



E-Bulletin

issued quarterly

FEBRUARY 2016

Robert F. Heary, MD



43rd CSRS President

President's Message

Robert F. Heary, MD, assumed the office of the President of the Cervical Spine Research Society in December, 2015 at the conclusion of the organization's Annual Meeting in San Diego, California. Dr. Heary serves as the 43rd President of the CSRS.

He received his MD degree from the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine. He completed his post-graduate neurosurgical training at the UMDNJ-New Jersey Medical School in Newark, NJ and an orthopaedic spine fellowship at the Thomas Jefferson University in Philadelphia, PA.

Dr. Heary has been a member of CSRS since 2001 and has served the CSRS in many capacities including Chair of the Research Committee.

His professional appointments include current President-elect of the Lumbar Spine Research Society (LSRS) and Director-at-Large on the American Association of Neurological Surgeons (AANS) Board of Directors. He is a Past-Chair of the AANS/ CNS Spine Section in Neurosurgery.

He serves on the editorial boards of a number of journals and has been the past Chairman of the Journal of Neurosurgery: Spine Editorial Board. Currently, Dr. Heary is on the editorial boards of Neurosurgery, World Neurosurgery, Clinical Spine Surgery, the Journal of Spinal Cord Medicine, Neural Regeneration Research, and Spinal Deformity. He is the author of over 125 peer-reviewed journal articles and fifty-five book chapters. He has edited two textbooks on Spinal Deformity and has received numerous awards from national meetings for his research efforts.

His clinical interests are spinal cord injury research, revision spine surgery, spinal deformity surgery, and complex cervical spine surgery.

Dr. Heary resides in Summit, New Jersey with his wife and three children.



San Diego 2015

Congratulations and thanks to **Alan S. Hilibrand** on his successful Presidential year. Alan has a long history of dedicated service to CSRS as a committee member, committee chair and officer prior to his election to the Presidential line in 2012. His leadership skills, vision and commitment resulted in the launch of the CSRS Corporate Partner Program, the restructured Traveling Fellowship and a highly successful annual meeting in San Diego. We are grateful for all of his efforts and look forward to his continued involvement.



E-Bulletin

issued quarterly

FEBRUARY 2016

New Officers

Congratulations to new CSRS officers **Jeffrey C. Wang** and **Alexander Vaccaro** on their recent Board elections. Dr. Wang was elected to serve as CSRS Vice President and Dr. Vaccaro will fill the vacated office of Secretary.



The Federation of Spine Associations (FOSA) 2016 annual Specialty Day will take place during the AAOS annual meeting on Sat., March 5, 2016 in Orlando, FL.

Presentations from the American Spinal Injury Association (ASIA), The Cervical Spine Research Society (CSRS), the North American Spine Society (NASS), the Scoliosis Research Society (SRS) and the **International Society for the Advancement of Spine Surgery (ISASS)** will comprise the program. ISASS was invited for the first time this year as a **special guest society**. Hot topics and clinically relevant information in spine surgery along with the latest advances in spine care will be presented by a faculty of experts.

Lunchtime programming will consist of a series of complex case controversies across the spine disciplines. The meeting will offer 8 category I cme credits. The schedule and meeting details can be found online at:

http://www.csr.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/02/FOSA_AAOS_Prog_Final_V1.pdf

2016 Research Grant Information

Due to a generous donation from Medtronic, CSRS has received \$100,000 to fund a new 2016 Medtronic CSRS Research Grant. The objective of this new grant will be to fund the highest quality proposals that are clinically relevant to the cervical spine and likely to have the greatest impact on cervical spine research.

These funds are earmarked for a twelve to twenty-four month clinical or translation type proposal. The Research Committee is looking for submissions with an interesting and innovative hypothesis that is well designed and supported by a strong research team. Note one member of the research team must be an Active Member of CSRS North America and have a substantive role on the project.

Find additional information on this new grant as well as all of the 2016 funding opportunities available at <http://www.csr.org/research/grants/>. Here you will find complete grant descriptions, instructions for submission and an on-line application. Direct your questions to csr@aaos.org or 847 698-1628.



E-Bulletin

issued quarterly

FEBRUARY 2016

CSRS 2015 Meeting Recap



**Alan Hilibrand and
son Ari Hilibrand**



As the outgoing CSRS President, I would like to start my final message by offering my sincere congratulations to **Bob Heary** as he takes over the reins of CSRS leadership as the 2016 President. I would also like to congratulate the 2015 Instructional Course and Annual Meeting Program Chairs, **Lou Jenis, Zoher Ghogawala** and **Rick Sasso**. The San Diego meeting was the second-best attended annual meeting in CSRS history, which is a tribute to the outstanding program assembled by our ICL and Program Chairs. I am also very grateful to Dr. Charles Krauthammer for coming to San Diego and speaking to our group. His personal story continues to inspire me in treating patients who have sustained spinal cord injuries, and his commentary on Washington politics continues to inform and entertain me as the 2016 Presidential election unfolds.

