The Only Constant is Change

The reason you are all sitting here today is that you are not satisfied with the status quo; you are here to make a difference—and you do!

During my inaugural address to the APMA House of Delegates nearly a year ago, I told the audience that leaders are never satisfied with the status quo. Fortunately, APMA and podiatric medicine have never wanted for outstanding leaders willing to effect real change in our profession.

Next month, I will turn the APMA presidency over to one such exceptional leader. Joseph Caporusso, DPM, has been a huge part of the change we have seen over the years in podiatric medicine, forging powerful relationships with other medical professions and with podiatrists worldwide through his work with the Fédération Internationale des Podologues. Dr. Caporusso and I have worked closely together during our time on the board and especially this year, and I am confident he will bring exciting changes to APMA as he assumes the presidency.

As physicians in today’s ever-evolving health-care environment, we must always be prepared for change—both good and bad—and we must be prepared to advocate for our practices and our patients.

2012 brings with it the promise of many changes. This is an election year, and we have an opportunity to elect a podiatrist (or two!) to Congress. Regardless of which candidates emerge victorious, we’re sure to see change, and we’ll have new leaders to educate about podiatric medicine. I hope you have made a contribution to APMAPAC or plan to do so soon!

As the Affordable Care Act comes to fruition, 2012 will also bring about changes as a result of the implementation of health-care reform. I hope you’ve had a chance to review the outcomes of the 2011 Carrier Advisory Committee-Private Insurance Advisory Committee joint meeting, where Henry Desmarais, MD, MPA, spoke eloquently about the changes podiatrists can expect in an era of reform. You can catch a video of his presentation at www.apma.org/desmaraisvideo.

Our dissatisfaction with the status quo has brought us further than the founders of this organization could have imagined 100 years ago. Thank you for being a part of the evolution of this profession and this association. It is an honor to work with each of you as we do our parts to make a difference!

Michael J. King, DPM
President