

Kent State University College of Podiatric Medicine
2026 North Coast Foot & Ankle Symposium
August 20-22, 2026
Kent State University College of Podiatric Medicine
Independence, Ohio

Kent State University College of Podiatric Medicine is approved by the Council on Podiatric Medical Education as a provider of continuing education in podiatric medicine. Kent State University College of Podiatric Medicine has approved this activity for a maximum of **(25)** continuing education contact hours.

DRAFT PROGRAM — Speaker assignments and times are tentative and subject to change pending final confirmations.

Thursday, August 20, 2026

AM Sign in: 7:00 a.m. 4.0 Category 1 CECH

PM Sign in: 1:15 p.m. 4.25 Category 1 CECH

Total Day: 8.25

6:30 a.m. Registration and Continental Breakfast

Session 1 — Trauma of the Foot & Ankle

7:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.

Moderator: Dr. Sam Figas

This session opens the symposium with a broad look at acute trauma management of the foot and ankle, including fracture classification, fixation strategy, and complication avoidance.

Panelists: Joe Saxon, Lauren Kishman, Frank Luckino, James Connors

9:00 a.m. – 9:30 a.m. Break with Exhibitors

Session 2 — MIS Surgery, Part I

9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Moderator: Dr. Alex Bischoff

A panel discussion on minimally invasive surgical technique across the forefoot and rearfoot, including bunion correction, TMTJ arthrodesis, and how MIS approaches can be incorporated into everyday practice.

Panelists: Nick Campitelli, Frank Luckino, Larry DiDomenico

11:30 a.m. – 1:15 p.m. Lunch on Own

Session 3 — Wound Care Principles, Part I

1:15 p.m. – 3:15 p.m.

Moderator: Dr. Windy Cole

Dr. Cole and panelists cover core principles of wound care, an interdisciplinary approach to limb salvage, and how AI is beginning to shape wound management decisions.

Panelists: Doc Dockery, Megan Oltmann, Dave Hehemann, Sam Figas

3:15 p.m. – 3:45 p.m. Break with Exhibitors

Session 4 — Forefoot Surgery

3:45 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.

Moderator: Dr. Frank Luckino

A closing session for the day focused on forefoot pathology and surgical decision-making, including biopsy technique, lesion identification, and current approaches to forefoot reconstruction.

Panelists: Joe Saxon, Nick Campitelli, Lauren Kishman, James Connors

Friday, August 21, 2026

AM Sign in: 7:00 a.m. 4.0 Category 1 CECH

PM Sign in: 12:45 p.m. 3.5 Category 1 CECH

Total Day: 7.5

6:30 a.m. Continental Breakfast

Session 1 — Arthroscopy

7:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.

Moderator: Dr. Joe Saxon

An overview of current arthroscopic technique in the foot and ankle, with panelists weighing in on indications, pearls, and pitfalls drawn from their own case experience.

Panelists: Lauren Kishman, Nick Butler, Alex Bischoff, Gary Most

9:00 a.m. – 9:30 a.m. Break with Exhibitors

Session 2 — MIS Surgery, Part II and Charcot

9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Moderator: Dr. Larry DiDomenico

Dr. DiDomenico continues the MIS discussion with an emphasis on Charcot reconstruction and complex revision cases, alongside panelists' own MIS experience.

Panelists: Alex Bischoff, Sam Figas, Dave Hehemann, Nick Butler

11:30 a.m. – 12:45 p.m. Lunch on Own

Session 3 — Wound Care Principles II

12:45 p.m. – 2:45 p.m.

Moderator: Dr. Megan Oltmann

This session continues the wound care conversation from Thursday, with a focus on hard-to-heal wounds and factors — including GLP-1 use and other emerging variables — that affect bone and soft-tissue healing.

Panelists: Sam Figas, Dave Hehemann, Nick Butler, Doc Dockery

2:45 p.m. – 3:15 p.m. Break with Exhibitors

Session 4 — Flatfoot Protocols

3:15 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Moderator: Dr. Jordan Grossman

A discussion of flatfoot reconstruction protocols, including double-plating Charcot midfoot reconstruction and early weight-bearing considerations.

Panelists: Jordan Grossman, Joe Saxon, Gary Most, Steve Mariash

Saturday, August 22, 2026

AM Sign in: 7:00 a.m. 4.0 Category 1 CECH

PM Sign in: 12:45 p.m. 4.25 Category 1 CECH

Total Day: 8.25

6:30 a.m. Continental Breakfast

Session 1 — Clinical Radiology & Surgical Biomechanics

7:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.

Moderator: Dr. Gary Most

A session grounded in radiology, biomechanics, and surgery — from heel pain and gait mechanics to how radiological and biomechanical principles inform surgical decision-making.

Panelists: Nick Butler, Larry Osher, Danielle Butto, Scott Spencer

9:00 a.m. – 9:30 a.m. Break with Exhibitors

Session 2 — Hallux Valgus: Podium & Debate — What Procedure Do I Pick?

9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Moderator: Dr. James Connors

A podium-and-debate format session in which panelists make the case for their preferred bunion correction technique — from MIS to fusion — and field challenges from the moderator and audience.

Panelists: Jordan Grossman, Steve Mariash, Danielle Butto, Lauren Kishman

11:30 a.m. – 12:45 p.m. Lunch on Own

Session 3 — Biologics and Medical Optimization

12:45 p.m. – 2:45 p.m.

Moderator: Dr. Alex Bischoff

A look at the growing role of biologics in foot and ankle surgery and wound management, including practical guidance on patient selection and product choice.

Panelists: Steve Mariash, Windy Cole, Molly Judge, Mark Hardy

2:45 p.m. – 3:15 p.m. Break with Exhibitors

Session 4 — Resident Case Presentations

3:15 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.

Moderator: Dr. Molly Judge

Local residents will present interesting and thought-provoking cases, moderated by Dr. Molly Judge. This closing session of the symposium will be interactive and create dialogue between the attendees and residents.

Appendix: Speaker Assignment Counts

Tally of moderating and presenting (panelist) roles per speaker, reflecting the current draft assignments below.

Name	Moderating	Presenting	Total
Alex Bischoff	2	2	4
Joe Saxon	1	3	4
Lauren Kishman	0	4	4
Nick Butler	0	4	4
Sam Figas	1	3	4
Dave Hehemann	0	3	3
Frank Luckino	1	2	3
Gary Most	1	2	3
James Connors	1	2	3
Jordan Grossman	1	2	3
Steve Mariash	0	3	3
Danielle Butto	0	2	2
Doc Dockery	0	2	2
Larry DiDomenico	1	1	2
Megan Oltmann	1	1	2
Molly Judge	1	1	2
Nick Campitelli	0	2	2
Windy Cole	1	1	2
Larry Osher	0	1	1
Mark Hardy	0	1	1
Scott Spencer	0	1	1