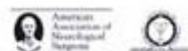


Pediatric SHORT CUTS



AANS/CNS Section on Pediatric Neurological Surgery

Editor: Alan R. Cohen, MD

Spring 2009

From the Secretary

Alan R. Cohen, MD

After a long, hard winter, spring has finally arrived, and the Pediatric Section has a lot going on. There will be a strong pediatric neurosurgery presence at the 77th AANS Annual Meeting in San Diego, May 2–6. Some highlights:

- An afternoon Pediatric Session on Monday, May 4, on innovations, moderated by Chair Jeff Wisoff, MD and featuring keynote speaker, Chair-Elect Tina Duhaime, MD, discussing "Head Injury Management in Perspective: What Things Really Make a Difference"
- An afternoon Pediatric Session on Tuesday, May 5, chaired by Member-at-Large John Ragheb, MD
- The Matson Lecture, to be delivered by [John A. Jane Sr., MD, PhD](#), on Tuesday, May 5, at 3:09 p.m.
- The Matson Lecture Reception in honor of Dr. Jane on Tuesday, May 5, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. in the Mission Hills Room of the San Diego Marriott Hotel and Marina
- The Shulman Award, to be given to Toba Niazi, MD, of the University of Utah on Tuesday, May 5, at 2:45 p.m. for her presentation, "Medulloblastoma Growth Enhancement by Hgf/sf Expression in Cerebellar Neural Progenitor Cells Is Suppressed by Systemic Antibody"
- The Hydrocephalus Award, to be given to Ellen Air, MD, of the University of Cincinnati on Tuesday, May 5, at 2:57 p.m. for her presentation, "A Longitudinal Comparison of Pre- and Postoperative DTI Parameters in Young Hydrocephalic Children"
- The Pediatric Section Executive Council, to meet on Tuesday, May 5, from 1 to 2:45 p.m. in the Balboa Room of the San Diego Marriott Hotel and Marina
- The Pediatric Section's Annual Business Meeting, to be held on Tuesday, May 5, at 5:30 p.m. immediately following the scientific session

The 2008 Annual Winter Meeting in Spokane was a huge success, thanks largely to the organizational efforts of Section Member-at-Large David Gruber, MD. Held at the historic Davenport Hotel, the Spokane meeting was one of the most popular conferences in the Pediatric Section's history, featuring a comprehensive scientific program by the section's membership that included a new session on transition of care, and the Raimondi Lecture, delivered by Renee Jenkins, MD, past president of the American Academy of

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Pediatrics, who spoke on “The Future of American Health Policy.” There were 380 individuals attending the meeting, including 227 neurosurgeons, 16 spouses, 53 nurses and 84 exhibitors.

The 2009 Winter Meeting will be in Boston at the Marriott Copley Place Hotel, Dec. 1– 3, chaired by Liliana Goumnerova, MD.

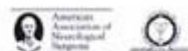
In other news, Sarah Gaskill, MD, chair of the section’s [Program and CME Committee](#), reports on the leading role the Pediatric Section has played in advancing the Web-based education. Jeff Blount, MD, member-at-large, reports on the stimulating and controversial [First World Congress on Spina Bifida](#) held in Orlando, Fla., this past March. Mark Dias, MD, chair of the American Academy of Pediatrics Section on Neurological Surgery, announces the [Second International Conference on Pediatric Abusive Head Trauma](#), to be held in Jackson Hole, Wyo., this June.

Further information about the Pediatric Section’s activities can be found at www.pedsneurosurgery.org. I hope to see you in San Diego.

Alan R. Cohen, MD, FACS, FAAP alan.cohen@uhhs.com , is secretary of the AANS/CNS Section on Pediatric Neurological Surgery.

