



# AAES NEWS

January 2007

www.endocrinesurgery.org

## The American Association of Endocrine Surgeons

### AAES NEWS

#### MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

I wanted to thank the membership of the American Association of Endocrine Surgeons for affording me the opportunity to be your President. It is a great honor to be the President of an organization that is nationally and internationally recognized for the expertise of its members and the high quality of its meetings and publications.



It is a very exciting time to be a member, let alone the President of such a prestigious organization. I would like to review some of the more important issues that our organization is currently dealing with.

This past September, the American Association of Endocrine Surgeons completed its first fellowship match placing applicants into Endocrine Surgery fellowship positions that will begin in July of 2007. The

match was a great success under the leadership of Allan Siperstein, M.D. The Executive Council agreed to create a Fellowship Committee that would become one of the free-standing committees of the American Association of Endocrine Surgeons. This committee will be responsible for handling the administrative aspects of the fellowship match. It will also work directly with the Education and Research Committee to maintain an updated fellowship curriculum and in the future will be responsible for ensuring the quality of the fellowship programs.

An Endocrine Surgery curriculum for the training of General Surgery residents that was developed by the Education and Research Committee and approved by the Executive Council of the AAES was circulated to the 254 Program Directors in the United States. This document, which can be accessed on our website, is an outline of the structured knowledge and skills objectives established for the training of General Surgery residents in common endocrine diseases and common endocrine surgical operations. This document, along with the Endocrine Surgery curriculum for training of fellows in Endocrine Surgery was also distributed to key leaders involved in Surgical Education including L. D. Britt, M.D., Chair, Surgery Residency Review Committee; Ajit Kumar Sachdeva, M.D., Direc-

tor of the Division of Education for the American College of Surgeons; Richard H. Bell, M.D., Assistant Executive Director of the American Board of Surgery and Frank Lewis, M.D., Executive Director, American Board of Surgery. In addition, I offered the assistance of our organization in the development of any components related to education and training of General Surgery residents in Endocrine Surgery. The American Association of Endocrine Surgeons is indebted to Steven K. Libutti, M.D., Walter E. Pofahl, M.D. and the rest of the Education and Research Committee for the tremendous amount of work that they have done to develop and update the Endocrine Surgery curriculum.

As the American Association of Endocrine Surgeons assumes a greater role in standardizing the knowledge and skills objectives for the training of General Surgery residents and Endocrine Surgery fellows, the Executive Council agreed that we could make an important contribution to the American Board of Surgery. As a result, I have petitioned the American Board of Surgery for a Director position for our organization. I have submitted a formal letter to Dr. Frank Lewis, the Executive Director of the American Board of Surgery and he informed me that he has made this an agenda item for the Executive Committee of the American Board of Surgery which meets in January. Our organization can also benefit from the input, advice and help from the American Board of Surgery as we continue to develop our fellowships and match program.

One of the newest objectives of the Education and Research Committee is to work with the American College of Surgeons' web portal to become the main source for the content in the Endocrine Surgery specialty. Alan P. B. Dackiw, M.D., the newest member to the Education and Research Committee, serves as a portal community editor in Endocrine Surgery for the American

#### AAES Executive Council

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Sally E. Carty MD,  
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Alan P.B. Dackiw, MD

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John S. Kukora, MD

Steven K. Libutti, MD

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Ronald J. Weigel, MD



College of Surgeons and will have a major role in this initiative. The purpose of the web portal is to “expand the College’s role as an information resource on patient care for the various surgical specialties and on advances in bioscience, research and health policy”. It is important that the American Association of Endocrine Surgeons becomes the principal information resource for Endocrine Surgery.

Martha A. Zieger, M.D., our liaison to the American Association of Clinical Endocrinologists, is leading the effort to develop a set of practice guidelines for the management and treatment of adrenal and gastrointestinal neuroendocrine tumors. In addition, at the request of the Executive Council, she is investigating the possibility of having an edition of the journal *Endocrine Practice* devoted to publishing the interesting cases that are presented at our educational forum of the meeting of the American Association of Endocrine Surgeons. Sally E. Carty, M.D., our Secretary-Treasurer, represented the American Association of Endocrine Surgeons at the American Medical Association’s interim meeting of the Endocrine Section Council. The primary purpose of the meeting was to discuss the business of the American Medical Association House of Delegates and other issues of common interest and concern to the Endocrine Section Council.

