



2018

# National Association of Medical Examiners

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Greetings from the NAME Foundation. In this issue of the NAME Foundation Newsletter, we highlight the NAME Annual Meeting, which took place in West Palm Beach, Florida in October and was the largest NAME meeting on record. We highlight the Saturday evening NAME Foundation fundraising event, and we also hear from NAME President Kim Collins. As always, past issues of this newsletter are available on the NAME Foundation webpage, which exists on the NAME website (<https://www.thename.org/name-foundation>). Thank you for your support, and please continue to support the NAME Foundation.

## 2018 NAME Annual Meeting – West Palm Beach, FL



A view from the Hilton Hotel.

The 2018 Annual Meeting took place in West Palm Beach, Florida, from October 12-16, at the Hilton West Palm Beach. Tara Snethen, Dee McNally, Program Committee Chair Sally Aiken and 2018 Annual Meeting Program Chair Barbara Sampson, put-together a truly outstanding meeting. A total of 220 abstracts were submitted for

consideration for presentation. The final program had 66 platform presentations, including several panel presentations, 2 workshops, and 121 posters. As mentioned above, the meeting was the best-attended NAME meeting on record, with 520 meeting attendees and 41 vendor booths with 69 vendor staff!



A record number of attendees participated in the meeting. At times, the auditorium was “at capacity,” as shown here.



Another picture of the crowd.



The very first talk of the meeting was appropriately given by Dr. Michael Bell, past NAME President and the Palm Beach County Chief Medical Examiner.



M.J. Menendez from the DOJ, who also was a recipient of a Presidential Iceberg Award for Special and Ongoing Service to NAME, spoke about remediation of the shortage of forensic pathologists.



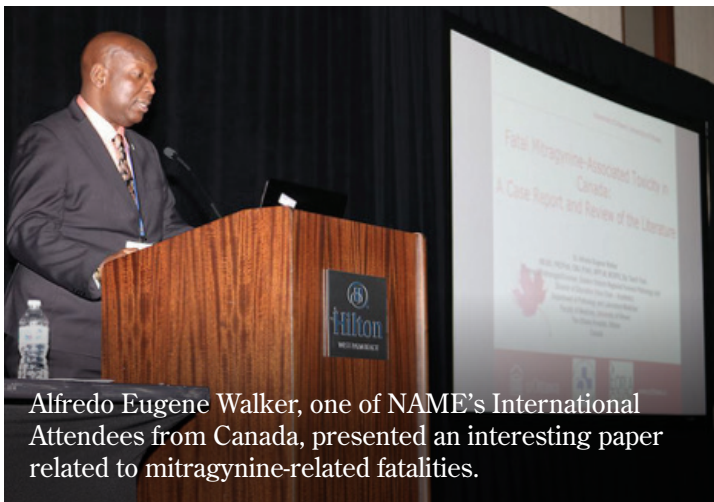
There were 3 poster sessions, one each on Saturday, Sunday, and Monday.



Danielle McLeod-Henning spoke about NIH support for the ME/C community.



