

AANS/CNS Section on Pediatric Neurological Surgery

Editor: Mark R. Proctor, MD, FAANS

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Section Chair's Message

By Mark Proctor, MD, FAANS



Mark Proctor, MD, FAANS

It is a tremendous honor to address you as the new chair of the American Association of Neurological Surgeons (AANS)/ Congress of Neurological Surgeons (CNS) Section on Pediatric Neurosurgery. The Section has worked tirelessly on behalf of the North American Pediatric Neurosurgery community for many years. The close collaborations we've had with our parent organizations and the leadership of the American Society of Pediatric Neurosurgery (ASPN) has advanced science and teaching for the members of our organization, and even more importantly, has contributed to ensuring the best care and treatment of children and adults with congenital neurosurgical conditions.

The Section and the ASPN: Defining our Roles

One might ask why a relatively small specialty, such as pediatric neurosurgery, has two organizations (the Section and the ASPN) that represent its interests. Over the past two years, the leadership of the two organizations have come together via regular summit meetings to answer these questions and specifically define their respective roles. In brief, the Section serves as an arm of our national organizations (AANS and CNS), and therefore serves a dual role. First, it informs the AANS and CNS about pediatric neurosurgical activities nationally and worldwide, and in turn, its decisions are subject to approval from the parent organizations; and second, it serves as the teaching and education arm of pediatric neurosurgery. The ASPN is a more independent organization and, accordingly,

is able to move more quickly on policy issues on behalf of children. While the Section is open to all members at the resident and attending levels, as well as nurses and other affiliates, the ASPN is an organization for Board-certified Pediatric Neurosurgeons who have dedicated their neurosurgical careers to the care of children.

The Houston Meeting

As our Annual Section meeting approaches (November 28- December 1), we should take time to reflect on what the people of Houston have been through recently, which is likely to continue for months, if not years. As a non-profit section of the AANS and CNS, we have no direct mechanism to donate relief money to Houston, but I would encourage everyone to do so independently. I certainly have. Every indication is that our annual meeting will go on as planned, so we do encourage you to register now if you have not already done so. We are working on mechanisms that would make it easier for you to make donations to the Houston relief efforts at the meeting, as well as organize a day of giving back to the Houston community in the form of public service. More on this to follow. Our hearts go out to everyone in Florida, the Caribbean and other areas that are affected by this terrible weather.

The theme of this year's meeting, organized by David Sandberg, MD, FAANS, and Howard Weiner, MD, FAANS, is *Reaching New Heights*. They have planned a very exciting program, which will include the Raimondi Lecture by Thomas Marshburn, MD, a physician-astronaut who has lived on the International Space Station. The AAP/SONS Lecture will be given by Mark Kline, MD on lessons from the field in pediatric HIV and AIDS. The Franc Ingraham Award for

From the Chairman (continued from page 1)

Distinguished Service and Achievement in Pediatric Neurosurgery, the greatest honor our section bestows on one of our colleagues, will be presented to W. Jerry Oakes, MD, FAANS(L). As we all know, Dr. Oakes epitomizes the values of the Section, as he has been a tireless server of children, and one who, through his research and mentorship of many of us, has greatly impacted the care of pediatric neurosurgical conditions. Of course, the meeting will also have our usual opportunities for social events, as well as Neurozone, where experts in the field will be available daily to meet with trainees.

Final Thoughts

In this issue of Short Cuts, some of the officers, committee chairs and liaisons will review the recent activities of the Section. I would like to highlight that we have appointed Francesco Mangano, DO, as a liaison to the American College of Osteopathic Medicine, a new position created to welcome our DO colleagues to the Section. Finally, I would like to stress that the Section is here to serve all of you and is made up of volunteer members who are looking to advance the field of Pediatric Neurosurgery in education, research and, most importantly, patient care. If you have questions or concerns, always feel free to reach out to me directly (Mark.proctor@childrens.harvard.edu) or to any of our officers. If you would like to serve the Section, there are many ways in which to do so, and we are always looking for people to help. I look forward to seeing all of you in Houston.