2015 saw a number of new activities and initiatives that from my perspective have enhanced our Society's visibility and long-term viability. A variety of CSRS Board members accompanied me on four visits to our industry partners in an effort to facilitate communication and learn how to better align a pathway for future collaboration. Even though the direction of each meeting varied, it was gratifying to learn that our educational efforts are highly regarded and that each company was enthusiastic about maintaining an on-going relationship. I would like to thank Medtronic for their generous donation to research with a \$100,000 gift in support of a named research grant and a \$50,000 grant to the Special Projects Committee as well as DePuy for their support of the 2015 Instructional Course and a commitment to the Traveling Fellowship program.

Throughout the year we also cultivated positive relationships with many other volunteer medical organizations. In March 2015 we joined a number of other spine societies for a "Spine Summit" meeting at the Congress of Neurological Surgeons meeting in Arizona. The goal of the summit was to strengthen the spine specialty around the world. The 8th annual CSRS PASE hands on cadaver workshop in St Louis was held in April under the direction of Ron Lehman. In May, members of the CSRS participated in a symposium on complex cervical spine surgery at the Global Spine Congress in Argentina, and in November we organized a similar symposium in collaboration with the Chinese Orthopaedic Association. Each of these activities showcased the exceptional willingness of CSRS members to share their knowledge and expertise to foster a greater understanding of cervical spine injury and disease.

The past year also saw the successful launch of our internationally-collaborative CSRS Traveling Fellowship. I would like to thank all of the members in Toronto, Charlotte, New York, and Philadelphia who hosted them, as well as **Alex Vaccaro** for successfully launching the program in 2015.

I would also like to extend my heartfelt thanks to all of the members of our many committees who work hard throughout the year to advance the goals of their respective groups on behalf of the CSRS mission. Their activities fuel our organization and contribute to its reputation of excellence. And finally, for the last time, I would like to thank all of you, the members of the CSRS, for granting me the opportunity and honor to serve this great society!

Jeff Wang, Alan Hilibrand and Dan Riew





E-Bulletin

issued quarterly

FEBRUARY 2016

NEW Members

Welcome New Members: The Board of Directors and general membership approved ten applicants as Active CSRS members. We welcome them and encourage them to become involved in CSRS activities. Total number of Active members is now 220. The cap was recently increased to no more than \$250.

- **Erica F. Bisson, MD** – Salt Lake City, UT
- **Christopher M. Bono, MD** – Boston, MA
- **Stuart H. Hershman, MD** – Fort Lauderdale, FL
- **Sukhvinder K. Kalsi-Ryan, PhD** – Toronto, ON, Canada
- **Han-Jo Kim, MD** – New York, NY
- **Avinash G. Patwardhan, PhD** – Wheaton, IL
- **Daniel M. Sciubba, MD** – Baltimore, MD
- **W. Ryan Spiker, MD** – Salt Lake City, UT
- **Brian W. Su, MD** – Larkspur, CA
- **Lukas P. Zebala, MD** – Saint Louis, MO

Four Corresponding membership applicants were also approved. There is no cap on the number of Corresponding members.

- **Takeo Furuya, MD, PhD** – Chiba-Ken, Japan
- **Seung-Jae Hyun, MD, PhD** – Seongnam, Gyeonggi, Republic of Korea
- **Sung Shik Kang, MD** – Sunghnam, Republic of Korea
- **Hiroshi Miyamoto, MD** – Kobe, Japan

WANTED! Membership Applications

If you know of friends or colleagues interested in the Society, please refer them to the CSRS website for membership criteria and application information.

Deadline for member applications is September 15.

Visit the [website for more information](#). **Tim Garvey** is this year's membership chair.



E-Bulletin

issued quarterly

FEBRUARY 2016

SAVE THE DATE!

21st Instructional Course
&

44th Annual Meeting
Westin Harbour Castle

In Toronto, Ontario, Canada
November 30-December 3, 2016

Renew your passport today.



Online abstract submission website to open up this spring.

CSRS Asia Pacific Section



7th Annual Meeting, April 21 to 23, 2016 – Seoul, Korea.
For more information, please visit the [CSRS Asia Pacific Website](#).

Jin Sup Yeom, MD, PhD is the current Asia Pacific President from The Republic of Korea.



CSRS European Section

32nd Annual Meeting of Cervical Spine Research Society European Section (CSRS-ES), May 11-13, 2016, at the Corinthia Hotel in Prague, Czech Republic
For more information, please visit the [CSRS-ES website](#).



Bengt I. Lind, MD, PhD, from Gothenburg (Göteborg), Sweden is the current European Section President.





E-Bulletin

issued quarterly

FEBRUARY 2016

By-Laws Amendment

A By Laws amendment allowing individuals from South America to apply for Active membership was passed during the San Diego meeting. Applicants can choose to apply for Active or Corresponding membership if they have no desire to be in leadership position. The revised by laws are posted on [our website](#).

2017 CSRS Traveling Fellowship

Europe will be the site of the 2017 Traveling Fellowship. Candidates must be under 45 years of age and reside in either North or South America only.

Applications now available! online at:
<https://form.jotform.com/51607206259151>

Deadline for applications is Sept 1, 2016.

Rick Sasso is current Fellowship Chair.



Instructional Course Videos

CSRS has captured the 2015 Instructional Course presentation content from Session I on CERVICAL TRAUMA / TUMOR and Session II on CERVICAL DEFORMITY. The video links will be posted on the Members Only site shortly. You will be able to view each presentation individually after you log on to the members only area at <http://spec.csrs.org/members/services/services.cfm>

Alan Hilibrand and family

