

# FSPMR Fond Farewell

Lorry S Davis, MEd, former Executive Director

It has been a privilege and a pleasure to serve the members of the Florida Society of Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation for over 35 years.

Think about this: When I first started, there were NO PM&R residency programs in the State of Florida. Now there are 10!

As the residency programs grew, FSPMR created Resident Liaisons from each program. We started including each program's update in our quarterly newsletter, and now – who doesn't love the Residency Case Presentations Competition at the annual meetings?!!

I was FSPMR's first Executive Director, serving 18 Presidents and Boards of Directors.

The Presidents brought varying gifts to the table: we've heard tonight what Dr Mitch Freed and his two presidencies brought.

We also heard from Dr Mark Rubenstein and recognize his leadership within organized medicine at the state level.

Some other FSPMR Presidents come to mind:

It was under Dr Oscar DePaz' presidency that FSPMR became incorporated as a nonprofit organization.

Dr Michael Creamer helped bridge the gap between allopathic and osteopathic physiatrists.

Dr Andrew Sherman brought academic leadership and gravitas.

And Dr Craig Lichtblau's generosity much be recognized. He has helped to sustain this organization and keep it alive.

When I began managing physician specialty societies, FSPMR was my first, and now as I look toward retirement, FSPMR is my last.

**Physiatrists have always been my favorite!**

What I see for FSPMR's future: The specialty of Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation has proved itself to be very malleable, adaptable and versatile. This characteristic will allow the specialty to continue to grow, thrive, and create impact.

As FSPMR reaches into the future, I am pleased Tania Jones has taken the Executive Director reins. She is smart, energetic, experienced, accomplished, and a good fit for FSPMR's next leg of the journey.

In closing: **PM&R – your future is so bright!**