



## AMERICAN OTOLOGICAL SOCIETY, INC.

### 142<sup>nd</sup> ANNUAL SPRING MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

The American Otolological Society recently completed their 142<sup>nd</sup> Annual Meeting in Phoenix, AZ. We wish to thank Dr. Joseph B. Nadol for an outstanding program. Dr. Robert Ruben was chosen as Guest of Honor and presented a topic on The Promise of Otology. Otology has undergone wondrous development in the past two centuries.

Presidential Citations were presented to Drs. Michael J. McKenna, Saumil N. Merchant, Jay T. Rubinstein, Isamu Sando, and D. Bradley Welling. Dr. William H. Lippy received the 2009 Award of Merit at the President's Banquet on Friday evening for his outstanding clinical contributions in otology.

#### **AOS Annual Spring Business Meetings, May 29-30, 2009, highlights, complete text available on the AOS Website**

**Membership:** The Society is pleased to report a total of 301 members.

The AOS welcomed eleven Active Members: Drs. Simon A. Angeli, Nikolas H. Blevins, Charles C. Della Santina, Marlan R. Hansen, David S. Haynes, James J. Holt, Akira Ishiyama, Robert F. Labadie, Sean O. McMenemy, John S. Oghalai, and Robert C. O'Reilly. One Corresponding Member: Dr. Jose Antonio Rivas.

#### **Treasurer's Report**

The balance on hand in the AOS Treasury as of 5/15/2009, \$121,442.

AOS Basic Science Lectureship Fund balance as of 4/30/2009 \$299,421. The goal is to build a corpus of \$400,000 to sponsor basic science lectureships at the AOS Annual Meetings. The profit share of the journal is used to fund this lectureship, and the goal is to have the interest share from the fund pay the travel expenses for the lecturers.

#### **Research Fund Report**

The market value of the research fund as of 4/30/2009, was 6.7 million. The value of the research fund on 4/30/2008, was \$8.9 million. This 2.2 million change represents a 24% drop.

The Council approved funding for two clinician scientist awards renewals, two research grants renewals and two new research grants. The total amount funded for 2009-2010: \$380,000.

Dr. John P. Carey will replace Dr. Lloyd B. Minor 7/1/2009, as Executive Secretary of the Research Advisory Board. Dr. Lloyd B. Minor will serve as chairman of the Research Advisory Board.

**American Board of Otolaryngology:** Dr. Richard Chole presented the report. Primary certification examinations were April 18 and 19, 2009. 298 individuals took the examination. Results will be available in a few weeks. The Board is also a cosponsor of sleep medicine subcertification board and a surprising number of otolaryngologists (around 75) have been subcertified in this area. The next exam is scheduled for November 19, 2009. There are now two subcertifications in otolaryngology/neurotology and sleep medicine. The otolaryngology training examination was given March 7. There were over 1300 residents and practitioners and those results are out.

**Maintenance of Certification (MOC).** Currently, there are 1766 people participating in the MOC. All diplomates certified in 2002 and after have to be participating in MOC. Those are time-limited certificates. There are four parts to MOC. It is a ten-year rolling process. Part I - Professional standing part is in place. You can enter your CME and all of your qualifications online at the Board site. Part II - Continuing education and self-assessment. Part III—There is going to be a cognitive examination that has to be passed once during this 10-year period. Part IV: Performance in Practice.

**Audit Report:** Dr. Michael McKenna presented the Audit report. Committee members were Drs. H. Alexander Arts, and Lawrence R. Lustig. The Committee reviewed the consolidated financial statements of the American Otolological Society and the Research Fund as well as the independent accounting report by Hoffmann & Hoffman CPAs, and in their opinion the committee felt that the accounting methods, under FASB 117, and the entries were all within line of the scope of the organization. The committee recommended the Council/membership accept the report as an indication that the financial status of the American Otolological Society is excellent and is being maintained appropriately.

**Membership Development Committee:** In the absence of Dr. A. Julianna Gulya, Dr. Paul Lambert presented the Membership Development Committee Report. Triological membership is not an absolute prerequisite for membership in the AOS. It is encouraged but again, membership would also be considered if he/she would have a significant scholarly focus of publications, if they had sustained an NIH funding or a thesis significant manuscript.

**American Academy of Otolaryngology:** Dr. Paul Markowski, Deputy Executive Vice-President and COO of the Academy, presented the report. Dr. Markowski reported the membership in the Academy is 10,803 members, 90% paid to date for the year. As for research and quality activities, the Academy continues to work with other subspecialties in otolaryngology regarding CORE grant and funding. The last funding cycle for all entities contributed just fewer than 900,000 dollars in grants. This went to 43 out of 150 applicants. The guidelines for impacted cerumen and BPPV are published and the hoarseness and nasal valve are underway and close to completion. The Academy has a new Research Advisory Board and includes member leaders, representatives from NIH and other healthcare experts. The educational activities – AcademyU, which is the Academy online platform and portal for all education. There currently are 2300 subscribers and everyone who is a member of the Academy has a free subscription. There are 1900 courses completed in AcademyU, which represents roughly 680 credit hours. The Academy is continuing to put content in AcademyU and items from the annual meeting will be loaded on AcademyU. There will be increased focus on the geriatric population, CT imaging, and preparation for MOC and performance improvement CME.

