

Pediatric Short Cuts

AANS/CNS Section on Pediatric Neurological Surgery



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Editor: Matthew D. Smyth, MD, FAANS

The views reflected in this newsletter are solely the views of the authors and do not necessarily represent the views, opinions or positions of either the AANS or the CNS.

CHAIR’S MESSAGE



Mark D. Krieger, MD, FAANS

Firstly, I truly hope that this finds you and yours safe and in good health.

We are in the midst of a time like no other. The changes to our personal and professional lives caused by the COVID-19 pandemic would have been inconceivable just a short time ago. We were caring for sick children and their families, performing technically complex surgeries, balancing a career and family; all of this was fulfilling and plenty for most of us. We’ve now had to add reorganizing our entire neurosurgery practice, working through new systems like telemedicine and prioritizing surgeries to accommodate an overwhelmed health care system. We’re needed to provide calm leadership in the face of scared patients, coworkers, families and friends, which is made more difficult by social distancing.

We will get through all this, individually and as a community. Your leadership, your compassion, your diligence and your humility will make a difference. Working together as a community will solve the challenges of our current situation, as it has solved the challenges in our field and in the larger world in the past.

Please view the Pediatric Section as one of your communities. The section will coordinate all initiatives and meeting activities with the parent organizations. As you know, 2020 AANS Annual Scientific Meeting in Boston has been cancelled and plans are underway to deliver some of the content in a virtual setting to keep us connected through these challenging times. We will be here for each other.

Unfortunately, the ongoing pandemic is not the only bad news we’ve received this year. We’ve lost three special colleagues: Molly Hubbard (pediatric neurosurgery fellow), Tim George (pediatric neurosurgery leader) and Robin Humphries (emeritus professor and mentor to many). We’ve included beautiful tributes to each of them in this newsletter.

Once this episode of our lives is over and we help our community recover, we will resume one of the themes of my tenure as chair,

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“Chair’s Message” Continued from Page 1

which is to welcome into our community and enrich the educational experience of our “learners”: pediatric neurosurgery fellows, neurosurgery residents and medical students. Before the pandemic, we started planning a new special session of oral presentations by fellows at our annual meeting (Salt Lake City, December 1-4) with Doug Brockmeyer and the local hosts. A late submission date will allow them to complete these projects within the first months of their fellowships. The session will be concluded with an award for best abstract, named the Molly Hubbard Prize in her memory. Likewise, we have initiated discussion with the ASPN regarding an ASPN/Pediatric Section-sponsored boot camp for fellows. Not unlike SNS boot camps, this session would consist of a combination of didactics and hands-on session, most likely as a pre-annual meeting symposium. Additionally, we’ve empowered our various committee chairs to find ways to involve residents in section activities and the members-at-large to promote student involvement in pediatric neurosurgery. More details to follow.

I’ll leave you with the memory of Robin P. Humphreys, a founding father of our field, who passed away on March 18

at the age of 82. I had only briefly met him, but I remember being awestruck when I read Anthony Raimondi’s biography of him in *Child’s Nervous System* in 1995: “It is unusual in the field of neurosurgery to encounter a person such as Robin Paul Humphreys: one who has the bearing of a gentleman, the conversation of a scholar, the respect for his fellow man of a clergyman, the sense of humor of a well-bred Anglo-Canadian. Adding to these the skills – the extraordinary clinical and technical skills of a pediatric neurosurgeon ...”

May his memory give us strength through these trying times, and serve as an inspiration as we continue our noble work.

Sincerely,

Mark D. Krieger, MD, FAANS

TREASURER'S REPORT

Richard C. E. Anderson, MD, FAANS

The Pediatric Section remains in good financial health. Total net assets as per the last financial statement (12/31/2019) totaled \$1,325,310. This is an increase over the prior year (\$994,944) and continues to reflect a comfortable reserve to support an entire annual meeting, plus section activities for two years without any revenue. Additional commitments to support research through section grants and the NREF are planned for FY2021 by the section to prioritize the use of the extra reserves in a manner consistent with the section's mission.

Annual Meeting

The recent 2019 Annual Meeting for the AANS/CNS Section in Pediatric Neurological Surgery in Phoenix is expected to have a net excess of \$36,558. This is compared to a net excess of \$91,910 at the 2018 Annual Meeting in Nashville. The budget for the upcoming 2020 meeting in Salt Lake City is in process. The net revenue for meetings has now been positive for five consecutive years, as a result of continued efforts by section officers to reduce costs in collaboration with local meeting hosts and AANS staff.

Long Term Investments

The section's long-term investment account has done well this year and remains favorable at \$876,226. This is an increase from last year's \$681,656. The section's long-term investments are handled via a pooled investment portfolio with the other sections, which allows the sections to get into funds not otherwise available to smaller investors.

Honor your Mentor Funds

As of 12/31/2019, the A. Leland Albright fund has accumulated \$46,240. The Sanjiv Bhatia fund has accumulated \$51,415.

Specific Expenses and Financial Resolutions

For the FY2021 budget, the section has increased its commitment toward its educational and research missions. With the excess financial reserves, funds committed to section research awards have been doubled from \$10,000 to \$20,000. There is renewed financial commitment toward the Pediatric Neurosurgical Research & Education Foundation (NREF) Fellowship grant and domestic and international traveling fellowships as well.

