia

Similarly to Cycle 1, registration for the new cycle has been permanently open for AOSpine members, and Cycle 2 has already seen more than 60 participants enrolled. Many of them have successfully completed Cycle 1 and are now moving forward with their studies, aiming to obtain a complete certification in the future.

Certification and accreditation

Following the negotiations with the National University of La Plata (UNLP), Argentina, in 2012, the project Task Force finalized an agreement between the academic institution and AOSpine Latin America in 2013. The agreement establishes a range of activities to be developed between the UNLP Medical School and AOSpine, focusing on the joint certification of the Continuing Education Program.

Starting in 2013, the completion certifications of the Program will be issued by the UNLP under the title of “University Qualification Course on Spine Pathologies”. This joint certification will be issued after the completion of the online component of every Cycle and after the successful completion of the entire Program (three online cycles plus face-to-face activities).

This achievement is not only of great relevance for administrative purposes, as it highlights the academic quality of the project, but is also important for the Program’s participants themselves, who will obtain a certification which meets the educational standards of the National University of La Plata.



Activities for 2014

The next steps of the Program are focused on finalizing the elaboration of the Cycle 3 materials and reassessing and improving Cycle 1 and Cycle 2 contents. New learning strategies are already being discussed and studied by the project team with the aim of taking the educational program to the next level in terms of content update, interactivity, participants’ support and use of new information and communications technology. Besides continuing the work on the first two cycles, AOSLA has been focused on the launch of Cycle 3 in the first half of 2014.

Faculty development

The investment in Faculty education and training is one of the key elements for successfully executing events in the region, as it constitutes an important platform for the development of the highest level of quality for our educational activities.

Faculty Training

Our current model of Faculty training has been designed to improve the educational skills, knowledge and experience of the AOSpine Faculty members. In our training programs, participants are able to explore different teaching methods through the interaction with a team of medical education experts.

In 2013, AOSLA presented a newly formatted pilot training, named **Mini T4F – extended pre-course**, for the first time. This model is divided in two modules:

ONLINE MODULE

When

Twice a year

Duration

Five weeks

Virtual educator

Available

Contents

Concepts and theory

Participants

Faculty members of the scientific event who do not have training yet

FACE-TO-FACE MODULE

When

Before the event (on-site)

Duration

4.5 hours

Educator

Educational Advisor in charge of event

Contents

Practical topics

Participants

Faculty members of the scientific event who do not have training yet

The following is a list of the events performed in this new format.

Paipa-boyacá, Colombia

Date April 17, 2013

Venue Estelar Paipa Hotel

On-site Educational Advisor Roberto Chapa (Monterrey, Mexico)

Virtual Educator Fabiana Reboiras (Buenos Aires, Argentina)

Participants Carlos Carmona Lourdy, Constanza Bedoya, Fernando Alvarado Gomez, Julián España Peña, Rodolfo Paez González.

Lima, Peru

Date July 12, 2013

Venue Novotel

On-site Educational Advisor Roberto Postigo (Santiago, Chile)

Virtual Educator Fabiana Reboiras (Buenos Aires, Argentina)

Participants Alfonso Basurco, Francisco Salinas Malaga, Olger Alarcon, Robert Rosado Inga.

Buenos Aires, Argentina

Date June 05, 2013

Venue Hilton Buenos Aires Hotel

On-site Educational Advisor Pedro Bazán (La Plata, Argentina)

Virtual Educator Fabiana Reboiras (Buenos Aires, Argentina)

Participants Juan Pablo Guyot, Julio Bassani, Nicolas Ciccio, Pablo Jalón.

La Paz, Bolivia

Date September 25, 2013

Venue Hotel Casa Grande

On-site Educational Advisor Pablo Vela (Pereira, Colombia)

Virtual Educator Fabiana Reboiras (Buenos Aires, Argentina)

Participants Eddy Antonio Dorado Alanez, Edmundo Antezana, Fernando Martín Aliaga Rocabado, Jaime Linares, Luis Duchén Rodríguez, Marcel Jemio, Marco Paredes Nuñez, René Torrejon.

Besides this new format, a full Faculty training was carried out in the usual format in Guatemala, with the aim of developing the Central America & Caribbean region.

T4F Ciudad de Guatemala, Guatemala

Date August 14, 2013

Venue Barceló Guatemala Hotel

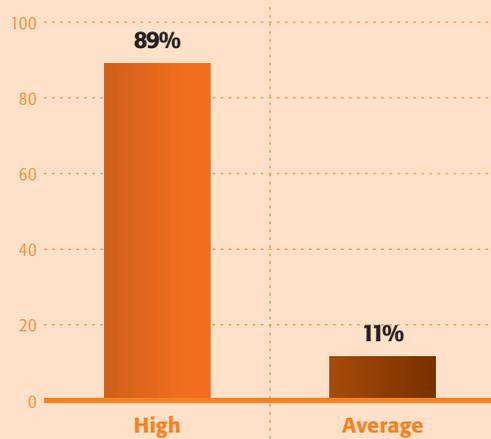
On-site Educational Advisor Pablo Vela (Pereira, Colombia)

Virtual Educator Fabiana Reboiras (Buenos Aires, Argentina)

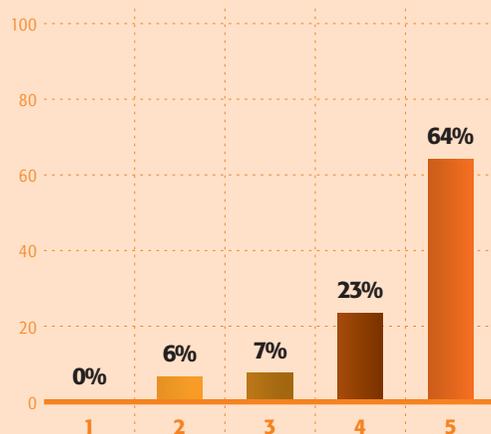
Participants Carlos Briceño (Panama), Ernesto Fleites (Cuba), Giovanni Ureña (Dominican Republic), Hugo Dobles (Costa Rica), José Neira (Panama), José Pérez-Berrios (Costa Rica), Manuel Orozco (Nicaragua).

Please find below the evaluation results for the Faculty Training events.

Contribution to learning and utility of the online module



Commitment to change



Chairperson Training

This year, the Chairpersons Training focused solely on the Chairpersons in charge of educational events in 2013, so that they could be presented with instructions on how to apply the AOSpine Curriculum in their courses, as well as the opportunity to underline the importance of the Educational Advisor role.

The main innovation in the training was the regionalization of the program, which focused on the practical application of the contents presented in the online module. All participants had the chance to work on the planning of their own event, developing their programs under the supervision of the educational team, as well as receiving feedback from other participants.

Lima, Peru

Date February 20–21, 2013

Venue JW Marriot Hotel

On-site Educational Advisor Pablo Vela (Pereira, Colombia)

On-site and Virtual Educator Fabiana Reboiras (Buenos Aires, Argentina)

Participants Alexandre Sadao Iutaka (Brazil), Arturo Morales (Peru), Jaime Linares (Bolivia), Jerônimo Milano (Brazil), Jose Estrada Mastache (Mexico), Jose-Rafael Otero (Venezuela), Juan Pablo de León Palacios (Guatemala), Nelson Morales (Colombia), Néstor Taboada (Colombia), Martha Hernandez (Ecuador), Osmar Moraes (Brazil), Osvaldo Romano (Argentina).

“I will be able to improve the design of my activities as a result of what I have learned here, getting better as an educator and collaborating to spread information to other Faculty members in my country.”

T4C participant

“I will be able to plan my course based on the necessary competences and learning outcomes, as well as being able to better handle the Faculty group before, during and after the event.”

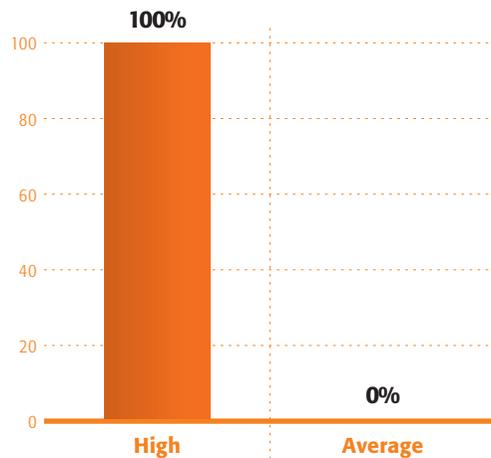
T4C participant

"This course will be a landmark for AOSpine. It was the first Chairpersons' training performed in Spanish and all 2013 Chairs participated in it. The course focused mainly on assisting them in the design of the programs for their events, anticipating possible difficulties and exploring their opportunities. These were two days of hard team work, which also featured individual, personalized coaching. As a final product, every Chair presented the program for their activity, receiving feedback from their colleagues and the educational team. The course stood out for its positive atmosphere and the days flew by in an environment of collaboration, with the experience having a huge impact on the quality of this year's courses."

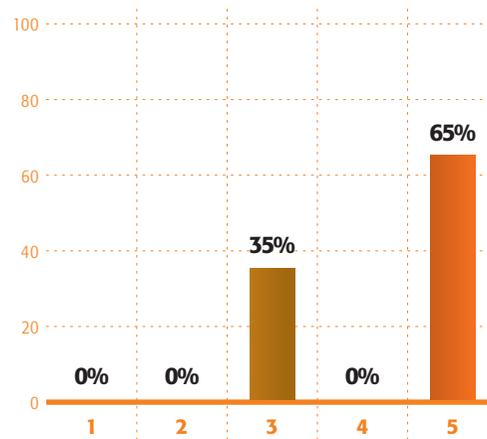
Fabiana Reboiras
Educator of the T4C and T4EA

Please find below the evaluation results for the Chairperson Training Event events.

Contribution to learning and utility of the online module



Commitment to change



Educational Advisor Training

With the large demand for activities in the region and the need for their alignment to the Curriculum, the necessity to train new EAs became imminent, leading to the first Educational Advisor Training in Latin America. The training was conducted by two key Educational Advisor and Educator of the region, who prepared the future EAs to ensure that the learning outcomes of the educational activities are defined and met at every event. Among the aspects approached were the handling of an event, the relationship with the Chairperson, as well as assessment and coaching.

Lima, Peru

Date February 22–23, 2013

Venue JW Marriot Hotel

On-site Educacional Advisor
Pablo Vela (Pereira, Colombia)

On-site and Virtual Educator
Fabiana Reboiras (Buenos Aires, Argentina)

Participants
Alexandre Sadao Iutaka (Brazil), Aliro San Martín (Chile), Andrés Rodríguez Munera (Colombia), Asdrubal Falavigna (Brazil), Juan Emmerich (Argentina), Marcelo Valacco (Argentina), Marco Medina (Peru), Martín Tejeda (Mexico), Néstor Taboada (Colombia), Osmar Moraes (Brazil), Pedro Bazán (Argentina), Ricardo Ribeiro (Brazil).

"As a result of the training, I learned to take a more comprehensive view on control and contribution to the group."

T4EA participant

"I was able to acquire tools which can help me to ensure the quality of the AOSpine activities."

T4EA participant

"The activity was practical, simple and objective, with very effective knowledge transmission."

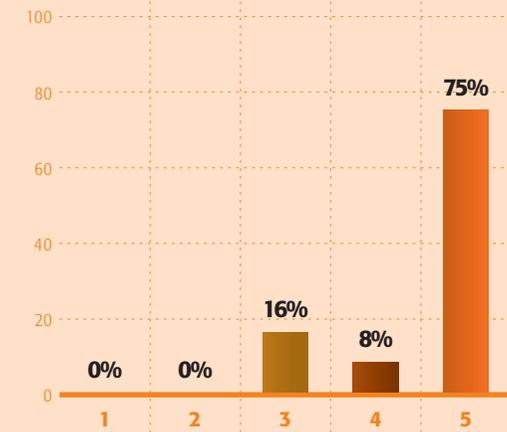
T4EA participant



Please find below the evaluation results for the Educational Advisor Training events.



Commitment to change



"During this year our work as Educational Advisors has been very intense, productive and eye-opening in regard to the new perspectives for the future. The pinnacle was probably the Training for Chairpersons and Educational Advisors performed in Lima, in February, developed with the support of Fabiana Reboiras and Luana Torres. We developed an activity where the interaction between the future Chairs and EAs was the priority, which generated a very positive balance in regard to the participation and satisfaction of each of the participants."