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Pediatric SHORT CUTS



AANS/CNS Section on Pediatric Neurological Surgery

Editor: Alan R. Cohen, MD

Spring 2009

First World Congress on Spina Bifida Care and Research Is a Success for Pediatric Neurosurgeons

Jeffrey P. Blount, MD

From March 15 to 18, the First World Congress on Spina Bifida Research and Care convened in Orlando, Fla., under the direction of the Spina Bifida Association of America (SBA). This multidisciplinary meeting involved representatives from more than 30 countries around the world and represented a broad range of fields including neurosurgery, orthopedics, urology, developmental pediatrics, nursing and epidemiology/public health. Approximately 20 pediatric neurosurgeons from a wide range of academic and private practices attended and discussed a variety of important topics including the management of hydrocephalus and tethered spinal cord, transitional care and the controversial new procedure, lower urinary tract refunctionalization by somatic/autonomic nerve root transposition in children, commonly known as the [Xiao procedure](#).

The purpose of the meeting was to foster interdisciplinary discussions between groups of professionals interested in and dedicated to spina bifida who might not otherwise interact with one another at professional meetings. To accomplish this interaction, the format of the meeting involved keynote speakers from each of the major disciplines during the morning session with discipline-specific breakout sessions in the afternoon. This format provided rich opportunities for cross-fertilization of ideas and questions.

Highlights of the meeting for pediatric neurosurgeons included the following:

- Marion Walker, MD, from Primary Children's Hospital in Salt Lake City, Utah, gave the neurosurgery keynote lecture entitled "Observations on the Evolution of Thinking About Spina Bifida in Neurosurgery Across an Academic Career." Dr. Walker traced the approach in spina bifida from a period of nihilism and despair to an era in which neurological decline is not accepted as a part of the natural history of the disorder. He outlined the evolution in the thinking about treatment of hydrocephalus and the tethered cord, and shared brief insights and ideas regarding the challenging issue of transition to adult care.
- Judy Woodruff from CNN and PBS gave the first annual Hal Pote Memorial Lecture and shared her insights regarding the challenges, fears, frustrations and victories in raising a child with spina bifida. Ms Woodruff's son Jeffrey was born with spina bifida, and she and her husband, Al Hunt, for decades have been fierce advocates for spina bifida research. The lecture was named for Harold W. "Hal" Pote, a banker, philanthropist and impassioned and beloved advocate for children with spina bifida and for research and advocacy in spina bifida. He passed away unexpectedly in 2007.

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- David McLone, MD, PhD, from Children's Memorial Hospital in Chicago was given a Lifetime Achievement Award from the SBA for his monumental accomplishments and dedication to the cause of spina bifida. Dr. McLone was instrumental in fundamentally changing the approach to children with spina bifida and led the program in Chicago for three decades. During this time Children's Memorial became the world leader for research, training and advocacy regarding spina bifida, and many leaders who were trained in Chicago during that time carry on the tradition today. One such neurosurgeon is Robin Bowman, who introduced Dr. McLone and presented him with the achievement award.
- Benjamin Warf, MD, from Nemour/Dupont Children's Hospital in Wilmington, Del., received first prize in the First World Congress Award Papers, which recognize and reward the most significant original research contributions. The title of Dr. Warf's presentation was "Neurocognitive Outcomes for ETV/CPC (Comparison of Neurocognitive Outcomes and Ventricle Size in Myelomeningocele Infants Treated for Hydrocephalus by Shunting to Those Treated with Combined Endoscopic Third Ventriculostomy/Choroid Plexus Cauterization). In this study Dr. Warf used the Hydrocephalus Outcome Questionnaire (a standardized and validated scale for assessment) to determine the impact of different modalities of treating hydrocephalus. He concluded, based on longitudinal outcome analysis, that ETV/CPC was preferable but was associated with larger ventricles over the long term.

An update on the Management of Myelomeningocele Study (MOMS) was presented. This multicenter, unmasked randomized trial compares the outcomes of intrauterine closure of myelomeningocele with conventional treatment. As the trial is still ongoing, no outcome data could be released, but recruitment progress and rationale were presented. As of March 2008, 1,130 contacts were established between study centers and potential patient candidates, 840 patients were screened and 152 patients were randomized. Since the target population for randomization was 200, it appears the study has attained a level of recruitment of about 75 percent.

Chuan-Guo Xiao, MD, presented the urology keynote lecture and reviewed outcome data for the "Xiao procedure," lower urinary tract refunctionalization by somatic/autonomic nerve root transposition in children with spinal cord abnormalities. He reported that 1,320 patients have undergone this procedure in China. Follow-up data were available for 400 patients: 87 percent demonstrated effectiveness of the procedure as measured by freedom from catheterization and freedom from recurrent urinary tract infections. Dr. Xiao then stayed for an additional day at the end of the meeting to present a one-day symposium on the [procedure](#). This represented the first time these techniques had been taught in North America.

