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## **AMBASSADOR PROGRAM BONE and JOINT DECADE**

Many countries are now active participants in the Bone and Joint Decade, and many National Action Networks are prospering and developing programs to augment activities of the professionals and lay workers in their nations.

In each country, there are individuals who contribute above and beyond expectations as physicians, nurses, therapists, patients and other volunteers to helping the science, practice, and education of students, trainees, and patients in fields relevant to BJD.

Accordingly, it is the decision of the International Steering Committee of the BJD to offer to each NAN the opportunity each year to name an individual for special recognition in the nation who has made substantial contributions to the BJD or to the disciplines that it encompasses.

In addition, the International Steering Committee may name Ambassadors, particularly those with international reputations or responsibilities of importance to the Decade.

The Ambassadors will work with NANs to enhance programs that augment BJD initiatives in their countries. The International Steering Committee also will enlist services and time of honorees in amplifying efforts to achieve the mission of the BJD.

The Ambassadors will be expected to familiarize themselves with the mission and progress of the Bone and Joint Decade, and activities of NANs, and from time to time to review BJD and NAN publications and actions as necessary to enable them to implement their duties.

Nomination Process - Each year, the officers and staff of each NAN will meet in person or by conference call to select one candidate for nomination as a National Ambassador of the BJD. In considering nominees, particular attention should be given to active lay workers in the field and physicians not directly associated with the BJD. A full curriculum vitae / résumé of the nominee along with three letters of recommendation by physicians, musculoskeletal health professionals and/or active lay workers should then be forwarded to the Secretariat of the BJD in Lund. The International Steering Committee will evaluate each nominee and ratify choices on an annual or semi-annual basis. Those ratified will carry the title of “(Name), National Ambassador of the BJD from (country).”

In addition, members of the International Steering Committee, using the same criteria and submitting the same credentials (i.e., full CV/résumé and three supporting letters) may nominate and appoint candidates for International Ambassador of the BJD.

Both National and International ambassadors will be expected to participate actively in programs of the NAN, as designated by the officers of the NAN with which they are associated and in other activities, as designated by the International Steering Committee of the BJD.