Where Are They Now? An Interview with Dr. John Steele

—Carlo Colosimo, MD, Sapienza University, Rome, Italy; Co-Editor, Moving Along

John Steele who described progressive supranuclear palsy (PSP) with Professors Richardson and Olszewski in Toronto during his neurology residency, moved to Oceania in 1972, and has lived on Guam and studied the ALS/Parkinsonism–dementia complex since 1983. His father and grandfather were physicians and his uncle Harold Copp, was the physiologist who discovered calcitonin. They began his interest in medicine and after preparation at the University of Toronto Schools, he entered the University of Toronto Medical School in 1952.

Neurologists Clifford Richardson and Henry Barnett encouraged him to pursue neurology, and in 1965 he completed the residency program at the Toronto General Hospital. He became a Fellow of the Canadian College of Physicians that year and during the next 18 months, as a McLachlan Scholar, he traveled to England and France. In 1968, after spending a year in Thailand as an instructor of neurology at the Prasat Neurological Institute, he returned to Toronto be a staff member at the Hospital for Sick Children (HSC). But academic pediatric neurology was not fulfilling for him and after several years he left HSC, traveled abroad with his family, and considered new directions for his life and career.

After a visit to Micronesia in western Oceania in 1972, Steele agreed to join the US Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands as a part of a new and innovative health service for this region. He worked first in the Marshall Islands and learned about local diseases while caring for patients and teaching its staff about Western medicine. Later, as a professor with the University of Hawaii Medical School, he organized and directed a manpower development and retraining program for Micronesia’s health workers on Ponape in the Eastern Caroline Islands. By 1982, he and his colleagues had established a referral hospital and medical education center there, in the center of Micronesia, and a cadre of local health workers to continue its services.

When he completed this 10-year health development project, he moved to Guam to become the neurologist at the US Naval Hospital and medical director of a VA clinic. With NINCDS epidemiologist Bruce Schoenberg, they began new observations of parkinsonism and the prevalence of the ALS/Parkinsonism–dementia complex, a local disease related to PSP, which he had first learned of from neuropathologist Asao Hirano in 1963 when he was describing PSP with Olszewski.

Early on he confirmed the clinical similarities of ALS/PDC and PSP when he cared for a Guamanian veteran who exhibited Richardson’s syndrome and who had returned to Guam after 30 years away. By this single patient, he confirmed a PSP phenotype in ALS/PDC and learned it had a remarkably long latency.

Since then he has continued studies of ALS/PDC with colleagues in other parts of the world. Although their discoveries have been slow, they know now that this unique geographic isolate of neurodegenerative disease, endemic for more than 150 years has slowly declined by its phenotypes of ALS, parkinsonism and dementia during the past 50 years. His good friend and collaborator Patrick McGeer finds its immunopathology includes 3R and 4R tau, Abeta, alpha-synuclein, ubiquitin and TDP-43, and this polyproteinopathy is expressed by diverse phenotypes. He finds that many features resemble a chronic, spreading infection by transformed proteins, akin to prion disease, post-encephalitic parkinsonism, and SSPE. Dr. Steele remains optimistic that ALS/PDC of Guam can still be understood and can provide understandings of PSP and related neurodegenerations including AD, PD and ALS. But, even if the disease ends without full understanding, he is pleased by his peripatetic life, and his contributions to neurology and Pacific medicine.

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We are delighted to share this latest iteration of Moving Along with The Movement Disorder Society. In this issue, Dr. Colosimo was able to spend some time with Dr. John Steele – of Steele-Richardson-Olszewski fame – and ask about his work in the Parkinson plus syndromes: Progressive Supranuclear Palsy and Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis/Parkinson-Dementia Complex of Guam. His story and interview are featured as part of the “Where Are They Now?” series. We hope you enjoy this review, and that you will send us e-mails about people to feature in the future – please know we would be happy to share the work, and allow any Society member to contribute an interview and summary to the newsletter.

This issue also features the many highlights of the 14th International Congress in Buenos Aires. Congratulations to the Organizing Committee for providing such a terrific venue for academic discussion and the wonderful entertainment of Argentina! We also extend congratulations to the award winners listed in the issue, and to the International Secretariat for the continued growth in our educational activities. This issue also contains messages from Prof. Philip Thompson, MDS President; Prof. Günther Deuschl, MDS President-Elect; and from our Regional Section chairs: Prof. Alfredo Berardelli, European Section; Prof. Bhim Singhal, Asian and Oceanian Section; and Dr. Jorge Juncos, Pan American Section.

New emphasis is being placed on the Society’s responsibility to provide education to residents, fellows, internists, general neurologists and others interested in Movement Disorders, and Dr. EK Tan (Singapore) provides a summary of goals for this committee. Other educational activities that utilize the MDS website are summarized by Dr. Hubert Fernandez (now adjusting to his new responsibilities at the Cleveland Clinic) and Dr. Marcelo Merello (Buenos Aires). Congratulations for receiving the Standard of Excellence Web Award! The issue also summarizes two excellent courses held in the Netherlands, led by Prof. Bastiaan Bloem and Prof. Berardelli, and in Portugal under the direction of Prof. Joaquim Ferreira.

An alert reader may notice that the Controversies Section is not present in this issue. We have, however, provided the reader with photographs to review – and consider the merits of motorized versus non-motorized two-wheeled transportation. Thank you to bikers Dirk Dressler, Carlo Colosimo, Alberto Albanese and Giovanni Cossu for sharing their photos. We also wish to thank David John Burn for sharing his training photo as he completes the Lakeland Loop, a 75-mile trek through the UK, as part of his training for l’Etape de Tour, a stage of the Tour de France.

We invite photographs from our musician colleagues for the next issue! We know doctors love music, and possibly neurologists even more in particular. If you agree with this assumption, please send us your stories and pictures related to your interest and love for music. Please forward your pictures to Elizabeth Laur at the MDS Secretariat (elaur@movementdisorders.org).

Lastly, you may have noticed a change in the representations of the Moving Along editors. These upgrades in our appearances are courtesy of Mrs. Tonia Carnasole, an artist and friend of Dr. Colosimo. As always, we invite any and all with an interest in submitting an article for review or a topic for discussion to contact us through Moving Along at the MDS Secretariat. We are grateful for the support of the staff members of MDS, particularly Elizabeth Laur, who is already keeping us at deadlines for the next issue.
The mission of The Movement Disorder Society states: The Society shall be to advance the neurological sciences pertaining to Movement Disorders to improve the diagnosis and treatment of patients; to operate exclusively for scientific, scholarly and educational purposes; to encourage research; to provide forums, such as medical journals, scientific symposia and International Congresses, for sharing ideas and for advancing the related clinical and scientific disciplines; and to encourage interest and participation in the activities of the Society among healthcare professionals and scientists; and to collaborate with other related professional and lay organizations.

As reported in an earlier issue of Moving Along, every three years the Society embarks on a strategic planning process to identify priorities for the coming years. The 2010-2013 Strategic Plan is now finalized and available for members to review on the MDS website at www.movementdisorders.org.

One of the central priorities from the strategic plan is to develop and deliver innovative education that reflects the broad and evolving needs of Movement Disorder professionals. This requires our committees to spend months, and sometimes a year, planning a particular event. Although the Buenos Aires Congress was just this past June, members of our Congress Scientific Program Committee (CSPC) have already finalized the 2011 Toronto program, our largest educational effort with over 68 sessions and 175 faculty.

To ensure the Congress meets the needs of Movement Disorder professionals, the CSPC and the Education Committee begin the planning process 18 months in advance by selecting the Congress theme and developing the teaching courses. The CSPC relies heavily on needs assessment and evaluation data submitted by the membership and carefully considers all of the topic suggestions submitted via the website, generally over one hundred suggestions are put forward. In designing the scientific program, the CSPC makes deliberate efforts to bring new people and new topics into the program. Wherever possible; they select faculty who have not spoken in both of the previous two Congresses.