The neurosurgery breakout session featured outstanding talks that inspired significant and lively debate. In addition to Dr. Warf's previously described paper, several papers addressed outcomes in hydrocephalus and tethered cord. Robin Bowman, MD, presented a provocative paper on whether the benign sacral dimple truly exists. Every child at Children's Memorial clinic who was referred for a coccygeal pit/sacral dimple underwent magnetic resonance imaging of the spine. Only 44 percent were truly normal. Fat was noted in the filum of 23 percent of patients. If a low cord was noted, then a tethered cord evaluation (manual muscle testing, urodynamics) was undertaken. Of the 21 patients evaluated, 14 went on to surgery. Extensive discussion ensued.

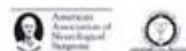
Transition of care from childhood to adulthood was extensively discussed, and several successful models were presented both in plenary and breakout sessions.

In summary, the meeting was well attended by pediatric neurosurgeons and was successful in establishing a forum for discussion and review of the most current ideas and controversies surrounding the care of children with spina bifida.

Jeffrey P. Blount, MD, is member-at-large of the AANS/CNS Section on Pediatric Neurological Surgery and chair of the Professional Advisory Board of the Spina Bifida Association of America.

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Pediatric SHORT CUTS



AANS/CNS Section on Pediatric Neurological Surgery

Editor: Alan R. Cohen, MD

Spring 2009

Xiao Procedure

[Jeffrey P. Blount, MD](#), and [Gerald Tuite, MD](#)

At the conclusion of the recent First World Congress on Spina Bifida Research and Care in Orlando, Fla., the Spina Bifida Association hosted a two-day postgraduate course on the promising but controversial new surgical procedure known as the lower urinary tract refunctionalization by somatic/autonomic nerve root transposition. This procedure was pioneered by Chuan-Guo Xiao, MD, from the Union Hospital of Tongji Medical College in China. Dr. Xiao is a urologist who has dedicated the last two decades of his career to the development of these techniques.

The procedure, commonly called the Xiao procedure, involves the surgical transposition of functional lumbar ventral roots to sacral roots. Typically the L5 ventral root is partially or completely divided and rerouted/anastomosed to the S3 root or complex of sacral roots containing S3 and S4. The rationale for the procedure centers on the spinal reflex-arc and on the capability of somatic motor axons to regenerate into and replace preganglionic axons. Clinically vigorous stimulation within the dermatome of the transposed lumbar root initiates a spinal reflex that results in bladder contraction. Experimental work done by Xiao and colleagues in the late 1980s and early 1990s in rat, cat and dog models demonstrated histological evidence of bladder reinnervation. Between 1995 and 2002, 86 patients with spinal cord injuries were treated, and the reported success rate was 80 percent. The National Institutes of Health sponsored a trial for 40 spinal-cord-injured patients at New York University in 2003. An 80 percent response rate was reported. Between 2000 and 2003, 40 patients with spina bifida were treated and an 85 percent effectiveness rate was observed. Between 2003 and the time of the meeting presentation, approximately 1,300 children had undergone the Xiao procedure in China. Only 400 patients were available for follow-up due to cultural and geographic issues, but Dr. Xiao and his team observed an 87 percent rate of effectiveness.

As a result of these reported outcomes there has been great excitement among spina bifida patients and their families about the procedure. Other urologists and neurosurgeons throughout the world have become sufficiently interested in learning the procedure, and Dr. Xiao has lectured and operated extensively. The Orlando meeting was the first time that he taught the surgical technique in a postgraduate course in North America. More than 75 attendees were present and were evenly divided between urologists and neurosurgeons.

