



## AMERICAN OTOLOGICAL SOCIETY, INC.

### 143rd ANNUAL SPRING MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

We wish to thank the AOS President, Dr. Bruce J. Gantz, for an outstanding 143rd Annual Spring Meeting. Presidential Citations were presented to Drs. Thomas J. Balkany, Derald E. Brackmann, Noel L. Cohen, Same E. Kinney, Charles M. Luetje, and Richard T. Miyamoto

At the President's Banquet on Saturday evening, Dr. George A. Gates received the 2010 Award of Merit for his leadership in the application of evidence based clinical research to the field of Otolaryngology and Neurotology

**AOS Annual Spring Business Meetings, May 1 & 2, 2010 highlights, complete text available on the AOS Website**

**Membership:** The present membership with the new inductees totals 301 members. The AOS welcomed Drs. Keiko Hirose and Harold H. Kim into the society.

#### Treasurer's Report

Balance on Hand as of 4/20/2010—\$160,887.94. Total income as of 4/20/2010 - \$266,370.71. Total Disbursements as of 4/20/2010- \$195,090.93. The Council approved sending \$60,000 to the newly established AOS Research and Education Fund. This \$60,000 represents income from the O&N Journal, the AOS share of the 2009 O&N profit share.

#### Research Fund Report

The AOS Research Fund investment account has \$7,888,000 as of 4/28/10. This is a 2 million dollar recovery in the last two years. The basic science fund as of 4/28/10 has \$382,000. The Research and Education Fund is \$104,000.

The Council approved funding for 1 clinician scientist award, 2 renewal research grants and 3 new research grants for a total funding of \$353,737 or 2010-2011.

The awarded proposals were as follows:

#### 2010 – 2011 Research Grants

**Keiko Hirose, M.D. Washington University:** Mononuclear Phagocytes in the Mammalian Cochlea: Studies on Inhibition and Activation of Leukocytes in the Middle Ear \$55,000

**Janet Fitzakerley, Ph.D -University of Minnesota Medical School/Duluth:** Role for Natriuretic Peptides in Meniere's Disease Treatment \$55,000

**Srinivasamurthy Prakash, Ph.D, Massachusetts Eye & Ear Infirmary:** Vestibular Evoked Myogenic Potentials in Meniere's Disease: Diagnostic Application of Inhibition Depth \$53,741

**Katherine J. Rennie, Ph.D. University of Colorado Denver:** Glutamate Receptors and Signaling in the Mammalian Vestibular System \$55,000

**Richard JH Smith, M.D. University of Iowa:** Meniere's Disease - A Molecular Genetic Study \$55,000

#### 2010-2011 Clinician Scientists Award

**Benjamin T. Crane, M.D., Ph.D. University of Rochester:** Visual and Vestibular Percepts of Motion \$79,996

**American Board of Otolaryngology:** Dr. Richard Chole presented the report. Dr. Bruce Gantz was elected President in April, and Dr. Jack Gluckman was elected as President-Elect in August 2009. Dr. Mark A. Richardson remains as Treasurer. Drs. Richard Chole, Wayne Larrabee and Paul Levine complete their term as Directors at the conclusion of 2010 Annual Meeting. Drs. David Eisele, Clough Shelton and Ira Papel were elected to the Board of Directors.

The primary certification exam was given to 324 individuals on April 16, 2010. The Oral Certifying Exam was conducted on April 17 and 18, 2010 by 108 examiners including ABOto Directors, Senior Examiners and Guest Examiners. The next exam will be April 15-17, 2011.

Neurotology subspecialty examination was administered to 55 individuals on April 19, 2010. Exam results are not known at this time. Next exam will be April 18, 2011. The alternate pathway will close after the 2012 exam, at which time the exam will be administered to those who have completed ACGME residence/fellowship training in Neurotology.

Information on ABOto Policy and Examinations, as well as information on the Scope of Knowledge Study (which defines the content of ABOto exams and requisite otolaryngology training), can be found at [www.aboto.org](http://www.aboto.org).

