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Agenda
Executive Committee
AANS/CNS Joint Section on Disorders of the Spine and Peripheral Nerves
San Francisco, Hilton Continental Ballroom 1, San Francisco, California
October 18, 2004, 12:15 pm

Call to order	G. Rodts
Review minutes (05/03/04)	
 Treasurer's Report	 T. Ryken
 Old Business	
Spine Fellowships	J. Alexander
CMS-Spine Fusion Task Force	P. McCormick
SRS – Spine Section Liaison	S. Ondra
World Spine II – III Investment	T. Ryken/E. Benzel
 Committee Reports	
Annual Meeting	D. Resnick/C. Shaffrey
Exhibits	M. McLaughlin/J. Knightly
Future Sites	J. Alexander
Education Committee	J. Hurlbert
Newsletter	L. Khoo
Rules and Regulations	D. DiRisio
Nominating Committee	R. Haid
Research and Awards Committee	J. Guest/M. Gropper
Publications Committee	V. Traynelis
Web Site	C. Wolfla
Guidelines Committee	D. Resnick
Membership Committee	G. Trost
Outcomes Committee	P. Gerszten
CPT Committee	W. Mitchell/B. Johnson
Peripheral Nerve Task Force	R. Midha
Washington Committee	R. Fessler/P. McCormick
Neurosurgery P.A.C.	S. Ondra
Public Relations	
 New Business	
Artificial Disk Guidance	R. Fessler
Arthritis Foundation Representative	G. Rodts
Executive Membership Directory	

**Meeting of the Executive Committee
AANS/CNS Joint Section on Disorders of the Spine and Peripheral Nerves**

**Peabody Hotel Plaza Ballroom G, Orlando, Florida
May 3, 2004, 1 p.m.**

The meeting was called to order by Dr. Gerald Rodts, Jr., at 1:25 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Dr. Joseph Alexander, Dr. Ronald Apfelbaum, Dr. Charles Branch, Jr., Dr. Tanvir Choudhri, Dr. Darryl DiRisio, Dr. Richard Fessler, Dr. Peter Gerszten, Dr. Ziya Gokaslan, Dr. Michael Groff, Dr. James Guest, Dr. Regis Haid, Jr., Dr. Robert Heary, Dr. John Hurlbert, Dr. Robert Johnston, Dr. Larry Khoo, Dr. Daniel Kim, Dr. Rajiv Midha, Dr. Daniel Resnick, Dr. Gerald Rodts, Jr., Dr. Timothy Ryken, Dr. Christopher Shaffrey, Dr. Gregory Trost, Dr. Christopher Wolfla.

Guests: Dr. John Jane, Ms. Katie Orrico, Mr. Tom Marshall, Mr. Ron Engelbreit.

The minutes from the Executive Committee Meeting in San Diego in March of 2004 were reviewed by the group. There was one correction suggested that Dr. Rodts was incorrectly identified as the President-Elect of the Congress of Neurological Surgeons by the Nominating Committee. With this correction, the minutes were approved by the Executive Committee.

WEB SITE: Chris Wolfla was asked to present the Web Site report and because of scheduling conflict, was placed out of order. He indicated that the response to the *New York Times* letter has been placed on the web site. It documented that there have been revisions of the Executive Committee and links to other sites have been included. He is including an application form for membership in the Section on the web site and his soliciting content. Discussion was held regarding posting Executive Committee minutes but these will not be posted on the web site at this time.

TREASURER'S REPORT: The treasurer's report was presented by Dr. Ryken and Mr. Engelbreit. There have not been any substantial changes since the report at the March meeting. It was noted that the proposed changes in the allocation to long-term investment pools have not been made in the report dated March 31, 2004. The annual meeting revenue has not been finalized as there are several outstanding bills. It is anticipated that this will be within the budget.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Spine Fellowships: Dr. Reg Haid reported on progress with the ad hoc committee on spine fellowships. Dr. Gerald Rodts has appointed Dr. Haid as the Chair of this committee. Drs. Haid, Alexander and Branch met with Dr. Phil Weinstein of the Society of Neurological Surgeons prior to the Executive Committee Meeting. At this time, the proposal is to include a Spine Section Executive Committee member on the SNSCAST. The spine fellowship applications will be passed through the Section for approval by a committee appointed by the Section that will include members of the Society of Neurological Surgeons and Section appointees. These applications, after approval by this committee, will be delivered to the Society of Neurological Surgeons for

review and approval. It is the intent to have this active later this calendar year. The intention was for the Spine Section Committee to present the finalized application and accreditation criteria to the Section Executive Committee at the meeting in October, with subsequent approval anticipated by the SNS Council at its meeting in December. Following this, aggressive recruitment of the fellowship accreditation may begin.

Discussion involved a proposal by Dr. Shaffrey that the Scoliosis Research Society has approached Dr. Ondra regarding fellowship accreditation for deformity specialty activity. Dr. Rodts has directed Dr. Ondra to participate in this process with Dr. Kuntz and Dr. Mummaneni.

2. The CMS/Spine Fusion Task Force Report Presented by Ms. Katie Orrico:

Ms. Orrico indicated that the group met with the CMS representatives in Washington on March 29th. The proposition from CMS was that there is too much spine surgery and there is a need to regulate spinal fusion surgery. This group is meeting with members of the Section, the North American Spine Society, and the AAOS. Dr. McCormick presented the CMS Task Force a tutorial on spine fusion surgery that presented the range of conditions, many of which are very appropriate for spine fusion surgery, that it's inappropriate to lump things together. Dr. Resnick indicated that it appears the CMS has bought into the suppositions from the *New York Times* article and the query, "what is the evidence of spine fusion surgery's value?", appears to be being driven by outside forces. At this point, we are awaiting the CMS' digestion of these meetings and then their responses will then be analyzed and dealt with by the task force.

3. AANS Annual Meeting Personnel Changes: Mr. Tom Marshall, the Executive Director of the AANS, indicated that Jennifer Byrd, who was the section liaison, is no longer with AANS. Ms. Angie Silberhorn has been appointed as the liaison for the Section on Spine and Peripheral Nerves. She will help manage the annual meeting and other needs of the Section during the year. Dr. Alexander indicated that the experience with the personnel change has been very positive thus far. Mr. Marshall reinforced that it is not just Angie but the entire AANS office that is responding to Section needs.

4. Journal of Neurosurgery: Spine was presented by Dr. John Jane. Dr. Jane indicated that the *JNS: Spine* has enjoyed increasing submissions and will increase to six issues per year this year. It will be a free-standing journal that will be indexed and marketed separate from the *Journal of Neurosurgery*. The goal is to increase to eight issues per year over the next couple of years. He proposed some challenges including editorial board issues and the role of orthopedic surgeons on the editorial board. He has asked for advice from the Executive Committee regarding additions to, and changes in, the advisory board. Questions and answers followed. Dr. Jane indicated that he is aggressively pursuing marketing of the *Journal of Neurosurgery: Spine* outside of neurosurgeons so that this information may be available to the more broad spine world.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

1. Annual Meeting: Drs. Shaffrey and Resnick indicated that by all accounts the annual meeting was a great success. All of the invoices have not yet been received but it appears that the financials for the meeting will be satisfactory. Demographics and

other attendance details were included in the Executive Committee booklet. This recent meeting attendance was up about 15% from the previous year in Tampa, but below the peak meetings in Orlando.

2. Exhibits: Sixty-six of the 70 available booths were sold at the San Diego meeting. While the exhibit space sales were slightly under budget, sponsorship budgeting was above budget to the same level so that it appears that all of the budget items were met. Recommendations for an accelerated prospectus distribution and marketing to outside vendors will be considered along with our continued interest in insuring adequate traffic through the exhibit area during the meeting.

3. Future Sites: Dr. Alexander indicated that the Wyndham complex in Orlando adjacent to the Disney properties was evaluated and he presented alternative dates, with the Executive Committee approving the March 15-19, 2006, block. Dr. Alexander will proceed with this contract. There was a discussion regarding filling room blocks and mandatory registration with an absolute mandate to avoid violating the room block commitment.

4. Education Committee: Drs. Heary and Hurlbert indicated that there is a proposed AANS professional development course in August of 2004 and in December of 2004, along with February of 2005. These are primarily spine courses and will be filled with faculty from the Spine Section.