Mark Proctor, MD, FAANS
Chair, Pediatric Section

International Education Sub-committee

Results of a survey of the Pediatric Section spearheaded by Jogi Pattisapu, MD, FAANS(L), and the International Education Subcommittee regarding the state of global pediatric neurosurgery outreach were recently published in *JNS Pediatrics* (Davis MC et al, J Neurosurg Pediatr 2017 Aug;20(2):204-210). Members were surveyed on their involvement or interest in global neurosurgical research, geographic location of work, nature of collaboration and perceived barriers to participation. Responding members totaled 116/329 (35.3 percent). Of those, 61 percent had performed or taught neurosurgery in a developing country, and 49 percent travel, at least annually. Members most often reported doing work in Africa (54 percent) and South America (30 percent), organized through 29 different charitable and non-governmental entities. Not surprisingly, hydrocephalus was the most common treated condition (88 percent), followed by spinal dysraphism (74 percent) and tumor (68 percent). Seventy-one percent of respondents felt that this work improved their practice, and 74 percent were very or extremely interested in working elsewhere. Interference with current practice (61 percent), cost (44 percent) and difficulty identifying international partners (43 percent) were the most commonly cited barriers to participation. Based on this data and a more recent and extensive survey of surgeons providing neurosurgical care worldwide conducted by Michael Dewan, MD, MSCI, of Vanderbilt University, members of the Subcommittee are now collaborating with the ISPN, WFNS and FIENS to build an online social media website/app to facilitate matching of partner institutions based on geography, expertise, equipment and training needs. Details of this project will be presented at the upcoming ISPN meeting in Denver as part of a forum on global neurosurgery.

James Johnston, MD, FAANS

Annual Meeting Committee

Howard Weiner, MD, FAANS, and David Sandberg, MD, FAANS

Greetings from Houston, Texas. We are still here and we are strong.

This has been an extremely challenging time for all of us. The scope of devastation sustained from Tropical Storm Harvey, as you have all seen, is unprecedented. And yet, the acts of kindness and generosity displayed by the people of Houston have been beyond exemplary.

We appreciate all of the outpouring of generosity and support from our friends and colleagues around the world so much. In this spirit, more than ever, we believe that our city is the appropriate gathering place for the 46th Annual Meeting of the American Association of Neurological Surgeons (AANS) and the Congress of Neurological Surgeons (CNS) Section on Pediatric Neurological Surgery.

This year's meeting will be held from Tuesday, November 28 through Friday, December 1, 2017 at the Hilton Americas-Houston, a AAA Four-diamond hotel located in downtown Houston. The meeting venue will be just across from Discovery Green Park and close to the Toyota Center, BBVA Compass Stadium and Minute Maid Park. We are especially excited to be co-hosting this year's meeting together, representing both of Houston's pediatric neurosurgery programs, University of Texas, Children's Memorial Hermann Hospital and Texas Children's Hospital, Baylor College of Medicine.

The theme of this year's meeting is *Reaching New Heights*, an especially appropriate concept for our meeting being held in the hometown of the National Aeronautics Space Administration (NASA) Johnson Space Center. Like our specialty, Houston is undergoing tremendous dynamic growth and advancement, and is currently the fourth largest city in the United States. You will find outstanding, award-winning cuisine, a world class Texas Medical Center and top rated museums, theatre, sports and live music during your visit. Most importantly, Houstonians are notorious for being warm and welcoming to visitors of their diverse and multifaceted community.

This year's meeting program incorporates many facets of the *Reaching New Heights* theme and will feature three controversial Clinical Symposia, during which key topics will be debated by experts, with the aim of achieving new heights in our collective understanding as pediatric neurosurgeons. The first Clinical Symposium will focus on shunt valves: fixed pressure versus programmable; the second on colloid cyst management, endoscopic management versus craniotomy; and the third will be on the management of temporal lobe epilepsy, laser ablation versus temporal lobectomy. The AAP/SONS Lecturer is Mark W. Kline, MD, the physician-in-chief of Texas Children's Hospital and J.S. Abercrombie Professor and Chair of the Department of Pediatrics at Baylor College of Medicine in Houston. An internationally respected leader in pediatric HIV/AIDS and global child health, he will present "Global Pediatric HIV/AIDS: Lessons from the Field." We will honor W. Jerry Oakes, MD, FAANS(L) with the Franc D. Ingraham Award for Distinguished Service honorary award for his huge contributions to the field. Dr. Oakes will be interviewed live by one of our members, a novel format for our meeting, during which he will share personal reflections and highlights of his long career, providing inspiration and advice for all.