Pablo Vela
Chairperson of the T4C and T4EA

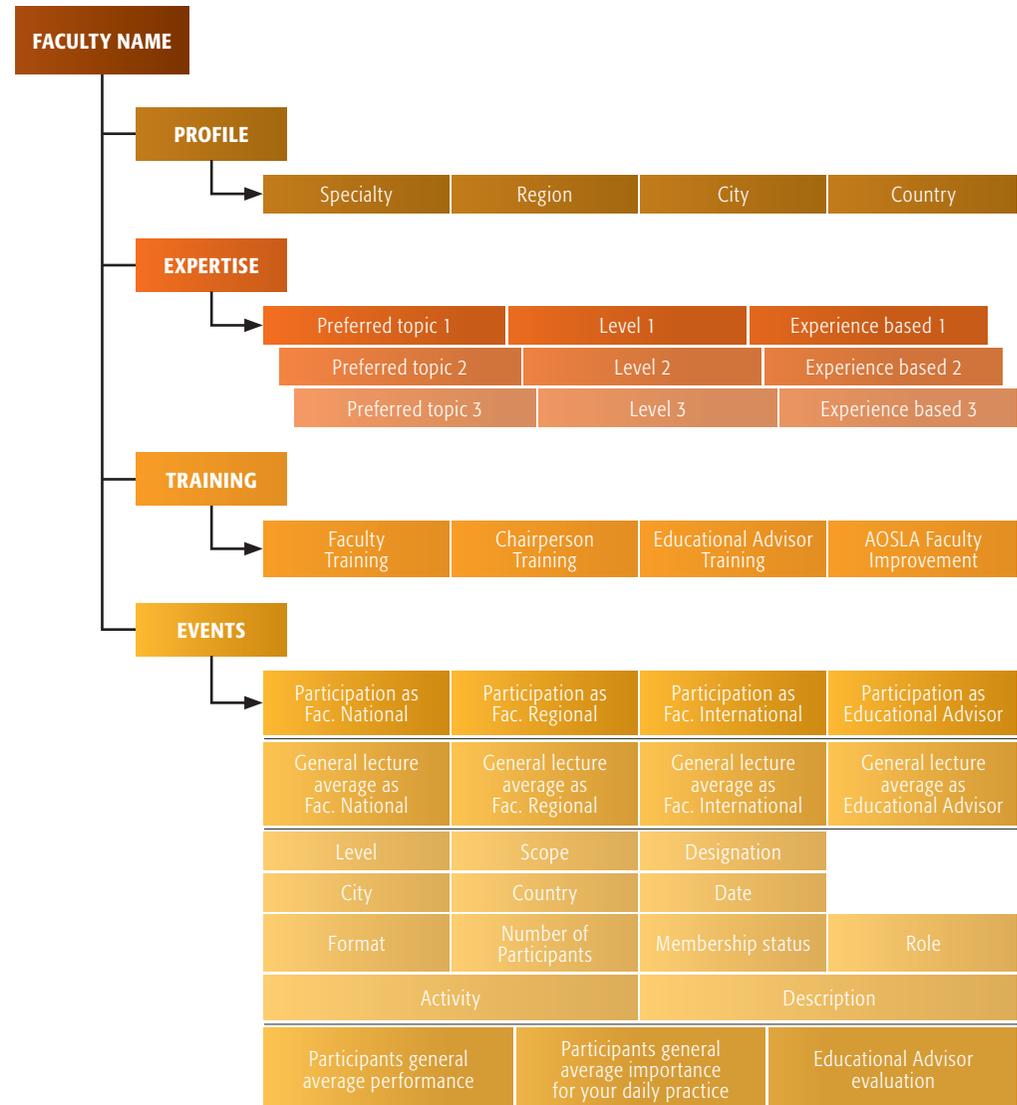
AOSLA Faculty Database

Most of the events developed in the area provide participants with the opportunity to give feedback about the lecturers, their performance, the quality of the contents presented and the importance of the activities for their daily practice, as well as giving the opportunity to comment on the organizational aspects of the event. The evaluations, conducted as questionnaires or through audience response systems (ARS), make it possible to compile important data about the strengths and weaknesses of our events, enabling restructuring in order to increase quality whenever needed.

Since 2012, AOSpine Latin America has been working on a tool to compile, organize and process this data in one single system, which can then serve as a trusted source of information on the events and the Faculty members. This year finally saw the implementation of this tool, encompassing all data collected on AOSLA events since 2009.

The main objectives of this information system are to provide an easy process for filing the data collected in the educational activities; to run an automatic report on the performance of the Faculty members in the events; and to obtain an objective evaluation of every Faculty member based on the EA's comments. Furthermore, this database also includes specific information about Faculty demographic and professional profiles. This tool will allow for more efficient and precise Faculty selection for every educational event, promoting a significant optimization in the allocation of human resources.

The following chart illustrates the most important information displayed on the AOSLA faculty Database system.



A list of all the trained Faculty members in the region is presented in the following tables.

Name	Country	AOS T4F		AOS T4C		AOS T4EA	AOSLA FI
		T4F 1	T4F 2	T4C 1	T4C 2		
Alejandro Betemps	ARG	X		X	X		X
Alejandro Mengotti	ARG	X					
Alvaro Borri	ARG	X					
Andrés Cervio	ARG	X					X
Carlos Mounier	ARG	X					
Carlos Sola	ARG	X					
Cristian Illanes	ARG	X					
Eduardo Galaretto	ARG	X					X
Enrique Gutiérrez	ARG	X					
Ernesto Bersusky	ARG	X					
Javier Martínez	ARG	X					
Jorge Cancinos	ARG	X					
Jorge Lambre	ARG	X					
Jose Prina	ARG	X					
Juan Emmerich	ARG	X		X		X	X
Juan Pablo Guyot	ARG		X				
Julio Bassani	ARG		X				
Lucas Rueda	ARG	X					
Marcelo Amaro	ARG	X					
Marcelo Gruenberg	ARG	X		X			X
Marcelo Valacco	ARG	X		X		X	X
Mario Fleita Pedrazzi	ARG	X					
Martín Medina	ARG	X					
Matías Petracchi	ARG	X					
Néstor Fiore	ARG	X		X		X	X
Nicolas Ciccioni	ARG		X				

Name	Country	AOS T4F		AOS T4C		AOS T4EA	AOSLA FI
		T4F 1	T4F 2	T4C 1	T4C 2		
Osvaldo Romano	ARG	X			X		
Pablo Jalon	ARG		X				
Pedro Luis Bazán	ARG	X			X	X	X
Ramiro Barrera	ARG	X					
Ramiro Gutierrez	ARG	X					
Ruben A. Morales Ciancio	ARG	X					X
Eddy A. Dorado Alanez	BOL		X				
Edmundo Antezana	BOL		X				
Jaime Linares	BOL		X		X		X
Juan Marcelo Sea Aramayo	BOL	X					X
Luis Duchén Rodríguez	BOL		X				
Marcel Jemio	BOL		X				
Marco A. Paredes Nuñez	BOL		X				
Martín Aliaga	BOL		X				
Rene Torrejon	BOL		X				
Albert Brasil	BRA	X					
Alberto Capel Cardoso	BRA	X					
Alberto Gotfryd	BRA	X					
Alexandre Fogaça Cristante	BRA	X		X			
Alexandre Sadao Iutaka	BRA	X		X	X	X	
André Hübner	BRA	X					
Amancio Ramalho Junior	BRA	X					
Amauri Godinho Jr.	BRA	X					
Antonio Braconi	BRA	X					
Asdrubal Falavigna	BRA	X			X	X	
Augustin Malzac	BRA	X					

Name	Country	AOS T4F		AOS T4C		AOS T4EA	AOSLA FI
		T4F 1	T4F 2	T4C 1	T4C 2		
Carlos Engelhorn	BRA	X					
Carlos Tucci	BRA	X		X			
Chárbel Jacob Junior	BRA	X					
Cristiano Menezes	BRA	X					
Delio Martins	BRA	X					
Eduardo Von Uhlendorff	BRA	X		X	X		
Emiliano Vialle	BRA	X		X		X	X
Fabiano Canto	BRA	X					
Fernando Dantas	BRA	X					
Fernando Facanha-Filho	BRA	X					
Geraldo Sá Carneiro	BRA	X		X			X
Helton Defino	BRA	X					X
Henrique Jorge	BRA	X					
Jefferson Galves	BRA	X					
Jerônimo Milano	BRA	X					
Jose Augusto Araujo	BRA	X					
Luis Eduardo Rocha	BRA	X					
Luiz G. Dal Oglio da Rocha	BRA	X					
Luiz Felipe Carvalho	BRA	X					
Luiz Vialle	BRA	X		X			X
Marcio Vinhal	BRA	X					
Marcos Tebet	BRA	X					
Marcus A. Mello Santos	BRA	X					
Mario Taricco	BRA	X		X		X	X
Mauricio Calais	BRA	X					
Mauricio Gusmão	BRA	X					

AOS T4F AOSpine Faculty Training

- T4F 1** Complete Program
- T4F 2** Mini Faculty Training (Extended Pre-course)

AOS T4C AOSpine Chairperson Training

- T4C 1** Chairperson Training (before 2012)
- T4C 2** Chairperson training (Curriculum induction)

AOS T4EA AOSpine Educational Advisor Training

- AOSLA FI** AOSLA Faculty Improvement

Name	Country	AOS T4F		AOS T4C		AOS T4EA	AOSLA FI
		T4F 1	T4F 2	T4C 1	T4C 2		
Mauro Volpi	BRA	X					
Osmar Moraes	BRA	X		X	X	X	X
Paulo Cavali	BRA	X					X
Raphael Martus Marcon	BRA	X					
Ricardo Botelho	BRA	X					
Ricardo Ribeiro	BRA	X		X	X	X	X
Robert Meves	BRA	X		X			X
Ronald Farias	BRA	X					
Sérgio Daher	BRA	X					
Túlio Rangel	BRA	X					
Ubirajara Bley Filho	BRA	X					
Wagner Pasqualini	BRA	X					
William Teixeira	BRA	X			X		
Alejandro Urzúa	CHI	X					X
Bartolomé Marré	CHI	X		X		X	
Patricio Bustos	CHI	X					
Yokota Beuret	CHI						X
Roberto Postigo	CHI	X		X		X	X
Rodolfo Lopez Allendes	CHI	X					X
Samuel Pantoja	CHI	X			X		X
Gonzalo Arriagada Ocampo	CHI	X					
Lyonel Beaulieu	CHI	X					
Mauricio Campos	CHI	X					
Marcela Chamorro	CHI	X					
Enrique Concha Julio	CHI	X					
Marcos Ganga	CHI	X					

Name	Country	AOS T4F		AOS T4C		AOS T4EA	AOSLA FI
		T4F 1	T4F 2	T4C 1	T4C 2		
Martín Hidalgo	CHI	X					
Andres Lisoni	CHI	X					
Enzo Mantelli	CHI	X					
Milan Munjin	CHI	X					
Oswaldo Ojeda Serrano	CHI	X					
Alvaro Silva	CHI	X					
Manuel Valencia	CHI	X					
Aliro San Martin	CHI	X			X	X	
Andrés Rodríguez Munera	COL	X		X	X	X	X
Carlos Alberto Mora Ojeda	COL						X
Carlos A. Carmona Lourdy	COL		X				
Constanza Bedoya	COL		X				
Fernando Helo Yamhure	COL	X					
Fernando Alvarado Gomez	COL		X				
Germán Ochoa	COL	X		X	X	X	X
Guido Pugliese	COL	X					
Jaime Segura	COL	X					
Javier Matta	COL	X					
Julián España Peña	COL		X				
Luis Arango	COL	X					
Luis Carlos Morales Sáenz	COL	X					X
Mario Herrera	COL	X					
Miguel Alejandro Alfonso	COL	X					
Nelson Morales	COL		X		X		
Nestor Guzman	COL	X			X		X
Nestor Taboada	COL	X			X	X	X