5. Newsletter: Dr. Khoo had nothing new to report other than there remains some confusion about the continuity of the editorial staff.

6. Rules and Regulations: Nothing to report.

7. Nominating Committee: Nothing to report.

8. Research and Awards Committee: Drs. Gropper and Guest will continue as co-chairs for the 2004-2005 cycle. Dr. Foley has been appointed to the Committee by Dr. Rodts.

9. Guidelines Committee: Dr. Resnick indicated that the fusion guidelines document will be distributed to the Executive Committee in its final form within the next few weeks. He will secure a \$30,000 sponsorship from industry to have the document published in the *Journal of Neurosurgery: Spine*. The manuscript must be in to the *Journal of Neurosurgery: Spine* by June 1st so that it may be published in the next cycle in the early fall.

10. Membership Committee: Dr. Trost indicated that membership data is in the meeting packet. Currently, there are 1366 members. Of note, the Spine Section has been replaced as the largest subsection by the Tumor Section and we will analyze this.

11. Outcomes: Nothing to report.

12. Coding: Dr. Johnston reported for Dr. Mitchell regarding the propagation of a total disc arthroplasty code. This communication was included in the Executive Agenda Book.

13. Washington Committee Report: Dr. Fessler indicated that there is a need for volunteers for the neurologic and orthopedic device forums for the FDA. These are not the device panels but forums that will make proposals to the panels. He also indicated that the neurologic device panel member, Dr. Fernando Diaz, is completing his term and there is a need to replace him on that panel.

NEW BUSINESS:

Dr. Branch reported on the need for questions for the different examinations that are prepared and presented by the American Board of Neurological Surgeons. Both the primary written examination and the maintenance of certification examination will require substantial questions from the spine group. He will solicit participation from the Spine Section in the question-writing process.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:35 p.m.

Minutes submitted by:



Charles L. Branch, Jr., M.D.
Secretary

CLB/ajb

TREASURER



American
Association of
Neurological
Surgeons

5550 Meadowbrook Drive
Rolling Meadows, IL 60008
member services: 888.566.AANS
phone: 847.378.0500
fax: 847.378.0600
web: www.aans.org

September 17, 2004

Timothy C. Ryken, MD
University of Iowa Hospitals
200 Hawkins Dr. Rm. 1844 JPP
Iowa City, IA 52242-1009

Dear Doctor Ryken:

The enclosed financial statements for the AANS/CNS Section on Disorder of the Spine & Peripheral Nerves are for the Year Ended June 30, 2004, and comparative information for the Year Ended June 30, 2003.

The financials statements have been audited by the auditing firm of RSM McGladrey. Until their final report and opinion are presented, changes to Fiscal Year 2004 are a small possibility. After your review of the financial statements and commentary, if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at 847-378-0509 or rwe@aans.org.

Sincerely,

Ronald W. Engelbreit, CPA
Deputy Executive Director

Enclosures

Cc: Rusty Rodts, MD
Robert A. Ratcheson, MD
Vince Traynelis, MD
James R. Bean, MD
Douglas Kondziolka, MD
Laurie Behncke
Michele Gregory

AANS/CNS Section on Disorders of the Spine
Statement of Financial Position
As of June 30, 2004

	Current Year 06/30/04	Prior Year 06/30/03
ASSETS		
Checking & Short Term Investments	\$495,335	\$724,933
Accounts Receivable, net of Allowance for Uncollectible Accounts	10,924	30,012
Prepaid Expenses	12,398	
Long-Term Investment Pool, at Market	883,488	541,139
TOTAL ASSETS	<u><u>\$1,402,146</u></u>	<u><u>\$1,296,083</u></u>
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS		
Liabilities		
Accounts Payable and Current Liabilities	\$125,047	\$102,059
Deferred Dues	26,900	27,375
Total Liabilities	<u><u>\$151,947</u></u>	<u><u>\$129,434</u></u>
Net Assets		
Unrestricted	\$1,166,649	\$997,581
Net Revenue (Expense)	83,549	169,068
Total Net Assets	<u><u>\$1,250,199</u></u>	<u><u>\$1,166,649</u></u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	<u><u>\$1,402,146</u></u>	<u><u>\$1,296,083</u></u>

AANS/CNS Section on Disorders of the Spine
Statement of Activities
For the Twelve Months Ending June 30, 2004

	FY '02 Final	FY '03 Final	YTD FY '03	YTD FY '04	FY '04 Budget	FY '05 Budget
REVENUES						
Membership Dues	50,775	54,700	54,700	52,125	54,000	51,250
Mailing List Sales		1,825	1,825	850		
Publications Sales Revenue				50		
Fellowship/Award Sponsorship	65,000	47,500	47,500	45,000	90,000	130,000
Miscellaneous Revenue				12,398		
Contributions for Operating Expenses	7,819	9,902	9,902	7,679	8,250	9,560
Annual Meeting Revenue	539,871	552,120	552,120	560,306	534,880	540,115
TOTAL REVENUES & SUPPORT	663,465	666,047	666,047	678,408	687,130	730,925
EXPENSES						
Audio Visual	1,604	753	753	888	1,000	1,000
Bank Fee	772	373	373	352	375	400
Contributions & Affiliations	25,000	125,000	125,000	125,000	25,000	25,000
Decorating	191	243	243	219	250	250
Facility	100					
Food & Beverage	2,342	5,196	5,196	3,327	5,000	3,500
Fellowships	75,000	75,000	75,000	131,246	90,000	136,500
Grants	12,289					
Marketing & Advertising	1,610	4,560	4,560	4,425	6,000	6,000
Legal Services		3,368	3,368			
Office & other Supplies	185	439	439	266	400	400
Photocopy	974	50	50	116	200	200
Postage & Distribution	10,178	904	904	1,666	3,000	2,000
Printing/Typesetting	42,239			105		
Professional Services	15,440			1,421	5,000	5,000
Signs	76					
Staff Travel	0					
Telephone	137	167	167	60	150	150
Uncollectable Accounts		1,598	1,598			
Staff Coordination	10,060	9,816	9,816	8,351	8,850	10,310
Miscellaneous		1,689	1,689			
Lumbar Stenosis Outcomes Project				13,649	25,500	40,000
Lumbar Fusion Guidelines Project				399,405	480,194	421,125
Annual Meeting Expense	373,870	289,883	289,883			
TOTAL EXPENSES	572,065	519,038	519,038	690,496	650,919	651,835
Investment Earnings	(11,168)	22,060	22,060	95,637	29,500	34,900
NET REVENUE	80,232	169,068	169,068	83,549	65,711	113,990

AANS/CNS Section on Disorders of the Spine
Statement of Activities
Annual Meeting
For the Twelve Months Ending June 30, 2004

	FY '02 Final	FY '03 Final	YTD FY '03	YTD FY '04	FY '04 Budget	FY '05 Budget
REVENUES						
Registration Fees	229,495	172,210	172,210	200,465	187,405	208,175
Exhibitor Fees	222,000	250,130	250,130	205,275	211,250	200,300
Contributions/Sponsorships	81,000	119,000	119,000	134,762	110,775	111,500
Banquet Revenue	7,240	10,780	10,780	5,265	12,000	11,540
Miscellaneous Revenue	136			14,539	13,450	8,600
TOTAL REVENUES & SUPPORT	539,871	552,120	552,120	560,306	534,880	540,115
EXPENSES						
Audio Visual	35,816	24,427	24,427	35,991	47,225	41,950
Bank Fee	5,760	6,425	6,425	9,661	7,800	10,000
Computer Programming & Supplies	83				150	
Decorating	5,576	7,071	7,071	12,548	23,510	8,500
Entertainment	12,180	12,648	12,648	13,944	19,600	9,500
Equipment Costs					250	
Facility	8,395	4,622	4,622	1,575	2,200	2,000
Food & Beverage	153,731	104,662	104,662	146,808	168,280	161,850
Freight & Shipping	1,399	1,461	1,461	2,063	2,885	3,000
Gifts & Gratuities	1,418	1,767	1,767	150	2,100	1,500
Honoraria & Awards	1,094	18	18	36	250	100
Insurance	3,625	3,830	3,830	5,606	5,025	2,700
Marketing & Advertising	851	143	143	1,347	2,600	2,250
Outside Labor	1,624	194	194	576	3,250	
Office & other Supplies	350	787	787	245	850	850
Photocopy	963	442	442	404	650	550
Postage & Distribution	9,817	8,143	8,143	7,814	16,246	10,175
Printing/Typesetting	33,483	33,152	33,152	38,637	44,368	40,100
Professional Services	1,685	2,700	2,700	9,561	16,500	16,000
Security	1,696	1,788	1,788	1,901	2,400	2,400
Signs	1,966	1,013	1,013	520	4,285	4,000
Speaker Expenses	175	3,791	3,791	39,220	21,275	20,000
Staff Travel	6,049	2,125	2,125	(1,531)	6,525	5,450
Telephone	3,233	3,425	3,425	4,338	11,670	7,000
Temporary Personnel	3,393	765	765	1,978	2,680	3,000
Tours & Transportation	1,913	47	47	1,014	2,500	
Volunteer Travel	890	758	758			3,250
Staff Coordination	76,705	63,681	63,681	65,000	65,000	65,000
TOTAL EXPENSES	373,870	289,883	289,883	399,405	480,194	421,125
NET REVENUE	166,001	262,237	262,237	160,902	54,686	118,990

