

# CERVICAL SPINE RESEARCH SOCIETY



## President's Message

It is truly an honor to serve you as your 45<sup>th</sup> CSRS President. I am extremely privileged to stand in the company of the preceding CSRS Presidents and all their contributions to the field of cervical spine. I am also grateful to all of you for your interest, commitment and involvement in CSRS activities. This year's activities are well under way – 2018 is shaping up to be a busy year.

In February, we opened the call for Letters of Intent for our research grant program. We received over 50 abbreviated submissions competing for the \$350,000 dollars in research funding available this year.

We are very grateful to Medtronic for their continued support of the \$100,000 Medtronic CSRS Named Grant, which has received another year of funding. As the premier organization in the field of basic and clinical research of the cervical spine, we greatly appreciate Medtronic's vision and commitment which speaks directly to the reputation our Society has achieved in terms of funding high level research.

Zoher Ghogawala continues as Research Chair through next

year. His subcommittee chairs this year include Cliff Tribus, Brandon Lawrence and Paul Arnold. A special thank you to Scott Daffner for serving as Chair of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Grant Subcommittee. Thus far, these subcommittees are reviewing full manuscript submissions from those selected to move on to the next stage of review. Special thanks to all the committee members for keeping the process moving on schedule.

I am pleased to report that we received more than 525 scientific abstracts submitted for presentation at the 2018 annual meeting in Scottsdale, Arizona. The Scientific Program Committee, under the direction of Chris Ames and Bob Hart, has graded abstracts and the Committee Co-Chairs are working on putting together what will certainly be another amazing program. Many thanks to all who submitted abstracts and to the hard work of the Program Committee.

This year's Annual Meeting brings us back to Scottsdale, Arizona and The Phoenician Resort. CSRS most recently was in Scottsdale in 2011 and we expect it to be another well

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attended event. Set in the beautiful Sonoran Desert, bordered by Phoenix to the west, Scottsdale is bursting with unique attractions and invigorating outdoor activities. The

resort is just 9 miles away from Sky Harbor International Airport (PHX).

The meeting will once again be preceded by the one-day Instructional Course under the direction of Mike Daubs as Program

Chair. The program will be available in August.

Stay tuned for what will surely be another great year of speakers.

Please save the dates of Dec. 5 through 8 to attend the CSRS 23<sup>rd</sup> Instructional Course and 46<sup>th</sup> Annual

Meeting in Scottsdale, Arizona. I hope to see all of you there.

Thank you,



Jeffrey C. Wang, MD

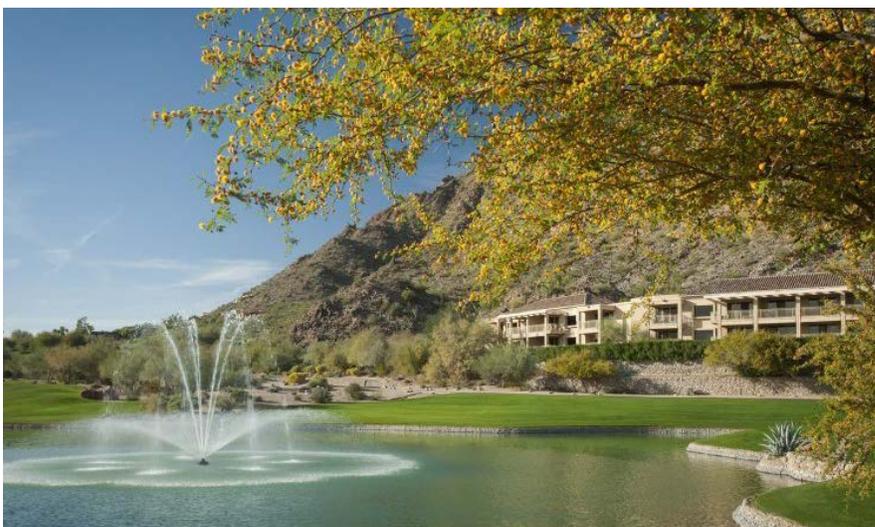
## CSRS 2018 Annual Meeting Registration Now Open

Registration is now open for the CSRS 2018 Annual Meeting and Instructional Course, Dec. 5-8, at The Phoenician Resort in Scottsdale, AZ. You will need your CSRS username and password to access the online registration system [here](#). If you have forgotten your username, please email [csrs@aaos.org](mailto:csrs@aaos.org) or call the CSRS business office at (847) 698-1628 for assistance. Registration rates increase after Oct. 15.