Overall, there appear to be no concerns.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT

Welcome New Pediatric Section Members

ACTIVE

Jeffrey Steven Raskin, MS, MD, FAANS
 Anthony C. Wang, MD
 Linden Elizabeth Fornoff, MD
 Brian Rothstein, MD
 Sean David McEvoy, MD
 David S. Hersh, MD
 Shelly Wang, MD, FAANS
 Joanna Elizabeth Gernsback, MD
 Katrina Alise Ducis, MD
 Robert Thomas Buckley, MD

RESIDENT

Abdul Karim Akram Ghaith, MD
 Abdi Ermolo Tira, MD
 Simon Balogun Adewale, MD
 Edwin Humberto Hodelin Maynard, MD
 Kwabena Nsiah-Siwawu, MBChB
 Ghayur Abbas, MBBS
 Yacine Felissi, MD
 Aaron Michael Yengo-Kahn, MD
 Joshua Loya, MD
 Kevin K. Kumar, MD, PhD
 Elsa Arocho-Quinones, MD

INTERNATIONAL

Gee Teak Sheng, MD, MSurg
 Ghadeer Alkousa, MD
 Anton Nikolaevich Konovalov, MD
 Subir Dey, MBBS, MCh
 Abdurrahman Aycan, MD



TRAINING SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT

Andrew H. Jea, MD, FAANS

The Training Subcommittee accepted the following applicants for traveling fellowships:

DOMESTIC

- **Melissa Lopresti, MD:** to be applied at The Hospital for Sick Children in Toronto.
- **Aaron Yengo-Khan, MD:** to be applied at Boston Children’s Hospital.

INTERNATIONAL

- **Rajesh Nair, MBBS, MCh:** to be applied at the University of Wisconsin.
- **Edouard Mazerand, MD:** to be applied at The Johns Hopkins Hospital.

Advertisements and calls for applications for next year’s traveling fellowships have been placed in the following journals:

- *World Neurosurgery*
- *The Journal of Neurosurgery: Pediatrics*
- *Child’s Nervous System*
- *Pediatric Neurosurgery*
- *Neurosurgery*

The Training Subcommittee has compiled a list of past winners of these traveling fellowships, which will be included in Short Cuts. Moving forward, winners of the traveling fellowships will be reminded to present their research at the upcoming Annual Meeting of the AANS/CNS Section on Pediatric Neurological Surgery.

Domestic Traveling Fellows			
	Name	Training Program	Host Program
1998	Mark Krieger	Univ. of Southern California	Marseilles
1998	Michael Taylor	Univ. of Toronto	Boston Children's Hospital
1998	Dave Sacco	Univ. of Kentucky	Boston Children's Hospital
1999	Sanjay Misra		
1999	David Sandberg	Cornell	Hospital for Sick Children
2000	Ketan Bulsara	Duke University Hospital	University of Iowa Children's Hospital
2000	Ian Heger	SUNY Brooklyn	Boston Children's Hospital
2001	Prithvi Narayan	Emory University	Boston Children's Hospital
2001	John Morenski	Univ. of Missouri/Columbia	
2002	Robert Owen	Univ. of Kentucky	Boston Children's Hospital
2003	Edward Ahn	Univ. of Maryland	Boston Children's Hospital
2003	Andrew Jea	Jackson Memorial Medical Center	Boston Children's Hospital
2005	Manuel Ferreira	Massachusetts General Hospital	Hospital for Sick Children
2005	Keyne Johnson	Duke University Hospital	Primary Children's Hospital
2005	Patricia Quebada	Dartmouth-Hitchcock	Hospital for Sick Children
2005	Ali Raja	Univ. of Arkansas	Boston Children's Hospital
2006	Deanna Mary Sasaki-Adams	Univ. of North Carolina	Hospital for Sick Children
2007	Eylem Ocal	Yale University	Hospital for Sick Children
2007	Namath Hussain	Univ. of Arizona	Children's Hospital of Michigan
2008	Erin Kiehna	Univ. of Virginia	Hospital for Sick Children
2008	Elias Rizk	Penn State	UW Health American Family Children's Hospital
2010	Heather Spader	Brown University	Primary Children's Hospital
2010	Mike Ellis	Univ. of Toronto	Boston Children's Hospital
2011	Brian Kelley	Yale University	Boston Children's Hospital
2012	Jesse Skoch	Univ. of Arizona	Children's Hospital, Denver
2012	Sunil Majila	Univ Hospital Cleveland	Boston Children's Hospital

