Dear Senior Fellow:

As many of you are aware, our Executive Secretary and Triological champion, Dr. Patrick Brookhouser, passed away suddenly this past September. He served as the Executive Secretary since 1997, with the exception of one year when he served as President, and was instrumental in moving the office to Omaha after a somewhat tumultuous period in St. Louis in 1996 and early 1997. Dr. Gerald Healy is serving as the Interim Executive Secretary while the President, Dr. Robert H. Ossoff and a committee begin the task of finding a successor. During the recent Combined Sections Meeting program, H. Bryan Neel, MD, gave a very eloquent and meaningful tribute to Pat Brookhouser and his life and leadership skills which will be available on the Society website in the near future.

The four Sections of the Triological Society had a very exciting and informative meeting at the Loews Hotel in Miami Beach from January 26-28, 2012. Miami proved to be a popular meeting site with more than 500 physician registrants. The outstanding scientific program was compiled by a broad-based Program Planning and Advisory Committee chaired by Stephen Park MD (Southern) with liaisons Wendell Yarbrough, MD (Southern), Albert Merati, MD (Western), Douglas Girod, MD (Middle), and Samuel Selesnick, MD (Eastern). Popular sessions included the video session on “How I Do It”, and the Point/Counterpoint session. Our “Resident Bowl”, a game show format featuring competing teams of residents from 10 institutions, who matched their knowledge and wits with a faculty team, proved to be more popular than ever with nearly 150 attendees participating and cheering on their resident teams. Robert H. Ossoff, MD, gave a very thoughtful Presidential address on work and life balance which is featured in the February issue of our newsmagazine, ENT today. This article may also be read online at www.enttoday.org. Each sectional Vice President chose a distinguished Guest of Honor. The group included Frank Shagets, MD (Western), Harold C. “Rick” Pillsbury MD (Southern), Charles N. Ford, MD (Middle) and Michael M.E. Johns, MD (Eastern).

One of the special aspects of the meeting was to see the names of so many of our current or former Senior Fellows listed in the program as a result of having an award named after them or for other reasons. The annual George Adams, MD Young Faculty Award was given by the Middle Section to Dr. Julie Wei of the University of Kansas Medical Center. The designated Resident Research Awards alternate names each year. This year the honored names included...
Drs. Shirley Baron, Paul Holinger, John J. Conley, John E. Bordley, Walter Work, and Richard Bellucci. Future years will surely see more and more of our Senior Fellows being honored for their contributions to the Society.

During the meeting in Miami we hosted the first meeting of the Past Presidents' Advisory Group at a luncheon. Much of the discussion centered around the newly-created Noble Legacy Fund. The past presidents and sectional representatives were asked to provide input into the details of creating the effort to assure the continued financial security of the Triological Society, especially through planned giving. Further details will be provided following the San Diego meeting.

The Council approved the theses of 39 candidates who will be welcomed into membership at the upcoming Annual Meeting. The Thesis Committee, chaired by Rick Pillsbury, was commended for their diligent work in carefully screening all theses and in selecting the following six honorees: Nira Goldstein, MD and Judith Lieu, MD for co-Mosher Awards, Quyen T. Nguyen, MD for the Fowler Award, Adrien Eshragi, MD and Bruce Haughey, MBChB for Honorable Mention Awards, and Daniel D. Lydiatt, DDS, MD who will receive a With Distinction Award.

Many Senior Fellows had important roles in motivating, proposing, seconding and advising candidates as they moved through the thesis process. This is one way in which you can remain active which is a unique part of this organization.

The Society Treasurer, Myles L. Pensak, reported that the Society continues to have its assets handled well by our financial advisors. As a result, in 2011 the Society was able to fund seven Career Development Awards/Clinical Scientist Awards in the amount of $360,000. Additionally, 144 residents are eligible to receive travel grants with a possible award of $108,000 to their training programs. These awards are given to help support the travel of the residents who made podium and poster presentations at the scientific program in Miami. At the recent Council meeting, an expenditure of up to $480,000 in grant support for the coming year was approved. The Society continues to be an excellent investment for those who would like to support research and education in the profession.

Our current membership statistics indicate that our Active Fellowship has continued to increase since 2002 and the age of our new Fellows coming into the Society has changed to a younger demographic over the past six years.

Plans are moving forward for the Annual Meeting which will be held at the Manchester Grand Hyatt in San Diego on April 20-21 in conjunction with COSM. The scientific program chair is Gaelyn Garrett, MD from Vanderbilt. She and her program committee are to be congratulated for assembling an excellent program. Further details on the meeting, including hotel and registration information can be found on the Triological website, www.triologic.org. The early registration deadline is March 9th. If you need assistance with the meeting or have questions, the administrative office is available to assist you. You can reach them at 402-346-5500.
Among the anticipated highlights of the Annual meeting are the following:

- The Presidential Address, to be given by Robert H. Ossoff, MD, will address “Leadership, Legacy and Succession”.
- The President’s presentation will be followed by the Guest of Honor, Dr. Paul Levine, who will present “Marketing in our Specialty: The Need for Honesty, Integrity, and Reality”.
- The annual Ogura Lecture will be presented by James Netterville, MD, who will speak on “Listening to Patients and Tumors: Lessons Learned from 25 Years of Treating Patients”.
- Two State of the Art lectures will be presented: PET/CT in Head and Neck Oncology will be given by Jonas T. Johnson, MD, and Current Concepts on the Applications of Lasers in Laryngology: Science, Not Magic, will be given by Mark Courey, MD
- Panels will be presented on Controversies in Otology and Neurotology and Pay for Performance.
- The COSM poster sessions will feature research and clinical studies of more than 500 otolaryngologists and otolaryngology residents.

I encourage our Senior Fellows to provide feedback on this newsletter and to share your thoughts with me about the future of our special organization.

Sincerely yours,

Frank E. Lucente, MD, Past President
Editor, Senior Fellow Newsletter