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International Parkinson and Movement Disorder Society
Pan American Section

2nd Pan American Parkinson’s Disease and Movement Disorders Congress
JUNE 22-24, 2018 MIAMI, FLORIDA, USA
www.pascongress2018.org
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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This issue of *Moving Along* takes a look back at the latter part of 2017 and highlights the many MDS activities happening throughout the world. The feature story comes from one of the newest MDS Study Groups, the Rare Movement Disorders Study Group, led by Emilia Gatto. Read more about the group’s activities and what they are doing to improve research and resources for these rare disorders on page 6. In this edition, you will also find highlights from the International Congress in Vancouver, BC, Canada, the first *Movement Disorders* Journal Conference held in Hoboken, NJ, USA, in December, and the numerous educational courses in between.

We would like to welcome the new MDS Officers, International Executive Committee (IEC) and Regional Section leadership, who started their terms this past June at the International Congress in Vancouver. In his first letter as MDS President, Christopher Goetz details the MDS strategic planning process, which will take place in March of 2018, with other key leaders of the Society. The Regional Section Chairs, BJ Jeon (MDS-AOS), Evžen Růžička (MDS-ES) and Henrique Ferraz (MDS-PAS), each contribute their first respective updates as well.

Our readers may recall a series of past articles highlighting the activities of some of the MDS Affiliate Member societies. In continuation, we feature an interview with Dr. Miguel Gago, President of The Portuguese Movement Disorders Society. MDS always welcomes new Affiliate Members and invites any group interested in joining to learn more on the MDS website at www.movementdisorders.org/affiliate.

Lastly, 2018 marks our final year as Moving Along editors, after two consecutive five-year terms. The search for new editors will commence this spring, with final candidates to be interviewed at the next International Congress in Hong Kong in October. We look forward to welcoming new editors and transitioning to the next phase for *Moving Along*.

We hope you enjoy this issue of *Moving Along*!
It is a great honor for me to have assumed the position of President of the International Parkinson and Movement Disorder Society (MDS) this past June in Vancouver. I would like to express my gratitude to our Past-President, Oscar Gershanik, for his outstanding leadership over the past two years, and I look forward to working with the Officers and International Executive Committee (IEC) to ensure the continued success of our Society.

I would also like to thank our outgoing Officers and members of the IEC, who worked tirelessly for our Society. Their leadership contributed greatly to the past success of MDS.

21st International Congress in Vancouver, BC, Canada
The 21st International Congress of Parkinson’s Disease and Movement Disorders in Vancouver, BC, Canada June 4-8, 2017, was a great success attended by over 4,300 enthusiastic delegates who were excited to network and take part in an impressive Scientific Program. I would like to thank and congratulate the Congress Scientific Program Committee, Local Organizing Committee and International Congress Oversight Committee on a job well done.

A full report on International Congress activities is available on page 7.

With feedback from the 2017 International Congress participants, the Society has started planning for the next International Congress in Hong Kong, October 5-9, 2018. Thank you to all the members and attendees who continue to submit session ideas and fill out evaluation forms. Hyder Jinnah and the Congress Scientific Program Committee are working diligently to produce a fantastic Scientific Program for the next International Congress.

MDS Strategic Planning
Every three years, the Society embarks on a strategic planning process to identify priorities for the Society in the coming years. The next such planning process has begun and representatives from the IEC, Past-Presidents and other key Society leaders will be meeting in person in March to discuss the future goals and objectives of MDS. I’m excited to lead this group as we discuss how MDS will continue to grow and develop strong relationships with the broader Movement Disorders community as well as how we can expand our educational offerings and create a personalized experience for each individual that comes in contact with the Society.

I look forward to working with my fellow Officers and IEC members, and will continue to be responsive to the membership, which now includes over 7,700 members from 118 countries. With more members engaged in advancing the neurological sciences pertaining to movement disorders, I anticipate bringing you many positive updates on the progress of the Society’s growing programming.

I look forward to working with all of you to ensure the continued success of our Society.

Sincerely,

Christopher G. Goetz, MD
MDS President, 2017-2019
The term 'Rare diseases' (RD) defines a large number of diseases characterized by a low prevalence with a range ≤50 people per 100,000 population to ≤200,000 affected individuals. Collectively they are surprisingly common, affecting approximately 7% of people worldwide; 80% are genetically determined and 50% affect pediatric population. Latest advances in genetics have yielded critical insights into this field contributing to identification of new RD every year.

Neurological disorders account for 36% of RD. In this sense, an extensive number of movement disorders possess a low prevalence fitting into the RD classification.

Limited knowledge and difficulties in accessing specialized services constitutes a great challenge for the diagnosis and management of rare movement disorders (RMD), often delaying their diagnosis by years. Nevertheless, a better understanding of genetic characteristics and pathogenic mechanisms of RMD, such as Gaucher disease, Niemann Pick type C or Wilson’s disease, offers a great opportunity to evaluate new therapeutic pathways not only restricted to RMD, but also to more common disorders such as Parkinson’s disease.

The MDS Rare Movement Disorders Study Group (MDS-RMDSG) was created in 2016 with the main objective to provide and extend educational resources for identification, characterization and standardization of management of RMD. Additional goals and missions are conducted towards the development of research networks and to elaborate treatment guides when appropriate.

The MDS-RMDSG aims to bring together researchers, patient groups and health professionals, because of the limited number of affected individuals and scarcity of relevant knowledge, resources, and expertise. This international study group is composed of representatives from North and South America, Europe, Australia and Asia whose focus is to provide education for graduate and post-graduate trainees with interest in RMD contributing this collaboration to better understand the heterogeneous distribution of RMD among different populations.

During the past year, the study group developed a series of activities including poster presentations, plenary and parallel sessions during the 1st PAS Congress in Miami, FL, USA, and the MDS International Congress in Vancouver, BC, Canada, as well as courses An Introduction to Rare Movement Disorders and Treatable Rare Movement Disorders.