Name	Country	AOS T4F		AOS T4C		AOS T4EA	AOSLA FI
		T4F 1	T4F 2	T4C 1	T4C 2		
Pablo Vela	COL	X		X	X	X	X
Ricardo Londoño	COL						X
Ricardo Restrepo	COL	X					X
Rodolfo Paez Gonzalez	COL		X				
Alexander Valverde	CRC	X			X		X
Edgar Jiménez Masis	CRC	X					
Eduardo A. Huertas Arias	CRC	X					
Hector Torres R.	CRC	X					
Hugo Dobles	CRC	X					X
Javier Brenes	CRC	X					
Javier Gutierrez	CRC	X					
José Pérez-Berrios	CRC	X					
Mario Solano Salas	CRC	X					X
Ernesto Fleites	CUB	X					
Elio Ramirez	ECU	X					
Ernesto Vargas Rivadeneira	ECU						X
Gladys Pavon	ECU	X		X			
Jaime Pavon	ECU						X
Juan Lasso	ECU						X
Luis Guijarro	ECU						X
Mario P. Zumarraga Velasco	ECU	X		X			X
Martha Hernandez-Galvez	ECU	X			X		X
Raúl Chimbo Jurado	ECU	X					
Erick Rodas	GUA	X					X
Juan Pablo De León Palacios	GUA	X			X		X
Julio Luis Pozuelos Lopez	GUA	X					

AOS T4F AOSpine Faculty Training**T4F 1** Complete Program**T4F 2** Mini Faculty Training (Extended Pre-course)**AOS T4C AOSpine Chairperson Training****T4C 1** Chairperson Training (before 2012)**T4C 2** Chairperson training (Curriculum induction)**AOS T4EA AOSpine Educational Advisor Training****AOSLA FI** AOSLA Faculty Improvement

Name	Country	AOS T4F		AOS T4C		AOS T4EA	AOSLA FI
		T4F 1	T4F 2	T4C 1	T4C 2		
Otto Alvarado Ortiz	GUA	X					
Rafael De la Riva Rohrmoser	GUA	X					X
Armando Alpizar-Aguirre	MEX	X					
Arturo Rodriguez Montalvo	MEX	X					
Aurelio Ramirez	MEX	X			X		
Catarino López	MEX	X					X
Cesar Gonzalez	MEX	X					
Cristóbal Herrera Palacios	MEX	X					
David Servin Carmona	MEX	X					
Diana Guerrero Alvarez	MEX	X					
Federico Cisneros	MEX	X					X
Felix Adolfo Sanchez Chavez	MEX	X					
Gustavo Caldera	MEX	X					
Gustavo Casas	MEX	X					X
Hernando Cuevas	MEX	X					X
Hugo Vilchis Sámano	MEX	X					
Jesus Bernal-Marquez	MEX	X					X
Jorge Cabrera	MEX	X					
Jose Ernesto Garcia	MEX	X					
Jose Estrada Mastache	MEX	X			X		
Jose Jimenez	MEX	X					
Juan Reina Gama	MEX	X					X
Juan Carlos Valle Landa	MEX	X					
Leonardo Pérez Hernandez	MEX	X					
Luis Rosales	MEX	X					
Martin Tejada	MEX	X			X	X	X

Name	Country	AOS T4F		AOS T4C		AOS T4EA	AOSLA FI
		T4F 1	T4F 2	T4C 1	T4C 2		
Mauricio Montalvo Galindo	MEX	X					
Michael Dittmar	MEX	X					X
Oscar Martinez	MEX	X					
Pedro Reyes	MEX	X					
Ricardo Andaluz	MEX	X					
Roberto Chapa	MEX	X		X		X	X
Ruben Cardenas M	MEX	X					
Victor Flores-Verdugo	MEX	X					
Manuel J. Orozco Membreño	NCA	X					
Antonio Mock	PAN	X					X
Carlos Briceño Sarasqueta	PAN	X					
José Neira	PAN	X					
Mitzadi Ordoñez	PAN	X					
Raul Arjona	PAN	X					X
Reddy Simón	PAR	X					X
Alejandro Diaz Calvo	PER	X					
Alfonso Basurco	PER		X				
Alfredo Vasquez Rodriguez	PER	X					X
Arturo Morales	PER	X		X	X		
Carlos Cárdenas	PER	X		X			X
Daniel Cauti De la Cruz	PER	X		X			X
Francisco Salinas Malaga	PER		X				
Hernán José Valdivia Sosa	PER	X		X			X
Marco Medina	PER	X			X	X	X
Marleny Llerena	PER	X		X			
Michael Hinojosa	PER	X		X			X

Name	Country	AOS T4F		AOS T4C		AOS T4EA	AOSLA FI
		T4F 1	T4F 2	T4C 1	T4C 2		
Olger Alarcon	PER		X				
Raul Macchiavello	PER						X
Robert Rosado Inga	PER		X				
Giovanni Ureña	DOM	X					
Iohan Fernandez	DOM	X					
Edgardo Spagnuolo Dondero	URU						X
Fernando Garcia	URU	X					
Oscar Carreras Scotto	URU	X					X
Armando Pineda-Fernandez	VEN	X					
Nayib Marquez	VEN	X					
Juan Jose Valero Quintero	VEN	X					
Jose Duran Dautant	VEN	X					
Cesar Covarrubia	VEN	X					
Albaro Barrera	VEN	X					
Olga Morillo	VEN	X					
Daniel Onay	VEN						X
Edgar Gonzalez	VEN	X					X
James Cardona	VEN	X					
Jose Finocchio	VEN	X					
Jose-Rafael Otero	VEN	X			X		X
Luis Lara Requena	VEN	X					X
Manuel Alvarado	VEN	X		X			X
Marlon Diaz	VEN	X					X
Victor Davila	VEN	X					X

AOS T4F AOSpine Faculty Training**T4F 1** Complete Program**T4F 2** Mini Faculty Training (Extended Pre-course)**AOS T4C AOSpine Chairperson Training****T4C 1** Chairperson Training (before 2012)**T4C 2** Chairperson training (Curriculum induction)**AOS T4EA AOSpine Educational Advisor Training****AOSLA FI** AOSLA Faculty Improvement

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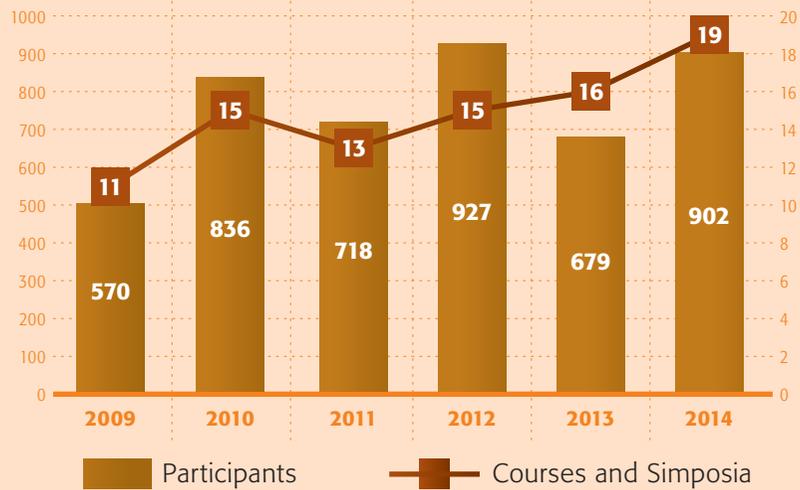
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Educational activities statistics

Once more, AOSpine developed an academic evolution in Latin America, as detailed in the charts below. Important academic, cadaver and live surgery courses were performed in different countries of the region, creating important opportunities for new activities in the years to come.

	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Courses & Symposia	11	15	13	15	16	19
Participants	570	836	718	927	679	902
Seminars	32	37	32	27	38	34
Participants	1394	1570	2006	2128	2395	2205
Educational events	43	52	45	42	54	53
Participants	1964	2406	2724	3055	3074	3107
Educational days X participants	3660	3770	3994	4158	4137	4212

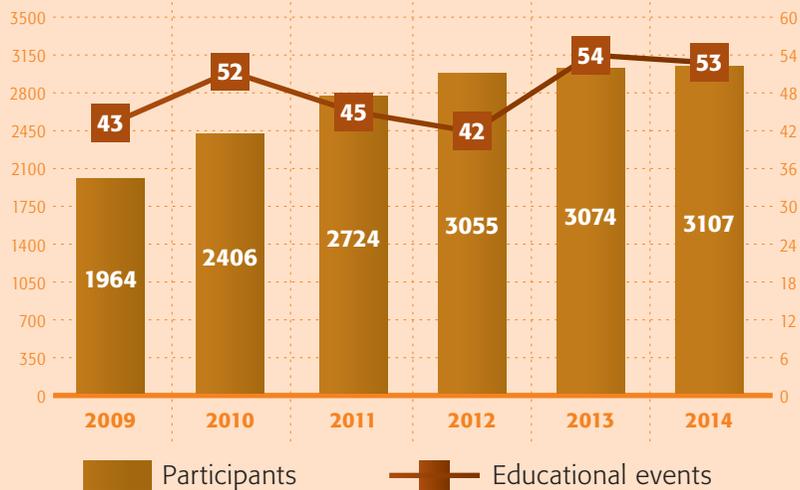
Courses and Simposia



Seminars



Educational events



Educational days X participants



Argentina



“In light of the success of the events performed in 2013, the Argentinean Chapter looks forward to carrying out more activities next year, being certain that the country will continue to develop outstanding work in 2014.”

Pedro Bazán
Argentina Council Chairperson

Faculties and participants
official photo – AOSpine
Advanced Symposium.
Buenos Aires, July 2013

Argentina had the pleasure of hosting different AOSpine activities in 2013, including Faculty Training, Principles Seminars, Advanced Symposium and the Neuropinamar trans-congress event. The activities presented a very successful alignment to the AOSpine Curriculum and a high level of interaction between participants and the Faculty members.

A special mention should be made of the Advanced Symposium on cervical and lumbar degeneration, which took place in Buenos Aires in July, and hosted the official regional ten year anniversary celebration of AOSpine. The participants were delighted with the presence of renowned international Faculty members, such as Michael Mayer and Gomatam Vijay Kumar, and with our regional crew, which included the experienced Luiz Vialle, Osmar Moraes and Roberto Chapa, among others.

AOSpine Advanced Seminar: Trauma



April 05, 2013

Venue

Hospital Escuela de Agudos Dr. Ramón Madariaga – Posadas, Argentina

Chairpersons

Pedro Bazán (Argentina)
Enrique Gutiérrez (Argentina)

National Faculty

Marcelo Amaro, Santiago Balderrama, Marcelo Gruenberg, Enrique Palma, Leonardo Quiroz.

Registration fee. Free

Number of participants. 42

Course Evaluation	
Average Faculty Performance.....	3,86 out of 5
Average Importance to Daily Practice.....	3,98 out of 5
Scientific Program Content.....	3,40 out of 5
Quality of Material Received.....	3,40 out of 5
Course Facilities.....	3,27 out of 5
Overall Course Evaluation.....	3,58 out of 5

AOSpine Advanced Course: Live surgery

April 12–13, 2013



Venue

El Cruce Hospital – Florencio Varela, Argentina

Chairpersons

Osvaldo Romano (Argentina)
Jorge Lambre (Argentina)

Educational Advisor

Néstor Fiore (Argentina)

National Faculty

Alejandro Biondini, Alejandro Mengotti, Daniel Agrelo, Fernando Dittlar, Juan Emmerich, Julio Bassani, Mariano Pirozzo, Mario Espeche, Maximiliano Nuñez, Nicolás Bacaloni, Osvaldo Tropea, Pedro Luis Bazán, Ricardo Campodonico, Roxana Ferreira, Sebastian Solernó.

Registration fee

Members: USD 400.00 | Non Members: USD 500.00

Number of participants. 25

The Live Surgery course was constituted of a total of six surgical procedures, performed simultaneously in two operating rooms. The participants were able to follow the surgeries taking place in the ORs from a separate room via a live transmission. Every patient and procedure was evaluated and discussed, and possible surgical strategies debated, using their clinical history and images. Participants had the opportunity to interact with the Faculty members in the OR, making it possible to ask questions or comment on any surgical aspect of the procedure.

Course Evaluation	Average Faculty Performance	4,40	out of 5
	Average Importance to Daily Practice	4,38	out of 5
	Scientific Program Content	4,43	out of 5
	Quality of Material Received	4,00	out of 5
	Course Facilities	4,18	out of 5
Overall Course Evaluation		4,28	out of 5



AOSpine Advanced Symposium: Degeneration – Current controversies



July 05–06, 2013

Venue

Hilton Puerto Madero Hotel – Buenos Aires, Argentina

Chairperson

Pedro Bazán (Argentina)

Educational Advisor

Néstor Fiore (Argentina)

International Faculty

Michael Mayer (Alemanha)
Gomatam Vijay Kumar (India)

Regional Faculty

Luiz Vialle (Brazil), Roberto Chapa (Mexico),
Ricardo Ribeiro (Brazil), Samuel Pantoja (Chile),
Osmar Moraes (Brazil).

