As the American Otological Society enters its next 150 years, you its members, can be proud of the dual mission our organization continues to carry out. Not only does the AOS provide some of the highest quality educational programs related to the field of otology, but it sponsors research and the development of future clinician-scientists. In my view the sponsorship of otologic research is the Society’s greatest legacy to our specialty, our patients and society at large. To keep the membership informed about the research sponsored by the AOS, the Council invited one of the clinician-scientist development grantees, Dr. Gregory Basura, to present his research on “Multi-Sensory Modulation of Tinnitus Correlates in Primary Auditory Cortex” at our meeting this coming April.

While the AOS is considered to be the “Senior Society” within our field, our membership includes colleagues in the early trajectory of their careers. To showcase one of our younger members, I have invited Konstantina Stankovic, MD, PhD, the newly appointed Sheldon and Dorothea Buckler Chair in Otolaryngology from the Massachusetts Eye and Ear Infirmary/Harvard to be our Honorary Guest of Honor. She is an energetic clinician/scientist who I have asked to share her latest research efforts and vision for the future. I am sure you will enjoy her stimulating presentation, “A Framework for Personalized Diagnosis and Therapy of Sensorineural Hearing Loss”.

This year’s Saumil N. Merchant Memorial Lecturer will be Dr. Charles Limb – a 2018 AOS inductee. He is both the Francis A. Sooy, MD Professor and Chief of Otology/Neurotology/Skull Base Surgery at UCSF and a faculty member at the Peabody Conservatory of Music. Combining his passion for medicine and music, his areas of research focus on the study of the neural basis of creativity as well as music perception in deaf individuals with cochlear implants. His talk is entitled “Music for Deaf Ears: Cochlear Implants, Music and the Brain”.

The privilege to serve on the AOS Council and during this year to serve as President is a tremendously humbling honor. The Council endeavors to be careful stewards of the Society’s resources and monitor the funds entrusted to the AOS Research Foundation. Last year the Council concluded some important work to streamline and increase transparency of the Society’s financial management. In the last two decades, the AOS Research Foundation has granted nearly 6.1 million dollars while simultaneously growing the Foundation’s endowment. The endowment's growth has allowed increases in the annual grant funds available to underwrite promising research. Tremendous credit and thanks are due to the dedicated scientists who serve on the AOS Research Advisory Board reviewing grant applications and selecting the most compelling projects for funding.

I look forward to seeing you all at this year’s American Otological Society meeting April 20-21, 2018 at the Gaylord National Harbor Resort, in National Harbor, Maryland.

Warm regards,
Bob Cueva
AOS SESQUICENTENNIAL SUPPLEMENT

On April 29, 2017, the American Otological Society celebrated a momentous event – its 150th Anniversary. The AOS, as the second oldest medical society in the United States, had much on which to reflect. At the 150th meeting a panel was held, entitled “Evolution of the American Otological Society: Reflections at our Sesquicentennial”. Topics from this panel included: the AOS support of research, AOS publications, otology and neurotology education, how otology was practiced at the time of AOS inception, and what is were the highlights of the AOS in the past 25 years. While the panel presentations were meaningful to those in the audience, there was no enduring material to pass on to future generations.

At the 100th and again at the 125th AOS Anniversaries, a monograph was published. These monographs were comprehensive and fascinating, but not searchable, and so, potentially difficult to find. For this reason the AOS is publishing a supplement in the Otology & Neurotology Journal, “Commemorating the Sesquicentennial Of the American Otological Society”. In it are papers on all the presentations given at the history panel (noted above), as well as other papers on other subjects including: assessment of hearing during the early years of the AOS, and women of the AOS.

In addition, the membership roster at the time of the AOS 150th will be published as will the annual membership photograph from that meeting. All of the papers will be “searchable” for those interested in our history now, and in the years to come.

Finally – thanks go out to my co editors Robert K. Jackler, MD and Larry R. Lustig, MD, and to the authors who contributed to this landmark publication.

Warm Regards,

Samuel H. Selesnick, M.D.
Immediate Past President
American Otological Society

SPECIAL MENTION:

There will a “celebration of life” for Dr. Michael E. Glasscock at 12:00 noon on Friday, April 20, 2018 following the TRIO Scientific Program and immediately preceding the AOS Business Meeting in Ballroom Maryland C during COSM.

Dr. Glasscock passed away on February 17, 2018 at the age of 84. Dr. Glasscock was a giant in the field of neurotology/otology, a leader among his peers and a mentor to hundreds of students and colleagues. The American Otological Society and the American Neurotology Society will be eternally grateful to Dr. Glasscock for his bounteous generosity, when he gifted what is now the Otology & Neurotology Journal to the Societies.

Dr. Glasscock was an active member of the American Otological Society, inducted in 1973. He served on the Council for eight years and as President in 1992. He was recognized by his peers for his numerous contributions in otology and honored with the prestigious AOS Award of Merit in 1997.