"Training Subcommittee Report" Continued from Page 4

2013	Brandon Miller	Emory University	St. Louis Children's Hospital
2013	Eisha Christian	Univ. of Southern California	Hospital for Sick Children
2014	William (Lee) Titworth	Univ. of Florida/Gainesville	Boston Children's Hospital
2014	Christine Hammer	Thomas Jefferson University	Boston Children's Hospital
2014	Jason Blatt	Univ. of North Carolina	Children's Hospital of Alabama /UAB
2014	Annie Drapeau	Univ. of Sherbrooke	British Columbia Children's Hospital
2015	Raj Mukerjee	Cedars-Sinai Medical Center	Hospital for Sick Children
2015	Jason Chu	Emory University	Seattle Children's Hospital
2016	Akshitumar Mistry	Vanderbilt University Medical Center	Hospital for Sick Children
2016	Vijay Ravindra	Univ. of Utah	Boston Children's Hospital
2017	Derek Yecies	Stanford University	Weill Cornell Medicine
2017	Laura Prolo	Stanford University	Texas Children's Hospital
2018	Derek Samples	Univ. of Texas/San Antonio	Children's Hospital, Denver
2018	Manuel Sarmiento	Cedars-Sinai Medical Center	Hospital for Sick Children
2018	Luke Smith	Ohio State University	University of Tennessee / St. Jude
2018	Alysa Almojuela	Univ. of Manitoba	Hospital for Sick Children
2019	Aaron Yengo-Khan	Vanderbilt University Medical Center	Boston Children's Hospital
2019	Melissa LoPresti	Baylor College of Medicine	Hospital for Sick Children

International Traveling Fellows			
	Name	Training Program	Host Program
2000	Fajardo Rivera	Honduras	
2001	Charity Cordero Tumangday		
2002	Adrian Caceres		
2003	Shahram Hadidchi		
2003	Andri Anugerah		
2005	Sujoy Sanyal	India	
2005	Emejulu Jude-Kennedy	Nigeria	
2005	Juan Orlando Moreno Nunez	Cuba	
2006	K.M. Bopanna	India	Hospital for Sick Children
2006	Alp Ozgun	Turkey	Hospital for Sick Children
2006	G Samson Sujit Kumar	India	Hospital for Sick Children
2007	Yu-Cheng Chou	Taipei	Boston Children's Hospital
2007	Andrei Kuzmin	Russia	Texas Children's Hospital
2008	Rezida Galimova	Russia	Montefiore
2008	Wilhasto Suryaningtyas	Indonesia	Boston Children's Hospital
2009	Manish Kasliwal	India	Boston Children's Hospital
2009	Tania Leyva Mastrapa	Cuba	British Columbia Children's Hospital
2009	George Chater Cure	Columbia	Weill Cornell Medicine
2010	Waeel Ossama Hamouda	Egypt	Boston Children's Hospital
2010	Feda Makkiyah	Indonesia	UW Health American Family Children's Hospital
2011	Muhammad Zubair Tahir	Pakistan	British Columbia Children's Hospital
2011	Jose Efrain Garcia Reyes	Peru	Children's Hospital of Alabama /UAB
2011	Peter Kato Ssenyonga	South Africa	Hospital for Sick Children
2012	Dan Ochieng	Kenya	Boston Children's Hospital
2012	Tie (Victor) Fang	China	Boston Children's Hospital
2013	Rajendra Srestha	Napali-West China Hospital	Boston Children's Hospital
2013	Anna LoPresti	Spain	Nicklaus Children's Hospital
2014	Jose Montejo	Cuba	Nicklaus Children's Hospital
2014	George Alexiou	Greece	Boston Children's Hospital
2015	Marcos Costa	Brazil	Nationwide Children's Hospital
2015	Teddy Totimeh	Ghana	Nicklaus Children's Hospital
2016	Femi Owagbemi	Nigeria	Children's Medical Center Dallas
2016	Nshanth Sadashiva	India	British Columbia Children's Hospital
2017	Gilberto Gonzalez Lopez	Colombia	Barrow Neurological Institute at Phoenix Children's Hospital
2018	Astri Avianti	Indonesia	Wolfson Children's Hospital
2018	Sonal Jain	India	Nicklaus Children's Hospital
2019	Rajesh Nair	India	UW Health American Family Children's Hospital
2019	Eduoard Mazerand	France	Johns Hopkins Hospital

PEDIATRIC SECTION ANNUAL MEETING 2020: SALT LAKE CITY

Douglas Brockmeyer, MD, FAANS



The planning committee for the Pediatric Section Annual Meeting would like you to know that preparations continue, and we expect to host everyone December 1-4, 2020, at the Grand America Hotel. We are looking forward to seeing everyone and expect to have another meeting full of outstanding scientific content. That said, we are well aware that the COVID-19 situation is on-going and fluid. What we say now may be completely obsolete in the near future. Therefore, contingency plans are being discussed and will be in the wings if necessary. More to come.

Currently, our meeting highlights include:

- The Raimondi Lecture by world-famous climber/climate activist Conrad Anker on Dec. 2.
- The AAP SONS Lecture by Mike Dean, MD, a pediatrician and clinical research expert on Dec. 3.

With input from Section leaders, several modifications have been made regarding the content and structure of the meeting. These include:

- An all-day Pediatric Neurosurgery Fellow Boot Camp Dec. 1.
- A parallel afternoon of APP-only sessions Dec. 2 and 3.
- The inauguration of the Memorial Molly Hubbard, MD Award for the best fellow abstract, along with a block of fellow-only scientific talks.

Other exciting events are in the works, with details to be released in the near future.