While the Congress is our largest educational endeavor, the Society recognizes that members require a variety of learning formats. Our Regional Sections design programs that meet the needs of local audiences, our Education Committee collaborates with our journal editors to provide journal-based activities and, as you will see on page 9, internet material is an increasingly important educational format.

Looking forward to future educational programming, the Society is working on a basic Movement Disorder curriculum as a result of discussions which took place at our strategic planning meeting. Our goal is to develop a basic course that provides an overview of Movement Disorders and a clinical approach for the evaluation and management of common movement disorders. Our aim is to make the course curriculum, syllabi, and slides available to be used in part or as a whole to conduct educational courses. The first of these courses will be held the day prior to the 2011 Toronto Congress (see page 10 for more information).

Providing and supporting outstanding educational programming is one way MDS strives to achieve our mission. I am appreciative of the strong support from membership in our efforts to gauge their needs as reflected in the response rates to various surveys and evaluations. I encourage members to review our strategic plan and continue to participate in initiatives that will help us advance our mission.

Philip Thompson, MB, BS, PhD, FRACP
MDS President 2009 – 2011

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The 14th International Congress of Parkinson’s Disease and Movement Disorders was held in Buenos Aires, Argentina on June 13-17, 2010. This was the first time that The Movement Disorder Society (MDS) has ever held an International Congress in South America, and the city of Buenos Aires was indeed a wonderful host. With the delicious food and great wine, the exciting camaraderie during the 2010 World Cup games, the vibrant nightlife and the warm and friendly attitude of the local people, 4,000 delegates were welcomed to this city making it the second highest attended MDS International Congress thus far!

As this was the first time to South America for many people who attended, there was a very positive and energized ambience around the halls of the Sheraton Buenos Aires Hotel and Convention Centre. This proved to be an ideal backdrop to learn about the latest research and perspectives in the field of Movement Disorders and for networking and collaborating with colleagues. Everyone’s participation made for some unforgettable highlights during the week:

• 74 countries represented
• 118 Travel Grants awarded
• 194 faculty members participated in the Scientific Sessions
• 1,067 posters and 29 late-breaking posters accepted
• 4 Therapeutic Plenary Sessions
• 8 Plenary Sessions
• 24 Parallel Sessions
• 8 Teaching Courses
• 11 Video Sessions
• 9 Skills Workshops
• 16 Guided Poster Tours
• 22 companies exhibited
• 23 representatives from the press attended, resulting in 300 media placements

Under the direction of Christopher Goetz, the Congress Scientific Program Committee (CSPC) made every effort to ensure that the science for the 14th International Congress was diverse and educational. There were 7 sessions that were related to this year’s theme of “Neuroimaging in Movement Disorders” which allowed participants to have an educational and comprehensive overview on this subject.

To claim CME credit for your participation in the MDS 14th International Congress, please visit www.movementdisorders.org/congress/congress10/cme/ and complete the on-screen instructions using your registration file number. All eight Teaching Courses from the 14th International Congress are available on DVD for purchase. Each DVD includes slides, audio and video and the accompanying syllabi. To order, please visit www.movementdisorders.org/congress/congress10/teaching_courses/.

MDS President Philip Thompson distributed the following awards during the Opening Ceremony:

Honorary Member Awards:
- Ann Graybiel, Cambridge, MA, USA
- Andrew Lees, London, United Kingdom

President’s Distinguished Service Award:
- Anthony E. Lang, Toronto, ON, Canada

Stanley Fahn Lecturer:
- Gerald Stern, London, United Kingdom

C. David Marsden Lecturer:
- Yves Agid, Paris, France

Junior Award – Clinical Research:
- Roberto Cilia, Milan, Italy

Junior Award – Basic Science:
- Raphael Hourez, Boston, MA, USA

Additionally, 118 Travel Grants were distributed. Please see page 6 for more information on these awards.

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The first official evening of the 14th International Congress commenced with the Opening Ceremony followed by the Welcome Reception. This particular social event was a great way for attendees to network and have fun with their colleagues all while experiencing a taste of Latin/South America. Each room contained a different theme and entertainment highlighting different regions of South America. Delegates enjoyed being able to wander between the Argentinian Room, the Brazil Room, the Central America/Caribbean Room and the Mexican Area where the food was plentiful and the spirit of the culture encouraged fun and dancing.

The Gala Event took place at Opera Pampa on Tuesday, June 15. This was the first time that MDS has held a Gala since the 2007 Istanbul International Congress. After the cocktail hour, delegates moved outside to the heated amphitheater for a unique show about Argentinean traditions. The gauchos, who showed their amazing horse skills, and the dancers, who performed on the largest outdoor stage in Latin America, worked together to tell the story of the arrival of horses to America to the birth of the Argentine nation. At the conclusion of the show, the attendees moved back inside to feast on meat that was roasted in a typical barbecue spit, the way gauchos prepare it.

About 1,200 delegates gathered to watch unique Movement Disorder cases on the evening of Wednesday, June 16 during the 3rd Annual Video Olympics. The cases presented were selected from a large number of submissions by an international panel of reviewers. Led by the Masters of Ceremony Anthony Lang and Kapil Sethi, the world-renowned Panel of Experts engaged the audience by guiding them through the thought process of diagnosing challenging cases. For the first time in the MDS Video Olympics, there were two teams of Experts who competed for the highest number of correct diagnoses that they made. The two teams were as follows:

**Team 1:**

Victor Fung, *Sydney, Australia*

Federico Micheli, *Buenos Aires, Argentina*

Wolfgang Oertel, *Marburg, Germany*

C. Warren Olanow, *New York, NY, USA*

**Team 2:**

David John Burn, *Newcastle upon Tyne, United Kingdom*

Francisco Cardoso, *Belo Horizonte, Brazil*

Boem Jeon, *Seoul, Korea*

Stephen Reich, *Baltimore, MD, USA*

The 10 cases presented came from Movement Disorder Centers around the world which offered an enjoyable spirit of competition to this event. The Gold medal was awarded to the Federal University of São Paulo in Brazil (presented by Jose Luiz Pedrosa; Cryptococcal parkinsonism), the Silver medal was awarded to the Movement Disorders Society of Japan (presented by Taku Hatano; Primary CNS lymphoma – PSP phenotype) and the Bronze medal was awarded to the Movement Disorder Society of Australia (presented by Katya Kotschet; GLUT1 Deficiency syndrome in twins).

Other institutions represented in the presentations were: Hospital de Clinicas (Argentina), King’s College Hospital (United Kingdom), DISMOV-SIN Group (Italy), Reta Lila Weston Institute of Neurological Studies (United Kingdom), Thai Movement Disorders Society/Chulalongkorn University Hospital (Thailand), the Neurological Institute of New York (United States) and St. Vincent’s University Hospital (Ireland).

The Movement Disorder Society would like to thank all of the institutions and national Movement Disorder groups who submitted a Letter of Intent at the start of this process and would especially like to thank those who were selected to present their case during the Video Olympics. Many thanks to Kailash Bhatia, Susan Bressman, Oscar Gershani, Andrew Lees, Anthony Lang and Kapil Sethi for reviewing the Letters of Intent and submitted cases and for choosing the final cases for presentation. Please view the website for the upcoming deadlines if you are interested in participating in the 4th Annual VO Games to be held in Toronto on June 8, 2011.

The Movement Disorder Society would like to extend their gratitude to faculty, supporters, exhibitors and delegates for coming to Buenos Aires and for helping make the 14th International Congress of Parkinson’s Disease and Movement Disorders a truly unforgettable and successful meeting.

Mark your calendars! MDS is already planning for the 15th International Congress in Toronto, ON, Canada on June 5-9, 2011. Please visit our website for current details regarding this Congress at www.movementdisorders.org/congress/congress11/ or contact the International Secretariat at congress@movementdisorders.org with any questions.
2010 MDS Awards Announced

During the 14th International Congress of Parkinson’s Disease and Movement Disorders, June 13-17, 2010 in Buenos Aires, the Society was proud to honor the following MDS award recipients:

President’s Distinguished Service Award
The President’s Distinguished Service Award is given in recognition of long and distinguished service to The Movement Disorder Society (MDS).