AANS/CNS SECTION ON DISORDERS OF THE SPINE

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

June 30, 2004

General & Administrative

Revenue

Fellowship/Award Sponsorship – Budget \$90,000, Actual \$45,000

The following sponsorships were budgeted but not received - \$30,000 from Medtronic Sofamor Danek (Cloward Fellowship) and \$15,000 from Aesculap (Ronald Apfelbaum Research Award)

Miscellaneous Revenue – Budget \$0, Actual \$12,398

This revenue is from the agreement with NASS to split the profits from the World Spine II meeting. This had been agreed upon subsequent to the budget preparation. The section voted to leave the funds with NASS for future projects. This deposit of funds is recorded as a prepaid expense on the Statement of Financial Position.

Investment Earnings – Budget \$29,500, Actual \$95,637

The section has enjoyed favorable earnings due to better than expected market performance.

Expense

Contributions & Affiliations - Budget \$25,000, Actual \$125,000

The section contributed \$100,000 to NPHCA, which was not budgeted for.

Fellowships – Budget \$90,000, Actual \$131,246

Subsequent to the budgeting process a Fellowship Committee was formed. The new Committee elected to distribute additional awards that were not budgeted.

The following awards and amounts have been issued this fiscal year:

- \$30,000 David Cahill Fellowship
- \$30,000 Cloward Fellowship
- \$3,000 Basic Science Award
- \$3,000 Clinical Science Award
- \$30,000 Stanford Larson Research Award
- \$15,000 David Kline Research Award
- \$15,000 Ronald Apfelbaum Research Award
- \$5,000 H. Alan Crockard International fellowship
- \$246.22 for awards and certificates

Marketing & Advertising – Budget \$6,000, Actual \$4,425

The section did not place an advertisement in *Neurosurgery* in fiscal year 2004 as budgeted for. However, invoices related to advertising in *Neurosurgery* from August and September 2002 were received in FY04. Since these invoices were not received until the current fiscal year, we were required to charge the current budget for these expenses.

Annual Meeting

Revenue

Registration Fees - Budget \$187,405, Actual \$200,465

Budget was conservative based on the previous year's lower registration numbers and actual attendance was slightly greater than anticipated.

Contributions/Sponsorships - Budget \$110,775, Actual \$134,762

Additional money was provided by companies that sponsored international speakers. These speakers submitted expenses that were substantially greater than anticipated. (See below – Speaker Expenses)

Expenses

Decorating - Budget \$23,510 Actual \$12,548

The cost per booth was unknown at the time of budgeting and was planned significantly higher than it actually was. Less carpet was needed than expected. Also, labor was less than expected.

Food & Beverage - Budget \$168,280, Actual \$146,808

The committee chose to not offer lunches with the special courses, but instead make them optional for an additional fee. Menus were negotiated effectively to contain costs.

Postage & Distribution Budget \$16,246, Actual \$7,814

The Annual Meeting Preliminary Program postage was significantly less than planned because the piece was changed to a self-mailer, having fewer pieces, therefore weighing less.

Professional Services - Budget \$16,500, Actual \$9,561

Expense for the development of additional, custom reports from the registration company was planned but not needed.

Speaker Expenses - Budget \$21,275, Actual \$39,220

Several international speakers submitted expenses for reimbursement that were unexpectedly high. Because those speakers were sponsored, the sponsoring companies agreed to pay the additional expenses. (See above - Contributions/Sponsorships)

Staff Travel - Budget \$6,525, Actual (\$1,531)

Because attendance was higher than expected, the complimentary rooms credit from the hotel was also higher than expected. Therefore the credit offset more than was actually spent in staff travel.

Telephone - Budget \$11,670, Actual \$4,338

T1 and telephone line needs and their associated costs were less than anticipated. Also, broadcast fax charges per page were less than planned

Mary Williams

From: Charles Branch
Sent: Wednesday, October 13, 2004 9:11 AM
To: Mary Williams
Subject: FW: Neurosurgery Spine Fellowship Issues

-----Original Message-----

From: Joseph Alexander
Sent: Monday, October 11, 2004 5:59 PM
To: 'volker.sonntag@bnaneuro.net'; 'ewoodard@partners.org'; 'benzele@ccf.org';
'dkarahalios@ingmdgroup.com'; 'Gokaslan, Ziya L. , MD'; 'denmair@aol.com'; 'paul.cooper@med.nyu.edu';
'sondra@nmff.org'; 'neurokim@stanford.edu'; 'mhadley@uabmc.edu'; 'mweinand@u.arizona.edu';
'kdkim@ucdavis.edu'; 'lfmarshall@ucsd.edu'; 'charleskuntz@yahoo.com'; 'will.choi@uchsc.edu';
'adwyer@dhha.org'; 'franklin.wagner@worldnet.att.net'; 'patibbs@pop.uky.edu'; 'cbshields1@aol.com'; 'Levi, Allan
D.O.'; 'bgreen@med.miami.edu'; 'bstorrs@mac.com'; 'welchwc@upmc.edu'; 'hvanlove@hsc.usf.edu';
'kfoley@usit.net'; 'howard.morgan@utsouthwestern.edu'; 'atdailey@u.washington.edu';
'wrightn@nsurg.wustl.edu'; 'srngachary@neurosurgery.wayne.edu'; 'johnsonjp@cshs.org'; 'Regis Haid'; 'Gerald
Rodts'; 'Fessler, Richard'; 'R. John Hurlbert'; 'Traynelis, Vincent'; 'mgoytan@exchange.hsc.mb.ca';
'michael.fehlings@uhn.on.ca'
Cc: 'Weinstein, Phil'; Charles Branch; 'Shaffrey, Chris I *HS'; 'pcm6@columbia.edu'
Subject: Neurosurgery Spine Fellowship Issues

Dear Neurosurgery Spine Fellowship Director:

I am contacting you on behalf of Gerald Rodts, Chairperson of the Joint Section on Disorders of the Spine and Peripheral Nerves, and Phillip Weinstein, President of the Society of Neurological Surgeons. Many of you are aware that there has been a longstanding effort over the last several years to better define the status of spine fellowships with respect to neurosurgical residency and to reconcile conflicting views of the nature of spine fellowships among ourselves and our national organizations. One significant part of this has been the Fellowship accreditation process under development for all neurosurgical subspecialties by the CAST committee of the SNS. A parallel effort has been underway for many years within NASS under the guidance of the Residency and Fellowship Committee, culminating in the creation of a spine fellowship match by NASS several years ago. I am on this NASS committee as well as the Joint Spine Executive Committee and have been asked to try to help get this dialog open again among the interested members of the neurosurgical community.

One of the biggest obstacles has been incomplete information at the level of our national organizations as to the scope and nature of spine fellowships available to neurosurgeons in North America. Without a comprehensive database, we cannot be sure that everyone is being included in the decision-making process as we try to move forward. I have created a list of all of the fellowships open to neurosurgeons that I was able to locate through the CNS, AANS and NASS databases, or my personal knowledge. Please take a few moments and look over the list and let me know of any additional programs that you are aware of.

