

2025

Southeastern Society of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons

75TH ANNUAL MEETING

April 23 - April 27

CASA MARINA: KEY WEST, FL



Tara Aghaloo, DDS, MD, PhD

“Complex Implant Cases and Optimizing Patients for Surgery”

Rui Fernandes, DMD, MD, FACS, FRCS

“Reconstruction of the Maxilla and Mandible: From Simple to Complex”

Teresa Biggerstaff, DDS, MD

“The Role of Nutrition in Healing After Maxillofacial Surgery”

GREETINGS FROM THE PRESIDENT

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Executive Director

Melissa Connor
Associate Executive Director



Dear Fellow SSOMS Members:

On behalf of the membership of the Southeastern Society of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons, I invite you to attend our 75th annual meeting which will be held **April 23 - 27** at Casa Marina in Key West, FL.

Newly renovated in 2023, Casa Marina is a flawless merging on old Key West ambiance and contemporary luxury. The resort's historic architecture and tropical surroundings create a timeless backdrop for us to experience sublime and memorable moments. Conceived by American railroad tycoon Henry Flagler, the resort was intended to accommodate wealthy customers of Flagler's Overseas Railroad, connecting Key West to the Florida mainland and the final branch of Florida's East Coast Railway. Casa Marina Key West was designed by architects Thomas Hastings and John M. Carrere, who designed New York's Metropolitan Opera House, New York Public Library, and the Senate and House of Representatives office buildings in Washington, DC.

Celebrating 75 years of great scientific sessions, we'll host Dr. Tara Aghaloo who will present "Medical Optimization of the Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery Patient: A Surgeon's Perspective" and "Update on Complicate Implant Procedures and Treatment Alternatives." Dr. Teresa Biggerstaff will present "Nutritional Impact on Healing Following Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery," and Dr. Rui Fernandes will present "Computer-assisted Surgery and Virtual Surgical Planning." We will also honor two giants in oral and maxillofacial surgery, Dr. Peter Waite and Dr. Rui Fernandes.

I look forward to seeing you in the Florida Keys at the beautiful Casa Marina.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "P. Louis". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Patrick Louis, DDS, MD
President, Southeastern Society of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons

DAILY SCHEDULE

Wednesday, April 23

12:00 - 2:00pm	Foundation Board Meeting
1:00 - 5:00pm	Registration
3:00 - 5:00pm	First Board Meeting
3:00 - 5:00pm	Examination of Candidates
6:30	Opening Reception and Dinner

Thursday, April 24

7:00 - 12:00pm	Registration
7:00 - 8:00am	Exhibits & Full Breakfast
8:00 - 10:00am	<i>"Complex Implant Cases and Optimizing Patients for Surgery"</i> Tara Aghaloo, DDS, MD, PhD
9:00 - 10:00am	Spouses' Breakfast
10:00 - 10:30am	Break & Exhibits
10:30 - 11:30am	<i>"Complex Implant Cases and Optimizing Patients for Surgery"</i> Tara Aghaloo, DDS, MD, PhD
6:30 - 7:30pm	Reception for all

Celebrate our 75th Anniversary with our custom silver SSOMS cup, included in your registration fee.



Friday, April 25

7:00 - 12:00pm	Registration
7:00 - 8:00am	Exhibits & Full Breakfast
8:00 - 10:00am	<i>"Reconstruction of the Maxilla and Mandible: From Simple to Complex"</i> Rui Fernandes, DMD, MD, FACS
10:00 - 10:30am	Break & Exhibits
10:30 - 12:00pm	First Business Session
6:15 - 8:30pm	Sunset Cruise

Saturday, April 26

7:00 - 12:00pm	Registration
7:00 - 8:00am	Exhibits & Full Breakfast
7:00 - 8:00am	Past Presidents' Breakfast
7:00 - 8:00am	Second Board Meeting
8:00 - 10:00am	<i>"The Role of Nutrition in the Healing of Maxillofacial Surgery"</i> Teresa Biggerstaff, DDS, MD
10:00 - 10:30am	Break & Exhibits
10:30 - 12:00pm	Second Business Session
12:00pm	Lunch on your own
6:30 - 7:00pm	President's Reception
7:00 - 11:00pm	President's Dinner Dancing and music provided

Sunday, April 27 - Departure

SPEAKERS

Tara Aghaloo, DDS, MD, PhD



Dr. Tara Aghaloo is Professor in Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery at UCLA. She completed her DDS at UMKC, and OMFS residency, MD, and PhD at UCLA. She is a diplomate of the American Board of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery, and her clinical practice focuses on bone and soft tissue regeneration, and dental implant surgery. She is a board member of the OsteoScience Foundation, Past President of the AO, and Associate Editor of the JOMS.

