PRE-CON NEWSLETTER

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PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

I am very much looking forward to joining fellow NCS members at our 92nd Annual Meeting this September in Chicago. The Fairmount Chicago, Millennium Park has undergone a significant renovation recently, assuring a state-of-the-art and contemporary venue positioned in the heart of Chicago. Grant Park, The Art Institute, the Field Museum, Navy Pier and the Magnificent Mile are filled with one-of-a-kind foods, shopping experiences, and an atmosphere like no other and are all within the hotel’s immediate vicinity.

This year’s meeting will kick off with the Welcome Reception where I encourage you to join in the fun by wearing your favorite sport team’s jersey. I’m positive there will be quite a few rivalries present! During the Welcome Reception there will be a variety of craft beers, specialty wines and appetizers to sample. I also encourage you to attend the President’s Reception to spend time socializing with colleagues and planning to attend next year’s meeting.

I’d like to thank Dr. Jeffrey Triest for his hard work organizing this year’s scientific program. He has truly planned a phenomenal meeting that will provide attendees with an excellent overview of all aspects of urology.

Further, there will be a very important vote to amend our bylaws this year at the annual business meeting. Among several changes, the one I would like to highlight most is the creation of a Women in Urology Committee that will consist of a chair, vice chair, and a member and alternate from the states that comprise of our section. This committee is certain to add an important voice and to our board.

I look forward to seeing you in Chicago!

Gary J. Faerber, MD
University of Utah Urology

SEE YOU IN CHICAGO
for the
92nd ANNUAL MEETING
of the
NORTH CENTRAL SECTION OF THE AUA

Register and view up-to-date program, social and meeting information online at ncsaua.org
The 92nd Annual Meeting of the AUA’s North Central Section will be held at the historic Fairmont Chicago, Millennium Park from September 5 - 8, 2018. The NCS Program Committee, with the aid of our current President, Dr. Gary Faerber, and local arrangements chair, Dr. Geoffrey Box, have organized an outstanding meeting. This year’s educational opportunities and scientific activities begin on Wednesday morning. Meeting favorites like the very topical Health Policy and Practice Management Seminar as well as the Urology Primary Care Update will return. These sessions are sure to provide plenty of useful content for practicing urologists as well as advanced practice providers. Each of these sessions will feature prominent speakers both from within as well as outside the section.

New this year is a surgical video seminar in which edited videos will be used by in-section experts to illustrate pitfalls, tricks, and tips to facilitate the performance of both complex and common laparoscopic and robotic surgical procedures. Podium and poster sessions will begin early in the day with some sessions starting at 6:30 a.m. There will be a variety of robust moderated panel discussions including such topics as advanced prostate cancer, infertility, andrology, and urinary tract calculi. As always, there will be lunchtime medical education seminars kindly sponsored by our industry supporters covering important topics for all practicing urologists.

Our section President, Dr. Faerber, has invited several outstanding speakers who will cover a variety of important and timely topics. This year we are delighted to have Dr. Joel Nelson from the University of Pittsburgh, and Dr. Glenn Preminger from Duke University in Durham, North Carolina. Our visiting professors will provide state-of-the-art lectures and participate on several interactive panels.

While the scientific program promises to be outstanding so too are the evening activities carefully selected by Dr. Geoffrey Box, our local arrangements chair. Please join us for the President’s Reception Friday Night as it’s sure to be a great time. And, as has been tradition, make sure to join in the festivities at the sports team themed Welcome Reception Wednesday evening. Wear your favorite sport team’s jersey and take the opportunity to catch-up with friends and meet new ones.

Chicago is one of America’s premier cities and September is a beautiful month to visit. During the week of the NCS Annual Meeting there will be a variety of opportunities for “extra-curricular” fun. Chicago’s Miracle Mile awaits with its shops and fine eateries. There are a variety of water taxis and river cruises, which highlight the city’s beautiful architecture. Chicago is home to many museums and galleries that appeal to guests of all ages. During the week of September 5 - 8, The Art Institute of Chicago will play host to a multitude of exhibits including the paintings of John Singer Sargent. The Steppenwolf Theatre Company features a production of “The Guards of the Taj”, and the Museum of Broadcast Communications will entertain visitors with “Saturday Night Live: The Experience” where guests can find out what it is like to be a cast member on this iconic television show. Last, but not least, the Chicago White Sox will host my beloved Detroit Tigers during a home stand at Guaranteed Rate Field.

