2020 NATIONAL CONFERENCE
* V I R T U A L *
AUGUST 19-22

THE POWER OF YOU.

PROGRAM
How to Use the Online Platform
amputee-coalition.org/events-programs/national-conference/faq/

Amputee Coalition Personal Rights and Privacy Policy
When attending Amputee Coalition events, you have the right to:
• Enjoy Amputee Coalition activities without interruption
• Be treated with respect
• Be free from inappropriate behavior
• Enjoy personal privacy
• Refuse having your picture or video taken
• Expect behavior violating this policy to stop when you first ask

The Amputee Coalition has security in place for the National Conference. If you believe that your privacy or safety has been violated, you should notify an Amputee Coalition staff member immediately. Available at the information booth and by emailing conference@amputee-coalition.org. The Amputee Coalition may then:
• Speak with the person whom you feel violated this policy
• Write a report describing the incident
• Notify the police
• Press charges
• Provide information and support if you press charges
• Penalize those in violation of this policy, which may include a ban from future Amputee Coalition events.

Amputee Coalition Information Booth
Located in the Exhibit Hall and staffed by Amputee Coalition employees, the booth will be open during Conference hours throughout the event. Coalition staff are also available by emailing conference@amputee-coalition.org.

Evaluations
Your opinion matters. An online survey will be sent to all participants in the weeks following the National Conference. Let us know what you think by completing the evaluation. We take your suggestions seriously, and it will help the staff and the committees continue to tailor and improve the Conference for everyone.

Photo Policy
Only Amputee Coalition credentialed photographers and staff with Amputee Coalition approval may take photographs at the Conference.

Please refrain from taking screen shots or images of the screen. Please be respectful and do not take (or post) photos of groups or presentations without permission, and please check that your pictures do not include people who may not know they are being photographed. Thank you for helping to make the environment at the Conference is comfortable, safe, and relaxed!

Please remember: a majority of the sessions (with the exception of Thursday’s discussion groups, roundtables and most networking events) will be recorded.

Technology Sessions and Special Events
Many technology/service sessions and special events are presented and sponsored by manufacturers, service providers and organizations during the Conference. These sessions or events may include information about products and services offered by the presenting organization; the views presented do not necessarily represent the views of the Amputee Coalition nor does the Amputee Coalition endorse any products or services discussed during these events. We encourage you to use information gathered at these events to discuss options with your healthcare providers.
50% increased carry load

The NEW i-LIMB® QUANTUM
Titanium tough

Titanium is tough! Which is why the new i-Limb Quantum features titanium digits,* increasing its carry load by 50% and making it tough enough to handle a wide variety of everyday activities.

For more information visit us in the ACNC Virtual Exhibit Hall or ossur.com/touch

* Titanium digits only available on sizes S, M and L. XS digits are aluminium for lightweight durability.
The Amputee Coalition Board of Directors, staff and advisory councils welcome you to the 2020 National Conference! We are pleased to see both returning faces and new faces!

There is no question that this year has been one of unprecedented challenges. The COVID-19 pandemic has temporarily impacted every institution, organization and individual in some way. We were not immune.

Late this spring, to ensure we could be together this year and to protect the safety and well-being of our community, we decided to move our annual National Conference to an online format. Though we’ll miss being in-person, we have been hard at work putting together an amazing virtual conference experience for you to enjoy in the comfort and safety of your home.

In pivoting to an online format for National Conference, one of our main priorities was to preserve as much of the in-person Conference experience as possible – especially time to socialize and network. So, just like an in-person Conference, you will be able to chat with your friends one-on-one and at virtual tables just like you would at the hotel lobby! This is a great opportunity to connect with old friends or make new ones who share similar journeys.

The theme of this year’s conference is: The Power of You. Your voice matters. You are the expert about your experiences and your health care. We are passionate about making sure the National Conference provides a memorable and lasting experience for all participants.

Over the next few days, you will have a chance to personalize your program schedule by selecting sessions that best fit your interests and empower you to be your own best advocate. Enjoy engaging with session experts, including clinicians and other members of the community, to share experiences and ask questions. Whether it’s related to your health care, telling your story, helping change laws, becoming a volunteer, or making friends in the community -- you might discover a new passion or rediscover an old one!

Additionally, you will be able to visit our virtual Exhibit Hall throughout the Conference. Browse booths and schedule times to speak directly with exhibitors and ask questions, just like you would in person! Ask about products and services that could make you feel more comfortable, improve your ADLs (activities of daily living), or enhance your quality of life.

Please join us in thanking our committees, presenters, exhibitors, and sponsors who are dedicated to providing resources, education, advocacy and supporting the limb loss and limb difference community to ensure that no one feels alone through this journey.

We hope that your experience during this conference helps fuel your passion for living your best life in all the ways that are important to you! Our purpose is to ensure that every participant feels more empowered and connected this week and all year long.

Thank you to our Education and Conference Committee
Mike St. Onge, Committee Chair
Heather Abbott
Alexandra Capellini
Colleen Coulter
Shawn Johnson
LuAnn Kleemeyer
Jason Koger
Posie Mansfield
Sienna Newman
Rebekah Spielman

Thank you for conference program support from our Scientific and Medical Advisory Committee
Kara S. Couch MS, CRNP, CWCN-AP, CHWS
Colleen Coulter, PT, DPT, PhD
Don Cummings, CPO, LPO, FAAOP
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Erik Wolf, PhD

Amputee Coalition Medical Director
Terrence P. Sheehan, MD

Amputee Coalition President and CEO
Mary Richards

Amputee Coalition Chief Policy & Programs Officer
Dan Ignaszewski
Conference Program

All times listed are Eastern Time (ET).

Wednesday, August 19, 2020

4 – 5 p.m.
**Networking Lounge Open**

Virtual doesn't mean we can't see each other and catch up! Come on in, connect with one another, and start trying out the virtual Conference system! The lounge is a great place for seasoned attendees to catch up with old friends, and a great place for first-time attendees to meet new friends and connect with others who share their experience. Networking tip: If you see someone in the hangout you've never met before, go ahead and introduce yourself first!

5 – 6 p.m.
**Opening Ceremony and Keynote**

*Mary Richards, President & CEO*

*Jeff Cain, Board Chair*

*U.S. Senator Marsha Blackburn (R-TN)*

*Dan Ignaszewski, Chief Policy and Programs Officer*

*John Register, Board of Directors*

*Angel Giuffria, Youth Advisor*

Welcome to the 2020 National Conference: The Power of You. The venue may be different, but the excitement remains the same! Hear about what the Amputee Coalition is working on to serve you, and get ready to learn about what the week has in store!

6 – 7:30 p.m.
**Welcome Networking**

Let’s hang out – virtually! Join a table or work the room and get a chance to connect with other people living with limb loss and limb difference, see old friends, and make new ones. Networking tip: Set a timer for 60 seconds and see how many things you can find you have in common with someone new!

6 – 7:30 p.m.
**Exhibit Hall Opening**

Check out dozens of booths covering clinical care, orthotics and prosthetics, hospital partners, skin care, nonprofit services, and more! Setup your attendee profile, then check out both the Exhibit Hall (sort by vendor) or the Product Hall (sort by product or service type).

You can visit the Exhibit Hall anytime during the Conference! But, to ensure you don’t have to choose between a stellar session and a great chat with an exhibitor, we’ve set aside unobstructed exhibit hall hours.

And the best part? No crowds! Schedule one-on-one sessions with experts. Not ready for a one-on-one demo? Use the chat box functionality to send our exhibitors questions or download documents and videos to learn more.

Thursday, August 20, 2020

12 – 1 p.m.
**Exhibit Hall**

1 – 1:45 p.m.
**General Session**

**Navigating Life During the Pandemic**

*John Register, Board of Directors - Moderator*

*Leslie Green, Support Group Leader*

*Stephen T. Wegener, PhD, ABPP, Johns Hopkins University*

*Andrew Sperling, NAMI*

The current environment has brought on many obstacles. Our panel of experts will address challenges around social isolation, depression and anxiety, and trauma. Experts will discuss options for support and resources that can help combat some of the issues we are facing during these challenging times.

1:45 – 2:15 p.m.
**Break**

2:15 – 3:15 p.m.
**Living with Your Level of Limb Loss Sessions**

Each session in this series is tailored to the unique needs of individuals with particular levels of limb loss or limb difference. Each session will give an overview of rehabilitation issues and unique considerations for your level of limb loss, followed by ample time for discussion. Please bring your questions and expertise!

- **Above-Knee**
  
  *Ronnie Dickson, Denise Hoffmann*

- **Below-Knee**
  
  *Melissa DeChellis, Mike Procop*

- **Upper-Limb**
  
  *Mike Benning, Melanie Waldman*

- **Hemipelvectomy/Hip Disarticulation**
  
  *Matthew Luetke, CPO; Diana Jordan; Matt Branch*

- **Bilateral Above-Knee**
  
  *Yvonne Llanes, Matthew Brewer*

- **Bilateral Below-Knee**
  
  *Leslie Green, Aristotle “Todd” Domingo*

- **Complex**
  
  *Mike St. Onge, Leann Carr*

3:15 – 3:30 p.m.
**Break**
3:30 – 4:30 p.m.

**Roundtables**

These sessions are facilitated discussion groups designed to address issues about confidence, self-esteem, relationships, intimacy, body image and other issues, challenges, and experiences that are helpful to living life and accessing support. Please attend the session that is most appropriate for you.

- **Men’s Roundtable**
  - Travis Ricks, Reggie Showers
- **Women’s Roundtable**
  - Mona Patel, Nancy Snyder
- **Pediatric/Youth/Family Roundtable**
  - Colleen Coulter, Rebecca Hernandez, Jen Reeves, Jordan Simpson
- **Young Adults (18-25 years old)**
  - Alexandra Capellini, Samuel Rossielo
- **LGBTQIA+ Roundtable**
  - Rex Burrus, Jennifer Wagner
- **Caregiver Roundtable**
  - Farhad Ostovari, PT, DPT, CBIS; Carol Downing

4:30 – 4:45 p.m.

**Break**

4:30 – 7:30 p.m.

**Exhibit Hall Time**

4:45 – 5:30 p.m.

**Cause-Specific Discussion Groups**

Each session in this series is tailored to the unique needs of individuals based on cause of limb loss or limb difference. We are a welcoming and diverse community. These sessions allow an opportunity to connect with others who have a shared underlying condition or life experience. Please attend the session that feels most appropriate.

- **Diabetes/Vascular Roundtable Discussion**
  - Lisa Sewell, Kevin Van Why
- **Trauma Roundtable Discussion**
  - Zach Sherman, Katie Moreno
- **Cancer Roundtable Discussion**
  - Jonathan Cowley, Maeve Smart, Maureen Smart
- **Congenital Limb Difference Roundtable Discussion**
  - Katie Wells, Ricky Moore
- **Infectious Diseases Roundtable Discussion**
  - Mike St. Onge, Nikki Grace, Vala Hallgrimson

6:30 – 7:30 p.m.

**Networking Lounge**

Let’s hang out, but virtually! Join a table or work the room and get a chance to connect with other participants, meet up with old friends, or get to know new ones. Networking tip: Be a good listener. It’s just as important to be a good listener as it is a clear communicator.

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**Any-Time Sessions**

**Get Fit with Yoga: A Body, Mind and Spirit Workout**

*Marsha Danzig, Med, RYT 500*

Enjoy yoga any time during the conference with one of the three recorded yoga sessions by Marsha Danzig. Find the follow-along session that is right for you. This is yoga for all bodies! Danzig is a certified instructor who will demonstrate sequences with modifications to accommodate skill level and level of limb loss. Bring your breath and smile.

**Exhibit Hall**

You will be able to access the exhibit hall at any time during the conference. However, to ensure you don’t have to choose between a session and chatting with exhibitors, we have established unobstructed exhibit hall hours. Make sure to visit exhibitors during those times to chat with the team at the booth and ask questions about products and services. You will also be able to set up appointments with exhibitors and incorporate those appointments in your daily schedule!
Friday, August 21, 2020

12 – 1 p.m.
Exhibit Hall

1 – 1:45 p.m.
General Session
How The Federal Government Works With the Limb Loss and Limb Difference Community
Mary Richards, moderator
Theresa Hayes Cruz, Ph.D., Director, NCMRR
Billie J. Randolph, PT, PhD, Deputy Director, Extremity Trauma and Amputation Center of Excellence
Lance Robertson, Assistant Secretary, Aging Administration for Community Living

Hear from a panel of speakers from the Administration for Community Living (ACL), National Institutes of Health (NIH), Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), and the Veterans Administration (VA) about the Federal government’s role in supporting the limb loss and limb difference community. Listen and ask questions about how AC partners with Federal agencies to provide services and supports, research, and access to care.

1:45 – 2:15 p.m.
Break

2:15-3 p.m.
Phantom Limb Pain Management: Important Considerations for Persons with Amputation and Conservative Treatment Strategies
Health and Wellness
Emma Beisheim, DPT, PT & Researcher, University of Delaware
Joseph B. Webster, M.D., Associate Professor, Virginia Commonwealth University

The session will review theories on why phantom limb pain occurs and how commonly this condition occurs. In addition, existing treatment strategies used to address phantom limb pain, such as graded motor imagery and progressive muscle relaxation will be discussed and an opportunity will be provided to practice some of these skills.

2:15 – 3 p.m.
Returning to Work
Career
Lorraine Riche, Board Chair-Elect - introduction
Rosie Alvarez, Director of Talent Acquisition, Hanger Clinic
Kathleen West-Evans, MPA, CRC Director of Business Relations, Council of State Administrators of Vocational Rehabilitation (CSAVR)

This session is intended for anyone returning to work or starting a new job search after limb loss. Please join us to learn about:

Resume Writing:
- Think about your transferable skills that can open the door to new careers
- Receive resume writing tips
- Answer key questions like: Should I disclose a disability on my resume?

