



SUMMER NEWSLETTER THE WESTERN SOCIETY FOR PEDIATRIC RESEARCH

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August 2008

ANNUAL MEETING – CARMEL, CALIFORNIA
WEDNESDAY, January 28, 2009 THROUGH
SATURDAY, January 31, 2009



THE WESTERN SOCIETY FOR PEDIATRIC RESEARCH

C/O Robin K. Ohls, M.D.

Secretary/Treasurer

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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

F. Curt Bennett, M.D.

Greetings from the University of Washington in Seattle. I am thrilled to be serving as WSPR President this year. The annual meeting in Carmel has been an important and influential part of my career in academic pediatrics since presenting my first paper there as a fellow in 1977. This was followed by many more abstract presentations by me and the majority of my developmental-behavioral pediatrics fellows, moderating

specialty sessions, a term on the Council, and serving as WSPR Secretary-Treasurer 1999-2003. Carmel has truly been a special place for me and remains a unique event on my calendar.

I am particularly pleased to assume the presidency at a time of relative fiscal health and membership stability for WSPR. I was very encouraged to learn at this year's PAS meeting in Honolulu that, despite all the competition for our limited time and resources, all of the regional societies continue to thrive, especially the WSPR. I believe it is a continuing testament to our special venue for nurturing the emerging careers of young investigators.

Our 2009 annual meeting will again utilize the highly successful format of a joint plenary session co-sponsored by the four principal participating organizations, i.e. the Western Society for Pediatric Research, the Western Society for Clinical Investigation, the Western Association of Physicians, and the Western Section of the American Federation for Medical Research. The theme for the day will be "Effects of Exercise on Aging, Metabolism and Vascular Function." The main WSPR component, the Stanley Wright Memorial Lecture, will be delivered by Dr. Stephen Daniels, Professor and Chair of Pediatrics at the University of Colorado School of Medicine, and entitled "The Risk of Atherosclerotic Cardiovascular Disease in Children and Adolescents." The plenary session will again be held in the Pacific Repertory Theater--Golden Bough on Thursday, January 29, 2009. It promises to be an exciting and extremely relevant combined session. Of course, the specialty sessions on Friday and Saturday will again feature more than 20 excellent "State-of-the-Art" presentations covering a broad array of topics.

It is my pleasure to thank my fellow officers, President-Elect De-Ann Pillers, Past-President Gene Hoyme and particularly Secretary-Treasurer Robin Ohls, and also the Council members for their continued service and dedication to the WSPR. It is a measure of the "pull of Carmel" that Dr. Hoyme continues his efforts from South Dakota and Dr. Pillers will be conducting her presidency from Wisconsin. Finally, special thanks to Dr. Ohls' administrative assistant, Anne Debuyserie, for keeping us all on task and holding the organization together!

So, start planning for the 2009 WSPR annual meeting in Carmel. Energize your department chairs and division heads. Recruit new members. Most importantly, encourage your medical students, residents, fellows and faculty colleagues to submit their best work for presentation (abstract deadline Friday, October 3) and then be sure to attend.

Best regards,

Curt Bennett

Business Meeting

The Business Meeting will be held in the Golden Bough Room of the Pacific Repertory Theater at 4:00 PM Thursday, January 29th, 2009 following the afternoon joint plenary session. Issues of interest to Society members will be discussed during the Business Meeting.

Abbott Nutrition Reception

The WSPR reception for all members and guests will be graciously sponsored by Abbott Nutrition. This annual event will be held at 6:00 PM, Thursday evening, January 29, 2009 in the Poseidon Room at the La Playa Hotel.

2009 WSPR Meeting Registration

Registration is available on line on the WSPR home page, or you can cut and paste the following link:

<http://www.acteva.com/go/WRM09>

If you are unable to register early, please plan to register at the meeting. Any applicable charges (including past and current membership dues) should be paid at that time. Registration will be held in the Promenade Lobby at the Sunset Center (San Carlos between 8th & 9th). All members and non-members should register. Small programs and identification badges will be available at the registration desk. A message center will be operating for emergency calls. Fees are as follows for:

	<u>Early Bird Before January 19</u>	<u>After January 19, 2009</u>
Members	\$125	\$160
Non-members	\$250	\$285
Fellows/Trainees	\$95	\$125
Emeritus: WSPR Emeritus members will have their registration fee paid by WSPR.		
Students: No charge. Please provide letter verifying training status.		
CME Credit	\$65	

CME Credit

This year we **WILL** again be offering CME credit. You may pick up a form for CME credit at the Sunset Center (San Carlos between 8th & 9th) when you register. Checks for \$65 should be made payable to the WSPR. Payment for CME credit is **not** covered by your WSPR dues. Members registering for CME will be asked to fill out the form, mail it in or return it to the desk at the Sunset Center at the conclusion of the meeting. Certificates will be mailed following the meeting. The procedure is similar to that followed at other national meetings.