2010 Recipient
Anthony E. Lang
Toronto, ON, Canada

Previous recipients of the President’s Distinguished Service Award include Serge Przedborski (2009), Cynthia Comella (2008), C. Warren Olanow (2007), Eduardo Telosa (2006), Stanley Fahn (2005), and Mark Hallett (2004).

Honorary Member Award
The Honorary Member Award recognizes individuals who have made extraordinary contributions to the field of Movement Disorders or otherwise to The Movement Disorder Society.

2010 Recipients
Ann Graybiel
Cambridge, MA, USA
Andrew Lees
London, United Kingdom


Junior Award
Two Junior Award recipients were selected based on their significant contribution to clinical and basic science research in the field of Movement Disorders. One award was presented for excellence in clinical research, and another for excellence in basic science research.

2010 Recipients
Roberto Cilia, Clinical Research
Toronto, ON, Canada

Previous recipients of the Junior Award include Helen Ling (Clinical 2009), Carlos Juri (Basic Science 2009), Luke Massey (Clinical 2008), Binith Cheeran (Basic Science 2008), Christine Daniels (Clinical 2007), Myriam Khondiker (Basic Science 2007), Andre Troiano (Clinical 2006), Akiko Imamura (Basic Science 2006), Peter Novak (Clinical 2005), Nutan Sharma (Basic Science 2005), David Williams (Clinical 2004), Pedro Gonzalez-Alegre (Basic Science 2004), Sylvie Raoul (Clinical 2002) and Jan Raethjen (Basic Science 2002).

Travel Grants
MDS Travel Grants are offered annually in partial support of International Congress delegates in financial need to facilitate their travel to and participation in the International Congress of Parkinson’s Disease and Movement Disorders; 118 Travel Grants were awarded in 2010.

2010 Recipients
Roy Alcalay
New York, NY, USA

Phalguni Alladi
Bangalore, India

Jakub Antczak
Warsaw, Poland

Busra Arica
Ankara, Turkey

Elena Baratelli
London, United Kingdom

Simon Baudrexel
Frankfurt, Germany

Oscar Bernal-Pacheco
Gainesville, FL, USA

Kalyanbrata Bhattacharyya
Burwan, India

Heather Boger
Charleston, SC, USA

Manon Bouchard
Calgary, AB, Canada

Maria Bringas
Havana, Cuba

Kathrin Brockmann
Tübingen, Germany

Lena Burbulla
Tübingen, Germany

Adam Burdick
Gainesville, FL, USA

Sara Cipriani
Charlestown, MA, USA

David Crosiers
Wilrijk, Belgium

Joana Damasio
London, United Kingdom

Ulziibayar Dashdorjiin
Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia

Susanne Duerr
Innsbruck, Austria

Cecile Duru
Amiens, France

Murielle Ferraye
Grenoble, France

Jana Godau
Tübingen, Germany

Justus Groen
Amsterdam, Netherlands

Jifeng Guo
Changsha, China

Deepak Gupta
Ludhiana, India

Amit Gupta
Chandigarh, India

Anhar Hassan
Rochester, MN, USA

Takaaki Hattori
Tokyo, Japan

Xianghua He
Chengdu, China

Rick Helmich
Nijmegen, Netherlands

Claire Hinnell
London, United Kingdom

Elise Houdayer
Bethesda, MD, USA

Raphael Hourez
Boston, MA, USA

Daniel Huddleston
New York, NY, USA

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Where are they now? CONTINUED FROM COVER

INTerview, August 9, 2010

Who were your most influential teachers?

In 1961, when Dr. Richardson accepted me into his neurology training program at the Toronto General Hospital, I joined a group of gifted residents who he mentored to become the leaders of Canadian neurology. He was a distinguished neurologist of the Queen Square tradition, a disciplined and precise person, and a fine teacher who encouraged those traits in us all. During my second year, I worked with Jerzy Olszewski, the new professor of neuropathology at the Banting Institute to describe cases Dr. Richardson had identified with an unusual syndrome of progressive and supranuclear palsy. I’ve never worked harder, put in so many hours, learned more, or enjoyed anything so much. His approval gave me confidence, and our seminal description of PSP was accomplished during 18 months. Richardson and Olszewski were my most influential teachers, and PSP is the legacy of what they taught me.

Which event has most affected your work?

Our description of PSP and my subsequent studies of ALS/PDC on Guam have defined my neurological career. But my awareness of neurodegenerative disease is lifelong and began in childhood with Lewy body disease, which caused a dreadful dementia in my grandfather. During medical school it struck my mother, and later a brother and sister. That disease has been a lurking threat to us all during our lives, as each was aware we might be the next to suffer it.

As a neurologist, DLBD, PSP and ALS/PDC have led me to try to understand their pathogenesis, and I have hoped that by such understanding we could modify and perhaps prevent them. It has been a hope for the world, and also a hope for myself, and my family.

What aspect of your career has given you the most pleasure?

Guam is the perfect living laboratory for investigating a disease. It is small, easily accessed, isolated, and its population is stable and helpful in medical studies. All those who have come here since 1945 to investigate ALS/PDC have thought its cause should be easy to discover. But it has not. Some have given up, but many have persisted.

My greatest pleasure is the many years of scientific challenge I’ve spent in trying to find its cause, by living here and searching for it in the context of the island and its people. I began by testing the aluminum hypothesis proposed by Gajdusek with Crapper McLachlan, and when that was unlikely, I investigated the cycad seed hypothesis of neurotoxicity proposed by Kurland and Spencer with Duncan, and when that was unlikely, I examined the genetic hypothesis with Perz-Tur and Hardy, and when that was unlikely, I sought for anthropological reasons with Keck, and when those were negative, I turned to the toxicity of flying foxes (i.e. fruit bats) proposed by Cox but with McGeer and we found this too was unlikely. Each hypothesis was an adventure of study but a disappointment when found to be unlikely.

Whom do you admire?

I have great admiration for many wise friends and colleagues who have encouraged and supported my studies of PSP and ALS/PDC during many years. Patrick McGeer, Director of the Kinsmen Laboratory of Neurological Research and his wife Edie at the University of British Columbia, and Andrew Lees, Scientific Director of the European PSP Society and Professor of Neurology at Queen Square, and Oliver Sacks, author and neurologist, have been particularly helpful.

What is your unrealized ambition?

To identify the cause of ALS/PDC on Guam, to understand the reason for its ending here, and to end related diseases in other parts of the world.

What is your biggest regret?

That “the quarry, hotly pursued for fifty years now with all the resources that science can bring will elude them, tantalizingly, by disappearing at the moment they are about to grasp it.” (Oliver Sacks, from his book about Guam titled The Island of the Colorblind, 1997.)

Which single medical advance would benefit most people?

An end to neurodegeneration of the nervous system and its infirmities, including dementia.

What would be your advice to a newly qualified doctor?

Be certain you are interested by what you do and your success and good fortune will follow. That was my father’s advice to me at graduation; I have followed it in my life, and I recommend it to others.

What was your biggest mistake?

I’ve made many mistakes in my life which seemed big at the time, but I don’t remember any as the “biggest”. I am blessed that my life has been happy, and I’ve had scientific achievement and lots of personal satisfactions. I am healthy and still have my wits at 75, and I am continuing to learn about ALS/PDC.
The *Movement* Disorder Society Trends

**Membership Growth**

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**Congress Attendance**

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**Impact Factor for Movement Disorders**

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**Number of MDS Educational Activities**

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Interested in getting involved in The Movement Disorder Society?
—Günther Deuschl, MD, MDS President-Elect

During the Leadership Session at the 14th International Congress of Parkinson's Disease and Movement Disorders in Buenos Aires, eleven leaders of the Society presented their perspectives of how interested members could get involved. We are happy to report that many members indicated their interest. We would also like to take the opportunity to invite other interested members to submit their names prior to finalizing the list of candidates that will be shared with task force and committee chairpersons.