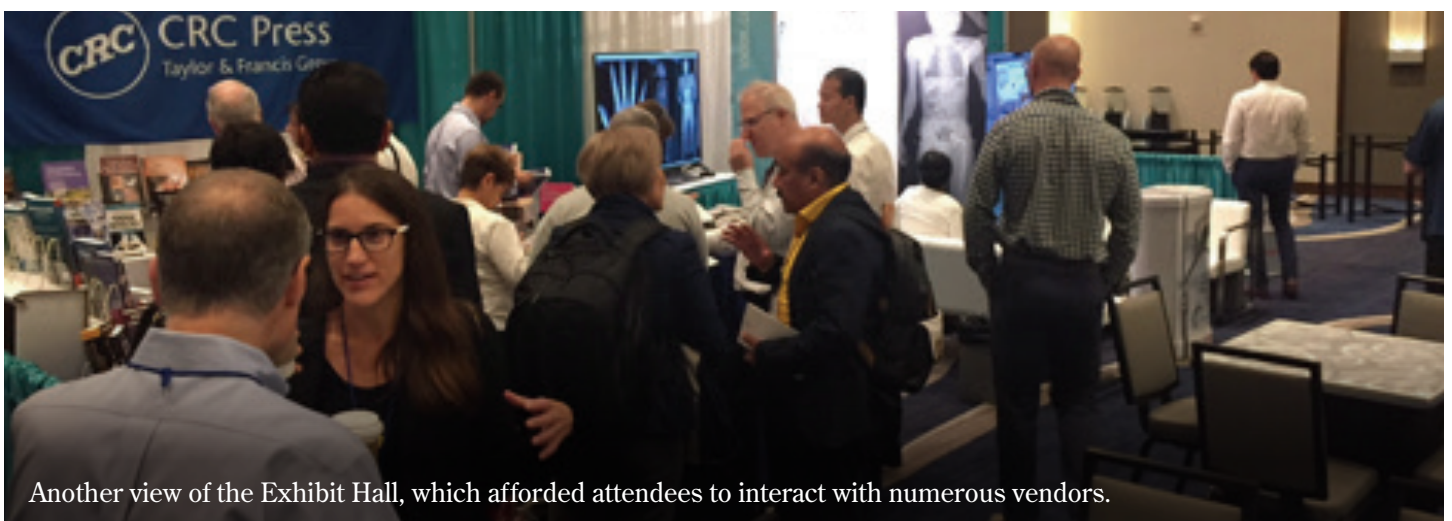
The posters were well-done and provided great opportunities for presenters and attendees to discuss important forensic topics.



Alfredo Eugene Walker, one of NAME's International Attendees from Canada, presented an interesting paper related to mitragynine-related fatalities.



The Exhibit Hall at the 2018 Annual Meeting in West Palm Beach.



Another view of the Exhibit Hall, which afforded attendees to interact with numerous vendors.



The Exhibit Hall was a popular place during scheduled breaks in the Scientific Program.



There were a total of 41 vendors that participated in the meeting. Thank you!

In addition to the fine scientific program, the meeting had numerous vendors in attendance, many social activities and food events, and favorites such as the Welcome Reception and Dinner, the Femme Fatale Luncheon, the Chiefs' Breakfast, the Annual Rigor Run/Walk, and the Annual Cadaver Open. The new forensic pathology-relevant "patient safety" course, put together by Dr. Laura Knight, took place immediately following the meeting, on Tuesday night.



Meeting in the hotel lobby, prior to the 2018 Rigor Run and Walk.



Some of the early finishers in the Rigor Run. Unfortunately, the first-place finisher, Jon Thogmartin, had already left to hit the shower before the photographer (Prahlow) finished the race.



The winning team at the Cadaver Open was: Shaun Martin, Eric Price, and Robert Winter, finishing at -13. Closest to the pin: Mike Graham, Don Burbink, and Shaun Martin (2 holes).



Mike Graham.



Don Burbink.



Shaun Martin.



2018 Cadaver Open participants.

The Annual NAME Luncheon and Awards Ceremony took place on Tuesday. Several awards were presented and were sponsored by the NAME Foundation: the Mary Fran Ernst Best Affiliate Paper Award was awarded to Lauri McGivern for her presentation entitled, “Death Certification” Errors and the Effect on Mortality Statistics; the John Pless Best Student Paper/Poster Awards, presented to Deland Weyrauch for the poster presentation entitled “Right Ventricular Rupture Following Open Heart Surgery,” and Kasey Kreutz for the platform presentation entitled “Suicidal Carbon Monoxide Poisoning by Formic and Sulfuric Acid;” the John Smialek Best Resident Paper/Poster Awards, presented to Katrina Thompson for the poster entitled “When Cultures Fail: Postmortem Decoy Receptor 3 (DcR3) as a Marker of Antemortem Sepsis,” and Ashley Leigh Lukefahr for the platform presentation entitled “Spleen Blood as an Alternative Specimen to Peripheral Blood for Postmortem Toxicological Analysis.” The Susan P. Baker Public Health Impact Award went to Kimberly Repp for the presentation entitled “If You Want to Save Lives, Start with the Dead: Epidemiologists and Medicolegal Death Investigators Unite to Stop Suicide Using Novel Surveillance Methodology.” Congratulations to the winners, and thanks to all who participated in the competition. Thanks also to Rob Stoppacher and his committee for the fine job they do in evaluating all of the submissions!



