

Dr. Blank Inducted into Hall of Fame by Kent State University

Kent State University College of Podiatric Medicine (formerly the Ohio College of Podiatric Medicine, OCPM) announced the induction of Dr. Bruce G. Blank into the OCPM Hall of Fame Society. The induction ceremony was held on Friday, May 16, 2014 at the 10th Annual Glass Slipper Fete held at the Western Reserve Historical Society in Cleveland, Ohio. The Hall of Fame Society recognizes distinguished alumni who display exceptional dedication to the College of Podiatric Medicine and contribute to achievements within the podiatric medical community.

Dr. Blank attended the Ohio College of Podiatric Medicine and graduated in 1987, has been in private practice for 25 years and is President of Achilles Foot and Ankle Surgery, PC with offices in Martins Ferry and St. Clairsville, Ohio and in Wheeling, West Virginia.

He has been very active in the politics of podiatry throughout his career. He was President of Ohio Podiatric Medical Students' Association while at OCPM. In his first year of practice, he was encouraged to run for and was elected secretary of his local academy of the Ohio Podiatric Medical Association. Within a few years, he was elected President of the academy.

Dr Blank has displayed dedication to the podiatric profession in many ways. Blank was the first Doctor of Podiatric Medicine to gain foot/ankle surgical privileges at five hospitals in his local area. As a result of his work in breaking this barrier, other DPMs were later able to obtain privileges. The overall result has been a greater appreciation by the medical community of the training of DPMs and their recognition as important members of the medical and surgical team.

Blank has played a large role in the politics of podiatric medicine and surgery throughout his career including serving on numerous national committees as a member of the American Podiatric Medical Association (APMA). He served as a member of the Board of Trustees of the Ohio Foot and Ankle Medical Association (formerly OPMA) and for an 18 month term as its' President. He continues to serve as an Ohio delegate to the APMA House of Delegates in Washington, DC.

Dr. Blank has been consistently supportive of KSUCPM since entering practice by recruiting and mentoring podiatric medical students. He also served as a surgical faculty member of the Forum Health Western Reserve Care System Foot and Ankle Surgery Residency Program.

Additionally, Blank has received numerous awards and honors, including being named Distinguished Alumnus of the Year by The Ohio College of Podiatric Medicine in 2005. He was named one of "America's Most Influential Podiatrists" by Podiatry Management Magazine in 2006 and 2012. He received the Thomas J. Meyer Award for Dedicated Service and Outstanding Leadership from the OPMA in 2006. He also was honored to receive the Champion of Podiatry Award from the OPMA at the 2009 OPMA House of Delegates. His practice was also voted as Reader's Choice of Best of the Valley by the Times Leader newspaper for 12 of the last 13 years.

He is Board Certified in Reconstructive Foot and Ankle Surgery by The American Board of Podiatric Surgery and Board Certified in Foot and Ankle Orthopedics by The American Board of Podiatric Medicine. He is a Fellow of the American College of Foot & Ankle Orthopedics and Medicine as well as of the American Society of Podiatric Surgeons..

Blank has also been active in his Ohio Valley communities. He is past Council President of the American Diabetes Association Ohio River Valley Chapter. He and his wife Diane have sponsored and hosted the Annual Halloween Candy Exchange Party for Kids with Diabetes in his St. Clairsville office since 1999. He had been a participant in the WTRF-TV Easter Seals Telethon as a VIP (Very Interested Person) for 19 years. He has given multiple presentations to the community and physicians, and has been interviewed on television concerning foot and ankle conditions.

In addition to Dr. Bruce Blank, the OCPM Hall of Fame Society inducted Dr. Richard DiBacco of Erie, PA, OCPM class of 1967.
The 10th Annual Glass Slipper Fete is a benefit for the Student Scholarship Fund at the Kent State University College of Podiatric Medicine.