Work accommodations:
- How to request an accommodation and seek technical assistance to look at options

2:15 – 3 p.m.
Certified Peer Visitor (CPV) Program and Improved Patient Outcomes
Community Living
Nicole Gross, Peer Support Manager
Farhad Ostovari, PT, DPT, CBIS, Director, Amputee Care and Prosthetic Services at Adventist HealthCare Rehabilitation
Andrew Lerman, OT
Alison Clark
Eileen Shieh, MD

Learn about the Amputee Coalition’s Hospital Partnership Program and the benefits of embedding the Coalition’s nationally recognized Certified Peer Visitor Program into hospitals and rehabilitation facilities for improved patient outcomes and medical care team coordination. Current Amputee Coalition hospital partners will share how partnering improves patient and family experience, and will engage in a panel discussion to provide unique perspectives and answer questions.

2:15 – 3 p.m.
Your Voice Matters!
Community Living
Jeff Cain, Board Chair
Mike Zwolinski, Director of Government Relations, Amputee Coalition
Dan Ignaszewski, Chief Policy and Programs Officer, Amputee Coalition
Dustin Perchal, Government Relations Manager, Amputee Coalition

Your Voice Matters: Advocacy is driven by the power of you. This session will cover the Amputee Coalition’s advocacy successes so far this year, where we stand now, and how you can lead change this Fall.

2:15 – 3 p.m.
What are the Functional Differences Between Myoelectric Hands and Hooks
Health and Wellness
Bambi Lombardi, OTR/L, Occupational Therapist, Hanger Clinic
Brian Monroe, CPO, Clinical Specialist
Mike Benning

There are several different types of myoelectric hands and hooks that have become commercially available over the last five years. This session will identify and demonstrate the functional benefits of each terminal device to assist with decision making.
2:15 – 3 p.m.
**Supporting Life with Limb Loss for Children**
**Youth and Family**
Anna Vergun MD, Pediatric Orthopedist, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
Colleen Patricia Coulter PT, DPT, PhD, PCS, Pediatric Clinical Specialist, Orthotics and Prosthetics Department at Children's Healthcare of Atlanta
Rebecca Hernandez, CPO, Certified Prosthetist Orthotist, Children's Healthcare of Atlanta
Jennifer Latham Robinson, Founder, Functional Restorations
In this session, participants will discuss clothing options and adaptations for children with limb loss as well as kid-friendly books, toys, videos, and movies with characters who have amputations.

2:15 – 3 p.m.
**Survey Study: Amputees’ Attitudes Toward Participation in Amputee Support Groups and the Role of Virtual Technology in Supporting Amputees**
**Community Living**
Ed Nathan, PhD, CPV, Adjunct Faculty, Ithaca College
All support groups are not created equal. This workshop shares the results of a 2018 study that looked at why amputees join support groups, why they leave, why they might return, and whether technology like virtual reality can enhance the experience. Support group members and leaders can learn strategies to help improve the amputee support group experience.

2:15 – 3 p.m.
**Going Out on A Limb: An In-Home Exercise Program to Improve Walking**
**Health and Wellness**
Carol Miller, PT, PhD, GCS, Clinical Specialist & Professor, Georgia PCOM
This presentation will focus on the importance of staying physically active to help you keep walking well! During the session, videos will be used to illustrate some of the common difficulties in walking for individuals with lower limb amputation. You will also be encouraged to try a few basic daily exercises while at home that focus on aerobic conditioning, balance and strength, and standing/walking activities so you can keep your heart, joints, and muscles healthy.

2:15 – 3 p.m.
**The Real Science Behind Muscle**
**Health and Wellness**
Cosi Belloso, MSPT, Physical Therapist & Amputee Specialist, Palanca Inc.
Cosi Belloso brings her unique manner of presenting with her popular live Facebook show “Cosi Talks” to show you the simple truth behind muscle strengthening after limb loss. She will cover the fundamentals of anatomy and physiology as well as debunk the myths behind getting stronger!

3 – 3:15 p.m.
**Break**

3:15 – 4 p.m.
**Activities of Daily Living with Upper-Limb Difference**
**Health and Wellness**
Steve Martin, OTR/L, Occupational Therapist, Össur
This is an interactive session for individuals with upper-limb difference to learn techniques for completing toileting activities with or without a prosthesis, and to explore adaptive equipment. This session is led by a clinical specialist focused in upper-limb technology as well as an individual demonstrating different functional activities with and without their prosthetic devices.

3:15 – 4 p.m.
**Keeping the Core Strong During COVID: Exercises to Keep You Active While at Home**
**Health and Wellness**
Carol A. Miller, PT, PhD, GCS, Clinical Specialist & Professor, Georgia PCOM
Daniel J. Lee, PT, DPT, GCS, COMT, Physical Therapist
Living with limb loss is no easy task. The stronger you can be the less likely you will develop unwanted complications like low back pain, arthritis, or fall. While exercise is the best medicine, not all exercises are created equal. During this guided session you will learn how to engage your core in a series of exercises designed to keep you active, strong, and safe. Considering the limits the current COVID-19 pandemic has placed on many individuals, these exercises are designed to be performed safely at home. This class is most appropriate for beginner exercises or those who want an introduction to simple, safe exercises that can be performed in the home.

3:15 – 4 p.m.
**Osseointegration in the U.S.**
**Health and Wellness**
Jeff Cain, Board Chair
Dan Ignaszewski, Chief Policy and Programs Officer
Joseph B. Webster, MD, Associate Professor, Virginia Commonwealth University
Jonathan Forsberg, DOD
Osseointegration is a procedure that has shown promise for people who have experienced amputation. This session will focus on what you need to know about the status of Osseointegration in the United States, the regulatory pathways for approval, the exemptions available to patients, information about if the procedure may be an option for you, and what options and risks you may have as a patient.

3:15 – 4 p.m.
**Coming Back to Life**
**Health and Wellness**
Dr. Chantrise Holliman, Inspirational Speaker
In 2018, as a result of complications from a massive heart attack, Dr. Chantrise became a partial paraplegic and bilateral lower-limb amputee. The urge to let life pass her by was strong, until she made a conscious decision to come back to life. Join “Dr. C” as she shares her journey back to herself and shows how you can get back to yourself, too.
3:15 – 4 p.m.
**Returning to Work after Limb Loss: A New Promoting Amputee Life Skills (PALS) Resource**

**Career**
Stephen T. Wegener, PhD, ABPP, Rehabilitation Psychologist
Mary Keszer, MD, Assistant Professor of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation, Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine
Tricia Kirkhart

Learn and experience a new PALS resource that helps people with limb loss determine whether returning to work is right for them, decide whether returning to a previous job or looking in a new direction is best for them, and find information and resources to help in this journey.

3:15 – 4 p.m.
**Navigating Healthcare Policy for Individuals with Prostheses**

**Health and Wellness**
Ashlie White, Director of Strategic Alliances, American Orthotic and Prosthetic Association
Justin Beland, Director of Government Affairs, American Orthotic and Prosthetic Association
Maggie Baumer, Clinic Manager, Hanger Clinic
Mike Zwolinski, Director of Government Relations, Amputee Coalition

This session will explore steps you can take to become more informed about your healthcare experience as an individual living with limb loss or limb difference using a prosthesis, the policies and restrictions impacting your healthcare experience, and ways you can partner with your prosthetist to advocate for a better health-care experience.

3:15 – 4 p.m.
**Support for Pediatric-CPV, Pediatric Research, ACPOC**

**Youth and Family**
Tonya Osborne-Simpson, Anna Vergun MD, President, ACPOC

Join us for an inclusive session focused on support for the pediatric community facilitated by Tonya Osborne-Simpson, Director of Support & Outreach for the Amputee Coalition and Anna Vergun, MD, President of the Association of Children’s Prosthetic-Orthotic Clinics (ACPOC). This session will highlight the Amputee Coalition’s Youth and Family Certified Peer Visitor Program, pediatric research collaboration for parents, and how to locate a provider utilizing ACPOC.

3:15 – 4 p.m.
**Sock It to Me! Managing Daily Limb Changes**

**Health and Wellness**
Samantha Stauffer, MSOP, CO, Researcher, University of Delaware Limb Loss Studies Lab

Sock-ply management is important to improve prosthesis fit and reduce skin problems in individuals with above- and below-knee limb loss. This presentation covers the science of why the residual limb changes throughout the day, sock characteristics, troubleshooting socket fit, and when you should see your prosthetist.

4:15 – 5 p.m.
**Pediatric Health and Wellness**

**Youth and Family**
Jill Cannoy PT, DPT
Phoebe Scott-Wyard, D.O., Rehabilitation Medicine Specialist, Rady Children’s Hospital - San Diego
Anna Vergun MD, Pediatric Orthopedist, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
Marsha Danzig, Med, RYT 500

This session will discuss the importance of movement for children, as well as preventing obesity in children with limb loss. Discover the health benefits of meditation, stretching, and yoga for children.

4:15 – 5 p.m.
**Technology Sessions**

See Page 11

5 – 7 p.m.
**Exhibit Hall**

5 – 7 p.m.
**Networking Lounge**

Let’s hang out – virtually! Join a table or work the room and get a chance to connect with other participants, meet up with old friends or get to know new ones. Networking tip: If you connect with someone here at the National Conference, ask to follow one another on social media to stay in touch!

Any-Time Sessions

**Get Fit with Yoga: A Body, Mind and Spirit Workout**
Marsha Danzig, Med, RYT 500

Enjoy yoga any time during the conference with one of the three recorded yoga sessions by Marsha Danzig. Find the follow-along session that is right for you. This is yoga for all bodies! Danzig is a certified instructor who will demonstrate sequences with modifications to accommodate skill level and level of limb loss. Bring your breath and smile.

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Technology Sessions
Friday, August 22, 4:15 – 5 p.m.

Hear directly from sponsors about specific products and services.

REBUILT: Stronger Every Day
Sponsored by College Park
Michael Amrich CPO, FAAOP, Clinical Education Specialist, College Park Industries
Reggie Showers, Inspirational Speaker
Zach Gowen, Inspirational Speaker

You deserve to find your perfect fit. College Park Industries creates custom-built prosthetic solutions for people of all activity levels. With headquarters in Warren, MI, all products are thoughtfully designed and manufactured in the United States. Highlighting clinical and user insight, this workshop provides an overview of K2/K3 feet, Integrated Spring Technology (iST®), multi-axial movement, prosthetic knee innovation, and College Park's REBUILT campaign. Get a sneak peek at the new Capital hydraulic knee too! Like the Amputee Coalition, College Park’s REBUILT movement serves to educate, inspire, and provide resources for the limb loss community. Clinical Education Specialist, Michael Amrich CPO, FAAOP is joined by amputee guests, Reggie Showers and Zach Gowen in this workshop. Tune in to learn about the technology that moves you, ask questions, and hear inspiring stories.

Bionic Solutions
Sponsored by Össur
Tyler Hocz, CPO, Certified Prosthetist/Orthotist

Join Össur for an interactive discussion on the various, innovative technologies within the microprocessor-controlled RHEO KNEE® and the auto-adaptive ankle of the PROPRIO FOOT®. Learn how magnetorheologic technology in the RHEO KNEE can increase stability and dynamic performance in real-world settings, as well as, how the microprocessor, self-adjusting ankle of the PROPRIO FOOT can allow amputees to better navigate various real-world terrains with confidence.

Osseointegration, approaching 1,000 cases: What we have learned so far
Sponsored by Osseointegration Group of Australia
Professor Munjed Al Muderis, MB ChB FRACS FAOrthA, Orthopedic Surgeon

Osseointegration has emerged over the past two decades as a dramatically different approach for the treatment of lower limb amputations, which involves direct attachment of the prosthesis to the skeletal residuum. This approach can address many of the socket-interface issues associated with socket prostheses which represent the current standard of care for amputees. Join Professor Al Muderis for an in-depth discussion on what he has learned in the first 1,000 cases.

Find Your Freedom: A Product Overview
Sponsored by Freedom Innovations
Matthew Nelson, CPO, FAAOP

Educate yourself on the latest technology Freedom Innovations has to offer in the lower limb prosthetic space. Make informed prosthetic device selection by exploring the cutting edge in technology, including our industry leading microprocessor knees and ankles. Discover the benefits of carbon fiber and fiberglass feet. Get your questions answered during our live Q & A session. You will not want to miss this introduction to everything Freedom Innovations has to offer. Join us and let us help you on the road to Find Your Freedom!

A Smart Liner…How Cool Is That?
Sponsored by WillowWood
Anthony Rystad
Ray Speelman

WillowWood first introduced the concept of phase changing material integrated into our liners back in 2014 with the launch of Alpha SmartTemp Silicone Liner. Now 6 years later, we bring you the Alpha SmartTemp Gel Liner, shown to reduce sweat when compared with other TPE liners up to 48%. Learn about what makes the Alpha SmartTemp family such "cool" liners and hear from actual users on how it's changed their lives.

A Foot That’s Right For You
Sponsored by Össur
Wayne Fichtel, CP, ABC Certified in Prosthetics

Join Össur for an interactive discussion to learn more about the technology and biomechanical advantages between various prosthetic feet. We will discuss the foot selection process through the mind of a practitioner and highlight the specific considerations that guide our selection. Every amputee has different needs and this presentation will give amputees insight on how their practitioner selects the Foot That’s Right For You!
Saturday, August 22, 2020

12 – 1 p.m.
**Exhibit Hall Time**

1 – 1:45 p.m.
**General Session**
**Pain Management and Innovations**
Linda L. Porter, Ph.D., Director, Office of Pain Policy, National Institute of Health
Marc M. Boutin, JD, Chief Executive Officer, National Health Council
Leslie Tive, Pfizer
Dan Igaszewski, Chief Policy and Programs Officer, Amputee Coalition

Hear from experts on innovations in pain management, the research that impacts bringing treatments forward, and the work being done in the public and private sector to improve pain management techniques and treatments.