Abstract Submission

Please plan to submit an abstract and encourage your colleagues, especially students, residents, fellows and junior faculty, to submit abstracts. **The abstract deadline is Thursday, October 3, 2008.** Cost is \$75 and **NO CHECKS OR PURCHASE ORDERS WILL BE ACCEPTED.** This year again electronic abstract submission is the **REQUIRED MODE.** Full instructions are on the website at: <http://wrm09.abstractcentral.com>.

Nominations for New WSPR Members

Don't forget to nominate **New Members!** Remember that there are no longer any geographic restrictions to membership and that Ph.D.'s are also eligible.

A new trainee membership category now exists at the \$25.00 level.

Note: Trainee members do not automatically progress to regular members, as they must go through an official nomination process.

The deadline for nominations is **January 15, 2009.** A form for both faculty and trainees is enclosed. The growth and life of our Society depends on the inclusion of young investigators as well as established academicians in all the subspecialties.

For more information on membership nomination criteria, please refer to the WSPR website at: http://www.aps-spr.org/Regional_Societies/WSPR/2008/membership.htm
Complete nomination packets should be transmitted electronically to wspr@salud.unm.edu.

Annual Dues Reminder

You are encouraged to promptly pay your July 2008-July 2009, \$80.00 dues as well as any unpaid dues from previous years. Your Society is vitally dependent on dues.

A form is enclosed for WSPR members who wish to pay by check.

The cost of registration for non-members is MORE than your annual dues!

Remember, you will NOT receive the abstract journal (Journal of Investigative Medicine) if your dues are not paid by October 31, 2008.

You can now easily pay on line using PayPal. Please take a moment to get caught up on your dues for WSPR. Visit our website at:

http://www.aps-spr.org/Regional_Societies/WSPR/2008/default.htm and click on "PAY NOW". If you are one of our recent distinguished Emeritus members (age 70 and above), your membership dues are \$20 per year. Please make sure your past dues are paid. Your Society depends on you!

2009 Abbott Nutrition Awards

We are delighted to announce that the 2009 Abbott Nutrition Awards will be presented during the plenary sessions. The awards include the **Abbott Nutrition Award in Research by a Young Investigator**, the **David W. Smith Pediatric Trainee Research Award**, the **Lowell Glasgow Student Research Award**, and the **Joseph W. St. Geme, Jr. Education Award**.

Please visit our website at:

http://www.aps-spr.org/Regional_Societies/WSPR/2008/membership.htm

for instructions on nominating deserving faculty and trainees. Information is also included in this newsletter (see below).

You are again encouraged to arrive in Carmel Wednesday afternoon, January 28th, in order to meet members of our affiliated organizations at the annual Intersociety Welcoming Reception from 5:30-7:30 p.m. There will again be a special Student Poster Session featuring the top student abstracts on Thursday, January 29th, 2009 from 4:00-6:00 p.m. at the Monterey Beach Resort, 2600 Sand Dunes Drive, Monterey, CA off Highway One. All attendees for the Carmel Meetings are welcome and encouraged to attend and participate.

Please note that we will be again meeting the last week in January, 2009, BEFORE the AT&T Pro-Am Annual golf tournament. For more information call (831) 649-1533. Website: www.attbgolf.com.

We hope the combination of an outstanding scientific meeting and an awesome venue will convince you and your students, residents, and fellows to prioritize this increasingly unique event.

Joseph W. St. Geme, Jr. Education Award:

This award is conferred biannually by the WSPR in recognition of outstanding achievement in Pediatric Education. The award is presented to the winner at a plenary session of the meeting and is accompanied by a \$1,250 award and a plaque provided by Abbott Nutrition Laboratories. The 2007 award winner was Dr. John Carey. Nominations will be accepted this year for the 2009 meeting.