Two papers were developed by standing members: Treatable Inherited Rare Movement Disorders, coordinated by Dr. Hyder Jinnah (published in Movement Disorders) and Huntington’s Disease-like Disorders in Latin America and the Caribbean, coordinated by Dr. Ruth H. Walker (under revision).

Given the large interest in RMD, the study group is planning several initiatives in 2018 to implement virtual teaching programs, conduct a survey to identify the accessibility to molecular test by regions, develop a comprehensive rating scale harmonizing with other MDS Task Forces, and encourage residents and young neurologists to take part of case discussion, presentation and publication.

We would like to thank current MDS President, Dr. Christopher Goetz, Past-President, Dr. Oscar Gershanik, and all of the MDS Officers and the International Executive Committee for their support and encouragement. The RMDSG webpage can be found at: www.movementdisorders.org/Rare-MD-Study-Group.
MDS International Congress in Vancouver, BC, Canada

The 21st International Congress of Parkinson’s Disease and Movement Disorders was hosted in Vancouver, BC, Canada on June 4-8, 2017. Vancouver, a city rich in art, culture and history, provided a unique location for delegates traveling from 89 different countries. With a spectacular view of the waterfront and state-of-the-art facilities, the Vancouver Convention Centre served as an ideal venue for networking, collaboration and learning about the latest research in the field of Movement Disorders. Highlights from the 2017 International Congress include:

- 4,300 total people registered (including press and exhibitors)
- 89 countries represented
- 250 Travel Grants awarded
- 100 Waived Dues Registration Waivers awarded
- 227 faculty members participated in the Scientific Sessions
- 1,576 posters accepted
- 131 Late-Breaking posters accepted
- 21 MDS Study Group abstracts accepted
- 4 Therapeutic Plenary Sessions
- 7 Plenary Sessions
- 25 Parallel Sessions
- 10 Teaching Courses
- 11 Video Sessions
- 13 Skills Workshops
- 16 Guided Poster Tours
- 40 companies and 15 non-profits exhibited
- 20 representatives from the press attended

Delegates view the posters and interact with poster presenters in the Poster Area. Photo credit: Robert Levy Photography

Under the direction of Christine Klein and A. Jon Stoessl, the Congress Scientific Program Committee (CSPC) made every effort to ensure that the science for the 2017 International Congress was diverse and educational. The Scientific Program incorporated Therapeutic Plenary Sessions, Plenary and Parallel Sessions, Teaching Courses, Video Sessions, Skills Workshops, Controversies, Blue Ribbon Highlights, Poster Sessions and Guided Poster Tours. There were 13 sessions focused on this year’s theme of “Pathophysiology of Basal Ganglia Disorders: From Cell to System to Patient” which gave participants an educational and comprehensive overview on the subject.

Delegates were formally greeted in Vancouver at the official Opening Ceremony for the International Congress on the evening of Sunday, June 4. The ceremony began with brief remarks by A. Jon Stoessl and Mr. Alec Dan of the Coastal Wolf Pack, who provided a history of the Musqueam people in Vancouver and a welcome to all International Congress delegates. MDS President, Oscar Gershanik, followed with a presentation of awards and his annual address. The ceremony concluded with Dr. Stoessl inviting all guests to follow him outside to the Olympic Cauldron, where he and Dr. Gershanik lit the torch to officially open the MDS International Congress. In addition, the Cauldron was illuminated in red all week to represent Parkinson’s disease awareness and the 200th anniversary of James Parkinson’s discovery.

In addition, Dr. Gershanik distributed the following awards at the Opening Ceremony:

**Honorary Member Awards:**
The Honorary Member Award recognizes individuals who have made extraordinary contributions to the field of Movement Disorders or otherwise to the International Parkinson and Movement Disorder Society (MDS).

Susan Bressman, New York, NY, USA
Werner Poewe, Innsbruck, Austria

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

Christine Klein, Luebeck, Germany
**Stanley Fahn Lecture:**

Ali Rajput, Saskatoon, SK, Canada

*Advancing the Movement Disorders Needle – The Saskatchewan Way*

**C. David Marsden Lecture:**

Glenda Halliday, Randwick, NSW, Australia

*Clues to Disease Mechanisms from the Types and Patterns of Cellular Pathologies in the Brain*

**Junior Awards:**

Three Junior Award recipients were selected based on their significant contribution to research in the field of Movement Disorders.

Ziv Gan-Or, Montreal, QC, Canada

Vladana Markovic, Belgrade, Serbia

Raul Martinez-Fernandez, Madrid, Spain

Additionally, 250 MDS Travel Grants and 100 Waived Dues Travel Grants were awarded.

Following the Opening Ceremony, delegates gathered at the Welcome Reception, where they were treated to cuisine representing many of the regions of the world where past International Congresses have been held.

Over 2,000 delegates gathered to watch unique Movement Disorder cases on the evening of Wednesday, June 7 during the 10th Annual MDS Video Challenge. In honor of this special anniversary of the event, the evening began with a very memorable and entertaining Canadian-themed video presentation from the Masters of Ceremony, Anthony Lang and Kapil Sethi. The cases presented were selected from a large number of submissions by an international panel of reviewers, and the world-renowned Panel of Experts engaged the audience by guiding them through the thought process of diagnosing challenging movement disorder cases.

The eight cases that were presented to the Panel of Experts and the six short cases that were shown from the Masters of Ceremony 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 University of Florida in the United States (presented by: C. Chauncey Spears: “Hemichorea due to central brain herniation”); the Silver medal was awarded to Mater Misericordiae University Hospital in Ireland (presented by: Vijayashankar Paramanandam: “NOTCH3 negative CADASIL”); and the Bronze medal was awarded to INEBA in Argentina (presented by: Martin Cesarini: “CTX with palatal tremor and possibly no xanthomata”).