Also attached is a VERY BRIEF series of questions to help us begin to create a relevant, current database of programs and to be sure that we are including all interested parties in this process. Please take a few moments to return this to me.

Thank you very much for your time.

Neurosurgery Spine Fellowship Questionnaire

Please return to Joseph Alexander, MD at jtalexan@wfubmc.edu or FAX 336-716-3065

Does your program have a spine fellowship open to neurosurgeons?

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Planning ☐ Past program, currently inactive

Are you the fellowship director/contact person? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If not, please provide current contact: _____

How many fellows do you accept each year? ☐ 1 ☐ 2 other (please give number) _____

Is your fellowship? _____ months/years

Is your fellowship open to: ☐ Post-residency/board eligible
☐ In-training/non-board eligible
☐ Either

☐ Neurosurgeons
☐ Orthopaedists
☐ Both

What percentage of fellowship is: Clinical _____ %
Research _____ %

Is your program: ☐ Neurosurgical
☐ Orthopaedic
☐ Joint

Does your program have a focus? ☐ Minimally Invasive
☐ Deformity
☐ Trauma
Other (please list) _____

Does your fellowship have an academic affiliation? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Pending

Are you interested in fellowship accreditation by CAST? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Accredited now

Are you interested in the NASS fellowship match program? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Participate now

Have you had difficulty filling fellowship positions recently? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Are you aware of any programs open to neurosurgeons not listed in the attached document?
Please list:

Spine Fellowships open to Neurosurgeons October 2004

Atlanta Brain and Spine Institute	Reg Haid
Barrow Neurological Institute	Volker Sonntag
Brigham and Womens'	(? Eric Woodard per AANS data)
Cedars-Sinai Spine Institute	Pat Johnson
Cleveland Clinic	Ed Benzel
Emory University	Rusty Rodts
Indianapolis Neurosurgery	Dean Karahalios
Johns Hopkins	Ziya Gokaslan
Medical College of Wisconsin	Dennis Maiman
New England Baptist	Eric Woodard
NYU Medical Center	Paul Cooper
Northwestern University	Steve Ondra
Stanford	Dan Kim
UAB	Mark Hadley
Univ. Arizona	Martin Weinand
UC Davis	Kee Kim
UC San Diego	Larry Marshall
Univ. Chicago	Rick Fessler
Univ. Cincinnati/Mayfield	Charles Kuntz
Univ. Colorado	Drs. Choi and/or Dwyer
U Illinois Chicago	Franklin Wagner
Univ. Iowa	Vince Traynelis
Univ. Kentucky	Phillip Tibbs
Univ. Louisville	Christopher Shields
Univ. Miami	Allan Levi/Barth Green
Univ. New Mexico	Bruce Storrs
Univ. Pittsburgh	William Welch
Univ. Rochester	Glenn Rectine
Univ. South Florida	("directorship open" per AANS)
Univ. Tennessee Memphis	Kevin Foley
UT Dallas	Howard Morgan
Univ. Washington Seattle	Andrew Dailey
Washington Univ.	Neill Wright
Wake Forest Univ.	Joe Alexander
Wayne State	Setti Rengachary

Canada

U Calgary	John Hurlbert
Toronto Hospital	Michael Fehlings
Winnipeg	Dr. Goytan

SRS Liaison

Mary Williams

From: Ondra, Stephen, M.D. [sondra@nmff.org]
Sent: Tuesday, September 14, 2004 7:38 PM
To: Mary Williams
Cc: gerald_rodts@emory.org
Subject: RE: Agenda Book

Thanks for the chance to put something into the agenda.

At the last meeting, Rusty indicated that I would be the liaison between the Section and the Scoliosis Research Society.

I was recently put on a key SRS committee dealing with the future of that organization, the definition of spinal deformity and spinal deformity fellowship requirements. While no CAQ for deformity is planned (the internal divisions in Orthopedics preclude this for now), the process may have implications for neurosurgery and neurosurgeons. Over all I think that this is good. Having a seat at this table is both remarkably gracious and important.

Given all that is going on, I think that I should deliver a report regarding the SRS activities and coordination of this with the Section. I will appreciate the Sections guidance as this committee moves forward.

Lastly, given the olive branch of membership offered by the SRS, I would like to explore whether it is appropriate to offer Section membership in some way to Orthopedic spine surgeons that meet our criteria. This may or may not be to big a step but it is probably worth discussing.

Let me know if a SRS report will be included in the Executive committee.

Sincerely,
 Stephen Ondra

-----Original Message-----

From: Mary Williams [mailto:mawillia@wfubmc.edu]
Sent: Tuesday, September 14, 2004 2:22 PM
To: Allan Levi; Charles Branch; Charles Kuntz; Christopher Paramore; Christopher Shaffrey; Christopher Wolfla; Curtis Dickman; Daniel Kim; Daniel Resnick; Darryl DiRisio; Edward Benzel; , Jr.; Gregory Przybylski; Gregory Trost; James Guest; John Knightly; Joseph Alexander; Kevin Foley; Larry Khoo; Mark McLaughlin; Michael Groff; Mitchell Gropper; Nevan Baldwin; Peter Gerszten; Praveen Mummaneni; R. John Hurlbert; Rajiv Midha; Regis Haid; Richard Fessler; Robert Heary; Ronald Apfelbaum; Ondra, Stephen, M.D.; Stephen Papadopoulos; Tanvir Choudhri; Timothy Ryken; Vincent Traynelis; Volker Sonntag; William Mitchell; Ziya Gokaslan
Subject: Agenda Book

We are in need of info for the upcoming Executive Committee Meeting on October 6, 2004. If you have anything to add to the Agenda Book please send ASAP---Thanks, Mary Williams for Dr. Charles L. Branch, Jr. - Secretary

This e-mail is intended only for the use of the individual or entity to which it is addressed and may contain information that is privileged and confidential. If the reader of this e-mail message is not the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any dissemination, distribution or copying of this communication is prohibited. If you have received this e-mail in error, please notify the

Mary Williams

From: Gerald Rodts [Gerald_Rodts@emoryhealthcare.org]
Sent: Wednesday, September 15, 2004 3:51 PM
To: sondra@nmff.org; Mary Williams
Subject: RE: Agenda Book

Steve:

I would welcome a report by you as our liaison to the SRS. I recall asking Praveen Mummaneni and Charlie Kuntz to serve as your committee members and assist you in any way and start to learn some of the ropes of the SRS.

The concept of orthopedic membership in the Section has been discussed before (as I know you recall) and has been met with reluctance by many. I personally think it's a good idea and in sync with other efforts to consolidate spine surgery and share in our experience. Please plan on bringing it up during your presentation.

Rusty

Gerald E. Rodts, Jr., M.D.
Professor, Neurosurgery
Chairman, AANS/CNS Spine Section
550 Peachtree St., N.E., Suite 806
Atlanta, GA 30308
Tel. 404-686-8101
Fax 404-686-4805

>>> "Ondra, Stephen, M.D." <sondra@nmff.org> 09/14/04 07:38PM >>>
Thanks for the chance to put something into the agenda.

At the last meeting, Rusty indicated that I would be the liaison between the Section and the Scoliosis Research Society.

I was recently put on a key SRS committee dealing with the future of that organization, the definition of spinal deformity and spinal deformity fellowship requirements. While no CAQ for deformity is planned (the internal divisions in Orthopedics preclude this for now), the process may have implications for neurosurgery and neurosurgeons. Over all I think that this is good. Having a seat at this table is both remarkably gracious and important.

Given all that is going on, I think that I should deliver a report regarding the SRS activities and coordination of this with the Section. I will appreciate the Sections guidance as this committee moves forward.

Lastly, given the olive branch of membership offered by the SRS, I would like to explore whether it is appropriate to offer Section membership in some way to Orthopedic spine surgeons that meet our criteria. This may or may not be too big a step but it is probably worth discussing.

Let me know if a SRS report will be included in the Executive committee.