During this challenging time, we wish, first and foremost, you and your family health and well-being. We will work to provide outstanding pediatric neurosurgical education, no matter what the venue.

Soon the meeting will be upon us ... and we look forward to hosting you in Salt Lake City!

NATIONAL MEETINGS SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT

Amy Lee, MD, FAANS | Raheel Ahmed, MD, FAANS | Rob Naftel, MD, FAANS | Todd Hankinson, MD, MBA, FAANS

The National Meetings Subcommittee is charged with helping to plan the Pediatric Section activities at the American Association of Neurological Surgeons (AANS) and Congress of Neurological Surgeons (CNS) annual meetings. We follow recent changes in the field to try to improve the quality and maintain the relevance of lectures and abstracts. The goal is to promote discussions that address timely topics and updates as well as consensus management from experts in the field.

Unlike our annual pediatric conference at which the majority of attendees are pediatric neurosurgeons, the AANS and CNS meetings also include a large number of general neurosurgeons, allied health professionals and trainees. As such, we have continued the trend of recent years to tailor Pediatric Section priorities so that they complement the

annual pediatric meeting. This is work in progress (feedback and recommendations are strongly encouraged).

As is well known, the 2020 AANS Annual meeting has been cancelled. There are currently discussions regarding whether some elements of the pediatric program will be translated into an online or virtual format. As of March 19, the details of this potential change remain in flux.

The initial program included two pediatric sessions:

1. A review on the recently updated guidelines for the management of severe traumatic brain injury; an update on outcomes following in utero closure of myelomeningocele; and special lectures regarding the utility of preoperative laboratory testing in pediatric neurosurgery and the CDC guidelines for

“National Meetings Subcommittee Report” Continued from Page 6

perioperative antibiotic prophylaxis. The Matson Lecture will be delivered by Professor Christopher Walsh, MD, PhD, a neurogeneticist from Boston Children’s Hospital.

2. A session with a point-counterpoint discussion regarding the use of the ETV Success Score as well as a special lecture on the utility of intraoperative MRI.

Please refer to the AANS website for updates regarding whether some elements of this planned content will be made available online or is deferred to a future meeting.

We want to thank everyone participating in the educational and scientific program.

AMERICAN ACADEMY OF PEDIATRICS SECTION ON NEUROLOGICAL SURGERY (SONS) REPORT

Andrew H. Jea, MD, FAANS

AAP/SONS welcomes 22 new members:

Alexandra Anderson

Elizabeth Armenis

Karl Balsara

Alexandra Beier

Maralee Bisono

Marie Chen

David Chesler

Jason Hauptman

Ashton Jackson

Shrayash Khare

Srilaxmi Kishor

Sarah Kleinknecht

Denise Le

Ana Martinez

Narayanan Nair

Jeffrey Raskin

Vijay Ravindra

Helly Shah

Rawan Sultan

Krystal Tomei

Yashira Torres

Andrew Wang

For more information about membership and the benefits of membership, please contact Sandi Lam, MD, FAANS, FAAP, at sandilam@gmail.com or Greg Albert, MD, FAANS, FAAP, at galbert2@uams.edu.

We are moving forward with our plans for a National Pediatric Neurosurgery Database (NPNDDB). An institutional review board (IRB) has been established at the coordinating site, and a pilot effort has been planned with members of the Executive Committee. If successful, NPNDDB will be offered to all members of SONS. For questions, please contact Andrew Jea, MD, FAANS, FAAP at ajea@iuhealth.org.

On the advocacy front, AAP/SONS hopes to endorse the ASPN’s white paper on transitional care. Furthermore, we reviewed a clinical report, “Health Supervision for Children with Down Syndrome,” put forth by the AAP Council on Genetics (COG). We have been asked for input by the AAP ICP10-CM Coordination and Maintenance Committee on developing codes for traumatic brain herniation. Lastly, our section has been working with Katie Orrico, JD; Shelly Timmons, MD, PhD, FAANS; and Ganesh Rao, MD, FAANS, on other advocacy issues, such as gun safety, affecting pediatric neurosurgery and our patients. To get involved in advocacy through AAP/SONS, contact David Bauer, MD, FAANS, FAAP, at dfbauer@me.com.

Check out our new website at <https://services.aap.org/en/community/aap-sections/neurological-surgery/>. The effort to overhaul the website was led by Jonathan Martin, MD, FAANS, FAAP (jmartin03@connecticutchildrens.org), the Education Subcommittee and Jennifer Gorlewski, MHA (jgorlewski@aap.org), our section manager.

GUIDELINES COMMITTEE REPORT

David Bauer, MD, MPH, FAANS

The Pediatric Section Guidelines Committee last met at the Pediatric Section annual meeting in December 2019. Current projects include an update of the 2014 Hydrocephalus Guidelines and creation of new guidelines on the surgical treatment of Chiari malformation.

The Hydrocephalus Guidelines update was produced by the lead authors of the original chapters. A literature search was performed, and a single article was produced detailing updates to the original document. Two significant updates were made. In chapter two, a level III recommendation was added stating neuro-endoscopic lavage is a feasible and safe option for the removal of intraventricular clots in post hemorrhagic hydrocephalus in premature infants, and it may lower the rate of shunt placement. In chapter seven, the recommendation for the use of antibiotic impregnated shunt systems was strengthened to level I, based on the recently published prospective, single-blinded, randomized BASICS trial from the U.K. We hope to publish the update this spring.

