



WSPR SUMMER NEWSLETTER

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September 2016

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



THE WESTERN SOCIETY FOR PEDIATRIC RESEARCH

C/O Christian Con Yost, MD

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President's Message

Dear WSPR Members,

I hope you are all enjoying the last bit of summer. As promised, I am providing an update after our summer teleconferences with our WSPR Council members and also with the Western Societies of Medicine comprised of the Western Association of Physicians (WAP), Western Society for Clinical Investigation (WSCI), Western Society for Pediatric Research (WSPR), Western Section for American Federation for Medical Research (WAMFR), and Western Student Medical Research Forum (WSMRF). First,

a big thank you to the following WSPR Executive Council, Council, and Of Counsel members: Nicole Tartaglia, Paul Rozance, Lance Prince, Arlin Blood, Margaret Adams, Cherry Mammen, Josephine Encisco, Roberta Keller, Henry Lee, Robin Ohls and Laura Brown for finding abstract reviewers for our scientific categories and for lining up some excellent State of the Art Speakers that you will not want to miss! We have confirmed Dr. Cosette Wheeler, a University of New Mexico Regents Professor in the Departments of Pathology and Obstetrics and Gynecology, to give the Stanley Wright 2017 Lecture. She has contributed over 25 years to understanding the molecular epidemiology of human papillomavirus (HPV) infections and was instrumental to the development of the HPV vaccines. Don't miss out on her exciting presentation, "The Beginning of the End of Cervical Cancer."

Here are some items for this upcoming year's conference to note as you plan your travels:

1. The conference will start on Thursday, January 26, 2017 at 8 am and end Saturday, January 28, 2017 at 11:45 am.
2. The Joint Plenary Session will be held on Friday afternoon from 1:30 -5:00 pm.
3. The Abbott Nutrition WSPR Reception is on Thursday from 7-9 pm.
4. Most of the sessions will be held in the Sunset Center.
5. Abstracts are due Friday, September 30, 2016 by 12 midnight PST (instead of the usual October 1). <http://wrm2017.abstractcentral.com>.
6. There is an addition of the "Best Case Reports" session on Saturday.
7. Register before January 13, 2017 to get a discounted rate.
<http://secure.medpubinc.com/abstractapp/registration.jsp?p=WRM2017>

I would like to remind you all to please consider nominating your deserving trainees and junior faculty members for the following WSPR Abbott Nutrition Research Awards:

- The **WSPR Abbott Nutrition Young Investigator Award**: Goes 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.
- The **David W. Smith Pediatric Trainee Research Award**: Goes 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.

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

Also, all abstracts submitted by trainees in the student and resident categories will be evaluated for the following WSPR Abbott Nutrition Research Awards. No separate nomination is required.

- The **Lowell Glasgow Student Research Award**: Goes to a student with the most outstanding abstract submitted to WSPR. A \$750 honorarium is provided to the awardee. A copy of the student's abstract must accompany the nomination letter.
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- The **Pediatric Resident Research Award**: Goes to a pediatric resident with the most outstanding abstract submitted to WSPR and comes with a \$750 honorarium.

Please refer to our website ([WSPR Awards](#)) or feel free to email either Melissa Pringle or Con Yost (wsp@hsc.utah.edu) with questions about any of the awards or the nomination process.

Please also encourage your trainees and colleagues to submit abstracts. High scoring abstracts in each of the WSPR Scientific Category will win a WSPR Mead Johnson Travel Award or Abbott Nutrition Subspecialty Award. Our Scientific Categories are as follows: Adolescent Medicine and General Pediatrics, Behavior and Development, Genetics, Morphogenesis and Malformations, General Neonatology, Neonatology Pulmonary, and Neonatal Perinatal Biology. **Again, deadline for the submission date this year is September 30!**

The WAP will be supporting the 2nd Annual Carmel Prize for Research Excellence. These unrestricted cash prizes will support early career faculty at the rank of Assistant Professor who demonstrate excellence in any field of medical research. Two candidates will be chosen to receive the award this year. 1st prize winner will receive \$3,500 and 2nd prize winner will receive \$2,500. They will be decided at the WAP Symposium on Thursday, January 26, 2017 at the meeting and will be based on the quality of the two candidates' oral research presentations. If interested, please submit an NIH-style Biosketch (<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/funding/424/index.htm#format>); the Personal Statement section should include a description of your research program and 2-3 sentences on how you plan to contribute to the Mentorship Session of the 2017 Western Medical Research Conference in Carmel for medical students, residents and fellows. **Application materials should be sent electronically to Ms. Lori Ennis (admin@medpubinc.com) by 5pm Eastern Time on September 10, 2016.**

The Society for Pediatric Research (SPR), our national parent organization, has been working closer with all the regional societies and Dr. Yost has been serving as our liaison. There was discussion of possibly an RFA to support "near missed K-awards" to be released in 2017, so for those of you who are fellows or junior faculty, keep an eye out. Details have not been worked out but it appears that SPR Fellow Section Membership will not be required. When the RFA is released, we will send more details to all of our WSPR members.

Don't forget that 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. It's a wonderful conference to bring your mentees, trial run your oral presentation for the National meetings, and network with colleagues from a variety of disciplines!

The Executive Council will be traveling to Seattle, WA in October to meet with the other societies and finalize the 2017 Western Medical Research Conference. I will share any updates to help with your travel plans. Hope to see a great turn out from the WSPR!

Cheers,
Alberta Kong, MD, MPH

President, WSPR



Secretary/Treasurer Notes:

Annual Dues Reminder

For those members with unpaid 2015-2016 annual dues, please contact Melissa Pringle (wspr@hsc.utah.edu). 2016-2017 academic year dues were invoiced on 7/1/16 and will be considered past due on 10/1/16. **PLEASE** submit your **\$80 (full members)** or **\$25 (trainees or emeritus)** as promptly as possible, including amounts due from previous years.

2016-2017 WSPR Leadership:

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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., M.P.H. – University of New Mexico

CHEERS!