Lauri McGivern receives the Mary Fran Ernst Best Affiliate Presentation Award from Robert Stoppacher, Chair of the EPP-Scientific Presentation Awards Committee.



**National Association  
of Medical Examiners**



Kasey Kreutz, winner of the John Pless Best Student Platform Presentation Award



Katrina Thompson, winner of the John Smialek Best Resident Poster Award.



NAME Executive Vice President Mary Ann Sens accepts the John Pless Best Student Poster Award on behalf of Deland Weyrauch.





Susan P. Baker Award recipient Kimberly Repp, presented by Rob Stoppacher

## Other Awards

Other Awardees at the Luncheon included Outstanding Service Awards for Kathy Pinneri and Kurt Nolte; Presidential Iceberg Awards for Special and Ongoing Service for Jonathan Arden, Owen Middleton, MJ Menendez, Brian Peterson, Tara Snethen, and Raul Vergara; and STAR (Service, Time, Attitude, Respect) Awards for Judy Melinek, Sally Aiken, and Tracey Corey; and the Executive Diamond Award (for Vision, Service, and Excellence) to Greg Schmunk. Steve Clark and Randy Hanzlick received a special NIJ award related to their work on the creation of the NamUs program. Laura Knight was the recipient of the APOPO Professional Leadership Award, which was presented by Elling Eidbo. Congratulations to everyone!



Outstanding Service Award winner Kurt Nolte.



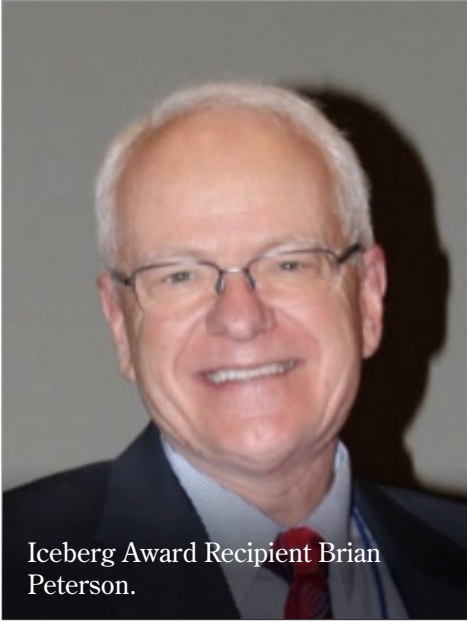
Outstanding Service Award winner  
Kathy Pinneri.



Iceberg Award Recipient Owen  
Middleton.



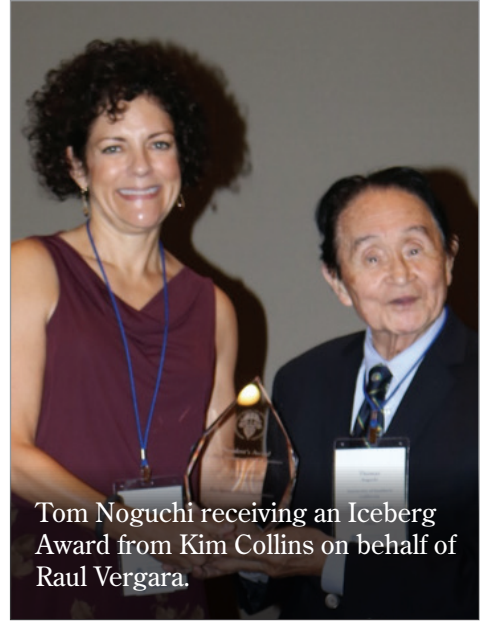
Iceberg Award Recipient Tara  
Snethen with Kim Collins.



Iceberg Award Recipient Brian  
Peterson.



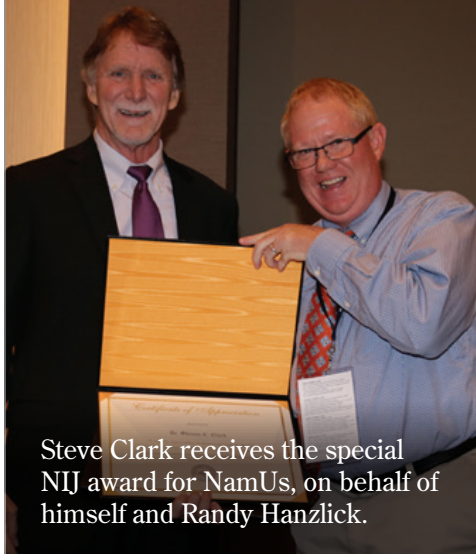
Iceberg Award Recipient Jonathan  
Arden with Kim Collins.



