



## AMERICAN OTOLOGICAL SOCIETY, INC.

### 138<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL SPRING MEETING

The American Otological Society, Inc., recently completed their 138<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting in Boca Raton Florida. We wish to thank Dr. Sam E. Kinney for an outstanding program. The scientific program included three panels and were very well received by the audience. Dr. George A. Gates was Guest of Honor. Mrs. Marlene Pulec accepted the Presidential Citation given to Dr. Jack Pulec. Dr. David J. Lim received the 2005 Award of Merit.

**Highlights of the AOS Annual Business Meeting, May 14-15, 2005.** Complete text is available on the AOS Website at [www.americanotologicalsociety.org](http://www.americanotologicalsociety.org)

**Membership:** The Society is pleased to report a total of 312 members.

The AOS welcomed five Active Members: Drs. Craig A. Buchman, Roberto A. Cueva, Richard D. Kopke, Blake C. Papsin, and J. Thomas Roland, Jr.

Three Corresponding Members: Drs. Marcus D. Atlas, Gabor Repassy, and Haruo Takahashi.

#### Treasurer's Report

The balance on hand in the AOS Treasury as of April 30, 2005, was \$87,274.91.

#### Research Fund Report

The market value of the research fund as of April 30, 2005, was \$7,625,674. The value of the research fund on April 30, 2004, was \$6,903,772. Three research grants and two fellowships were funded for 2005-2006 in the amount of \$238,000.

AOS Basic Science Lectureship Fund balance as of 4/30/2005 was \$44,237. The profit share of the journal is being used to fund this lectureship, and the goal is to have the interest share from the fund pay the travel expenses for a basic scientist to present at the AOS Spring Meeting. If you wish to make a donation to the fund, please send to the AOS Administrative Office.

#### Research Grants

John Carey, MD (Johns Hopkins University)  
Effects of Low-Dose Gentamicin on Labyrinthine Structure  
\$55,000

Kiweon Cha, PhD (House Ear Institute)  
Development of a Human Endolymphatic Sac Epithelial Cell Line and Aquaporin-2 Regulation \$55,000

Hansen, Marlen (University of Iowa)  
Effects of Elevated Potassium on Spiral Ganglion Neurite Growth and Maintenance \$40,000

#### Research Fellowships

Samuel Gubbels, MD (Oregon Health & Science University)  
Genetic Modification of Mouse Stem Cells in vitro \$44,000

Karen Mu (University of California, Davis)  
The Role of Chloride Channels in Inner Ear Fluid Homeostasis  
\$44,000

#### AOS Bylaws Amendment Approved

217 ballots were mailed to the active and senior members and 91 ballots were returned – 88 for and 3 against. The AOS Bylaws amendment had to do with modifying some of the requirements for Corresponding Membership making this category more consistent with the Active Member category. Secondly, due to the costs involved in maintaining both Associate Members and Corresponding Members, a dues structure was added to these two categories.

The AOS Bylaws change was approved as follows:

**Associate Members:** Shall pay the initiation fee, meeting and registration fees, fees for social events and annual dues as determined by the Council. The dues for Associate Members beginning July 1, 2005, will be \$100.00 per year.

**Corresponding Members:** Shall have demonstrated a degree of knowledge and ability in otology to warrant consideration for membership. Shall pay the initiation fee, meeting and registration fees, fees for social events and annual dues as determined by the Council. The dues for Corresponding Members beginning July 1, 2005, will be \$200.00 per year.

#### O&N Journal

Subscription fees to the O&N journal will increase July 1, 2005. The increase will be reflected in the Active Members dues, which include the subscription to the O&N. Active Members dues will be \$410.00 and \$420.00 for Active international members.

The AOS Council encourages the AOS membership to politically support the Academy. Dr. David R. Nielsen, Executive Vice-President of AAO-HNSF presented the AAO-HNSF report summarizing the state of the Academy/Foundation and its initiatives.

**American Academy of Otolaryngology:** Dr. Nielsen reported the Academy is making good progress with the evidence-based medicine initiative. The Academy has reviewed all of their health policy statements as well as the compendium of clinical indicators and has developed a process whereby the Academy will prioritize those that have a low level of evidence and work to increase that level of evidence. The Academy has a new learning content management system that the Academy will be investing two million dollars in over the next five years, which will provide a platform that will allow the Academy to meta-tag all of the content and intellectual capital in a way to conversion it for multiple uses. The Academy will encourage other societies, who feel they would like to share in this platform to work with the Academy. The Academy would like to make this available to other societies that wish to use it.