We are excited to offer a simulation pre-course, "Stereotactic Electrode Implantation and Laser Ablation for Epilepsy," for a limited number of participants on Tuesday, November 28. This half-day session will include both lecture and hands-on components, featuring interactions with expert leaders in the field. An Advanced Practice Provider (APP) full-day seminar will be held on Tuesday, November 28, which will showcase APP research in addition to basic lectures and practical hands-on sessions. All APPs are invited to submit abstracts. New to this year's meeting, this seminar will conclude with a networking social reception for APPs.

We really look forward to welcoming you to Houston!

Treasurer's Report

Matthew D. Smyth, MD, FAANS

Summary

The Pediatric Section remains in good financial health. Total net assets as per the fiscal year-end (6/30/2017) financial statement totaled \$768,216. This reflects a net gain of \$108,023 over FY16, in large part due to investment earnings, as well as a successful meeting in Orlando. This represents the total cumulative revenue of the Section since its inception and is in line with AANS recommended reserves for our Section.

Annual Meeting

The 2016 Annual Meeting for the AANS/CNS Section in Pediatric Neurological Surgery in Orlando, Fla., produced a revenue of \$358,925 (budgeted \$346,895) with a net excess of \$60,995. This is compared to a net excess of \$67,172 at the 2015 Annual Meeting in Seattle. The 2017 annual meeting in Houston is expected to produce a budgeted revenue of \$391,455 with a net excess of \$50,556. The net revenue has now been positive for three years in a row as a result of continued efforts by Section officers to reduce

costs in collaboration with local meeting hosts and AANS staff. The Section's long-term investment account remains favorable at \$728,320 as per the 6/30/2017 financial report. 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.

Specific Expenses and Financial Resolutions

The Section continues its commitment toward its educational and research missions. A one-time contribution to the CNS Getch Fellowship was made in 2017 for \$3,000. Again in the 2018 budget, there is renewed financial commitment toward the Pediatric Neurosurgical Research & Education Foundation (NREF) Fellowship grant, Section research awards and domestic and international traveling fellowships.

Overall, there appears to be no concerns.

Research Committee

Edward Robert Smith, MD, FAANS

The Research Committee is currently directing two major initiatives: (1) the third year of a successfully revamped [Pediatric Section Grant](#) and (2) ongoing participation in the Neurosurgical Research & Education Foundation (NREF) grant program.

Two years ago, the Section approved a significant change in the format of the annual research award in response to several years of limited applications. The Fellow/Junior Faculty Research Grant was initiated, changing the target population of the grant to fellows/new faculty in order to recruit and retain pediatric neurosurgeons engaging in research focused on problems unique to pediatric neurosurgery. The funding level is \$10,000/year, with discretion to award as a single grant or divide it into two grants of \$5,000. The response to this new format increased each year, with a 10-fold increase the first year, followed by continued growth to 16 applications this past cycle, all of them of high quality. Two grants of \$5,000 each were awarded for 2017-18; one to an incoming fellow and one to new faculty:

- Immunosuppression After Traumatic Brain Injury and Polytrauma in a Juvenile Rat Model – Erik Sribnick, MD, PhD, new faculty, (Mentor at Ohio State/Nationwide Hospital)
- The Role of Viral Integration in Early Pediatric Brain Tumors – Katie Fehnel, MD, fellow, (Mentor at Massachusetts General Hospital)

We are eager to continue this process, and application information can be found on the [website](#).

The Section is also actively involved in the NREF grant program, with an interest in promoting applications with a pediatric focus and is now directly involved in grant review. There was only one submitted with pediatric focus this year, suggesting an increased capacity for pediatric-focused research. We would strongly encourage applications. Please encourage your colleagues and trainees to apply for NREF grants with a pediatric focus, as our section helps to support these grants.

ABNS/ABPNS Update

Dear members,

Two years ago we began a process to merge the ABNS and ABPNS through memoranda of understanding (MOU) in an effort to do away with two parallel mechanisms (and fees) for certifying those of us practicing pediatric neurosurgery. The MOUs have been approved by both organizations, and we are moving forward with the changes necessary to bring the two credentialing processes together. This is an update of where we stand to date.

In the past, one had to satisfactorily complete the ABNS oral boards and be officially ABNS-certified in order to apply for ABPNS certification and take the written pediatric exam. This entailed submitting one case log to the ABNS and then another to the ABPNS, paying fees to both organizations and taking both written exams. This is no longer the case. Instead, the timeline and requirements will be as follows:

The Pediatric Written Examination:

1. Soon after completion of your ACPNF-certified fellowship, you will take the written pediatric neurosurgery specialty exam. You no longer have to wait for ABNS certification to do so.
2. As we move forward, we are working with the ABNS to enable us to provide this written examination online through local testing centers (same as for the ABNS Part I written examination taken during residency), such that examinees can take the test close to home. We hope to have this up and running within the next year.
3. As this rolls out, there will be pediatric neurosurgeons who are two to four years out from fellowship and are tracking towards ABNS certification. We are now asking that those of you who are eligible and have not yet taken the pediatric subspecialty written exam apply to the ABPNS now.