The Chiari malformation guideline working group was created last year. The CNS Guidelines Committee recently gave final approval for our PICO questions, and we hope to start working in the early summer, once resources are available from the CNS to begin the literature review. The document will be composed of three chapters, evaluating pre-operative work-up, surgical intervention and treatment of cranio-cervical junction pathology. Publication is slated for early 2021.

Our group continues to be involved with externally produced guidelines, including guidelines for the surgical treatment of epilepsy, coordinated with the ASSFN, AES and AAN. We are also involved in an update of the diagnosis of brain death guidelines, sponsored by the AAN.

Email Dr. David Bauer with any questions or if you are interested in joining future projects (dfbauer@mac.com).

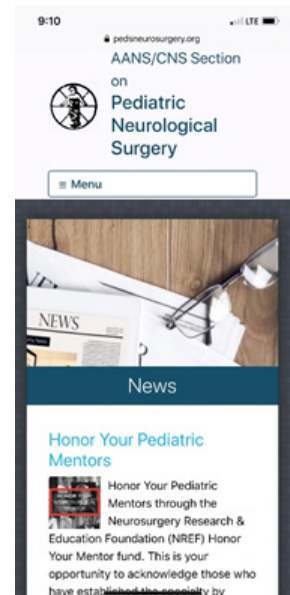
COMMUNICATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT

The AANS/CNS Pediatric Section website has undergone recent improvements:

- The website is now hosted by the AANS, but can still be reached at www.pedsneurosurgery.org. It is fully functional, with more features and content than before, a more contemporary design and mobile compatibility. Please, peruse the site!
- Maintenance is performed jointly between the section and AANS in-house staff, and the section is in control of all content. Maintenance costs, with this relationship, are low.
- Members are able to log in to the members-only section of the website using their AANS credentials. There are no longer separate Pediatrics Section credentials. The AANS will ensure accurate and updated user profiles through its mechanisms of paying dues.
- Keep in mind, job postings on the website are free and can be maintained until the position is filled. If you have a position available, send me the posting with contact information to place on the site.

The section now has an active social media presence on Twitter ([@PedsSection](https://twitter.com/PedsSection)), managed primarily by Carrie Muh, MD, FAANS. [Check it out.](#)

Reach out to Ben Kennedy, MD (kennedybc@email.chop.edu) if the website can be modified to help section members in any way.



ABPNS REPORT

John Kestle, MD, FAANS (ABPNS Chair) | Bermans J. Iskandar, MD, FAANS (ABPNS Secretary)

The Boards of Directors of the American Board of Pediatric Neurological Surgery (ABPNS) and American Board of Neurological Surgery (ABNS) continue to refine the new American Board of Medical Specialties (ABMS)-approved certification process for pediatric neurosurgeons. After completing the requirements, candidates receive a *Recognition of Focused Practice in Pediatric Neurosurgery* designation in collaboration with the ABNS or the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada (RCPSC). All neurosurgeons seeking certification or recertification in pediatric neurosurgery should refer to the [ABPNS](#) and [ABNS](#) websites for details. The following is a summary and important details:

Certification

There are several ways to seek a *Recognition of Focused Practice in Pediatric Neurosurgery* designation, depending on the candidate's status (refer to website for details), including:

- Those on the ABNS track who have just completed their ACPNF-approved fellowship.
- Those on the ABNS track who completed their Accreditation Council for Pediatric Neurosurgery Fellowships (ACPNF)-approved fellowship prior to July 2017.
- Those on the RCPSC track.
- Those already certified by the ABNS without the pediatric focused oral examination (Subsequent Joint Pathway).
- Those who have not completed an ACPNF-approved fellowship (Alternate Pathway).

Requirements for Recertification

Several changes have been made to the ABPNS recertification process:

- All certificates, past and present, have a 10-year time limit.
- As a result, participation in continuous certification (CC) is mandatory for all ABPNS-certified pediatric neurosurgeons planning to eventually recertify.

Continuous Certification and the New Adaptive Learning Tool

- The new adaptive learning tool is now available on the ABNS website with a CME option.
- Yearly completion of CC requirements, including both the general and pediatric learning tools, is required by **all pediatric neurosurgeons** who plan to maintain active certification, whether or not their ABNS certification is time limited. This can be completed online any time during the year.
- Completion of the general learning tool satisfies the annual ACS requirement for trauma-specific CMEs at level I trauma centers. There is extra cost for CME.
- We are still experiencing difficulties streamlining the learning tool process for RCPSC members. We will inform the membership once the learning tool website is ready for use by Canadian members.

New ABPNS Directors

- The ABPNS Board would like to welcome two new directors: Mark Proctor, MD, FAANS and Jodi Smith, MD, PhD, FAANS.