National Faculty

Ramiro Barrera, Julio Bassani, Alejandro Betemps,
Alvaro Borri, Andrés Cervio, Nicolás Ciccioli, Juan
Emmerich, Marcelo Gruenberg, Ramiro Gutierrez, Juan
Pablo Guyot, Cristian Illanes, Pablo Jalón, Jorge Lambre,
Martín Medina, Javier Mendez, Santiago Menendez,
Alejandro Mengotti, Matias Petracchi, Ricardo Prina,
Osvaldo Romano, Carlos Sola, Marcelo Valacco.

Registration fee

Members: USD 500.00 | Non Members: USD 650.00

Number of participants. 82

Course Evaluation	Average Faculty Performance.....	4,26 out of 5
	Average Importance to Daily Practice.....	4,33 out of 5
	Scientific Program Content.....	4,48 out of 5
	Quality of Material Received.....	3,79 out of 5
	Course Facilities.....	4,26 out of 5
	Overall Course Evaluation.....	4,22 out of 5

The AOSpine Advanced Symposium featured a remarkable group of international Faculty, who offered participants a wide range of themes to be discussed regarding the different pathologies of the spine. The main themes presented were: cervical arthrosis myelopathy, lumbar discopathy, degenerative lumbar deformity and the handling of complications.



AOSpine Advanced Seminar: Pediatric deformity



October 26, 2013

Venue

Holiday Inn Hotel – Córdoba, Argentina

Chairpersons

Pedro Bazán (Argentina)
Amilcar Beyot (Argentina)

National Faculty

Ernesto Bersusky, Carlos Agüero, Eduardo Galaretto, Pablo Ortiz, Rodrigo Remondino.

Registration fee. Free

Number of participants. 14

Course Evaluation	Average Faculty Performance.....	4,47	out of 5
	Average Importance to Daily Practice.....	4,30	out of 5
	Scientific Program Content.....	4,50	out of 5
	Quality of Material Received.....	4,00	out of 5
	Course Facilities.....	4,71	out of 5
	Overall Course Evaluation.....	4,40	out of 5

AOSpine Principles Seminar for Residents



October 29, 2013

Venue

Instituto de Rehabilitación Psico-física – Buenos Aires, Argentina

Chairperson

Alejandro Betemps (Argentina)

National Faculty

Pedro Bazán, Alvaro Borri, Carlos Mounier.

Registration fee. Free

Number of participants. 47

Course Evaluation	Average Faculty Performance.....	4,38	out of 5
	Average Importance to Daily Practice.....	4,27	out of 5
	Scientific Program Content.....	3,82	out of 5
	Quality of Material Received.....	3,68	out of 5
	Course Facilities.....	3,40	out of 5
	Overall Course Evaluation.....	3,91	out of 5

AOSpine Advanced Trans-Congress Seminar (Neuropinamar)



November 29-30, 2013

Venue

Del Bosque Hotel – Pinamar, Argentina

Chairperson

Juan Emmerich (Argentina)

Educational Advisor

Néstor Fiore (Argentina)

Regional Faculty

Andrés Rodríguez (Colombia)
Osmar Moraes (Brazil)

National Faculty

Augusto Gonzalvo, Marcelo Valacco, Ricardo Prina, Juan José Mezzadri, Ramiro Gutierrez, Jorge Lambre, Jorge Shilton.

Registration fee. USD 200.00

Number of participants. 150

Brazil



“The work developed by the Chapter has contributed to the region’s projects, by incentivizing participants to take part in the Continuing Education Program, and is looking forward to developing new activities in 2014”.

Alexandre Sadao
Brazil Council Chairperson

Live Tissue Course.
Curitiba, March 2013

This year, AOSpine Brazil focused on the creation of a model of activity which could be adjusted to participants' needs and requests at every educational level. The Principles Course held in São Paulo in June was conceived as a pilot event, designed to provide attendees with more interaction and with the use of more efficient teaching tools. The proposed model comprised less lectures, more discussions and more practical activities, such as measuring scoliosis curves, examining joints for differential diagnoses, etc. We expect this pilot to be of great use for future activities, constituting a model which can be implemented throughout the region.

All activities in Brazil placed considerable importance on the pre-course meeting, as well as pre-course activities for participants. After every day of the activity, the Faculty members were able to hold short meetings to assess the activities developed so far and make the necessary adjustments to the program for the following day.

These experiences certainly reflected on the organization of other events in the country, both for Principles and Advanced activities – in São Paulo, Brasília, and others.

AOSpine Principles Seminar for Residents



February 02–03, 2013

Venue

Blue Tree Faria Lima Hotel –
São Paulo, Brazil

Chairperson

Jerônimo Milano (Brazil)

Educational Advisor

Mario Taricco (Brazil)

National Faculty

Albert Brasil, Roger Brock, Luiz Gustavo Dal Oglio da Rocha, Alexandre Fogaça Cristante, Alberto Gotfryd, Delio Martins, Luciano Miller, Alexandre Sadao Iutaka, William Teixeira, Carlos Tucci, Eduardo Von Uhlendorff.

Registration fee

Members: USD 96.00 | Non Members: USD 160.00

Number of participants. 53

Course Evaluation	
Average Faculty Performance	4,64 out of 5
Average Importance to Daily Practice	4,74 out of 5
Scientific Program Content	4,45 out of 5
Quality of Material Received	3,48 out of 5
Course Facilities	4,13 out of 5
Overall Course Evaluation	4,29 out of 5

AOSpine Advanced Live Tissue Course: Anterior approach and spinal osteotomy



March 22–23, 2013

Venue

Universidade Católica do Paraná—PUC PR – Curitiba, Brazil

Chairperson

Luiz Roberto Vialle (Brazil)

Educational Advisor

Emiliano Vialle (Brazil)

Regional Faculty

Marcelo Valacco (Argentina)

National Faculty

Asdrubal Falavigna, Carla Menini-Stahlschmidt, Carlos Del Valle, Cláudio Dorigo, Christiano Simões, José Augusto Araújo, Nelson Bergonse, Ricardo Ribeiro, William Teixeira, Graziela Cancian Gomes (Faculty ORP).

Registration fee

Members: USD 1700.00 | Non Members: USD 1850.00

Number of participants. 38

Course Evaluation	Average Faculty Performance	4,70	out of 5
	Average Importance to Daily Practice	4,57	out of 5
	Scientific Program Content	4,76	out of 5
	Quality of Material Received	4,52	out of 5
	Course Facilities	4,51	out of 5
	Overall Course Evaluation	4,61	out of 5

The fifth edition of this course, focused on approaches, selected a group of lecturers deeply familiar with the handling of spine pathologies through anterior approaches, and who had also participated in previous editions of the event. The main goal of the course was to utilize the opportunity to practice spine-related procedures on animals to its full potential. The course also featured a module on posterior approaches, where participants had the chance to practice complex procedures, such as osteotomies and vertebral resections. The course emphasized specific aspects, such as: discussing the main cases for anterior approaches, their advantages and limitations, as well as osteotomies through posterior approach; identifying the risks of these procedures, possible complications and their handling; getting familiar with the most common approaches in spine surgery and managing vascular and visceral complications; discussing the application of different implants for anterior stabilization, their technical details and the differences between arthrodesis and dynamic stabilizations.



AOSpine Advanced Pre-Congress Symposium (14th Brazilian Congress on Spine): Spinal cord at risk



April 27, 2013

Venue

Costão do Santinho Resort – Florianópolis, Brazil

Chairperson

Osmar Moraes (Brazil)

Educational Advisor

Emiliano Vialle (Brazil)

International Faculty

Jean-Jacques Abitbol (USA)

Jeffrey Wang (USA)

Regional Faculty

Marcelo Gruenberg (Argentina)

National Faculty

Luis Carelli, Waldemar de Souza Junior, Asdrubal Falavigna, Alexandre Fogaça Cristante, Alberto Gotfryd, Delio Martins, Cristiano Menezes, Robert Meves, Ricardo Ribeiro, Geraldo Sá Carneiro, Alexandre Sadao Iutaka, Mario Taricco, Luiz Vialle, Marcio Vinhal, Marcus Ziegler.

Registration fee. USD 150.00

Number of participants. 109

AOSpine Advanced Seminar Research: New era in clinical research on spine surgery



May 10–11, 2013

Venue

Blue Tree Faria Lima Hotel – São Paulo, Brazil

Chairperson

Asdrubal Falavigna (Brazil)

Educational Advisor

Osmar Moraes (Brazil)

National Faculty

Ricardo Botelho, Alexandre Fogaça Cristante, Délio Martins, Robert Meves, Carla Pagliari, Marianna Porto, Mario Taricco, Emiliano Vialle.

Registration fee

Members: USD 44.00 | Non Members: USD 65.00

Number of participants. 50

This seminar focused on bringing relevant knowledge about research, stimulating joint scientific activities through the exchange of experiences. Furthermore, it intended to identify the active research centers in the region, providing education and qualification regarding clinical research.

Course Evaluation	
Average Faculty Performance.....	4,52 out of 5
Average Importance to Daily Practice.....	4,44 out of 5
Scientific Program Content.....	4,38 out of 5
Quality of Material Received.....	3,69 out of 5
Course Facilities.....	4,00 out of 5
Overall Course Evaluation.....	4,20 out of 5



AOSpine Principles Seminar: Deformities



May 18, 2013

Venue

Mercure Lourdes Hotel – Belo Horizonte, Brazil

Chairperson

Alberto Gotfryd (Brazil)

National Faculty

Aluizio Arantes, Mauricio Calais,

Fabiano Canto, Fernando Dantas, Délio Martins, Cristiano Menezes, Rogério Resende, Eduardo von Uhlendorff.

Registration fee

Members: USD 96.00 | Non Members: USD 200.00

Number of participants. 36

Course Evaluation	Average Faculty Performance.....	4,61	out of 5
	Average Importance to Daily Practice.....	4,71	out of 5
	Scientific Program Content.....	4,12	out of 5
	Quality of Material Received.....	3,46	out of 5
	Course Facilities.....	3,80	out of 5
	Overall Course Evaluation.....	4,14	out of 5

AOSpine Principles Course



June 06–08, 2013

Venue

Hotel Pullman – São Paulo, Brazil

Chairperson

William Teixeira (Brazil)

Educational Advisor

Alexandre Sadao Iutaka (Brazil)

Regional Faculty

Pedro Luis Bazán (Argentina)
Samuel Pantoja (Chile)

National Faculty

Alberto Gotfryd, Alexandre Fogaça Cristante, Carlos Tucci, Délio Martins, Eduardo von Uhlendorff, Henrique Jorge, Jerônimo Milano, Kodi Kojima, Luiz Gustavo Dal Oglio Rocha, Mario Taricco, Ricardo Botelho, Ricardo Ferreira, Ricardo Ribeiro, Robert Meves.

Registration fee

Members: USD 1030.00 | Non Members: USD 1146.00

Number of participants. 46

Course Evaluation	Average Faculty Performance.....	4,61	out of 5
	Average Importance to Daily Practice.....	4,79	out of 5
	Scientific Program Content.....	4,45	out of 5
	Quality of Material Received.....	3,50	out of 5
	Course Facilities.....	4,11	out of 5
	Overall Course Evaluation.....	4,29	out of 5

AOSpine Advanced Seminar: Trauma



July 23, 2013

Venue

Mercure Rio Vermelho Hotel – Salvador, Brazil

Chairperson

Délio Martins (Brazil)

National Faculty

Ricardo Cotias, Mauricio Gusmão,

Roger Brock, Luiz Gustavo Dal Oglio da Rocha, Murilo Daher, Rony Fernandes.

Registration fee. USD 96.00

Number of participants. 28

Course Evaluation	Average Faculty Performance.....	4,60	out of 5
	Average Importance to Daily Practice.....	4,59	out of 5
	Scientific Program Content.....	4,50	out of 5
	Quality of Material Received.....	4,47	out of 5
	Course Facilities.....	4,54	out of 5
	Overall Course Evaluation.....	4,54	out of 5

AOSpine Research Seminar: 1st Journey of Clinical Research of the Hospital Cristo Redentor



September 13–14, 2013

Venue

Hospital Cristo Redentor –
Porto Alegre, Brazil

Chairperson

Asdrubal Falavigna (Brazil)

National Faculty

Rogério Bitencourt, Felipe Cechinni,

Leo Doncato, Maria Drachler, Délio Martins, Marcia
Puñales, Ericson Sfreddo, Sergio Sirena, Paulo Worm.