The ABNS/ABPNS Joint Application:

1. Case Submission:

Once you're ready to apply for ABNS certification and thus submit 150 cases over 18 months, your cases will be evaluated by a joint ABNS/ABPNS credentialing committee. The ABNS members will assess the types of cases and outcomes (along with the rest of your application), and the ABPNS members will determine that you have performed a minimum of 95 major pediatric neurosurgical cases over 18 months.

2. Board Exam:

Once your credentials have been approved, you will receive a date for your oral ABNS Board examination. In the new format, the oral boards consist of three one-hour periods: 45 minutes of general neurosurgery, 45 minutes of pediatric neurosurgery and 45 minutes of examination over five of your own cases. These cases are selected from a list of 10 out of the 150 cases you submit to the Board.

3. Certificates:

Upon successful completion of the ABNS/ABPNS Initial certification process, you will receive two certificates: A general ABNS certificate for general neurosurgery and an ABNS/ABPNS certificate of focused practice in pediatric neurosurgery, both with a time limit of 10 years.

4. Canadian applicants:

Applicants with Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada (RCPSC) certification in Neurosurgery, who complete an ACPNF-certified fellowship, will be eligible for the Pediatric Written Exam. Following successful completion of this exam and submission to the ABPNS of 150 cases, including a minimum of 95 pediatric cases, applicants will receive an RCPSC/ABPNS certificate of focused practice in pediatric neurosurgery with a time limit of 10 years.

Maintenance of Certification and 10-year Pediatric Recertification:

1. ABNS MOC Requirements:

When you enroll in the new Maintenance of Certification (MOC) process, you will annually demonstrate good standing with your hospitals, provide evidence of life-long learning through submission of CMEs and take an annual, online, open-book learning exam that provides updates on current advances in both general neurosurgery and pediatric neurosurgery. This online learning tool will take approximately 90 minutes per annum to complete.

2. ABPNS Recertification Requirements:

Every 10 years, upon expiration of your time-limited Certificate of Focused Practice in Pediatric Neurosurgery (previously termed ABPNS Board Certification), you will be required to demonstrate compliance with the annual ABNS MOC process (or the Canadian RCPSC requirements), as well as satisfy criteria for recertification by the ABPNS, as follows:

- a. Submission of a case log demonstrating a minimum of 65 pediatric (children under 18) cases in one year. This is a change from the previous ABPNS requirement. You will no longer have to show a specific percentage of pediatric cases, nor show number of cases under 13 or Pediatric-type cases.
- b. Satisfactory explanation of patient management on up to five cases selected by the Credentials Committee from the submitted case log (Oral or phone format).
- c. Providing a narrative describing evidence of interest/expertise in pediatric neurosurgery. This may include pediatric research, local children's hospital or national committee functions, frequency of meeting attendance, CME, etc.

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- d. Providing a list of pediatric CME or other requirements per bylaws.

Please note that, until the new MOC process is implemented, ABPNS re-certification will continue under the old process through 2017. In addition, those neurosurgeons with non-time limited ABNS certificates will need to enter the new joint MOC process to maintain ABPNS certification. Certainly, as the new process moves forward, we will keep you abreast of further changes. For questions or details, please refer to the ABNS and ABPNS websites, which will be kept current as further evolution takes place.

Sincerely,

John Ragheb, MD, FAANS

Secretary, ABPNS

On behalf of Frederick Boop, MD, FAANS (ABPNS) and Richard Ellenbogen, MD, FAANS (ABNS)

Pediatric Guidelines Committee Report

1. Pediatric Guidelines Committee will be working with the Functional/Epilepsy section on Adult and Pediatric epilepsy guidelines in spring 2018.
2. The AHRQ application was sent in by Trish Rehring from CNS. AHRQ wants us to focus on “new and emerging” technologies and data. Their feedback was posted on the CNS Basecamp in the hydrocephalus guidelines section. There may be topics relating to the safety of programmable valves and cochlear implants and electronic devices.
3. SBA formally agreed to review SB guidelines with Robin Bowman, MD, FAANS; Mark Dias, MD, FAANS, and Michael Partington, MD, FAANS, as reviewers. AAP (SONS) will review/endorse through Phil Aldana, MD, FAANS. The Child Neurology Society is interested in reviewing, and David identified Jan B. Wollack, MD, PhD.
4. SB MM guidelines are almost complete and will be sent to the Joint Guidelines Committee before the end of September. There will be five topics covered in this comprehensive literature review