The International Parkinson and 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 MDS Video Challenge.

The Society would also like to extend its gratitude to faculty, supporters, exhibitors and delegates for traveling to Vancouver and for helping make the 21st International Congress of Parkinson’s Disease and Movement Disorders a tremendous success.

MDS is already planning for the 2018 International Congress in Hong Kong, October 5-9, 2018. Though the International Congress historically was held in June each year, it is now moving to October in 2018 and September in 2019. Please visit the new website for details pertaining to all future International Congresses at www.mdscongress.org or contact the International Secretariat at congress@movementdisorders.org.
The Movement Disorders Journal Conference: Therapeutic Developments to Modify the Evolution of Parkinson’s Disease – Hoboken, NJ, USA, December 13, 2017

— José Obeso, MD, PhD, Madrid, Spain, Editor-in-Chief, Movement Disorders

The first Movement Disorders Journal Conference took place at Wiley’s headquarters in Hoboken, NJ, USA on December 13, 2017. The general arrangements were organized by Erin Weileder, MDS Director of Communications and Membership, and Cathy Krendel, Senior Editor at Wiley. All active participants arrived the previous evening and all sent a draft of their contributions prior to the meeting.

Anthony Lang gave the keynote lecture that was a largely comprehensive review of the topic, along with breaks for discussion of points brought up by the other participants. This created a major interactive, cooperative and positive atmosphere. Subsequently, there were briefer contributions by Jeffrey Kordower, Robert Burke, Pablo Sardi, Patrik Brundin and Jesse Cederbaum on more specific therapeutic aspects. Again, these were all adorned with abundant discussion and a growing consensus regarding the most likely therapeutic avenues for Parkinson’s disease (PD) in the foreseeable future. More concretely, the discussion focused on challenges implementing neuroprotective therapies, as well as hurdles related to poor understanding of pathophysiology at the cellular and system levels, lack of good animal models, limited fluid and neuroimaging biomarkers, and challenges of trial designs and targeting engagement.

Importantly, it was understood that whereas several of the topics dealt within this meeting will probably play a key role in PD, i.e. SYN based therapies and GBA replacement therapy, others, like neurotrophic factors, cell transplant and to some extent striatal re-innervation, are less likely to evolve into fundamental clinical therapies. There are other approaches like acting on mitochondrial function, inflammation or glial activation to name but a few that will also require attention.

Proceedings from the conference are scheduled for publication in June 2018.

Overall, the first Movement Disorders Journal Conference was a success. It would have been nearly impossible to put together that degree of expertise and talent and to get them to contribute high quality articles for MDJ using any other strategy.

Robert E. Burke, MD – 1949-2018

The Movement Disorders Journal editors and staff especially would like to acknowledge the contributions of Robert Burke, who passed away very unexpectedly on January 1, 2018. We would like to express our deepest condolences to his family and appreciation for his work with the Society and in the field. A complete tribute to Robert is published in the February issue of Movement Disorders.
Miguel Gago is a 39-year-old neurologist in the Department of Neurology and Director of the Academic Center of the Hospital of Guimarães, in Portugal. He is a Professor of Clinical Neurosciences in the School of Medicine, University of Minho, Portugal, where he conducts his main area of research in gait and postural control. Dr. Gago is a member of national and international scientific societies of Movement Disorders, and was elected Treasurer (2012) and President (2015) of the Portuguese National Movement Disorder Society.

1. How did you become interested in Movement Disorders?
My interest in Movement Disorders started at the beginning of my neurology fellowship in 2005, as it was one of the areas of specialty of my mentor, who was a part of the DBS team in the Hospital of São João. Also, by that time, we were living exciting times in Portugal, as Parkinson’s disease surgery was booming, new drugs were released on the market, such as dopamine agonists and triple combinations of levodopa/carbidopa/entacapone, and Duodopa was starting its clinical trial. It is extremely gratifying and rewarding to be able to control and deliver a meaningful clinical benefit to a patient so quickly, either pharmacologically or by DBS. This is probably one of the universal reasons that has driven so many neurologists to the field of neuroscience.

In 2011, after a few years dedicated to DBS, I started a new outpatient consultation in movement disorders and dementia in my current hospital, connected to the University of Minho. It was there that I started to consolidate a scientific interest on the interplay between gait and cognition in different neurological diseases with extra-pyramidal manifestations.

2. Are there referral centers for deep brain stimulation in your country? Is there a DBS network and if yes, how is it organized?
In Portugal, according to the differentiation of ward and outpatient consultations, we can divide the different hospitals into three main categories: tertiary movement disorders centers performing DBS; secondary hospitals; and primary hospitals with general neurological consultations. Covering the ten million inhabitants, we have four DBS Centers; two in the North (Porto), and one in both in the Center (Coimbra) and South (Lisbon), that are currently performing DBS for Parkinson’s disease, Dystonia, Essential Tremor and Obsessive Compulsive Disorders, etc. Secondary hospitals, providing healthcare for a population of about 300,000 inhabitants, have a multidisciplinary movement disorders disease consultation, involving psychiatry and physiotherapy, botulinum toxin, and develop basic research or clinical trials. These secondary hospitals, scattered throughout the geography of the country, refer the patients needing DBS to the tertiary centers, so as that all citizens are currently about 250km away from a surgical center.

3. Is there an official training or fellowship program for Movement Disorders in your country?
During the internship of neurology, which has a minimum of five years of duration, the residents can opt for a general training, lasting from one to three months, or a more dedicated training in movement disorders. Those that decide to specialize in movement disorders, although there are no national published strict guidelines, do a minimum of one to two years of supervised training, assuming thereafter responsibility for an outpatient consultation in the last year of fellowship. Also, during this training, it is mandatory to be integrated into one of the tertiary movement disorders centers, in order to have contact with DBS, Duodopa, Botulinum toxin or apomorphine techniques. Also, during the fellowship, although not mandatory, most of the residents have the opportunity to attend an abroad internship, three to 12 months (maximum), in one of international centers (Barcelona, London, Kiel, Toronto, etc.) with whom we have previous partnerships.