We sincerely hope you will come join us in Chicago. We look forward to seeing you there!

Jeffrey A. Triest, MD
Michigan Institute of Urology
REPORT FROM THE NCS REPRESENTATIVE TO THE AUA BOARD

I am looking forward to meeting you in Chicago at our Section meeting. Drs. Faerber and Triest and their team have planned an exceptional scientific program. I remain privileged to represent our section at the AUA Board of Directors. The AUA continues to work for us on multiple fronts. I have listed some of the highlights of the AUA in 2018:

**ABU’s Lifelong Learning:** The AUA is working closely with the ABU to prepare urologists for the new recertification process with Lifelong Learning. The Lifelong Learning Course, on September 14 - 15, 2018, in Washington, DC will prepare attendees for the ABU recertification.

**New Podcasts:** The AUA expanded the podcast program in 2017 to include AUA Plenary sessions and Industry sponsored programs. This resulted in a 300% increase to the podcast subscriber rate. Two new podcasts are scheduled for 2018, Update on Medical & Surgical Management of Advanced Testis Cancer and Minimally Invasive Treatment of BPH.

**New Guidelines:** The Board approved the Testosterone Deficiency, Erectile Dysfunction, and Benign Prostatic Hyperplasia Guidelines and an amendment to the Castration Resistant Prostate Cancer Guideline during the spring of 2018. I encourage you to access all guidelines via the app on your smart phone.

**Research Scholar Award Program:** The Research Scholar Program, AUA’s premier funding opportunity, provides $40,000 per year for one- and two-year mentored training for 1) Clinical and postdoctoral fellows who are no more than five years beyond completing a doctorate or residency or 2) Early career investigators who are in the first five years after beginning a faculty position. The 2019 Research Scholar Award Pre-applications will be due mid-August and applications due mid-September.

**Membership Statistics:** AUA’s membership count as of March 31, 2018, is 21,797. Domestic urologists make up 68% of the membership followed by 32% international urologists.

**Annual Urology Advocacy Summit:** The inaugural Annual Urology Advocacy Summit took place from March 12 - 14 in Washington, DC, with nearly 250 attendees representing the eight AUA Sections, 15 urologic specialty organizations, and 15 separate patient advocates.

**Patient Education:** The Public Education Council and Committees (PECC) of the Urology Care Foundation have updated/developed 11 patient education pieces around the four Guidelines approved and released by AUA in the first five months of 2018. This resource is available online to practices and their patients.

**Regards,**
Chandru P. Sundaram, MD, FACS
*Indiana University School of Medicine*

REPORT FROM THE TREASURER

As Treasurer of the NCS, the objective is to assist the board of directors in achieving the short and long-term goals of the organization in the context of sound financial decision making. As of June 30, 2018, the NCS balance sheet shows an NCS fund balance of $2,631,469, and the NCS checking account shows a balance of $228,893. The Education Fund shows a balance of $2,294,689. The NCS operating income for the period ending in June 2018 was $145,465.

The NCS is generally in a good financial position moving into the second half of 2018.

NCS President, Dr. Faerber, and Secretary, Dr. Triest, have been working hard to plan another outstanding NCS Annual Meeting in Chicago this September. I look forward to seeing you all next month.

**Mark D. Stovsky, MD, MBA, FACS**
*Cleveland Clinic Glickman Urological Kidney Institute*
The following bylaws changes reflect updates to the requirements for State Representatives serving on the NCS Board of Directors, the addition of the Women in Urology Committee and the addition of a vacancy policy for any elected positions of the Section.

ARTICLE II
OFFICERS
Section 11 – Vacancies
Should a vacancy occur in any elected office of the Section, more than sixty (60) days before a scheduled election, then the Executive Committee shall promptly nominate a replacement from among the membership of the existing Board of Directors, taking into account geographic considerations and relevant factors of experience and necessary qualifications for the vacant position. The vacancy shall be filled at a special meeting of the Section Board of Directors, requiring a vote of two-thirds of the entire Board, excluding the individuals whose names have been placed in nomination.