1:45 – 2:15 p.m.
**Break**

2:15 – 3 p.m.
**Improving Well-Being Program and Resources**
**Health and Wellness**
Mahesh Mansukhani, CEO Willow Wood
Caitlyn Hurley, Manager, National Limb Loss Resource Center®
Andrew Call, Specialist, National Limb Loss Resource Center®

For years, the Coalition has invested in mental health and well-being – not only important in the limb loss recovery and rehabilitation process, but also in our day-to-day lives. Join this session to hear about a wide variety of resources from the Amputee Coalition and the National Limb Loss Resource Center® that support mental well-being.

From our peer support programs to Community Connections to the Improving Well-Being Program, this session will feature the help and support available to people with limb loss, family members, and patient care providers. Join us to share how you're doing and what you need. Learn more about how we can help each other, and get great information from a former board member (and current innovator company CEO) and as well as the NLLRC staff.

2:15 – 3 p.m.
**Let's do it!!! ...be active and stay active after an amputation**
**Health and Wellness**
Alba Seda-Morales, PT, DPT, Doctor of Physical Therapy, Moss Rehab Amputation and Prosthetics Program

This presentation will focus on how to stay active at all stages after an amputation. We will have a workshop for goal setting, provide examples and options for all activity levels and practice techniques that will set you up for success.

2:15 – 3 p.m.
**How to Tell Your Story**
**Community Living**
Carol Blymire, Strategic Communications Consultant & Professor, Georgetown University
Kelsea Wilkerson, Communications Strategist, Amputee Coalition

Knowing how to tell your personal story will help you better connect with others in the limb loss and limb difference community. In this session, you will learn how to tell your story in a concise, compelling way that has impact and makes you memorable. We'll focus part of the session on telling your story to policymakers and elected officials so they can learn more about your experience and how they can be supportive of people living with limb loss and limb difference.

2:15 – 3 p.m.
**Science Can’t Move Forward Without You: The Benefits of Participating in Research Studies**
**Community Living**
Sheila Clemens, PT, MPT, PhD, Research Health Specialist, Miami VA
Ingacio Gonauard PT, PhD, MSPT

This session will provide attendees with information on the benefits of participating in research in the field of prosthetics and rehabilitation of people with amputations. Presenters are current researchers who have performed studies at Amputee Coalition conferences, and they will discuss the impact participants have on science affecting the entire limb loss population.

2:15 – 3 p.m.
**Upper-Limb Amputation: New Research Findings from the Department of Veterans Affairs**
**Health and Wellness**
Joseph B. Webster, MD, Associate Professor, Virginia Commonwealth University
Linda Resnik, PT, PhD, FAPTA, Professor, Brown University's School of Public Health

This session will cover the performance effectiveness of prosthetic components that are available to individuals with upper-limb loss. Attendees will learn about new prosthetic technology including the LUKE arm, and hear about new research findings that examine the advantages, disadvantages, and performance of this newer technology.

2:15 – 3 p.m.
**Newest Treatments for Neuroma and Phantom Pain**
**Health and Wellness**
Brian Monroe, CPO, Clinical Specialist

Residual limb pain effects people with limb loss with phantom limb pain rates as high as 85%. This affects both prosthetic wear and quality of life. The goal of this session is to present the various treatments available for pain management including targeted muscle reinnervation, therapy modalities, and pharmacology.
### Conference Program – Saturday

**2:15 – 3 p.m.**

**Tips and Tricks for Children who Wear Upper- and Lower-Limb Prostheses**  
**Youth and Family**  
Rebecca Hernandez, CPO, Certified Prosthetist Orthotist, Children's Healthcare of Atlanta  
Richard Welling, CPO  
An open discussion with a panel of experts to share tips for young prosthetic users and their families.

**2:15 – 3 p.m.**

**Skin Wounds: Between the Trauma and Getting to the Doctor - Strategies for Self-Managing Skin Problems**  
**Health and Wellness**  
Ed Nathan, PhD, CPV, Adjunct Faculty, Ithaca College  
Kara Couch, CRNP, MS, NP, Wound Healing and Limb Preservation Center at George Washington University Hospital  
In this session, we will discuss strategies for preventing and getting ahead of skin problems. We'll look at factors that contribute to skin irritation which can develop into lesions, and look at several over-the-counter and prescription products to self-manage a variety of skin problems.

**2:15 – 3 p.m.**

**Prepared, Proactive, and (almost) Pushy; Learning to Build and Communicate with Your Healthcare Team to Reach Your Potential**  
**Health and Wellness**  
Victoria Powell, RN, CCM, LNCC, CNLCP, CLCP MSCC, CBIS, CEASII  
Denise Hoffmann, RN, Member, Amputee Coalition's Scientific and Medical Advisory  
In this session, we'll talk about self-advocacy, communicating with providers, and obtaining appropriate resources to get the best out of life, as well as the importance of a multi-disciplinary approach to care. As part of the Amputee Coalition's First Step Workforce group, Victoria and Denise have created templates to assist in communicating with providers. They will showcase the forms as well as share tips on how to build a care team.

**2:15 – 3 p.m.**

**What Can We do about Prosthetic Odor?**  
**Health and Wellness**  
Christopher Born, Md, FACS, FAOAS, Intrepid Heroes Professor of Orthopaedic Surgery, Brown University  
This talk will explore some of the sources of odor associated with prostheses and different strategies for odor reduction and prosthetic hygiene.

**3 – 3:15 p.m.**

**Break**

**3:15 – 4 p.m.**

**An Update of Early Clinical Results from Agonist-Antagonist Myoneural Interface (AMI) Amputations**  
**Health and Wellness**  
Matthew J. Carty, MD, Plastic Surgeon, Brigham & Young Women's Hospital  
The early results of procedures involving AMI construction will be reviewed, including clinical, functional and psychosocial outcomes. This will include progress to date on patients who have undergone BKA AMI (Ewing) procedures, AKA AMI procedures and eOPRA/AMI procedures.

**3:15 – 4 p.m.**

**Dating and Intimacy**  
**Lisa Strube, Couples, Relationship, and Sexuality Therapist**  
The loss of a limb does not mean the loss of your need for intimacy or your need to connect with others. This session will discuss the various elements key to healthy intimate connections.

**3:15 – 4 p.m.**

**Get Fit and Find Your Tribe**  
**Health and Wellness**  
Melissa DeChellis, Research Coordinator, Spaulding Rehabilitation Hospital  
Trevor Bunch, NASM Certified Personal Trainer  
This session is for community members post-rehabilitation. We'll discuss the physical and psychosocial benefits of group adaptive functional fitness and wellness programs. We'll review data from Adaptive Functional Fitness, a six-week fitness and wellness program for those with physical disabilities.

**3:15 – 4 p.m.**

**Physical Differences, Employment, and the Law**  
**Career**  
Greg Smith, Administrative Judge, U.S. Merit Systems Protection Board  
This is a concise summary of federal laws governing the intersection of employers and people with disabilities. This presentation includes a practical discussion of how to apply, compete, interview, accept and retain employment. Learn the secret top 10 dos and don'ts for employers and employees when working with people with disabilities.

**3:15 – 4 p.m.**

**Excessive Sweating: Can We Tackle This Problem?**  
**Health and Wellness**  
Colby Hansen, MD, Associate Professor of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation, University of Utah  
Residual limb sweating is a common skin problem facing amputees. It contributes to secondary skin problems such as rashes and may cause problems with prosthetic fit and function. This session will highlight these issues and address what is known about treatment guidelines and options. Learn what treatments you can talk to your doctor about.
3:15 – 4 p.m.
**Knowing your K Level and Why It Matters!**

*Health and Wellness*

*Emma Beisheim, PT, DPT, PT & Researcher, University of Delaware*

All adults with lower-limb loss are assigned a K level, which is based on the ability to stand, walk, and move with a prosthesis. As K levels influence decisions related to prosthesis prescription, it is important to understand the key components that go into K level assignment, and how they may change over time. This presentation will educate attendees on the five K levels, describe the type of prostheses covered for each K level, and outline the abilities and activities required for each K level assignment.

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3:15 – 4 p.m.
**Setting Up Your Home for Success – Now and Later**

*Community Living*

*Inger Brueckner, PT, Specialty in Amputee Rehabilitation*
*Victoria Powell, RN, CCM, LNCC, CLNCP, CLCP MSCC, CBIS, CEASI*

While there is no single "right" answer to how to set up your home, this session will cover several options. Attendees will learn simple to more complex home modifications required initially to improve safety and prevent injury and, later, to minimize secondary conditions. They will learn the Universal Design concept and understand how to find cost-effective smart home technologies to improve independence. The session will review successful modifications from many different people with multiple levels of limb loss. Safety, durability, cost, and feasibility all are important. Sometimes, it only takes that one good idea to make life easier.

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3:15 – 4 p.m.
**My Prosthesis is Working Great. What About My Other Leg?**

*Health and Wellness*

*Chris A. Toelle, CO, LO, East Zone Specialist, Hanger Clinic*

Many people with limb-loss are experiencing increasing challenges with their sound-side leg compared to their amputated leg. This course will discuss various treatment options for pain, overuse/stress, diabetes, foot drop, trauma and overall leg weakness on the non-prosthetic side.

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3:15 – 4 p.m.
**Bullying and Discrimination**

*Youth and Family*

*Catherine Garcia-Brake, MSSW/MDiv, LCSW, Social Worker, Gwinnett County Public Schools*
*Mary Julia Garcia-Brake, Volunteer, Dream Quest Therapeutic Riding*

In this session, experts will talk about bullying and discrimination.

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3:15 – 4:30 p.m.
**Bilateral Above-Knee Workshop (BAKA)**

*Health and Wellness*

*Kevin Carroll, CPO*
*Nancy Snyder, CPO*
*Yvonne Llanes (bilateral limb loss)*
*Cameron Clapp (trilateral limb loss)*
*Pedro Pimenta (quadrilateral limb loss)*

Join Kevin Carroll (Dolphin Tale prosthettist) and several patients to see what's possible with above-knee bilateral amputations. Kevin and a team of patients will discuss how to improve.

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4 – 4:30 p.m.
**Quick Fire Question Rounds**

These sessions will be an opportunity to ask questions you may not have had a chance to ask earlier in the week. Join our panels and ask anything on that topic!

- Assistive Technology
- Mental and Physical Health
- Lifespan
- Pain Management
- Self-Advocacy

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4:15 – 4:45 p.m.
**Closing Ceremony**

*Mary Richards, President & CEO*
*Dan Ignaszewski, Chief Policy and Programs Officer*

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4:30-5 p.m.
**Closing Event**

Join us for some fun and one more round of networking, as we wrap up the first ever virtual National Conference!

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Any-Time Sessions

**Get Fit with Yoga: A Body, Mind and Spirit Workout**

*Marsha Danzig, MEd, RYT 500*

Enjoy yoga any time during the conference with one of the three recorded yoga sessions by Marsha Danzig. Find the follow along session that is right for you and move your body in flow to the music. This is yoga for all bodies! Danzig is a certified instructor who will demonstrate sequences with node modifications to accommodate skill level and level of limb loss. Bring your breath and smile!

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**Exhibit Hall**

You will be able to access the exhibit hall at any time during the conference. However, to ensure you don't have to choose between a session and chatting with exhibitors, we have established unobstructed exhibit hall hours. Make sure to visit exhibitors during those times to chat with the team at the booth and ask questions about products and services. You will also be able to set up appointments with exhibitors and incorporate those appointments in your daily schedule!
### Exhibitors and National Sponsors

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Company Name</th>
<th>Website</th>
<th>Highlights</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alps South*</td>
<td>easyliner.com</td>
<td>ALPS is a leading manufacturer of prosthetic liners and prosthetic accessories. It is our mission to assist in &quot;Making Lives Better&quot;, it is this mission that pushes us to provide superior products and service for all customers. Dedicated to innovation, we strive to come up with new products to fit your every need. This year we have launched our new Vacuum Integrated Pump (VIP), Smart Seal and Silicone Pro Liner.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>American Orthotic and Prosthetic Association*</td>
<td>AOPAnet.org</td>
<td>Through advocacy, research, and education, the American Orthotic and Prosthetic Association (AOPA) improves patient access to quality orthotic and prosthetic care. Founded in 1917, AOPA is the largest non-profit organization, consisting of more than 2,000 O&amp;P patient care facilities and suppliers, dedicated to helping O&amp;P businesses and professionals navigate the multitude of issues surrounding the delivery of quality patient care.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coapt LLC</td>
<td>coaptengineering.com</td>
<td>Since 2013, with its mission to develop products that will improve the quality of life for prosthesis users, Coapt has offered a system that enhances intuitive control and functionality of existing upper-limb prosthetic devices.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>College Park Industries*</td>
<td><a href="http://www.college-park.com">www.college-park.com</a></td>
<td>The College Park tagline for the past 25 years, “Technology for the Human Race”, encapsulates our passion for creating new benchmarks in prosthetic design and restoring maximum function for lower limb amputees of all ages and activity levels. We design and manufacture a full line of anatomically correct, custom built prosthetic foot and ankle systems. With innovative solutions and precise engineering, College Park remains committed to the research and development of the finest prosthetics for users all over the world.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Challenged Athletes Foundation</td>
<td>challengedathletes.org</td>
<td>It is the mission of the Challenged Athletes Foundation (CAF) to provide opportunities and support to people with physical challenges, so they can pursue active lifestyles through physical fitness and competitive athletics. The Challenged Athletes Foundation believes that involvement in sports at any level increases self esteem, encourages independence, and enhances quality of life.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fillauer*</td>
<td>fillauer.com</td>
<td>Celebrating 100 years in business, Fillauer is a specialist in prosthetic and orthotic patient care and a leading manufacturer of orthotic and prosthetic products based in Chattanooga, TN. Since 1914, Fillauer has expanded its orthotic and prosthetic manufacturing capabilities and product offerings through its acquisitions of Hosmer Dorrance, Motion Control, Centri, and OTS companies. With four central fabrication facilities located in Tennessee, California, North Carolina, and Sweden and patient care facilities in Chattanooga, TN, Fillauer is committed to providing outstanding products and care to amputees around the world.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Organizations with are sponsors as well as exhibitors
Freedom Innovations, LLC
freedom-innovations.com
Freedom Innovations offers an extensive lineup of lower-limb prosthetic solutions for low- to high-mobility users. This includes a portfolio of products designed for a wide range of everyday walking to extreme sports.