The Xiao procedure has been performed in the United States by a group from William Beaumont Hospital in Royal Oak, Mich., led by urologist Ken Peters. Dr. Peters traveled to China to learn the procedure and invited Dr. Xiao to be present at the initial surgeries in Michigan. Financing was achieved through philanthropic benefactors, and follow-up has been comprehensive and essentially uniform. Dr. Peters also presented at the Orlando postgraduate course. A total of nine patients were operated upon and their outcomes were

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reviewed with up to a three-year follow-up. Dr. Peters reported that two patients are no longer requiring catheterization and that seven of nine patients have some measureable return of reflex. Bowel function improved more quickly and more extensively than bladder function. Eight-to-nine patients had bilateral leg weakness initially, yet their weakness improved back to baseline such that only one patient has residual weakness. One patient has foot drop.

In addition to the Beaumont group, several groups in North America have learned the procedure and prepared a protocol for treatment. These include groups in Tampa, Fla., led by Gerald Tuite, MD, and in Atlanta, Ga., led by urologist Edwin Smith. Dr. Tuite also traveled to China to learn the surgical technique directly from Dr. Xiao. Immediately before the meeting Dr. Tuite invited Dr. Xiao to Tampa, and eight children were treated under the direction of both surgeons. Dr. Tuite's partners and Tae Sung Park, MD, from Washington University/St. Louis Children's Hospital also observed or participated in the surgeries. The Atlanta group has approved a protocol and has institutional review board approval, but it has not yet operated upon any patients.

Extensive discussion and rigorous debate ensued and closed out the first day of the postgraduate course. The second day was dedicated to discussions regarding how best to initiate trials in the U.S. and elsewhere. The Beaumont, Atlanta and Tampa groups all presented proposed protocols. The Tampa protocol is unique in that it proposes performing the procedure only in the context of detethering a tethered spinal cord. Significant debate about protocols ensued. There was a strong consensus of opinion that the procedure should only be done in the setting of a cooperative, properly constructed (good design, sufficient power, etc.), organized multicenter clinical trial. There was uniformity of opinion across disciplines that children with spina bifida and society at large are poorly served when multiple centers undertake small, independent studies, and that such studies are counterproductive to proper assessment of the technique. The Beaumont, Atlanta and Tampa groups all agreed to halt further surgery until a unified neurosurgery/urology research design could be developed.

A task force headed by Jeffrey Blount, MD, and Dr. Tuite was formed that will coordinate the development of an organized approach in neurosurgery. There will be a meeting of all interested groups at the upcoming AANS Annual Meeting to further these discussions and move forward with the development of protocols. The meeting time and location will be forthcoming.

Jeffrey P. Blount, MD, University of Alabama at Birmingham, and Gerald Tuite, MD, University of South Florida, Tampa.

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Pediatric SHORT CUTS



AANS/CNS Section on Pediatric Neurological Surgery

Editor: Alan R. Cohen, MD

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Program and Continuing Medical Education Committee Report

[Sarah J. Gaskill, MD](#)

The Pediatric Section started the year by presenting the first “webinar” for the CNS University of Neurosurgery.

The program in January was “Managing Arachnoid Cysts.” It was led by Mark Krieger, MD, with Richard C. E. Anderson, MD, presenting “Fenestration of Arachnoid Cysts” and Sean A. McNatt, MD, presenting “Shunting of Arachnoid Cysts.” The program was extremely well attended and well received, and we can look forward to our next webinar in September. Possible topics include: the Xiao procedure, controversies in early spine fusion and an update on the management of pediatric traumatic brain injury. The members' input into topics to present at the biannual webinars and for other programming would be greatly appreciated.

The topic for the Integrated Medical Learning (IML) program at the CNS meeting this coming fall will be on Chiari I. This symposium is being organized by Hugh Garton, MD. The Pediatric Section will present a symposium, “Excellence in Pediatric Neurosurgery: Avoiding Complications,” with Jeffrey Wisoff, MD, presenting on tumors, Arnold Menezes, MD, presenting on pediatric spine, Jim Drake, MD, presenting on the treatment of hydrocephalus: shunts and endoscopy, and Leland Albright, MD, presenting on spasticity and movement disorders.

Lastly, the Pediatric Section program during the upcoming AANS Annual Meeting in San Diego will be held on Tuesday, May 5, between 2:45 and 5:30 p.m. Both the Shulman and hydrocephalus awards will be presented, and John A. Jane Sr., MD, PhD, will deliver the Matson Lecture, followed by the presentation of abstracts.