ARTICLE III
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Section 1 – Members of Board
The Board of Directors shall consist of the President, President-Elect, Immediate Past President, Secretary, Treasurer, Historian and one elected member from each of the following geographic units: (1) Illinois; (2) Indiana; (3) Iowa; (4) Michigan; (5) Minnesota, North Dakota, and South Dakota; (6) Ohio; and (7) Wisconsin. The Representatives to the Board of Directors of the AUA, the Secretary-Elect, the Treasurer-Elect, the Chair of the Women in Urology Committee, the Chair of the Health Policy Council, and the Chair and the Vice-Chair of the Young Leadership Committee shall be non-voting members of the Board of Directors.

Section 2 – Term
The term of office of the geographic unit members shall be three (3) years and no retiring member of the Board of Directors shall be eligible for re-election to the Board as a representative of a geographic unit. Geographic unit members are required to practice in the state in which they are representing. If the representative moves outside of the state of representation during his or her term, a vacancy is automatically created and a replacement representative will be filled in accordance with these Bylaws.

ARTICLE IV
COMMITTEES
Section 16 - Women in Urology Committee
The Committee shall consist of a Chair and Vice Chair, and one member and one alternate from the following geographic units: Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota, Ohio, and Wisconsin with two year staggered terms to ensure no more than one member rotates off a geographic unit annually. Appointments to the geographic units are to be made by the Committee in consultation with the outgoing Women in Urology Committee member and/or the NCS Board of Directors representative of the outgoing geographic unit. The Committee itself appoints its own Chair and Vice Chair, each for a term of two years, renewable once, with the Vice chair ascending to the position of Chair at the end of the terms with the Women in Urology Committee approval. The Women in Urology Committee’s primary responsibility is to advise the Board of Directors on issues of particular concern to female urologists and addresses membership issues for female urologists. The Women in Urology Chair shall serve ex-officio, without vote, on the NCS Board of Directors for the duration of her term. The Chair presents at the Section Board of Directors’ meetings and is responsible for planning the Women in Urology segment on the annual meeting program when applicable.

ARTICLE VIII
VACANCIES
Should a vacancy occur in any elected position of the Section, more than sixty (60) days before a scheduled election, then the Executive Committee shall promptly nominate a replacement from among the membership or the existing Board of Directors, taking into account geographic considerations and relevant factors of experience and necessary qualifications for the vacant position. The vacancy shall be filled at a special meeting of the Section Board of Directors, requiring a vote of two-thirds of the entire Board, excluding the individuals whose names have been placed in nomination.
Urologists Comment on Final Prostate Cancer Screening Recommendation

In a letter dated May 20, the urologic community applauded the USPSTF for recognizing the need for an individualized approach to cancer screening and upgrading its recommendation for men age 55-69 years, noting that the revisions reflect a large collaborative effort from the prostate cancer community. But while the revised recommendation is a clear improvement, the letter also reiterates disappointment in its failure to extend the upgrade to men ages 70 and above, instead maintaining its blanket recommendation against screening for men this age group. As such, urologists continue to emphasize the importance of an individualized approach to screening based on an informed discussion between patients and their doctors that takes into account not only age, but also individual risk factors, comorbidities, life expectancy, and personal preferences.

Changes Needed to Stark Law, Ohio Urologist Tells U.S. Lawmakers

During a recent meeting of a U.S. House committee, lawmakers generally agreed that the Stark law against physician self-referral needs to be updated, but there was disagreement on how much reform needs to occur. Ohio urologist Gary M. Kirsh, MD, testified that private practices were wrongly left behind when Congress created exemptions for Accountable Care Organizations. Significantly, the development of advanced payment models will be stifled until the law catches up to modern models of medical practice.

Illinois Expands Number of Physician Assistants Allowed by Law

A change in Illinois law will allow doctors and health care facilities to hire more physician assistants in a move to ease the shortage of doctors in parts of the state. Previously, doctors could not work with more than five physician assistants. Now that number goes to seven. In parts of the state that have a shortage of health professionals, the ratio is being eliminated entirely.

Indiana Governor Makes Appointments to GME Board

Governor Eric Holcomb announced several appointments and reappointments to the Graduate Medical Education Board. Dr. Paul R. Haut (Carmel), COO of Riley Hospital for Children, will continue his service on the board. Dr. Tricia L. Hern (Zionsville), vice president of academic affairs for Community Health Network. Timothy Putnam (Batesville), president and CEO of Margaret Mary Health. Dr. Jeffrey Rothenberg (Indianapolis), chief medical officer at St. Vincent Hospital. Beth Wrobel (Valparaiso), CEO of HealthLinc, will continue her service on the board. Dr. Rachel A. Shockley (Indianapolis), program director for Community Health Network Family Medicine Residency South, will join the board. Each member's term expires Dec. 31, 2019.