The committees and task forces who are seeking volunteers are listed below. The incoming President selects the committee and task force chairpersons and together they select the committee membership. New committees will be formed in June 2011. If you are interested in participating on a committee or task force, please submit your name and a few words detailing your background and interests to Pamela Fierst at pfierst@movementdisorders.org.

- Congress Scientific Program Committee
- Awards Committee
- Education Committee
- CME Committee
- Publications Oversight Committee
- Website Editorial Board
- Scientific Issues Committee
- Archives Committee
- Bylaws Committee
- Industrial Relations Committee
- Membership Committee
- Liaison/Public Relations Committee
- Task Force on Mild Cognitive Impairment in PD
- Task Force on Epidemiology
- Task Force on Neurosurgery
- Task Force on DBS in Dystonia
- Task Force on EBM in Movement Disorders
- Task Force on Development of Rating Scales for Parkinson's Disease

Basic Movement Disorders Curriculum Task Force

In the 2010 to 2013 MDS Strategic Plan, one of the key education goals is to develop a basic Movement Disorders course. The purpose of such a course is to provide an overview and clinical approach for the evaluation and management of common movement disorders. The course will be especially developed for trainees, internists, general neurologists and other clinicians interested in acquiring a basic understanding of Movement Disorders.

In early 2010, a global task force of 21 members was assembled consisting of members of the MDS central and regional education committees. The task force is co-chaired by Claudia Trenkwalder and guided by Daniel Tarsy and Cynthia Comella (Chair and past-chair of the MDS Education Committee). Its task is to develop the curriculum, slide-sets and syllabi for the basic Movement Disorders course. Upon identification of 16 key topics to be covered in the course, the topics were divided up amongst the task force members who have been at work preparing the material.

Once this material has been developed, the vision is to enable such courses to be conducted around the world to raise the understanding of movement disorders amongst clinicians. An inaugural basic Movement Disorders course will be conducted as a pre-congress event at the 15th International Congress of Parkinson's Disease and Movement Disorders being held in Toronto, Canada in June, 2011. The main target group for this course will be internists and general neurologists from Canada and neighboring USA cities. Once this course has been launched in June 2011, it is hoped that similar one- or two-day courses will be hosted and conducted in other cities and regions around the world. More information on the development of these courses will be made available in due time. We look forward to MDS members actively applying to the MDS Education Committee to host basic Movement Disorders courses around the world.

Louis Tan, FRCP (Singapore)
Chair, Basic Movement Disorders Course Curriculum Task Force
MDS Website Honored With ‘Standard of Excellence’ WebAward

It was recently announced that the MDS website has been honored with the 2010 Web Marketing Association’s “Standard of Excellence” WebAward.

The award recognizes the MDS website (www.movementdisorders.org) in both the Nonprofit and Medical sectors. The website was judged in seven categories: Design, Technology, Interactivity, Content, Ease of Use, Copy Writing and Innovation.

The website scored above the industry standard in each of the seven categories, thereby earning the “Standard of Excellence” recognition. MDS scored highest in the areas of Content, Technology and Innovation.

“The MDS website is a valuable resource for researchers, clinicians and health care professionals,” said Marcelo Merello, MD, PhD, Co-Medical Editor and Co-Chair of the Web Editorial Board. “We are honored that the website was recognized for its contributions to the field of Movement Disorders.”

“We have worked very hard to make the MDS website user-friendly, engaging and most of all, helpful to the thousands of visitors who rely on it for educational and scientific information,” added Dr. Hubert Fernandez, MD, Co-Medical Editor and Co-Chair of the Web Editorial Board. “It’s a good feeling to know that we are making strides in this area.”

About the competition
The Web Marketing Association is the producer of the WebAward Competition. Now in its 14th year, the WebAwards is the premier annual website award competition that names the best websites in 96 industries while setting the standard of excellence for all website development.
Me and my favorite bike or motorbike...

Dirk Dressler, Hannover, Germany

David John Burn, Newcastle Upon Tyne, United Kingdom

Carlo Colasimmo, Rome, Italy

Alberto Albanese, Milan, Italy

Giovanni Cossu (and son), Cagliari, Italy
Dear Colleagues,

It was a pleasure to meet so many colleagues from the European Section at the MDS Congress in Buenos Aires in June. The ESEC meeting during the Congress reviewed the MDS 2010-2013 Strategic Plan to determine how the Section could help to further the Society's objectives within Europe. Increasing knowledge and awareness to expand the field of Movement Disorders in Europe is a major aim of the Section, and increasing MDS membership is a major aim of the Society; we felt that both aims will best be achieved through excellent regional educational programming. Joaquim Ferreira, Chair, and the members of the European Section Education Committee, have worked tirelessly over the last year to develop new programs, and attracted over 120 participants to the De Novo Parkinson’s Disease: Diagnosis and Treatment course in Lisbon in April. Our ESEC members in Eastern Europe, Evzen Ruzicka, Pille Taba, Andrzej Friedman, and Vladimir Kostic, have used their regional connections to promote the availability of MDS support for local meetings, and the resulting programs will all help to increase the Society's profile and visibility in this important region. We hope to be as successful in assisting colleagues in North Africa in the development of Movement Disorders education, and will be increasing our efforts to be in contact with them to offer support.

With the EFNS Congress in Geneva behind us, and the Movement Disorders program for the EFNS 2011 Congress in Budapest approved, we are now starting to plan the EFNS 2012 Congress program for Stockholm. Our collaboration with EFNS continues to be very successful, and is an extremely important aspect of the Section’s activities.

Another collaborative activity with EFNS is the development of regional recommendations for different aspects of Movement Disorders. The revised recommendations for the management of early and late Parkinson’s disease and dystonia are now in press, and as soon as they are published we will announce their online availability. The EFNS accepted our proposal for a new recommendation on the Diagnosis of Parkinson’s disease. A Task Force convened in Geneva, comprised of members of MDS-ES and members of the EFNS/MDS-ES Scientist Panel on Parkinson's disease and other movement disorders.

I would like to acknowledge Evzen Ruzicka, David Grabli and Davide Martino for serving as the MDS-ES faculty for the EFNS Academy of Young Neurologists in May; as always, we had excellent feedback from EFNS, who were very appreciative of our support.

It was a pleasure to serve as Co-Director of the MDS-ES 2010 Summer School that Bastiaan Bloem hosted in Nijmegen in July. The interaction with students and other faculty members was especially enjoyable, providing a unique opportunity to see firsthand how clinicians from diverse medical cultures approach the investigation of a Movement Disorders patient. Bastiaan and his team in Nijmegen did a tremendous job in organizing this activity, and I thank them, and MDS Program Manager, Hope Wallace, for all their work in making this such a successful event. We are already planning what we hope will be another excellent program for the 2011 Summer School in Naples.

Thanks are also due to MDS members, Mario Miguel Rosa, and Claudia Trenkwalder, European Education Committee members, who contributed questions and case studies on Movement Disorders for the 2010 European Board of Neurology examinations. Claudia was delighted that EBN had asked for questions on Sleep Disorders, because this is an area that she feels needs much wider recognition, and it was a pleasure for the European Section to learn of her election as President-Elect of the World Association of Sleep Medicine.

Alfredo Berardelli, MD
Chairman, MDS-ES
2010 MDS-ES Summer School for Young Neurologists

The third annual MDS-ES European Summer School for Young Neurologists was held Friday, July 9 through Sunday, July 11, 2010 in Nijmegen, The Netherlands. Course Directors Bastiaan Bloem and Alfredo Berardelli led 16 additional local and international faculty and 48 participants from 24 countries in three days of interactive lectures, hands-on patient examinations, and collegial discussion.

This year the patient examinations were conducted over the first two days of the Summer School. Even the patients enjoyed participating in the Summer School. One patient remarked that they were, “grateful to have been able to contribute to this European Education initiative.”

Prior to Friday’s patient examination sessions, two faculty members led participants through an interactive and spirited session explaining their methods for a neurological examination of a patient with a complex movement disorder.

