



SUMMER NEWSLETTER

THE WESTERN SOCIETY

FOR PEDIATRIC RESEARCH

Vol. 26, No. 2
August 2011

ANNUAL MEETING – CARMEL, CALIFORNIA
THURSDAY, January 25, 2012 THROUGH
SATURDAY, January 28, 2012



THE WESTERN SOCIETY FOR PEDIATRIC RESEARCH

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Key Changes to the 2012 Meeting (outlined in letter emailed earlier this summer)

The 1st Joint Plenary Session is Thursday Morning (1/26) from 8:30 to 11:30

Neda Rasouli and David Gremse, Presiding

- 8:30 WSPR ABBOTT NUTRITION DAVID W. SMITH PEDIATRIC TRAINEE RESEARCH AWARD
 - 8:45 WSPR ABBOTT NUTRITION LOWELL GLASGOW STUDENT RESEARCH AWARD
 - 9:00 WSPR ABBOTT NUTRITION YOUNG INVESTIGATOR RESEARCH AWARD
 - 10:00 E. E. OSGOOD AWARD
 - 10:15 WAFMR OUTSTANDING INVESTIGATOR AWARD
 - 10:45 WSCI OUTSTANDING INVESTIGATOR AWARD
- WSPR Business Meeting to Follow

The Concurrent Sessions have Changed

Traditional Friday AM sessions have moved to Thursday Afternoon
Traditional Friday PM sessions will remain Friday PM
Traditional Saturday AM sessions have moved to Saturday Afternoon

The 2nd Plenary Session is Friday Morning (1/27) from 8:30 to 11:45

The 3rd Plenary Session is Saturday Morning (1/28) from 8:30 to Noon

The Welcome Reception for all attendees is scheduled for Thursday 5:30-7:00 with a concurrent student poster session

The WSPR Reception sponsored by Abbott Nutrition will be held Thursday night from 7 to 8:30

Traditional locations for plenary sessions and a few concurrent sessions may change, and stay tuned for changes in club meeting schedules

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

David Gremse, MD

Greetings from Las Vegas!

It is a pleasure and an honor for me to serve as this year's President of the Western Society for Pediatric Research. The scientific contributions of the WSPR are a significant part of the Western Regional Meeting in collaboration with the adult societies and the Western Medical Student Research Forum. The WSPR continues to serve an important role as a gateway to the academic careers of our trainees and junior faculty members. The WSPR Annual Meeting is an event that I look forward to every year and the WSPR Executive Council fought to keep the meeting in Carmel amid talks to consider alternative sites for the meeting. The times of some of the traditional sessions have moved this year as noted above in an attempt to accommodate increased medical student attendance to the outstanding presentations given. I want to thank you for your support of the WSPR through renewal of your membership, by recruiting new members, and mentoring your junior faculty and trainees to present their research at our annual meeting.

I would like to thank our immediate Past-President, Bill Hay, and outgoing Secretary-Treasurer Robin Ohls for their excellent leadership of WSPR. I welcome our new officers, especially Dave Viskochil from the University of Utah as Secretary-Treasurer and President-Elect Colin White from British Columbia.

Our 2012 annual meeting will begin on Thursday this year and run from January 25th through Saturday January 28th. Under the new format, the WSPR will lead off the 2012 meeting with the our awardees in the joint plenary session that includes the Abbott Nutrition David W. Smith Pediatric Trainee Research Award, the Abbott Nutrition Lowell Glasgow Student Research Award, and the Abbott Nutrition Young Investigator Research Award.

The theme for the 2012 Western Association of Physicians plenary will be “Regenerative Medicine.” The WSPR welcomes back Dr. Brent Polk, Professor and Chair of Pediatrics at USC Keck School of Medicine as the 2012 Stanley Wright Memorial Lecturer. This plenary session will be held in the Sunset Center Theater on Saturday, January 28, 2012.

Thanks to the leadership and my fellow council members, President-Elect Colin White (British Columbia Children’s Hospital), Past-President-Bill Hay (University of Colorado), Secretary-Treasurer Dave Viskochil (University of Utah), and Council members Marilyn Jones (Children’s Hospital San Diego), Cora Breuner (University of Washington), Cindy McEvoy (University of Oregon), Paul Rozance (University of Colorado), Bridgette Gomperts (UCLA), Alberta Kong (University of New Mexico), Kristen Nadeau (University of Colorado), David Stevenson (University of Utah), and Vedang Londhe (UCLA) for their continued service and dedication to the WSPR.