Tom Noguchi receiving an Iceberg  
Award from Kim Collins on behalf of  
Raul Vergara.



Laura Knight, recipient of the APO  
Professional Leadership Award  
presented by Elling Eidbo.



Steve Clark receives the special  
NIJ award for NamUs, on behalf of  
himself and Randy Hanzlick.



STAR Award recipient Judy Melinek  
with Kim Collins.



STAR Award recipient Sally Aiken.



STAR Award winner Tracey Corey.



Greg Schmunk received the Executive Diamond Award.

The Milton Helpern Laureate Award winner was Jeffrey M. Jentzen, a past NAME President who has made outstanding contributions to the development and improvement of medicolegal investigation in the United States; is respected by his colleagues for the highest excellence in forensic pathology, education, research, consultation and administration; and has attained and is a living example of the principles, standards, and goals of the National Association of Medical Examiners. His wife, Dorianne, and twin brother and his wife were in attendance during the ceremony. Congratulations Jeff!



Milton Helpern Laureate Award recipient Jeff Jentzen, with NAME President Kim Collins.

## NAME Foundation Events at the 2018 Annual Meeting

The NAME Foundation had a strong presence at the Annual Meeting. Favorites, such as the Silent Auction, the 50/50 raffle, and morning Yoga with Amy Martin, were a huge success. This year's big Foundation fundraising event took place on Saturday evening, October 13, 2018. NAME Foundation Advocate Jan Garavaglia (Dr. G) introduced our Keynote Speaker for the evening, Dr. Chris Milroy, who gave a highly interesting, entertaining, educational, and humorous presentation entitled, "Murder, Mayhem and Mystery."



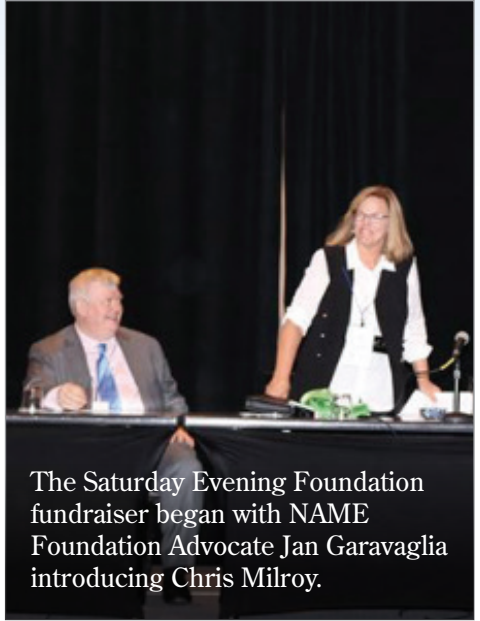
Jeff Jentzen delivering his speech.



NAME Chair of the Board Brian Peterson and his wife, Jeanne, won a nice bottle of "Wayne Gretzky" whiskey (donated by Chris Milroy) at the Silent Auction.



The Foundation Silent Auction was a huge success. Thanks to all of the donors and bidders!



The Saturday Evening Foundation fundraiser began with NAME Foundation Advocate Jan Garavaglia introducing Chris Milroy.



Jan provided a very informative and entertaining introduction for Dr. Milroy.



