



# American Neurotology Society

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## From the Desk of the Secretary-Treasurer

Jeffrey T. Vrabec, MD

The American Neurotology Society's 45th Annual Spring Meeting will be held in Las Vegas, Nevada at Paris/Bally's on April 30 - May 2, 2010. Please see the enclosed Program and Abstract book for the complete Scientific program.

The President of the Society, Dr. Samuel H. Selesnick, and the 2010 Scientific Program Committee scored the abstracts in a blinded fashion. The ANS received a record-breaking sixty submissions for consideration this year. The Scientific Sessions will be comprised of 26 free presentations and two exceptional panels. Dr. Jeffrey P. Harris was selected to give the William House Lecture.

The Program will begin Saturday, May 1st with a number of presentations addressing Vestibular Schwannomas, Tumors of the Temporal Bone, Hearing Loss and Facial Nerve. Saturday's program will conclude with a panel entitled, "A Multidisciplinary Approach to Vestibular Disorders" led by Dr. Judith A. White. Dr. John C. Goddard will be the recipient of the "Neurotology Fellow Award" for his presentation entitled, "Fundal Fluid as a Predictor of Hearing Preservation in Middle Fossa Craniotomy for Vestibular Schwannoma."

The Scientific Program continues Sunday afternoon, May 2<sup>nd</sup>. Dr. Jeffrey P. Harris will begin the program as the House lecturer, with his presentation entitled "Beethoven, Horror Autotoxicus and Cortisone: Implications for Treatment". Presentations will include research and development in Cochlear Implants and

Vestibular Dysfunction. The program will conclude with a panel led by Dr. Nikolas H. Blevins entitled, "Re-examining Important Considerations in the Diagnosis and Treatment of Facial Nerve Paralysis".

Don't forget to mark your calendar for a fabulous evening with your colleagues at the **ANS President's Reception, on Friday evening, April 30, 2010 from 6:30 - 8:30**. ANS members may register for the reception when you register for COSM.

### COSM Website

<http://www.cosm.md/index.html>

### ANS 2010 Candidates

Twelve ANS membership applications for Associate, Fellow and Upgrade to Fellow were processed for the year 2010. The Membership and Credentials Committee, led by Chairman, Dr. Robert Muckle, along with Drs. Sanjay Bhansali, Allan Rubin, Nancy Young, and Michael Hoffer reviewed the applications in detail. The Committee approved eleven of twelve Candidates for the final ballot. The ANS Council approved the following slate of Candidates for 2010. Instructions for voting online were e-mailed to 330 ANS Fellows and Senior Fellows. 125 ballots were returned. All Candidates were approved for ANS membership. Two new Associate and two new Fellow members were elected for membership. Seven Associates were upgraded to Fellow status. The following Candidates will be inducted at the ANS Annual Spring Business Meeting in Las Vegas on Saturday May 1st at 7:30am.

### Associate Member

Oliver F. Adunka, MD - Chapel Hill, NC  
Matthew J. Carfrae, MD - Des Moines, IA

### New Fellow Member

David R. Schramm, MD - Ottawa, Ontario  
Andrea Vambutas, MD - New Hyde Park, NY

### Upgrade to Fellow

Calhoun D. Cunningham, III, MD-  
Raleigh, NC  
Todd A. Hillman, MD - Pittsburgh, PA  
Lance E. Jackson, MD - San Antonio, TX  
Stephanie A. Moody-Antonio, MD -  
Norfolk, VA  
John S. Oghalai, MD - Houston, TX  
Brian P. Perry, MD - San Antonio, TX  
John J. Zappia, MD - Farmington Hills, MI

### ANS Membership Information

The ANS Membership application is available on the ANS website.  
[www.americanneurotologysociety.com](http://www.americanneurotologysociety.com)

For further information email ANS Administrator, Kristen Bordignon at [neurotology65@yahoo.com](mailto:neurotology65@yahoo.com). The Administrative office accepts electronic submissions only. Completed applications are due before November 15, 2010.

### Upcoming Meetings

#### ANS 2010 Annual Fall Meeting

American Neurotology Society  
45th Annual Fall Meeting  
September 25, 2010  
The Westin Boston Waterfront  
Boston, MA

Look for further information in Las Vegas at the ANS registration desk. and on the ANS website as it becomes available.

#### AAO-HNSF Annual Meeting & OTO EXPO

The 2010 Annual Meeting & OTO EXPO will take place at the Boston Convention and Exhibition Center in Boston, MA from September 26-29, 2010.

The ANS Standing Committees continue to persevere in their quest to bring the American Neurotology Society to the forefront of otolaryngology specialty societies. Your membership in the ANS places you in a highly respected professional organization that has a significant and far-reaching impact on the subspecialty of Neurotology. The ANS is dedicated to promoting excellence in clinical care, research, and education in the field of Neurotology.