Catherine Mazzola, MD, FAANS

National Meetings Subcommittee Report

Lissa Baird, MD, FAANS and Elias Rizk, MD, FAANS

The National Meetings Subcommittee is charged with helping plan the Pediatric Section activities at the American Association of Neurological Surgeons (AANS) and Congress of Neurological Surgeons (CNS) national meetings. We followed the recent changes in the field to try and improve the quality of lectures and abstracts. The overarching goal is to promote discussions that would address timely topics that will help in daily practice and update the clinicians with recent guidelines and consensus management from experts in the field. The following is a short summary of the scientific programs for the 2017 CNS Annual Meeting and the 2018 AANS Annual Scientific Meeting:

2017 CNS Annual Meeting

Monday, October 9, and Tuesday October 10 Section Meeting: Oral abstracts

Moderators: Edward S. Ahn, MD, FAANS; Lissa C. Baird, MD, FAANS; Elias B. Rizk, MD, FAANS; Brandon G. Rocque, MD, MS, FAANS

Abstracts reviewed by a committee of four neurosurgeons selected by the Peds Section.

Monday, October 9, Section Meeting: Invited speaker

Perspectives on a Career in Quality Improvement with R. Michael Scott, MD, FAANS(L)

Monday, October 9, Tuesday, October 10, Section Meetings: Case-based Discussion Session

“Incidental Discoveries on Pediatric Neuroimaging”

Moderator: *Cormac O. Maber, MD, FAANS*

Faculty: *David M. Frim, MD, PhD, FAANS; Karin Muraszko, MD, FAANS; R. Michael Scott, MD, FAANS(L); Nathan R. Selden, MD, PhD, FAANS*

“The Management of Pediatric Athletes”

Moderator: *Edward R. Smith, MD, FAANS*

Faculty: *Lance S. Governale, MD, FAANS; Mari Groves, MD; Andrew Jea, MD, FAANS; Christina Sayama, MD, MPH*

Tuesday, October 10, Section Meeting: Update of the Pediatric Guidelines: Plagiocephaly (Published) and Spina Bifida (In Process):

This session allows the Pediatric Guidelines Committee to provide an update.

Speakers: *Lissa C. Baird, MD, FAANS; Paul Klimo, MD, FAANS; Catherine A. Mazzola, CPC; Mandeep S. Tamber, MD, PhD, FAANS*

Tuesday, October 10, Section Meeting: Update on Long-term Outcomes from the MOMS Trial, Review of the Evidence and counseling parents about MMC Fetal surgery:

Moderators: *Gregory G. Heuer, MD; William E. Whitehead, MD, MPH, FAANS*

2018 AANS Annual Scientific Meeting

We will continue with the abstract format as per recent changes:

- A. Cut down on time for abstract presentations by converting most to digital posters with 2-minute presentations and rewarding the best five abstracts with a certificate and a nine-minute presentation.
- B. Organize into categories that include multi-topic reviews, controversies, Board review and point-counterpoint, etc. The highlight of this category are topical reviews, which are designed primarily for the neurosurgery residents and general neurosurgeons, and will be given by invited experts in the fields. They consist of recurrent three-year programs, in which experts discuss three to four topics yearly in the form of a course.

SONS/AAP Statement

Andrew Jea, MD, FAANS

Your Section of Neurological Surgery (SONS) of the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) has been productive over the last six months. We have been collaborating with other sections of the AAP and AAP leadership to improve the care of children through education of 66,000-plus primary care pediatricians and pediatric subspecialists, advocacy and outreach. The 2017 National Convention and Exhibition in Chicago, featured over 350 educational sessions in nearly 70 topic areas to suit a variety of learning styles. This experience included continuing education featuring expert faculty, best practices and pharmacological and technical advances from the leaders in pediatrics. Other benefits of this meeting included the opportunity to network with peers and leaders in pediatrics, attend daily special events, and visit the largest pediatric exhibit hall, with the latest products and services. A total of 16,000 attendees were anticipated for the AAP National Conference. SONS was tapped to provide three educational programs: “I’ve Got Your Back: Lumps, Spots, Dimples, and Hairy Patches,” “Flat Heads – Evaluation and Management” and “Low Back Pain: When to Manage, When to Refer.” For more information about the AAP NCE, please follow the link: <http://aapexperience.org>.