If you submitted an abstract for the Annual Meeting, acceptance notices will be emailed in July. The preliminary program will be available in August.

### Don't Delay - Reserve Your Housing Now

CSRS returns to The Phoenician Resort, Scottsdale, AZ, for the 2018 Meetings. The AAA Five Diamond Phoenician is consistently recognized as one of the world's finest resorts, receiving honors for a variety of services and programs, from dining to golf. Find more information on The Phoenician [here](#). We encourage you to **reserve your housing early** as the block sold out in 2017. CSRS has contracted a group rate of \$255 plus tax for the nights of Sun., Dec. 2 thru Sat., Dec. 8. Find the housing link [here](#). The group rate is available until Nov. 5. **Please Note: There is a seven (7) day cancellation requirement to avoid penalty.**



### CSRS 2018 Annual Meeting Update

We are looking forward to a successful 2018 Annual Meeting. CSRS received 538 abstract submissions. A special thank you to the Program Committee — Erica F. Bisson, Jacob M. Buchowski, Hans-Ulrich Bueff, Andrew T. Dailey, William F. Donaldson, III, Andrew C. Hecht, Han-Jo Kim, Brian K. Kwon, Ronald A. Lehman, Jr, Addisu Mesfin, Thomas E. Mroz, Themistocles Protopsaltis, Lee H. Riley, III, P. Bradley Segebarth, Justin Smith, W. Ryan Spiker, Brian W. Su, Clifford B. Tribus, Eeric Truumees, and Jean-Paul Wolinsky — for reviewing all the abstracts. Christopher Ames and Robert Hart, Program Co-Chairs, are hard at work on the program.

All seven industry workshop slots during the Annual Meeting have been sold. Thank you to DePuy, Globus Medical, K2M, Medtronic, NuVasive, Stryker, and Zimmer Biomet for their generous support. It is important for our members to support our exhibitors by attending the workshops and visiting the exhibit floor during the Annual Meeting.

## Traveling Fellowship Applications Accepted for 2019

Applications for the 2019 CSRS Traveling Fellowship are being accepted through **Sept. 1**. The online application can be found [here](#). 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 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.

### Submit Your Nomination for CSRS Vice President

CSRS is looking for nominations for the Vice President position to serve Dec. 2018 to Dec. 2019. The deadline to submit your nomination is **Wed., Sept. 5**. Please submit to [csrs@aaos.org](mailto:csrs@aaos.org).

### Access Instructional Course Content, 2015-2017

The CSRS 2017 Instructional Course program audio files are posted on the Members Only page of the CSRS website.

Each presentation can be accessed separately along with the presenter's slides. Visit the site [here](#). You will also find recordings from the 2015 and 2016 Instructional Courses. Your CSRS username and password are needed to log in.

## CSRS Accepting Candidate Member Applications

September 15 is the membership application deadline for 2018. If you have colleagues or friends at your institutions or practices, please consider recommending them for CSRS membership.

This will be the first year that applicants can apply for the new category of Candidate Membership.

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.

Applications will be reviewed by the Membership Committee chaired by Tim Garvey. Visit the [CSRS website](#) for additional information and member criteria.

### Meet Society Assistant Lizette Garcia



We are excited to announce that Lizette Garcia has joined the CSRS team as Society Assistant.

Lizette comes to CSRS from the Salvation Army where she worked for more than 15 years specializing in customer service and accounting.

### CSRS Signs Letter on Cigna Medical Policy

The CSRS signed on to a letter to Cigna in May regarding its medical coverage policy for cervical fusion drafted by the American Association of Neurological Surgeons (AANS) and the Congress of Neurological Surgeons (CNS).

The current recommendations for coverage do not comply with standard spine practices or with the literature reviewed. To view the letter with comments, click [here](#).

## Support the CSRS Research & Education Fund

CSRS gratefully acknowledges all the individual and corporate donors who have given to the CSRS 21<sup>st</sup> Century Research and Education fund. All the donations are used only for research funding.

CSRS received 56 Letters of Intent for 2018. The breakdown as follows: 11—21<sup>st</sup> Century applications, 13—Medtronic applications, 12—Resident/Fellow applications, and 20—Seed Starter applications. The Research Subcommittees are currently reviewing manuscripts. Grant recipients will be notified in August.