Abbott Nutrition Award in Research by a Young Investigator: *Deadline December 5th, 2008*

The WSPR confers this award on a chosen nominee in recognition of outstanding research in a field related to pediatrics. The nominee must have a **junior faculty** (Assistant Professor, Instructor) academic appointment. There is no age restriction. The work need not have been published. Abbott Nutrition will provide \$1,250 and a suitably engraved plaque to be presented to the awardee at the annual meeting. The award winner will be asked to present some aspects of his/her work, or a summary of it, at one of the two combined plenary sessions. Nominations may be tendered by an active or Emeritus member of the WSPR. Electronically submitted nominations are the preferred mode of submission. Nominations should be in the form of a narrative letter which includes a clear statement of the reasons for nomination of the candidate. Nominations should also include a copy of the nominee's CV, and copies of reprints, preprints, or other documents, if considered applicable. The award may be given to more than one nominee at the discretion of the Committee, or it may be omitted if the Committee considers that an outstanding candidate has not been nominated. **Completed electronic nominations are preferred, and can be sent via e-mail to WSPR@salud.unm.edu.**

Alternatively, written nominations (one original and two copies) should be sent to:
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David W. Smith Pediatric Trainee Research Award: *Deadline December 5th, 2008*

This award is sponsored by Abbott Nutrition Laboratories and will be accompanied by a plaque and a \$1000 honorarium. The recipient will present his/her paper at one of the subspecialty sessions of the WSPR. The award is based upon an abstract submitted for presentation at the annual meeting. The criteria for this award include: original, unpublished research by a Pediatric Resident or Fellow, under the auspices of a WSPR member or in a WSPR-affiliated program, during house staff training or within the first three years of the applicant's pediatric fellowship training program. The award is given during or within one year following the above-described period of training.

Nominations may be submitted by any active or Emeritus member of the Society. The application should be in the form of a narrative letter describing the work, its significance, the background of the nominee and an assurance (signature) that the nominee will be available to present the work. A copy of the abstract must accompany the letter. A CV of the nominee and any supporting documents, research summaries, etc., may accompany the nomination. Again, the preferred mode of submission is in electronic format. **Completed electronic nominations can be sent via e-mail to WSPR@salud.unm.edu.** Alternatively, completed written nominations (one original and two copies) should be sent to:

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Lowell Glasgow Student Research Award:

This award is given to the student submitting the most outstanding abstract to this year's WSPR meeting. The research may be in any area of pediatrics. Abbott Nutrition Laboratories is sponsoring this award, which includes a generous \$750 honorarium. The student will be asked to present the abstract at a subspecialty session. This award will be presented to the top scoring abstract submitted by a student to WSPR. No nomination materials are required.

Mead Johnson Travel Awards:

A generous gift amount for travel money will be available for travel awards for the 2009 meeting, and is provided by a grant from Mead Johnson Nutrition. The purpose of these awards is to facilitate participation in the WSPR by those least able to afford the meeting (i.e., medical students, residents and fellows).

Abstracts will be selected by the WSPR officers on the basis of merit and ranking by subspecialty reviewers. Specific letters of nomination from mentors are helpful, but not required. We will give as many awards as funding allows.

2008 NEW MEMBERS

The WSPR again had a wonderful recruitment year with 10 new applicants approved for full membership. In addition, 8 new trainee members were approved. We are pleased to welcome the following new faculty members and congratulate all who helped recruit them.

2008 New Faculty Members:

Simeon Boyadjiev, MD, Chief, Section of Genetics, Dept. of Pediatrics,
M.I.N.D. Institute, UC Davis

Thomas H. Cushing, MD, JD, Assistant Professor of Pediatrics, Clinical Genetics,
University of New Mexico

Heidi Marsha Feldman, MD, Ph.D., Professor of Pediatrics
Stanford University School of Medicine

Alberta Kong, MD, MPH, Assistant Professor of Pediatrics, Adolescent Medicine,
University of New Mexico

Akhil Maheshwari, MD, Assistant Professor of Pediatrics
University of Alabama at Birmingham

Elizabeth A. O'Brien, MD, Assistant Professor of Pediatrics
The University of Utah School of Medicine

Bradley A. Yoder, MD, Professor of Pediatrics
The University of Utah School of Medicine

Zili Zhang, MD, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Pediatrics
Oregon Health Science University SOM

Ronald Poland, MD, Professor of Pediatrics, Neonatology
University of New Mexico

William N. Evans, MD, CEO, Pediatric Cardiologist
Children's Heart Center - Las Vegas, NV

2008 New Trainee Members:

Paveen Anur - OHSU

Alicia Balough - OHSU

Shirin Doratotaj - OHSU

2008 New Trainee Members (Cont'd):

Michael Kruer - OHSU

Douglas Leonard - OHSU

Kit Yeng Lim - OHSU

Erin Madriago - OHSU

Vinit Manuel - UNM

Nader Bishara - UNM

Ryann Bierer - UNM

Jennifer Rael - UNM

Allison Livingston - UNM

Joe Livingston - UNM

REMINDER: ABSTRACT DEADLINE OCTOBER 3, 2008