Registration fee

Members: Free | Non Members: USD 12.00

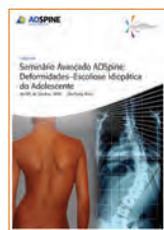
Number of participants. 32

Course Evaluation

Average Faculty Performance.....	4,65	out of 5
Average Importance to Daily Practice.....	4,53	out of 5
Scientific Program Content.....	4,38	out of 5
Quality of Material Received.....	3,62	out of 5
Course Facilities.....	3,97	out of 5
Overall Course Evaluation.....	4,30	out of 5

AOSpine Advanced Seminar: Deformities–Adolescent idiopathic scoliosis

October 04–05, 2013



Venue

Johnson & Johnson Medical
Innovation Institute – São Paulo,
Brazil

Chairperson

Eduardo von Uhlendorff (Brazil)

Educational Advisor

Emiliano Vialle (Brazil)

International Faculty

Jean Ouellet (Canada)

Regional Faculty

Samuel Pantoja (Chile)

National Faculty

Alberto Gotfryd, Andre Andújar, Ricardo Ferreira,
Robert Meves.

Registration fee

Members: USD 240.00 | Non Members: USD 350.00

Number of participants. 86

Course Evaluation

Average Faculty Performance.....	4,61	out of 5
Average Importance to Daily Practice.....	4,64	out of 5
Scientific Program Content.....	4,48	out of 5
Quality of Material Received.....	3,67	out of 5
Course Facilities.....	4,08	out of 5
Overall Course Evaluation.....	4,30	out of 5

AOSpine Advanced Symposium: Trauma

November 01–02, 2013



Venue

Royal Tulip Brasília Alvorada -
Brasília, Brazil

Chairpersons

Alexandre Sadao Iutaka (Brazil)
Marcelo Gruenberg (Argentina)

Educational Advisor

Roberto Postigo (Chile)

International Faculty

Carlo Bellabarba (USA)

K. Riew (USA)

Regional Faculty

Pablo Vela (Colombia)

National Faculty

Emiliano Vialle, Geraldo Sá Carneiro, Jerônimo Milano,
Luiz Vialle, Mario Taricco, Murilo Daher, Osmar Moraes,
Ricardo Ribeiro.

Registration fee

Members: USD 310.00 | Non Members: USD 420.00

Number of participants. 40

Course Evaluation

Average Faculty Performance.....	4,50	out of 5
Average Importance to Daily Practice.....	4,58	out of 5
Scientific Program Content.....	4,48	out of 5
Quality of Material Received.....	3,90	out of 5
Course Facilities.....	3,90	out of 5
Overall Course Evaluation.....	4,27	out of 5

Bolivia

In 2013, the Bolivian council developed monthly meetings in which themes related to spinal trauma were presented, generating interesting case discussions. The country has also actively participated in the Virtual Courses held throughout the year. In September, the city of La Paz hosted the Advanced Symposium on spinal trauma, in which case presentations and group discussions were emphasized, with the organization of debates in small groups coordinated by one Faculty member each.

AOSpine Advanced Symposium: Trauma

September 26–27, 2013



Venue

Casa Grande Hotel – La Paz, Bolivia

Chairperson

Jaime Linares (Bolivia)

Educational Advisor

Pablo Vela (Colombia)

International Faculty

Alexandre Sadao (Brazil), Marcelo Valacco (Argentina), Manuel Valencia (Chile).

National Faculty

Eddy Antonio Dorado Alanez, Edmundo Antezana, Fernando Martin Aliaga Rocabado, Luis Duchén Rodríguez, Marco Paredes, Rene Torrejon.

Registration fee

Members: USD 250.00 | Non Members: USD 350.00

Number of participants. 29

Course Evaluation	
Average Faculty Performance	4,30 out of 5
Average Importance to Daily Practice	4,43 out of 5
Scientific Program Content	3,93 out of 5
Quality of Material Received	3,40 out of 5
Course Facilities	3,82 out of 5
Overall Course Evaluation	3,98 out of 5



“The educational activities produced a high level of interaction, especially in the case discussions in small groups, which was very rewarding both for the Faculty members and participants.”

Jaime Linares
Bolivia Council Chairperson

Central America

In 2013, several AOSpine events were held in the Central American region. Similar to previous years, a wide group of professionals benefitted from the programs developed for the area, which featured the presence of renowned Faculty members.

AOSpine Advanced Seminar: Spinal fractures.
Santo Domingo,
September 2013



Costa Rica

Ever since the first contact with AOSpine Latin America, the important and innovative concepts developed by the organization have been incorporated and grown in the country, becoming more and more integrated into the daily practice in spine surgery. The discussions began with themes related to lumbar degeneration and deformities, advancing to more complex topics in 2013, such as cervical pathologies. The seminars on the cervical spine held in the country have covered a wide range of spine pathologies in the different regions, pathologies and treatments.

AOSpine Advanced Pre-Congress Seminar (Central American Congress of Neurosurgery): Trauma and degeneration in cervical pathology

March 22, 2013



Venue

Barceló San José Palacio Hotel – San José, Costa Rica

Chairperson

Alexander Valverde (Costa Rica)

Regional Faculty

Pablo Vela (Colombia)

Sergio Anaya Vallejo (Mexico)

National Faculty

Edgar Jiménez Masis, José Pérez Berríos, Hector Torres.

Registration fee. USD 100.00

Number of participants. 9

Course Evaluation	Average Faculty Performance.....	4,62 out of 5
	Average Importance to Daily Practice.....	4,76 out of 5
	Scientific Program Content.....	4,26 out of 5
	Quality of Material Received.....	5,00 out of 5
	Course Facilities.....	3,75 out of 5
	Overall Course Evaluation.....	4,48 out of 5

AOSpine Advanced Seminar: Handling osteoporotic fractures

November 09, 2013



Venue

Hotel Intercontinental Camino Real – San José, Costa Rica

Chairperson

Jose Perez Berrios (Costa Rica)

Regional Faculty

Germán Ochoa (Colombia)

National Faculty

Javier Brenes, Alexander Valverde.

Registration fee

Members: USD 100.00 | Non Members: USD 150.00

Number of participants. 20

Course Evaluation	Average Faculty Performance.....	4,60 out of 5
	Average Importance to Daily Practice.....	4,66 out of 5
	Scientific Program Content.....	4,08 out of 5
	Quality of Material Received.....	4,08 out of 5
	Course Facilities.....	4,26 out of 5
	Overall Course Evaluation.....	4,34 out of 5

“As the events featured the presence of both orthopedists and neurologists, the concepts taught offered an interesting dialogue and integration between the two fields, allowing us to treat the patients in a combined manner, thereby obtaining better outcomes.”

Alexander Valverde
Costa Rica Council Chairperson

Cuba

The spine surgery community in Cuba, in particular the AOSpine members, were present for one of the most relevant events related to the field in the country: the creation of the AOSpine Cuba Council. The event took place in April 2013, at the Iberostar Hotel, with the current AOSpine Latin America Chairperson, Roberto Chapa, present. The meeting instated the following Council: Ernesto Fleites (Chairperson); Enrique De Jongh (Community Development); Carlos Santos (Research); Raúl Candebat (Education Ortho); and Néstor Pulido (Education Neuro).

The newly created Country Council was then presented to the local community at the Congress of the Cuban Society of Neurology and Neurosurgery. From this date onwards, monthly meetings have been held with the aim of discussing clinical cases in accordance with the AOSpine format and concepts, providing a large contribution to the scientific development in the country. Furthermore, activities like these also promote an open and productive relationship between neurosurgeons, orthopedists and other spine-related specialties.

“Since 2009, when AOSpine was introduced in Cuba with the motto “A new vision”, our country has, without a doubt, seen the improvement of knowledge in the field and, most importantly, in patient care. Our local medical community is therefore thankful to AOSpine for bringing us up-to-date discussions and helping us develop the investigation and treatment of spine pathologies.”

Ernesto Fleites Marrero
Cuba Council Chairperson

AOSpine Advanced Pre-Congress Seminar (Congress of Neurosurgery): Trauma



April 24, 2013

Venue

Habana Libre Hotel – Habana, Cuba

Chairperson

Enrique De Jongh (Cuba)

Educational Advisor

Roberto Chapa (Mexico)

Regional Faculty

Pablo Vela (Colombia)

Sergio Anaya Vallejo (Mexico)

National Faculty

Alejandra Barbosa, Raul Candebat, Ernesto Fleites, Esteban Roig Fabrè, Carlos Santos.

Registration fee. Free

Number of participants. 40

Course Evaluation	Average Faculty Performance.....	4,83 out of 5
	Average Importance to Daily Practice.....	4,91 out of 5
	Scientific Program Content.....	4,58 out of 5
	Quality of Material Received.....	4,00 out of 5
	Course Facilities.....	4,05 out of 5
	Overall Course Evaluation.....	4,47 out of 5

Dominican Republic

AOSpine Advanced Seminar: Spinal fractures

September 28, 2013



Venue

Santo Domingo Hotel – Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic

Chairperson

Roberto Chapa (Mexico)

Regional Faculty

Germán Ochoa (Colombia)
Mario Taricco (Brazil)

National Faculty

Iohan Fernandez, Freddy Flores, Miguel Luna, Giovanni Ureña, Adriano Valdez.

Registration fee. Free

Number of participants. 90

Course Evaluation

Average Faculty Performance.....	4,76	out of 5
Average Importance to Daily Practice.....	4,68	out of 5
Scientific Program Content.....	4,61	out of 5
Quality of Material Received.....	4,37	out of 5
Course Facilities.....	4,18	out of 5
Overall Course Evaluation.....	4,52	out of 5

Guatemala

Educational Activities 2013 Central America

AOSpine Advanced Central American Symposium: Trauma and infection

August 16–17, 2013



Venue

Hotel Barceló Guatemala – Ciudad de Guatemala, Guatemala

Chairpersons

Juan Pablo De León (Guatemala)
Julio Pozuelos (Guatemala)

Educational Advisor

Roberto Chapa (Mexico)

Regional Faculty

Marcelo Gruenberg (Argentina), Sergio Anaya (Mexico), Pablo Vela (Colombia), Alexander Valverde (Costa Rica).

National Faculty

Luis Cruz Sánchez.

Registration fee

Members: USD 100.00 | Non Members: USD 150.00

Number of participants. 22

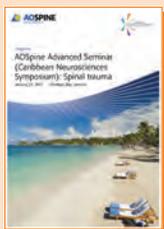
Course Evaluation

Average Faculty Performance.....	4,81	out of 5
Average Importance to Daily Practice.....	4,78	out of 5
Scientific Program Content.....	4,82	out of 5
Quality of Material Received.....	4,55	out of 5
Course Facilities.....	4,55	out of 5
Overall Course Evaluation.....	4,70	out of 5

Jamaica

AOSpine Advanced Seminar (Caribbean Neurosciences Symposium): Spinal trauma

January 26, 2013



Venue

Montego Bay Convention Centre –
Montego Bay, Jamaica

Chairperson

Andrés Rodríguez Munera (Colombia)
Ian Neil (Jamaica)

Regional Faculty

Michael Dittmar (Mexico)
Samuel Pantoja (Chile)

National Faculty

Carl Bruce

Registration fee. Free

Number of participants. 20

Panama

This September the Panama Council hosted a very important Advanced Seminar about spinal medullary tumors as a pre-activity in the Scientific Seminars of the Santo Tomás Hospital. Although the audience was mainly composed of local doctors, it was a pleasant surprise to see some new faces actively participating, especially young neurosurgeons.

“Considering the administrative division of health professionals in Panama, the best strategy to perform successful educational activities in the country is to associate them to larger events, as has been the case so far. This also enables the organization to continue with the concept of the “knowledge broker” that has been developed so well in the region.”

Antonio Mock

Panama Council Chairperson

AOSpine Advanced Seminar: Medullary spinal tumors

September 17, 2013



Venue

Hospital Santo Tomás –
Panamá City, Panama

Chairperson

Mitzadi Ordoñez (Panama)

Regional Faculty

Marcelo Gruenberg (Argentina)

National Faculty

Andrés Almendral, Juan Correa, Antonio Mock, Luis Varon, Carlos Solis, Alina Pupo de Martinez, Geovany Osigian, Carlos MArtínez Castañeda.