Sincerely,
Stephen Ondra

I

-----Original Message-----

From: Mary Williams [mailto:mawillia@wfubmc.edu]
Sent: Tuesday, September 14, 2004 2:22 PM
To: Allan Levi; Charles Branch; Charles Kuntz; Christopher Paramore; Christopher Shaffrey;

Mary Williams

From: Charles Branch
Sent: Wednesday, October 13, 2004 9:17 AM
To: Mary Williams
Subject: FW: Spine Section

-----Original Message-----

From: Charles Branch
Sent: Wednesday, September 08, 2004 9:21 AM
To: 'Gerald Rodts'
Subject: RE: Spine Section

Rusty

I have researched this thoroughly. The Section never approved a reinvestment mandate. It was always considered but never approved because there was not a clear understanding of what our "profit" from World Spine II would be. The last indication in the minutes is that there is a probability of a 15k to 25k profit from WSII but no motion or mandate to reinvest. If you believe that is what we should do, then you should bring that to the table in October. Charlie

-----Original Message-----

From: Gerald Rodts [mailto:Gerald_Rodts@emoryhealthcare.org]
Sent: Tuesday, August 24, 2004 1:37 PM
To: Charles Branch
Subject: Fwd: Spine Section

Charlie:

Do you see in the minutes a formal record of the Section permitting World Spine II to reinvest the small profit share that we realized? I need to send Ron Englebreit confirmation. Thanks, Rusty

Gerald E. Rodts, Jr., M.D.
Professor, Neurosurgery
Chairman, AANS/CNS Spine Section
550 Peachtree St., N.E., Suite 806
Atlanta, GA 30308
Tel. 404-686-8101
Fax 404-686-4805



American
Association of
Neurological
Surgeons

5550 Meadowbrook Drive
Rolling Meadows, IL 60008

member services: 888.566.AANS
phone: 847.378.0500
fax: 847.378.0600
web: www.AANS.org

President

Robert A. Ratcheson, MD
E-mail: rar@po.cwru.edu

Annual Meeting Chair

Richard G. Fessler, MD, PhD
E-mail: rfessler@surgery.bsd.uchicago.edu

Scientific Program Chair

James T. Rutka, MD, PhD, FRC
Email: james.rutka@sickkids.ca

Scientific Posters

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Program Evaluations

Gail L. Rosseau, MD

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Timothy B. Mapstone, MD

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Jonathan A. Friedman, MD

Liaison to Women in Neurosurgery

Isabelle M. Germano, MD

Liaison to Education & Practice

Management Committee

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Outreach Committee

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Liaison to Residents

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Liaison to Physician Assistants

Joseph A. Hlavin, PA-C

Liaison to Nurses

Andrea Strayer, NP, CNRN

Local Host Committee Chair

Frank Culicchia, MD

Executive Director

Thomas A. Marshall

E-mail: tam@aans.org

2005 Annual Meeting

New Orleans, LA

April 16 - 21, 2005

September 24, 2004

Gerald E. Rodts, Jr. MD

Emory Clinic

550 Peachtree St. N.E. Ste. 806

Atlanta, GA 30308-2247

Fax: (404)686-4805

Email: gerald_rodts@emoryhealthcare.org

Dear Doctor Rodts:

In preparation for the 2005 American Association of Neurological Surgeons Annual Meeting production of the Preliminary Program, we are requesting information regarding the AANS/CNS Section on Disorders of the Spine and Peripheral Nerve.

For the AANS Annual Meeting, please provide us with the number of oral abstracts that will be presented at AANS/CNS Section on Disorders of the Spine session, which is scheduled on Wednesday, April 20, 2005, from 2:45 pm to 5:30 pm. Please note that the policy set forth by the AANS Board of Directors states that a minimum of six (6) oral abstracts of 15 minutes each must be included in each Section Session.

A form is attached for you to complete and include this information, as well as the other scientific programming planned for your Section Session in New Orleans, Louisiana.

Since this information needs to be included in the AANS Preliminary Program. Please submit the attached detailed outline via fax to Momi Andreshak at tlandreshak@aans.org or via fax at (847) 378-0679.

If your section is providing any award presentations to abstract submitters, please provide Momi Andreshak with a list of these awards by **Friday, October 8, 2004**. It is the Section's responsibility to select the abstracts that will be presented awards. The Scientific Program Planning Committee will need to have this information available for the Paper Selection Meeting.

Finally, the past two years Peripheral Nerve has conducted a separate session. As Chair, please provide Momi with the name of the person you would like to designate to spearhead the information provision of this particular section. Last year Raj Midha provided this information to the AANS.

Thank you for your cooperation with this matter. Please feel free to contact either Momi Andreshak or myself if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

James T. Rutka, MD, PhD, FRC
Chairman, 2005 AANS Scientific Program

**AANS/CNS Section on Disorders of the Spine and Peripheral Nerve Session Outline
2005 AANS ANNUAL MEETING – NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA**

Please complete and return this form by Monday, September 27, 2004 to:

Momi Andreshak– Meetings Department

Phone: 847/378-0532

FAX: 847-378-0679

E-mail: tlandreshak@aans.org

The format below will provide you with an outline of information required to publish your Section Session in the Annual Meeting Preliminary Program. Any configuration is acceptable as long as a minimum of six (6) accepted abstracts are presented, and your program fits within the allotted 2-hour 45-minute time period (**2:45 pm – 5:30 pm**).

SCIENTIFIC SESSION

Number of Abstracts to be presented: _____ (a minimum of six is required; 15 minutes for each paper).

Moderator(s) _____

Time frame: _____

SPECIAL LECTURE

Name of Lecture: _____

Lecturer/City & State: _____

Title: _____

To be introduced by: _____

SYMPOSIUM

Title: _____

Moderator(s): _____

Speakers: _____

Time frame: _____

SPECIAL AWARD PRESENTATION (It is the Section's responsibility to select Award Winners)

Name of Award: _____

Name of Recipient: _____

To be introduced by: _____

Time frame: _____

AANS Headquarter Office to Order Award Yes No

Honorarium Check Yes No If yes, amount of check: _____

Name of Award: _____

Name of Recipient: _____

To be introduced by: _____

Time frame: _____

AANS Headquarter Office to Order Award Yes No

Honorarium Check Yes No If yes, amount of check: _____

Name of Award: _____

Name of Recipient: _____

To be introduced by: _____

Time frame: _____

AANS Headquarter Office to Order Award Yes No

Honorarium Check Yes No If yes, amount of check: _____

NOTE: If an Award and/or Honorarium Check is requested through the AANS, it will be delivered by a staff member to platform before the start of the Section Session.

BUSINESS MEETING

Will the AANS/CNS Section on Cerebrovascular Surgery hold a Business Meeting at the 2005 AANS Annual Meeting? Yes No

If yes, will it be held immediately after the Section Session? Yes No

If not after the Section Session, when _____

ADDITIONAL FUNCTIONS

Will the AANS/CNS Section on Cerebrovascular Surgery hold any additional functions that should be noted in the Preliminary Program for the 2005 AANS Annual Meeting, i.e., Reception, Dinner or Executive Committee Meeting?

Yes No

If yes, what type of function(s), what day and what time? _____

PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM NOT LATER THAN MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 2004 TO:
MOMI ANDRESHAK – MEETINGS DEPARTMENT
FAX: 847/378-0679

AANS/CNS SECTION ON DISORDERS OF THE SPINE AND PERIPHERAL NERVES



American
Association of
Neurological
Surgeons

A Section of the
American Association of Neurological Surgeons
and
Congress of Neurological Surgeons



CHAIRPERSON

Gerald E. Rodts, Jr. MD
Emory Clinic/Neurosurgery
Phone: (404) 686-8101
Fax: (404) 686-4805
E-mail: gerald_rodts@emoryhealthcare.org

SECRETARY

Charles L. Branch, Jr. MD
Wake Forest University School of Medicine
Phone: (336) 716-4083
Fax: (336) 716-3065
E-mail: cbranch@wfulmc.edu

TREASURER

Timothy C. Ryken, MD
University of Iowa Hospitals
Phone: (319) 356-3853
Fax: (319) 353-6605
E-mail: timothy-ryken@uiowa.edu

CHAIRPERSON-ELECT

Robert F. Heary, MD
UMDNJ-New Jersey Medical School
Phone: (973) 972-2334
Fax: (973) 972-2333
E-mail: heary@umdnj.edu