4. When was the Portuguese Movement Disorders Society founded? When did it join MDS?
The Portuguese Movement Disorders Society was founded in 2009, after the involvement of several neurologists, including one of the founding members, Prof. Cristina Sampaio. Currently, our society has almost 200 members and joined MDS as an Affiliate Member Society in 2016. One of the main goals of our society, besides providing education to the neurology fellows, is to engage and interlink all health professionals such as physiotherapists and psychologists, and basic sciences researchers.

5. Do you meet annually for a national congress of the Portuguese Movement Disorders Society? How does the Portuguese Movement Disorders Society support young people interested in getting more experience in the field?
Each year, The Portuguese Movement Disorders Society holds a national congress, with a scientific program covering general education and phenomenological discussion of clinical movement disorder videos, in addition to pharmaceutical industry symposia.

In recent years, we have opened our society to basic science researchers, devoting a period to oral communications and awarding a monetary prize for best basic science research. More than ever, in order
to deliver a translational approach, it is critical to interlink professionals from different science fields.

The Portuguese Movement Disorders Society financially supports the registration of all fellows of neurology, as well as first authors of non-medical oral presentations. Curiously, despite being in the beginning a large financial burden, it has indirectly been the biggest reason of success of recent year meetings, having warranted the involvement of a growing number of physicians and scientists. The paradigms of scientific and monetary support coming from pharmaceutical industry are changing, clearly not favorable for a young neurologist, and as so, more than ever, scientific societies are a growing channel in order to ensure training and education and even fund clinical research in neuroscience.

6. Can you tell us about any MDS activities in Portugal in the past year?
Since becoming an Affiliate Member Society in 2016, MDS sponsored two courses; one covering motor and speech rehabilitation taking place at the CNS-Torres Vedras, and a DBS meeting in Porto. In September of 2017, we held a meeting dedicated to the celebration of the 200 years of Parkinson’s disease, where we highlighted the natural history of the disease, therapeutic advances, the growing field of genetics and new biological biomarkers and neuroimaging.

7. How does the Portuguese Movement Disorders Society interact with patient associations? How are patient associations contributing to fund research in Portugal?
In Portugal, we have the National Association of Parkinson’s Disease Patients and Huntington’s Disease Patients Association. All physicians provide their scientific contribution, by writing scientific articles in the magazine of the patient’s and caregivers associates, or by providing knowledge and awareness of the civic society, particularly in small and more isolated communities.
First of all, I would like to thank our MDS members for electing me as Chair to serve the MDS-AOS for the next two years. As Prof. Hattori showed us, our section has grown rapidly thanks to the efforts of our senior members who built a foundation to make this possible, and all the hard work that every MDS-AOS member has done over the years.

During my term, I would like to use the word “TOGETHER” as the motto for our Society.

Existing members are already enjoying many of the benefits of MDS membership including journals, educational materials and as a networking forum, for example. Now we would like to share these benefits TOGETHER with those who are not yet members by encouraging them to join our Society. You may already know that MDS has expanded free membership to students, residents, and fellows, so there is no reason why they should not join our Society and become more interested in movement disorders.

We also would like to have our underrepresented areas mobilized and work TOGETHER. Prof. Bajwa is already working on the Middle East Task Force and is making great advances. China is also underrepresented given its large size, and we will hold the AOPMC 2019 in Hangzhou, thanks to our Chinese leaders. Learn more at www.aopmc.org.

We will work TOGETHER with other allied specialties, rehab, neurosurgery and paramedicals to share knowledge.

We will work TOGETHER with patient organizations, industry and governments so that we can provide better patient care more effectively.

I will work TOGETHER with you and would like to ask for your continued support, which will be essential in order to achieve these goals.

Thank you very much,

Beomseok (BJ) Jeon
Chair, MDS-AOS
SYNERGIES – Sydney, NSW, Australia, May 19-20, 2017
— Contributed by Course Director: Carolyn Sue, MBBS, PhD, FRACP

The MDS-AOS Symposium for Young Neurologists and Emerging Researchers Grooming for Interaction and Excellence in Science (SYNERGIES) was held in Sydney, NSW, Australia, on May 19-20, 2017. This course received over 30 abstract applications for 20 available junior faculty positions. The SYNERGIES course was attended by 30 participants from 11 countries across the Asian and Oceanian Section. Eight travel grants were distributed to those residing within the MDS-AOS.

The course was held at the Radisson Hotel & Suites in Sydney. Twelve faculty members participated in the school: Kelly Bertram (Australia), Michael Inskip (Australia), Vijayabala Jeevagan (Sri Lanka), Onanong Jitkritsadakul (Thailand), Nitish Kamble (India), Elie Matar (Australia), Sahil Mehta (India), Eoin Mulroy (New Zealand), Sanjay Pandey (India), Jin-Sung Park (Australia), Jiali Pu (People's Republic of China), Roopa Rajan (India), Chae Won Shin (Republic of Korea), James Shine (Australia), Nirosen Vijiaratnam (Australia), Gautam Wali (Australia), and Tissa Wijeratne (Australia).

We achieved enthusiastic interaction between the clinicians and basic scientists who attended the course. It was great to have a diverse group come together and talk about new topics of interest in movement disorders. Many young and emerging leaders in both clinical and basic science from different countries and backgrounds came together for a very busy two days. Having the opportunity to chair sessions also worked well, as there was more engagement from the audience and the junior faculty gained more experience. All participants enjoyed being mentored by Professor Alan Mackay-Sim, Australian of the Year 2017.

