

From the Desk of the Secretary-Treasurer

Sujana S. Chandrasekhar, M.D.



A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

John P. Carey, MD



~~I would like to welcome you all to Atlanta for the 153rd annual meeting of the American Otolological Society...~~ Oh, but how I would have liked to be able to welcome you!

As I write, I expected to be putting the finishing touches on a meeting that would showcase the best of the scientific and clinical work of our trainees and colleagues, allow us to share the vital fellowship that binds our society, and gather the knowledge so essential to the care of our patients. Instead, we find ourselves in the midst of a global pandemic of a novel coronavirus, for which humanity seems to have no effective immunity. We are humbled to have only the bluntest instruments of medicine available to us: isolation, contact tracing, and supportive care. We worry for our colleagues on the front lines in this war; for our trainees, whose education has been disrupted; for our staffs and employees, who face an uncertain economic future; and for our patients, who, even if they may escape the worst of this infection, may face the mounting toll of unaddressed otologic diseases, with growing tumors, eroding cholesteatomas, and unaddressed hearing and balance problems.

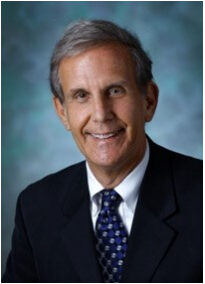
But we are determined to make more of this disruption than the curious asterisk that will appear hereafter in the listing of our annual meetings. I would like to thank our many presenters who have agreed to turn their planned podium or poster presentations for the COSM meeting into virtual posters that will soon be available to you online and with CME credits. Furthermore, through the efforts of our tireless Administrative team, Kristen Bordignon and Ashley Eikenberry, the AOS Council and the American Neurotology Society, plans are underway to showcase in September some of our best presentations and our *This Old Ear* panel that had been planned for COSM. Look for details to come about the combined ANS/AOS *Fabulous Friday* afternoon to precede the ANS *Super Saturday*.

Some aspects of our meeting will simply have to wait until we can meet again in person. The induction of our seven new AOS members is too important a milestone for them and for us to be done virtually, and so we look toward recognizing them properly in 2021. But it is my honor to recognize at this time the names of the fine new members whom we will induct: Active members, Matthew L Bush, MD, PhD; Wade W. Chien, MD; Jennifer L. Maw, MD; Pamela C. Roehm, MD, PhD; Ravi N. Samy, MD; Associate member, Ronald L. Steenerson, MD; and Corresponding member, Katsumi Doi, MD, PhD. (see new members on page 3)

Another key moment of our annual meeting is the presentation of the Award of Merit. This year's Award Committee, chaired by past President, Roberto Cueva, did not feel that the gravity of this award could be met with a virtual presentation. Therefore, with the agreement of our immediate past President, Carol Bauer, it was decided that the AoM presentation would also occur in 2021.

(President's message continued)

One of the distinct honors for the President at the annual meeting is the announcement of Presidential Citations, and I would like to use this opportunity to recognize my choices for this honor. These are three individuals who have not just deeply affected my training and development, but who have truly moved the needle on our field's understanding of the basic workings of the vestibular system and have envisioned bold new tests and treatments for balance disturbances.



Dr. David Zee, MD, is Professor of Neurology, Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery, Ophthalmology and Neuroscience at Johns Hopkins University. He is a luminary in the neurology and neuroscience of vestibular and oculomotor disorders and ataxia, recognized with numerous honors including the Barany Society's Gold Medal in 2018. Applying the tools of systems engineering, cellular neurophysiology, and keen clinical observation, Dr. Zee truly earns the adjective, *renaissance*, which probably explains his penchant for Tuscan culture of that era.



Dr. Lloyd Minor, MD, is the Carl and Elizabeth Naumann Dean of the Stanford University School of Medicine. I had the distinct honor of training as a fellow under Dr. Minor at Johns Hopkins. Most know him for the discovery of superior canal dehiscence syndrome, but I was privileged to work with him in elucidating the mechanisms not only of SCDS but also basic aspects of vestibular physiology, Meniere's disease, and gentamicin ototoxicity. Dr. Minor is remarkable for his clarity of thinking, his sweeping understanding of all aspects of the modern academic medical system, and his generosity in mentorship.



Dr. Charles Della Santina, PhD, MD, is a very special colleague of mine from that same training laboratory. Dr. Della Santina is one of the most gifted of the rare breed of biomedical engineer-surgeons. He has labored through tremendous experimental and bureaucratic adversity to advance his design for a multichannel vestibular implant to a first-in-human clinical trial for navigation in the real world. The preliminary results of this work are very exciting, and I am confident that its full development will be key to maintaining otology's leadership position in the surgery of sensory-replacement prosthetic devices.