The ABPNS Pediatric Written Examination

- The ABPNS pediatric written examination is now given online.
- All ACPNF fellowship graduates are requested to take it upon completion of their fellowship.
- The exam will be given annually (instead of semi-annually), usually in June.
- The exam is given in the comfort of your own home or office, electronically proctored by the ABPNS.
- The fellowship directors should encourage their ACPNF fellows to apply for the exam and be ready to take it around the last month (June) of their fellowship.

*"ABPNS Report" Continued from Page 10***Notes on Pediatric Certification**

- ABNS certification requires 125 consecutive, major surgical cases within an 18-month time period, with the oldest case being no more than 24 months from the time of application and with a minimum of three months follow-up. The case log submitted must represent all locations of the practice of the applicant at the time of submission.
- A dual focused practice credential requires that 95 of the 125 cases be performed on patients 21 years of age or younger, over an 18-month period.
- If, at the time of ABNS certification, the candidate does not have enough pediatric cases (95 cases 21 or younger), he/she can still sit for the pediatric-focused ABNS oral exam, with plans to submit a new case log within five years (with 65 cases 21 or younger over a 12-month period) directly to the ABPNS.
- For Canadian diplomates and candidates of ABPNS certification that does not follow the standard ABNS pathway, refer to the ABPNS website.

Notes on Pediatric Re-certification

- For ABPNS re-certification, the requirement remains 65 consecutive cases in patients 21 years old or younger over a 12-month period.
- Although the 10-year certificate has been replaced by annual certification through CC, the **re-certification** written examination is no longer required. However, ABPNS diplomates are still required to apply for and submit a case log every 10 years, with a case log requirement of 65 major pediatric cases over 12 months.

For any additional information, please refer to the website (<https://abpns.org>), or contact our Administrator Kari Bollerman (kbollerman@abns.org) or Secretary Benny Iskandar, MD, FAANS (Iskandar@neurosurgery.wisc.edu).

TIM GEORGE: EULOGY FOR A FRIEND

Bermans J. Iskandar, MD, FAANS

We have lost yet another promising young pediatric neurosurgeon and another beautiful human being. First Sanjiv Bhatia, and now Tim George. It is time to step back and reflect.

I can try to enumerate all the honors that Tim amassed in his lifetime. In neurosurgery, for example, he shone as a surgeon and physician and helped put a new medical center on the map. In research, he was a major advocate and mediator of collaborations between researchers and clinicians to enhance our understanding of neural tube defects. I know, as I was with him at these meetings the past 15+ years. In car racing, he was on top of his game, ranked and respected nationally and achieving podium finishes.

Or, I can give you Tim's childhood story, with its ups and downs, accomplishments and tenacity; his academic prowess and basketball feats; his time as a DJ; and other seemingly important life-altering experiences. Or I can talk to you about the extensive charitable work he's done with the Austin Black Physicians Association and others. Or we can just reminisce on what a great person, doctor and friend he was, as was Sanjiv before him.

But, none of that seems important at a time like this. All that you, who didn't know Tim, need to know, and all that you, who knew him, need to remember is that he was kind. Not a bad word about anyone. Kind to his family, friends and patients. Whether in his typical brief smirk, his "hey, what's up?", or his lengthy attempts at giving meaningful advice, he was genuine and his behavior permeated kindness. And in turn, he was cherished. It's tough to be kind all the time. We lead stressful, busy lives in high-risk jobs, while making life and death decisions. But, Tim was always kind.

At his Memorial service, Tim's 16-year-old son, TJ, was leaving the podium after his older brother Kevin had finished delivering their joint statement. But, then he stopped, turned back, and said: "No! I have something to say." He got close to the microphone and stated emphatically, "What you really need to know is that my father was passionate about everything he did. Whether it's basketball, car racing, his patients or being with us. Especially, being with us."

Then, Tim's wife Roz spoke about his humility and mentioned journal entries that she found after his death. She mentioned she was taken aback when Tim bought a journal on their favorite trip to Martha's Vineyard, which was unlike him. It was one of those journals one finds at a bookstore, with a leading question on every page. She had not seen it again until the day before the memorial, when she was surprised once again because he had actually written in it, but not really by what he wrote: "What brings a smile to your face?" the journal asked. And his answer: "Getting a hug from my patients is something that always and immediately brings a smile to my face." Another question, which is particularly poignant, was: "What positive insight have you gained from a recent loss?" He answered: "People are the most important thing on earth. Love deeply."

Tim was quoted saying to a patient, "This is going to be like going on the world's longest rollercoaster ride, and you may not always see me, but hold on! I'm going to have a seat on that ride with you, and I'm not getting off." Tim's kindness gave hope to his patients, and the memory of his warm and affectionate personality will hopefully give solace and encouragement to his wife and children, and a smile to us, his friends, who are grateful for having known him.

It seems that our specialty in general attracts people who are kind, and particularly empathetic. And Tim was the perfect example. So, look around you, smile and be appreciative, because it's not the papers we publish, nor the awards we receive, not even the surgical feats that count. On our death bed, none of that matters. Instead, it's how much of ourselves we give



"Tim George: Eulogy for a Friend" Continued from Page 12

to our families, friends and patients. And at the next break, call your spouses and children, close family and friends, and tell them what they mean to you. And when you go home this weekend, embrace them and be appreciative for what you have. And when you see your first patient come Monday morning, spend an extra minute or two with them.

