

Stereotactic and Functional NEUROSURGERY NEWS



Fall 2010

AANS/CNS Section on Stereotactic and Functional Neurosurgery and American Society for Stereotactic and Functional Neurosurgery

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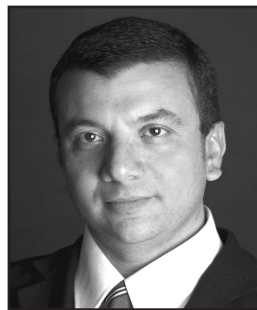
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Toward a Multidisciplinary and Vibrant ASSFN



Emad Eskandar

The field of stereotactic and functional neurosurgery has undergone a period of tremendous growth over the past two decades. Based on advances in neuroscience, engineering and

improved clinical approaches, the field now offers treatments for a broad range of conditions that previously had very limited options. Among these are Parkinson's disease, dystonia, tremor, epilepsy, pain, and more recently major public health problems such as major depression and obsessive compulsive disorder. The field is on the verge of providing a variety of gene-therapy treatments and improved treatments for conditions that previously had limited options such as traumatic brain injury and stroke.

Continued development in this field depends on close collaboration between various clinicians (neurologists, psychiatrists, psychologists, radiologists, and surgeons), along with equally close collaborations with biomedical engineers, basic neuroscientists and others.

The ASSFN is extremely interested in expanding its membership to become the premier forum where clinicians, engineers and scientists can come together to develop the next generations of treatments. This is a unique opportunity for these diverse disciplines to

collaborate on promising ideas and projects.

With this energy and interest in mind, we would like to ask you to interest your colleagues in joining the ASSFN and participating in this exciting, dynamic and rapidly growing field.

The advantages of Active membership include:

- Listing of resources and updates through the website, www.assfn.org.
- Subscription to *Stereotactic and Functional Neurosurgery*, the official journal of the ASSFN.
- Online access to the journal, including current issues and all archived material.
- Reduced rates for future ASSFN meetings.
- Inclusion in all ASSFN mailings and e-mailings.
- Eligibility to become a member of the Board of Directors or an officer.

Please direct interested colleagues to the website at www.assfn.org and the "member application" link. They also can contact Melody Dian, the ASSFN administrator, at mdian@centurytel.net for any assistance with membership.

Please ask your colleagues in neurology, psychiatry, neuroscience, engineering or other disciplines to join so that we have a truly multidisciplinary and vibrant society. We also encourage you to fully participate in the ASSFN. Please contact any of the officers or committee chairs with questions on how to participate or with suggestions for improving our organization.

3 Meetings Advance Stereotactic and Functional Neurosurgery

Educational meetings offer the opportunity to interact with and learn from colleagues, perhaps igniting a spark that will lead to a new advancement in our field. The AANS Annual Meeting in May and the ASSFN biennial meeting in June were rich with material that inspired. The upcoming CNS meeting will offer the latest information against the backdrop of beautiful and bustling San Francisco.

2010 CNS Meeting Highlights

The 2010 CNS Annual Meeting will take place Oct. 16–21 in San Francisco, Calif. This promises to be another great meeting with many exciting presentations, beginning with a neuromodulation symposium on Sunday, Oct. 17, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. On Monday afternoon, there will be a section session with presentation of the top 10 abstracts and the Stereotactic and Functional Neurosurgery Resident Award. On Tuesday there will be a special course, “Deep Brain Stimulation: Advancing Technology and Expanding Indications,” moderated by Philip A. Starr and Aviva Abosch. And on Wednesday afternoon, there will be a session entitled “Complication Avoidance in Deep Brain Stimulation Surgery,” moderated by W. Jeffrey Elias and Brian H. Kopell.

ASSFN Meeting in New York City

The ASSFN biennial meeting June 13–16 was dedicated to the rapidly growing specialty of stereotactic and functional neurosurgery. We welcomed honored guest lecturer (and ASSFN past president) David W. Roberts from Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center and invited lecturer Paul Greengard, a 2000 Nobel Prize winner from Rockefeller University.

New this year was a premeeting practical course on deep brain stimulation for movement disorders for neurologists, nurse practitioners, and physician assistants. And, because of high interest at the 2008 meeting, breakfast sessions were offered once again. This year’s special topics were “Cell Transplantation”; “Neural Prostheses”; and “Consciousness: Disorders and Surgical Treatment.”

Our meeting venue, the New York Marriott Downtown, was located in the midst of one of America’s most fascinating areas—old New York. Among the steel-and-concrete canyons of the Wall Street area there are many sites that remain from the colonial era, representing some of the earliest urban settlements in North America. Looking to the future, the rebuilding of the World Trade Center was taking place near our hotel. We hope you all came and enjoyed the sights and sounds of downtown New York. The scientific and social programs were outstanding, and we had record-breaking attendance.

The next meeting will be held in beautiful San Francisco in 2012. It promises to be better yet, so please plan to attend.

2010 AANS Annual Meeting Highlights

The 2010 AANS Annual Meeting took place May 1–5 in Philadelphia, Pa. As part of the meeting, the Stereotactic and Functional Neurosurgery Section planned the following

presentations. A session on stereotactic and functional neurosurgery with presentation of oral papers and selected posters took place on Monday. There was a special presentation, “21st Century EEG in Functional Neurosurgery,” by George A. Ojemann.

There was also an excellent session on Tuesday in conjunction with the Pediatric Section on functional neurosurgery in children, moderated by Aviva Abosch and Michael G. Kaplitt. The talks included: “Surgical Treatment of Pediatric Epilepsy,” by James T. Rutka; “Overview of Movement Disorders Surgery in Children,” by A. Leland Albright; “Deep Brain Stimulation in Secondary Dystonia,” by John Harrel Honeycutt.