Session Description: *Surgeons face increasingly complex patients, requiring predictable outcomes despite challenges like chronic diseases, aging, and poor systemic health. Oral and maxillofacial surgeons must address patients' diverse medical conditions, medications, and lifestyle factors to optimize recovery and ensure surgical success. Achieving favorable outcomes involves preoperative patient optimization, advanced diagnostics, and regenerative strategies tailored to compromised or osteoporotic patients. Similarly, dental implant success depends on proper case selection, meticulous planning, and effective management of complications, particularly with the rise in demand for advanced and immediate-placement techniques. This presentation will explore strategies and innovations for optimizing patient health and achieving ideal surgical and implant outcomes.*

Rui Fernandes, DMD, MD, FACS, FRCS



Dr. Rui Fernandes is a professor of oral and maxillofacial surgery at the University of Florida and a board-certified surgeon at UF Health Jacksonville. He serves as associate chair of the UF Department of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery, chief of the Division of Head and Neck Surgery, and program director of the Head and Neck Oncologic Surgery and Microvascular Fellowship. He also directs the UF Center for Reconstructive Surgery and co-directs the UF Health Skull Base Surgery Program. Specializing in head and neck cancer, oral cancer, salivary gland pathology, jaw tumors, and microvascular reconstruction, Dr. Fernandes is a leader in his field. He earned his dental degree from Boston University, medical degree from the University of Alabama, and completed advanced training at the University of Maryland.

Session Description: *The reconstruction and rehabilitation of jaws following ablative surgery have been transformed in recent years by the development of computer-assisted surgery and virtual surgical planning. This presentation aims to discuss the current state-of-the-art jaw reconstruction, and to preview the potential future developments. Currently, a great deal of research has been conducted on augmented/mixed reality, artificial intelligence, virtual surgical planning for hard and soft tissue reconstruction, and the rehabilitation of the stomatognathic system. This will lead to an even more exciting future for the functional reconstruction and rehabilitation of the jaw following ablative surgery. These concepts will be addressed for both the mandible and maxilla.*

Teresa Biggerstaff, DDS, MD

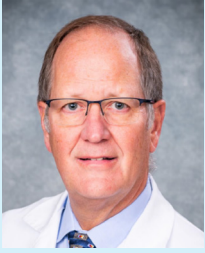


Dr. Teresa Biggerstaff, a native of Washington State, began her training at the University of California, San Francisco School of Dentistry. She completed her Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery training and medical school at LSU, which gave her the opportunity to evaluate and treat the entire spectrum of oral and maxillofacial problems. Following her residency, she moved to North Carolina for a fellowship in Facial Cosmetic Surgery and has been in private practice there ever since. She enjoys private practice and also enjoys hosting and teaching residents in the Osteoscience Observership program. She maintains a very busy oral surgery and facial surgery practice in two locations and owns and directs a medical spa as well. Dr. Biggerstaff serves on the executive committee of the NC Society of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons and serves on multiple committees for the SSOMS.

Session Description: *Bone and soft tissue grafting have advanced significantly due to innovations in biomaterials, enabling successful dental rehabilitation with implants. Predictable outcomes depend on patient selection, surgical technique, biomaterial choice, and sound design, but failures can still occur. Emerging evidence links micronutrient deficiencies to failures in bone grafting, soft tissue healing, and implant osseointegration. With modern diets often lacking essential nutrients, particularly in older patients who frequently seek dental implants, addressing these deficiencies is crucial. This presentation will explore the role of micronutrients in regenerative procedures and strategies to optimize their levels for better outcomes.*

AWARDS

Lifetime Achievement Award: Peter D. Waite, DDS, MD, MPH



Dr. Peter D. Waite is Professor Emeritus and former McCallum Chair of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery at the University of Alabama. He served as Program Director for seven years and Department Chair for nearly 30 years. Dr. Waite earned his DDS from the University of Minnesota and his MD from the University of Alabama. His clinical expertise includes impacted teeth, orthognathic surgery, craniofacial reconstruction, cleft lip/palate, cosmetic surgery, obstructive sleep apnea, and dental implants. Dr. Waite is an internationally recognized lecturer, past president of the AACS, and editor of *Peterson's Principles of Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery*. He has received numerous awards, including the OKU Fred Heney Award, the Don Osborn Outstanding Educator Award, and the AAOMS Clinical Research Award. His contributions to the field include groundbreaking publications on rhinoplasty in orthognathic surgery, sleep apnea surgery, and enhanced recovery protocols in orthognathic reconstruction. He has authored over 100 peer-reviewed articles, edited eight books, and written 37 book chapters, delivering more than 260 lectures worldwide. Dr. Waite continues to mentor residents at UAB and spends summers as a volunteer forest ranger at Grand Teton National Park, working with the Wildlife Bear Brigade. He considers his greatest achievements to be his wife, three children, and six grandchildren.