This is what Tim would want. So, let's make his death a reminder for us to really live by caring. And maybe then his legacy, and Sanjiv's legacy before him, will live on.

[Delivered at the AANS/CNS Pediatric Section Annual Meeting | Phoenix, Dec. 6, 2019]

MEMORIAL: MOLLY HUBBARD

Nathan R. Selden, MD, PhD, FAANS

Molly Elisabeth Hubbard was 33 years old when she died this January in an avalanche, while skiing at the Silver Mountain resort in Kellogg, Idaho. Dr. Hubbard was on a ski vacation from her work as the Campagna Fellow of Pediatric Neurosurgery at Oregon Health & Science University and Doernbecher Children's Hospital, where she had just signed on to join as a permanent member of the faculty.

Dr. Hubbard was born to Mary and John Hubbard in Burlington, Vermont, and grew into her deep love of the outdoors and the mountains in Cache Valley, Utah, north of Salt Lake City. She was an accomplished and expert skier, both skilled and knowledgeable in mountain safety. A diligent student, Dr. Hubbard thrived at Utah State University and then at the University of Vermont Medical School, roaming the halls of the hospital in which she had been born. At the University of Minnesota, she was a dedicated, highly talented, irrepressible resident who became a respected leader amongst her peers.

Dr. Hubbard began pediatric training at Oregon Health & Science University (OHSU) in July of 2019. Humble and generous, she was also an effortlessly talented neurosurgeon. Residents, faculty, nurses, pediatric patients and their families all gravitated to Molly's warm and genuine personality. Her considerable technical skills as a surgeon grew by leaps and bounds as she developed independence and her own operative style. She almost immediately earned the affection and absolute trust of Drs. Tina Sayama, Lissa Baird and myself. In December, we were delighted that she formally accepted a position as assistant professor at OHSU to begin in July 2020. In clear recognition of her talent and judgment, I extended full faculty clinical privileges in pediatric neurosurgery to Dr. Hubbard on January 1, just a week before her tragic and untimely death.

Molly was a superlative physician and surgeon, with exceptional judgment, skill and deep compassion for her patients. Most importantly, she was also an extraordinary person, who was loved and valued by all who knew her. At the University of Minnesota and OHSU, we are honored and touched that the AANS/CNS Section on Pediatric Neurological Surgery has decided to name an award for the best fellow abstract after Molly. Those of us who had the privilege to know and work with her will certainly celebrate her spirit and contributions for the rest of our careers in pediatric neurosurgery.



IN MEMORY: ROBIN HUMPHREYS 1937-2020

Peter Dirks, MD | James Drake, MD, FAANS, MSc | James Rutka, MD, PhD, FAANS | Abhaya Kulkarni, MD, FAANS | Michael Taylor, MD, PhD | George Ibrahim, MD | FAANS | Doug Cochrane, MD, FAANS(L)

We are very saddened to announce the passing of Robin Humphreys on March 18, 2020. Robin was professor of neurosurgery at the University of Toronto and chief of pediatric neurosurgery at the Hospital for Sick Children from 1996 until his retirement in 2003. He was a titan of pediatric neurosurgery and held the positions of president of the American Society of Pediatric Neurosurgery (1992-93) and the International Society of Pediatric Neurosurgery (1993-94) during the prime of his career. Following his retirement, he was a board member of the Hospital for Sick Children Foundation and carried on his work for his beloved SickKids for an additional five years. The AANS/CNS Section on Pediatric Neurological Surgery honored him in 2007 with the Franc D. Ingraham Distinguished Service Award.



Robin was a skilled surgeon, an astute clinician, a great teacher and a beloved mentor and friend to many. He was a superb public speaker and a disciplined administrator. He was a model of professionalism in our specialty. He warmly welcomed many visitors and trainees to SickKids and he and his wife, Judith, often generously extended that welcome to their home in Toronto. Many of us will remember the grace and skill he had to introduce speakers and to pay tributes to others, always seeing people in the best possible light. He imparted to many trainees an infectious enthusiasm for neurosurgery and inspired everyone to be a little better in all aspects of being a surgeon. Many of us close to him in neurosurgery, particularly his many residents and fellows, will remember what a dedicated teacher he was, displaying deep knowledge and offering up organized approaches to the many challenging problems in our discipline.

Robin loved to laugh, and he and Judith made you feel special when you were in their company. Robin lost his beloved Judith in January 2020, so they were not apart for long, as it was meant to be. Robin and Judith lived with the compassion and dignity to which we all can aspire. Robin adored his family and he will be deeply missed by his children Cameron and Jane, their spouses and his five grandchildren, as well as many friends. Robin will be missed, but his legacy is carried out by many in their daily work across the globe, and he will be fondly remembered.