Registration fee

Members: USD 50.00 | Non Members: USD 100.00

Number of participants. 15

Chile



AOSpine Advanced Course:
Cadaveric. Palm Beach,
August 2013

Several events were coordinated and developed in Chile in 2013, both in Santiago and other areas – in particular Concepción –, with the aim of increasing the number of activities in the country through a more regional approach. The country also hosted important Principles Seminars, which discussed degeneration, trauma and deformities, with the purpose of providing wider educational opportunities so as to meet the professional needs of local surgeons.

AOSpine Advanced Seminar: Surgical complications in degenerative spinal surgery

May 04, 2013



Venue

Sonesta Hotel – Concepción, Chile

Chairperson

Ratko Yurac (Chile)

Regional Faculty

Geraldo Sá Carneiro (Brazil)

National Faculty

Miguel Acuña, Mauricio Campos,

Enrique Concha Julio, Osvaldo Gaete Carrasco, Marcos Ganga, Roberto Leal, Osvaldo Ojeda, Roberto Postigo, Alejandro Urzúa, Manuel Valencia.

Registration fee. USD 200.00

Number of participants. 13

Course Evaluation	Average Faculty Performance.....	4,30 out of 5
	Average Importance to Daily Practice.....	4,43 out of 5
	Scientific Program Content.....	3,93 out of 5
	Quality of Material Received.....	3,40 out of 5
	Course Facilities.....	3,82 out of 5
	Overall Course Evaluation.....	3,98 out of 5

AOSpine Principles Seminar for Residents Ortho-Neuro 1: Degeneration

July 27, 2013



Venue

Atton de Las Condes Hotel – Santiago, Chile

Chairperson

Manuel Valencia (Chile)

Regional Faculty

Mario Taricco (Brazil)

National Faculty

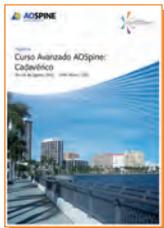
Enrique Concha Julio, Marcos Ganga, Roberto Postigo, Aliro San Martín, Álvaro Silva, Ratko Yurac.

Registration fee. USD 70.00

Number of participants. 17

Course Evaluation	Average Faculty Performance.....	4,53 out of 5
	Average Importance to Daily Practice.....	4,62 out of 5
	Scientific Program Content.....	4,00 out of 5
	Quality of Material Received.....	3,91 out of 5
	Course Facilities.....	4,06 out of 5
	Overall Course Evaluation.....	4,22 out of 5

AOSpine Advanced Course: Cadaveric



August 29–30, 2013
Venue
 Anspach – Palm Beach, USA
Chairperson
 Roberto Postigo (Chile)
Educational Advisor
 Néstor Fiore (Argentina)

Regional Faculty

Roberto Chapa (Mexico), Osmar Moraes (Brazil), Robert Meves (Brazil), Marco Medina (Peru), Asdrubal Falavigna (Brazil).

National Faculty

Aliro San Martín, Manuel Valencia, Enrique Concha Julio, Ratko Yurak, Samuel Pantoja, Álvaro Silva.

Registration fee. USD 2,200.00

Number of participants. 23

AOSpine Principles Seminar for Residents Ortho-Neuro 2: Trauma



September 07, 2013
Venue
 Atton de Las Condes Hotel – Santiago, Chile
Chairperson
 Ratko Yurak (Chile)
Regional Faculty
 Marcelo Valacco (Argentina)

National Faculty

Gonzalo Arriagada Ocampo, José Fleiderman, Andres Lisoni, Bartolomé Marré, Álvaro Silva.

Registration fee. USD 70.00

Number of participants. 27

AOSpine Principles Seminar for Residents Ortho-Neuro 3: Deformities



September 28, 2013
Venue
 Atton de Las Condes Hotel – Santiago, Chile
Chairperson
 Samuel Pantoja (Chile)
Regional Faculty
 Ernesto Bersusky (Argentina)

National Faculty

Gonzalo Arriagada Ocampo, Andres Chahin, Marcela Chamorro, Rodrigo Varela, Karen Weisman.

Registration fee. USD 70.00

Number of participants. 29

Colombia



AOSpine Principles Course.
Paipa-Boyacá, April 2013

The activities developed in Colombia this year took place in Bogotá, Medellín and Paipa-Boyacá, and counted more than 100 registered participants. Besides the Principles Course, which saw a successful full Curriculum implementation, the country was also pleased to host a seminar and symposium. The local Chapter looks forward to developing many more activities in 2014, continuing to bring outstanding education to Colombian spine professionals.

AOSpine Principles Course

April 18–20, 2013



Venue

Estelar Paipa Hotel & Centro de Convenciones – Paipa-Boyacá, Colombia

Chairperson

Nelson Morales (Colombia)

Educational Advisor

Roberto Chapa (Mexico)

Regional Faculty

Antonio Mock (Panama), José Rafael Otero (Venezuela), Robert Meves (Brazil).

National Faculty

Carlos Carmona Lourdy, Constanza Bedoya, Fernando Alvarado Gomez, Jaime Segura, Julián España Peña, Leonardo Duplat, Luis Arango, Néstor Taboada, Rodolfo Paez Gonzalez.

Registration fee

Members: USD 830.00 | Non Members: USD 900.00

Number of participants. 33

Course Evaluation		
Average Faculty Performance	4,58	out of 5
Average Importance to Daily Practice	4,80	out of 5
Scientific Program Content	4,70	out of 5
Quality of Material Received	4,78	out of 5
Course Facilities	4,82	out of 5
Overall Course Evaluation	4,73	out of 5

AOSpine Advanced Seminar: Biomaterials in spine surgery

July 06, 2013



Venue

Intercontinental Hotel – Medellín, Colombia

Chairperson

Néstor Taboada (Colombia)

National Faculty

Mario Herrera, Luis Arango, Jaime Segura, Luís Padilla, Nelson Morales,

Constanza Bedoya, Julián España, Leonardo Duplat, Roberto Díaz, Miguel Berbeo.

Registration fee

Members: USD 170.00 | Non Members: USD 190.00

Number of participants. 39

Course Evaluation

Average Faculty Performance.....	4,33	out of 5
Average Importance to Daily Practice.....	4,41	out of 5
Scientific Program Content.....	-	out of 5
Quality of Material Received.....	-	out of 5
Course Facilities.....	-	out of 5
Overall Course Evaluation.....	4,37	out of 5

AOSpine Advanced Symposium: Deformities

November 29–30, 2013



Venue

Hotel Hilton – Bogotá, Colombia

Chairperson

Néstor Taboada (Colombia)

Educational Advisor

Emiliano Vialle (Brazil)

International Faculty

Vincent Arlet (USA)

Christopher Shaffrey (USA)

Regional Faculty

Ernesto Bersusky (Argentina)

National Faculty

Pablo Vela, Leonardo Duplat, Mario Herrera, Jaime Segura, Maria Bedoya, Ricardo Restrepo, Ricardo Londoño, Fernando Helo, David Meneses, Carlos Montero, Fernando Alvarado, Luis Arango, Mario Gonzalez.

Registration fee

Members: USD 260.00 | Non Members: USD 320.00

Number of participants. 59

Course Evaluation

Average Faculty Performance.....	4,25	out of 5
Average Importance to Daily Practice.....	4,30	out of 5
Scientific Program Content.....	-	out of 5
Quality of Material Received.....	-	out of 5
Course Facilities.....	-	out of 5
Overall Course Evaluation.....	4,28	out of 5

Ecuador



AOSpine Advanced Trans-Congress Seminar: Frequent pathologies of the spine. Quito, August 2013

During 2013, Ecuador worked emphatically to reconsolidate the local council and reactivate the activities in the country. The Advanced Seminar which took place in August, during the National Congress of Orthopedics, was certainly a very important step towards the reestablishment of the activities in Ecuador.

“We look forward to continuing our efforts in strengthening AOSpine in the country and we are sure 2014 will be a very productive year for our local members.”

Martha Hernández-Galvez
Ecuador Council Chairperson

AOSpine Advanced Trans-Congress Seminar (SEOT): Frequent pathologies of the spine



August 23, 2013

Venue

Hilton Colón Quito Hotel – Quito, Ecuador

Chairperson

Martha Hernández (Ecuador)

Educational Advisor

Roberto Chapa (Mexico)

Regional Faculty

Pablo Vela (Colombia)

National Faculty

Antonio Sanchez, Elio Ramirez, Fabricio Aguilar, Fernando Davalo, Jaime Moyano, Luis Carrion, Gladys Pavón, Luis Guijarro, Mario Herrera, Marcelo Ochoa.

Registration fee. Free

Number of participants. 50



“The implementation of the Curriculum AOSpine was executed smoothly and was very successful, thanks to the intense preparation, enthusiasm and commitment of the Faculty members, as well as the active participation of attendees.”

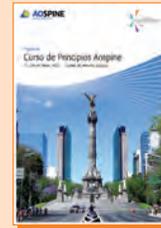
Martín Tejada Barreras
Mexico Council Chairperson

AOSpine Advanced Course: Cadaveric. Monterrey, September 2013

This year the local Chapter had the pleasure of taking part in the official implementation of another educational innovation: the full implementation of the AOSpine Standardized Principles Course Template in the courses performed in Mexico. Although a large responsibility, the implementation was executed smoothly and was very successful, thanks to the intense preparation, enthusiasm and commitment of the Faculty members, as well as the active participation of attendees.

The features mentioned above were also carried over to the other events hosted in the country, especially the local seminars, the Virtual Courses and the pre- and trans-congress seminars.

AOSpine Principles Course



May 17–18, 2013

Venue

Sevilla Palace Hotel –
Ciudad de México, Mexico

Chairperson

Aurelio Ramirez Consuegra (Mexico)

Educational Advisor

Martín Tejeda (Mexico)

Regional Faculty

Ricardo Restrepo (Colombia), Samuel Pantoja (Chile).

National Faculty

Hernando Cuevas, Jesús Bernal Márquez, José Estrada Mastache, Oscar Martínez.

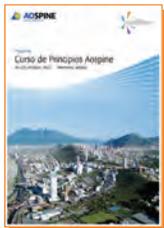
Registration fee

Members: USD 300.00 | Non Members: USD 350.00

Number of participants. 44

Course Evaluation	
Average Faculty Performance	4,62 out of 5
Average Importance to Daily Practice	4,71 out of 5
Scientific Program Content	4,52 out of 5
Quality of Material Received	4,25 out of 5
Course Facilities	4,29 out of 5
Overall Course Evaluation	4,48 out of 5

AOSpine Principles Course



May 24–25, 2013

Venue

Safi Valle Hotel –
Monterrey, Mexico

Chairperson

José Estrada Mastache (Mexico)

Educational Advisor

Roberto Chapa (Mexico)

Regional Faculty

Germán Ochoa (Colombia)
Juan Emmerich (Argentina)

National Faculty

Aurelio Ramirez Consuegra, Catarino López Cavazos,
Leonardo Pérez Hernández, Martín Tejeda, Oscar
Martínez.

Registration fee

Members: USD 300.00 | Non Members: USD 350.00

Number of participants. 28

Course Evaluation	Average Faculty Performance.....	4,68	out of 5
	Average Importance to Daily Practice.....	4,72	out of 5
	Scientific Program Content.....	4,58	out of 5
	Quality of Material Received.....	4,06	out of 5
	Course Facilities.....	4,13	out of 5
	Overall Course Evaluation.....	4,43	out of 5

AOSpine Advanced Pre-Congress Seminar (AMCICO): Evidence-based medicine



June 26, 2013

Venue

Hotel Fiesta Americana –
Mérida, Mexico

Chairperson

Jose Maria Jimenez (Mexico)

Educational Advisor

Asdrubal Falavigna (Brazil)

National Faculty

Luis Herrera, Martín Tejeda.

Registration fee. Free

Number of participants. 17

Course Evaluation	Average Faculty Performance.....	4,24	out of 5
	Average Importance to Daily Practice.....	4,32	out of 5
	Scientific Program Content.....	4,50	out of 5
	Quality of Material Received.....	4,17	out of 5
	Course Facilities.....	4,17	out of 5
	Overall Course Evaluation.....	4,28	out of 5

AOSpine Advanced Trans-Congress Seminar (AMCICO): Tumor



June 27, 2013

Venue

Convention Center Siglo XXI –
Mérida, Mexico

Chairperson

Michael Dittmar (Mexico)

International Faculty

Laurance Rhines

Regional Faculty

Asdrubal Falavigna

National Faculty

Armando Alpizar, Roberto Chapa, Jose Jimenez,
Martín Tejeda.