Hanger Clinic*
hangerclinic.com
As the proud recipient of the Frost & Sullivan Patient Care Leadership Award for delivering innovative technologies, efficient and effective clinical solutions and outstanding customer service, Hanger Clinic offers improved quality of life through advanced orthotic and prosthetic solutions. With more than 700 patient care clinics nationwide, Hanger’s certified clinicians provide convenient, quality care close to home or while traveling. We offer advanced prosthetic solutions for people with upper- and lower-limb amputations and differences, including microprocessor-controlled and specialty sports prostheses. We also provide the WalkAide System, a neuro-prosthetic device for people with paralysis.

Hyperice
www.hyperice.com
Hyperice is an Inc. 500 global recovery and movement enhancement technology company specializing in vibration, percussion, thermal and compression technology. Hyperice’s technology is used by the world’s most elite athletes in professional and collegiate training rooms, as well as rehabilitation facilities and fitness facilities globally. Hyperice has applied its technology and know-how into industries such as fitness, esports, healthcare, massage, and workplace wellness. In March 2020, Hyperice acquired NormaTec, innovators of cutting-edge pneumatic compression systems, to deliver world-class performance and wellness solutions.

Integrum
integrum.se
The Integrum OPRA™ Implant System is a bone-anchored prosthesis using osseointegration, attaching to the bone, thereby eliminating the use of a socket. Heat, chafing and sweating (all common problems with a socket) are eliminated, along with enhanced comfort while sitting and ease of donning and doffing your prosthesis.

Liner Wand*
www.thelinewand.com
We are a dedicated team of multidisciplinary professionals, passionate about bringing innovative healthcare solutions to the amputee population. We created The Liner Wand with Apocrine technology to address the problems that can arise between the skin-liner interface. Our mission is to Become the standard in liner hygiene management, and support the goals of equitable access to innovative health care.

Osseointegration Group of Australia
osseointegration.org
The Osseointegration Group of Australia (OGA), led by Associate Professor Munjed Al Muderis, restores amputees’ lives using surgical and prosthetic technology. OGA is the most experienced team worldwide in performing osseointegration surgery, using the most proven implants (OPL implant).

Ossur*
ossur.com/Americas
At Össur, your success is our goal. We create prosthetics, braces and supports that enable people to live a life without limitations. Aware of the challenges you face, we respond, improving on what exists today and redefining technology for a better tomorrow.

Ottobock*
ottobockus.com
Otto Bock HealthCare is a company dedicated to delivering quality for life. For more than 90 years we have provided innovative, dependable ways to make it easier to be active for people who face mobility challenges. Our products range from the Harmony Volume Management system to the C-Leg® microprocessor-controlled knee and from the Kimba children’s stroller to advanced myoelectric prostheses.

Point Designs
pointdesignsllc.com
Point Designs leverages advanced 3D-printing technology to manufacture high-strength prosthetic fingers for people with partial hand amputation. Point Designs was founded by researchers in the field of upper limb prosthetic design from the Biomechatronics Development Laboratory at the University of Colorado. Professors Richard Weir and Jacob Segil have decades of research experience spanning neural interfaces, myoelectric control algorithms, and upper limb prosthetic design.

Penta Medical Recycling
pentaprosthetics.org
Penta is a nonprofit organization that repurposes discarded, yet still functional, prosthetic limbs from the U.S. for amputees in developing countries. Firm in the belief that mobility and the opportunities that come with it are a right, Penta is committed to bridging the gap between desperate need and enormous waste.

*Organizations with are sponsors as well as exhibitors
PROTEOR USA*
proteorUSA.com
Discover PROTEOR USA. Delivering an extensive, progressive product line that includes everything today’s active amputees need to live the life they love.
Offering an innovative portfolio that includes everything from the virtually indestructible RUSH Foot collection to the world’s first microprocessor controlled hydraulic 4-bar knee with both stance and swing functionality; the ALLUX. The EASY RIDE, multi-use extreme sports knee to the KEASY, renowned prefabricated cones. The K2 GERY foot to the flexible, all-terrain, DynaTrek foot.
Discover the exciting PROTEOR USA product line today! A whole new look. A whole new vibe. A whole new world. #HumanFirst.

Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine
amputeewellbeing.org
Johns Hopkins University, in collaboration with the Amputee Coalition, has developed several online education programs to help people with limb loss achieve their goals, well-being and life satisfaction.
Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, Limb Loss Restoration and Rehabilitation hopkinsmedicine.org

TIRR Memorial Hermann
tirr.memorialhermann.org
The Amputee Program at TIRR Memorial Hermann prepares patients and their families to cope physically and psychologically with the traumatic or surgical loss of a limb, or a congenital limb deficiency. The rehabilitation process includes a pre-prosthetic program and prosthetic training when appropriate. The clinical treatment team of the Amputee Program at TIRR Memorial Hermann is internationally recognized, particularly for their work with patients with upper-limb and multiple amputations. As a Center of Excellence, the program has been awarded significant research grants, including one from the Veterans Administration entitled “Establishing Standards of Care: Upper Limb Prosthetic Services,” and a grant from the National Aeronautics and Space Administration for “Applying Space Technology to Enhance Control of an Artificial Arm.”

VitalFitSR*
vitalfitsr.com
“SKIN. It’s What We Do.”
Our Mission is to provide skincare solutions specifically for amputees and people with at-risk skin. The VitalFitSR Clinical Skincare System is a first-of-its-kind skin hygiene system. When used 24/7/365, the products work in concert to help the users skin stay healthy to better withstand the rigors of daily prosthetic or orthotic use.

WillowWood*
willowwoodco.com
For over a century WillowWood has provided solutions for clinicians and their patients. Our mission has guided four generations of the Arbogast family in dedicating the company to helping those with limb loss. Every prosthetic product we design, such as the Alpha® Family of Liners, LimbLogic® VS, and the Fusion™ Foot, aims to enable individuals with limb loss to remain active and ready to live life to the fullest.

Touro College
Please come to the Touro College Exhibit Space and participate in a brief research survey on physical therapy and limb loss. All persons with lower limb loss/difference may participate.

*Organizations with are sponsors as well as exhibitors
DO MORE WITH VitalFitSR
Clinical Skin Care Systems

Proud to be a 2020 National Sponsor for the amputee coalition
A donor-supported nonprofit

Go to: VitalFitSR.com to Learn More
**Speaker Biographies**

**Rosie Alvarez** currently serves as the Director of Talent Acquisition with Hanger Clinic, the leading provider of orthotic and prosthetic care serving 47 states nationwide. She earned a Bachelor’s degree in Criminal Justice and Criminology from Ball State University and a Master's degree in Human Resources Development from Villanova University. She has passionately helped exceptional organizations find exceptional people for more than 20 years. Rosie currently lives in Austin, TX with her wonderful husband, four fantastic children, and two dogs.

**Michael Amrich, CPO FAAOP** is College Park’s Clinical Education Specialist who travels the world providing prosthetic care and sharing his knowledge. He is highly skilled at designing, fabricating, and fitting prostheses for amputees of all ages and amputation levels. Mike earned his Bachelor of Applied Science in Physical Education and Exercise Physiology from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst. He also attended UCLA and NYU for his certificates in Prosthetics and went on to Northwestern University for his certificate in Orthotics.

**Maggie Baumer** serves as Clinic Manager for Hanger Clinic, in Springfield, Massachusetts, and a Certified Peer Visitor Coordinator for AMPOWER. Baumer is an attorney licensed to practice in both New York and Massachusetts. She earned her Bachelor’s Degree in Clinical Psychology from Tufts University in 2004 and her Juris Doctor degree in 2011.

**Dr. Emma Beisheim, DPT** is a physical therapist and researcher in the Delaware Limb Loss Studies lab at the University of Delaware. Dr. Beisheim investigates the impact of post-amputation pain on functional outcomes and participates in Multidisciplinary Amputee Clinic evaluations to assist with prosthesis prescription.

**Justin Beland** is the Director, Government Affairs at the American Orthotics and Prosthetics Association. He is a government relations and grassroots advocacy expert with nearly 20 years of experience in public policy, lobbying, and creating innovative engagement strategies.

**Cosi Belloso, MSPT** is a physical therapist, amputee specialist. She is the proud owner of Palanca, Inc— an outpatient PT clinic in Tampa, Florida that is exclusively for amputees. She is also the host of “Cosi Talks,” a weekly, live Facebook show where she answers questions on recovery from limb loss.

**U.S. Senator Marsha Blackburn** was sworn in to the Senate in January 2019. Marsha Blackburn was elected to the U.S. Senate in 2018, and is currently serving her first term representing the state of Tennessee. Before her election to the Senate, Marsha represented Tennessee’s 7th Congressional District.

**Carol Blymire** is a strategic communications consultant in Washington, D.C. who works with individuals and organizations on telling their stories in an authentic, compelling, influential way. She also works with organizations that want to effect change on Capitol Hill, and better the lives of people and families throughout the United States. She is a professor at Georgetown, and she writes for The Washington Post about food and pop culture.

**Christopher Born, Md, FACS, FAAOS**
Dr. Born is the Intrepid Heroes Professor of Orthopaedic Surgery at Brown University’s Alpert School of Medicine. Dr. Born has been in active clinical/academic practice as an orthopaedic trauma surgeon and educator for 40 years. He is also the Director of the Weiss Center for Orthopaedic Trauma Research at Rhode Island Hospital. His primary areas of investigation are focused on orthopaedic surgical infections and anti-bacterial coatings for implants and prostheses.

**Marc M. Boutin, JD**
Chief Executive Officer of the National Health Council (NHC)
Boutin became a patient advocate more than 20 years ago and has been a leading voice for greater patient involvement at every stage of the healthcare continuum. Under his leadership, the NHC has convened a broad range of stakeholders to elevate the voice of patients and their family caregivers to drive innovation and ensure sustainable, high-value, affordable health care.

Boutin has a long history of board and committee service and has been actively involved in patient advocacy organization management, health advocacy, and both federal and state policy throughout his career. Boutin earned his JD from Suffolk University Law School in Boston and a degree in International Politics/Law from University College of Wales in Aberystwyth, United Kingdom.
Matthew Brewer is a bilateral above knee Certified Peer Visitor and lives in Huntington Beach, CA. His amputations occurred in 2014 due to vascular complications relating to compartment syndrome. Since his amputations, he has reconnected with his loves for sports and swims, snowboards, and surfs. He has competed in events like the Angel City Games, a four-day adaptive sports festival.

Inger Brueckner, PT specialized in amputee rehabilitation in Denver CO. Inger has over 25 years of experience and currently teaches a continuing education course for PT and OTs across the US. Inger has presented at the National Conference for the last 2 years.

Trevor Bunch is a bilateral above the knee amputee and NASM certified personal trainer. He is the owner of The FitBunch, his own personal training business. Trevor is an adaptive athlete and coach. He is an active advocate for the limb loss community.

Rex Burrus is a native of Atlanta, Georgia, the home of the Civil Rights Movement and of the fourth largest LGBTQIA+ community in the U.S. He co-chairs the Amputee Foundation of Greater Atlanta, is a Certified Peer Visitor with the Amputee Coalition, and leads the CPV program at Emory University Rehabilitation Hospital.

Rex supports The Amputee Foundation of Atlanta in leading ongoing education, peer support, and fellowship opportunities for the organization. Rex believes that the organization has embraced the full diversity of Atlanta and the amputee community, proudly proclaiming that we are one in our journey of humanity.

Rex is also very active in the Atlanta business community as an Art Director and Graphic Designer, is co-owner and principal designer at AmpuTshirts, and is active in multiple online amputee support and humor communities. Somewhere in all of that, he still finds time to hit the gym and to sing in local choral ensembles.

Come on out, no matter which one of those letters represents you! Together, we thrive!

Dr. Jeffrey Cain is a family physician who teaches and practices at the University of Colorado School of Medicine, a past president of the American Academy of Family Physicians and co-founder of Tar Wars, the national youth tobacco-free education program. After bilateral below-knee amputations from trauma 20 years ago, Dr. Cain has continued an active life that includes flying vintage airplanes, long-distance cycling, adaptive skiing, and winning the Gold Medal in slalom in the first U.S. national adaptive snowboarding championships. Dr. Cain is a passionate champion for amputee advocacy and has served the Amputee Coalition in the past as a member of the board of directors and its Medical Advisory Board, as well as the founding chair of its Advocacy Committee, and in Colorado he led the Coalition’s efforts to successfully pass the first state law to mandate coverage of prosthetic devices.

Andrew Call is an Information Resource Specialist in the National Limb Loss Resource Center®, where he began working in December of 2018. He is a long-time social worker and former schoolteacher. Andrew grew up in Maryland, but attended the University of Tennessee, and currently lives in Knoxville, TN. He has a young son and daughter and likes music, sports, and spending time with his family.