We are also looking forward to the AANS/CNS Section on Pediatric Neurological Surgery’s Annual Meeting later this year in Houston. SONS is sponsoring the keynote address by Mark W. Kline, MD, – internationally-respected leader in pediatric HIV/AIDS, global child health and Physician-in-Chief of Texas Children’s Hospital and Baylor College of Medicine. SONS will also present its fourth annual award for the best oral presentation to exemplify a broad and significant impact on health care for children with pediatric neurosurgical diseases.

Our Policy and Advocacy Subcommittee is working with Choosing Wisely – an initiative of the ABIM. Choosing Wisely provides an online resource of various recommendations by professional societies, such as the AANS and CNS, to primary care clinicians regarding the neurosurgical care of children. Work has

also been done with the AAP Surgical Advisory Panel (SAP) and its Optimal Timing Task Force, charged with developing guidelines and recommendations in light of published links between anesthesia and neurotoxicity. Most significantly, we have secured an endorsement by the AAP to have pediatric neurosurgery recognized as a special focused practice by the ABMS.

We currently have 56 very active members in our Section. Section members will have undergone, or are currently undergoing, a minimum of 12 months training in an ACPNF-approved Pediatric Neurosurgery post-residency/graduate fellowship training program. Individual consideration will be given to advanced practice providers with special interest in pediatric neurosurgery. We encourage anyone interested to begin the application process online at <https://shop.aap.org/aap-membership/>, or with an email to our Section Chair, Philipp Aldana, MD, FAANS, (philipp.aldana@jax.ufl.edu).

Finally, SONS is undergoing a restructuring. We are currently developing new bylaws for the Section that would specify our Section’s operations. There will be provisions on the application process for membership, membership classes, rules of order, voting procedures, duties of officers of the executive committee and the fiduciary duty of officers to members of SONS.

The purpose of the SONS of the AAP shall be:

- To facilitate the Mission and Vision Statement of the AAP.
- To foster communication and camaraderie among its members.
- To participate in the educational mission of the AAP in the form of publications, lectures and conferences.
- To advance the learning and understanding of pediatric neurosurgery among pediatricians and other pediatric subspecialists.

We plan to display these bylaws at [our website](#).

Resident Traveling Fellowship in Pediatric Neurosurgery

The AANS/CNS Pediatric Neurosurgery Section offers a traveling fellowship for residents in accredited North American neurosurgical training programs. The fellowship is intended to cover the traveling and living expenses for one month for a resident who wishes to obtain additional experience in pediatric neurosurgery during residency. The one-month fellowship can be spent at any pediatric neurosurgery program within North America to pursue an activity, which broadens the resident's exposure to pediatric neurosurgery, including observation at a clinical or research center, participation in a research project or any other relevant activity. Two fellowships per year are awarded on the basis of a competitive evaluation by a committee of the AANS/CNS Pediatric Section. The maximum fellowship stipend is \$2,500.

The application must include:

1. A statement defining the purpose of the proposed fellowship;
2. Written permission from the applicant's residency program director to pursue the one-month fellowship if it is awarded;
3. A letter of acceptance from the pediatric neurosurgical program where the applicant will seek the fellowship; and
4. The applicant's current curriculum vitae.

The deadline for application submission is November 1, 2017.

The completed application should be emailed to:

David.I.Sandberg@uth.tmc.edu

David I. Sandberg, MD, FAANS
University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston
6431 Fannin Street | MSB 5.144 | Houston, TX 77030 |
Phone: 713.500.7370 | Fax: 713.500.7352

International Traveling Fellowship in Pediatric Neurosurgery

The AANS/CNS Pediatric Section offers an international traveling fellowship for neurosurgeons who, at the time of their application, are either training in a residency program outside the U.S. or Canada or have completed residency training outside the U.S. or Canada within the past five years.

The fellowship will cover the traveling and living expenses for a three-month period, which is to be spent observing the activities of an established Pediatric Neurosurgical service of the applicant's choosing in the United States or Canada. Up to two fellowships will be awarded yearly on the basis of a competitive evaluation by a committee of the Pediatric Section at the annual meeting in December. The maximum fellowship stipend is \$7,500.