I found this to be by far the most beneficial and practice-changing educational course I have attended in my career to date… since returning home I have applied what I have learned in the clinical setting in the shape of formulating more focused differential diagnoses and thus ordering more appropriate investigations.
– Seán O’Dowd, Dublin, Ireland

This year organizers planned a very special event to close the first day of the program. Participants had the opportunity to enjoy an evening of tango, led by two tango experts. The evening served as an opportunity for faculty and participants to socialize away from academics. The dancing certainly led to much laughing and perhaps a few bruised feet.

“Utile et dulci” could be the motto of your course: you succeeded in combining the useful and so necessary information you have offered to the students with a splendid entertaining program that I will never forget.
– Raluca Ilea, Brașov, Romania

On Saturday, participants had the opportunity to present their own cases to their colleagues in small groups. Top video cases were then submitted for presentation on Sunday. Saturday evening participants enjoyed a video supper at the historical de Waagh Restaurant in one of Nijmegen’s iconic structures.

Since I’ve returned to the hospital where I work, I feel more confident when I’m dealing with such patients [those with movement disorders].
– Charalampous Karakasis, Thessaloniki, Greece

On Sunday, the group investigated therapeutic issues in movement disorders including viewing a live botulinum toxin demonstration. Then, the top case presentations from Saturday were presented by the participants in front of their colleagues and the audience voted for their favorites.

It is the best course I ever attended.
– Rafael González Redondo, Pamplona, Spain

Overall, this three-day course was an exciting opportunity for neurologists from throughout Europe to come together and learn about the field of Movement Disorders. Prof. Bloem and his staff created a weekend of education and camaraderie that will not soon be forgotten.

Putting in practice what I have learned at the MDS workshop…from examination to diagnosis and treatment plan…I intend to make some changes in my bedside teaching and I hope that my students will be as enthusiastic as me regarding this area of neurology.
– Elena Cecilia Rosca, Timișoara, Romania

The Course Directors would like to thank Roche, Novartis Pharma, Orion Pharma, Abbott Neuroscience, Ipsen Farmaceutica, UCB Pharma, Boehringer Ingelheim, GlaxoSmithKline, and Teva Nederland for their support of this course.
De Novo Parkinson’s Disease: Diagnosis and Treatment – Lisbon, Portugal

On April 24, 2010, The Movement Disorder Society promoted a course entitled, De Novo Parkinson’s Disease: Diagnosis and Treatment at the University of Lisbon Faculty of Medicine in Lisbon, Portugal. Course Director Joaquim Ferreira (University of Lisbon Faculty of Medicine, Lisbon, Portugal) led three faculty, Alberto Albanese (Carlos Besta Institute, Milan, Italy), Eldad Melamed (Rabin Medical Center, Tel Aviv University, Tel Aviv, Israel), and Jan Petter Larsen (University of Stavanger, Stavanger, Norway) in the one day course.

Parkinson’s disease can be difficult to diagnose in the early stages. This course provided an opportunity for 125 European neurologists, geriatricians and movement disorders specialists to gain an understanding of the process of accurate diagnosis, assessment of progression, and optimization of treatment strategies for De Novo Parkinson’s disease. Neurologists from Germany, Israel, Norway, Portugal, and Sweden attended the event.

The morning began with a lecture by Prof. Melamed on “The natural history of Parkinson’s disease.” followed by Prof. Albanese’s lecture on “Parkinson’s disease vs. essential tremor and atypical parkinsonism.” The afternoon was spent discussing symptomatic treatment and disease modifying strategies, as well as when to begin treatment and treatment of non-motor symptoms. Additionally, the Faculty presented case studies in the morning and afternoon to provide participants an opportunity to interact directly with the Faculty discussing actual cases.

The participants noted the excellent Faculty and the clinical case discussions as two of the greatest strengths of the course. Participants further noted significant gains in their ability to diagnose Parkinson’s disease and other parkinsonian syndromes, as well as a greater understanding of how different clinical features can predict disease progression.

This course was supported in part by unrestricted educational grants from Teva and Lundbeck.
Dear Colleagues,

As I reflect on the year gone by, I am pleased to see the MDS-AOS steadily growing in stature in our Asian and Oceanian region. The educational activities in particular, under the leadership of Co-Chairs, Profs. Louis Tan and Ryosuke Takeda, have been very well received. I would like to thank the organizers of these programs, the faculty and the participants for making these events successful. I am confident that in the coming year we shall reach out to regions where there are few or no Movement Disorders specialists.

To briefly update you with our activities, the 2010 AOS General Assembly was held on June 14th at the 14th International Congress of Parkinson’s Disease and Movement Disorders at Buenos Aires. Led by Prof. Tim Anderson, MDS-AOS Secretary (who also chaired the meeting), AOS Officers gave reports on the state of affairs in the AOS. Members were encouraged to participate in the broad variety of AOS activities held each year and to urge their national societies to apply for MDS Affiliate Membership. This membership gives member-societies access to educational funding and other benefits not available to individuals.

2009-2010 was another productive year for the MDS-AOS Education programs. Courses were held in China, India, Malaysia, and the Philippines. The AOS Education Summit was recently held in Kerala, India on August 28-29, 2010, as well as a Visiting Professor Program in Shanghai, China on October 31 – November 1. One course to look forward to is an Ambassador Program in Dhaka, Bangladesh on December 3-4, 2010. This will be the first such AOS activity in Bangladesh.

The Asian Scientific Symposium on Parkinson’s Disease and Restless Legs Syndrome was held in Tokyo from July 17 -18, 2010. This annual program, organized by Prof. Yoshikuni Mizuno, has been a gem of the Movement Disorders programs in the Asian and Oceanian region over the past several years. More than 400 delegates from across the Asian region and 38 faculty members participated in this grand event. Besides the rich educational content, it also strengthened the bond of friendship amongst the Asian delegates.

The AOS has recently implemented a quarterly e-newsletter. This AOS E-Newsletter is intended to provide Movement Disorders and neurology news to members and other AOS contacts. We encourage members to submit news of the events in their region, as well as articles on regional access to treatment and care.

I would like to remind all members and interested non-members that the 3rd Asian and Oceanian Parkinson’s Disease and Movement Disorders Congress (AOPMC) will be held from March 25-27, 2011 in Taipei, Taiwan. Travel grants are available. For more information, please contact secretariat@aopmc2011taiwan.com or visit the AOS website. Prof. Robin Wu and her team have put together an impressive program and are making all efforts to make it a very memorable event. I am sure we will all gain a lot from this event and enjoy the traditional hospitality of our gracious hosts.

It has been a great year for the AOS for which I would like to express my sincere thanks to each one of you. We are all looking forward to an even more productive and successful year in 2011 with your help and good wishes.

Bhim Singhal, MD, FRCP
Chairman, MDS-AOS
2010 Ambassador Program Kota Kinabalu, Malaysia
—Shen-Yang Lim, MBBS, MD, FRACP, University of Malaya Medical Centre, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

The annual congress of the Malaysian Society of Neurosciences (MSN) was held in Kota Kinabalu (Sabah, Malaysia) May 21-23, 2010. The major theme for this year’s congress was Movement Disorders. A panel of international and local Movement Disorders experts were invited to speak on a wide range of topics. The congress was well-attended, with about 300 participants, consisting mostly of neurologists and neurology trainees.

We were extremely fortunate to have Prof. Mohit Bhatt from Mumbai, India and Prof. Kailash Bhatia from London, UK as the main speakers. Prof. Mohit Bhatt’s visit was sponsored by The Movement Disorders Society, under the Ambassador Program. He gave three superb lectures on Wilson’s disease, Oromandibular dyskinesia, and Movement Disorders Emergencies, and together with Prof. Bhatia provided stimulating discussion of cases presented by local neurologists during the “Video Rounds” session. The depth of the invited speakers’ experience and knowledge was very evident to all present, and we are very appreciative of the useful knowledge gained during the three-day conference.

The congress organizers are also very grateful to The Movement Disorder Society, and to Prof. Bhim Singhal, Dr. Louis Tan and Ms. Catherine Breckenridge, for the generous support provided.