Alexandra Capellini is a 24-year-old medical student living in NYC. She was born and raised in NYC and lived in Baltimore for college. She is an above-knee amputee who has been involved with the Amputee Coalition Youth Camp for over ten years. Camp is her favorite part of the summer, but she also looks forward to planning Conference. She enjoys traveling, swimming, skiing, and rock climbing. Currently, she is trying to improve her running and biking skills.

Leann Carr is 59-year-old Grammie of 7 wonderful Grandbabies and a quadrilateral amputee. In December 2015, after almost a month of induced coma, Leanne was informed that she had had 2 emergency surgeries; during which the surgeons had to remove 2/3 of her upper right thigh above her right knee. At that time, Leanne was on a ventilator and could not speak. Her doctors informed her they believed she had been bitten by a Brown Recluse Spider; her body immediately went into full Sepsis and had to be treated with suppressor medication. At that time, she was also informed that over the next few weeks, she would need to have a series of surgeries to amputate all four of her limbs. During this long journey Leanne crashed multiple times, was on dialysis, received multiple transfusion. She experienced organ damage including kidney and liver failure.

After 7 1/2 months and 4 hospitals, she was released to go home to start her new journey in life...A lot of things happened, much of it bad; however, Leanne is a firm believer that a key component of a journey is how one chooses to handle the choices they are given; to move forward while growing emotionally and mentally along the way. She feels the people that came into her life, including the Amputee Coalition, have been an incredibly positive part of her journey and helped her get to this point. Leanne is a firm believer everyone’s story is important and cannot wait to hear others during conference.

Kevin Carroll, MS, CP, FAAOP/D is an accomplished healthcare professional with more than 35 years of experience as a practicing prosthetist, visionary researcher, and skilled educator. As Vice President of Lower Extremity Prosthetics for Hanger Clinic, Kevin travels nationally and internationally presenting scientific symposiums and managing clinics for difficult prosthetic cases, and his commitment to improving prosthetics has placed him at the forefront of numerous prosthetic breakthroughs.

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for difficult prosthetic cases, and his commitment to improving prosthetics has placed him at the forefront of numerous prosthetic breakthroughs.

Matthew J. Carty, MD, is a staff surgeon in the Division of Plastic Surgery at Brigham & Women's Hospital and an Associate Professor of Surgery at Harvard Medical School. He is the Director of the BWH Lower Extremity Reconstruction Program, the Co-Director of the BWH Microsurgical Breast Reconstruction Program and the Director of Innovation and Strategy at the Stepping Strong Center. His approach to care is one that prioritizes personal attention, clinical excellence, and deep compassion. His clinic focus areas include complex reconstruction of the breasts and upper/lower limbs. Dr. Carty's research involves developing new approaches to restore extremity function in the setting of trauma, cancer, or congenital conditions.

Sheila Clemens, PT, MPT, PhD was a clinical PT for 20 years prior to pursuing her PhD in amputee rehab and prosthetics at the University of Miami under Dr. Bob Gailey. She is currently on faculty at Florida International University and is a Research Health Scientist at the Miami VA. She currently sits on the board of the Amputation Care SIG of the APTA.

Kara Couch, MS, CRNP, CNS is the current nurse board member of the Alliance of Wound Care Stakeholders and the Secretary of the Association for the Advancement of Wound Care (AAWC). She is an editorial board member of Wound Management and Prevention, Today's Wound Clinic and WoundSource. Kara is the liaison for the American Association of Nurse Practitioners to the Alliance. In 2017, she was voted onto the Scientific and Medical Advisory Committee (SciMAC) of the Amputee Coalition. She became Chair of the SciMAC in 2019.

Kara Couch graduated with her Master of Science in Nursing (FNP) from Georgetown University in 2002. In 2004, she became a Certified Wound Specialist by the American Board of Wound Management. Her primary wound interests are in amputee care, wound infection, and venous ulcers. Currently she works as an NP in the Wound Healing and Limb Preservation Center at George Washington University Hospital in Washington, D.C. She is an assistant research clinical professor at the School of Medicine and Health Sciences at George Washington University.

Colleen Coulter
Dr. Coulter is a Board Certified Pediatric Clinical Specialist through the APTA practicing in the field of pediatrics for 46 years. For the past 35 years, Colleen has worked alongside orthotists and prosthetists being employed by the Orthotics and Prosthetics Department at Children's Healthcare of Atlanta. She is the team leader for the Limb Deficiency Program and has lectured nationally and internationally and published in peer review journals and books on topics relating to physical therapy interventions in children with limb deficiencies that include chapters in the Atlas of Prosthetics and Limb Deficiencies and Campbell's Physical Therapy for Children. Dr. Coulter also serves as the physical therapist in the Cranial Remolding Program at Children's Healthcare of Atlanta and was instrumental in co-authoring the 2013 and 2018 update of Physical Therapy Management of Congenital Muscular Torticollis: an evidence based Clinical Practice Guideline from the American Physical Therapy Association and the manuscript Developing Evidence-Based Physical Therapy Clinical Practice Guidelines. In 2004 she co-authored the chapter Identification and Treatment of Congenital Muscular Torticollis in Infants in the 2004 supplement to JPO, Orthotic Treatment of Deformational Plagiocephaly, Brachycephaly and Scaphocephaly. In 2009, Dr. Coulter was awarded honorary membership to the Academy of Orthotics and Prosthetics and in 2012, the distinguished Bud DeHaven Award from the APTA Section on Pediatrics. She is an active member of the Section on Pediatrics of the American Physical Therapy Association and the Association of Children's Prosthetics and Orthotics Clinics, ACPOC. Dr. Coulter is an Assistant Adjunct Professor at Emory University's School of Medicine Department of Rehabilitation and teaches in Georgia Tech's MSP&O program. Currently, Dr. Coulter serves on the Amputee Coalition's Scientific Medical Board and Upper Limb Advisory Council as well as a member of the ABC Board of Directors. She has served two terms on ACPOC's Board of Directors.

Dr. Coulter received an undergraduate Bachelor of Science degree from Boston University, a Master's degree in Developmental Disabilities from Long Island University, and Doctor of Physical Therapy and Doctor of Philosophy degrees from Rocky Mountain University of Allied Health Professions.

Jonathan Cowley was diagnosed with having a rare epithelioid sarcoma tumor in his right hand 7-years ago. In order to increase his chances of survival, he elected to have his right hand amputated after three failed surgeries to remove the tumor. Jonathan who is married and is father to Logan (10) and Charlotte (5) lives an extremely active life which is greatly supported by his Ossur i-Limb Quantum.

Theresa Hayes Cruz, Ph.D., became acting director of NCMRR in September 2019. She has been a full-time NIH staff member since 2009.

Through basic, translational, and clinical research, NCMRR fosters the development of scientific knowledge needed to enhance the health, productivity, independence, and quality-of-life of people with physical disabilities.

In her capacity as a health scientist administrator in NCMRR, Dr. Cruz manages grants in the Devices and Technology Development and Rehabilitation Diagnostics and Interventions Programs. She also manages Small Business Innovation Research and Small Business Technology Transfer (SBIR/STTR) awards in medical rehabilitation.

In addition to her duties at NCMRR, Dr. Cruz is a team lead in the NIH Brain Research through Advancing
Innovative Neurotechnologies® (BRAIN) Initiative where she co-manages a grant portfolio in the areas of neurotechnology development, validation, and translation for applications in neuroscience, neurophysiology, movement disorders, pain, neuromodulation, and other interfaces with the nervous system.

In 2015, Dr. Cruz performed a research detail at the Functional and Applied Biomechanics Laboratory in the Rehabilitation Medicine Department of the NIH Clinical Center. In late 2016, she returned fulltime to NCMMR.

Dr. Cruz received her bachelor’s degree in biomedical engineering with highest honors from the School of Engineering at Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey. She received her master’s and doctoral degrees in biomedical engineering from Northwestern University.

Her previous research at the Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago focused on motor control and gait impairments of the lower limb following stroke.

Marsha T Danzig, M. Ed Harvard, RYT 500, is a compassionate and gifted healer who helps her clients reclaim their lives. She has a razor-sharp ability to find root causes of suffering so that her clients transform those causes into personal power and renewed hope. Marshas approach is a balanced synergy of power, grace, humor, and love.

Melissa DeChellis was born with a clubbed foot which was finally amputated following a softball sliding injury. She graduated from the College of the Holy Cross (Biology) and works as a research coordinator at Spaulding Rehabilitation Hospital. Melissa is an adaptive CrossFitter, a coach, and also the founder of Adaptively Abled Amputees, a social, activity & fitness group for amputees.

Ronnie Dickson
A congenital bone-development disorder called Trevor’s disease led to the amputation of Ronnie’s left leg above the knee in 2005, when he was 18 years old. Ronnie is now an advanced rock climber and adaptive rock climbing instructor and lives in Chattanooga, TN. He was one of the first adaptive climbers to represent the United States in international competition. Ronnie has been a part of the Amputee Coalition as a presenter at National Conference and Limb Loss Education Days, and volunteers as a Youth Camp Counselor and Certified Peer Visitor.

Aristotle Domino is a double below-knee amputee, an adaptive athlete, founder and support leader of Amputee Coalition of Toronto, and host of The AmpuTO Radio Show and podcast. Since becoming an amputee, he has become a voice for the amputee community in Canada – advocating for rights for amputees, access to funding for prosthesis and care, and research so that they can live their best lives.

Carol Downing is a 64-year-old mother of two from Monkton, Maryland. She is a retired licensed massage therapist and certified Feldenkrais practitioner that had a full-time private practice for 16 years. Carol qualified for the Boston Marathon which she ran in 2013 where her two daughters were severely injured while they and her son-in-law were waiting for her at the finish line. She has been a competitive triathlete since 2015 and qualified for the Age-Group World Championship Olympic distance race in 2019. Carol has previously volunteered at the Gilchrist Hospice Center in Baltimore, providing hospice care to patients and offering caregiver support to family members. She is currently an Amputee Coalition Certified Family Peer Visitor as well as a volunteer at a local soup kitchen in Baltimore.

Wayne Fichtel, CP
ABC Certified in Prosthetics since 1994, and with previous experience in O&P fabrication at the S.I.U. School of Medicine, Wayne followed up completion of his clinical coursework at Northwestern University with a prosthetic residency at the Cleveland Clinic. He has enjoyed a varied industry experience as both clinician and presenter in the private practice, institutional and manufacturer realms, both domestic and international.

Robert S. Gailey, PhD, PT (Professor) has been at the University of Miami Miller School of Medicine, Department of Physical Therapy for 30 years. He also has a joint appointment as a Health Science Researcher with Miami Veterans Affairs Medical Center and is the Director of the Functional Outcomes Research & Evaluation Center. His doctorate in prosthetics and orthotics was received from the University of Strathclyde in Glasgow, Scotland where he developed the Amputee Mobility Predictor an objective measure of amputee function and most recently developed the Comprehensive High-Activity Mobility Predictor. He has authored over 50 publications and has continued research efforts directed toward amputee rehabilitation, the biomechanics and metabolic cost of prosthetic gait, functional assessment and athletic pursuits of the amputee as well as other athletes with disabilities across the lifespan. He was the recipient of the ISPO’s 1995 Forcheimer Prize for Research, the Amputee Coalition of America’s 2003 Dr. Ernest Burgess Award and recently the American Physical Therapy’s 2009 Henry O. Florence & P. Kendall Practice Award recipient. Honorary member of AAOP. Most recently, he has been working extensively with Project Medishare in providing rehabilitation and prosthetic care to people of Haiti injured in the recent earthquake.

Catherine Garcia-Brake, LCSW, MSSW/MDiv, received her Master of Science in Social Work from Columbia University and Master of Divinity from Union Theological Seminary. She worked with inmates at Rikers’ Island for five years with PWA’s and mentally ill inmates. Then she moved to the Atlanta area and worked in community organizing for 1 1/2 years before joining Gwinnett County Public Schools as a school social worker. She has worked with students K-12, their families, and school personnel for the last 24 years. Unfortunately bullying is a part of her work on all levels, including as a mom to Mary Julia, 17 and Jovany, 15.
Mary Julia Garcia-Brake is a high school senior in Gwinnett County, GA. She had a rotation plasty because of osteosarcoma (bone cancer) in 2015. While participating in Dream Quest Equine-Facilitated Psychotherapy, she began volunteering at Dream Quest Therapeutic Riding, assisting students with physical and emotional challenges. And she has decided to study Orthotics and Prosthetics for her first career. She also finds comfort in her 6 pets (4 dogs and 2 guinea pigs).

Angel Giuffria is an actress, public speaker, disability representation and rights advocate and holds a master’s degree in social psychology. She is heavily involved in the amputee community through Amputee Coalition Youth Camp, Lead Advocacy and Hill Day, and works with many other organizations including the Lucky Fin Project. Angel also has a congenital upper limb difference and has worn various prosthetic devices throughout her lifetime.

Zach Gowan lost his leg above the knee to osteosarcoma at eight years old. Zach defied the odds and went on to become the world’s first amputee professional wrestler! At 19 years old, he signed a three-year contract with the World Wrestling Entertainment. He competed on American Ninja Warrior and is now a DDPYoga instructor, motivational speaker, mentor, volunteer and author. He loves spending time with his wife, Kelly, and their sons, Nolan and Henry.