Distinguished Educators Award: Rui Fernandes, DMD, MD, FACS, FRCS



Dr. Rui Fernandes is a professor of oral and maxillofacial surgery at the University of Florida and a board-certified surgeon at UF Health Jacksonville. He serves as associate chair of the UF Department of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery, chief of the Division of Head and Neck Surgery, and program director of the Head and Neck Oncologic Surgery and Microvascular Fellowship. He also directs the UF Center for Reconstructive Surgery and co-directs the UF Health Skull Base Surgery Program. Specializing in head and neck cancer, oral cancer, salivary gland pathology, jaw tumors, and microvascular reconstruction, Dr. Fernandes is a leader in his field. He earned his dental degree from Boston University, medical degree from the University of Alabama, and completed advanced training at the University of Maryland.

ACCREDITATION

Continuing Education Credits

Up to 7.5 CDE and CME credits will be provided for full attendance at this meeting.

Accreditation and Designation Statements: SSOMS 2025 Meeting

This activity has been planned and implemented in accordance with the accreditation requirements and policies of the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME) through the joint providership of PeerPoint Medical Education Institute and the Osteo Science Foundation. PeerPoint Medical Education Institute is accredited by the ACCME to provide continuing medical education for physicians.

PeerPoint Medical Education Institute designates the live format for this educational activity for a maximum of 7.5 AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™. Physicians should only claim credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

OSTEO SCIENCE FOUNDATION

Nationally Approved PACE Program Provider for FAGD/MAGD credit.

Approval does not imply acceptance by any regulatory authority or AGD endorsement. 7/1/24 to 6/30/28.

Provider ID: 370582

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PACE
ACADEMY of
GENERAL DENTISTRY
PROGRAM APPROVAL
FOR CONTINUING
EDUCATION

ACTIVITIES



SUNSET CRUISE

Friday, April 25 | \$150 per person

Key West is known for its world-famous sunsets. During your Key West catamaran cruise, feel the wind in your hair and the ocean breeze caress your skin. Take in Key West landmarks like

the Mallory Square Sunset celebration, Sunset Key and historic Fort Zachary Taylor. What a perfect ending to your day in paradise! The excursion includes open bar with cocktails champagne, beer, wine, sangria, soft drinks and water with chef's selection of hors d'oeuvres.

Duration: 6:15 - 8:30pm

The following adventures are available during our conference. Please make your reservations with the Casa Marina Concierge.



JET SKIING

Jump on one of Barefoot Billy's Yamaha Wave runners and cruise around the island on a 90 minute guided Jet Skitour. Look out for an array of Florida Keys' wildlife as you speed your way through our Caribbean waters. The tour begins

with safety instructions from our expert guides, providing you with the confidence to get the most out of your island jet ski experience. Once comfortable with your jet ski, you will follow your knowledgeable guide on a 27-mile course, completely circumnavigating Key West, a task impossible by most watercraft. Your guide will make five stops at various points of interest, including The Southernmost Point, Historic Key West Bight, and Sunset Key.

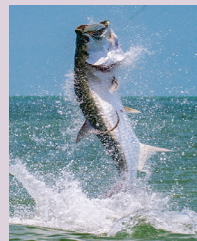


KAYAK TOUR

Embark on a serene kayak tour, at The Paddle Hut at Geiger Key, nestled in the tranquil waters of Florida Keys. As you paddle through the calm and crystal-clear waters, take in the breathtaking views of the surrounding mangroves

and marine life. Your expert guide will lead you through the winding waterways, pointing out hidden gems and sharing fascinating insights into the region's unique ecosystem. With each stroke of your paddle, immerse yourself in the peaceful atmosphere and spot a variety of wildlife,

including manatee, sea turtles, exotic birds and a wide variety of marine life. Whether you're a seasoned kayaker or a beginner, this tour offers a relaxing and unforgettable experience in the stunning natural beauty of Geiger Key.



FISHING

Key West offers some of the best salt water fishing in the world. Jeff Wallen, our fishing committee chair recommends the following to book your fishing charter:

Hurricane Hole Marina

Located on Stockton Island, a few miles from the resort, 1/2, 3/4, and full day charters can be scheduled for inshore and nearshore fishing. Experienced captains with bay boats and center console boats will design a charter to fit your needs. The Marina has an outdoor restaurant and bar and they will clean and cook your catch for you onsite. Rates range from \$650-\$1000 per boat excluding gratuity. Call Captain John Jackson at 305-923-3721 to schedule.