Clinical Trials: All You Need to Know and More – Sydney, NSW, Australia, May 21, 2017
— Contributed by Course Director: Carolyn Sue, MBBS, PhD, FRACP

The course, Clinical Trials: All You Need to Know and More, was held in Sydney, NSW, Australia, on May 21, 2017. There were 21 participants from five countries across the MDS Asian and Oceanian Section with the bulk of the audience coming primarily from Australia. Many of the SYNERGIES Junior Faculty also attended.

The course was held in Sydney. Four additional faculty participated in the course: Richard Wyse (London, United Kingdom), Thomas Kimber (Adelaide, Australia), Fiona Ellery (Sydney, Australia), and Tina Soulis (Parkville, Australia).
Basic Scientists Summer School – Suzhou, Jiangsu, China, August 3–5, 2017

For the second year, the Basic Scientists Summer School was held at Jinling Guanyuan International Hotel Suzhou, in Suzhou, Jiangsu, China on August 3-5, 2017. There were nearly 100 participants in attendance, primarily from China but also from Taiwan and Japan.

The aim of the Basic Scientists Summer School is to promote the next generation of scientists and young clinicians with interests in the latest advances of clinical and preclinical disciplines in Parkinson’s disease and movement disorders. Additionally, the course was intended to create a common language and generate ideas that will allow development of translational research projects by the next generation researchers in Parkinson’s disease and movement disorders.

This course is aimed at attracting more young clinicians and scientists to focus on Parkinson’s disease and movement disorders in the future.

The school consisted of morning expert lectures and afternoon group discussion sections. Lectures included:

- Scientific topics on faculty research
- Clinical knowledge of Parkinson’s disease and movement disorders
- Topics including: “How to write, submit, review and revise a scientific paper”, “How to propose a project”, and “How to make an oral presentation”

As participants presented their individual research they had the opportunity to interact with faculty and peers. All the participants had a chance to discuss basic science and clinical practice of Parkinson’s disease and movement disorders with faculty members during the cross-talk section.
6th Asian and Oceanian Parkinson’s Disease and Movement Disorders Congress

April 12-14, 2019 • Hangzhou, China

SAVE THE DATE

www.aopmc.org
It is my pleasure to address the readers of Moving Along for the first time as Chair of the MDS-ES. I would like to take this opportunity to thank my predecessor, Joaquim Ferreira, the MDS-ES Officers and the Executive and Education Committees for their excellent work and devoted service. Thanks also to Sabine Gifford, who provided excellent service as MDS-ES Secretariat liaison in the previous term. Let me wish an equally successful continuation to Heather Vitale.

Over the past term, membership, educational and scientific activities of the section have significantly expanded with admirable success. It is a great commitment to follow such an excellent period.

In June 2017, the MDS-ES contributed significantly to the program of the 3rd EAN Congress in Amsterdam, Netherlands. The MDS-ES has played pivotal role in preparation and conduction of 11 sessions on movement disorders topics presented in a variety of course formats including teaching courses, workshops, hands-on and interactive sessions, symposia and a controversies session. In addition, the tradition of the Basal Ganglia Club continued with a lecture on Clinical Pharmacology in Parkinson’s Disease: Lessons and Perspectives, from Olivier Rascol. With more than 6,000 attendees at the EAN Congress, our sessions have traditionally been among the most visited and highest rated. Meanwhile, preparations for the 2018 EAN Congress in Lisbon, Portugal, are already underway. Please watch for the call for session proposals for the 2019 EAN Congress in Oslo, Norway.

In July 2017, we had an exceptional opportunity to commemorate ten years since the launch of the MDS-ES Summer and Winter Schools for Young Neurologists. Since 2008, MDS-ES has held ten Summer Schools and six Winter Schools, which have educated over 700 young neurologists from the European Section. Several school alumni are already spreading education by serving as faculty and course directors on subsequent MDS-ES course programs. The 10th anniversary school returned to Marburg, Germany, where Wolfgang Oertel launched this incredibly successful program ten years ago. I was especially honored to hand over to him the MDS plaque commemorating the program’s success.

In September, the MDS-ES presented three educational events for our allied health colleagues: the already successful Physiotherapy Summer School was continued in Newcastle upon Tyne, United Kingdom; and two new allied health education programs began in 2017: the 1st Speech and Swallowing in Parkinson’s Disease School in Aix en Provence, France; and the 1st MDS-ES Summer School for Nurses in Torres Vedras, Portugal. The MDS-ES educated a total of 88 allied health professionals at these programs.

A variety of new and continuing MDS-ES educational programs took place at the end of 2017. In October, Angelo Antonini led a continuation of the Management of Advanced Parkinson’s Disease with Infusion Therapies course series in Venice, Italy; and Robert Jech organized the first course on Diagnostics and Treatment of Spastic Paresis in Prague, Czech Republic. Elena Moro led a continuation of the Advanced DBS for Movement Disorders course in Grenoble, France. This course was a great success with over 80 participants and a number of interested individuals on a registration waiting list. Earlier in 2017, Elena Moro also established a new MDS-ES Summer School on Neuromodulation for Movement Disorders, expanding the portfolio of MDS-ES schools to include a surgical topic. It was especially gratifying to see our young colleagues, Gertrúd Tamás and Matěj Škorvánek contribute by staging a very successful symposium on Tremor: From Basic Science to Clinical Diagnosis and Therapy in Budapest, Hungary, with local and international speakers and over 100 participants. These diverse programs all certainly deserve a continuation. In total, MDS-ES live educational programs educated 885 doctors, young neurologists, basic scientists and allied health professionals in 2017.

The MDS Outreach Program helped to further disseminate knowledge about movement disorders in Europe and in neighboring culturally and linguistically close areas. MDS-ES speakers attended the Russian congress on movement disorders in Moscow, and other outreach courses included a program on Botulinum Toxin in Neurological Practice in Sofia, Bulgaria. DWEP programs also were held in Cairo, Egypt; Yerevan, Armenia; and Kazan, Russia. In 2017, over 900 people were educated through the MDS-ES Outreach programs.