Please plan to attend the 2012 WSPR annual meeting in Carmel, encourage your medical students, residents, fellows, and colleagues to submit abstracts for the meeting, and submit nominations for the yearly WSPR Research Awards. Remember this year’s abstract deadline is Monday, October 3, 2011. I look forward to seeing you in beautiful Carmel at the 2012 meeting!

Best regards,

David A. Gremse, MD

[Annual Dues Reminder](#)

You are encouraged to promptly pay your July 2011-June 2012, \$80.00 dues as well as any unpaid dues from previous years (up to three years maximum, or \$240). Your Society is vitally dependent on dues.

A form can be found on our website 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, 2011.

You can now easily pay on line using PayPal. A reminder email will be sent soon to provide all details for paying on line.

WSPR Business Meeting at Carmel

The Business Meeting will be held in the Sunset Room at 11:45 AM Thursday, January 26th, 2012, following the morning joint plenary session. Issues of interest to Society members will be discussed during the Business Meeting.

2012 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/WRM2012>

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 10</u>	<u>After January 10, 2012</u>
Members	\$175	\$210
Non-members	\$250	\$300
Fellows/Trainees	\$95	\$145
Onsite Registration (add additional \$50 to fee schedule above)		

Emeritus: WSPR Emeritus members will have their registration fee paid by WSPR.

Students: No charge. Please provide letter verifying training status.

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 Friday, October 3, 2011. Cost is \$75 and NO CHECKS OR PURCHASE ORDERS WILL BE ACCEPTED.** This year again electronic abstract submission is the **REQUIRED MODE**. The submission process is through the Internet at the following site:
<http://wrm2012.abstractcentral.com>

NOTES FROM 2011 CARMEL MEETING



2011 WSPR Abbott Nutrition Awards Recipients

Abbott Nutritionals Young Investigator Award: \$1,250 award and plaque

- Paul Rozance, MD, *University of Colorado*
- Con Yost, MD, *University of Utah*

David W. Smith Pediatric Trainee Research Award: \$1000 honorarium and plaque

- Ben Numpang, MD, *University of Utah*

Lowell Glasgow Student Research Award: \$500 award and plaque:

Based on most outstanding abstract submitted to WSPR meeting by a student

- Jeremy M Alvord, *University of Utah*

2011 Mead Johnson Travel Award Winners: \$500 and certificate

- Stephanie Schulz-Geske, *Stanford University*
- Jennifer McDermott, *UCSF Fresno*
- Brian Tang, *Stanford University*
- Belinda Chan, *Keck School of Medicine, University of Southern CA*
- Graham Flory, *OHSU*
- Eric Muller, *Stanford University*
- Jeremiah Nielson, *Keck School of Medicine, University of Southern CA*

2011 WSPR Subspecialty Award Winners: \$100 and certificate

- Krizia Chien, *Los Angeles Biomedical Institute*
 - Alex Farnand, *University of Washington*
 - Jason Hooton, *University of Washington*
 - Lindsay McRae, *University of British Columbia*
 - K. Hong, *University of Washington*
 - Carolyn Sinow, *Harbor-UCLA*
 - Amy Thomson, *University of Washington*
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We anticipate that the 2012 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**, and the **Lowell Glasgow Student Research Award**. Information is included below for instructions on nominating deserving faculty and trainees.

Abbott Nutrition Award in Research by a Young Investigator: *Deadline Oct 3, 2011*

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@hsc.utah.edu.**

Alternatively, written nominations (one original and two copies) should be sent to:
THE WESTERN SOCIETY FOR PEDIATRIC RESEARCH
David Viskochil, M.D., Ph.D.
Secretary/Treasurer
2C412 S.O.M., 50 N. Mario Capecchi Dr.
Salt Lake City, UT 84132

David W. Smith Pediatric Trainee Research Award: *Deadline October 3, 2011*

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 packet, but is not a prerequisite for nomination.