IMMEDIATE PAST CHAIRPERSON

Regis William Haid, Jr. MD
Atlanta Brain & Spine Care
Phone: (404) 350-0106
Fax: (404) 350-0176
E-mail: rhaid@atlantabrainandspine.com

2004 ANNUAL MEETING CHAIRPERSON

Christopher I. Shaffrey, MD
University of Virginia/Neurosurgery
Phone: (434) 243-9714
Fax: (434) 982-3806
E-mail: CIS8Z@hsemail.mcc.virginia.edu

2004 SCIENTIFIC PROGRAM CHAIRPERSON

Michael W. Groff, MD
Indiana University Medical Center
Phone: (317) 274-8549
Fax: (317) 274-7351
E-mail: mgroff@iupui.edu

2004 LOCAL ARRANGEMENTS CHAIRPERSON

Barry D. Birch, MD
E-mail: birch.barry@mayo.edu

MEMBERS-AT-LARGE

Joseph T. Alexander, MD
E-mail: jtalexan@wfulmc.edu

Ronald I. Apfelbaum, MD
E-mail: ronald.apfelbaum@hsc.utah.edu

Daniel H. Kim, MD
E-mail: neurokim@stanford.edu

16 September 2004

Ulrich Batzdorf, M.D.
University of California, Los Angeles
Div. of Neurosurgery
Box 956901
Room 74-128
Los Angeles, CA 90095-6901

Dear Dr. Batzdorf:

On behalf of the AANS/CNS Section on Disorders of the Spine and Peripheral Nerves, I would like to inform you that you have been selected to receive the Meritorious Award at next year's annual meeting for your lifelong contributions to spine surgery, the Section, and to the training and education of neurosurgeons.

The annual meeting of the Spine Section will take place in Phoenix, Arizona at the J.W. Marriott Desert Ridge Resort and Spa March 9-12, 2005. The setting is spectacular and I hope very much that you will be able to attend and receive a certificate for this award. Personally, I am thrilled to represent the Section this year and share in your receipt of the Meritorious Award.

Best regards,

Gerald E. Rodts, Jr., M.D.
Chairman

cc: Charles Branch, M.D., Secretary

Mary Williams

From: Mark R. McLaughlin, M.D. [mclaughlin@spineuniverse.com]
Sent: Monday, September 27, 2004 11:10 AM
To: Mary Williams
Cc: Jack Knightly
Subject: RE: Executive Committee Meeting for the Joint Section on Disorders of the Spine and Peripheral Nerves

Mary,

I will not be able to attend, but I would like to submit this short report for the meeting:

Exhibits report

Jen Wolf who normally handles the exhibits for the Section is on maternity leave presently and Jeannie McClarty is filling in for her. The prospectus has already gone to print and is expected to be in the mail the second week in October. This will be earlier than in the past and hopefully will garner more sponsorship. The location for the exhibits hall is optimal. There will be excellent traffic through the exhibits- much more than in the past two years based upon the layout. There have been no booth sales to date, but this is not unusual as the prospectus is not even out yet. The majority of sales will occur from November to February.

Respectfully submitted,
 Mark R. McLaughlin, M.D.

-----Original Message-----

From: Mary Williams [mailto:mawillia@wfubmc.edu]
Sent: Thursday, September 23, 2004 12:02 PM
To: Allan Levi; Charles Branch; Charles Kuntz; Christopher Paramore; Christopher Shaffrey; Christopher Wolfla; Curtis Dickman; Daniel Kim; Daniel Resnick; Darryl DiRisio; Edward Benzel; Gerald Rodts, Jr.; Gregory Przybylski; Gregory Trost; James Guest; John Knightly; Joseph Alexander; Kevin Foley; Larry Khoo; Mark McLaughlin; Michael Groff; Mitchell Gropper; Nevan Baldwin; Peter Gerszten; Praveen Mummaneni; R. John Hurlbert; Rajiv Midha; Regis Haid; Richard Fessler; Robert Heary; Ronald Apfelbaum; Stephen Ondra; Stephen Papadopoulos; Tanvir Choudhri; Timothy Ryken; Vincent Traynelis; Volker Sonntag; William Mitchell; Ziya Gokaslan
Subject: Executive Committee Meeting for the Joint Section on Disorders of the Spine and Peripheral Nerves

FYI:

The October Executive Committee Meeting will be held in San Francisco, CA at the Hilton, San Francisco in Continental Ball Room #1, from 12:15 - 2:00 on Monday the 18th.

Mary Williams

From: Charles Branch
Sent: Wednesday, October 13, 2004 9:21 AM
To: Mary Williams
Subject: FW: Spine Section Awards Program

-----Original Message-----

From: Guest, James [mailto:JGuest@med.miami.edu]
Sent: Monday, July 05, 2004 4:13 PM
To: mitchell gropper
Cc: Charles Branch; Dr. Rodts; timothy-ryken@uiowa.edu; Michele S. Gregory
Subject: RE: Spine Section Awards Program

Dear Mitch, I agree with you that the actual transfer of funds to institutions is best managed by the treasurers office. Some issues arise about indirect costs, etc. which I have been able to answer in the past.

In terms of contacting donors, I think it's important the the donors receive feedback and recognition. There are a few ways we could enhance that:

- 1) Require a written yearly progress report from each awardee. We really should do this to improve the infrastructure of the award system. A copy, after review by the awards committee, should be forwarded to the company.
- 2) As has been done for the Mayfield award list the recipients and donors in the yearly section program.
- 3) Compile this information onto the section website.
- 4) Ensure that the recipients have clear instructions to acknowledge their support source in publications.

It would be very helpful to obtain an agreement (from an appropriate journal) to publish manuscripts submitted by these award recipients together with a header such as "AANS/CNS Spine Section Kline award paper" in a fashion similar to that of the Volvo award in Spine. I don't know if this is legal or appropriate but it would give the donors something very tangible to be proud of, and I think would have a lasting impact.

Between Mitch and I we can determine how to make this process more systematic and compile a protocol that can be passed on to future Research committee members.

Best regards, Jim Guest

James D. Guest M.D., Ph.D., F.R.C.S (C)

Department of Neurological Surgery

Lois Pope LIFE Center

1095 NW 14th Terrace (D4-6)

Miami, FL, 33136

305-575-7059

-----Original Message-----

From: mitchell gropper [mailto:discodoc2003@yahoo.com]

Sent: Tuesday, June 29, 2004 4:07 PM

To: Michele S. Gregory; Guest, James

Cc: Dr. Rodts; cbranch@wfubmc.edu; timothy-ryken@uiowa.edu; Ronald W. Engelbreit

Subject: Re: Spine Section Awards Program

To all,

We need to come up with a cohesive plan as to corresponding with and contacting the Donors. I have no problem assuming this responsibility if all are in agreement. In terms of monies to be processed, I would recommend that it stay within the Treasurer's office.

Mitch

"Michele S. Gregory" <msg@aans.org> wrote:

Dear Dr. Gropper and Dr. Guest,

As per Dr. Rodts' email dated May 10th (attached below), all correspondence with regard to the Spine Section's Awards Program should be forwarded to you both, as well as Drs. Branch, Ryken and Rodts.

We received a call in our offices from Ms. Gianna Sabella, Executive Director for the Integra Foundation, who was inquiring about the David Kline Fellowship Awardee for 2004. As the corporation funding the award, Ms. Sabella was looking for information regarding this year's awardee and where to send their check. Angie in Meeting Services was able to answer her questions however, Ms. Sabella is interested in knowing who will serve as her contact in the Section regarding the fellowship. I understand that Ms. Sabella spoke briefly to you, Dr. Gropper however, she is in need of some clarification regarding who her contact will be in the future, should she have more questions or need additional information. Her contact information is:

Gianna Sabella, Executive Director

Integra Foundation

311 Enterprise Drive Plainsboro, NJ 08536

Phone: 609-936-2389

Fax: 609-799-3297

Email: gsabella@integra-ls.com

I will let Ms. Sabella know that I have forwarded her contact information onto the Spine Section leadership and she should expect someone from the Section to follow-up shortly. In the meantime, please let me know if I should share the name of a specific contact with her or not; my e-mail is msg@aans.org. Thank you.