The Specialty Society Advisory Council (SSAC) was formed in 2008. The Academy has been working on leadership and society collaboration on special activities. Dr. Lambert represents the AOS. The policies and guidelines have been put in place. There are some by-law changes that are in the works. This will be a very strong advisory body that will look and represent all of otolaryngology so that the chair and vice-chair of the specialty societies will have a seat at the Board of Directors for the Academy and provide the necessary communication and links so the Academy can have a better collaborative relationship with the specialty societies.

There were 450+ attendees for the March Joint Surgical Advocacy Conference, co-sponsored by the AAO-HNS. There are now more than 1200 members that belong to the ENT Advocacy Network.

Regarding communications. The consumer use of the website continues to increase with more than 20,000 using "Find an ENT" on the website. The Bulletin has moved to an online HTML format. It is ad supported. The Academy has increased journal submissions, have made faster decisions, and the media picks up press releases and the Academy is averaging about 1650/month.

**Board of Governors Report:** In the absence of Dr. Sujana Chandrasekhar, Dr. Paul Lambert presented the BOG report. the BOG Public Relations Committee. The committee reviewed a very large survey involving the public's perception of otolaryngology. ENTs were recognized as "top tier" doctors, along with cardiologists and several others. Otolaryngology was not, however, recognized as a term. ENTs are recognized as the hearing loss doctors. At the Joint Surgery Advocacy Conference, the focus of the meetings with their state legislators were in 3 areas: 1) Medicare physician payment reform, 2) NIH funding, 3) truth-in-advertising specifically as it related to AuD, audiologists in the fact that they are not physicians. The audiologists' ads would have to read Dr. Smith, AuD. There are two state legislative initiatives: 1) NY State Hearing Aid Dispensing Bill S 5257. This would eliminate an outdated provision in the state dispensing law that prohibits any physician

from making a profit from the sales of hearing aids. The AOS has signed on as one of the society members. The other was the Pennsylvania State Bill SB 710 that would greatly expand the scope of practice of audiologists and speech-language pathologists, specifically they would be involved in the prevention, identification, diagnosis and treatment of auditory and vestibular disorders according to the way the bill is currently written. The AOS has signed on as a society as one of the coalition partners along with the Academy.

### American Otological Society Call for Papers

October 15, 2009, is the deadline for submission of abstracts for the 2010 Annual Spring Meeting. We will begin accepting abstracts via the AOS website after July 1. An e-mail will be sent out to the membership letting you know the abstract submission process is open. The submission process will be changed this year to reflect the new ACCME guidelines. As you know from past experience, all authors on the abstract must sign a disclosure/conflict of interest document at the time of submission. Failure to do so will result in your abstract not being given consideration for the AOS scientific meeting in May 2010.

This year the abstracts will be categorized into broad-based professional practice gaps applicable to the AOS. The author/submitter will define the practice gap that applies to their abstract. To begin the abstract submission process the author/submitter will identify the professional practice gaps, educational needs, learning objectives, and desired results. An example of an abstract submission is on the AOS website for your review. You will be required to comply with the new ACCME guidelines for your abstract to be considered by the AOS Program Advisory Committee.

### Membership Dues

Invoices are being sent with this newsletter. Please pay your dues in a timely manner, within 30 days of receipt.

Dues for Active Members are \$425.00 (USA) and \$445 (International). Active member dues include a subscription to the O&N journal.

Associate Members dues are \$100.00 (USA and International). Corresponding Members dues are \$200.00 (USA and International). The O&N journal is optional for Associate and Corresponding members and is itemized separately on the dues statement.

**Candidates for Membership:** Active & Senior Members: Are you planning to propose a candidate for AOS membership? The applications are due September 1, 2009. Please refer the candidates to the AOS Website for application and instructions. [www.americanotologicalsociety.org](http://www.americanotologicalsociety.org)

If you have e-mail and do not receive e-mail from the AOS, it indicates you have not given us your e-mail or your institution has blocked the AOS e-mail. Also, if you have updated or changed your e-mail address, please inform the AOS administrative office—[segossard@aol.com](mailto:segossard@aol.com)

**143rd AOS ANNUAL SPRING MEETING** will be held Saturday/Sunday May 1-2, 2010, Bally's/Paris, Las Vegas, NV. The AOS Banquet will be on Saturday evening, May 1, 2010. Mark your calendars.