Nikki Grace is a 48-year-old wife and mom to 12-year-old twin boys and has been an above knee amputee since 2016 after suffering a paralyzing spinal cord injury in 2009. She lost her leg to an infection that was contracted after a failed knee replacement and subsequent 5-month battle that resulted in sepsis and my amputation. Shortly after her amputation she founded Central Illinois Amputees to create opportunities for support, connection, and outreach within the amputee community. She has spent the past several years lobbying for legislative change within the Illinois Medicaid marketplace to be more inclusive and to offer more mobility and prosthetic options.

Leslie Green MA, MA, MA, MA, MSW, Ed.S
She attended Graduate School for Social Work at Augsburg, and for Education at the University of St. Thomas. Leslie received her undergraduate degree at the College of St. Benedict and holds six graduate degrees in the fields of Social Work and Education. She is a bilateral below the knee amputee since 2016. In her work with amputees she has created and facilitates amputee support programs serving targeted groups. The first of these amputee support programs is called Balance—this group meets monthly to offer education and support to amputees, their family, and friends. She also has created a care partner group as well as a men's group, a midweek group, and a women's group. Each of these specialty groups seeks to serve the diverse needs of the identified population. She also hosts a weekly blog that addresses issues related to being an amputee and publishes a daily motivational blog. Leslie holds the role of Lead Advocate for the State of Minnesota.

Nicole Gross joined the Amputee Coalition in January 2018 with both personal and professional experience in supporting the limb loss and limb difference community. As a former swim and triathlon coach, she was introduced to the sport of paratriathlon and enjoyed volunteering at various swim and multisport clinics with the Challenged Athletes Foundation and Getting2Tri Foundation. Nicole and her family were injured in the 2013 Boston Marathon Bombings, where her sister experienced a traumatic above knee amputation to her left leg. Throughout her family’s physical and emotional recovery, Nicole was seeking a renewed sense of purpose to help others along their journey. As Strategic Partnerships Manager, Nicole oversees the Amputee Coalition’s Hospital Partnership Program as well as established partnerships with the Department of Veteran Affairs, Department of Defense, MIB Agents, and is looking for more ways to collaborate with other organizations that align with the Coalition’s mission. She is a former University of Tennessee Lady Vol Swimmer, has competed in the Ironman World Championships, and currently lives in Knoxville, TN with her college sweetheart, their two young boys, two Siberian Huskies and one cat.

Vala Hallgrimson is a fun-loving woman who is happy to be alive and is excited about her life! She is a mother/stepmother of 6, grandmother of 12, great-grandmother of 15 and great-great-grandmother of 7. Along with loving her family, she loves kayaking, snorkeling and rodeos. Born and raised in Montana, Vala lived in Alaska for 10 years then moved to Seattle. She was an accountant for 35+ years before retiring in October of 2019.

Vala is a Quadriplegic amputee, having lost multiple fingers, part of one of her feet and one leg below the knee in January of 2018 from complications from severe septic shock. Vala went home from work one day feeling cold, but otherwise feeling fine. Little did she know that would be the last thing she would remember for over three months. Vala spent the next 7 months in the hospital followed by surgery and rehab before returning home nearly a year after entering the hospital. Vala believes God kept her alive for a reason. She is now a volunteer with the Amputee Coalition as a Certified Peer Visitor along with being a volunteer at Harborview Medical Center. Her new passion is to educate as many people as possible about amputees, prosthetics and sepsis and will share with anyone who will listen.

Colby Hansen, MD is an Associate Professor of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation at the University of Utah. He has directed the amputee clinic at the U of U since 2010 in addition to other responsibilities. He is also actively engaged in research activities dealing with the burden of sweating in amputees, and best practice strategies for managing this problem.

Rebecca Hernandez is a Certified Prosthetist Orthotist at Children’s Healthcare of Atlanta. She has been providing prosthetic care for the past 18 years. Rebecca has a passion for pediatrics with a strong interest in congenital limb deficiency. Rebecca has personal
experience as she has been using an above knee prosthesis for PFFD. She is honored to be a part of this year’s Amputee Coalition National Conference.

**Tyler Hocz, CPO** is a certified Prosthetist/Orthotist who has earned his B.S. degree in Interdisciplinary Natural Sciences with a minor in Biomedical Physics from the University of South Florida. Tyler then went on to complete his Orthotic & Prosthetic degree from St. Petersburg College.

Throughout his 8 years of clinical practice, Tyler has worked in different regions of the country and has provided treatment to a wide variety of patient populations including athletes, geriatrics, children, and active adults. His focus on enhancing patient outcomes through the utilization of innovative technologies has greatly contributed to the success of his patients.

**Denise Hoffmann, RN**, is a registered nurse with more than 24 years of experience in varying roles. For the past 6 years, her focus has been on patient advocacy and education within the limb loss community, working with Freedom Innovations, the Amputee Coalition, and AOPA. She is a member of the Amputee Coalition’s Scientific and Medical Advisory.

**Dr. Chantrise Holliman**, in 2018, Dr. Holliman survived a massive heart attack, complications from which resulted in her becoming a bilateral lower-limb amputee. But that hasn’t stopped her influence or impact. The message she now shares with others is “Don’t be afraid to walk in your purpose whether you have legs or not.”

**Caitlyn Hurley** is the manager of the National Limb Loss Resource Center® at the Amputee Coalition. She has worked in the social/human services field for over 16 years. Caitlyn began her career with the Amputee Coalition in August 2015 as a Resource Specialist and was promoted to Manager of the Resource Center in September 2018. She is a certified Community Resource Specialist for the Aging/Disabilities populations through the Alliance of Information and Referral Services (AIRS).

**Dan Ignaszewski** is the Chief Policy and Programs Officer for the Amputee Coalition. Dan is responsible for providing strategic direction for program development and implementation and oversees government relations, support and outreach, and education and research.

He also serves as the principal investigator for the Amputee Coalition’s cooperative agreement with the Administration for Community Living to operate the National Limb Loss Resource Center®. Dan also develops strategic partnerships to further the reach and impact of programs to support the limb loss and limb difference community and the organization’s mission.

**Diana Jordan** is a family nurse practitioner by trade. She has 30 years of medical experience in a variety of fields. She always led a very active and ambitious lifestyle, until that day - that ONE day when her whole world was turned upside down, which has been two and a half years ago.

As a result of that day, her life has forever been changed. She was forced to question many things and face many obstacles. Diana is eager and excited to share her struggles and victories with you all.

**Mary (Molly) Keszler, MD**

Medical Director, Acute Comprehensive Inpatient Rehabilitation
Johns Hopkins Bayview Medical Center

Mary Keszler, MD is an Assistant Professor of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation in the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine. She is Amputation Rehabilitation Fellowship trained from the University of Washington. In addition to being the Medical Director of the Acute Comprehensive Rehabilitation Unit at Johns Hopkins Bayview Medical Center, her clinical activity is focused on providing comprehensive and lifelong care for people with limb loss. Her research activity is focused on optimizing the quality of life and functioning for these individuals.

**Dr. Daniel J. Lee, PT, DPT, GCS, COMT** is a physical therapist, assistant professor of physical therapy, and an active member of the Amputee Coalition.

**Yvonne Llanes** is a 51-year-old bilateral above knee amputee from San Antonio, Texas. She been an amputee for 14 years. Before her amputations, she was an elementary school principal, and taught for 18 years prior to that. She was a busy mother of 4 and the wife of an active duty Marine. On September 18, 2005, while loading packages into the back of her vehicle at an outdoor shopping mall, a driver high on methamphetamines hit her from behind, pinning her between the two vehicles. Her legs were severed upon impact. Once the responders in the area were able to separate the vehicles, she landed on the hot asphalt. Without legs to support her, she fell on her backside and received 2nd degree burns from the asphalt and the radiator fluid which had erupted from the crash. After being in the hospital and a rehab facility for months, she was finally able to go home. However, she struggled with her limitations for many years, only leaving her wheelchair for transfers and for occasional physical therapy sessions.

She has had several revision surgeries, which only left her sinking deeper into a dark hole. Yvonne was feeling terrible about herself when her social worker from Hanger Clinic told her about a bootcamp they offered. She had been a Hanger patient since 2011, so she registered for the bootcamp and gave it a chance. After attending Hanger’s bootcamp in Oklahoma City in April of 2015, her life as an amputee changed forever. She decided it was time to make a major mobility change in her life, so she left her wheelchair behind on June 20,
Yvonne is eager to return the support she received from her Hanger family, her amputee family, and the general community to help support others who may be dealing with their own obstacles and challenges.

Bambi Lombardi, OTR/L is an occupational therapist who joined Hanger Clinic as a member of the rehabilitation team in 2015. She has focused on facilitating collaborative efforts between prosthetists and therapists to assist in improving patient outcomes in upper limb prosthetics for the majority of her career.

Matthew Luetke, CPO is an Area Clinical Manager for Hanger Clinic at the University of Kansas Medical Center in Kansas City, Kansas. He specializes in prosthetic trauma for both upper and lower limb amputees and fits patients from throughout the United States and the world. Matthew also volunteers his time for Camp No Limits.

Mahesh Mansukhani
Chief Executive Officer
Mahesh brings more than 20 years of leadership experience, including five years at the helm at Össur. He has served in CEO roles within the healthcare and technology sectors, most recently as president and CEO of REPOWER America, a major U.S. provider of residential solar power solutions. Excited to return to the orthotic and prosthetic industry, Mahesh is focusing his efforts on providing clinicians with more outcomes measures and on ensuring clinicians continue to have choice in delivering solutions for amputees.

Steve Martin, OTR/L graduated from Eastern Kentucky University with a Post Baccalaureate degree in Occupational Therapy in 1993. He has worked as an Occupational Therapist for over 25 years in a variety of settings, which include: inpatient rehabilitation, outpatient rehabilitation, and over 13 years in industrial rehabilitation. Since joining Össur in 2012, he has been responsible for a wide variety of training and education in support of people using upper limb myoelectric prosthetic devices.

Carol Miller, PT, PhD, GCS is a professor and director of curriculum for physical therapy at Georgia PCOM and American Physical Therapy Association board certified clinical specialist in geriatrics. She has over 35 years of experience in working with adults with lower-limb amputation and focuses her practice on restoring an individual’s functional abilities to achieve success in the home setting, the community, and returning to athletic activity.

Brian Monroe, CPO is a skilled clinical specialist with over 25 years of experience serving the pediatric and adult populations. He has nearly 20 years of teaching experience at the university level as well as lecturing nationally and internationally to amputee groups and allied health professionals.

Ricky Moore lives in Georgia and had his right leg amputated above the knee at the age of 3. Over the years, he has learned that obstacles are gifts, and that mentality has jumpstarted his success professionally and as a competitive golfer. Living with his congenital limb loss his entire life gives him true insight to the social, mental, and emotional challenges that are most amplified from ages 12 - 22. As a Certified Peer Visitor and Paddy Rossbach Youth Camp Counselor, Ricky has the skills and experience in helping those in this younger age range to regain confidence in the world and live a fulfilling life.

Katie Moreno is a wife and a mother. Her husband is an above the knee amputee and she has an active and awesome 7-year-old boy. Katie has a B.S. degree in Microbiology and in college she ran competitively. While Katie has worked in surgical devices and pharmaceuticals, her current career as a Patient Liaison for a prosthetic company has been the most rewarding.

In 2009 a drunk driver veered across the median and struck her car head on. She awoke to no vision for 48 hours and badly damaged legs. Katie completed physical therapy up to five times a day, and was able to walk eight months after the accident. Despite her hard work and dedication and the best efforts of her doctors, the pain in her right ankle worsened and a critical bone lost blood supply. By 2014, she was desperate to find a way forward without severe pain. Her life and her ability to be a mother to her young son, was severely limited. In 2015 she connected with an amputee – a fellow mother – who had been on a similar journey. The guidance and support she received gave her the courage to choose amputation.

After her amputation in fall 2017, she was fit for a prosthetic – that looked like an Iron Woman leg – in May 2018. She can now walk three miles a day and climb on the playground with her son. It took Katie nine years, 21 surgeries, and countless hours of physical therapy before she could play soccer with her son.

Ed Nathan, PhD, CPV has been an RBK amputee since June 2010. He is semi-retired working as a volunteer for the AC both as a CPV and as a Lead Advocate. He also leads a Patient Advisory Council to improve the patient experience for Ability Prosthetics in Exton, PA. Ed is also adjunct faculty at Ithaca College in their Master’s Degree in Communication Innovations.

Tonya Osborne-Simpson is the Director of Support & Outreach and Certified Master Trainer with the Amputee Coalition. She holds a Bachelor of Science in Social Work degree and has over 15 years of nonprofit leadership experience. Tonya joined the Coalition in 2015 and oversees the National Limb Loss Resource Center® and Peer Support department. She brings her years of training and curriculum expertise and community engagement strategies to enhance and expand the reach of the Coalition’s Certified Peer Visitor program, national Support Group Network, strategic partnerships, resource dissemination, and youth and family programs.
Farhad Ostovari received his bachelor’s degree in biology from University of Maryland Baltimore County (UMBC) and his doctorate degree in physical therapy from School of Medicine in Baltimore Maryland. Farhad is a director of Amputee Care and Prosthetic Services at Adventist HealthCare Rehabilitation in Rockville Maryland. Farhad organizes the amputee support group, amputee awareness 5K walk, wheel or Run, peer visitor and PALS training. Farhad teaches orthotic and prosthetic in physical therapy programs at colleges and universities in Maryland and DC.

Mona Patel, LCSW
San Antonio Amputee Foundation Founder & Executive Director

Mona helps people realize their inner strength and resilience. This passion was ignited by a traumatic accident, when at the age of 17, she was struck by a drunk driver and her right leg had to be amputated. Mona’s desire to help humanity and support the limb loss community has become her platform, mission, and legacy.