From left to right: Faculty for “Movement Disorders day”: Drs. Lim, Shen-Yang (organiser and speaker), Norlinah Ibrahim (organiser and speaker), Mohit Bhatt (speaker and MDS Ambassador), Kailash Bhatia (speaker), Chris Chong (organiser and speaker), Tan, Kay Sin (MSN President), and Samuel Easaw (session chairperson).
The Asian and Oceanian Movement Disorder Educational Summit - 2010 was held at Kannur Medical College and Super Specialty Hospital, Anjarakandy, Kerala from August 27–29, 2010. The summit was organized by the James Parkinson's Movement Disorder Research Centre and sponsored by The Movement Disorder Society-Asian and Oceanian Section. Sessions were attended by over 200 delegates, both national and international, and benefited from many renowned speakers known for their contributions in the field of Movement Disorders.

The program was inaugurated on the evening of August 27th by Dr. K Mohandas, Vice Chancellor, Kerala University of Health and Allied Sciences, and was presided over by Mr. Abdul Jabbar, Chairman, Prestige Educational Trust. The two-day educational summit which followed was coordinated by Prof. Madhuri Behari, Professor and Head of Department, Department of Neurology, All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi.

The symposium presented seminars on various movement disorders by acclaimed speakers, such as Prof. Madhuri Behari, Prof. Kailash Bhatia (Institute of Neurology, London, UK); Dr. Victor Fung (Westmead Hospital, Westmead, Australia); Dr. Asha Kishore (Sree Chitra Tirunal Institute for Medical, Trivandrum, India); Dr. Uday Muthane (Parkinson’s & Aging Research Foundation, Bangalore, India); and Dr. Sujith Ovallath (Kannur Medical College, Kerala, India).

The main topics discussed in the forum were:

- Approach to tremor and Dystonia; Chorea, tics and myoclonus – Prof. Kailash Bhatia
- Recent Advances in the Management of Early Parkinson's disease; Drug induced Movement Disorders – Dr. Victor Fung
- Management of advanced PD; Indications for Therapy with Botulinum Toxin – Prof. Madhuri Behari
- Parkinson Plus syndromes, Diagnosis and management; Deep Brain Stimulation, Indications & Outcome – Dr. Asha Kishore
- Restless leg syndrome; Wilson’s disease – Dr. Uday Muthane
- Dopa responsive Dystonia – Dr. Sujith Ovallath

There were also interesting video presentations on various neurological cases, followed by interactive discussion between the faculty and audience.

The three-day long summit concluded with a workshop on Botulinum toxin by Dr. Madhuri Behari and Dr. Victor Fung.

The first ever Asian and Oceanian summit in the state of Kerala, India not only enlightened the audience on different types of movement disorders, but also became a platform where the various queries and concerns of the audience were addressed by experts. The cultural events and the film organized by students of Kannur Medical College complemented the summit.

A video summary of the course is available to view at: http://www.youtube.com/user/shijin8509.
Dear Colleagues,

The Movement Disorder Society’s Pan American Section (MDS-PAS) was created in 2009 following a mandate of the MDS International leadership. The Section has been modeled after the existing European and Asian-Oceanian Sections of MDS, the goals of which are: a) to promote education in the field of Movement Disorders and b) to provide a broader, more effective representation of members by region. The regions represented in PAS are North America, and the countries of Central and South America, and the Caribbean. The initial emphasis of PAS-linked educational initiatives will be directed towards Central and South America, and the Caribbean. The educational opportunities in the United States and Canada have been broad based and adequate compared to other regions. Our ultimate goal is to create more balance by region without diminishing the accomplishment of regions that already have ample educational opportunities.

Membership in MDS-PAS is open to all members of MDS within these regions. All those with an interest in the field of Movement Disorders who live within the region are strongly encouraged to join the Society and thereby participate in the development of this important MDS opportunity.

Since the initial PAS General Assembly meeting in June 2009, we have set up the overall framework of the Section. Bylaws, policies and standard operating procedures for the Section have been drafted based on those approved by the other MDS sections. In early 2010, the MDS leadership and the Section officially formed a PAS Organizing Committee. To achieve broad representation, the Organizing Committee is comprised of 20 neurologists from many of the countries within the Section. The PAS Education Committee is headed by Irene Litvan. After meeting via teleconference for a year, the first official meeting of the Section took place during the The Movement Disorder Society's 14th International Congress of Parkinson's Disease and Movement Disorders in Buenos Aires, Argentina. One of the goals of the Organizing Committee is to pave the way for a the general democratic election of a permanent PAS Executive Committee that will then officially vote on the bylaws and continue the educational and other missions launched by the Organizing Committee. One of these missions is the creation of a MDS-PAS website within the MDS site that will serve as a communication forum for education and collaborations across the vast expanse of our region.

The first priority of the MDS-PAS is to identify the educational opportunities and needs by region, and to use this informed platform to begin the process of coordinating regional and international resources to advance educational needs of the Movement Disorders and medical communities in Latin America. Ultimately, we would like to build bridges across all regions represented in PAS.

Jorge L. Juncos, MD
Chair, MDS-PAS Organizing Committee
PSG Mentoring Committee Announces Advisor Program For New Investigators

The Parkinson Study Group Mentoring Committee has developed an Advisor Program for new investigators who are initiating a research career or continuing an existing research area.

We have established a bank of advisors who are willing to help you find a local mentor in your area (both research and geographic) or help you find specific research funding sources (foundations, etc) for your research. The advisors would not be the mentors per se, but rather facilitate finding a mentor or help you begin a research career in a certain area.

If you would like to participate in this program, please complete the application form on the PSG website (www.parkinson-study-group.org) and we will get back to you within 7 business days.

Both the advisor and advisee will keep confidential any information received or obtained as a result of participating in the program that is identified as or would be reasonably expected to be confidential, unless they agree otherwise.

If you have any questions regarding this, please contact Roseanna Battista at roseanna.battista@ctcc.rochester.edu. We welcome you to take advantage of this program and look forward to it being an enriching experience for you!

Joel Perlmutter, MD, Chair
Jon Stoessl, CM, MD, Co-chair
Cindy Cornella, MD, Ad-Hoc member

Parkinson Study Group: Request for Proposals for a Mentored Clinical Research Award for new investigators in patient oriented research in Parkinson’s disease and related disorders

Submission deadline: Friday, March 25, 2011

The Mentored Clinical Research Award (MCRA) for new investigators has been funded by a grant from the Parkinson's Disease Foundation (PDF) to the Parkinson Study Group (PSG) for the past several years. The PDF has collaborated with the PSG to encourage the professional and scientific development of young investigators on their path to independence. To this end, this grant will support a new investigator for a one year project in patient-oriented research in Parkinson’s disease or other parkinsonian disorders under the mentorship of an experienced investigator. The training should lead a junior investigator to gain skills in clinical research. The research plan should address unmet needs of people living with PD, have the potential for broad application among the PD community, and lead to advances in clinically relevant treatment options.

It is anticipated that an award of $75,000 will be available this year.

Appropriate applicants for the MCRA are clinicians and scientists who are within 5 years of having completed formal training (this includes PhD professionals working in the field of Parkinson’s disease). Fellows may apply. If during formal training unusual circumstances occurred to delay completion, “time out” periods will be permitted and should be explained in the application cover letter.

Proposals received will be reviewed by the PSG Mentoring Committee and applicants notified by May 27, 2011. Funding will begin on July 1, 2011 and continue until June 30, 2012.

PD Online Research

Researchers often work in isolation, but this outdated way of doing science prevents researchers from engaging in broader discussions in the field. We believe this holds up progress that could lead to therapies or a cure for Parkinson's disease. That’s why we created PD Online Research (www.pdonlineresearch.org), a free, online resource for the PD community.

PD Online Research is the perfect place for scientists to go if they want to let others know about a small, but interesting, result that doesn’t fit in a peer-reviewed paper. It’s also the place where an investigator can let his or her colleagues know that a recently published paper has a flaw, ask about a method or browse information about research tools and resources. And news about meetings posted on the site lets all PD researchers find out what happened at major conferences, even if they couldn’t be there.