This will be only the fourth time in our society's history that we have not been able to gather for our annual meeting, with previous disruptions due to railroad strike or world war. The AOS clearly has weathered bad times previously and come out healthy, so it is important that we take the long view at this moment of crisis in our world. In closing, I am confident that our members are poised to help fight this scourge and come back to serve our patients with the thoughtfulness, technical skills and innovation for which we are known.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John Carey". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

John P. Carey, MD

President, American Otological Society

WELCOME NEW AOS MEMBERS!
5 ACTIVE, 1 ASSOCIATE & 1 CORRESPONDING



Matthew L. Bush, MD, PhD
University of Kentucky
Lexington, KY
Proposers: R. Jones & B. Welling



Wade W. Chien, MD
Johns Hopkins School of Medicine
Baltimore, MD
Proposers: C. Della Santina & H. Francis



Jennifer L. Maw, MD
Ear Associates and Rehabilitation Services Inc.
San Jose, CA
Proposers: K. Enright & N. Blevins



Pamela C. Roehm, MD, PhD
Philadelphia, PA
Proposers: A. Wackym & B. Gantz



Ravi N. Samy, MD
University of Cincinnati
Cincinnati, OH
Proposers: M. Pensak & H. Francis



Ronald L. Steenerson, MD
Atlanta, GA
Associate Member
Proposers: T. Murphy & C. Shelton



Katsumi Doi, MD, PhD
Kindai University
Japan
Corresponding Member
Proposers: D. Backous & D. Haynes

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CALL FOR PAPERS! JULY 20 - OCTOBER 15, 2020

AMERICAN OTOLOGICAL SOCIETY 154th ANNUAL MEETING

HYATT REGENCY
NEW ORLEANS, LA
APRIL 9-11, 2021

VISIT THE AOS WEBSITE FOR DETAILS
www.americanotologicalsociety.org
AWARDS AVAILABLE!

COSM VIRTUAL POSTER SESSION 2020

The AOS along with five other COSM Societies (ANS, TRIO, ASPO, ABEA & ALA) agreed to participate in the COSM Virtual Poster Session (VPS) as a way to showcase some of our Spring meeting content. We also invited our podium presenters to submit a poster and allowed any presenter to withdraw their poster/presentation with no penalty. Our Resident Research Travel Award recipients, Dr. Yuan Liu and Dr. Arman Danielian were invited to present at the combined Fall session on September 11th.

We had a great response and ended up with 54 posters! Only 3 authors withdrew their poster and 17 of 24 podium presenters were eager to participate. **A terrific new feature of the VPS is an optional 3-minute audio file to accompany the poster.** The American College of Surgeons is sponsoring the VPS and will offer CME hours to any attendee viewing the posters. There IS NO registration fee and it's a great way to support our presenters and earn CME.

Posters will be available for viewing online at www.ResearchPosters.com (Conference Code = COSM2020) beginning on May 15, 2020. **CME credits are being offered from May 15 – June 15, 2020.** The posters will be archived for viewing anytime.

AOS RESEARCH ADVISORY BOARD 2019-2020

The Research Advisory Board (RAB) is comprised of seven AOS members, Drs. John Oghalai, Executive Secretary; Hinrich Staecker; John Greinwald; Timothy Hullar; Steven Rauch; Daniel Tollin; and Andrea Vambutas, each serving a 7-year term and three consultants, Drs. Xiaowei Lu; Mario A. Svirsky; and Gwenaelle Geleoc, each serving a 5-year term. These individuals are selected from a pool of highly respected otologic researchers. The expertise and dedication of the RAB are critical to the success of the AOS research portfolio.

The Board met in person and virtually for those unable to attend due to travel bans surrounding COVID-19, in Hollywood, CA on March 7. There were 14 grant applications and one CSA renewal received this year. The RAB reviewed the top 12 applications based on preliminary scores including four Research Grants, four Fellowship Grants, two Clinician Scientist Awards, and two Clinical Investigation. The RAB is recommending funding for seven proposals in 2020-2021, totaling \$390,000.

If you would like to submit a grant for consideration of funding in 2021-2022, a letter of intent and biosketch, including details regarding other existing support, must be submitted by November 1st of the year prior to funding. The next funding cycle begins July 1, 2021. The letter of intent must state the desired grant mechanism for the proposal, the Principal Investigator and Institution(s), a working title and abstract and include Specific Aims and a proposal summary (2 page limit).

Complete applications will be invited from selected applicants based on RAB review of the letters of intent. Applicants will be notified whether they are invited to submit a full application the first week of December. Completed applications must be received by January 31st.