In 1997, Mona started a monthly amputee support group, which has now become one of the most active support groups in the nation. In 2008, with the help of The Amputee Coalition, she led successful statewide grassroots legislative efforts to pass the Texas Prosthetic Parity Act. This mandates commercial insurances to provide fair prosthetic and orthotic benefits to Texas amputees.

Mona took her amputee support services to a higher level in 2014 by creating The San Antonio Amputee Foundation (SAAF), a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization with the mission to empower the limb loss community through peer support (individual and group), education, advocacy, case management, health/fitness programs, socialization opportunities, and basic home modifications.

With a Bachelor’s degree in Behavioral Science (minor in Criminal Justice), a Master’s degree in Psychology, and a Master’s in Social Work, Mona has worked as a Licensed Clinical Social Worker for over 20 years. She has served geriatrics, adults, and children in the fields of mental health, chemical dependence, and medical healthcare.

Mona’s passion is a testimony that with determination and a positive attitude, disability is only a mindset!

Dustin Perchal is the Amputee Coalition's Government Relations Manager focusing on building the organization's grassroots advocacy efforts and managing the Lead Advocate program. Prior to coming the Amputee Coalition, Dustin worked on federal legislative and electoral grassroots campaigns for the American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network and helped manage their volunteer leadership structure with advocates in every congressional district. Dustin is originally from Nebraska and a proud Cornhusker. He has been in the Washington, DC area since 2011 and currently resides in Arlington, Virginia.

Linda L. Porter, Ph.D.
Director, Office of Pain Policy, National Institute of Health

Dr. Linda Porter directs the Office of Pain Policy at NINDS. In this capacity, she provides guidance and coordination of the NIH pain research programs through collaboration with the NIH Pain Consortium and supports the activities and programs of the consortium. Dr. Porter also serves as the Designated Federal Official for the Interagency Pain Research Coordinating Committee, an entity established through the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act of 2010 to address issues relevant to the federal pain research portfolio.

Dr. Porter joined the NINDS in 2003 as a Program Director in Systems and Cognitive Neuroscience. She received a B.Sc. in Physical Therapy from McGill University. Her clinical practice focused on developmental disabilities. Dr. Porter later earned a PhD in neuroanatomy from Boston University School of Medicine. As a postdoctoral fellow at the Rockefeller University, she trained with Hiroshi Asanuma in neurophysiology of sensory-motor systems. Dr. Porter was on the faculty of the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences (USUHS) for 15 years before joining the NINDS. During those years, she directed an NIH funded research program aimed at elucidating mechanisms of sensory-motor integration at the cortical level. Dr. Porter also studied the effects of various neuromodulators on developing cortical neurons and their neuroprotective influence over neurons in the mature cortex. She taught in the Graduate Neuroscience Program and the School of Medicine at USUHS.

Victoria Powell, RN, CCM, LNCC, CNLCP, CLCP MSCC, CBIS, CEASII is an RN with more than 25 years of professional nursing experience and has been providing nursing education and consulting services for nearly 20 years. Ms. Powell has been published in numerous professional journals, has authored and contributed to textbooks in the field.

Mike Procop
In 2011, at the age of 61, Mike developed Charcot, a disease where the bones in the foot crumble. Between 2011 and 2014, he underwent four foot surgeries, one that was a reconstruction of the bones in his foot. For three years he lived in constant pain, then his ankle started crumbling. The doctor suggested that he fuse the ankle bones.

Luckily, he was introduced to a prosthetist who was also an amputee. Mike’s quality of life was not good, and he felt like a burden to his wife and family. So, he made the decision to have his right foot removed. It was a good decision; the pain he had been living with had stopped. After the surgery there was healing and learning the new ways to do the things he previously did, but it was worth it.
With the support of his family, his life is pretty close to the way it was before. Since his amputation, he has traveled to Italy, Portugal, Spain, and the Panama Canal and he tries to exercise at the gym three to four times a week.

**Dr. Billie J. Randolph, PT, PhD, (Colonel, U.S Army Retired)** serves as the Department of Veterans Affairs lead for the Extremity Trauma and Amputation Center of Excellence, a joint effort between the Departments of Defense and Veterans Affairs to serve as the Nation’s premier center for promoting excellence in the care and research of traumatic extremity injuries and amputations. Prior to assuming her current role in July 2012, Dr. Randolph served a four year appointment as the Deputy Chief Consultant, Prosthetic & Sensory Aids Service, Veterans Health Administration where she provided vision, policy, and clinical expertise in the fabrication and procurement of state-of-the-art technology in assistive devices, prosthetics, orthotics, implants, and sensory aids available to Veterans. During her 28-year military career, she served as Chief of Physical Therapy at Walter Reed Army Medical Center where she was instrumental in vastly expanding amputation care after 2001. She also served as White House therapist from 2002-2004 and Commander, Ft. Meade Medical Department Activity from 2004-2006. Dr. Randolph holds a Bachelor of Health Science Degree in Physical Therapy from the University of Kentucky, a Master of Science Degree in Public Health from the University of Hawaii, and a Doctor of Philosophy Degree in Sports Medicine and Health Education from the University of Virginia. She has a number of presentations and publications related to extremity injury and amputation and is the recipient of numerous awards including induction into the University of Kentucky College of Health Science Alumni Hall of Fame and the Lifetime Contribution Award and Honorary Member status from the American Academy of Orthotics and Prosthetics.

**Jen Lee Reeves** is co-founder and executive director of Born Just Right. Her experience as a parent of a limb-different child led her to grow as an ally in the disability community. When Jen isn’t working for Born Just Right, she’s a digital director at a university and a training consultant. She is an alumna of the social strategy team at AARP in Washington, DC. She also spent years as a television news producer and taught digital journalism at the university level. To relax, Jen loves to travel with her family of four (including husband, Randy), take photos of the beauty around her, and enjoy music and good food.

**John Register** is a two-time Paralympian, Paralympic Games Silver Medalist, Persian Gulf War veteran, and TEDx Motivational Speaker. He embraced a “new normal” in becoming an amputee following a mistep over a hurdle while training for the 1996 Olympic Games, after participation in two consecutive Olympic trials.

An Oak Park, IL native, Register discovered how to “amputate his fear of disability” and founded the U.S. Olympic Committee Military Sport Program in the early 2000s. Recently, he launched a book entitled: 10 Stories to Impact Any Leader: Journal Your Way to Leadership Success, as a guide for business leaders returning to work amid stressful circumstances surrounding the Coronavirus pandemic and the recent unrest in our urban cities.

Register teaches others through his “Hurdling Adversity” speeches and podcasts to “amputate their fear and embrace their new normal,” as they discover “stories within themselves.” He finds that “it is the personal stories that inspire teams more profoundly with greater impact.”

Register is a four-time All-American graduate of University of Arkansas. He served six years in the U.S. Army—including in operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm, and in active-duty with the U.S. Army World Class Athlete Program—winning nine gold medals in the Armed Services Competition and two World Military Championships.

Register had his left leg amputated after a misstep over a hurdle changed his life. Register hyperextended his knee and severed the popliteal artery. He started swimming to aid in his recovery, made the U.S. Paralympic Team in 1996, and later won a silver medal in the long jump—as he set an American record—and sprinted to fifth in the 100 meters and 200 meters at the U.S. Paralympic Games in Sydney.

Now Register's prosthetic medal-winning leg from Sydney is on display along with his running shoe at the new U.S. Olympic and Paralympic Museum in Colorado where Register resides.

**Linda Resnik** is a professor in the Department of Health Services, Policy and Practice in Brown University’s School of Public Health and a VA RR&D funded Research Career Scientist. Dr Resnik has a 20-year clinical background in physical therapy. Her research focuses on the design and evaluation of upper limb prosthetic devices and evaluation of outcomes.

**Mary Richards** is the President and CEO of the Amputee Coalition, the nation’s only nonprofit organization for people affected by limb loss and limb difference, with a mission to empower the community to achieve their full potential through education, support, and advocacy.

Richards has been a non-profit executive for nearly 20 years, focusing on advocacy, policy, and lobbying for voluntary health associations. Before joining the Coalition, Richards was the Executive Director of Partners for Better Care, Senior Director of Public Policy for the Alzheimer’s Association, and the founding Executive Director of the Alzheimer’s Impact Movement (AIM). Mary also worked as the deputy CEO of the Parkinson’s Action Network (PAN), which is now part of the Michael J. Fox Foundation for Parkinson’s Research.

Mary also worked for two Members of the House of Representatives as a senior legislative aide focusing on
Jennifer Latham Robinson’s advice to young families and young people, whether grappling with or thriving with limb difference: you’ll be surprised. You’ll be surprised how your struggles and passions can combine to create your life’s work. And it’s a beautiful thing.

Jennifer’s daughters (17 and 12 years) are also very artistic. They often work alongside their parents, creating art and learning the ‘behind the scenes’ of their prosthetic and 3D printing fabrication techniques. They are very empathetic and open-minded people who have an open definition of beauty and are passionate about inclusion.

Jennifer’s birth anomaly was a surprise to her parents (this was in 1977, before regular pre-natal imaging was common). Doctors without PFFD experience gave Jennifer’s parents bleak projections for her activity level. Once home with their new baby, her family shifted gears to prepare for a child who would not walk. A neighbor, who happened to be a Shriner, recommended that they take her for an evaluation at the Shriner’s Hospital for Children. The care she received at the Greenville and Tampa hospitals transformed their lives. After her amputation at two years old, she began the wonderful path of prosthetic rehabilitation. Jennifer’s path has been flowered with incredible doctors and prosthetists (and, of course, family, friends, and teachers) who saw the ‘whole’ her, not just the patient. At a very young age, she knew she wanted to use her love of art to connect with people who live with limb differences.

In 1999, while preparing to graduate with a BA in Humanities from New College of Florida, she met her future husband. He was studying art and became interested in applying his artistic skills to the world of prosthetics. They entered the prosthetic field together in 1999. Jennifer can only describe herself as having many irons in the fire. She self-publishes children’s books (www.JenniferLathamRobinson.com) that are educational, creative, and focused on portraying people with limb differences. She’s also a doll-maker, creating whimsical dolls and toy monsters (www.outsiderdolls.com). She works closely with Bio-Tech Prosthetics & Orthotics in Durham, North Carolina (www.biotechnc.com) in building community relationships as well as creating patient-focused programs that include advocacy and assistance in obtaining care.

In 2017 she and her husband started their own company, www.functionalrestorations.com, which specializes in creating custom silicone prosthetic devices (like hands and feet) and 3D printed devices (like bracing and surgical templates). The work of their company focuses on bridging the gaps between silicone restoration, 3D printing, and O&P. Jennifer also offers reimbursement assistance to prosthetic companies struggling with documentation requirements, authorizations, and appeals.

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Samuel Rossiello is a 27 year old bi-lateral below-knee amputee from New York. In 2016 Samuel was involved in a horrific accident that caused both of his legs to be amputated that same night by surgeons. The difficult recovery he experienced helped him develop grit, greater empathy towards others, and motivation to improve healthcare access and quality for the disability communities that helped him. Thanks to his world-class patient care team, Samuel was able to run a 5K using his new prosthetics only eight months after losing his legs.

Through his experience over the past few years getting involved in the amputee community through Paddy Rossbach youth camp, as a Certified Peer Visitor, and from 1:1 mentoring, Samuel has learned that his success may not always be the norm, and that there are difficulties that go way beyond the physical elements of recovery. Amputees face many challenges, including inconsistent prosthetics care, financial burden, and
mental illness due to self and social acceptance issues. Since becoming an amputee in 2016, Samuel has learned lessons in self-care regarding anything from dealing with skin and sweating for an amputee, to maintaining a healthy lifestyle, to remote work, to seeking guidance to mental health counseling.

Today, Samuel works in technology product management at Deloitte, a globally recognized consulting firm, and will be pursuing his MBA in the fall of 2021. Additionally, he maintains balance through daily meditation, good sleeping habits, medication, talk therapy, and physical activity, such as yoga, running, golf, rock climbing, biking, skiing and more. He succeeds at work and thrives socially, sustaining healthy relationships with friends, family, mentees, his partner, and, most importantly, himself.

Samuel is grateful for his healing process and is aware of how fortunate he’s been in terms of access to medical leave, insurance, and life-saving medicine. Next year, he will celebrate the fifth anniversary of his accident with his family and friends, an accident that he is proud to say helped him find his purpose.

Samuel is looking forward to hearing about your story during this Round Table Discussion and to provide guidance or a connection wherever he can!

Phoebe Scott-Wyard, D.O.

Dr. Phoebe Scott-Wyard is a rehabilitation medicine specialist at Rady Children's Hospital-San Diego and an assistant professor at UC San Diego School of Medicine. She is double board-certified in pediatrics and physical medicine and rehabilitation.

Originally from Maine, Dr. Scott-Wyard completed her undergraduate degree in behavioral biology at Johns Hopkins University before attending medical school at Western University of Health Sciences in Southern California. She completed a combined residency in pediatrics and physical medicine and rehabilitation at Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center and University of Cincinnati. She served two years as a Peace Corps volunteer in Ecuador and is fluent in Spanish.

Dr. Scott-Wyard is especially interested in treating children with limb differences. Before going to Rady Children's, she served as the medical director of the Child Amputee Prosthetics Project clinic at Shriners Hospital in Los Angeles for six years. She is also a board member at large for the Association of Children's Prosthetic and Orthotic Clinics, the only professional organization for pediatric amputee care. She has served as a volunteer for the Challenged Athlete’s Foundation and Angel City Games.

Alba Seda is a Doctor of Physical Therapy at Moss Rehab Amputation and Prosthetics Program in Elkins Park, Pennsylvania. She has been treating patients with limb loss since 2012. Dr. Seda's professional focus is to utilize evidenced based and best physical therapy practices for endurance training for persons with amputations.