We welcome all suggestions for topics and speakers for future meetings and presentations.

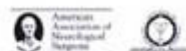
Sarah J. Gaskill, MD, FACS, FAAP, is chair of the Program and Continuing Medical Education Committee of the AANS/CNS Section on Pediatric Neurological Surgery

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John A. Jane Sr. Named 2009 Matson Lecturer

Alan R. Cohen, MD

John A. Jane Sr., MD, PhD, FRCS(C), FACS, immediate past chair of the Department of Neurological Surgery at the University of Virginia at Charlottesville, will deliver the Matson lecture at the AANS Annual Meeting in San Diego, Calif., on the afternoon of Tuesday, May 5. His topic is "Donald Matson: Then and Now." A reception in his honor will follow at 6:30 p.m.



Dr. Jane graduated cum laude in 1951 from the University of Chicago with a Bachelor of Arts degree and received his medical degree from the University of Chicago in 1956. He completed his neurosurgical training in 1964 at the University of Illinois Research and Educational Hospital and the Illinois Neuropsychiatric Institute. In 1965 Dr. Jane was senior instructor in neurosurgery at Case Western Reserve University. In 1967 Dr. Jane was awarded a doctoral degree from the University of Chicago, Division of Biological Sciences, Section of Biopsychology. From 1969 to 2006, Dr. Jane was the professor and chair of the Department of Neurosurgery at the University of Virginia School of Medicine in Charlottesville, Virginia. Currently he is professor and director of the Neurosurgical Training Program.

His clinical interests include cranial and spinal surgery, and pediatric neurosurgery, with a special interest in craniofacial surgery.

He is the past director of the American Board of Neurological Surgery, completing his term in 1996. Dr. Jane was elected vice president of the Society of Neurological Surgeons in 1988 and also was elected president of the society in 1993. He became a member of the Editorial Board of the *Journal of Neurosurgery* in 1984 and became chair of the Editorial Board in 1990. He is also the editor and founder of the *Journal of Neurosurgery: Spine* and *Journal of Neurosurgery: Pediatrics*.

Among his many awards are the Grass Prize and Medal of the Society of Neurological Surgeons for Meritorious Research (1985), Alumni Award for Distinguished Service, University of Chicago (1988), Decade of the Brain Medalist, CNS/AANS (1999), the Decade of the Brain Award, AANS (2000), the Distinguished Service Award by the AANS (2002), the NSA Medalist, Neurosurgical Society of America (2002), the Distinguished Service Award, Society of Neurological Surgeons (2003), the Cushing Medalist, AANS (2004), the WFNS Medal of Honor at the XIII World Congress of Neurosurgery Meeting (2005), the Congress of Neurological Surgeons Founder's Laurel Award (2005), and the AANS/CNS Section on Disorders of the Spine and Peripheral Nerves Meritorious Service Recognition (2006).

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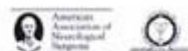
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He is married to Noella Fortier of Montreal, Quebec, Canada. The Janes have four grown children (three daughters and one son), six grandsons and two granddaughters.

Alan R. Cohen, MD, is secretary of the AANS/CNS Section on Pediatric Neurological Surgery.

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Pediatric SHORT CUTS



AANS/CNS Section on Pediatric Neurological Surgery

Editor: Alan R. Cohen, MD

Spring 2009

Membership Committee Report

Mark R. Proctor, M.D.

Below is a list of applicants who have fulfilled the criteria for membership. There are 32 applicants, with the breakdown as follows: 13 Active, 14 Resident/Fellow and five International.

Active

Tord Alden, MD, Chicago, Ill.
Ruth Bristol, MD, Phoenix, Ariz.
Daniel Couture, MD, Winston-Salem, N.C.
Clare Gallagher, MD, Calgary, Canada
Ronald Grondin, MD, FRCSC, Columbus, Ohio
Keyne Johnson, MD, Winter Park, Fla.
Arnett Klugh, MD, San Diego, Calif.
Jorge Lazareff, MD, Los Angeles, Calif.
David Limbrick, MD, PhD, St. Louis, Mo.
Benjamin Ling, MD, Spokane, Wash.
Gary Mathern, MD, Los Angeles, Calif.
Sean McNatt, MD, Aurora, Colo.
Timothy Strait, MD, Chattanooga, Tenn.