Michele S. Gregory

-----Original Message-----

From: Gerald Rodts [mailto:Gerald_Rodts@emoryhealthcare.org]

Sent: Monday, May 10, 2004 12:00 PM

To: Michele S. Gregory

Cc: tryken@razi.surgery.uiowa.edu; cbranch@wfubmc.edu

Subject: Re: Spine Section Awards program

Michele:

The Spine Section Treasurer is Timothy Ryken in Iowa. In the past, the Spine Treasurer helps coordinate payment of awards by communicating with the host institutions and surgeon-recipients to find out where checks need to be sent and to whom they should be written. In the past (when I was Treasurer), I would have the printed checks sent to me so that I could type up a cover-letter on Section stationary and mail them on. Other times, we had the AANS office/accountant mail a check directly to an institution.

Please forward or copy all information regarding awards to Dr. Ryken (Treasurer) and to Mitchell Gropper, M.D. and James Guest, M.D. (co-chairmen of the Research and Awards Committee of the Spine Section). The Section Secretary, Charles Branch, M.D., should always be in the loop as well. Branch. As Chairman this year, I would also like to receive copies of all communication.

Thanks,
Rusty Rodts

Gerald E. Rodts, Jr., M.D.
Director, Emory University, Neurosurgery Spine
Chairman, AANS/CNS Spine Section
550 Peachtree St., N.E., Suite 806
Atlanta, GA 30308
Tel. 404-686-8101
Fax 404-686-4805

>>> "Michele S. Gregory" 04/19/04 11:56AM >>>

Dear Dr. Rodts,

As per the information contained in Dr. Haid's e-mail (attached and dated 4/5/04), it is my understanding that you are the contact person to forward awards correspondence to.

◇

Attached herein is the information we have received thus far; there are two e-mails and one letter, which is not electronic therefore I will fax it to you shortly.

◇ ◇

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at (847) 378-0540.
Thank you Dr. Rodts.

Kind regards,

Michele S. Gregory
Director of Development
American Association of Neurological Surgeons
5550 Meadowbrook Drive
Rolling Meadows, IL 60008
Phone: 847.378.0540/Fax: 847.378.0640
E-mail: msg@AANS.org Web site: www.AANS.org
Don't forget to join us at the AANS Annual Meeting, May 1-6 in Orlando, FL

SPINESECTION^{ORG}

SpineSection.org is now 8 ½ months old, having gone on line January 30, 2004. There have been no significant problems since the last report. We have incurred no additional expenses.

We have received content regarding outcomes research from Peter Gerstzen, MD, and this has been posted to the Meetings/Education page. We have also received an updated Section membership form, which has replaced the old form.

As always, new content is always welcome and very much needed to keep the site "fresh." Please send appropriate material to: chris-wolfla@ouhsc.edu.

Respectfully Submitted,

Chris Wolfla MD

Mary Williams

From: Charles Branch
Sent: Wednesday, October 13, 2004 9:14 AM
To: Mary Williams
Subject: FW: RE: FW: 2005 AANS/CNS Section on Disorders of the Spine and Peripheral Nerves Annual Meeting-Abstract

-----Original Message-----

From: Angie J. Silberhorn [mailto:ajs@aans.org]
Sent: Wednesday, September 22, 2004 2:54 PM
To: Dr. Rodts
Cc: chris-wolfla@ohsc.edu; Charles Branch
Subject: RE: RE: FW: 2005 AANS/CNS Section on Disorders of the Spine and Peripheral Nerves Annual Meeting-Abstract

Dr. Rodts,

We can certainly do that. We planned to do that once more meeting information became available. To date we have only promoted abstract submission and the date and location of the meeting in e-blasts because no further information is yet available. Once the preliminary program book is complete (hopefully in November), it can be put up on the section Web site along with links to registration and housing and all e-blast links will go there. Currently we've been including the dates & location and linking only to the abstract submission site because that is all that's available.

Angie

-----Original Message-----

From: Dr. Rodts
Sent: Wednesday, September 22, 2004 12:56 PM
To: Angie J. Silberhorn
Cc: chris-wolfla@ohsc.edu; cbranch@wfubmc.edu
Subject: Fwd: RE: FW: 2005 AANS/CNS Section on Disorders of the Spine and Peripheral Nerves Annual Meeting-Abstract

Angie:

We are interested in having the Spine Section website hyperlinked or mentioned in AANS e-blasts that concern the Section. Our site is www.spinesection.org. Would it be possible to add this to any AANS-born announcements about the Section? That way it can give members access immediately to more meeting information including registration. Thanks,
Rusty Rodts

Gerald E. Rodts, Jr., M.D.
Professor, Neurosurgery
Chairman, AANS/CNS Spine Section
550 Peachtree St., N.E., Suite 806
Atlanta, GA 30308
Tel. 404-686-8101
Fax 404-686-4805

OUTCOMES COMMITTEE UPDATE

San Francisco October 18, 2004

SPORT Trial Update:

- Over 2,000 patients have been enrolled
- Observational cohort enrollment complete and closed since February 2003
- Randomized cohort will stop enrollment in November 2004
- Outcomes are favorable in all surgical groups
- The surgical complication rate is lower than reported in the literature
- The follow-up period will be at least 8 years for all participants
- Outcomes publications will begin in approximately one year
- Data analysis will be careful and highly scrutinized
- The trial will provide important data regarding
 - **Clinical outcomes**
 - **Surgical complications**
 - **Long-term outcomes**
 - **Problems with cross-overs in spine trials**

Spine Section Website:

Addition of information and references regarding Outcomes Research related to spinal disorders.

Mary Williams

From: Charles Branch
Sent: Wednesday, October 13, 2004 9:03 AM
To: Mary Williams
Subject: FW: Section meeting at CNS

-----Original Message-----

From: Gerald Rodts [mailto:Gerald_Rodts@emoryhealthcare.org]
Sent: Tuesday, October 12, 2004 1:05 PM
To: rajmidha@ucalgary.ca
Cc: Regina Carder; Charles Branch; Mary Williams
Subject: Re: Section meeting at CNS

Raj:

I think the plan is fine. We all really appreciate your volunteerism and the energy you applied to PN. The meeting could not be moved to accomodate luncheon seminars and I could not persuade the CNS to bend its strict rules about not allowing Section Exec. meetings during the CNS scientific program. Thus, it will take place as planned (noon or 12:30?). Morning and afternoon are not options. I'll ask my admin. assistant to email you the exact time and room number at the Hilton.

We will place the PN Taskforce transition on the agenda for the Exec. meeting. Thanks,
Rusty

Mary/Charlie: Please add two things to the agenda:

1. Arthritis Foundation Representative, meeting in D.C. (I'll fill in the details).
 2. Peripheral Nerve (PN) Taskforce transition, leadership change
- Thanks

Gerald E. Rodts, Jr., M.D.
Professor, Neurosurgery
Chairman, AANS/CNS Spine Section
550 Peachtree St., N.E., Suite 806
Atlanta, GA 30308
Tel. 404-686-8101
Fax 404-686-4805

>>> Rajiv Midha <rajmidha@ucalgary.ca> 10/12/04 12:10PM >>>

Dear Rusty:

I saw Charlie recently, and he was unsure of timing and place of our exec cmte meeting in San Fran. Has this been finalized- if so provide info. Please also note my change of address/location attached, please update your contact lists. On a procedural matter, I have been acting as PN Taskforce Chair past 3-4 years and will like to transistion out of this next year. The membership of this sub-cmte is aware of this and agree. We have a tentative plan to have a structure with Chair, chair-elect, secretery, and past chair (each a 2 year position). If you agree, I will come to the exec meetings next year (2005), with new chair (Eric Zager, TBD) to allow smooth transistion. FYI, the other postions will be: Allen Maniker (chair-elect, prior secretery), Robert Spinner (secretery). Please let me know if you agree with this succesion plan. Raj

Mary Williams

From: Charles Branch
Sent: Wednesday, October 13, 2004 9:20 AM
To: Mary Williams
Subject: FW: Artificial Disc Guidance Document--Comments due Monday, June 28



FDA 6-22-04 Disc
draft.doc (60...

