

## Letter from the Chairman

Jung U. Yoo, MD



It seems that the world is so quickly changing around us that many orthopaedic surgeons seem bewildered and even discouraged. Every year there is new things to incorporate into our practice and new terms we have to learn: Affordable Health Care Act, Value Based Purchasing, Meaningful Use...etc. It does give one pause as to the profession that we have chosen and to our ability to deliver quality care to our patients.

Like everyone else, I have worried about these changes. However when I came to the realization that the changes are an inevitable part of progress, most of my concerns started to disappear. We may have been able to give great care to our individual patients, but who cared for the millions who were not insured? Did they not deserve to be mended of broken bones, to walk without pain or to have the best chance of surviving their osteosarcoma? Whether we like or hate any particular aspect of the Affordable Health Care Act, there is no argument that the society—and we as the physicians—have some responsibility to care for all. Is it not the responsibility and right of those who pay for the treatment to ask if we are providing worthwhile care?

Life is about choice and I choose to remain optimistic. No matter how many changes have occurred, my mission and my compact with society have not changed. I am grateful for the fact that I have the privilege of helping my patients regain their life and function, the honor of training the next generation of talented and caring surgeons, and joy of discovering new knowledge that enriches all our lives. I hope that every one of us commits ourselves as engaged leaders of these changes, because without our optimism and involvement, these changes will surely fail.

Henry Ford said, “The man who thinks he can and the man who thinks he can't are both right. Which one are you?”

Jung U. Yoo, MD  
Professor and Chairman