Resident

Juanita Celix, MD, Seattle, Wash.
Roberto Diaz, MD, Calgary, Canada
Michael DiLuna, MD, New Haven, Conn.
Agustin Dorantes, MD, Mexico City, Mexico
Lance Governale, MD, Brookline, Mass.
William Gump, MD, Durham, N.C.
Todd Hankinson, MD, New York, N.Y.
David Ibrahimi, MD, Baltimore, MD
Jorge Lopez-Magana, MD, Mexico City, Mexico
Eylem Ocal, MD, New Haven, Conn.
Armando Romero-Perez, MD, Mexico City, Mexico
Mandeep Tamber, MD, Toronto, Canada
Rene Vargas Pacheco, MD, Mexico City, Mexico
Esmiralda Yeremeyeva, MD, New Orleans, La.

International

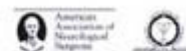
Adrian Caceres Chacon, MD, San Jose, Costa Rica
Giuseppe Cinalli, MD, Naples, Italy
Sung Kyoo Hwang, MD, Daegu, South Korea
Hakan Karabagli, MD, Konya, Turkey
Kyu-Chang Wang, MD, PhD, Seoul, South Korea

Mark R. Proctor, MD, is chair of the Membership Committee of the AANS/CNS Section on Pediatric Neurological Surgery

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Editor: Alan R. Cohen, MD

Spring 2009

Business Meeting Minutes

AANS/CNS Section on Pediatric Neurological Surgery 2008 Winter Meeting

Dec. 4, 2008, 5 p.m.

Davenport Hotel

Spokane, Wash.

Call to Order at 5 p.m. by Jeffrey Wisoff, MD, chair

Approval of Minutes From Spring 2008 Meeting –Alan Cohen, MD, secretary

Moved for approval and accepted by acclamation.

Financial Report–Bruce Kaufman, MD, treasurer

As of the end of October 2008 the section's net assets totaled \$586,440. The short-term/checking account had \$129,200 with a yield of approximately 2.3 percent, which compares to a yield of 3.75 percent at this time last year. The long-term investments, which are pooled and managed by the AANS, had \$431,544 with a negative yield (-19 percent) compared to a return last year of 2 percent.

Membership Committee– Alan Cohen, MD, for Mark Proctor, MD

The following applicants have fulfilled the criteria for membership. There were 47 applicants with the following breakdown: eight Active; 34 Resident/Fellow; five International.

Active

Laurie Ackerman, MD, Indianapolis, Ind.
Kuris Auguste, MD, San Francisco, Calif.
Samer Elbabaa, MD, Little Rock, Ark.
Jorge Guajardo Torres, MD, Garza Garcia, Mexico
Francisco Guerrero Jazo, MD, Cancun, Mexico
Sanjay Misra, MD, Pueblo, Colo.
Jay Riva-Cambrin, MD, Salt Lake City, Utah
Rachana Tyagi, MD, New Brunswick, N.J.

Resident

Gregory, Albert, MD, Iowa City, Iowa
Darric Baty, MD, Philadelphia, Pa.
David Bauer, MD, Birmingham, Ala.
Bryan Bertoglio, MD, Iowa City, Iowa
Michael Dorsi, MD, Los Angeles, Calif.
Andrew Fabiano, MD, Buffalo, N.Y.
John Gachiani, MD, New Orleans, La.
Sanjay Gupta, MD, Toronto, Canada
Abilash Haridas, MD, New York, N.Y.
Jason Hauptman, MD, Los Angeles, Calif.
Namath Hussain, MD, Phoenix, Ariz.
Eric Jackson, MD, Philadelphia, Pa.