The Philip J. Gildenberg Stereotactic and Functional Resident Award was given for a paper entitled “Multifractal Complexity in Epileptiform Hippocampal Dynamics,” by Demitre Serletis, Taufik A. Valiante, Berj L. Bardakjian, and Peter L. Carlen (Toronto, Canada).



Philip J. Gildenberg (left) presents the Gildenberg award to Demitre Serletis.

New ASSFN Website in the Works

Given the importance of the Web in today’s connected world, the ASSFN is planning improvements to www.assfn.org that will reflect the vigor and technological innovation inherent in stereotactic and functional neurosurgery.

We would like to thank Paul Larson, our previous webmaster for www.assfn.org, for an excellent job on maintaining the society’s website. The job of maintaining the website has now been turned over to a new committee composed of Kendall H. Lee (chair and webmaster), Clement Hamani (vice-chair), Ash Sharan, and Alon Mogilner.

Our current Web development company, WSOL, has managed websites for both the WSSFN and ASSFN since 2000. To take advantage of cost savings the sites were constructed at the same time, which is why their appearance and functionality are similar. While our website has stood the test of time, 10 years is a long life span for a website, and many new Web technologies have subsequently become available. Our website committee, in coordination with Melody Dian, ASSFN administrator, is therefore working on improving the look and functionality of www.assfn.org.

The current website has features such as a home page with recent information, member directory, news archive, board and officer listings, and additional pages for awards and links. Improvements planned for the website include redesign, improved site layout and graphics, and a content management system that allows, for example, for members to update their own contact information. Additional functionality planned for the future include the ability to offer member-only login to secure areas, message boards, adding flash animation elements, and possibly even online chat capability.



American Society for Stereotactic and Functional Neurosurgery Application for New Membership

Name _____

Office Address _____

City _____ State _____ Country _____

Phone _____ Fax _____ E-mail _____

Residency Training Program _____ Years: _____

Medical School _____

Specialty (circle) Neurosurgery Neurology Other: _____

AANS Member Yes No CNS Member Yes No

Interests in Stereotactic and Functional Neurosurgery: (please circle)

- | | | | |
|------------------------|--------|--------------|----------------|
| Movement Disorders | Pain | Epilepsy | Psychosurgery |
| Biomedical Engineering | Tumors | Radiosurgery | Image Guidance |

Determine and circle your membership category:

Category	Yearly Fee	Description
Active	\$325	For practicing neurosurgeons in the United States or Canada who have completed residency/fellowship
Resident/Fellow	\$25	One-time fee (not yearly). For neurosurgical trainees currently in residency or fellowship
Senior	Free	For neurosurgeons who are retired and over 65 years old
Associate	\$50	For non-neurosurgeons

The benefits of Active membership include:

- Membership in the AANS/CNS Section on Stereotactic and Functional Neurosurgery
- Membership in the World Society for Stereotactic and Functional Neurosurgery
- Reduced fees for the biennial ASSFN meetings
- Subscription to the journal *Stereotactic and Functional Neurosurgery* (including online access)

The benefits of all other membership categories are:

- Membership in the AANS/CNS Section on Stereotactic and Functional Neurosurgery
- Reduced fees for the biennial ASSFN meetings
- Eligibility to subscribe to *Stereotactic and Functional Neurosurgery* at a reduced rate. If you are joining as a resident/fellow, associate, or senior member and wish to have the journal subscription, the fee is \$135. Please check this box:
 YES, I would like to receive the society journal at the reduced rate.

There are two ways to become an ASSFN member:

- Apply online at www.MyAANS.org (for Active member applications only)
- Mail this application form to ASSFN
c/o Melody Dian
ASSFN Administrator
419 Oak Street West
Frederic, WI 54837

All applicants will be invoiced through AANS once the application has been approved.

For questions or concerns, contact ASSFN Administrator Melody Dian (mdian@centurytel.net), Secretary-Treasurer Aviva Abosch (aabosch@umn.edu), or Membership Chairman Emad Eskandar (eeskandar@partners.org).

ASSFN–AANS/CNS Section on Stereotactic and Functional Neurosurgery

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Rolling Meadows, Illinois 60008

ASSFN Officers and Executive Council

Officers

Ali R. Rezai, MD, President

Konstantin V. Slavin, MD, Vice-President

Aviva Abosch, MD, PhD, Secretary-Treasurer

Philip A. Starr, MD, PhD, Past President

Executive Council

Emad N. Eskandar, MD (2008-2012)

Christopher R. Honey, MD (2008-2012)

Brian H. Kopell, MD (2008-2012)

Alon Y. Mogilner, MD, PhD (2008-2012)

Robert E. Gross, MD, PhD (2010-2014)

Clement Hamani, MD, PhD (2010-2014)

Michael G. Kaplitt, MD, PhD (2010-2014)

Peter E. Konrad, MD, PhD (2010-2014)

Kendall H. Lee, MD, PhD (2010-2014)

Ashwini D. Sharan, MD (2010-2014)

Historian

Philip L. Goldenberg, MD

Retreat Helps ASSFN Move Forward

The ASSFN Officers and Executive Council held a one-day retreat in Chicago on Aug. 28 to foster discussion of financial issues, long-term strategic planning, and the overall vision for the society. Drafts of the ASSFN mission and vision statements that had been circulated prior to the retreat were discussed. At the event the importance of active participation by each society member and board member was stressed. Board members are expected to serve as chair or co-chair of at least one ASSFN committee. Each board member also will be in charge of a particular subsection of the society, preparing regular updates on developments in that subsection, and serving as a liaison to appropriate professional societies of interest. Society members are encouraged to participate in the committees of their greatest interest. Committee selection appointments were made for the five existing standing committees and newly created ad hoc committees.