Dr. Glasscock was also an active member of the American Neurotology Society, inducted in 1970. He served on the ANS Executive Council as the Secretary/Treasurer from 1976-1979. In 2015, Dr. Glasscock was awarded the House/Hitsuellerger Lifetime Achievement Award, honoring individuals who have demonstrated superb surgical skills and patient care, a commitment toward education and cumulative scientific contributions that have profoundly impacted the field of neurotology.
AOS 150th ANNIVERSARY
ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP PHOTO
April 29, 2017 - San Diego, CA

First Row: (Left to Right) - DiBartolomeo, Joseph; Welling, D. Bradley; Chandrasekhar, Sujana; Telian, Steven; Bauer, Carol; Selesnick, Samuel; Tucci, Debara; Cueva, Roberto; Carey, John

Second Row: (Left to Right) - Poe, Dennis; Silverstein, Herbert; Goebel, Joel; Chen, Douglas; Fayad, Jose; Antonelli, Patrick; McElveen Jr., John; House, John; Perkins, Rodney

Third Row: (Left to Right) – Gantz, Bruce; Dubno, Judy; Parisier, Simon; Wilson, David; Arriaga, Moises; Feghali, Joseph; Young, Nancy; Micco, Alan;

Fourth Row: (Left to Right) – Jackler, Robert; Macias, John; Eby, Thomas; Beatty, Charles; Monsell, Edwin; Slattery III, William; Moretz Jr., William; Jones Jr., Raleigh; McKinnon, Brian

Fifth Row: (Left to Right) – Althaus, Sean; McKenna, Michael; Hansen, Marlan; Parnes, Lorne; Telisch, Fred; Lee, Kenneth; Hoffer, Michael; Pensak, Myles

Sixth Row: (Left to Right) – Daspit, C. Phillip; Luetje, Charles; Jenkins, Herman; Miyamoto, Richard; Lalwani, Anil; Dornhoffer, John; Lambert, Paul; Blakley, Brian

Seventh Row: (Left to Right) – Berliner, Karen; Gubbels, Samuel; Nadol Jr., Joseph; Sakagami, Masafumi; Hirsch, Barry; Friedland, David; Kesser, Bradley; Lustig, Lawrence; Della Santina, Charles

Eighth Row: (Left to Right) – Nakajima, Hideko (Heidi); Chole, Richard; Hirose, Keiko; Rubinstein, Jay; Stankovic, Konstantina; Hashisaki, George; Vrabec, Jeffrey; Seidman Michael

Ninth Row: (Left to Right) – Kim, Hung Jeffrey; Francis, Howard; Labadie, Robert; Konrad, Horst; Lundy, Larry; Ruckenstein, Michael; Pillsbury, Harold; Brackmann, Derald; Djalilian, Hamid
RESEARCH FUNDING THROUGH
THE AMERICAN OTOLOGICAL SOCIETY
RESEARCH FOUNDATION

The AOS Research Foundation Advisory Board, comprised of Drs. John Oghalai, Executive Secretary, Marlan Hansen, Keiko Hirose, Hinrich Staecker, John Greinwald, Timothy Hurlar, Steven Rauch and our consultants, Drs. Jeffrey Holt, Xiaowei Lu, and Mario Svirstky convened on March 10, 2018 and, after a thoughtful NIH styled rigorous review of grant proposals, recommended funding a record eight investigators for their research proposals. One of the responsibilities (truly a privilege) of serving as AOS President is to attend and participate in this important meeting. As a clinician and clinical researcher I was impressed by the quality of the submitted grant proposals, the caliber of those who serve as reviewers on the Research Advisory Board, the serious attention and effort expended in their reviews, and the constructive comments/suggestions for improvement for those proposals both accepted and declined. As I mentioned in my President’s Message the research sponsored by the AOS Research Foundation is likely the greatest gift/legacy our society gives to our specialty and the world.

In addition to a Fellowship Grant and a Research Grant, the AOS Research Foundation established a Clinician Scientist Award to promote the development of younger colleagues who would balance the demands of research and clinical practice. This bridging of the laboratory to the clinic/OR helps foster translational research with the potential for more rapid transition of the research discoveries into clinical/surgical practice. We all know how difficult it is to be successful receiving funding NIH with cut backs in federal funding for medical research. In spite of these headwinds, the recipients of AOS Research Foundation Clinician Scientist Awards have an unusually high percentage of successful NIH funding. There have been ten Clinician Scientist Awards funded since 2009 and out of those, 80% have gone on to successfully apply for NIH funding in the form of RO1/RO3 and/or K8/K23 awards. This track record of successful support for academic career development is truly astounding and something of which every AOS member should truly be proud.

The future of our specialty and medicine in general is bright. The research that we and other organizations fund continues to have the potential to improve the quality of our lives and of those yet to be born. The AOS Research Foundation endowment, that underwrites the annual grant funding, continues to grow via wise financial management and I plan to contribute to that growth with my own estate planning. I hope you might consider doing so as well.

Sincerely,
Bob Cueva, MD
AOS President

If you would like to submit a grant for consideration of funding in 2019-2020, a letter of intent must be submitted by November 1, 2018. The letter of intent must state the grant mechanism sought for the proposal, the Principal Investigator and Institution(s), a working title, and a one page statement of the specific aims. Successful applicants will be notified by December 1st and must submit their full grant application by January 31, 2019. See the AOS website for details.