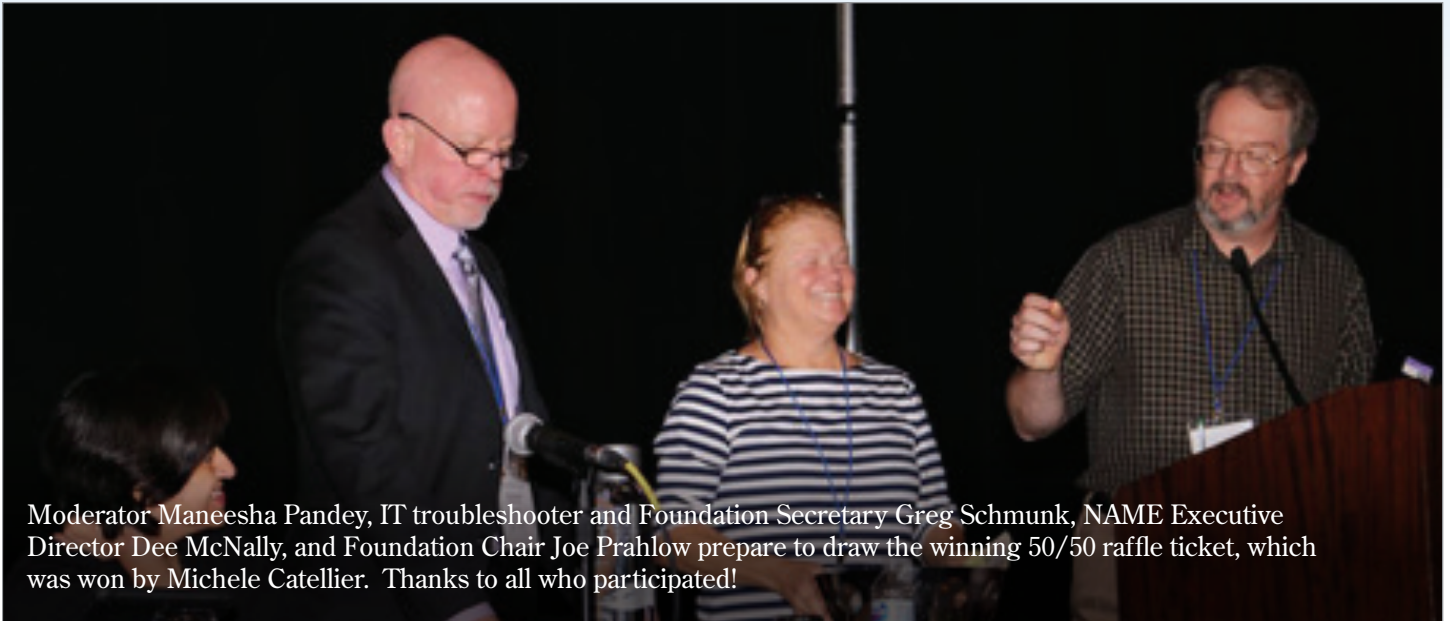
Chris Milroy presented "Murder, Mayhem and Mystery."



NAME Foundation Board of Trustee member and "mastermind" behind many of the Foundation fundraising events, F. Michael Rieders.



The event was well-attended, and the audience enjoyed the wonderful presentation.



Moderator Maneesha Pandey, IT troubleshooter and Foundation Secretary Greg Schmunk, NAME Executive Director Dee McNally, and Foundation Chair Joe Prahlow prepare to draw the winning 50/50 raffle ticket, which was won by Michele Catellier. Thanks to all who participated!

## NAME FOUNDATION

At the Annual Meeting, in addition to the Foundation Board of Trustees meeting, which occurred on Friday morning, there was the annual membership meeting, which took place on Friday afternoon. The current, existing slate of

officers was re-elected to continue in their current positions. Three current BoT members will be ending their current terms on the Foundation BoT at the end of 2018. Many thanks to Mary Case, Mary Goolsby, and Marcella Fierro for their years of service on the BoT! We are sure that they will continue participating and contributing to the Foundation. Newly-elected Trustees include Jan Gorniak, Frank Miller, and Mark Super. Welcome to the BoT!



NAME Foundation Membership Meeting.

## NAME Board of Directors, Executive Committee, and NAME Business Meeting

The NAME Executive Committee met on Thursday and then led the NAME Board of Directors meeting on Friday morning. One of the most important decisions coming out of the BOD meeting was the change in the official NAME journal from Academic Forensic Pathology back to our previous journal, the American Journal of Forensic Medicine and Pathology (the orange journal). The NAME Business meeting took place on Monday morning. Members of the

BOD ending their terms this year include: Chris Milroy, Lindsey Thomas, and Samantha Wetzler. Newly elected BOD members include: Ponni Arunkumar, Michelle Jordan, and Victor Weedn. BOD members elected to serve a second term: Chris Boden and Lou Finelli. AMA Delegate: Michelle Jordan. AMA Alternate: J Scott Denton. Officers for 2019 include: Chair of the Board – Kim Collins; President – Jonathan Arden; Vice President – Sally Aiken; Secretary-Treasurer – J Scott Denton; At-Large Executive Committee Members – Kathy Pinneri, Lou Finelli, and Joyce deJong.