The Socioeconomic agenda is focusing on the sustainable growth rate formula fix. The Academy foresees an evidence-based, relevant valid, patient-centered pay for performance system to be in place. The ABMS and CMSS has engaged in a joint planning committee and this committee has been looking at how the specialty societies and boards can cooperate more fully to avoid wasted resources and non-synergistic parallel processes.

The AAA sent a letter to the Office of the Inspector General and to the CMS stating that physicians are not skilled or capable of doing hearing tests or interpreting the validity of hearing tests. The Academy will pursue legal action against the AAA, as they have not responded to the Academy's demand letter to cease and desist, they have not retracted their statements, and have not written back to OIG or CMS. The Academy has been assured that the otological leadership will work with the Academy, as the Academy tries to work with the leadership of AAA and ASHA to ensure the establishment of an equitable process for handling these disputes in the future.

The Joint Committee on Infant Hearing is engaging in its five-year paper production and in the year 2000 produced their first paper basically focused on identification. The Joint Committee is planning to produce a second paper that will deal primarily with referral and management.

Dr. Nielsen thanked the American Otological Society for their cooperation in working with the Academy.

#### Call for Papers

October 15, 2005, is the deadline for submission of abstracts for the May 20-21, 2006, Annual Meeting in Chicago, IL. The American Otological Society accepts on-line submission of abstracts. All abstract submissions must meet Journal requirements. To see those requirements, please consult "Instructions for Authors" in the printed Journal or online at [www.otology-neurotology.org](http://www.otology-neurotology.org)

Submit abstracts to: [www.americanotologicalsociety.org](http://www.americanotologicalsociety.org)  
E-mail: [segossard@aol.com](mailto:segossard@aol.com)

#### AOS Officers & Council Members 7/1/2005—6/30/2006

President - John K. Niparko, MD  
President-Elect - Antonio De La Cruz, MD  
Secretary-Treasurer - Clough Shelton, MD  
Editor-Librarian - C. Phillip Daspit, MD

Council Members  
Jeffrey P. Harris, MD, PhD  
Sam E. Kinney, MD  
Joseph B. Nadol, Jr., MD  
Bruce J. Gantz, MD

Drs. Robert A. Jahrsdoerfer and Thomas McDonald were elected to serve on the 2006 Award of Merit Committee.

#### AMERICAN OTOLOGICAL SOCIETY RESEARCH FUND RESEARCH GRANT AWARDS AND TRAINING FELLOWSHIPS

The American Otological Society, Inc., through its Research Fund, is offering Research Grant Awards, an Award for a Clinical Trial, full-time Research Training Fellowships, and a Clinician-Scientist Award. Research supported by the Research Grant Awards and by the Award for a Clinical Trial must be focused on the study of otosclerosis or Ménière's disease. A description of the relationship between the research study and otosclerosis or Ménière's disease is an integral part of the application. The full-time Research Training Fellowships and the Clinician-Scientist Award can support the training of the recipient in research on any topic related to ear disorders. These grant awards and fellowships are for work conducted in *United States or Canadian institutions only*. See the AOS website at [www.americanotologicalsociety.org](http://www.americanotologicalsociety.org) for complete details.

**AOS Tie:** If you have not purchased an AOS tie, and wish to do so, send a check in the amount of \$55.00 to the AOS Administrative Office. Include the mailing address for where you wish the tie to be sent.

**Change of Address:** Please notify the AOS Administrative Office at 2720 Tartan Way, Springfield, IL 62711, or e-mail, [segossard@aol.com](mailto:segossard@aol.com), any change in your address, phone/fax number, or e-mail. We want to expand our e-mail address list, so please forward your e-mail address to [segossard@aol.com](mailto:segossard@aol.com).

#### 139<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL SPRING MEETING

Mark your calendar now and plan to attend the 139th American Otological Society's Annual Meeting to be held in Chicago, Illinois, at the Hyatt Regency, May 20-21, 2006. Scientific Sessions will be held on Saturday afternoon and Sunday morning.

The President's Banquet will be held on Sunday evening, May 21, 2006.