I would like to conclude by saying that it is a great honor and pleasure for me to contribute to these activities with benefiting a hardworking and friendly atmosphere that lies between MDS-ES Officers, supported by the MDS-ES Executive and Educational Committees, in conformity and close collaboration with the MDS Chair, Officers and Committees. However, most prominent and significant contribution depends on our individual members.

Let me finally wish all members of MDS good health, professional success and personal joy in 2018.

Evžen Růžička, MD, DSc, FCMA
Chair, MDS-ES

MDS-ES CONTINUED ON PAGE 17
Movement Disorders: Bridging Basic Science with Clinical Medicine – Verona, Italy, May 19–20, 2017

The MDS-ES 1st Movement Disorders: Bridging Basic Science with Clinical Medicine course took place in Verona, Italy on May 19-20, 2017. It was attended by 62 participants from the following countries: Canada, Estonia, Germany, Italy, Russia, and Turkey. The course was directed by Professors Angelo Antonini and Michele Tinazzi and held at the Palazzo della Gran Guardia.

This course provided neurologists, pharmacologists and basic scientists with information on the latest advances of preclinical disciplines in movement disorders and explored its different facets from both the angle of basic science as well as from a clinical perspective.

On the first day, speakers each delivered presentations covering the basic, clinical, and discussion areas on the following topics: Phenomenology of Movement Disorders and Equivalent Animal Models and Protein Aggregation and Neurogenetics.

The second day topics presented were Motor and Behavior Response to Dopaminergic Therapy and Placebo; Cognition; and Motor Control and Drug Discovery.

The course evaluations revealed that the major strengths of the course were the expertise and knowledge of the speakers, high level presentations, and their ability to translate new findings of basic science into practice. Attendees also enjoyed the lively conversation with the faculty and colleagues throughout the course.

MDS would like to thank the course faculty who delivered exceptional presentations:

Giovanni Abbruzzese (Genova, Italy); Alfredo Berardelli (Rome, Italy); Kailash P. Bhatia (London, United Kingdom); M. Angela Cenci (Lund, Sweden); Joseph F. Classen (Leipzig, Germany); Joaquim J. Ferreira (Lisbon, Portugal); Mirta Fiorio (Verona, Italy); Nir Giladi (Tel Aviv, Israel); Peter Jenner (London, United Kingdom); Timothy Lynch (Dublin, Ireland); Wassilios Meissner (Bordeaux, France); Michele Morari (Ferrara, Italy); Tiago F. Outeiro (Gottingen, Germany); Antonio Pisani (Rome, Italy); Olivier Rascol (Toulouse, France); and Enza Maria Valente (Salerno, Italy).

Additionally, thank you to the attendees who made the first MDS-ES basic science course a success.

Management of Advanced Parkinson’s Disease with Infusion Therapies – Bucharest, Romania, May 26–27, 2017

Management of Advanced Parkinson’s Disease with Infusion Therapies was facilitated by two Course Directors: Ovidiu Bajenaru from Bucharest, Romania and Angelo Antonini from Padua, Italy. They were joined by five additional faculty members: K. Ray Chaudhuri from the United Kingdom; Francesc Valdeoriola from Spain; Fabrizio Stocchi from Italy; Cristian Gheorghe from Romania; Bogdan Popescu from Romania and Amalia Ene from Romania.

This course provided the theoretical education and practical experience in the management of pump-based treatments for advanced Parkinson’s disease (Levodopa-carbidopa intestinal gel and apomorphine). The course included lectures on history, scientific evidence, patient selection, effects, side effects and practical management.

The final attendance of the course exceeded expectations with 65 participants. Of those, four registered as members, four under the junior/waived dues member rate, and 57 as non-members.

MDS-ES CONTINUED ON PAGE 18
1st Summer School on Neuromodulation for Movement Disorders – Grenoble, France – July 6–8, 2017

The MDS-ES 1st Summer School on Neuromodulation for Movement Disorders took place in Grenoble, France, July 6-8, 2017 and was attended by 31 participants from 17 countries across all sections of MDS.

The workshop was directed by Professors Elena Moro and Stephan Chabardes, and jointly held at the Grenoble Institute of Neurosciences and Centre Hospitalier Universitaire. An afternoon session was also held at Clinatec, which provided students with the opportunities to tour the research center and view an online DBS surgery performed earlier that morning. This was the first MDS-ES summer school organized on this topic and it was met with resounding success.

The morning lectures provided an overview on all aspects of neuromodulation from surgery for Parkinson’s disease, dystonia, tremor, and children with movement disorders. The interactive afternoon sessions gave students the unique opportunity to participate in hands-on workshops, view an online DBS surgery, tour the Clinatec research center, see how the surgical trajectories and neurophysiology recordings are made, how to select surgical candidates, and how to examine them.

Students further saw how to program and follow actual patients with DBS, and engage in a constructive discussion with the international experts. To complete the summer school experience, students also presented their own case study videos to small groups for discussion and critique.

The course evaluations revealed that the summer school was very well organized and that the topics covered all important aspects of DBS and were presented by high quality speakers. Additionally, students enjoyed the interactive afternoon workshops, the visit to Clinatec, and the case study component which allowed for discussion amongst their international colleagues.

MDS would like to thank the course faculty who delivered exceptional presentations and created interactive workshops with dynamic conversations:

Amelie Bichon (Grenoble, France); Romain Carron (Marseille, France); Anna Castrioto (Grenoble, France); Eric Chevrier (Grenoble, France); Laura Cif (Montpellier, France); Olivier David (Grenoble, France); Bettina Debu (Grenoble, France); Clecio de Oliveira Godeiro (Grenoble, France); Valerie Fraix (Grenoble, France); Marwan Hariz (London, UK); Sara Meoni (Grenoble, France); Alberto Priori (Milan, Italy); Maria Rodriguez Oroz (San Sebastian, Spain); Emmanuelle Schmitt (Grenoble, France); Alfons Schnitzler (Düsseldorf, Germany); Eric Seigneuret (Grenoble, France); and Yasin Temel (Maastricht, The Netherlands).

