

CERVICAL SPINE RESEARCH SOCIETY



Darrel Brodke Reflects on Past Presidency

As outgoing CSRS President, I would like to offer sincere congratulations to Jeff Wang as he assumes his role as President. In addition, congratulations to Rick Sasso, Vice President; Alex Ghanaymen, Treasurer; and James Harrop, Secretary, in their new roles. I'm looking forward to seeing the impact your leadership team will make on CSRS and the field this year.

During my tenure, it was a year of transition for CSRS staffing. After nearly 20 years of service, Executive Director Peggy Wlezien and Coordinator Carol Swift retired. We welcomed Kerri Mink as new Executive Director and promoted Lisa DuShane to the Coordinator role. We are lucky to have them both and I am confident that CSRS is in great hands.

An exciting new development this year, that has taken the focus of the executive and publications committees, is a new, formalized relationship with the journal *Clinical Spine Surgery*. CSS will be the official journal of CSRS, will be available to all members, and will publish one CSRS branded focus



issue each year that will highlight the CSRS Annual Meeting. This will bring significant benefits and visibility to our Society over the years to come.

CSRS had another great year of international collaboration. In the Spring, we continued our ongoing sponsorship of the cadaver workshop at PASE in St Louis. This successful course included two outstanding guest lecturers -- Giuseppe Barbagallo from Italy, and Asdrubal Falavigna, from Brazil. In early May, we ran a highly successful CSRS Symposium at the Global Spine Congress, shared with CSRS-EU. The well-attended and lauded

In This Issue:

- Jeffrey Wang Becomes CSRS 45th President
- CSRS Elects New Officers
- Welcome New Members
- CSRS Adds Membership Category
- CSRS Co-Sponsors Cadaver Course
- We Need Your Participation
- Recap of 2017 Meetings
- A Look Ahead at 2018 Meetings
- Research Grant Funding LOI Submission Open
- Traveling Fellowship Applications Accepted in April
- CSRS Asia Pacific and Europe 2018 Meetings

program in Milan focused on complications in cervical spine surgery. Finally, we are in the final planning stages with CAOS and CSRS-AP to coordinate a CSRS educational event in China, planned for June 2018 and yearly thereafter.

We continue to focus on our research mission with support of a variety of grants. This year, we again received a \$100,000 gift from Medtronic for a named research grant, which in

addition to our own planned support, allowed us to provide a total up to \$350,000 in research grants. Thank you to Medtronic for their continued support. Also, thank you to Zo Ghogawala and the research committee for their hard work vetting the LOIs and applications.

The culmination of a very productive year was our Annual Meeting and

ICL. I want to personally thank and acknowledge an outstanding job by Lou Jenis as Annual Meeting Program Director, and Mike Daubs as ICL Program Director, and extend special thanks to Frank Eismont, our Local Host. Last but certainly not least, thank you to Col. Lynn Scheel for his outstanding Henry Bohlman Presidential Guest lecture on leadership and safety – parallels

between spine surgeons and fighter pilots.

It was an excellent year and most memorable year, and an honor to serve as your President.

Thank you,

Darrel S. Brodke, MD

Jeffrey Wang Becomes CSRS 45th President

Jeffrey C. Wang assumed the role of the CSRS 45th President on the final day of the 2017 Annual Meeting.

Dr. Wang has been a CSRS member for more than 15 years. Since 2001, he has been active in numerous CSRS committees – program, nominating, instructional course, editorial, research and awards, and membership. He is Professor of Orthopaedic Surgery and Neurosurgery at the Keck School of Medicine of USC, and Co-Director of the USC Spine Center, with expertise in the surgical treatment of neck and back disorders.

Dr. Wang received his MD from the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine, Pittsburgh, PA; completed his residency in Orthopaedic Surgery, Dept. of Orthopaedic

Surgery, University of California, Los Angeles, CA; and completed a Fellowship in Spine Surgery with Henry H. Bohlman, MD, Dept. of Orthopaedic Surgery, Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, OH. He is currently Vice President, North American Spine Society; Vice Chair, Leadership Fellowships Committee, American Orthopaedic Association; Board Member, AO Foundation; Membership Committee, Interurban Orthopaedic Society; and a member of the AAOS Adult Spine Evaluation Subcommittee for AAOS.

Dr. Wang is co-author of more than 400 peer-reviewed publications, as well as 46 book chapters. He has numerous published abstracts and presentations.

Congratulations Dr. Wang!

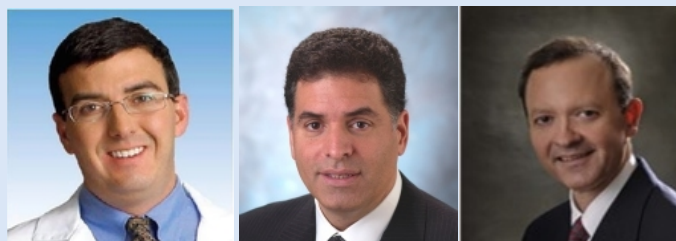


Jeffrey Wang (right) becomes CSRS 45th President, succeeding Darrel Brodke (left).