Outer Limit Sports Fishing

Captain Jay Miller; 305-923-1043; 42ft Sports Fisher with air-conditioned cabin.

Beach Weekend Key West

Captain Alex Canalejo; 305-797-5146; 31ft Yellowfin

Odyssey Key West Sport Fishing

Captain Rush Malta; 305-797-5060; 34ft custom SeaVee with triple 300 outboards.

Key Limey Key West Fishing Charters

Captain Tony Murphy; book online at keylimey.com

No Doubt Charters

Captain Desi Perez; 305-731-0371; 32 ft open contender

Roughshot Charters

Captain D.J. Barrios; 305-509-3390; 32 ft open contender



SPA

Open daily | Pricing varies

Relax and unwind with therapeutic services provided by Spa al Mare. Visit the spa or choose an indulgent beachfront location for your spa treatment. Massage, facials, aromatherapies are available.

Reservations prior to arrival are strongly recommended

Spa offerings: casamarinaresort.com/spa

GENERAL INFORMATION

OVERVIEW

Casa Marina
1500 Reynolds Street
Key West, FL 33040
305-296-3535

A legendary landmark destination, Casa Marina embodies the elegance and character of Old Key West, where time passes at a leisurely pace. Enjoy sun-drenched days beckoning you to our private beach and historic spaces where romantic visions of the past become your present, and where the true essence of Key West is revealed. As the most desirable destination in Key West, Casa Marina creates a timeless backdrop for our guests to experience sublime and memorable moments with every visit. Find opportunities to lose yourself in relaxation, disconnecting from the mainland to connect with family, friends, and experiences to make memories to last a lifetime.

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION

Members: Registration fee includes Wed night's reception and Dinner, Thursday night reception and Saturday night's Presidential Reception and Dinner. Members will receive breakfast and breaks during the scientific sessions.

Spouses: Registration fee includes Wed night's reception and Dinner, Thursday night reception and Saturday night's Presidential Reception and Dinner. Spouses/Guests are welcome at the Spouses' Breakfast on Thursday. *You must register your spouse by clicking the "add guest" button after you have registered. Your spouse is **not** registered if you don't do this.*

Other Guests: Everyone who attends the meeting is required to register and pay a registration fee. *Members, please note you must first register yourself and then "add guest" to register your other family members or guests.*

Members, Associate Members: \$1125
Life/Retired, Honorary Members: \$1025
Provisional Members, AAOMS Officer/Trust: \$900
Spouses/Guests: \$675
Non-Members: \$1375

REGISTER: bit.ly/SSOMS2025

HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS

The Casa Marina has many, many choices for accommodations so make sure you look at the website to see all available.

Hotel website: casamarinaresort.com/stay
Room block: bit.ly/SSOMS2025Hotel

OPENING RECEPTION AND DINNER

The opening reception will be held Wednesday, April 23 at 6:30. We'll dine and watch the sunset under the trees at East Beach.

SPOUSES' PROGRAM

Join Lori Louis at the Spouses' Breakfast on Thursday, April 24 to learn about the activities and tours planned for the meeting. You'll also hear from a Key West historian.

PAST PRESIDENTS' ADVISORY MEETING

If you are a past president of SSOMS, we invite you to join us for Saturday, April 26 at 7:00am. Registration required.

PRESIDENT'S RECEPTION AND DINNER

The President's Reception will be held Saturday, April 26 from 6:00pm to 7:00pm followed by the dinner, awards and entertainment.

TRANSPORTATION

Option 1: Fly into Miami International Airport and drive to Key West, 166 miles.

Option 2: Fly into Key West Airport. SSOMS will provide group transportation from the KW Airport to the Casa Marina. If you would like to ride group transportation to and from the airport, please select the transportation option when you register for the meeting. Please note that Ubers are unreliable to and from the airport.

ATTIRE

Resort wear is appropriate throughout the conference and includes the President's reception and dinner.

DINING AT CASA MARINA

Casa Marina offers diverse dining options for every taste. Dorada serves Baja-Med cuisine with fresh seafood, steaks, and shareable dishes. Flagler's Restaurant provides breakfast in a historic setting. The Canary Room offers island-inspired craft cocktails and light bites. Morrison's Market features coffee, pastries, and grab-and-go items. For a special treat, the "Toes in the Sand" dining experience delivers a six-course meal right on the beach. Reservations prior to arrival are strongly recommended for most places.

Dining offerings: casamarinaresort.com/dining

2026 MEETING

76th Annual Meeting
May 13-17, 2026
The Breakers
Palm Beach, FL



2027 MEETING

77th Annual Meeting
Dates TBA
The Europe
Killarney, Ireland



2028 MEETING

78th Annual Meeting
May 5-9, 2028
The Cloister
Sea Island, GA