The meeting in New York City was a great success. Three hundred and fifty individuals registered for the meeting which is the highest number of registrants ever. Under the leadership of Dr. Ashok R. Shaha, the meeting was successful financially with a \$22,000 profit of which \$10,000 was contributed to the Paul LoGerfo Fund. The planning and organization of the 2007 meeting of the American Association of Endocrine Surgeons in Tucson is well underway under the direction of Michael J. DeMeure, M.D., the local arrangements Chair. I have invited Virginia LiVolsi, M.D. to be the guest speaker at the meeting in Tucson and she has graciously accepted the invitation. She is the Professor of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania Health System and an honorary member of our organization. She will speak on the role of fine needle aspiration biopsy and frozen section in diagnosis of nodular thyroid disease.

Sites for future meetings have been confirmed through 2010. The 2008 meeting will be in Monterey. Dr. Geoffrey B. Thompson, our President-Elect has proposed that a neuromonitoring workshop be organized as a Continuing Medical Education course for the meeting in Monterey, California. He and Peter Angelos, M.D. will be organizing the workshop. The 2009 meeting will be in Madison and the 2010 meeting will be in Pittsburgh. Three requests have been made for the meeting site in 2011 which include Chicago, Iowa City and Houston. These will be considered at the Executive Council meeting in the spring.

It is a great honor and privilege to serve as President of the American Association of Endocrine Surgeons. I will work hard to continue to advance the organization. I am looking forward to seeing you in Tucson.

## AAES Match Report

In 2006 the AAES sponsored the first Endocrine Surgery Fellowship Match, organized to place clinical fellows in positions nationwide for fellowships beginning July 1, 2007. Dr. Allan Siperstein beautifully organized this extensive effort. As with the national surgical residency match, the ranking process was weighted toward the applicant, rather than the institution. The deadline for applicants and programs to submit their rank lists was midnight Tuesday September 5th, 2006.

The Match process went well for all concerned. There were 11 applicants for 12 positions in 10 programs. The applicant’s blinded weighted rankings were independently verified by Dr. John H. Yim. Eight applicants got their first choice positions and 7 programs got their first choice of applicants. Given the excellent cooperation by both applicants and programs, Dr. Siperstein was able to release the results of the Match early on September 7 rather than on the scheduled date of September 12.

Dr. Siperstein will now chair the new AAES Fellowship Committee, which under his leadership will conduct the 2007 Match for July 1, 2008 Fellowship positions. Existing endocrine surgery fellowship programs are described in detail on the AAES website. Other committee members will be Drs. Steve Libutti, John Kukora, Richard Prinz, John Hanks and Ronald Weigel.

Dr. Siperstein is interested in obtaining feedback about the 2006 Match process and can be contacted at [sipersa@cff.org](mailto:sipersa@cff.org).

## ANNOUNCEMENT: The 2007 AAES Poster Competition

**New this year, the AAES Program Committee under Chairman Dr. Francis D. Moore announces the 2007 AAES Poster Competition.**

During the Monday morning and Tuesday morning breaks in the meeting program, a panel of distinguished AAES judges will visit each Poster to hear a <5 minute exposition, preferably by the primary author. After Tuesday’s Poster Session, the Judges’ Panel will confer an Award and a \$250 cash prize for the best Poster this year. The winner will also be recognized in upcoming program booklets.



## The 28th Annual Meeting of the American Association of Endocrine Surgeons will be held in Tucson, Arizona on April 29-May 1, 2007

### Dear Colleagues, Members and Friends:

I invite all of you to attend the next annual meeting of the American Association of Endocrine Surgeons which will be held at the Westin La Paloma Resort in the northern foothills of Tucson, Arizona. The dates of the meeting will be from Sunday morning April 29th to Tuesday, May 1, 2007. Please plan to arrive on Saturday evening. The

council elected to change the format of the meeting to allow for members to enjoy our resort atmosphere. The local arrangements committee is working hard to make this meeting a success. We expect great attendance. I am sure you will enjoy the scientific

content as well as the beautiful resort. Our weather should be terrific. The temperatures generally range from a low of 50 to a high 90 of at this time of year. Please note, our dress code will be resort casual (leave the ties home!).