Additionally, thank you to the participants who made this course a resounding success. Your participation throughout the workshop allowed for meaningful conversations to transpire that will hopefully carry over into your professional practice.
10th MDS-ES Summer School for Young Neurologists – Marburg, Germany, July 21–23, 2017

The MDS-ES Summer School for Young Neurologists was a two-and-a-half-day school that took place in Marburg, Germany at Haus Sonneck retreat center July 21–23, 2017. This was a monumental occasion as it was the 10th anniversary of the program, as there has been a Summer School yearly since the first one in 2008. The MDS-ES Summer School for Young Neurologists was chaired by Prof. Wolfgang Oertel of Philipps University of Marburg and Prof. Lars Timmermann of The University Hospital of Giessen and Marburg.

In addition, there were another 15 faculty: Angelo Antonini (Padua, Italy), Kailash Bhatia (London, United Kingdom), Bas Bloem (Nijmegen, Netherlands), Katrin Bürk (Kassel, Germany), Günther Deuschl (Kiel, Germany), Richard Dodel (Duisburg, Germany), Karla Eggert (Marburg, Germany), Joaquim Ferreira (Lisbon, Portugal), Thomas Gasser (Tübingen, Germany), Günther Höglinger (Munich, Germany), Nico Leenders (Groningen, Netherlands) Niall Quinn (London, United Kingdom), Evžen Růžička (Prague, Czech Republic), Christoph Scherfler (Innsbruck, Austria) Jens Volkmann (Würzburg, Germany).

The program was designed to provide young neurologists with different exposures to movement disorders. The program consists of large lectures, small group case presentations, and interactions with patients to discuss diagnosis and treatment.

The structure of the course on the first two days was inclusive of faculty lectures in the morning and patient evaluation rounds during the afternoon. The small group case presentations to faculty also took place on the first day so that feedback could be provided to those participants who would present to all course attendees. The topics were inclusive of Parkinson’s disease on Day 1 and of other movement disorders on Day 2. The last day consisted of further lectures from faculty and the presentation of eight attendee case presentations.

There were 47 participants attending the school in Marburg from 25 different countries. These countries included: United Kingdom, Belgium, Netherlands, Morocco, Romania, Ethiopia, Spain, Hungary, Germany, Austria, Switzerland, Greece, Montenegro, Egypt, Senegal, Portugal, Macedonia, Ireland, Tunisia, Poland, Latvia, Russia, Italy, Lithuania, and the Czech Republic.

The 2017 MDS-ES Summer School in Marburg, Germany celebrated the 10th anniversary of the concept to educate young movement disorder fellows with patients suffering from a movement disorder and presented and discussed by top experts in the field.

The concept was invented in 2007 at the Department of Neurology and Movement Disorder Center in Marburg by Wolfgang Oertel and Niall Quinn. Since then the MDS Summer School concept has taken place all over Europe, received a valuable addition by the introduction of the MDS-ES Winter School and has been introduced by the other sections of MDS with resounding success and high acceptance.

At the 10th anniversary meeting in Marburg in July 2017 nearly all members of the faculty of 2007 were present – a success itself reflecting the extremely high commitment of the faculty to teaching our young fellows. By number of active faculty members, number of attendance and in particular number of patients present, it was the largest and most comprehensive MDS-ES Summer School ever.

Movement disorders were taught on real life patients covering nearly the full range of disorders including ataxias, chorea, dystonia, Parkinson’s disease, MSA, PSP, RLS and tremor and the full range of available therapeutic options. The social events were phenomenally well accepted with everybody performing tango and formation dancing for long hours.

The local organizers deeply thank the MDS-ES Officers for their strong support of this educational activity, as well as the International Secretariat, and especially MDS Program Manager, Kate Rudolph, for providing full support in respect to financing, planning and organizing the summer school in Marburg, Germany.

All in all, this 2017 MDS-ES Summer School will remain in the memory of the participants for a long time.
1st Speech and Swallowing in Parkinson’s Disease School
– Aix-en Provence, France, August 31–September 2, 2017

The MDS-ES 1st Speech and Swallowing in Parkinson’s Disease School was a two-and-a-half-day school that took place in Aix-en Provence, France at Laboratoire Parole et Langage, August 31–September 2, 2017.

The course was chaired by Dr. Serge Pinto of Laboratoire Parole et Langage and Prof. Francois Viallet of Centre Hospitalier du Pays D’Aix, both located in Aix-en-Provence, France. In addition there were eight faculty: Cyril Atkinson-Clement (Aix-en-Provence, France), Michelle Ciucci (Madison, WI, USA), Miguel Coelho (Lisbon, Portugal), Hanneke Kalf (Nijmegen, Netherlands), Anja Lowit (Glasgow, United Kingdom), Caroline Moreau (Lille, France), Lorraine Ramig (New York, NY, USA), Elina Tripoliti (London, United Kingdom).

The main objective of this course was to provide an opportunity for speech therapists to keep informed about clinical aspects of Parkinsonism, as well as to provide the most recent knowledge about clinical management of dysarthria in PD. The first day’s program revolved around speech, with sessions on how to assess and treat. In the afternoon the participants engaged in speech training sessions with three different faculty. On the second day, the participants learned how to assess and treat swallowing. Just as on Day 1, the afternoon included training sessions for swallowing therapy. The third and final day consisted of multiple lectures.

It was a pleasure to welcome participants from many countries of Europe, and even overseas, who joined for great interactions on speech and swallowing impairments, which deserve a specific attention in the field of Movement Disorders. More specifically, the group considered speech in PD from perspectives emerging from both speech sciences and neurosciences, which is the key approach for enlightening the understanding and the management of speech in PD from a holistic point of view.

