President’s Message

As the 43rd President of the CSRS, I am honored to have been elected and to serve all of you and this great organization. I gratefully acknowledge all of the preceding Presidents who have provided much thoughtful leadership and remarkable examples of commitment. I also recognize all of the Committee Chairs and Committee members who spend countless hours devoted to reviewing and grading abstracts, membership applications, research protocols, fundraising, program development, etc. They clearly provide the formidable infrastructure which fuels the society’s success.

I recently had the privilege of attending both the CSRS Asia Pacific Section’s 7th Annual Meeting in April in Seoul, Korea as well as the CSRS European Section’s 32nd Annual Meeting in May in Prague. Both events were academically superb as well as highly enjoyable. I acknowledge their respective Presidents, Jin Sup Yeom and Bengt Lind for their gracious hospitality and kindness and congratulate both new Presidents, Masatoshi Sumi, MD, PhD and Ronald H. M. A. Bartels, MD, PhD.

For 2016, we have received a record number of preliminary research funding protocols or “Letters of Intent”. $350,000 in research funding is available this year thanks to the generous commitment of our industry partners in support of high quality peer reviewed research.

We also had a very strong response to our “call for abstracts” for the December meeting in Toronto. Over 525 submissions were received which are now under review by the Program Committee.

I am pleased that there is such strong interest in our organization and multiple initiatives and encourage each of you to suggest CSRS meeting attendance to your associates and colleagues as well as spine residents and fellows as a mechanism for future involvement.

Please save the dates of Nov 30 – Dec 3, 2016 to come to Toronto to attend the CSRS meeting and activities that are currently being planned. The hotel venue, the Westin Harbour Castle, is ideally located on the lake-front with easy access to restaurants, shopping, culture and entertainment. Lou Jenis and Alpesh Patel are working with their committees on firming up the education. Information will be posted on the CSRS website when it becomes available.

Have a good summer and I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible in Toronto.
"Sister Organizations"

Seoul, Korea was the location of the CSRS Asia Pacific Section 7th Annual Meeting under the direction of Professor Jin Sup Yeom as President. The meeting took place April 21-23. We congratulate Professor Masatoshi Sumi as he becomes the 8th President to lead the organization and we acknowledge Dr. Yeom for his leadership.

Congratulations to Bengt Lind on his successful year as President of the CSRS European Section. Dr. Lind culminated his Presidential year at the organizations’ annual meeting May 11 – 13, 2016 at the Corinthia Hotel in Prague, Czech Republic.

We wish much success to Dr. Ronald Bartels as the new European Section President.

Bob Heary attended and participated in both meetings. Dates and locations for the 2017 Asia Pacific and European Section meetings are listed below.

2017 Asia Pacific Section Annual Meeting March 9—11 in Kobe, Japan

2017 European Section Meeting May 24 – 26 in Salzburg, Austria
Continuing Medical Education

2016 Instructional Course

Please consider signing up to present a topic at the 21st CSRS Instructional Course in Toronto.

ICL Chair Louis Jenis and his committee consisting of Samuel Cho, Michael Daubs, Darren Lebl and Praveen Mummaneni have suggested that the format of this year’s program be case-based and patient focused. We are seeking faculty to present on their experience and approaches to various cervical spine problems while also providing evidence for decision-making. We encourage each speaker to present cases and videos where appropriate within their discussion to enhance the educational experience for all attending this program.

Below is the link to the ICL 2016 sign-up. Please choose the topic(s) that interests you and hit the “done” button at the bottom of the survey.

https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2016ICLsignup

The Sign Up will be available only until June 6, 2016, so don’t delay!!!

2016 Annual Meeting

Over 500 annual meeting abstract submissions were received for our 44th Annual Meeting which will be held Dec 1 – 3, 2016 in Toronto, Ontario, Canada. Many thanks to all of you who accessed the site and successfully submitted!!! The 2016 Program Committee under the direction of Alpesh Patel as Program Chair is currently reviewing and grading the submissions. As in the past the program will include a diverse spectrum of cervical topics designed to enhance your competency and meet your rapidly changing needs.