2018 BOD reception.



Outgoing BOD member Lindsey Thomas, with President Kim Collins.



Outgoing BOD member Chris Milroy, with President Kim Collins.



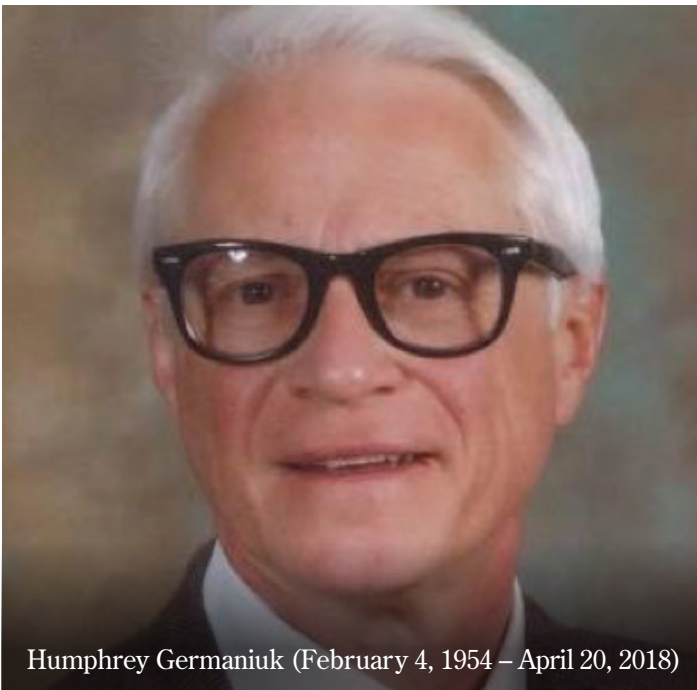
Outgoing BOD member Sam Wetzler, with Kim Collins.

## Saying Goodbye to NAME Members

One of the most solemn moments at the NAME Business Meeting each year is when we take a moment to remember our colleagues who died during the past year. Two members were remembered this year, John J. Plunkett, MD and Humphrey D. Germaniuk, MD, both of whom were well-known within our community. Our condolences to their families and friends.



John Plunkett (April 15, 1947 – April 4, 2018)



Humphrey Germaniuk (February 4, 1954 – April 20, 2018)

## Message from the NAME President



**Kim Collins, M.D.**  
NAME President

It is hard to believe that 2018 is coming to a close! As most of you know, international has been the theme word for my year as President. My goal was/is to increase international recognition, increase international members, increase international attendance at our meetings, learn from our colleagues, share our autopsy standards, and expand the Inspection and Accreditation Program globally. As mentioned above, we are still actively working on recruitment and retention of forensic pathologists, starting with medical students in the United States and reaching out internationally. All these advances enhance NAME and advance Forensic Pathology. Communication is key to learning, improving, and progressing. Communicating with forensic pathologists, forensic training institutions, and forensic pathology centers throughout the world is what we have aimed for and have made great progress.

Just to highlight a few efforts along the lines of national and international outreach and exposure, and then I will sign off:

- Collating a list of international forensic pathology organizations
- Collating a list of international forensic pathology training institutions

- Collating a list of international ME offices
- Have planned with Steve Clark to turn above lists into databases
- Expand the I&A program nationally and internationally; informative flyer sent to FP meetings
- Informational member benefits flyer sent internationally to FP meetings
- Researched the areas of visas and developed a white paper/flyer
- Updated the NAME Toolkit for new members and international members
- Languages spoken by NAME members data (currently 44 languages other than English)
- NAME Offices accepting international visitors and/or trainees data (up to 13 offices)
- We are on Facebook, Twitter, and LinkedIn for international communication

To be valued and make changes, we must be heard and seen. This year, NAME instituted a new website which has expedited communications and assisted members with search options, dues payments, meeting information, and many other topics. It has everything a professional organization needs!