We think that this collaborative Web tool will accelerate research, potentially leading to therapies and maybe even a cure.

Currently, our members include more than 2,300 science professionals, such as researchers, funders, drug makers, and clinicians. Members can initiate and reply to discussions and upload new resources and data. We provide the latest news on PD research, funding, and conferences, as well as access to various information tools that we’ve developed, including a research models database and updates on clinical trial results.

PD Online Research was launched in June 2009 and is funded by The Michael J. Fox Foundation for Parkinson's Research.

Movement Disorders Neurologist at University of Texas Health Science Center

We are seeking an outstanding clinician/academic Movement Disorders neurologist. The successful candidate will provide service, conduct clinically focused research in Parkinson Disease and other movement disorders, and participate in the teaching of medical students and residents. Minimum requirements are an M.D. degree, neurology residency training, and two years of fellowship training in movement disorders. The position is anticipated at the Assistant Professor rank, but candidates with exceptional qualifications may be considered for appointment at the rank of Associate Professor or Professor.

Candidates interested in the position should send a statement concerning clinical/research accomplishments and future plans, along with a CV and personal references either electronically to brey@uthscsa.edu or by mail.

All faculty appointments are designated as security sensitive positions. The University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio is an Equal Employment Opportunity/ Affirmative Action Employer.

http://www.uthscsa.edu/neurology/openings.asp

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**Mayo Clinic Arizona - Movement Disorders Fellowship**
Fellow position available annually for qualified applicant. The fellow will receive training in the diagnosis and treatment of the full spectrum of movement disorders, deep brain stimulation surgery, botulinum toxin for dystonia and hemifacial spasm. Fellow will develop an independent clinical research project and have opportunity to participate in on-going clinical research trials. Mentoring of fellows is an integral part of program. Mayo Clinic offers competitive compensation and benefits. The beautiful Sonoran Desert of Scottsdale offers every opportunity for a rewarding lifestyle. Applicants must be board eligible and completed Neurology residency. Interested candidates should send their C.V., 3 LOR, and personal statement to: Virgilio Evidente, M.D., Mayo Clinic in Arizona, Department of Neurology, 13400 East Shea Blvd., Scottsdale, AZ 85259, evidente.virgilio@mayo.edu

**Fellowship - Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, Parkinson's Disease & Movement Disorders Center**
One year program for high quality applicants at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, Parkinson's Disease & Movement Disorders Center. We provide training in the diagnosis and treatment of a wide variety of movement disorders, participation in a Parkinson's disease, tremor, and dystonia DBS surgical program, and a large dystonia and botulinum toxin treatment program. We also offer clinical research opportunities. E-mail or fax CV and three letters of recommendation to:

Ludy Shih M.D., Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, KS-228, 330 Brookline Avenue, Boston, MA 02215. Fax 617-975-5454. lshih@bidmc.harvard.edu. Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center is an equal opportunity employer that values the strength diversity brings to the workplace.

**Movement Disorders General Neurologist – Kalamazoo, Michigan**
Bronson Neurological Services has an outstanding clinical opportunity in southwest Michigan for an energetic General Neurologist or Neurologist with interest/experience in Movement Disorders or Dementia to lead their Neurodegenerative Movement. Individual must be BE/BC and be willing to serve a multi-disciplinary patient population including regional clinics in Southwest Michigan. Full-time, hospital employed position with competitive compensation and comprehensive benefits. Bronson Methodist Hospital, a tertiary referral center serving all of southwest Michigan and northern Indiana, maintains a dedicated Neurovascular Unit for focused care and is a Certified Primary Stroke Center by the Joint Commission and is a Level 1 Trauma Center. For more information about Bronson Methodist Hospital visit www.bronsonhealth.com.

Kalamazoo, located between Detroit and Chicago, offers diverse cultural opportunities, economic diversification and very affordable real estate. Public, private and parochial schools are recognized for their academic excellence. For more information about Kalamazoo visit www.kalamazoomi.com.

**Movement Disorders Fellowship Training – University of Minnesota**
The Department of Neurology at the University of Minnesota invites applications for fellowship training in movement disorders for the 2011-12 academic year. We offer a two-year non-ACGME Movement Disorders Fellowship program that will provide both a comprehensive training in the medical and surgical management of a broad range of movement disorders and prepare the candidate for a career in academic neurology. In the first year, the fellow will receive extensive training from movement disorder faculty in the clinical care of movement disorder patients, with a particular focus on the selection and management of patients undergoing deep brain stimulation. In addition, the fellow will receive instruction in academic writing, critical thinking, and in the formal presentation of scientific results. During the second year the focus will be on developing expertise in an area of academic interest from among a variety of clinical and basic research programs including clinical trial design, imaging, intraoperative mapping, systems and molecular neuroscience, biomedical engineering and technology transfer, and magnetoencephalography. We expect that our fellowship training program will produce the next generation of academic movement disorder specialists. For application requirements and deadlines please visit our website at http://www.neurology.umn.edu/education/home.html.

**Movement Disorders Fellowships at The Muhammad Ali Parkinson Center – Barrow Neurological Institute**
The Muhammad Ali Parkinson Center at the Barrow Neurological Institute in Phoenix, Arizona is offering two fellowships in Movement Disorders. The fellowships are for two years, although qualified applicants may apply for one year.
The Muhammad Ali Parkinson Center has more than 10,000 patient visits a year, drawing patients from Arizona, all of the western and midwestern states and internationally. A diverse, variegated, and wide range of patients are seen.
Training is offered in Parkinson disease, the Parkinson-plus disorders, Essential Tremor, Dystonia, and the Hyper-Kinetic Movement Disorders including Huntington disease and Tourette's syndrome. Training emphasizes the diagnosis, classification, management, recognition and treatment of these disorders, and their distinction one from the other. The Center has five fully trained Movement Disorder specialists and a fully trained Neurotologist. The Center has an active program in the recognition and treatment of Gait and Balance Disorders including training utilizing Vestibulo-nystagmography and a Balance-Master.
The Center has a large and active program in Botox injection utilizing EMG guidance and treats more than 1000 patients a year with Botox.
The Muhammad Ali Parkinson Center participates in clinical trials of the National Institutes of Health and the Parkinson Study Group. The Center is currently conducting more than 15 trials on a number of new and innovative drugs. Fellows participate in all the trials.

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The Center has its own Speech, Physical and Occupational Therapy including state-of-the art equipment.

The Center has an active and large program in DBS working with world-class Neuroradiologists and Neurosurgeons at the Barrow Neurological Institute, a premier center for training in Neuroradiology and Neurosurgery. The Center does more than 100 surgeries per year. Fellows participate in the evaluation of the patients and the intra-operative monitoring. Upon completion of their fellowships, candidates will be fully competent in evaluating, recommending, and monitoring patients for DBS.

The Muhammad Ali Parkinson Center is an integral part of the Barrow Neurology Group, a large and renowned multi-specialty group actively engaged in patient care, research, and resident training. The Barrow Neurology Group comprises 30 board-certified neurologists, including Child Neurology. The three year residency program is fully accredited and trains 18 residents (6 per year). All residents rotate through the Muhammad Ali Parkinson Center.

The Barrow Neurology Institute has its own Division of Research with an active program in neuro-anatomy, neuro-chemistry, genetics, and physiology. The Barrow has active collaboration with T-Gen, a major genetic institute in Phoenix, with Arizona State University in nearby Tempe, Arizona, and with the University of Arizona, the Barrow is a teaching affiliate of the University of Arizona (Phoenix branch.).

Phoenix is located in the beautiful Valley of the Sun, surrounded by the Estrella and Superstition Mountains and the incomparable Sonoran Desert. Sedona and the Red Rock country, and the Grand Canyon are in easy driving distance. Phoenix is now the 5th largest City in the United States, a distinctive place to live and a wonderful place to raise a family.

