Message from the AOS President: Dr. Paul R. Lambert

Dear AOS Colleague,

The 146th meeting of the American Otological Society will be held in Orlando, April 13-14, 2013. With the assistance of the program committee, an outstanding educational meeting has been organized. Highlights include 2 panel discussions – one on “Contemporary Relevance of Human Temporal Bone Histopathology” moderated by Dr. Joseph Nadol and the second on “Innovations and New Technologies” moderated by Dr. John Carey. In addition, there will be 2 basic science lectures: Niel Segil, PhD will discuss hair cell regeneration and Dr. Michael McKenna will provide an update on the etiology of otosclerosis. The guest of honor for this meeting is Dr. Bruce Gantz, who will review “Acoustic Plus Electric Speech Processing.” From a very large number of submitted abstracts, 28 podium presentations and 22 poster presentations have been selected.

The black tie (optional) President’s Reception and Dinner/Dance for members and invited guests will take place on Saturday evening April 13th. Banquet tickets may be purchased through the COSM website when you register for the AOS Meeting. The Award of Merit recipient has been selected and will be announced during the banquet.

It gives me great pleasure to announce 8 new members for the American Otological Society: Drs. Manohar Bance, Adrien Eshraghi, John Greinwald, Timothy Hullar, Philip Littlefield, Miriam Saadia-Redleaf, Hinrich Staecker, and Rodney Perkins. These individuals will be inducted into the AOS Membership at the annual business meeting on Saturday, April 13th.

Once again, I welcome you to Orlando for what, I am confident, will be several days of the very best in education and fellowship.

Paul R. Lambert, M.D., President
American Otological Society

The Council met in Charleston, SC on February 23, 2013. The following business was conducted:

2013 Audit Committee: Dr. Steven Cheung was appointed as Chairman. Committee members – Drs. Howard Francis and M. Jennifer Derebery. The Committee will audit the books and report at the Council meeting and Business Meeting in Orlando.

Membership Report: There are currently 302 AOS Members. 147 Active; 30 Senior; 63 Emeritus; 33 Associate; 18 Corresponding; 11 Honorary members.

Treasurer’s Report:
AOS Checking Account balance $206,365.
AOS Research Fund balance $7,823,890
AOS Basic Science Lectureship Fund balance $435,264
AOS Research & Education Fund balance $414,508

The AOS Research and Education Fund was established in 2010, with a goal to reach $750,000 to $1,000,000 in its corpus. We anticipate that this goal will be achieved within the next 5 years, at which time the AOS anticipates the creation of a “Young Investigator Award” intended to support young faculty in the amount of $25,000 annually. Profit sharing that the AOS receives from the Otology & Neurotology journal has allowed the Society to establish these two new funds.

The AOS Research and Education Fund awarded one Resident/Fellow Research Travel Awards in the amount of $2000.00 for the 2013 Spring Meeting. The award will be presented to Dr. J. Eric Lupo for his research titled "Vibromechanical Assessment of Active Middle Ear Implant Stimulation in Simulated Middle Ear Effusion: A Temporal Bone Study".

COSM Schedule – The 2014 AOS meeting will be held in Las Vegas, NV. Meeting space has been confirmed for May 14-18, 2014 at Caesar’s Palace.
AOS BY-LAWS
The Council has begun work on a proposed revision of the AOS By-Laws. This has been undertaken to reconcile current practices with the standards set forth in the By-Laws, as well as to update those areas where the By-Laws have become antiquated. The most substantial revision that will be proposed relates to the elimination of the Editor-Librarian position on the Council. The duties of this position have become mostly obsolete in light of the decision several years ago to eliminate the publication of the Transactions of the American Otological Society. The Council will propose to create the position of an Education Director, who would represent the interests of the Society in matters related to the educational programs, including assisting the President with the development of the format for the annual meeting, serving on the Program Advisory Committee, addressing any conflict of interest concerns arising, and fulfilling the measures necessary to maintain continuing education certification. These activities have become increasingly important and complex in recent years, and creation of this new Council position will distribute the workload of the Council more evenly among its officers. In addition, there will be clarifications regarding membership classifications and requirements. The process of manuscript submission requirements for the annual meeting will also be revised to reflect evolving technology, conflict of interest compliance requirements, and journal submission/publication practices.

OTOLOGY/NEUROTOLOGY EDUCATION Committee
Dr. Bradley Kesser serves as the AOS representative and has recently been appointed Chair of the Otology/Neurotology Education Committee of the American Academy of Otolaryngology. The committee is working on a number of educational products for the Academy, as well as updating the Maintenance Manual for Lifelong Learning, originally published by the Academy over a decade ago. This manual contains chapters on otologic disease, diagnosis, and management. They are also developing new AcademyU modules on pulsatile tinnitus and tympanoplasty. The group also contributed to the development of the Clinical Practice Guidelines on Acute Otitis Media, a collaborative effort among the professional academies of Otolaryngology, Family Medicine, and Pediatrics.

CALL FOR PAPERS
Abstracts will be accepted beginning July 1, 2013 through October 15, 2013 for the 2014 AOS Annual Spring Meeting. Abstracts are limited to 250 words. A conflict of interest/disclosure form must be filled out by the primary/contributing author(s) before the abstract may be submitted. Only electronic submission of abstracts will be accepted. The AOS is pleased to announce a limited number of posters will be accepted for presentation as well as the podium presentations.

American Otological Society Website
www.americanotologicalsociety.org

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATIONS
The AOS accepts only electronic submissions of membership applications and supporting documents. The application is available on the AOS website or from the AOS Administrative office, email otosociety@yahoo.com. Proposer letters can be signed and saved as a .pdf document and e-mailed as well. Applications must be received by September 1st for consideration and induction at the following Spring meeting.

The Society mourns the loss of five friends and colleagues during 2012.

F. Owen Black, MD – Member since 1983; 5/18/2012
Saumil N. Merchant, MD – Member since 2000; 6/27/2012
Wesley H. Bradley, MD – Member since 1961; 10/18/2012
Jack V.D. Hough, MD – Member since 1960; 11/01/2012
William F. House, MD – Member since 1964; 12/07/2012

These men were giants in our field. Their contributions continue to impact otologic practice throughout the world because of their impact in the otologic literature as well as upon each of us as individuals.

AOS COUNCIL
JULY 1, 2012—JUNE 30, 2013

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Paul R. Lambert, M.D.

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