The application must include:

1. A statement defining the purpose of the proposed fellowship;
2. A letter of recommendation from the applicant's current neurosurgical program director;
3. A letter of acceptance from the institution where the applicant intends to take the fellowship, confirming the description of the fellow's potential activities during the period of the award; and
4. The applicant's current curriculum vitae.

The deadline for application submission is November 1, 2017.

The completed application should be emailed to:

David.I.Sandberg@uth.tmc.edu

David I. Sandberg, MD, FAANS
University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston
6431 Fannin Street | MSB 5.144 | Houston, TX 77030 |
Phone: 713.500.7370 | Fax: 713.500.7352

Hosting Application

This form is for pediatric neurosurgery programs who are interested in hosting recipients of the American Association of Neurological Surgeons (AANS)/Congress of Neurological Surgeons (CNS) Pediatric Section Resident Traveling Fellowship and International Traveling Fellowship. If your program is not already listed on the Pediatric Section website and you would like to be listed, please fill out this form and forward to David Sandberg, MD, FAANS.

To have your program listed for potential traveling fellows, please specify which fellowship(s) you are willing to sponsor:
International Traveling Fellowship in Pediatric Neurosurgery (three months)
Resident Traveling Fellowship in Pediatric Neurosurgery (one month)

SPONSORING INSTITUTION

Name of Institution/Program: _____

Name of Program Director: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: Fax: _____

Email: Website URL: _____

Please attach a 150-250 word description of your program, including the number of faculty/attendings, number and type of trainees, clinical volume, specialty practices, parent institution, geographic location and any other details you feel may help a potential candidate gauge their suitability to your program. If you have a Web page(s) for your Pediatric Neurosurgery Service, please provide the URL in the space provided above, and we will link to your site on the AANS/CNS Section for Pediatric Neurosurgery website for potential applicants. Sponsors must be willing to provide a letter of recommendation from the program director and a letter of acceptance from the institution confirming the description of the fellow's anticipated activities during the period of the award.

Please email the completed form to the Training Subcommittee Chair, David Sandberg, MD, FAANS, at David.I.Sandberg@uth.tmc.edu.

Membership Report

Membership in the AANS/CNS Section on Pediatric Neurological Surgery has remained stable. The current roster includes 341 active, eight associate, 80 lifetime, 33 international, 27 resident/fellow members and two medical student members, for a total of 491 members. We have had three resignations during this time.

Since the last edition of Pediatric Short Cuts, the newly approved Pediatric Section members are:

Active Membership

Matthew Armand Adamo, MD, FAANS
Catherine McClung-Smith, MD – AANS Provisional
Brandon G. Rocque, MD, MS, FAANS
Albert Tu, MD, FAANS
Jesse Lee Winer, MD – AANS Provisional
Vasilios A. Zerris, MD, MPH, FAANS

International Membership

Whaner Sanchez-Zabala, MD – AANS Intl.

Resident

Kathleen Elizabeth Knudson, MD – AANS Resident
Margaret Pain, MD – AANS Resident

Medical Students

Ashley Choi – AANS Medical Student
Joseph A. Brazzo III – AANS Medical Student

Lifetime:

Edward Zampella, MD, FAANS
Frederick Sklar, MD, FAANS
W. Jerry Oakes, MD, FAANS
Arthur E. Marlin, MD, FAANS

Resignation:

Albert Telfeian, MD, PhD
Mary Dunn, MD
Alexa Reeves Smith, MD

For additional membership information, please visit the AANS/CNS Pediatric Section website.

Toba N. Niazi, MD, FAANS

AANS/CNS Section on Pediatric Neurological Surgery Officers and Committees

Officers

Chair

Mark Proctor, MD (2017-2019)

Immediate Past Chair

Sarah Gaskill, MD (2017-2019)

Chair-Elect

Mark Krieger, MD (2017-2019)

Secretary

Benny Iskandar, MD (2017-2019)

Treasurer

Matt Smyth, MD (2017-2019)

Members at Large

Phil Aldana, MD (2016-2018)

David Limbrick, MD PhD (2016-2018)

Anne Ritter, MD (2017-2019)

Greg Albert, MD. (2017-2019)

TBA at December 2017 meeting (2018-2020)

TBA at December 2017 meeting (2018-2020)

Standing Committees

Nominating Committee:

Al Cohen, MD (2013-2019)