Speaking of the public, NAME is finally on Social Media! Thanks to Judy Melinek and the Social Media Committee, NAME is on Facebook, Twitter, and Linked in. Some of you may say “Why? Why do we need to do this? What about culpability and accountability?” Well, we DO NEED to do this! We have been behind almost all other medical and professional organizations. I have looked and actually created a table of the other pathology and medical organizations; they are seen, and they are heard! They are on social media! Name’s Social Media has already proven valuable with the 2018 meeting, the NAME Foundation, the Puerto Rican

outreach, and communicating with the public. We are physicians, we have patients, we are forensic pathologists and medicolegal death investigators! If we do not promote ourselves, no one else will.

Our public image ties into combatting the shortage of forensic pathologists. Students and residents use Social Media and we need to target these groups! The opioid crisis has definitely brought attention to this US shortage. We have less than half the number of forensic pathologists needed to serve the country. As pathology loses its visibility in the medical schools, we see not only a shortage of pathology residents, but especially a shortage of pathologists entering forensic pathology. With the stress of this shortage, the increase in cases, lack of funding, approximately one-third of forensic pathologist leave the specialty. NAME is actively working with CAP, APC, ASCP, PRODS, and other pathology groups to recruit and retain forensic pathologists starting with college students and medical students. All of these groups are using Social Media as part of the solution. Some even have YouTube videos promoting the specialty.

The more visible we are, the more value we have in Washington, DC. NAME has a presence on the Hill thanks to ALL of our members’ efforts with legislative issues, bills, and testimonies. Our Government Affairs Committee operates non-stop. Our lobbying efforts with Lindsey Thomas and CFSO have been successful with Coverdell and issues of funding, standards, and an office of medicolegal death investigation. We have successfully worked on the visa issues including visa waivers and the Conrad 30 Program with the help of member MJ Menendez. Hoping to streamline the visa process so that we can work internationally to recruit brilliant forensic pathologists to work in the US! With MJ, we are also making headway into student loan forgiveness. All of these will impact our workforce.

NAME 2018 was an amazing success. We had record attendance from all over the world. The platform and poster presentations were stellar! On the Foundation front, we were proud to have Chris



Milroy's presentation as the Saturday Evening Spotlight Event, and the silent auction was loads of fun! A record number of trainees presented research thanks to the NAME Foundation grants! NAME and the Foundation are strong and continue pressing forward into 2019 with more anticipated accomplishments!

Respectfully,  
Kim A. Collins, MD  
NAME President, 2018

### Future NAME Meeting Locations

**2019 Interim** - Baltimore, MD  
February 19, 2019

**2019 Annual** - Kansas City, MO  
October 18-22, 2019

**2020 Interim** - Anaheim, CA  
February 18, 2020

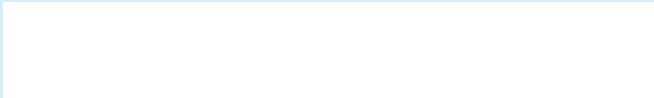
**2020 Annual** - Denver, CO  
October 9-13, 2020

**2021 Interim** - Houston, TX  
February 16, 2021



**National Association  
of Medical Examiners**

2021



# NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS

## NAME Foundation Board of Trustees

**Chair** – Joseph A. Prahlow

**Vice Chair** – Chris Milroy

**Secretary** – Gregory A. Schmunk

**Treasurer** – Michael Graham

**Founding Director** – Thomas Noguchi

**Trustees:** John Butts, Mary Case, Joe Felo, Marcella Fierro, Jan Garavaglia, Mary Goolsby, Peggy Greenwald, Jim Luke, Amy Martin, Yvonne Milewski, Michael Rieders, Joel Sexton.

**Ex-Officio:** Brian Peterson, Jonathan Arden, Kim Collins

## NAME Foundation Membership Criteria

The NAME Foundation is proud to offer membership to any member of the National Association of Medical Examiners who makes an annual contribution to the NAME Foundation. The following minimal annual contribution qualifies membership in the NAME Foundation:

<b>NAME Members:</b>	\$50.00
<b>NAME Affiliates:</b>	\$20.00
<b>Non-NAME Individual:</b>	\$50.00
<b>Corporate/Institution:</b>	\$250, 500, 1000