The activities planned for the meeting should also help all enjoy the meeting. I encourage you to bring your spouses or significant others. Dr. Chen is organizing a golf tournament on the Jeff Troon designed golf course. There are first-rate tennis facilities and an Elizabeth Arden Red Door Spa on the resort grounds. Nearby there are spectacular hiking trails in the Catalina Mountains. If you are interested in any side trips before or after the meeting to see any of the local attractions, please feel free to contact my office staff or me. I am quite certain you will enjoy our meeting and your visit to Tucson. I look forward to the 2007 AAES meeting.

Sincerely yours,

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Register online now at [www.endocrinesurgery.org](http://www.endocrinesurgery.org)

### AAES Annual Golf Tournament

**Date: Monday, April 30, 2007 at 12:30pm**

**Location: La Paloma Country Club,**

**Westin La Paloma Resort and Spa, Tucson, AZ**

**Green Fees: \$175.00 per player,  
collected at start of tournament**

The tournament will be run in the scramble format in teams of 4. All levels of players are welcome. Please fill out the form included in this mailing and send it back per the instructions by no later than March 23, 2007.

Hope to see you there!  
Dr. Herb Chen





## The 27th Annual Meeting of the AAES Was Held May, 2006 in New York

The 27th Annual Meeting of the AAES was held in New York, New York. Local Arrangements Chair Dr. Ashok R. Shaha arranged an elegant meeting venue at the New York Hilton, culminating in a truly electrifying dance event for the Banquet. Attendance at the New York Meeting was 350



registrants—the highest number ever for AAES. The Program Committee chaired by Dr. John A. Chabot presented a strong lineup of 30 clinical and basic science papers, chosen from among 145 abstracts which again was the highest number ever submitted to AAES. Due to the changeover in Secretary-Treasurers, we have no candid photos to share here but suffice it to say that the meeting provided unparalleled opportunities to view New York streets from skyscraper hotel rooms far above, to stroll in Central Park in the spring, and to visit awe-inspiring landmarks such the Empire State building, the Statue of Liberty and Ground Zero.

Further highlights of the meeting included a very interesting talk by invited speaker Dr. Michael Bliss of the University of Toronto, who spoke on “Harvey Cushing and Endo-Crimology.” This topic dovetailed beautifully with Dr. Robert Udelsman’s presidential address on “Harvey Cushing the Artist.” Dr. Collin J. Weber gave a wonderful biographical introduction for Dr. Udelsman as outgoing president.

At the Banquet, Dr. Orlo H. Clark was presented by Dr. Pasieka with the Oliver Cope Meritorious Achievement Award. This AAES award is given in recognition of his outstanding contributions in the field of endocrine surgery as an investigator, teacher and clinical surgeon. Dr. Clark is the 5th surgeon ever to receive the award since its inception in 1984. Previous honorees have been Dr. Oliver Cope in 1985, Dr. Stanley R. Friesen in 1994, Dr. Norman W. Thompson in 2001, and Dr. Jon A. Van Heerden in 2004.



## Paul LoGerfo Education Research Fund

The Paul LoGerfo Educational Research Fund continues to grow. We now have **\$46,877** in the fund. Last year’s dues renewal campaign resulted in contributions of \$4,806 to the Fund, whereas this year’s in-progress dues renewals have resulted in \$2,816 to date. It is the goal to reach \$100,000 as rapidly as possible in order to utilize interest on the Fund to allow annual awards for endocrine surgical research. Dr. Jack Monchik chairs the Trustee Committee of the Fund. Donations can be made either with your Dues renewal or separately via our website. All members are encouraged to contribute in memory and in honor of Dr. LoGerfo, who passed away during his service as AAES President in 2003.

As a 501c(6) organization, the IRS tax status of the LoGerfo fund is presently not tax-deductible. Dr. Janice L. Pasieka worked very hard last year to clarify the legal status of the AAES, which is now incorporated in the state of Illinois. The AAES is moving well towards application for 501c(3) status which would allow contributions to the Fund to be tax deductible, but this process is still ongoing. Please donate anyway!