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Rolando Jimenez, MD, Mexico City, Mexico
 Kristopher Kahle, MD, Boston, Mass.
 Ioannis Karampelas, MD, Cleveland, Ohio
 Colin Kazina, MD, Winnipeg, Canada
 Tyler Kenning, MD, Albany, N.Y.
 Sandi Lam, MD, Los Angeles, Calif.
 Timothy Maryanov, MD, Chapel Hill, N.C.
 Carrie Muh, MD, Atlanta, Ga.
 Amanda Muhs, MD, Washington, D.C.
 Karim Mukhida, MD, Toronto, Canada
 Christina Notarianni, MD, Shreveport, La.
 Eylem Ocal, MD, New Haven, Conn.
 Brent O'Neill, MD, Pittsburgh, Pa.
 Nathan Ranalli, MD, Philadelphia, Pa.
 Elias Rizk, MD, Harrisburg, Pa.
 Brandon Rocque, MD, Madison, Wis.
 Haitham Shareef, MBChB, IBMS (International Resident), Baghdad, Iraq
 Debbie Song, MD, Ann Arbor, Mich.
 Charles Stevenson, MD, Cincinnati, Ohio
 Artur Szymczak, MD, London, Canada
 Shobhan Vachhrajani, MD, Toronto, Canada
 Payman Vahedi, MD, (International Resident), Tabriz, Iran

International

Ghanem Al-Sulaiti, MD, Doha, Qatar
 Bernt Due-Tonnessen, MD, Oslo, Norway
 Sergey Larionov, MD, Irkutsk, Russia
 Mehmet Selcuki, MD, PhD, Izmir, Turkey
 Boris Zivny, MD, Praha, Czech Republic

The names were circulated to the membership via *Pediatric ShortCuts*. They all were approved by the council, then were brought to a vote at the business meeting and approved by acclamation.

Nominating Committee - Rick Abbott, MD

The nominating committee proposed the following slate: Chair-Elect: Alan Cohen, MD; Secretary: Bruce Kaufman, MD; Treasurer: Sarah Gaskill, MD; At Large: David Gruber, MD, and John Ragheb, MD. The slate was approved by acclamation.

Annual Meetings

- **Spokane 2008** – David Gruber, MD
 The actual attendance was 227 neurosurgeons, 16 spouses, 53 nurses and 84 exhibitors. The projected revenue from registration was \$101,955, excluding onsite registration. It was expected that the Spokane meeting would end up revenue-neutral. The section thanked Dr. Gruber for the outstanding job he did organizing this year's meeting.
- **Boston 2009** – Liliana Goumnerova, MD
 The meeting will be at the Marriott Copley Place Hotel, Dec. 1-3, 2009.
- **Future Meetings** – Tina Duhaime, MD
2010 – Cleveland was selected, with the meeting dates from Nov. 30 to Dec. 3 at the Renaissance Hotel.
2011 – Austin was selected.
2012 – Cities offering to host the annual meeting were St. Louis, Pasadena, Philadelphia, Chicago and Amelia Island. Addendum: Subsequent requests to host the annual meeting have been received from Toronto and Houston.

Ad Hoc Committees

Traveling Fellowship Committee – Michael Scott, MD

There were six applications for international fellowships, and the following two individuals were recommended for funding:

- Rezida Galimova of Ufa, Bashkortostan, Russia, to be sponsored by James Goodrich, MD
- Wilhasto Suryaningtyas of Surabaya, Indonesia, to be sponsored by Michael Scott, MD

There were two applications for the U.S./Canadian resident traveling fellowship, and it was recommended that they both be funded:

- Erin Kiehna of the University of Virginia, to be sponsored by James Drake, MD
- Eliaz Rizk of Penn State, to be sponsored by Bermans Iskandar, MD

Old Business**Workforce Study – Jeffrey Wisoff, MD**

A comprehensive workforce study has been conducted by Jeffrey Sussman of Brandeis University. A new manpower survey will be sent to the membership by Jeff Sussman, Susan Durham and Mark Dias. The results of this survey will be reviewed at the next meeting in May 2009.