Meeting updates will be posted on the CSRS website as they become available. For now, please be certain to save the dates and renew your Passport for Canadian travel.
The dates of May 15 through May 24, 2017 have been identified for the second CSRS International Traveling Fellowship. The European Section will be handling arrangements for travel in Europe which will culminate in Salzburg at the 2017 European Section Annual Meeting. Specific travel information will be communicated as the details become available.

The sites and hosts include:

- Nürnberg, Germany; hosted by Prof Heiko Koller
- Madrid, Spain; hosted by Prof Jose Casimitjana
- Paris, France; hosted by Prof Philippe Bancel
- Stockholm/Uppsala, Sweden; hosted by Prof Claes Olerud

Two spine surgeons from each of the respective CSRS organizations will travel to the four sites in Europe. The goal of the fellowship is to expose young spine surgeons to other institutions and individuals with an expertise in the cervical spine to broaden their experience and foster their academic career. The above cities offer an ideal combination of educational and cultural components as well as geographically interesting locals.

Sincere thanks to Professors Koller, Casimitjana, Bancel and Olerud for their commitment of time and hospitality.

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.

53 Letter of Intent research protocols were received. This is a record high number of submissions for the 2016 research funding cycle. The funding budget for 2016 is $350,000. We are grateful to Medtronic for their support of the new “Medtronic CSRS Named Grant. Thank you to everyone who submitted. The LOI breakdown includes:

- 14 - Medtronic applications,
- 12 - 21st Century applications,
- 19 - Seed Starter applications
- 8 - Resident Fellow applications

Manuscript invitations will be sent in June.

Research Award Papers are reviewed after the annual meeting podium presentations have been finalized.

Sincere thanks to all of our individual and corporate donors who have donated to the CSRS 21st Century Research & Education fund over the years. Please consider an on-line donation to support funding of high quality peer reviewed research protocols.

Log-in and click on the donation link at: http://ebus.csrs.org/ProductDetails.aspx?productld=324
Member applications deadline is September 15.

If you have colleagues or friends at your institutions or practices, please consider recommending them for CSRS membership. The criteria is listed below.

**Active Membership Criteria:**
1. Demonstrated interest in the cervical spine.
2. Advanced degree for nonclinical specialists or Board Certification for clinical specialists.
3. Sponsor and two letters of recommendation, all of which must be members of the Cervical Spine Research Society (three letters total).
4. Attendance of at least one of the CSRS US Section Annual Meetings prior to consideration of your application.

Author or co-author on a paper or poster presented at one US Section CSRS Annual Meeting prior to consideration of your application.

**Corresponding Membership Criteria:**
1. Practice outside the United States, Canada and South America.
2. Demonstrated interest in the cervical spine.
3. Advanced degree for nonclinical specialists or Board Certification for clinical specialists.
4. Sponsor and two letters of recommendation, all of which must be members of the Cervical Spine Research Society (three letters total).

Attendance of at least one of the CSRS US Section Annual Meetings prior to consideration of your application.

*Presentation of a paper at an Annual Meeting is not a pre-requisite for Corresponding membership consideration.*

Active Membership is capped at 250 people.

There is no limit for Corresponding Membership.

Visit the [website for more information.](#)

**Tim Garvey** is this year’s membership chair.
Submit Your Officer Nominations

Nominations are currently being accepted for the office of Vice-President. Current Officers include, Robert F. Heary, MD, President, Darrel S. Brodke, MD, President Elect, Jeffrey C. Wang, MD, Vice President, Christopher I. Shaffrey, MD, Treasurer and Alex Vaccaro, MD, Secretary.

The subject of nominee attributes was discussed at the recent CSRS Spring Board Meeting. Criteria considered important for nominees include service as an Executive Committee Officer (Treasurer and Secretary), Committee Chair and Committee Member. Participation as annual meeting and instructional course faculty, annual meeting podium or poster presentations, as well as seniority and neurosurgical discipline are all valuable contributions.

E-mail your nominations to csrs@aaos.org

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 are posted on the Members Only site. You have the ability to view each presentation individually after logging on to the members only area at http://spec.csrs.org/members/services/services.cfm

SAVE THE DATE!

21st Instructional Course and 44th Annual Meeting
Westin Harbour Castle Toronto, Ontario, Canada
Nov 30 - Dec 3, 2016

Renew your passport today.