Iowa Court Declares Experience Should Be Accounted for in Informed Consent

The Iowa Supreme Court ruled that a patient may sue their surgeon if the provider does not disclose his/her experience with a particular procedure. A Coon Rapids patient sued his doctor and the Iowa Heart Center on several grounds, including the fact that the surgeon did not disclose that he'd never done the procedure before. A Polk County district judge ruled such a disclosure was not required under Iowa's "informed consent" law, but the state Supreme Court disagreed, finding that doctors have a duty to inform patients of their professional experience or training, and it should be up to a jury to determine whether the lack of such disclosure violated a patient's right to informed consent.

Michigan Proposal to Restrict Access to Adoptive Cell Transfer Therapies Rejected

Thanks due, in large part, to swift action undertaken by the urologic community, the Michigan Certificate of Need Commission recommended against a proposal to restrict cellular therapies to a select few facilities in the state. This patient-centered and cost-conscious recommendation is a victory for clinical urologists and the patients they serve. A joint letter pointed out that requiring a certificate of need for these treatments will have a particularly negative impact on the treatment of advanced prostate cancer. As with most certificate of need regulations, "Restricting the provision of these services to a select few facilities will lessen the quality of care rendered to all patients, deny access to most residents and increase the cost of these services."
Minnesota May See Bump in Number of Physician Legislators
A medical doctor hasn't served in the Minnesota House of Representatives for more than 15 years, but this fall, two physicians are running to represent competitive suburban swing districts. If they're successful, they'll join two physicians serving in the Senate and become part of a rare group of legislator-doctors who have served in the state Legislature. Since the 1970s, there have only been seven medical doctors who have served in either the House or Senate. The biggest single challenge could be finding the time. Technically serving as a legislator is a part-time job, but doctors can be on call at any time. During session, legislators may have to rush to vote, only to have floor sessions delayed for several hours.

North Dakota Insurance Department Eyeing Options for Health Care Reform
The North Dakota Insurance Department is seeking a consultant to help find answers to reforming the state's individual health care markets. Insurance Commissioner Jon Godfread says health care reform has stalled in Congress and consumers are facing increased costs and fewer options. Godfread says the agency wants to study options to help bring the costs down. Godfread says Blue Cross Blue Shield is the only insurer offering statewide coverage on the federal Affordable Care Act exchange.

Ohio Legislature Considers Step Therapy Reforms
In May, the Ohio Senate Health, Human Services, and Medicaid Committee attempted to revive an effort to reform step therapy protocols for Ohioans. On the 22nd of May, the same committee held a fourth hearing on the subject with numerous proponents testifying in favor of the legislation. Despite a bevy of support amongst the patient advocates and legislators, leadership remains hesitant about advancing the legislation. As a result, proponents look to renew efforts next year.

South Dakota Addressing an Unprecedented Workforce Shortage
Last month the national unemployment rate dropped below four percent, continuing a year-long downward trend. South Dakota is seeing the same downward trend with rates already lower than that national average. While these low unemployment numbers are a sign of a strong economy, it also creates some big challenges. It will take hundreds of hands to construct the new Avera hospital in Sioux Falls. The hands of another 500 people are needed to work inside the hospital when it is complete. But right now those essential hands are tough to find. Daugaard has spent much of his near eight years in office addressing workforce issues.

Wisconsin Court Upholds Medical Liability Limits
The Wisconsin Supreme Court upheld the state's cap on noneconomic medical malpractice damages, reversing a lower-court ruling that awarded $15 million to a woman who had all four limbs amputated after a mishandled infection. The court ruled 5-2 in a long-running case closely watched by doctors, hospitals and the insurance industry. The Chief Justice wrote that the cap doesn't run afoul of equal protection guarantees and that the Legislature had a rational basis for setting it at $750,000. She noted that lawmakers argued the cap would keep health care affordable and provide reasonable compensation for injuries. Liberal-leaning Justices dissented, saying the cap denies the catastrophically injured full damages.
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92nd Annual Meeting | CHICAGO | September 5 – 8, 2018

Registration for the 92nd Annual Meeting is available online at ncsaua.org!

We look forward to seeing you at the Fairmont Chicago, Millennium Park!