## Report of the Recorder

We are grateful for the expert work of our Recorder Dr. Douglas B. Evans in continuing a very effective process of peer review for all manuscripts submitted for the Annual Meeting. At the 2006 AAES meeting in New York, 30 papers were presented and all were accepted for publication this year in *Surgery*. The AAES is also indebted this year to Ms. Thereasa Rich for her hard work as Dr. Evans' assistant.

This is Dr. Evans' second year as Recorder, with a 3 year tenure. One of his first successful actions was to work with the Program Committee in standardizing the abstract review process and expanding the committee to 7 members. In addition, this December (for the 2007 meeting) the submitted blinded abstracts also underwent in depth discussion by the Program Committee via a consensus conference call, prior to final ranking by the Program Committee. Thirty excellent abstracts and 20 excellent posters were accepted this year.

AAES members will be receiving soon, an email solicitation for participation in the 2007 manuscript review process. If you do not receive this email and do wish to participate in the manuscript review process, please contact Dr. Evans directly at tarich@mdanderson.org (and also call the Secretary-Treasurer's office to make sure we have your correct email address.)

## Announcements

- In conjunction with the 2007 Meeting in Tucson, there will again be a Program Directors Meeting for endocrine surgery fellowship programs, tentatively scheduled to occur the afternoon of Sunday April 29, 2007.
- The International Society of Endocrine Surgeons will meet in association with International Surgical Week/the 42nd World Congress of Surgery of ISS/SIC, in Montreal Canada, from August 26-30, 2007. See [www.isw2007.org](http://www.isw2007.org) for details.
- The European Society of Endocrine Surgeons is holding its 2nd ESES Workshop Update in Endocrine Surgery on Endoscopic Surgery in Neuroendocrine Pancreatic Tumors, from May 17-19, 2007 in Vienna, Austria. See [eses2007@medacad.org](mailto:eses2007@medacad.org) for details.
- The Indian Association of Endocrine Surgeons sends greetings and is interested in submission of articles to their journal to enhance the standard and quality of patient care and "prove that the world has shrunken to a global village." Contact Dr. M.S. Senthil Kumar at [dr\\_sen@yahoo.com](mailto:dr_sen@yahoo.com).

## ACS Outsourcing

The support relationship of the AAES with the American College of Surgeons, which was established by Dr. Janice L. Pasiaka, continues to develop and flourish. This year the ACS is again collecting our Dues, and as part of that process will also request updated contact information from all AAES members. Dues, donations to the Paul LoGerfo Educational Research Fund, and 2007 Meeting Registration, may now be paid completely online -and we encourage you to use this option. Members who have forgotten their ID number can obtain it easily by following the prompts on the website.

The ACS will continue to provide support to the Secretary-Treasurer's office in the areas of accounting, meeting registration, CME accreditation, and email contacts with members. **We fervently request that you make sure you have provided us with a current email address, because the AAES continues to move towards becoming an entirely paperless organization in the future.** If you would like to send an email announcement to AAES members please contact the Secretary-Treasurer's office.

Our website, [www.endocrinesurgery.org](http://www.endocrinesurgery.org), is currently administered by the Endocrine Society. The AAES Council recently approved a website redesign/update for later this year which may be particularly useful in streamlining the abstract submission process. As every abstract last month was successfully submitted by email, it is quite likely that next year (for the 2008 meeting) **abstract submissions will be entirely electronic.** Other new initiatives related to the website include the yearly updating of AAES Fellowship listings, and the establishment of a Jobs Bank category.

## Membership and New Members

The AAES welcomes our new members:

Atul Gawande MD—Boston, MA  
Bruce Hall MD—St. Louis MO  
Richard Harding MD—Phoenix, AZ  
Kent Kercher MD—Charlotte, NC  
Lee Pederson MD—Charlotte NC  
Doris Quintana MD—Albuquerque NM  
Gregory Stanislav MD—Papillon, NE  
Tina Yen MD—Milwaukee, WI

Theresia Weber MD—Heidelberg, Germany  
Mark Sywak MD—St. Leonards, Australia  
Didier Mutter MD—Cedex, France  
J.L. Peix MD—Cedex, France

The AAES currently has 325 members of whom 191 are Active, 44 are Corresponding, 79 are Senior, and 11 are Honorary.



