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## JOINT OFFICERS

September 13, 1985

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George W. Sybert, M.D.,  
Chairman  
Joint Section on Spinal Disorders  
College of Medicine  
University of Florida  
P.O. Box J265  
Gainesville, FL 32610

Dear Dr. Sybert:

As some of the Sections are considering the advisability of becoming Joint Sections of the AANS and CNS, it has become apparent to both organizations that some important issues need to be reviewed and discussed concerning Joint Section activities. There is growing concern on the part of the membership, voiced by section members themselves, about the expense of being a member of one or more Sections. The leadership of both parent organizations values the opinion of the Joint Section leadership, and asks that you take a moment to comment on the following areas of concern:

1. Should membership dues policies be the same for all Joint Sections? If so, what would be the recommended annual dues fee? Neurosurgeons often pay substantial annual dues to a number of societies. High dues will limit the participation of some interested members.
2. Should guidelines be written to outline fiscal policies for the Joint Sections, including how money can be spent? If so, what recommendations would you have?
3. Should there be a limit on the amount of money in a Section's treasury? on investments? on endowment funds? Should these amounts be based on the number of section members? Should excess funds be returned to the parent organizations? Since the parent organizations bear the fiduciary responsibility for the Sections, an alternative solution might be to return a percentage of the annual budget to the AANS/CNS. What do you think about this?
4. Should there be a common fiscal year for Joint Sections? The leadership of both parent organizations recognizes the important role Sections play in the neurosurgical

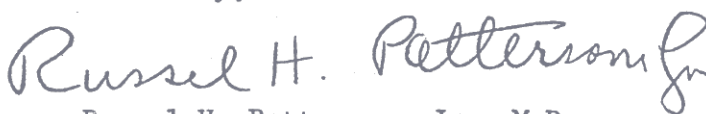
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community. It is essential that Sections flourish and continue to provide a forum for education in the broadest sense to those whose practices involve various subspecialties in neurosurgery. Hopefully, dialogue between Section leaders and the parent organizations will serve to keep Sections active, viable, and an intergrated part of the parent organizations. May we have your reply by October 9?

We appreicate your input and will be sure to share the comments of other Section Chairmen with you.

Sincerely,



Russel H. Patterson, Jr., M.D.  
AANS President



Robert A. Ratcheson, M.D.  
CNS President

bcc: Russel H. Patterson, Jr., M.D.  
Robert A. Ratcheson, M.D.  
Robert G Ojemann, M.D.