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Rhinological and  
Otological Society, Inc.  
aka The Triological Society

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**SENIOR FELLOW NEWSLETTER**

**September, 2009**

It is a pleasure to inaugurate a special letter designed to keep our Senior Fellows up-to-date on the activities of the Triological Society. Since some of you are unable to attend the annual and sectional meetings, it is our hope to provide periodic updates on those meetings along with other Society information.

**TRIOLOGICAL TRANSFORMATION:** During his presidency, Myles Pensak, MD, introduced a number of changes and improvements in the Society. Recognizing that one of the most valuable assets of the Society is the intellectual property from the meetings and *The Laryngoscope*, he created an Intellectual Properties Committee. With engagement of younger members of the Society this committee will explore other methods of dissemination of information, such as web seminars, podcasts and other electronic media.

**THE LARYNGOSCOPE:** After careful consideration and negotiation, the Society has partnered with John Wiley & Sons (Wiley-Blackwell) to publish *The Laryngoscope* effective January 1, 2009. The journal will continue to be provided to all members of the Triological Society in print and online. At [www.laryngoscope.com](http://www.laryngoscope.com), you will find an entire archive of *The Laryngoscope*, containing content back to the first issue in 1896.

Two other initiatives are being supported by the new publishing arrangement:

- All residents in ACGME accredited programs will receive *The Laryngoscope* at no cost for the duration of their residency. We hope this early introduction to the Journal and the Society will encourage more residents to consider membership in the Society as part of their future.
- Each year, one issue of *The Laryngoscope* will be distributed to 5,000 practicing otolaryngologists who do not currently subscribe to the Journal, further allowing us to spread the Society message. This special issue is currently in production and will be distributed in November, 2009. Jonas T. Johnson, MD, Editor of *The Laryngoscope*, has crafted an issue that will contain numerous invited review articles and a new feature "Trio Best Practices," a concise clinically-relevant review of a topic of contemporary practical importance. In response to his request for a short article on the history of the Triological Society and *The Laryngoscope*, I had the pleasure of preparing such a document, with tremendous assistance from Drs. Robert Miller, Roger Crumley, Stanley Blaugrund, H. Bryan Neel, Pat Brookhouser, Myles Pensak and Jonas Johnson. I hope that you will find it informative and would greatly appreciate your feedback.

**GRANT SUPPORT:** One of the most impressive achievements of the Triological Society has been the support of research through the awarding of grants. The annual level of grant support has risen from \$100,000 in 1994 to \$280,000 in 2009. More than \$2 million in grant funds have been awarded since 1994. Grants have been awarded in virtually all areas of contemporary otolaryngology-head and neck surgery. Smaller resident grants have gradually been supplanted by larger career development awards of \$40,000 to \$80,000.

**MEMBERSHIP UPDATE:** At the annual meeting, 22 new Fellows were welcomed into the Society after successful completion of their theses. Honored theses included the Mosher Award which was presented to Dr. Stephen Wang, University of California, San Francisco and two Fowler Awards presented to Dr. Ravindra Elluru, University of Cincinnati and Dr. Andrew Lane, Johns Hopkins. Honorable Mention Awards were conferred upon Drs. Stephen Conley and David Friedland, both of the Medical College of Wisconsin. Thirty-five new candidates for Fellowship were approved at the Section business meetings in January, 2009.

In his presentation at the annual business meeting, Dr. Pat Brookhouser, Executive Secretary, provided statistical data on Society membership and meetings. The Society currently has 486 Active Fellows and 333 Senior Fellows. Median and mean age of Fellows has been consistently around 55 years of age.

During his presidency in 2003, Dr. Roger Crumley made a commitment to increase Society membership. He and his committee continue to foster this process by reaching out to potential candidates and their sponsors. If you have candidates you wish to propose for Fellowship, materials are due October 1<sup>st</sup>. Information is available on the Society website or by calling the administrative office at 402-346-5500.

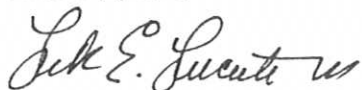
**COSM 2009:** President Myles L. Pensak hosted our annual meeting at the Desert Ridge Marriott in Phoenix AZ, May 28-31 with 611 registrants in attendance. An outstanding educational program was presented, including a panel on pediatric airway and a panel which addressed ethical issues. There were 42 free or invited papers and 121 posters. One of the highlights of the meeting was the Ogura Lecture, "Eco-Conservation in Surgery," delivered by Dr. Robin Cotton who discussed the adverse impact of waste and inefficiency in hospitals on public health. He encouraged physicians to become agents of change and to help find ways to eliminate, reduce, reuse and recycle. Dr. Pensak's Presidential Address discussed mentorship in contemporary medicine. Presidential Citations were presented to Drs. Michael Glasscock III, Jack Gluckman, John Kveton, Charles Meyer III, Rick Pillsbury and Mitchell Schwaber.

**2010 MEETINGS:** Due to the financial constraints of holding separate sectional meetings, including declining exhibitor and commercial support, all four sections will meet together on February 4-7, 2010, at the JW Marriott Grande Lakes in Orlando, Florida. This arrangement will allow greater interaction among members of the various sections as well as afford exhibitors with exposure to more attendees. To encourage your participation in this combined meeting, **the meeting registration fee for Senior members will be waived.** Information will be sent to all members in October and will be available at [www.triological.org](http://www.triological.org).

The next Annual Meeting of the Triological Society will be held at Paris Hotel in Las Vegas Nevada, April 28-May 2, 2010. Gady Har-El, MD will be my Guest of Honor and Marvin P. Fried, MD, will deliver the Ogura Lecture. Lanny G. Close, MD, is Program Chairman.

I am very grateful for the opportunity to serve the Society as President during the 2009-2010 term and am greatly enjoying working with many members. I hope that, as a Senior Fellow, you will continue to stay actively involved in the Society and provide both feedback and guidance as we move through challenging times.

Sincerely yours,



Frank E. Lucente, MD  
President