Contact: Abe Lieberman MD, Head, Muhammad Ali Parkinson Center
Phone: 305. 299. 0914 (mobile phone)
Fax: 602 406 4309
Email: abedoc@gmail.com

Translational Neuroscience & Movement Disorders Fellowship at Massachusetts General Hospital

The Parkinson’s Disease and Movement Disorder Center in the Dept of Neurology at MGH is offering a one- to two-year clinical fellowship in movement disorders, coupled to thematic basic and clinical research opportunities. A longitudinal clinical diagnosis and management training program will provide broad-based movement disorders skills. The laboratory component will focus on purine neurotherapeutics using toxicological and genetic mouse models of PD (www.mgh.harvard.edu/research/researchlab.aspx?id=1162) at MassGeneral Institute for Neurodegenerative Disease (www.mghmind.org). A second year may include pursuit of related clinical research on active or completed clinical trial cohorts of the Parkinson Study Group (www.parkinson-study-group.org).

Requirements include a
- completed clinical neurology residency at a Neurology Residency Training Program accredited by the Accreditation Council For Graduate Medical Education (ACGME) or by the Royal College of Physicians of Canada,
- a strong molecular neuroscience background, and
- eligibility for a valid Massachusetts medical license.

E-mail CV and three letters of recommendation to:
Michael A. Schwarzschild, MD PhD
Massachusetts General Hospital, Dept of Neurology
114 16th St, Rm 3002 MGH/MIND
Boston, MA 02129
e-mail: michaels@helix.mgh.harvard.edu

MGH is an equal opportunity employer and values diversity in its healthcare team.

LETTERS TO THE EDITORS

Your Comments and Questions Are Always Welcome

Editorial Policy

As part of its democratic commitment, MDS welcomes the input of all its members about the features and articles that appear in this newsletter. Have a comment or question? Each issue will include responses in the “Letters to the Editor” section. All materials submitted become the property of MDS.

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Fax: +1 414-276-3349
E-mail: info@movementdisorders.org
January 29, 2011
The Annual Therapy Symposium on Movement Disorders for the Modern Clinician: A 2011 Update. Renaissance Fort Lauderdale Port Everglades Hotel, Fort Lauderdale, FL, United States. Contact: Monet Smith, Cleveland Clinic, 9500 Euclid Avenue, Cleveland, OH 44195, USA; TEL: +1 216-444-9380; FAX: +1 216-445-9999; E-mail: smithmn8@ccf.org; Website: http://www.clevelandclinicmeded.com/live/default2.htm

*February 11-12, 2011
4th Medical Surgical Course in Neuroscience. Contact: Prof. Joao Massano, Department of Neurorology, Hospital de Sao Joao, Alameda, Porto, Portugal; Tel: +351 912413418; E-mail: jmassano@med.up.pt.

February 21-22, 2011
7th Annual Update Symposium on Clinical Neurology and Neurophysiology. Dan Panorama Hotel, Tel Aviv, Israel. Contact: Helen Goldmunz, ISAS International Seminars, POB 574, Jerusalem 91004, Israel; TEL: +972-2-6520558; E-mail: conventions@isas.co.il; Website: www.neurophysiology-symposium.com

March 9-13, 2011
The 10th International Conference on Alzheimer’s and Parkinson’s Diseases (AD/PD 2011). Barcelona, Spain. Contact: KENES International, 1-3, Rue de Chantepoulet PO Box 1726, CH-1211 Geneva 1 Switzerland; Tel: +41 22 908 0488; FAX: +41 22 906 9140; E-mail: adp@kenes.com; Web site: http://www.kenes.com/adpd

*March 25-27, 2011
3rd Asian and Oceanian Parkinson’s Disease and Movement Disorders Congress. Taipei, Taiwan. Venue: Taipei International Convention Center. Contact: Gloria Liu, 10F, No.29, Sec.3, Nanjing E. Rd., Zhongshan District, Taipei 10487, Taiwan; Tel: +886-2-2508-1825 Ext 116; Fax: +886-2-2508-3570, Email: secretariat@aopmc2011taiwan.com; Website: www movimiento disorders.org/regional_sections/aos/aopmc/aopmc_taipei.php

*May 13, 2011
25th Annual PSG Symposium. Four Seasons Resort, Irving, Texas, USA. Contact: Roseanna Battista, Parkinson Study Group, 1351 Mt. Hope Avenue, Rochester, NY 14620, USA; TEL: +1 585-275-1642; FAX: +1 585-273-1074; E-mail: Roseanna.battista@ctcc.rochester.edu; Website: http://www.parkinson-study-group.org/

*May 19-21, 2011
Pre-Parkinson’s disease – potential markers. Center for Neurology, Department of Neurodegeneration, Hertie Institute for Clinical Brain Research, Hoppé-Seyler Str 3, Tübingen, Germany. Contact: Prof. Daniela Berg, Tel: +49 7071 2983119; E-mail: daniela.berg@uni-tuebingen.de.

May 20, 2011
Dystonia and Parkinson’s disease: the dopamine connection. Villa Mondragone, Monte Porzio Catone, Rome, Italy. Contact: Antonio Pisani, MD, University of Rome Tor Vergata, via Montpellier 1, Rome 00133, Italy; TEL: +39 06 501703153; FAX: +39 06 72596066; E-mail: pisani@uniroma2.it

*June 5-9, 2011
15th International Congress of Parkinson’s Disease and Movement Disorders. Toronto, ON, Canada. Offered by The Movement Disorder Society. Contact: The Movement Disorder Society, 555 E. Wells Street, Suite 1100, Milwaukee, WI 53202 USA; TEL: +1 414-276-2145; FAX: +1 414-276-3349; E-mail: congress@movementdisorders.org; Website: www.movementdisorders.org

June 21-25, 2011
14th European Congress on Clinical Neurophysiology. Rome, Italy. Contact: O.I.C. Srl, Viale G. Matteotti, 7, 50121 Florence, Italy; TEL: +39 055 50351; FAX: +39 055 5001912; E-mail: eecn2011@oic.it; Website: www.oic.it/eecn2011

June 23-26, 2011
15th Congress of the International Headache Society. Berlin, Germany. Contact: Gabriela Scharf, Kanes International; TEL: +41 22 908 0488; FAX: +41 22 906 9140; E-mail: gscharf@kenes.com; Website: http://www2.kenes.com/ihc2011/Pages/Home.aspx

October 5-7, 2011
Association of British Neurologists Annual Meeting. The Sage Gateshead, Newcastle, United Kingdom. Contact: Josie Shew, ABN, Ormond House, 27 Boswell Street, London WC1N 3JZ, United Kingdom; TEL: +44 0 20 7405 4060; FAX: +44 0 20 7405 4070; E-mail: info@theabn.org; Website: http://www.theabn.org/

October 20-23, 2011
Seventh International Congress on Vascular Dementia. Riga, Latvia. Contact: Kanes International, 1-3 Rue de Chantepoulet, PO Box 1726, CH-1211 Geneva 1, Switzerland; TEL: +41 22 908 0488; FAX: +41 22 906 9140; E-mail: vascular@kenes.com; Website: http://www2.kenes.com/Vascular2011/pages/home.aspx

November 12-18, 2011
XX World Congress of Neurology. Marrakesh, Morocco. Contact: Kanes International, 1-3 Rue de Chantepoulet, PO Box 1726, Geneva CH-1211, Switzerland; TEL: +41 22 908 0488; FAX: +41 22 906 9140; Website: http://www2.kenes.com/wcn/pages/home.aspx

December 11-14, 2011
XIX WFN World Congress on Parkinson’s Disease and Related Disorders. Shanghai, China. Contact: Kanes International, 1-3 Rue de Chantepoulet, PO Box 1726, CH-1211 Geneva 1, Switzerland; TEL: +41 22 908 0488; FAX: +41 22 906 9140; Website: http://www2.kenes.com/parkinson/Pages/Home.aspx

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January 7, 2011 — Abstract Submission Closes
April 12, 2011 — Early Registration Deadline
May 10, 2011 — Final Registration Deadline
June 5-9, 2011 — 15th International Congress of Parkinson’s Disease and Movement Disorders