



# WSPR SPRING NEWSLETTER

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March 2016

2017 Annual Meeting - Carmel, California  
Thursday, January 26th, 2017 -  
Saturday, January 28th, 2017



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## THE WESTERN SOCIETY FOR PEDIATRIC RESEARCH

C/O Christian Con Yost, MD

Secretary/Treasurer

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## President's Message

Dear WSPR Members,

Spring greetings to our WSPR family from the warm and sunny city of Albuquerque, New Mexico, and welcome new members! I am honored to serve as your President and will continue the great work of those serving before me. The WSPR annual meeting has been going strong for 63 years! Our committed group of elected representatives and council members will ensure that we continue the tradition of

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providing a supportive and collegial environment where we can share and celebrate our exciting research in pediatrics.

This past meeting in Carmel was another success with some new added features. I will highlight a few for those of you who were not able to attend.

### **The Carmel Research Prize**

This year, the five societies (WSPR, WAFMR, WAP, WSCI, and WSMRF) sponsored a Junior Faculty (within 3-4 years into their academic career) research award competition. Four winners were chosen from among 35 stellar applicants. Winners received travel and registration coverage in addition to \$3,500 to support their research. Pediatrics was well represented. In fact, three of the four inaugural Carmel Research Prize winners' topics were related to pediatrics, and our very own, Dr. **Henry Lee from Stanford University**, was among them! Another WSPR member, Dr. **Melanie Cree-Green of the University of Colorado** was also a finalist winner!

### **The Fred Battaglia Honorary State of the Art Lecture**

Another new item was the addition of the Fred Battaglia Honorary State of the Art Lecture (sponsored by the **University of Colorado**) to our existing **Joan Hodgman Memorial Lectureship** (sponsored by **USC/CHLA**). We are hoping to engage more Universities to support bringing preeminent State of the Art speakers to the annual meeting of the WSPR to foster young talent who will continue the next generation of pediatric physician scientists.

### **WSPR Abbott Nutrition Research Awards**

There were also some outstanding presentations by recipients of the WSPR Abbott Nutrition Research Awards at the Plenary Session (see "Secretary/Treasurer Notes" for names of awardees). To continue showcasing the excellent research of our colleagues here in the West, please start thinking about nominating your deserving colleagues and trainees for the following awards:

- The **WSPR Abbott Nutrition Young Investigator Award**: This award is conferred every year to an outstanding Pediatric Scientist in the early phase (Assistant Professor) of their career. The winner receives \$1,250 and an engraved plaque to be presented at the annual meeting. The award winner will be asked to present some aspects of his/her work. Please share your brightest new Pediatric Researchers with WSPR!
- The **David W. Smith Pediatric Trainee Research Award**: This award is conferred every year to an outstanding Pediatric Scientist in the training phase (resident or fellow) of their career. This award includes a plaque and a \$1000 honorarium. Nominees are expected to submit an abstract to WSPR and present their work at the annual meeting.
- The **Lowell Glasgow Student Research Award**: This award is given to a student with the most outstanding abstract submitted to WSPR. A generous \$750 honorarium is provided to the awardee. A copy of the student's abstract must accompany the nomination letter.
- The **Pediatric Resident Research Award**: This award is given to a pediatric resident with the most outstanding abstract submitted to WSPR and comes with a \$750 honorarium.

Send your nominations (a letter detailing your nominee's accomplishments accompanied by their CV) to WSPR care of Melissa Pringle and Christian Con Yost

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([wspr@hsc.utah.edu](mailto:wspr@hsc.utah.edu)). Please refer to our website ([WSPR Awards](#)) or feel free to email either of them with questions about any of the awards or the nomination process.

**WSPR Mead Johnson Travel Awards and Abbott Nutrition Subspecialty Awards**

There were also some outstanding presentations by the **six recipients** of the **WSPR Mead Johnson Travel Awards** and the **eight recipients** of the **WSPR Abbott Nutrition Subspecialty Awards** (see “Secretary/Treasurer Notes” for names of awardees). The purpose of these awards is to facilitate participation in the WSPR by **medical and other students, residents, fellows, and junior faculty**. Mead Johnson and Abbott Nutrition sponsor these awards, which includes \$500 to defray the cost of attending the meeting. Abstracts are selected by the WSPR officers on the basis of merit and ranking by subspecialty reviewers. Awardees must make an oral presentation of the abstract at a subspecialty session of the meeting.

I am anticipating another great year with more growth in diversity within our Society. With the rolling membership application procedure in place now, you can nominate your colleagues and trainees anytime ([WSPR Membership Information](#)). There is no application fee and the annual meeting is an excellent time to connect with others from various disciplines and potentially create team science that may enhance your research (and funding). It really is a friendly environment and a great way to network (coming from a Myers Briggs analyzed ISTJ)!

The Executive Council will soon be teleconferencing with the other societies to start planning for the 2017 Western Regional Meeting which now has a new name, **The Western Medical Research Conference!** So save the date, January 26-28, 2017, and I will have more updates to share with you in the summer.

Cheers,  
Alberta Kong, MD, MPH  
President, WSPR



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# Secretary/Treasurer Notes:

## 2017 WSPR Annual Meeting Schedule Changes

For the **2017 Annual Meeting**, we will be initiating some schedule changes designed to improve your meeting experience.