## CSRS Members Reflect on Legacy of Keiro Ono, MD, 1930-2018

Dr. Keiro Ono, who was instrumental in creating a strong Japanese connection with CSRS North America, recently passed away in Osaka, Japan. CSRS members Edward J. Dunn and Kazuo Yonenobu reflect on Dr. Ono's legacy and his impact on CSRS.

Dr. Ono was former professor and chairman of the Department of Orthopedic Surgery at Osaka University Medical School. His first contact with CSRS was as a featured speaker at the Symposium on Cervical Spondylotic Myelopathy, a part of the Society's scientific program at the fourth annual meeting in 1976.

At that symposium, Dr. Ono presented two extremely well received papers: one on ossification of the posterior longitudinal ligament, OPLL, a condition quite common in Japan, but essentially unrecognized in the US and Europe at that time; and the other paper was an elegantly illustrated presentation on the pathology of cervical spondylotic myelopathy.

Encouraged by his reception and impressed with the openness but collegial and fruitful criticism and discussion of presentations at the meeting, Dr. Ono encouraged other Japanese surgeons to attend future meetings.



*Dr. Keiro Ono is attributed to creating a strong connection between CSRS NA and Japanese surgeons.*

Professor Ono's 1976 visit to the CSRS Annual Meeting was the beginning of the strong Japanese connection with the Society that has developed over the ensuing years. Through Dr. Ono's influence and encouragement, many other Asia/Pacific physicians with an interest in the cervical spine began to attend the CSRS meetings. Ultimately, this growing interest from the Asia-Pacific region led to the establishment of the Asia-Pacific Section of the CSRS.

During his chairmanship of the Osaka Orthopedic Department, he trained more than 350 residents and fellows. He always promoted free discussion and criticism and encouraged his students and

colleagues to submit work to peer-reviewed journals and meetings where open discussion was standard. At the time, this was a relatively novel idea in the hierarchical structure of Japanese medicine. Dr. Ono's posture in this regard had a strong influence on the adoption and spread of free and open academic inquiry in Japanese orthopedics.

Dr. Ono also served as Dean of Osaka University Medical School, president of the Japanese Spine Research Society, and president of the Japanese Orthopedic Association. He was an associate editor of the journal *Spine* and the *SICOT* journal and, with his colleagues in the department of orthopedic surgery at Osaka, was the recipient of multiple research awards.

A true scholar and a treasured colleague, Professor Ono's contributions to Japanese and international orthopedics and the Cervical Spine Research Society have enhanced our understanding of, and treatment concepts for, cervical spine conditions. His legacy lives on through his publications and the continuing contributions of his residents and fellows from Osaka University.

## CSRS Asia Pacific Section News



Congratulations to Shanmuganathan Rajasekaran, MD, on a successful Presidential year. CSRS also extends its congratulations to Takachika Shimizu, MD, as he steps into this new role.



*Incoming CSRS AP President Takachika Shimizu.*

Dr. Shimizu has been a CSRS NA Corresponding member since 1994. He is the Chief Spinal Surgeon & Director at the Gunma Spine Center in Gunma, Japan.

The CSRS-AP 2019 Annual Meeting will be held March 14-16, 2019, in Yokohama, Japan.

Visit the CSRS AP [website](#) for information as it becomes available.

## CSRS European Section News



Congratulations to Björn Zoëga, MD, Clinical Professor at the Stockholm Spine Centre, Sweden as he replaces Ronald HMA Bartels, MD, as President of CSRS Europe. Dr. Zoëga is originally from Reykjavik, Iceland.



*Incoming CSRS Europe President Björn Zoëga.*

The 35<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of CSRS Europe will be held in Rome, Italy, May 22-24.

Visit the CSRS Europe [website](#) for information as it becomes available.

## CSRS 2018 Deadlines

- Housing Link Open for the 2018 CSRS Meetings, The Phoenician: Open Now
- Online Application Submission Closes for CSRS Traveling Fellowship: September 1
- Vice President Nominations Deadline: September 5
- Membership Application Deadline: September 15
- Housing Block Closes for CSRS 2018 Meetings: November 5
- Online Registration Closes for 2018 CSRS Meetings: November 9