## AACE and ESC Reports

Our liaison to the American Association of Clinical Endocrinologists is Dr. Martha A. Zeiger. Dr. Zeiger is happy to report that the possibility of creating a section of Endocrine Surgical Case Reports (such as those presented yearly at our Annual Meeting) in **Endocrine Practice**, was discussed with Dr. Lewis Braverman, who is the new editor of that journal. Dr. Braverman was very receptive to the idea and will discuss it further at the AACE Spring meeting.

On behalf of AAES Dr. Zeiger investigated the possibility of Endocrine University hosting Endocrine Surgical Fellows, and learned that there will be a space open to us for one Fellow Delegate in 2008 to serve as a liaison in the hope that we can build on the relationship in the future. With regard to the Joint AAES/AACE Practice Guidelines for adrenal and gastrointestinal neuroendocrine tumors, Dr. Zeiger plans to have a draft from AAES Council members to the AACE by early 2007. She further reports that within the AACE directory, those AAES members who are also AACE members are now designated separately as endocrine surgeons.

This year our liaison to the Endocrine Section Council of the American Medical Association was myself (Dr. Carty). The ESC is an organized caucus of representatives from AACE, ATA, ES, and the American Society for Reproductive Medicine, with other guest societies invited. The ESC rotates leadership among the 4 primary societies to discuss pending resolutions of the AMA House of Delegates. After discussion the ESC votes to speak for/against flagged resolutions—from which actions the AMA votes to lobby Congress. No other surgery groups are yet involved. At the AMA Interim Meeting in Las Vegas, the breadth of pertinent topics was impressive, including hormonal and radiologic issues of interest to AAES members.

## Nominating Committee

The Nominating Committee presented the following names which were accepted at the 2006 AAES Business meeting:

Dr. Geoffrey B. Thompson	President-Elect
Dr. John B. Hanks	Vice President
Dr. Sally E. Carty	Secretary-Treasurer
Dr. Thomas J. Fahey	Council Member
Dr. Alan B. Dackiw	Council Member

We want to thank Dr. Janice L. Pasioka, Dr. Quan-Yang Duh, Dr. Gerard M. Doherty and Dr. Francis D. Moore who stepped down from the Council after years of service to our organization.

## IN MEMORIAM

We are sad to learn of the passing of Robert C. Hickey MD. At the request of his family we reprint here portions of Dr. Hickey's obituary.

Robert C. Hickey MD, an internationally known cancer surgeon whose clinical research contributions helped change the outlook for patients with endocrine tumors, died 5/17/06 in Madison, Wisconsin. During more than 2 decades as Professor of Surgery at the M.D. Anderson Cancer Center, Dr. Hickey developed several new techniques for patients with malignancies of the parathyroid, thyroid, pancreas and adrenal glands. He was the first surgeon to perform human parathyroid autotransplantation and he led design of a technique to remove tumors in the adrenal medulla with leaving the rim of the adrenal cortex intact. Dr. Hickey was born Dec 9, 1915 in Hallstead, Pennsylvania and by age 6 had decided to become a doctor. After working as a research assistant for the State of New York, in 1937 his first article was on "The bacteriologic quality of the ice cream supply for a small city." He then earned bachelor's and medical degrees from Cornell University, where he helped devise a simple bioassay for diabetes insipidus, the Hickey-Hare test. Dr. Hickey took postgraduate training at the University of Iowa, Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center and NCI, served in the US Marine Corps, and after serving as Chair of Surgery at the University of Wisconsin, returned in 1968 to MD Anderson as Deputy Director and then Executive Vice President of the institution.

Dr. Hickey served as President of the AAES from 1992–3 and was a beloved and active member for many years. He is survived by his wife, the artist and sculptor Rose van Vranken; his 2 daughters Kathryn and Sarah; his 3 sons Robert Jr, Stephen and Dennis; and his 5 grandchildren.

## The AAES Newsletter

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