New Business**Membership Drive – Jeffrey Wisoff, MD**

Last year's membership drive resulted in 47 new applicants. A new membership drive will be conducted in the spring of 2009.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Alan R. Cohen, MD
Secretary

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Pediatric SHORT CUTS



AANS/CNS Section on Pediatric Neurological Surgery

Editor: Alan R. Cohen, MD

Spring 2009

Pediatric Section Officers

AANS/CNS Section on Pediatric Neurological Surgery Officers and Committees Spring 2009

Chair

Jeffrey H. Wisoff, MD (2007-2009)

Chair-Elect

Ann-Christine Duhaime, MD (2007-2009)

Secretary

Alan R. Cohen, MD (2007-2009)

Treasurer

Bruce A. Kaufman, MD (2007-2009)

Members at Large

Jeffrey P. Blount, MD	(2006-2008)
Nalin Gupta, MD	(2006-2008)
John R. W. Kestle, MD	(2007-2009)
Thomas Pittman, MD	(2007-2009)
James M. Drake, MD	(2008-2010)
Michael H. Handler, MD	(2008-2010)

Standing Committees:

Nominating Committee: (three past chairs)

Rick Abbott, MD, chair	(2007)
Andrew D. Parent, MD	(2005)
Thomas G. Luerssen, MD	(2003)

Rules & Regulations Committee:

(three members serving two years)

Nathan Selden, MD, chair	(2004-2009)
Elizabeth Tyler-Kabara, MD	(2008-2010)
Jay Wellons, MD	(2008-2010)

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Membership Committee:

(three members serving two years)

Mark R. Proctor, MD, chair (2007-2009)

Robin M. Bowman, MD (2008-2010)

David H. Harter, MD (2008-2010)

Ad Hoc Committees**Education Committee**

Paul Steinbok, MD, chair (2006)

Program and Continuing Medical Education Committee

(Seven members: chair and vice chair serve two years. Vice chair assumes chair at next sequence. Other members are the annual meeting chair, and two ex-officio members: the section chair and treasurer)

Sarah J. Gaskill, MD, chair (2007)

Mark D. Krieger, MD, vice chair (2007)

John Ragheb, MD (2007, Miami)

David P. Gruber, MD (2008, Spokane)

Liliana C. Goumnervova, MD (2009, Boston)

Examination Questions Committee

Corey Raffel, MD (2006)

Publications Committee (five members serving two years)

Doug L. Brockmeyer, MD, chair (2006-2009)

Richard C. E. Anderson, MD (2008-2010)

Jeffrey R. Leonard, MD (2008-2010)

Ann M. Ritter, MD (2008-2010)

Peter P. Sun, MD (2008-2010)

Training Committee

Jeffrey P. Blount, MD (2006)

Traveling Fellowship: (three members)

R. Michael Scott, MD, chair

Bermans J. Iskandar, MD (2008-2010)

Matthew D. Smyth, MD (2008-2010)

Lifetime Achievement Award:

(Most recent ex-chair of the section)

Rick Abbott, MD (2007)

Transition of Care Committee

Harold L. Rekate, MD, chair (2007)

Research Committee

John R. W. Kestle, MD, chair (2007)

Nalin Gupta, MD

Ann-Christine Duhaime, MD

Representatives and Liaisons**ISPN Liaison**

George I. Jallo, MD (2006)

ASPN Liaison

Liliana C. Goumnerova, MD (2006)

Liaison to AAP Section of Neurological Surgery (SONS)

Joseph H. Piatt Jr, MD (1997)

Liaison to AANS/CNS Section on Trauma

Matt Smyth
(2008)

Council of State Neurosurgical Societies:

Cathy Mazzola, MD	(2008)
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Quality Assurance Committee:

James M. Drake, MD	(1999)
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Sarah J. Gaskill, MD	(1999)
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Paul A. Grabb, MD	(1999)
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Washington Committee, AANS/CNS

Rick Abbott, MD	(2007)
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Coding and Reimbursement Committee

Frederick A. Boop, MD	(2004)
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David P. Gruber, MD	(2006)
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Education and Practice Management Committee, AANS

Sarah J. Gaskill, MD	(2006)
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Devices and Technology Committee, AANS

Shenandoah Robinson, MD	(2008)
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Joint Guidelines Committee

John Ragheb, MD, chair	(2007-2009)
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Ann Marie Flannery, MD	(2008-2010)
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Sarah J. Gaskill, MD	(2008-2010)
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Benjamin C. Warf, MD	(2008-2010)
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[Officers Page on Pediatric Section Web Site](#)

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