



# WSPR WINTER NEWSLETTER

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January 2017

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



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THE WESTERN SOCIETY FOR PEDIATRIC RESEARCH  
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## President's Message

Dear WSPR Members,

Happy New Year! And welcome new members to the WSPR. I hope you all had a wonderful holiday season.

This is our last letter before our annual meeting. I want to highlight an exciting new event this year so that everyone will attend. One of our goals this past year was to encourage Junior Faculty attendance by supporting some of the travel costs to our

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annual meeting. I am happy to announce that we were able to make this happen and will be presenting six inaugural WSPR Mead Johnson Nutrition Junior Faculty Travel Awards to Assistant Professors with top scoring abstracts from across the West. Please join us in recognizing the outstanding achievements of these junior investigators at a reception held in their honor on Friday, January 27, 2017 at 6 pm in the La Playa Hotel. This new event is open to all WSPR members and their guests so come celebrate with us.

Below is a short summary of WSPR events that I hope you will all attend!

>Thursday, January 26, 2017

1. Registration begins at 8 am in the Sunset Center Entry Lobby with the first presentation starting 9:30 am at the WAP Symposium in Studio 105 given by Carmel Research Prize Winners. The 1<sup>st</sup> talk, "Oxygen Toxicity in the Premature Lung: Can We Separate the Signal from the Inevitable Consequence?" is by our own WSPR member, Clyde Wright from the University of Colorado. 1<sup>st</sup> place winner is chosen based on presentation so please go and support our Pediatric scholar.
2. Concurrent sessions begin at 12:45 pm in the Sunset Center.
3. Welcome Reception and Poster Session jointly sponsored by the five Western Societies is at 6 pm in Carmel Mission Inn (shuttle provided from Sunset Center).
4. Our WSPR Abbott Nutrition Reception at the La Playa Hotel is from 7-9 pm (open to all WSPR members, trainees and guests).

>Friday, January 27, 2017

1. Concurrent sessions start at 8 am.
2. Joint Plenary Session will be held from 1:30-5:00 pm with presentation of WSPR Abbott Nutrition Research Awards. Congratulations to Young Investigator Awardee – Erin Zinkhan, MD (University of Utah), David W. Smith Pediatric Trainee Research Awardee – Maura Ruzhnikov, MD (Stanford University), and Lowell Glasgow Student Awardee – Sydney Bowen (University of Utah)!
3. WSPR business meeting is from 5-5:30 pm right after the Plenary Session. Please attend.
4. Dysmorphology Club starts at 5:15pm.
5. WSPR Mead Johnson Nutrition Junior Faculty Travel Award Reception and Western Perinatal Club Reception is from 6-7 pm at the La Playa Hotel (open to all WSPR, AAP, and CAN members and guests). Congratulations to the following inaugural winners of the WSPR Mead Johnson Nutrition Junior Faculty Travel Awards: Mary Ramos, MD/MPH – Assistant Professor (University of New Mexico); Jessie Maxwell, MD – Assistant Professor (University of New Mexico); Tai-Wei Wu, MD – Assistant Professor (Children's Hospital of Los Angeles, University of Southern California); Katherine Moore, MD – Assistant Professor (University of Colorado); Kalpashri Kesavan, MBBS – Assistant Professor (University of California – Los Angeles); and Farhad Imam, MD/PhD – Assistant Professor (UCSD)!
6. Western Perinatal Club Briefing starts at 7pm.

>Saturday, January 28, 2017

1. Concurrent sessions start at 8 am and end at 12 pm.

I also want to highlight the excellent featured talks and speakers we have lined up this year.

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- Adolescent Medicine and General Pediatrics I session: State-of-the-Art presentation, “The Value of Clinical Pathways in Pediatric Medicine,” by Douglas Matsell from BC Children’s Hospital on Thursday, January 26 at 1:30 pm.
  - Neonatal Pulmonary III session: State-of-the-Art presentation, “Molecular Mechanisms of Abnormal Lung Development in Congenital Diaphragmatic Hernia,” by Xin Sun from University of California, San Diego on Friday, January 27 at 8:45 am.
  - Neonatology-Perinatal Biology I session: University of Colorado Fred Battaglia State-of-the-Art presentation, “Protecting the Newborn Brain: Can Erythropoiesis Stimulating Agents Improve Neurodevelopmental Outcome?” by Robin Ohls from the University of New Mexico on Friday, January 27 at 8:00 am.
  - Behavior and Development 1 session: State-of-the-Art presentation, “Life Course Research with the Cohort in Santiago, Chile” by Sheila Gahagan from the University of California, San Diego on Friday, January 27 at 11 am.
  - Morphogenesis and Malformations session: State-of-the-Art presentation, “Elephants, Genomes, and Cancer: How Comparative Oncology Can Help Our Pediatric Patients” by Joshua Schiffman from the University of Utah on Friday, January 27 at 10:15 am.
  - Neonatology General IV session: Joan E. Hodgman Lecture, “The Most Important Words in Science” by Kristi Watterberg from the University of New Mexico on Friday, January 27 at 10:15 am.
  - Plenary session: WSPR Stanley Wright Memorial Lecture, “The Beginning of the End of Cervical Cancer” by Cosette Wheeler from the University of New Mexico on Friday, January 27 at 3:15 pm.
  - Perinatal Briefing: “Bugs, Births, and Babies” by David K. Stevenson from Stanford University on Friday, January 27 at 7 pm.

There are many more featured presentations by the other societies so please go to [http://www.medpubinc.com/pdf/2017\\_WMRC\\_Program.pdf](http://www.medpubinc.com/pdf/2017_WMRC_Program.pdf) for a more detailed look at the program. And if you haven’t registered, you still have time! Go to the WSPR home page at <https://www.aps-spr.org/Regions/WSPR/> and click on 2017 WSPR Meeting Registration.

The success of our annual meeting would not be possible without the voluntary efforts of our Council members and the WSPR Leadership, especially Secretary-Treasurer Con Yost and his assistant, Melissa Pringle. Con and Melissa really keep the WSPR running smoothly and provide tremendous support throughout the year. I also want to thank Robert Dahms from Abbott Nutrition, and Rick Skaar from Mead Johnson Nutrition for their generous corporate sponsorship this year, as they have done in past years. Their sponsorship makes WSPR the strongest and most supported Society each year at the Carmel Meeting. We are grateful for their ongoing enthusiastic interest in WSPR and their support of Pediatric research. I look forward to seeing all of you in Carmel!

Best wishes for 2017 and beyond,  
Alberta Kong, MD, MPH  
President, WSPR

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### **Secretary/Treasurer Notes:**

#### **Annual Dues Reminder**

For those members with unpaid 2016-2017 annual dues, please contact Melissa Pringle ([wspr@hsc.utah.edu](mailto:wspr@hsc.utah.edu)). 2017-2018 academic year dues will be invoiced on 7/1/17 and are considered past due as of 10/1/17. **PLEASE** submit your **\$80 (full members)** or **\$25 (trainees or emeritus)** as promptly as possible.

#### **New Member Nomination**

We continue to invite WSPR members to nominate new members who are making contributions for Pediatric research! Applications are evaluated on a rolling basis, quarter by quarter, and no deadline is set. Details regarding the nomination application for full, emeritus, and trainee membership are available on the WSPR website ([Membership Applications](#)).

### **2016-2017 WSPR Leadership:**

#### **President:**

Alberta S. Kong, M.D., M.P.H. – 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

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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., M.P.H. – University of New Mexico

***CHEERS!***