-----Original Message-----

From: Cathy Hill [mailto:chill@Neurosurgery.org]
Sent: Tuesday, July 06, 2004 1:43 PM
To: 'Gerald Rodts'; rfessler@surgery.bsd.uchicago.edu; vincent-traynelis@uiowa.edu
Cc: korrico@neurosurgery.org; Charles Branch; korrico@neurosurgery.org
Subject: RE: Artificial Disc Guidance Document--Comments due Monday, June 28

Dr. Rodts,

Thank you for your note. Dr. Fessler's comments were:

"Some of the in vitro analyses seem a little extreme to me. For example, I think hips are only tested to 10 million cycles for wear analysis. Why is it suggested that the discs be tested to 50 million cycles?

Also, to say that there should be "no" histological wear debris, is probably also more extreme than that required of other devices."

We need to check the specifics of what other devices are required to meet, before we agree with these."

I've attached the latest draft of the document. I'm planning to attend the AAOS Devices Forum meeting on Monday, July 12 as a guest. The artificial disc document is due to be discussed at about 10:15 am. If I do not have a neurosurgeon with me, I will just say that we have some concerns about the "wear" requirements and our comments will be forthcoming.

I sent a note to Dr. Fessler to see if he could attend but haven't heard back. My guess is that he will not be able to, as he's coming to DC on Thursday evening for Washington Committee.

Is there any chance you'd like to fly in on Monday?

Dr. Fessler can raise this issue again Friday July 16 when the AANS/CNS Neurosurgical Devices Forum meets with FDA staff.

Again, thank you!
Cathy

-----Original Message-----

From: Gerald Rodts [mailto:Gerald_Rodts@emoryhealthcare.org]
Sent: Tuesday, July 06, 2004 8:37 AM
To: chill@neurosurgery.org; rfessler@surgery.bsd.uchicago.edu;

vincent-traynelis@uiowa.edu

Cc: korricco@neurosurgery.org; cbranch@wfubmc.edu

Subject: RE: Artificial Disc Guidance Document--Comments due Monday, June 28

Cathy:

Do you have a copy of Dr. Fessler's comments? I never received them. Also, if you have the original email or information about the question at hand, I will try a second time to get feedback from the Spine Executive Committee members, and possibly from the membership at large (via mass email).

Thanks,
Dr. Rodts

Gerald E. Rodts, Jr., M.D.
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Chairman, AANS/CNS Spine Section
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Atlanta, GA 30308
Tel. 404-686-8101
Fax 404-686-4805

>>> "Traynelis, Vincent" <vincent-traynelis@uiowa.edu> 06/28/04 01:37PM

>>> >>>

Cathy,

First, I do not understand why the AAOS is becoming involved in this issue. The FDA and other government agencies have always looked to the ASTM for guidance in producing these standards. ASTM is currently working on artificial disc protocols using their standard methods which engage physicians, engineers, biomedical engineers, and industry. Additionally the document has at least three major flaws.

First it appears only to deal with the lumbar region. If this is the intent then it needs to be clearly spelled out. If it also involves the cervical spine many adjustments are necessary. Second, the magnitude of the wear testing is totally unreasonable. It has been estimated that there are only 100,000 significant cervical spinal motions per year. Many believe this to be an over estimate. That would mean that the testing would be for an equivalent of 500 years. A 5 million cycle testing scheme is much more reasonable and this would predict the wear one would have over a 50 year period. Finally it is stated that no one would have surgery unless there was 6 months of conservative therapy. This is inappropriate in the setting of a serious radiculopathy or myelopathy (particularly if there is neurological deficit). Significant radiculopathy or myelopathy (particularly if there is neurological deficit).

In summary, this work is critically flawed but a more critical concern is the question as to why this work is being done at all.

I hope this is not too late to be of use.

Vince

-----Original Message-----

From: Cathy Hill [mailto:chill@neurosurgery.org]

Sent: Wednesday, June 23, 2004 7:15 AM

To: Traynelis, Vincent; Richard Fessler (E-mail); Gerald_Rodts (E-mail)

Cc: Katie O. Orrico (E-mail)

Subject: Artificial Disc Guidance Document--Comments due Monday, June 28

Drs. Traynelis, Fessler, and Rodts,

AAOS has asked for our comments on the attached draft document for guidance to the FDA on Artificial Discs. They have made changes to this document since yesterday. You can add

any recommended changes directly to the document.

Based on the comments that Dr. Fessler sent yesterday, it looks as if neurosurgery and orthopaedics have differences on the recommended testing cycles.

AAOS would like to share the document with the FDA on July 12 and have asked for our comments by this Monday, June 28. The issue will be discussed at the AAOS Devices Forum meeting on July 12 at about 10 am. I will plan to attend to observe but it would be a good idea to have a neurosurgeon with me. I realize the date is not ideal, as you all will be coming to DC at the end of that week for other meetings.

If there are other neurosurgeons that you feel I should send the document to for comment, please let me know.

Thank you!
Cathy

-----Original Message-----

From: Kennedy, Jeanie [mailto:JKennedy@aaos.org]
Sent: Tuesday, June 22, 2004 6:09 PM
To: Brian Cunningham MD (E-mail); Brian Doherty MD (E-mail); Cathy Hill (Neurosurgeons) (E-mail 2); Christianson, Bill (E-mail); Ensor E Transfeldt MD (E-mail); Greenwald A. Seth D Phil (E-mail); James Kang MD (E-mail); Jove H Graham (E-mail); Kirkpatrick John MD (E-mail); Lemons Jack E. PhD (E-mail); Lisa Ferrara (E-mail); Stanley Brown (E-mail); Wong, David, MD (E-mail 2); Wong, David, MD (E-mail 3); Wong, David, MD (E-mail); Yaszemski Michael MD (E-mail)
Subject: New revisions to disc draft

Disc Guidance Team,

Attached is the latest version of the disc replacement guidance document. Dr. Wong submitted the revisions and suggests increasing testing to 50 years/100 million cycles.

Thanks again for your efforts- when you have revisions, please send them to me and I will circulate them as soon as possible.

Jeanie

<<6-22-04 Disc draft.doc>>

Jeanie Kennedy
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jkennedy@aaos.org
Phone: 847/384-4308
Fax: 847/823-9769

Answer 1/8/04

Mary Williams

From: Charles Branch
Sent: Monday, September 20, 2004 8:50 AM
To: Mary Williams
Subject: FW: Spine Section

Agenda Book

-----Original Message-----

From: Gerald Rodts [mailto:Gerald_Rodts@emoryhealthcare.org]
Sent: Wednesday, September 08, 2004 6:56 PM
To: Charles Branch
Subject: RE: Spine Section

Charlie:

I agree. Let's make it an agenda item for October. On a different note: are you aware of any importance in the past of the AANS/CNS Spine section having a representative to the National Institute for Arthritis...(and something else)? Ratcheson called me and said that Dennis Maiman and, more recently, Ed Benzel had "represented" neurosurgery in this organization but were never invited to a meeting, never did anything, and never had any interest in doing so. Ratcheson wants to know from us if we should campaign to have some sort of involvement in this organization. My own opinion is that we have enough on our plate with World Spine and in developing relationships with SRS, NASS, etc. to worry about the Arthritis group. Any thoughts? Rusty

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Fax 404-686-4805

>>> "Charles Branch" <cbranch@wfubmc.edu> 09/08/04 09:20AM >>>

Rusty

I have researched this thoroughly. The Section never approved a reinvestment mandate. It was always considered but never approved because there was not a clear understanding of what our "profit" from World Spine II would be. The last indication in the minutes is that there is a probability of a 15k to 25k profit from WSII but no motion or mandate to reinvest. If you believe that is what we should do, then you should bring that to the table in October. Charlie

-----Original Message-----

From: Gerald Rodts [mailto:Gerald_Rodts@emoryhealthcare.org]
Sent: Tuesday, August 24, 2004 1:37 PM
To: Charles Branch
Subject: Fwd: Spine Section

Charlie:

Do you see in the minutes a formal record of the Section permitting World Spine II to reinvest the small profit share that we realized? I need to send Ron Englebreit confirmation. Thanks, Rusty

Gerald E. Rodts, Jr., M.D.
Professor, Neurosurgery
Chairman, AANS/CNS Spine Section

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