- The **Combined Plenary Session** will take place on Friday 1/27/17 from 1:30 – 5:00 PM at the Sunset Center.
- The **WSPR Annual Business Meeting** will immediately follow on 1/27/17 from 5:00 PM – 5:30 PM.
- A **Combined Welcome Reception and Poster Session** sponsored by all four Societies will take place at the Carmel Mission Inn on Thursday 1/26/17 from 6:00 – 7:30 PM. A shuttle service will be provided.
- The **WSPR/Abbott Nutrition Welcome Reception** is scheduled for Thursday 1/26/17 at La Playa Hotel from 7:00 – 9:00 PM. All members and their guests are invited to attend!
- The **Western Perinatal Club Meeting** will be held on Friday 1/27/17 from 6:30 – 9:00 PM at La Playa Hotel. This meeting is sponsored by the AAP Perinatal Sections of Districts VIII and IX, the California Association of Neonatologist and Mead Johnson Nutrition.

## Annual Dues Reminder

For those members with unpaid 2015-2016 annual dues, please contact Melissa Pringle ([wsprr@hsc.utah.edu](mailto:wsprr@hsc.utah.edu)). 2016-2017 academic year dues will be invoiced on 7/1/16. **PLEASE** submit your **\$80 (full members)** or **\$25 (trainees or emeritus)** as promptly as possible, including amounts due from previous years.

## WSPR Abbott Nutrition Awards

We want to again celebrate our 2016 WSPR Abbott Nutrition Award Recipients! This year these winners will also be recognized at the National Meeting for the Society for Pediatric Research during the PAS Meetings in May 2016 in Baltimore, MD.

**Abbott Nutrition Young Investigator Research Award: Lauren Jantzie, PhD**

*University of New Mexico*

**David W. Smith Pediatric Trainee Research Award: Lawrence Shioh, MD**

*UC-San Francisco*

**Pediatric Resident Research Award: Sonia Solomon, MD**

*UC – San Francisco/Fresno*

**Lowell Glasgow Medical Student Research Award: Brian Walsh**

*University of Colorado*

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## WSPR Mead Johnson Travel Awards

The winners of the **2016 Mead Johnson Travel Awards** for residents and fellows were selected on the basis of abstract score and merit from the following subspecialty meeting sections:

- **Adolescent Medicine & General Pediatrics: Leslie Colip, U of New Mexico**
- **Genetics: Maura Ruzhnikov, Stanford**
- **Morphogenesis & Malformations: Theodore Wilson, U of Utah**
- **Neonatology General: Dawn Gano, U of California, San Francisco**
- **Neonatology- Perinatal Biology: Megan Gossling, U of Colorado**
- **Neonatal Pulmonary: Ann Simones, U of New Mexico**

Congratulations to all of these hard working and deserving residents and fellows!

## WSPR Abbott Nutrition Subspecialty Awards

The winners of the **2016 Abbott Nutrition Subspecialty Awards** for trainees were selected on the basis of abstract score and merit from the following subspecialty meeting sections and received a \$100 honorarium:

- **Adolescent Medicine & General Pediatrics: Melody Rassouli, USC**
- **Behavior & Development: Natalia Moss, U of New Mexico**
- **Behavior & Development: Rebecca Rieger, U of New Mexico**
- **Genetics: Abhilasha Surampalli, U of California, Irvine**
- **Morphogenesis & Malformations: Deepti Mathur, USC**
- **Neonatology General: Brianna MacQueen, U of Utah**
- **Neonatology- Perinatal Biology: Claudia Weinheimer, U of Utah**
- **Neonatal Pulmonary: Amelie Peisl, U of Colorado**

Congratulations to all of these trainees, our next generation of pediatric researchers!

## WSPR welcomes it new members for 2016!

### New Members:

- **Erica Mandell, M.D.** – University of Colorado
- **Nevin Wilson, M.D.** – University of Nevada, Las Vegas
- **Walter Dehority, M.D.** – University of New Mexico
- **Miguel Del Campo, M.D./Ph.D.** – University of California, San Diego
- **Farhad Imam, M.D./Ph.D.** – University of California, San Diego
- **Candice Fike, M.D.** – University of Utah
- **Parviz Minoo, Ph.D.** – University of Southern California
- **Dawn Gano, M.D.** – University of California, San Francisco
- **Tom Blydt-Hansen, M.D.** – University of British Columbia

### New Trainee Members:

- **Noorjahan Ali, M.D.** – University of Colorado
  - **Robert Dietz, M.D.** – University of Colorado
  - **Claudia Weinheimer, M.D.** – University of Utah
  - **Mauricio Palau, M.D.** – University of Colorado
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- **Stephanie Skuby, M.D.** – University of Colorado
  - **Wannasiri Lapcharoensap, M.D.** – Stanford University
  - **Danielle Scholze, M.D.** – University of California, Davis

## **2016-2017 WSPR Leadership (\* denotes new council member):**

### **President:**

Alberta S. Kong, M.D. – University of New Mexico

### **Secretary – Treasurer:**

Christian Con Yost, M.D. – University of Utah

### **President – Elect:**

Roberta L. Keller, M.D. – University of California, San Francisco

### **Past President:**

Paul J. Rozance, M.D. – University of Colorado

### **Of Counsel:**

Marilyn C. Jones, M.D. – University of California, San Diego

William W. Hay, M.D. – University of Colorado

Robin Ohls, M.D. – University of New Mexico

### **Council Members:**

Margaret Adam, M.D. – University of Washington

Arlin Blood, Ph.D. – Loma Linda University

Laura Brown, M.D. – University of Colorado

Josephine Enciso, M.D. – University of California, Los Angeles

Henry Lee, M.D. – Stanford University

Cherry Mammen, M.D.\* – University of British Columbia

Lance Prince, M.D./Ph.D.\* – University of California, San Diego

Nicole Tartaglia, M.D. – University of Colorado

Craig Wong, M.D. – University of New Mexico

***CHEERS!***

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