CSRS Elects New Officers

The Cervical Spine Research Society elected new officers for 2017-2018 at the Annual Meeting in Hollywood, FL.

The new officers are James Harrop, Secretary, and Alexander J. Ghanayem, Treasurer. Rick Sasso has moved from Secretary to Vice President. Thank you to Christopher Shaffrey, who ends his term as CSRS Treasurer.



CSRS new officers are (left to right): James Harrop, Secretary, Alexander Ghanayem, Treasurer, and Rick Sasso, Vice President

Welcome CSRS New Members

Thank you to Tim Garvey and his membership committee – Andrew Dailey, Ronald Lehman, Thomas Mroz, and Ahmad Nassr – for reviewing the 2017 membership applications. A total of 18 Active member and 6 Corresponding applications were reviewed. CSRS welcomes the following new members to the Society:

Active Members

Kevin C. Baker, PhD

Jesse E. Bible, MD, MHS
 Matthew W. Colman, MD
 Richard A. Hynes, MD
 Safdar N. Khan, MD
 Craig A. Kuhns, MD
 Justin W. Miller, MD
 Ra’Kerry Kahlil Rahman, MD
 Wilson Z. Ray, MD
 Adam L. Shimer, MD
 John K. Starr, MD
 Michael P. Stauff, MD
 Suzanne A. Tharin, MD

Corresponding Members

Jae Hwan Cho, MD
 Bangping Qian, MD
 Masahi Uehara, MD
 Suzuki Hidenori, MD
 Jin Hoon Park, MD
 So Kato, MD

Applications are due **September 15** for the CSRS 2018 membership cycle.

CSRS Adds Candidate Membership Category

At the Members Business Lunch during the 2017 CSRS Annual Meeting, members voted in favor of a Bylaws change to add a new Candidate Membership category. Candidate Members will be individuals from North and South America who show an active interest in disorders of the cervical spine.

Individuals shall be within 5 years of completing their training program and be Board eligible. Upon completion of Board Certification, Candidate Members are required to apply for Active Membership. Candidate members have no voting rights and are not eligible to hold office.

This new category addresses the gap that exists from the time a surgeon completes his or her training and the time he/she becomes Board Certified. The new membership category takes effect for the 2018 membership cycle.

CSRS Co-Sponsors 11th Annual Hands-on Cadaver Course

CSRS is co-sponsoring the 11th annual Advance Techniques in Cervical Spine Decompression & Stabilization Hands-On Cadaver course, **April 11-14, 2018** in St. Louis, MO at St. Louis University.

Course directors are Rick Sasso and Vincent Traynelis, with guest speakers Giuseppe Barbagallow and Asdrubal Falavigna. For additional information, click [here](#).

CSRS Needs Your Participation

Member participation is important to the success of the CSRS. The Society has more than 20 committees and we need your help.

A survey was emailed in January to Active Members soliciting participation in various committees. Thank you to those who participated. If you were not selected for a committee in 2018, we will add your name to a list for future opportunities.

As a reminder, to retain Active Membership in the CSRS, members are required at least once every four years to demonstrate active participation in the affairs of the Society through one or more of the following activities:

- Participating on a committee
- Submitting a paper for presentation at a scientific seminar
- Participating as faculty in an Instructional Course
- Serving as a moderator or presenter at a scientific seminar of the US Section
- Participating in Society research and data collection studies
- Attending a US Section Annual Meeting.

Thank you to all those volunteers who rotated off committees in 2017 for your time and effort.

Recap of 2017 Instructional Course and Annual Meeting

Instructional Course

The one-day Instructional Course on Wednesday, November 29, kicked off the 2017 Annual Meeting, Hollywood, FL, with more than 150 attendees. Program Chair Michael Daubs and committee members Samuel Cho, Darren Lebl, Praveen Mummaneni, and Clinton Devin, put together a program which combined debate and case presentations on topics such as cervical trauma, degenerative cervical disorders, tumor and deformity, and master surgical techniques.

Annual Meeting

More than 500 scientific attendees and 100 industry representatives attended the 2017 CSRS Annual Meeting, November 30-December 2. Scientific attendees represented 21 countries and 42 states. Program content consisted of 94 podium presentations, including 65 5-minute presentations and 29 fast-paced, 2-minute highlight posters. There were an additional 59 E-Posters.

Thank you to Program Chair Louis Jenis for putting together a successful program, and to the program committee for all their time and effort grading almost 500 abstract submissions.

The program featured sessions on myelopathy, motion preservation, cervical deformity, trauma, anterior and posterior surgery, spinal cord, and complications. For the second year in a row, there were six concurrent topic-based industry sponsored workshops on Thursday afternoon. These educational forums are designed to be an innovative approach to improving interaction between physician attendees and corporate sponsors. The workshops had terrific attendance and will be offered again in 2018.