Again, the preferred mode of submission is in electronic format. **Completed electronic nominations can be sent via e-mail to WSPR@hsc.utah.edu.** Alternatively, completed written nominations (**one original and two copies**) should be sent to:

THE WESTERN SOCIETY FOR PEDIATRIC RESEARCH
David Viskochil, M.D., Ph.D.
Secretary/Treasurer
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Salt Lake City, UT 84132

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 2011 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.

2011 NEW MEMBERS

The WSPR had a good recruitment year with 12 new applicants approved for full membership. In addition, 2 new trainee members were approved. We are pleased to welcome the following new members and congratulate all who recruited them.

2011 New Faculty Members:

Behnoosh Afghani, MD (Nominator: Feizal Waffarn, MD)
Clinical Professor, Pediatrics
UC Irvine Medical Center

Renee Kinman, MD, PhD (Nominator: Cynthia Curry, MD)
Pediatric Endocrinology, Co-Director of Pediatric Scholars Program UCSF-Fresno
Children's Hospital Central California

John Lawrence Merritt, II, MD (Nominator: C. Ronald Scott, MD)
Assistant Professor
Seattle Children's Hospital

Paul Francis, MD (Nominator: Cynthia Curry, MD)
Interim Chief of Pediatrics UCSF Fresno
Children's Hospital Central California

Serena Yang, MD (Nominator: Cynthia Curry, MD)
Co-Director, Research
UCSF Fresno

Jasjit Singh, MD (Nominator: Feizal Waffarn, MD)
Associate Director PSF Infections Diseases Director CHOC Infection Prevention Assistant Clinical
Professor, Pediatrics
University of California, Irvine

Mark Underwood, MD (Nominator: Anthony F Philipps, MD)
Assistant Professor of Clinical Pediatrics
University of California, Davis

Pascal Lavoie, MD (Nominator: Colin White, MD)
Assistant Professor Pediatrics, Neonatology
University of British Columbia

Shahrad Rod Rassekh, MD (Nominator: Colin White, MD)
Clinical Assistant Professor
University of British Columbia

Ian Glass, MD (Nominator: Margaret Adam, MD)
Professor of Pediatrics & Medicine
University of Washington School of Medicine

Mahin Golabi, MD, M.P.H. (Nominator: Margaret Adam, MD)
Medical Geneticist
California Pacific Medical Center

Kerby Oberg, MD, PhD (Nominator: Gerald Pohost, MD)
Associate Professor, Pathology and human Anatomy
Loma Linda University

2011 New Trainee Members:

Rebecca Ann Hicks, MD, Harbor UCLA Medical Center (Nominator: Jennifer Yee)
Mary Beth Patterson, MD, Harbor UCLA Medical Center (Nominator: Jennifer Yee)

Nominations for New WSPR Members

Don't forget to nominate **new members, including trainee members!** Remember that there are no geographic restrictions to membership, and that PhDs are also eligible. New Membership nominations should be accompanied by \$80 (full member) or \$25 (trainee), which will be applied towards membership dues.

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 10, 2012**. 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/2012/membership.htm

Complete nomination packets should be transmitted electronically to: WSPR@hsc.utah.edu by January 10, 2012.

Parting Notes

You are again encouraged to arrive in Carmel Wednesday evening, January 25th, as the first plenary session including WSPR-related awards presentations will be Thursday morning. The Saturday morning concurrent session has been moved to Saturday afternoon, therefore travel plans may be significantly different than previous years.

Please note that we will be again meeting the last week in January, 2012, BEFORE the AT&T Pro-Am Annual golf tournament. For more information call (831) 649-1533. Website: www.attpbgolf.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 unique event.

We have a new secretary/treasurer, David Viskochil from the University of Utah, who is just learning the ropes and transitioning many of the terrific service provided by Robin Ohls over the last 4 years. Robin has done a fantastic job and with things running so smoothly at the end of her tenure there may be a few glitches and mailing addresses that need changing. If you have trouble with the WSPR website, dues information, nomination information or most anything; please let us know at the new email address: WSPR@hsc.utah.edu. If that does not work then try either dave.viskochil@hsc.utah.edu or tammy.sheffield@hsc.utah.edu. Tammy is from the University of Utah and has taken over the roles of Ann Chavez and/or Mary Merchant who served WSPR membership so well over the years.

REMINDER: ABSTRACT DEADLINE OCTOBER 3, 2011!