Lisa Sewell

In 2016 Lisa’s life took a turn that she wasn’t expecting or prepared for. Due to an ongoing illness, and side effects from long-term steroid use, she was diagnosed with Peripheral Vascular Disease (PVD) which resulted in a below the knee leg amputation. In October of 2018, she began a search on the computer for support groups for amputees in Frederick, Maryland. To her surprise and disappointment, the message continued to say “No results found”, at that point, her vision was birthed.

She went back to the computer and searched, “Support for amputees” and found The Amputee Coalition. Lisa went to Baltimore, Maryland in November and received training to become a Certified Peer Visitor (CPV). This training allows her to meet with someone who has had an amputation or is facing an amputation and to provide them with information, support, encouragement, and hope as they learn to navigate their new normal.

By December 2018 Peer Support for Amputees (P.S.A), was officially launched. In January 2019 the first support group meeting was held. They now meet monthly at The C. Burr Artz Library in downtown Frederick. On September 5, 2019 Lisa’s journey continued as she underwent a second surgery to have her right leg amputated, also below the knee. Due to PVD she is now a bilateral amputee. From three days in the hospital and twenty days in rehab, Lisa is now home to start yet another chapter of challenges that will describe what will no doubt be an adventure.

Zach Sherman

In July of 2010, at the age of 25, Zach had a motorcycle accident and lost both of his legs and his right arm on scene. He spent 18 weeks in surgical ICU and six months in the hospital before starting his rehabilitation. Over the next several years he was either undergoing more surgeries or at inpatient rehab facilities learning how to redo basic life skills. Since then, Zach has become a peer visitor and camp counselor for the Amputee Coalition as well as an avid snowboarder!

Reggie Showers, who despite having faced tremendous challenges in his life, has gone on to become an amazing role model in the lives of youth all across America. At the age of 14, Reggie was involved in a tragic electrical accident which could have easily smashed the dreams of the young boy from west Philadelphia. As a result, both of Reggie’s legs were amputated below the knees. After years of hard work, determination, and sacrifice, Reggie would go on to realize his childhood dream of becoming a World Champion Motorcycle Racer.

An accomplished pilot, inspirational speaker, certified snowboard instructor, and marathoner, Reggie’s accomplishments exemplify what the disabled can achieve when they are taught to believe in themselves despite the challenges they face. He travels the country visiting hospitals, rehab centers, high schools, and leadership conferences, sharing his amazing story with audiences, hoping to instill in their minds a “never-say-die” attitude.
In recent years Reggie walked across the African Serengeti as part of a National Geographic Channel documentary called Migrations. In 2016 he completed the Chicago Marathon. In the Summer of 2017, Reggie was part of ROMP, the Range Of Motion Project’s elite team of amputee & able-bodied climbers that climbed Cayambe, an 18,000 foot stratovolcano in Ecuador as part of a fundraising effort that benefitted amputees in third world countries. He developed a unique fundraiser which raised over $20,000 that benefitted the Shriner’s Hospitals for children. He has shared his inspirational story with our nation’s wounded heroes at Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washington, D.C. and has taught members of the Wounded Warrior Project and survivors of the Boston Marathon bombing to snowboard.

Reggie works for College Park Industries, a prosthetic foot manufacturer based in Warren, Michigan.

Jordan Simpson is a student from Massachusetts studying social work in Maine. She has a congenital limb difference and has been a camper and counselor at our youth camp for many years. Jordan cares about accessibility issues, particularly access to recreation and recreational devices. She loves being active outside, camping, reading, and knitting.

Maeve Smart is a two-time osteosarcoma survivor and above the knee amputee. She is a rising fourth year at Northeastern University, where she studies Health Science on a pre-medicine track. Maeve is a member of the MIB Agents junior board, a dial certified peer visitor through the Amputee Coalition and MIB Agents, and a weekly panelist on the Osteobites podcast.

Maureen Smart, LCSW-R is a clinical social worker from New York. She has more than thirty years of clinical experience working with youth and families. She is also mom to three beautiful, engaging young women and Osteo(sarcoma)-mom to her youngest daughter, Maeve.

As Maeve’s treatment completed and she was on the road to recovery, Maureen became active with both the Amputee Coalition and MIB Agents. She is a certified peer visitor and a “train the trainer” for the Amputee Coalition’s CPV program. She is active as the Peer Training Chief for MIB Agents - a peer support program co-branded with the Amputee Coalition.

Maeve is happy to be co-leading a session during the conference with Maev and looking forward to helping Make It Better for all attendees.

Greg Smith went to Philadelphia after graduating high school in Richmond, VA to take a job with the Postal Service. While working there as an electronics technician, he attended Holy Family University in the evenings and earned a B.A. in Management Information Systems and went on to Temple Law, earning his J.D. in 2003. He worked for the U.S. Postal Service as agency counsel in Philadelphia, then in New York. He came back to Philly to work as senior assistant regional counsel for ethics and personnel at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and then as senior associate general counsel for the U.S. Department of Defense, Defense Contracts Management Agency. He presently serves as an administrative judge with the U.S. Merit Systems Protection Board, Northeastern Regional Office.

Five years ago and shortly just after beginning his journey as an administrative judge, Greg lost his right leg mid-themur to a popliteal aneurysm.

Nancy Snyder is the Area Clinic Manager for the Brunswick GA Hanger Clinic. She joined Hanger Clinic in 1996 practicing both Prosthetics and Orthotics. Nancy received her Bachelor of Arts Degree from Mercer University and her Prosthetic and Orthotic degree from Northwestern University. She is an ambassador for bilateral above knee amputees and specializes in women’s health with prosthetics.

Andrew Sperling has been Director of Legislative and Policy Advocacy at NAMI since 1996. In that role, he oversees NAMI’s federal policy agenda in Congress and before federal agencies. He also serves as a consumer representative to the National Association of Insurance Commissioners and as co-chair of the Consortium for Citizens with Disabilities Housing Task Force. Andrew received his B.A. from Tulane University, his M.A. from The George Washington University and his J.D. from Franklin Pierce Law Center.

Mike St. Onge
In January 2000, as a result of pneumococcal pneumonia Mike became a quadrilateral amputee. Since his amputations he has been actively involved in the community; as a certified peer visitor, governmental advocate, patient model for prosthetic programs, and prosthetic manufacturers. He is a motivational speaker and guest lecturer for multiple universities and colleges. Mike enjoys volunteering his time and energies for many different amputee related organizations. While in the Marine Corps he met and married a fellow Marine in 1984. Mike currently serves on two Amputee Coalition committees, Upper Limb Advisory Committee and EdCon.

Samantha Stauffer, MSOP, CO is a prosthetic resident at Independence Prosthetics-Orthotics Inc. and a researcher with the University of Delaware Limb Loss Studies Lab directed by Dr. Megan Sions, PT, PhD, DPT. She is currently studying characteristics of low back pain in individuals with lower limb loss.

Lisa Strube graduated from Mercer University in 2016 in Vocational Rehabilitation Counseling. After graduation, she did clinical assessments and therapy with young adults and children. In 2017, Ms. Strube seized the opportunity to help people with disabilities go to work and school when she decided to be a Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor. Being a VR Counselor made
Lisa realize how much she missed doing therapy. When she received her LPC, she went into private practice and works with couples, individuals, and groups on areas of relationships, sexuality, trauma, and disability.

For Lisa, being a Couples, Relationship, and Sexuality Therapist is her best fit. She loves her work and helping people connect better with themselves and their partners.

Chris A. Toelle, CO, LO and East Zone Specialist of the Hanger Clinic, has dedicated his career to providing people in need the highest quality Orthotic devices both kids and adults.

Kevin Van Why has been a bilateral below knee amputee as a result of diabetes and infection since 2004. He lives in Wilkes Barre, PA and supports his local limb loss and limb difference community as a Certified Peer Visitor, Certified Peer Visitor Trainer, and Support Group Leader of Wilkes Barre Amputee Support Group. He has been an active participant at various Amputee Coalition events, including National Conference, Hill Day, Limb Loss Education Days, and Support Group Leader Summit.

Anna D. Vergun, MD
Pediatric Orthopedist, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill

Dr. Vergun’s clinical focus is on hip dysplasia, clubfoot, limb deformity, limb deficiencies, and pediatric amputees. She completed her orthopedic residency at University of California Los Angeles and her fellowship in pediatric orthopedics at Hospital for Sick Children in Toronto, Ontario, Canada. She is the current president of the Association of Children’s Prosthetics and Orthotics Clinics and is the Division Chief of Pediatric Orthopedics at UNC, Chapel Hill. She is an active member of the Pediatric Orthopedic Society of North America, American Orthopedic Association, and the American Academy of Orthopedic Surgeons. She volunteers on the medical advisory board for MiracleFeet and the Palestine Children’s Relief Fund. In her spare time, she enjoys her three children and horseback riding.

Jennifer Wagner
is a left wrist disarticulation Veteran and Certified Peer Visitor and lives in Ohio. Her amputation occurred in 1992 due to trauma. She is a member of the LGBTQIA+ community and a support group member with Amps4ohio based out of Columbus, OH.

Melanie Waldman
is an actor and registered yoga teacher, from Atlantic City, NJ. Over the past 3 summers, she has volunteered with the coalition with Paddy Rossbach’s Amputee camp as both a counselor and the camp’s yoga teacher. This past March, Melanie became a Lead Advocate as she advocates for disability inclusion in both the yoga space, as well as in TV and Media! She loves helping people with disabilities discover ways to adapt their practices and to create greater access for all to be able to enjoy the benefits of using mindfulness and meditation in their daily lives.

Reach out to her if you’re thinking “I’d love to hear more”, you can find her on social media @whereswaldman or on Facebook at “Yoga with Melanie Waldman”.

Dr. Joseph Webster
is a physician with 23 years of experience in the field of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation (PM&R) and in working with individuals with amputations. Dr. Webster is currently an Associate Professor in the Department of PM&R at Virginia Commonwealth University and a Staff Physician at the Richmond VA Medical Center.

Dr. Stephen T. Wegener
Dr. Wegener’s clinical activity is focused on providing psychological services to persons with traumatic injuries and chronic illness. His research focuses on theories and projects that have the potential to improve function and reduce disability following injury or illness.

Katie Laurel Wells
is an alumna of both St. Cecilia Academy and Sewanee The University of the South, where she majored in Russian. She worked in the Office of Presidential Correspondence at The White House and also served as a Military Peer Visitor at Walter Reed Army Medical Center, helping those ill and injured with limb loss recover. Katie is still an active Peer Visitor through the Amputee Coalition of America, helping amputees pre and post-surgery. Katie is the author of two children’s books: I Can Still Do Everything with One Arm is about how Katie became a Paralympic champion swimmer, despite being told by her first swimmer instructor she would never swim. Her second book, I Can Still Work at the White House with One Arm, explores what it was like working at the White House with one arm and living in our nation’s capital.

Kathy West-Evans, MPA, CRC
is currently the Director of Business Relations for the Council of State Administrators of Vocational Rehabilitation (CSAVR), the membership organization of the 78 Directors of the public Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) programs. Collectively the public VR system serves over one million individuals with disabilities with the goal of developing careers through employment, in integrated, competitive employment settings. Kathy leads the National Employment Team or the NET. The NET is a team of Business Consultants representing the public VR agencies in every state, the territories and D.C. In this role she promotes a dual customer strategy, focusing on working with businesses to meet their employment needs through talent and support services provided by VR. Kathy works with business customers to develop effective strategies for hiring, promoting and retaining employees with disabilities. This is done through a variety of training, consulting and technical assistance supports and strategies that include building a team of VR business specialists across the footprint of the business customer.
Ashlie White is the Director of Strategic Alliances for the American Orthotic and Prosthetic Association. Prior to joining AOPA, she served as the Director of Operations for Beacon Prosthetics and Orthotics. She also served eight years as the Director of Government Affairs for the North Carolina Orthotics and Prosthetics Trade Association (NCOPTA).

Kelsea Wilkerson is a dynamic communications strategist, who thrives on telling stories that amplify voices and captivate audiences.

Kelsea comes from a crisis comms, social justice, political, and media relations background. Prior to The Amputee Coalition, she worked at Edelman public relations, where she was tasked with providing strategic counsel to businesses facing reputational threats.

Having spent her early career in media relations, she believes that telling your best story begins with “you.” She believes that your unique story is your “pitch” and the best way to build meaningful relationships with audiences. Kelsea has secured earned media placements and bookings both nationally and locally for clients focused on telling their unique story.

She graduated from the University of Texas at Austin, where she earned a Bachelor’s degree in Sociology in 2015 and more recently, she completed her studies at Georgetown University, earning a Masters in Public Relations and Corporate Communications.

Mike Zwolinski is the Director of Government Relations for the Amputee Coalition. Mike oversees the Coalition’s federal and state public policy interests, as well as its grassroots advocacy program. Mike comes to the Coalition from ACT for NIH, where he was managing director. He previously worked at the Association of Schools and Programs of Public Health as well as U.S. Senate and U.S. House campaigns. Mike received his master’s in public policy from Oxford. If you have questions about the Amputee Coalition’s public policy priorities, or want to learn more about becoming an advocate, please email advocacy@amputee-coalition.org.

Additional Speakers include:

- Cameron Clapp
- Alison Clark
- Jill Cannoy
- Mike Benning
- Matt Branch
- Jonathan Forsberg, DOD
- Ingacio Gaunaurd PT, PhD, MSPT
- Tricia Kirkhart
- Andrew Lerman
- Munjed Al Muderis
- Matthew Nelson
- Pedro Pimenta
- Anthony Rystad
- Eileen Shieh
- Ray Speelman
- Richard Welling
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We are always grateful to the organizations that support the limb loss and limb difference community, making a difference for thousands of people very year.