#### **ANS COMMITTEE NOTES**

##### **Neurotology Fellowship Committee**

The Fellowship Committee of the American Neurotology Society (ANS) has been working on two key initiatives. The first involves interactions with the Residency Review Committee (RRC) in Otolaryngology, in response to their request to establish the volume of key neurotologic procedures that graduates of an accredited Neurotology fellowship program would be expected to perform during training. Recognizing that there are wide variations in institutional practice style and surgical volumes, the committee was reluctant to offer a minimum number of several procedures that would be applied as strict program requirements for Neurotology fellowships, as such an action might jeopardize the accreditation status of worthy programs. Rather, we recommended two very general guidelines for the RRC to consider in reviewing fellowship programs:

1. Neurotology fellows should have documented involvement in the open microsurgical treatment of a total of 30 or more skull base tumors within the 2 year training experience.
2. The fellow's experience should include documented experience with each approach to the skull base. (Transtemporal, Middle Fossa, and Retrosigmoid).

The second initiative is to develop a standardized template for online Neurotology case reporting to the ACGME. The joint council of the ANS and AOS will consider this again during the 2010 COSM meeting. Once this log is implemented, the ACGME site reviewers may choose to use the ranges for surgical volumes reported by fellows to identify any extreme outliers with regard to procedures of particular interest to the RRC.

Respectfully submitted,  
Steven A. Telian, MD

##### **Socio-economic Committee**

Greetings from the Socioeconomic Committee. David Barrs, MD has stepped

down as the committee chair and Douglas D. Backous, MD has assumed the role as we move into the 2010 year. David has been a great leader and advocate of this committee within the ANS. Our committee continues to pursue the possibility of having Neurotology recognized as a distinct sub-specialty in the eyes of CMS. This would allow Neurotologists to bill separately from otolaryngologists. The committee will be discussing this issue in our upcoming meetings during COSM and we welcome your input. This will be a challenging issue to win and we will keep you posted.

The ANS was part of the AAO-HNS Guidelines Development task Force in December 2009. David Barrs represented the ANS at this important meeting. Two topics pertaining to our specialty were proposed. Sudden hearing loss looks to be high on the task force's list of possible guidelines to be developed. We will keep you posted as the decision of the task force is finalized and volunteers are needed from ANS. We look forward to serving you and look to our society meeting at COSM!

Respectfully submitted,  
Douglas D. Backous, MD

##### **Continuing Medical Education Committee**

The ANS CME Committee has been actively involved in a number of projects. As many of the ANS members know, continuing medical education is undergoing dramatic changes around the country, with more rigorous requirements documenting knowledge assessment and change in practice patterns. In response to these trends, the CME committee has rewritten the bylaws of the ANS to reflect these changes, and is working actively with the Program Committee to ensure that all presentations at our Fall and Spring Meetings meet these new, stricter requirements. As we move forward, our committee will continue to address the increasing demands of these new CME requirements to ensure the ANS is in full compliance with these national trends.

Respectfully submitted,  
Lawrence R. Lustig, MD

##### **Audit Committee**

Prior to the ANS Spring meeting, the Audit Committee will impartially and diligently review the finances and accounting of the Society to the best of its ability for the benefit of the membership. A report of the findings will be given at the ANS Executive Council meeting in April.

Respectfully submitted,  
Fred F. Telischi, MD

##### **Constitution & Bylaws Committee**

The Bylaws Committee members reviewed and approved the ANS Bylaws amendments recommended by the CME Committee to update the ANS Mission Statement in order to comply with current ACCME guidelines. This information was then forwarded to the President, Dr. Samuel Selesnick and the proposed changes were approved by a vote of the general membership of the ANS.

Respectfully,  
J. Thomas Roland, Jr., MD

##### **Research Committee**

The Research Committee of the ANS has been active with a number of projects over the past year. The committee has submitted an abstract for an AAOHNS miniseminar entitled "What's New in Implantable Hearing Devices". Further, the committee is developing proposals for a newly created ANS funded research initiative. I would like to thank the members of the committee for the efforts they have devoted to the ANS.

Respectfully submitted,  
William Slattery, MD

#### **ANS EXECUTIVE COUNCIL 2009-2010**

**President:**  
Samuel H. Selesnick, MD  
New York, NY

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Myles L. Pensak, MD

**Continuing Medical Education**  
Lawrence R. Lustig, MD

**ANS Administrator**  
Kristen Bordignon  
315 North Iris Drive  
Auburn, IL 62615  
Ph: 217-638-0801  
Fax: 217-438-6404  
Email: [neurotology65@yahoo.com](mailto:neurotology65@yahoo.com)