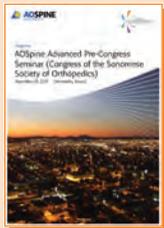
Registration fee. Free

Number of participants. 330

Course Evaluation	Average Faculty Performance.....	4,44	out of 5
	Average Importance to Daily Practice.....	4,35	out of 5
	Scientific Program Content.....	3,83	out of 5
	Quality of Material Received.....	3,57	out of 5
	Course Facilities.....	3,15	out of 5
	Overall Course Evaluation.....	3,87	out of 5

AOSpine Advanced Pre-Congress Seminar (Congress of the Sonorenses Society of Orthopedics)

September 07, 2013



Venue

Sheraton Hotel – Hermosillo, Mexico

Chairperson

Martín Tejeda (Mexico)

National Faculty

Michael Dittmar, Mario Benjamin Vizcaino Ahumada.

Registration fee. Free

Number of participants. 30

AOSpine Advanced Course: Cadaveric

September 19–21, 2013



Venue

Hotel Safi y Tecnológico de Monterrey – Monterrey, Mexico

Chairperson

Martín Tejeda (Mexico)

Educational Advisor

Roberto Chapa (Mexico)

Regional Faculty

Pedro Bazán (Argentina)

National Faculty

Gustavo Casas, Jose Estrada Mastache, Catarino López, Oscar Martinez, Barón Zárote.

Registration fee

Members: USD 2000.00 | Non Members: USD 2200.00

Number of participants. 26

Course Evaluation	Average Faculty Performance.....	4,52 out of 5
	Average Importance to Daily Practice.....	4,70 out of 5
	Scientific Program Content.....	4,54 out of 5
	Quality of Material Received.....	4,38 out of 5
	Course Facilities.....	4,05 out of 5
	Overall Course Evaluation.....	4,44 out of 5

AOSpine Principles Seminar for Residents: Trauma and degeneration

November 01–02, 2013



Venue

Practice Sessions: Unidad Medica de Alta Especialidad
Theory Sessions: Safi Centro Hotel – Monterrey, Mexico

Chairperson

Felix Sanchez (Mexico)

National Faculty

Edgar Cardeña, Gustavo Casas, Jose Estrada, Juan Mejia, Aurelio Ramirez, Pedro Reyes, Arturo Rodriguez, Martin Tejeda, Alberto Vasquez.

Registration fee. Free

Number of participants. 38

Peru



AOSpine Advanced Course: Cadaveric. Lima, July 2013

This year Peru hosted very important AOSpine advanced courses, such as the Cadaveric Course, in Lima; the AOSpine Advanced Seminar: Degeneration of the Spine, in Arequipa; and two pre-congress seminars: ASPECIVE and Congress of the Peruvian Society of Neurosurgery, both hosted in Lima.

AOSpine Advanced Seminar: Degeneration of the spine

April 19–20, 2013



Venue

Libertador Hotel – Arequipa, Peru

Chairperson

Hernán Valdivia Sosa (Peru)

Regional Faculty

Juan Emmerich (Argentina)
Marcelo Valacco (Argentina)

National Faculty

Alfonso Basurco, Benjamin Castillo de la Flor, Marleny Llerena, Marco Medina, Arturo Morales, Francisco Salinas Malaga, Alfredo Vásquez Rodríguez.

Registration fee

Members: Free | Non Members: USD 60.00

Number of participants. 34

Course Evaluation	
Average Faculty Performance	4,18 out of 5
Average Importance to Daily Practice	4,23 out of 5
Scientific Program Content	4,00 out of 5
Quality of Material Received	3,50 out of 5
Course Facilities	3,73 out of 5
Overall Course Evaluation	3,93 out of 5

AOSpine Advanced Course: Cadaveric



July 12–13, 2013

Venue

Practice Sessions: Universidad Peruana de Ciencias UPC
Theory Sessions: Novotel Lima – Lima, Peru

Chairperson

Arturo Morales (Peru)

Educational Advisor

Roberto Postigo (Chile)

Regional Faculty

Roberto Chapa (Mexico)
 Néstor Fiore (Argentina)

National Faculty

Michael Hinojosa, Robert Rosado Inga,
 Francisco Salina Malaga.

Registration fee. USD 930.00

Number of participants. 20

Course Evaluation	Average Faculty Performance.....	4,60 out of 5
	Average Importance to Daily Practice.....	4,59 out of 5
	Scientific Program Content.....	4,40 out of 5
	Quality of Material Received.....	4,47 out of 5
	Course Facilities.....	4,54 out of 5
	Overall Course Evaluation.....	4,54 out of 5

AOSpine Advanced Pre-Congress Seminar (ASPECIVE): Spinal fractures



September 26, 2013

Venue

Swissotel Lima – Lima, Peru

Chairpersons

Roberto Chapa (Mexico)
 Alfredo Vásquez (Peru)

Regional Faculty

Michael Dittmar (Mexico),

Luiz Vialle (Brazil), Germán Ochoa (Colombia).

National Faculty

Carlos Cardenas, Hernan Valdivia.

Registration fee. USD 55.00

Number of participants. 40

AOSpine Advanced Pre-Congress Seminar (Congress of the Peruvian Society of Neurosurgery): Tumor and degeneration



October 30, 2013

Venue

Atlantic City Convention Center – Lima, Peru

Chairperson

Michael Hinojosa (Peru)

International Faculty

Laurence Rhines (USA)

Regional Faculty

Néstor Taboada (Colombia)

National Faculty

Alfonso Basurco, Marco Medina, Arturo Morales,
 Pedro Soto.

Registration fee. USD 100.00

Number of participants. 66

Paraguay

AOSpine Advanced Seminar: Degeneration and infection



September 28–29, 2013

Venue

Crowne Plaza Hotel – Asunción, Paraguay

Chairperson

Juan Ramon Silva Figueredo (Paraguay)

Regional Faculty

Asdrubal Falavigna (Brazil), Robert Meves (Brazil).

National Faculty

Carlos Feltes, Elio Marin Sanabria, Fabrizio Frutos, Reddy Simón.

Registration fee.

Members: USD 250.00 | Non Members: USD 300.00

Number of participants. 28

Course Evaluation

Average Faculty Performance	4,58	out of 5
Average Importance to Daily Practice	4,64	out of 5
Scientific Program Content	3,89	out of 5
Quality of Material Received	3,67	out of 5
Course Facilities	4,11	out of 5
Overall Course Evaluation	4,18	out of 5

Venezuela



AOSpine Advanced Symposium: Scoliosis and spondylolisthesis in adults. Caracas, November 2013

Throughout 2013, Venezuela has seen the development of three main activities: an Advanced Seminar about trauma and spinal cord injury; the organization of an auditorium for the Virtual Courses in Mérida and an Advanced Symposium on scoliosis and spondylolisthesis in Caracas.

“All events had a significant number of participants and were developed in a very dynamic and enriching atmosphere, with lots of interaction between attendees and the Faculty members. We look forward to continuing to develop similar activities in 2014, enhancing the educational events in the country.”

José-Rafael Otero
Venezuela Council Chairperson

AOSpine Advanced Seminar: Spinal cord trauma and lesion



April 05, 2013

Venue

Hotel Kristoff – Maracaibo, Venezuela

Chairperson

Victor Davila (Venezuela)

Regional Faculty

Alexandre Sadao Iutaka (Brazil)

National Faculty

Antonio Avila, Cesar Covarrubia, Josvic Ferrer Guerra, María Monzon de Sanchez, Freddy Moreno, Olga Morillo, Jose-Rafael Otero, Atilio Rodriguez.

Registration fee. Free

Number of participants. 40

Course Evaluation	Average Faculty Performance.....	4,53 out of 5
	Average Importance to Daily Practice.....	4,78 out of 5
	Scientific Program Content.....	4,54 out of 5
	Quality of Material Received.....	4,21 out of 5
	Course Facilities.....	3,99 out of 5
	Overall Course Evaluation.....	4,41 out of 5

AOSpine Advanced Symposium: Scoliosis and spondylolisthesis in adults



November 08–09, 2013

Venue

Hotel CCT Caracas – Caracas, Venezuela

Chairperson

José-Rafael Otero (Venezuela)

Educational Advisor

Roberto Chapa (Mexico)

Regional Faculty

Alejandro Betemps (Argentina), Pablo Vela (Colombia), Sergio Anaya (México).

National Faculty

Adolfredo Damas, Alejandro Pérez Oliva, Aniello Romano, Antonio Sánchez, Armando Pineda-Fernandez, Cesar Covarrubia, Hazem Nicola, José Medina, Marlon Díaz, Martín Toro, Nelson Cruz, Olga Morillo, Victor Dávila.

Registration fee.

Members: USD 1110.00 | Non Members: USD 830.00

Number of participants. 38

Course Evaluation	Average Faculty Performance.....	4,44 out of 5
	Average Importance to Daily Practice.....	4,52 out of 5
	Scientific Program Content.....	4,67 out of 5
	Quality of Material Received.....	3,75 out of 5
	Course Facilities.....	3,86 out of 5
	Overall Course Evaluation.....	4,25 out of 5

Virtual education

Thanks to the constant support and collaboration of the Latin American Faculty, we successfully completed the sixth consecutive year of the AOSLA Virtual Course. This year featured an Advanced Course, composed of four modules of two hours length each, and a Principles Course, composed of two modules of two and half hours length each.

This model of educational activity allows AOSpine members to either get directly connected from their homes (individual connection) or from one of our 13 auditoriums. The auditoriums are located in several different cities, distributed across Latin America, and include: La Paz and Santa Cruz, in Bolivia; Villavicencio, Ibagué, Bucaramanga, Medellín, Bogotá, Cartagena, Barranquilla and Neiva, in Colombia; Guayaquil, in Ecuador; Monterrey, in Mexico; and Mérida, in Venezuela.

This year's big innovation was the upgrade of the virtual learning space. The system enhancement meant a significant improvement in the transmission quality, thereby facilitating an even better interaction between Faculty members and participants.

"In my opinion, the Virtual Courses are a very important and interesting activity, especially for those situated in geographically remote locations. In order to maintain the success of the activity and ensure the ongoing enthusiasm of the participants, it is important that some key points are met:

1. *An effective operational system, closely supported by a strong team;*
2. *Constant support from the AOSLA Office;*
3. *Interest and time from the Faculty;*
4. *An adequate and dynamic program for the activity, which draws the participants' attention;*
5. *Effective work coordination, as it takes time to elaborate the materials.*

The future of the project is deeply connected to our ability to maintain the high level of operational effectiveness and quality, such as we have been doing so far."

Néstor Fiore
Virtual courses Chairperson



ADVANCED COURSES

Module I. Trauma

Date. March 16, 2013

Course Coordinators

Néstor Fiore (Argentina), Germán Ochoa (Colombia).

Courses Moderators

Andrés Rodríguez Muñera (Colombia), Martín Tejeda (Mexico).

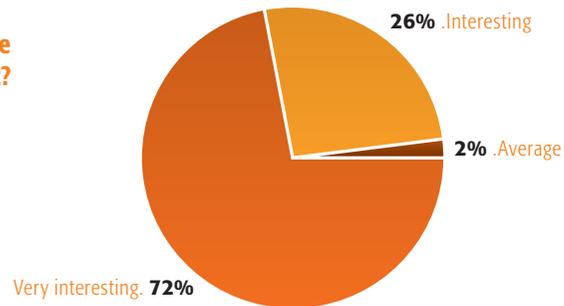
Panel

Juan Guyot (Argentina), Délio Martins (Brazil), Ratko Yurac (Chile)

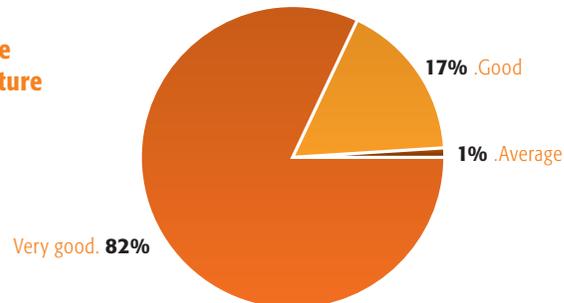
Number of participants in auditorium. 104

Number of participants in individual connections. 101

What is your opinion about the scientific content?