AANS/CNS SECTION ON PEDIATRIC NEUROLOGICAL SURGERY OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES

OFFICERS	
Chair	
Mark D. Krieger, MD	(2019-2021)
Past Chair	
Mark R. Proctor, MD	(2019-2021)
Chair-Elect	
Benny Iskandar, MD	(2019-2021)
Secretary	
Matt Smyth, MD	(2019-2021)
Treasurer	
Richard C.E. Anderson	(2019-2021)
MEMBERS AT LARGE	
Eric Jackson	(2018-2020)
Jim Johnston	(2018-2020)
Elias Rizk	(2019-2021)
Ruth Bristol	(2019-2021)

STANDING COMMITTEES

Nominating Committee	
Mark Proctor, MD – Chair	(2019-2025, Chair 2019-2021)
Sarah Gaskill, MD – Chair	(2017-2023)
Bruce Kaufman, MD	(2015-2021)
Rules & Regulations Committee	
Brent O’Neill – Chair	(2019-2021)
Heather McCrae	(2019-2021)
Jen Strahle	(2019-2021)
Membership Committee	
Robert Bollo – Chair	(2019-2021)
Caitlin Hoffman	(2019-2021)
Krystl Tomei	(2019-2021)
Education Committee	
Susan Durham, MD – Chair	(2017-2019)
William Whitehead – Chair-elect	(2019-2021)

Pediatric Section Annual Meeting Subcommittee

Doug Brockmeyer – Chair	(2020 - Salt Lake City)
John Kestle	(2020 - Salt Lake City)
Robert Bollo	(2020 - Salt Lake City)
Samuel Cheshier	(2020 - Salt Lake City)
David Adelson	(2019 - Phoenix)
Ruth Bristol	(2019 - Phoenix)
Mark Krieger	ex officio Section Chair
Benny Iskandar	ex-officio Section Chair-elect
Richard Anderson	ex officio Section Treasurer

EDUCATION COMMITTEE SUBCOMMITTEES (ad hoc)

National Meetings Subcommittee	
Todd Hankinson, co-chair	(2019-2021)
Amy Lee, co-chair	(2019-2021)
Raheel Ahmed	(2019-2021)
Rob Naftel	(2019-2021)

Communications Subcommittee

Benjamin Kennedy, MD – Chair	(2019-2021)
Carrie Muh, social media	(2019-2021)
Tracy Flanders – Resident	(2019-2021)
Peter Madsen – Resident	(2019-2021)

Training Subcommittee (Traveling Fellowships and Training)

Andrew Jea, MD - Chair	(2019-2021)
Edward Ahn, MD, Vice Chair	(2019-2021)
Nathan Ranalli	(2019-2021)
Stephanie Greene	(2019-2021)

International Education Subcommittee

Phil Aldana, MD - Chair	(2019-2021)
Christopher Bonfield	(2019-2021)
Eylem Ocal	(2019-2021)

Examination Questions Subcommittee

Lance Governale, MD	(2018-2020)
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Research Committee

Cormac Maher, MD – Chair (2013-2019, Chair 2019-2021)
 Eric M. Thompson, MD (2015-2021)
 David Daniels (2017-2021)
 Scellig Stone (2019-2021)
 David Limbrick (2019-2021)

Industry Relations Committee

Alex Powers - Chair (2019-2021)
 Sam Browd (2019-2021)
 TBD (2019-2021)

REPRESENTATIVES AND LIAISONS

Liaison to the AANS Executive Committee

Mark Krieger, MD (2019-2021)

Liaison to the CNS Executive Committee

Benny Iskandar (2019-2021)

Liaison to the Washington Committee, AANS/CNS

Mark Proctor (2019-2021)

Liaison to the ABPNS

Rick Boop Current Chair of ABPNS

Liaison with ACPNF (Accreditation Council of Pediatric Neurosurgery Fellowships)

Cormac Maher Current Chair of ACPNF

Liaison with ISPN

Eylen Ocal (2017-2019)

Liaison with ASPN

John Ragheb Current President of ASPN

Liaison with AAP Section of Neurological Surgery (SONS)

Andrew Jea Current Chair of SONS

Liaison to the Joint Council of State Neurosurgical Societies

Jason Blatt (2019-2021)

Pediatric Section representatives on the Joint Guidelines Committee

David Bauer, MD, Chair (2017-2019)
 Brandon Roque, MD (2017-2020)
 Jon Pindrik (2019-2022)
 Taylor Abel (2019-2022)
 Greg Heuer (2019-2022)
 Sarah Jernigan (2019-2022)
 Laurie Ackerman (2019-2022)
 Howard Silberste (2019-2022)
 Alex Beier (2019-2022)

Liaison to the Coding and Reimbursement Committee, AANS

Curtis Rozelle (2017-2021)
 Jason Blatt (2019-2021)

Liaison to the Drugs and Devices Committee, AANS

Joseph Madsen, MD – Chair (2018-2021)
 Sam Browd, MD (2018-2021)

Liaison to the Young Neurosurgeons Committee

Benjamin C. Kennedy (2019-2020)
 Alt: Michael McDowell (resident)

Liaison to Quality/Outcomes groups

Brandon Rocque – Chair (2019-2021)
 Sandi Lam – former Chair (2017-2021)

Liaison to the NREF

Cormac Maher (2019-2021)
 David Limbrick (2019-2021)

Liaison to the American College of Osteopathic Surgery

Francesco Mangano, DO (2017-2019)

Liaison to Tumor Section

Amanda Saratsis, MD (2018-2021)