The 8th Annual Henry H. Bohlman Presidential Guest Lecture was presented by Col. Lynn Scheel, USAF. Col. Scheel is the Commander, Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps. Detachment 200 and Professor of Aerospace Studies at Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN. Col. Scheel spoke on the common threads between surgery and military aviation.

Symposia included How the Experts Deal with Adverse Events – Prevention, Identification and Management; and 8 Unique Tips and Pearls for Cervical Spine Surgeons. Darrel Brodke's Presidential Address, the Research Session featuring updates on the previous year's grant winners and announcement of the 2017 winners, an update on the CSRS 2017

2017 Annual Meeting By the Numbers

500+ Scientific Attendees

100+ Industry Representatives

21 Countries Represented

42 States Represented

471 Submitted Abstracts

94 Podium Presentations

59 E-Posters

18 AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™

Traveling Fellowship, and the Introduction of incoming CSRS President Jeffrey Wang, completed the meeting.



CSRS was honored to host Asia Pacific Representative Kuniyoshi Abumi of Sapporo, Japan, and European President Ronald HMA Bartels of the Netherlands.

Many thanks to everyone involved the 2017 Instructional Course and Annual Meeting. Faculty, moderators, program committees, and industry representatives all contributed to the success of the meeting.



Research Chair Zhoher Ghogawala congratulates Anna Chee on her CSRS research grant during the Research Session.

CSRS Looks Ahead to 2018 Annual Meeting

Housing link now live

CSRS returns to The Phoenician Resort in Scottsdale, AZ for the 2018 Annual Meeting. The Instructional Course will be held on December 5, and the Annual Meeting December 6-8. Program Chairs for 2018 are Christopher Ames and Robert Hart.

The reservation link to The Phoenician is now live and can be found [here](#). Registration opens May 15. The CSRS room block sold out in 2017, so you are encouraged to make your reservations early. The group rate of \$255 (plus tax) for the nights of December 2 – 8, is valid through November 5.

PLEASE NOTE: There is a seven (7) day cancellation requirement to avoid penalty. Any cancellations made within the 7 days prior to arrival will incur a charge of one night's room and tax



The Phoenician, Scottsdale, AZ, is the venue for the CSRS 2018 Instructional Course and Annual Meeting.

2018 Research Grant Submission Now Open

CSRS is offering grant funding for four categories of research protocols including a Medtronic CSRS Named Research Grant. A total of \$350,000 is budgeted. All grant applications undergo a rigorous peer review process by the CSRS Research Committee. Select LOIs are invited to submit a formal grant application.

- \$100,000 – Medtronic CSRS Named Grant
- \$75,000– 21st Century Grant
- \$25,000 – Seed Starter Grant
- \$15,000 – Resident/Fellow Grant

In 2017, 56 Letters of Intent were received and a total of seven were funded across the four grant categories. The submission deadline is **March 15, 2018** for Letters of Intent. For additional information and the application, click [here](#).

Save the Date for FOSA Specialty Day

Anchor your AAOS Annual Meeting educational experience by adding FOSA Specialty Day to your registration. FOSA Specialty Day will be held on **Saturday, March 10**, Room 271, Morial Convention Center, New Orleans, LA.

The program offers a maximum of **7 AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™**. For the final program, click [here](#).



Traveling Fellowship Applications Accepted April 2018

Applications for the 2019 CSRS Traveling Fellowship will be accepted beginning April 2018. The 2019 program will be organized by the CSRS Asia Pacific Section. Requirements include Board Certification, attendance at the CSRS NA 2019 meeting, under the age of 45, reside in North or South America, two sponsor letters from CSRS NA members, letter of support from department chief, current CV,

and online application. The link to the application will be posted on the [CSRS website](#) in April. The application deadline is **September 1, 2018**. The CSRS Traveling Fellowship Committee, chaired by John Rhee, will determine the two fellows representing CSRS NA.

The goal of the CSRS 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. Two individuals are chosen from each of the CSRS societies – North America, Asia Pacific, and Europe.

CSRS Asia Pacific Section



9th Annual Meeting
March 22-24, 2018
New Dehli, India
For more information
click [here](#).

CSRS European Section



34th Annual Meeting
May 9-11, 2018
Lisbon, Portugal
For more information
click [here](#).

CSRS 2018 Deadlines

- 2018 Research Grant LOI Submission Open: Open Now
- Housing Link Open for the 2018 CSRS Meetings, The Phoenician: Open Now
- Online Abstract Submission Opens: March 1
- 2018 Research Grant LOI Submission Closes: March 15
- Online Application Submission Opens for CSRS Traveling Fellowship: April 16
- Abstract Submission Closes: April 24, 11:59 pm central
- Registration Open for CSRS Annual Meetings: May 15
- Online Application Submission Closes for CSRS Traveling Fellowship: September 1
- Housing Block Closes for CSRS 2018 Meetings: November 5
- Online Registration Closes for 2018 CSRS Meetings: November 9

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