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The American Orthopaedic Association (AOA) Confirms Alexander J. Ghanayem, MD, as 2024-2025 President

Rosemont, IL, June 21, 2024 – Alexander J. Ghanayem, MD, FAOA, was confirmed as the 137th president of the American Orthopaedic Association during the organization's 2024 Annual Leadership Meeting in St. Louis, MO.

During his installation, Dr. Ghanayem touched on the importance of institutional trust and the role leadership has in developing and maintaining that trust. He has served on the AOA Executive Committee as Treasurer as well as numerous committee assignments throughout the organization. He is a spine fellowship trained orthopaedic surgeon who has spent his entire professional attending career at Loyola University Medical Center/Loyola University Chicago Stritch School of Medicine. He was named the Dr. William H. Scholl Professor and Chair of Loyola's Department of Orthopaedic Surgery and Rehabilitation in 2016. In 2021, he also assumed the role of Loyola Medicine's Medical Group Chief Medical Officer leading an 850 multi-specialty physician and advanced practice provider group in providing care at a large tertiary academic medical center and two community hospitals. His clinical interest is in spine surgery focusing on degenerative and traumatic conditions involving the entire spine. His research interests are primarily in spine biomechanics as part of a team that has received nearly \$8 million in funding during his career. In his CMO role, he focuses on strategic programmatic development, physician recruitment and retention, and compensation and clinical program financial modeling.

Education and Training

Dr. Ghanayem is a graduate of Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine. He completed an internship in general surgery, a residency in orthopaedic surgery at Case Western Reserve University, and a fellowship in spine surgery at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Dr. Ghanayem joined Loyola Medicine in 1995 and serves as chair of the department of orthopaedic surgery and rehabilitation. Dr. Ghanayem has led the orthopaedic department since 2016.

Interests

Dr. Ghanayem has been married to his wife Patrice Ghanayem for 35 years and they have 3 adult children: Sarah, Michael, and Isabelle. Patrice and Alex are dog lovers, particularly Rhodesian Ridgebacks, enjoy cycling and being outdoors. Alex is also a passionate wildlife photographer. They reside in Chicago's western suburbs.

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About The American Orthopaedic Association

Founded in 1887, and the first orthopaedic association in the world, The American Orthopaedic Association is a small, select organization of elected orthopaedic leaders.

Membership in The American Orthopaedic Association is an earned membership that comes at the end of a stringent peer-reviewed process. Fewer than 10% of practicing orthopaedic surgeons have achieved AOA Membership. Members of The American Orthopaedic Association are referred to as Fellows of The American Orthopaedic Association (FAOA). This designation after a surgeon's name means that the surgeon has achieved recognition for exceptional accomplishments and leadership in the orthopaedic specialty.

AOA programs are designed to provide leadership education for surgeons from residency through retirement. The AOA helps orthopaedic surgeons gain and enhance skills and concepts not taught during residency. This includes leadership development courses, content and training for academic orthopaedists, and providing thought leadership on and solutions for critical issues facing the broad orthopaedic community. Find out more at www.aoassn.org, and follow us on X @aoa1887, LinkedIn, and Instagram