What is your opinion about the format and structure of the course?



Module II. Tumors and Deformity

Date. May 11, 2013

Course Coordinators

Néstor Fiore (Argentina), Germán Ochoa (Colombia).

Courses Moderators

Eduardo von Uhlendorff (Brazil), Samuel Pantoja (Chile).

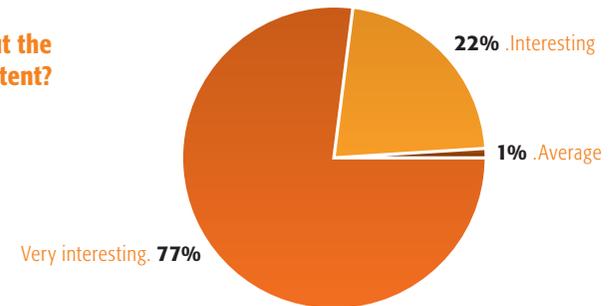
Panel

Alberto Gotfryd (Brazil), Alexander Valverde Retana (Costa Rica), Carlos Montero Silva (Colombia).

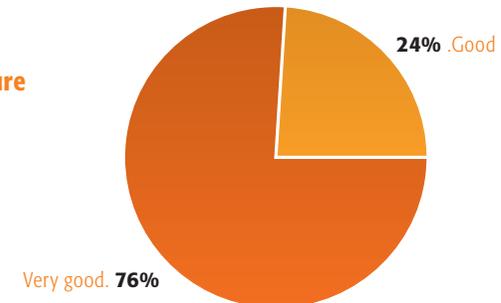
Number of participants in auditorium. 72

Number of participants in individual connections. 98

What is your opinion about the scientific content?



What is your opinion about the format and structure of the course?



Module III. Inflammatory and Infection

Date. June 29, 2013

Course Coordinators

Néstor Fiore (Argentina), Germán Ochoa (Colombia).

Courses Moderators

Luiz Vialle (Brazil), Osvaldo Romano (Argentina).

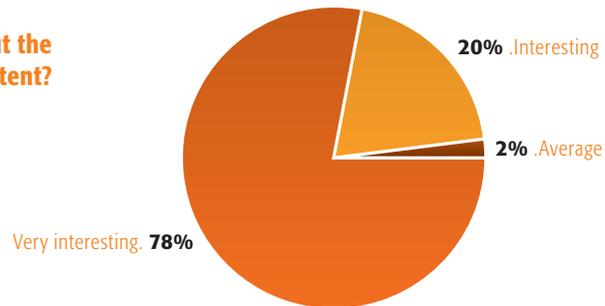
Panel

Aurelio Ramirez (Mexico), Jerônimo Milano (Brazil), Jaime Segura (Colombia).

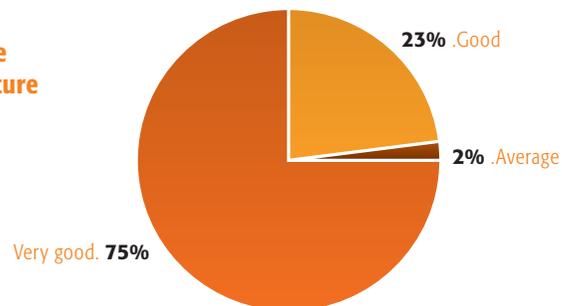
Number of participants in auditorium. 66

Number of participants in individual connections. 83

What is your opinion about the scientific content?



What is your opinion about the format and structure of the course?



Module IV. Degenerative

Date. September 07, 2013

Course Coordinators

Néstor Fiore (Argentina), Germán Ochoa (Colombia).

Courses Moderators

Cristian Illanes (Argentina), Roberto Postigo (Chile).

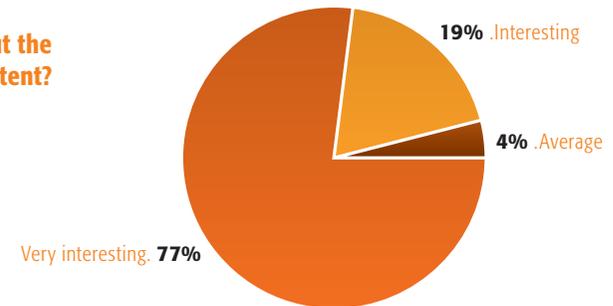
Panel

Michael Dittmar (Mexico)

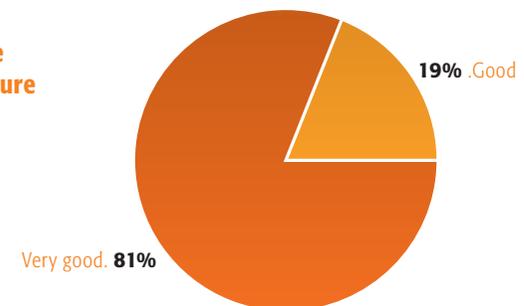
Number of participants in auditorium. 66

Number of participants in individual connections. 91

What is your opinion about the scientific content?



What is your opinion about the format and structure of the course?



PRINCIPLES COURSES

Module I. Degenerative, Tumors and Deformity

Date. October 12, 2013

Course Coordinators

Néstor Fiore (Argentina)
Germán Ochoa (Colombia)

Faculty Regional

Carlos Montero Silva (Colombia)
Samuel Pantoja (Chile)
Andrés Rodríguez Muñera (Colombia)
William Teixeira (Brazil)
Pablo Vela (Colombia)
Ratko Yurac (Chile)

Number of participants in auditorium. 50

Number of participants in individual connections. 80

Module II. Trauma, Infection and IMG

Date. November 23, 2013

Course Coordinators

Néstor Fiore (Argentina)
Germán Ochoa (Colombia)

Faculty Regional

Pedro Bazán (Argentina)
Arturo Morales (Peru)
Nelson Morales (Colombia)
Alexander Valverde Retana (Costa Rica)
Eduardo Von Uhlendorff (Brazil)

Number of participants in auditorium. 60

Number of participants in individual connections. 90

Faculty members: Advanced and Principles modules



AOSpine 10 years

Since AOSpine began its activities in 2003, up until the present date, the organization has been able to call many achievements its own. This year, we are proud to celebrate the 10th anniversary of AOSpine, knowing that our work has benefitted a countless number of professionals interested in expanding their knowledge of spine surgery. The impact of this work goes beyond the lecture rooms and auditoriums where our Faculty members teach, spreading to hospitals and practices around the world, where patients receive improved treatment on the basis of the professional development of our doctors. In these 10 years, AOSpine has worked emphatically to provide innovative education and research to spine-related professionals, aiming at inspiring lifelong learning and improving patient care.

We are pleased to present some of the highlights and milestones achieved over the last 10 years of AOSpine.





We are overjoyed to be able to celebrate this special anniversary with our community and would like to sincerely thank everyone who has played a part in the accomplishment of our goals during these past 10 years. Thanks to your contribution, we have successfully become the leading spine community in the world, with great plans still ahead of us.

AOSpine Latin America team

AOSpine Latin America Office

The administrative AOSLA office possesses the necessary personnel and equipment to support the different needs of the organization and its members. This office is strategically located in the city of Curitiba, Brazil.



Antonio Machado

Regional Director

Region's financial budget management, guidance to all Country Councils, administration of all areas areas.



Juan González

Project Manager

Education operations – logistics, events, congress organization and Research.



Carlos Montero

Project Manager

Community Development and Fellowship project management.



Luana Torres

Project Manager

Education development – Faculty development, Curriculum evaluation, educational plan.



Fernanda Dias

Project Coordinator

Community Development and Fellowship coordination.



Sônia Budziak Scussel

Project Coordinator

Education operations – logistics, academic and hands-on events, webinars.

2013—the year in review



01



02



03



07



04



05



06



08



09



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ARGENTINA

AOSpine Advanced Symposium Degeneration: Current controversies | Buenos Aires, Argentina

- 01. Auditorium
- 02. International Faculty Michael Mayer
- 03. Participants debate
- 04. International Faculty Gomatam Vijay Kumar
- 05. Pedro Bazán lecturing

- 06. Faculties
- 07. Roberto Chapa
- AOSpine 10 Years Celebration | Buenos Aires, Argentina
- 08. Luiz Vialle, Ernesto Bersusky, Roberto Chapa, Marcelo Gruenberg, Osmar Moraes and Néstor Fiore
- 09. Osmar Moraes and Néstor Fiore

AOSpine Advanced Course: Live surgery | Florencio Varela, Argentina

- 10. Cadaver practicals
- 11. Cadaver practicals



12



13



14



15



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19



20



21



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BRAZIL

AOSpine Advanced Live Tissue Course: Anterior approach and spinal osteotomy | Curitiba, Brazil

- 12. Emiliano Vialle
- 13. Asdrubal Falavigna lecturing
- 14. Participants practice
- 15. Participants practice
- 16. Luiz Vialle lecturing
- 17. Marcelo Valacco lecturing

AOSpine Research Seminar: 1st Journey of Clinical Research of the Hospital Cristo Redentor | Porto Alegre, Brazil

- 18. Official course photo
- AOSpine Principles Seminar Deformities | Belo Horizonte, Brazil
- 19. Auditorium
- 20. Group discussion

AOSpine Principles Course | São Paulo, Brazil

- 21. Group discussion
- AOSpine Advanced Seminar Trauma | Salvador, Brazil
- 22. Group discussion
- AOSpine Advanced Seminar Research New era in clinical research on spine surgery | São Paulo, Brazil
- 23. Auditorium



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25



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27



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CENTRAL AMERICA

- 24. Participants and Faculties at AOSpine Advanced Central American Symposium | Ciudad de Guatemala, Guatemala
- 25. Andrés Rodríguez at AOSpine Advanced Seminar: Spinal Trauma | Kingston, Jamaica
- 26. Course participants at AOSpine Advanced Seminar: Spinal Fractures | Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic

- 27. Official course photo at AOSpine Advanced Seminar: Handling osteoporotic fractures | San José - Costa Rica
- 28. Training for Faculty | Ciudad de Guatemala, Guatemala

CHILE

- AOSpine Advanced Course: Cadaveric | Palm Beach, USA
- 29. Course participants in the auditorium
- 30. Official course photo
- 31. Cadaver practicals
- 32. Cadaver practicals



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37



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BOLIVIA

- 33. Training for Faculty | La Paz, Bolivia
- 34. Faculty pre-meeting at AOSpine Advanced Symposium | La Paz, Bolivia

ECUADOR

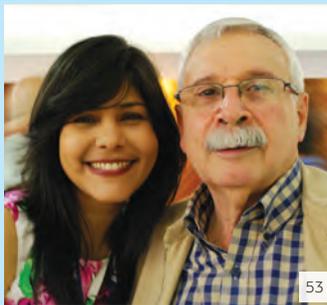
- 35. Faculty pre-meeting at AOSpine Advanced Trans-Congress Seminar: Frequent pathologies of the spine | Quito, Ecuador

COLOMBIA

- 36. Training for Faculty | Paipa-Boiacá, Colombia
- AOSpine Principles Course | Paipa-Boyacá, Colombia
- 37. Robert Meves lecturing
- 38. Official course photo
- 39. Workshop

MEXICO

- 40. AOSpine Advanced Course Cadaveric | Monterrey, Mexico
- 41. AOSpine Advanced Pre-Congress Seminar (AMCICO): Evidence-based medicine | Mérida, Mexico
- 42. AOSpine booth at AMCICO Congress | Mérida, Mexico
- 43. Auditorium at AOSpine Principles Course | Monterrey, Mexico



PARAGUAY

AOSpine Advanced Seminar: Degeneration and infection | Asunción, Paraguay

44. Participants

45. Faculties

46. Official course photo

PERU

47. Roberto Chapa lecturing at AOSpine Advanced Course: Cadaveric | Lima, Peru

48. Training for Faculty | Lima, Peru

49. Training for Chairperson | Lima, Peru

50. Training for Chairperson | Lima, Peru

51. Auditorium at AOSpine Advanced Pre-Congress Seminar (ASPECIVE): Spinal fractures | Lima, Peru

52. AOSpine booth at ASPECIVE Congress | Lima, Peru

VENEZUELA

AOSpine Advanced Symposium: Scoliosis and spondylolisthesis in adults | Caracas, Venezuela

53. Faculty and participant

54. Faculties



AOSpine—the expert community
dedicated to spine care.



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