Bruce Kaufman, MD (2015-2021)

Sarah Gaskill, MD-Chair (2017-2023, Chair, 2017-2019)

Rules & Regulations Committee:

Nick Wetjen- Chair (2017-2019)

Dean Hertzler (2017-2019)

Ruth Bristol (2017-2019)

Membership committee:

Toba Niazi, MD - Chair (2017-2019)

Brent O'Neill (2017-2019)

Rob Bollo (2017-2019)

Education Committee:

Dave Limbrick, Chair (2017-2019)

Susan Durham, Chair Elect (2017-2019)

Pediatric Section Annual Meeting Subcommittee

Howard Weiner/ David Sandberg (2017-Houston)

Greg Olavarria, MD (2016- Orlando)

Jay Wellons upcoming meeting chair

Mark Proctor, MD ex-officio – Section Chair

Mark Krieger ex-officio- Chair-elect

Matt Smyth, MD ex-officio – Section

Treasurer

Ad Hoc Committees:

Education Committee Subcommittees (ad hoc)

National Meeting Subcommittee – 2 year term

Lissa Baird, MD, co-chair (2017-2019)

Elias Rizk, MD, co-chair (2017-2019)

Todd Hankinson (2017-2019)

Amy Lee (2017-2019)

Sandi Lam (2017-2019)

Communications Subcommittee- 2 year term

Richard C. E. Anderson, MD-Chair (2017-2019)

Benjamin Kennedy, social media (2017-2019)

Training Subcommittee (Traveling

Fellowships and Training): 2 year term

David Sandberg, MD- Chair (2017-2019)

Andrew Jea, Vice Chair (2017-2019)

Edward Ahn (2017-2019)

Erin Keihna (2017-2019)

International Education Subcommittee 2 year term

James Johnston, MD-Chair (2017-19)

Phil Aldana, MD (2017-19)

Examination Questions Subcommittee 2 year term

Eric Jackson, MD (2016-2018)

Lifetime Achievement Award: Immediate past Chair

Sarah Gaskill, MD (2017-2019)

Research Committee 2year term

Ed Smith, MD- Chair (2013-2019)

Cormac Maher, MD-Chair (2015-2019)

Eric M. Thompson, MD (2015-2019))

David Daniels (2017-2019)

Representatives and Liaisons

Liaison to the AANS Executive Committee

Current Chair

Mark Proctor, MD (2017-2019)

Liaison to the CNS Executive Committee

Chair Elect

Mark Krieger, MD (2017-2019)

Liaison to the Washington Committee, AANS/CNS Past Chair

Sarah Gaskill, MD (2017-2019)

Pediatric Section representatives on the Joint Guidelines Committee

Ann Marie Flannery, MD (2008-2017)

Cathy Mazzola, MD - Chair (2015-2017)

Mandeep Tamber, MD (2015-2018)

Rachana Tyagi, MD (2015-2018)

David Bauer, MD – Vice Chair (2017-2019)

Catherine McClung-Smith (2017-2019)

Liaison to the ABPNS

Rick Boop, MD Current Chair of ABPNS

Liaison with ACPNF (Accreditation Council of Pediatric Neurosurgery Fellowships)

Cormac Maher, MD Current Chair of ACPNF

Liaison with ISPN

Eylen Ocal, MD (2017-2019)

Liaison with ASPN

Rich Ellenbogen, MD Current President of ASPN

Liaison with AAP Section of Neurological Surgery (SONS)-

Andrew Jea, MD current Chair of SONS

Liaison to the Joint Council of State Neurosurgical Societies 2 year term

Curtis Rozelle, MD (2017-2019)

Liaison to the Coding and Reimbursement Committee, AANS 2 year term

Lance Governale, MD (2017-2019)

Curt Rozelle (2017-2019)

Liaison to the Drugs and Devices Committee, AANS location specific, 2 year term

Bob Keating, MD-Chair (2017-2019)

John Myseros, MD (2017-2019)

Liaison to the Young Neurosurgeons Committee 2 year term

Luke Tomycz, MD (2017-2019)

Alt: Benjamin C. Kennedy, MD

Liaison to Quality/Outcomes groups 2 year term

Sandi Lam, MD (2017-2019)

Liaison to the NREF 2 year term

Ed Smith, MD (2017-2019)

David Gruber, MD (2017-2019)

Liaison to the American College of Osteopathic Surgery 2 year term

Francesco Mangano, DO (2017-2019)