**Audit Report:** Dr. Alex Arts presented the 2010 Audit Committee report. Dr. Arts and committee members Drs. David Haynes and Lawrence R. Lustig reviewed the AOS and AOSRF for the fiscal year ending 6/30/2009. All of the expenses were reviewed in detail and all appeared to be appropriate.

**Membership Development Committee Report:** Dr. A. Julianna Gulya reported over the years she has identified a number of potential candidates for AOS membership. As a result there has been a nice group of outstanding otologists/neurotologists inducted into the AOS. The Gulya asked to be replaced as chair of the committee. The Council appointed Dr. Lawrence R. Lustig to serve as Chairman of the Membership Development Committee. This will be a 3-year renewable term.

**American Academy of Otolaryngology:** Dr. David Nielsen presented the highlights of recent activities of the Academy. Dr. Nielsen reported the Core Study Section met on March 19-20 and is recommending \$974,283 in funding to be awarded for grants. It is up to the individual societies to provide the money to approve or disapprove of these grants. Dr. Nielsen thanked the AOS for their part in supporting CORE.

Dr. Nielsen reported there is an issue that he wanted to bring to the AOS attention. Ophthalmologists are opening hearing aid centers in their offices. It appears that there is a company that controls about 90% of the market for the freestanding hearing aid centers and is actively recruiting and soliciting Ophthalmologists and other areas where the elderly congregate. The Academy has taken a stance against this and has done what the Academy can do without violating the law, following anti-trust guidelines, and continuing to push for professionalism of this and make sure that it does not get out of hand.

The One Prince Street building has finally sold for 7.9 million. The money will help the Academy to build their reserve. The building was paid for by the Academy campaign back in the early 90s. The Academy has a goal of 20 – 30 million dollars to help the Academy reduce and completely eliminate relying on outside sources of revenue.

Health care reform issues. Most of the primary care societies have supported the final legislation as well as the reconciliation language. The real issue now is not going to be what the legislation says; it is going to be how the rules are written by the Executive branch of government to implement this. Some of the things the societies need to be concerned about is the SGR fix.

**High Tech Legislation:** At this time participation in the meaningful use for electronic medical records is an opportunity for physicians to get paid more by Medicare until 2015 and at that time every physician will be expected to comply and if you do not, you will be paid less. I do not know if the members are aware, but it certainly accelerates the timeline that needs to be looked at for meeting those requirements. Four basic elements that physicians will encode clinical data, looking specifically at prioritized elements of that clinical data. Specific areas will be required data gathering. You will then use this to improve quality measures in a way that is acceptable to CMSS. The Academy is working as fast as they can to build measures so that every subspecialty interests in otolaryngology will have something that they can use to demonstrate quality and the final element is that this information can be shared widely. The Academy represent about 1% of the physicians.

**Board of Governors Report:** Dr. Sujana Chandrasekhar presented the Academy's Board of Governors report. Dr. Chandrasekhar reported there are two people assigned as the Legislative Rep (Dr. Joel Goebel) and the Public Relations Rep (Dr. Jose Fayad). The Spring Meeting of the Board of Governors was in March.

The agenda is really to maintain the scope of practice as otolaryngologists in general and to try to prevent less qualified individuals from trying to practice medicine. There are, at the state level many, many extensions of audiology scope of practice bills. Audiologists with an AuD degree are advertising directly to patients as an ear doctor. This is a big problem with the way patients may receive non-medical care, thinking they are receiving medical care. The impetus for both expansion of the scope of practice and this AuD problem is happening at the State levels, so the BOGs and the Academy political arm are keeping track of this state by state.

#### American Otological Society Call for Papers

October 15, 2010, is the deadline for submission of abstracts for the 2011 Annual Spring Meeting. We will begin accepting abstracts via the AOS website after July 1. You will be notified by e-mail when the website is open for abstracts. You will be required to submit the abstract according to the guidelines that will be outlined in the submission process. 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 2011.

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 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:** Membership applications are due September 1, 2010. 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)/. The same applies for change of mailing address.



**144th AOS ANNUAL SPRING MEETING** will be held Saturday/Sunday April 30 & May 1, 2011. Sheraton Chicago Hotel & Towers, Chicago, IL. The AOS Banquet will be on Saturday evening, April 30.