The course directors were happy to create an atmosphere where faculties and participants, neurologists, speech therapists/pathologists, speech- and neuro-scientists shared thoughts, competences and experiences on both consensual aspects and new topics to be further explored. We believe that all participants enjoyed this MDS-ES 1st Speech and Swallowing in Parkinson’s Disease School, and we would like to thank again all participants and faculty for their enthusiasm, dynamism and willingness to share.

The 2nd Speech and Swallowing in Parkinson’s Disease School will be held July 6-7, 2018 in London, United Kingdom. For more information or to register, please visit www.movementdisorders.org/education.
MDS–Pan American Section Letter from the Chair
— Henrique B. Ferraz, MD, Chair, MDS-PAS

Dear Colleagues,

Since the MDS International Congress in Vancouver, BC, Canada, our committees have been learning the policies and procedures of the MDS-PAS, reviewing and providing feedback on many educational proposals/applications, reviewing and selecting our region’s Visiting Trainee Grant recipients, updating the MDS-PAS Educational Needs Assessment Survey, planning the 2nd PAS Congress and more. As you can see, we are off to a good start and our volunteers are doing a great job in their roles.

The following is a brief report of the MDS-PAS activities.

Outreach Programs
Virtual Professor Program
We presented our first Central America Virtual Professor Program at the “Movement Disorders Breaking Barriers” course in Tequicuicatlán, Honduras on July 25, 2017, which was hosted by Dr. Alex Medina. The course consisted of four lectures covering main topics of movement disorders. The first lecture from the virtual speaker was “Atypical Parkinsonism” by Dr. Marcelo Merello from Buenos Aires, Argentina. Subsequently, the second virtual speaker Dr. Pedro Chaná-Cueva from Santiago de Chile covered the topic “Neuroimaging in Movement Disorders”. Further contributions were made by local neurologists Dr. Alex Medina and Dr. Heike Hesse from Honduras, covering lectures regarding cognitive aspects and advanced surgical therapy interventions in Parkinson’s disease. This Movement Disorders course was the first of its kind in Honduras. We hope for future educational collaborations to continue our mission to educate professionals in our field.

Ambassador Program
We were pleased to send two MDS-PAS Ambassadors to the 7th Movement Disorder Scientific Department of the Brazilian Academy of Neurology Meeting and 7th Movement Disorders and Basal Ganglia Researchers Meeting, August 25-27, 2017 in São Paulo, Brazil, hosted by Dr. Hsin Fen Chien. Unfortunately, Dr. Mandar Jog was unable to attend in person, however, the local telemedicine team worked quickly to have Dr. Jog present his talks, “Smart Technology in the Assessment and Treatment of Movement Disorders” and “New Interventions for Targeted Therapy in Parkinson Disease” virtually. Past President, Dr. Oscar Gershanik presented “200 Years of Advances in Parkinson’s Disease” and “Does Parkinson’s Disease Start in the Gut.” The course was attended by 242 participants and was positively reviewed and received.

In our efforts to provide education in the Caribbean, two MDS-PAS Ambassadors traveled to Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic on October 7, 2017 to speak at the 3rd Annual Symposium of Movement Disorders Breaking Barriers. The course was attended by 121 participants and was hosted by Dr. Fernando Gracia.

Central American Movement Disorders Work Group
The Central American Movement Disorder Work Group held their third meeting from August 31-September 2, 2017 in Panama City, Panama. The meeting took place along with the Annual Meeting of the Panama Internal Medicine Society, drawing more than 300 participants. There were delegates from El Salvador, Nicaragua, Honduras and Costa Rica. Drs. Eduardo Tolosa from Spain, Jorge Juncos from the United States and Prof. Francisco Cardoso from Brazil were invited speakers as part of the Ambassador program. In addition to educational sessions, the group had a scientific meeting where they discussed research efforts in the region. Lastly, they have decided to hold the 2018 meeting of the group in Managua, Nicaragua on August 24-26.

Through the DWEP, Dr. Federico Michelli attended the “2nd Parkinson Summit”, hosted by Dr. Dante Oropeza, in Puebla, Mexico on March 30-31, 2017. Dr. Michelli lectured on “Dopaminergic and non-dopaminergic alterations in PD and Pharmacological treatment for early and advanced PD” “This course is our contribution as doctors, in adding efforts day by day, in increasing our knowledge and in the quest to be able to offer a better quality of life to Parkinson’s patients”. Dr. Oropeza

Visiting Trainee Grant
We are very pleased to announce the awardees of the Visiting Trainee Grants:

Juan Blas Marcos Couto from the Institute of Neuroscience of the Favaloro Foundation (Buenos Aires, Argentina) will spend six weeks at Rush University in Chicago, IL, USA.

Carlos Guerra from the Universidad Autónoma de San Luis Potosí (San Luis Potosí, Mexico) will spend six weeks at Rush University in Chicago, IL, USA.

Dr. Jorge Juncos from Atlanta, GA, USA presented “The Ten Most Common Errors in the Management of Parkinson’s Disease” and “Tourette’s Disease: Beyond the Tics”. Prof. Francisco Cardoso from Belo Horizonte, Brazil lectured on “Chorea: What the Neurologist Should Know” and “Future Treatments on Parkinson’s Disease”.

Developing World Education Program (DWEP)
Three MDS-PAS Movement Disorders experts were invited to Panama City, Panama on September 1-2, 2017 to speak at the First International Symposium of Movement Disorders. Prof. Francisco Cardoso, Dr. Jorge Juncos and Dr. Eduardo Tolosa participated in the Workshop of Movement Disorders for Non-Neurologist Clinical Cases and Videos of Movement Disorders and presented other keynote lectures. The course was attended by 121 participants and was hosted by Dr. Fernando Gracia.

MDS-PAS CONTINUED ON PAGE 22
Natalia Ospina García from the Universidad Nacional de Colombia (Ibagué, Tolima, Colombia) will spend one year at the Instituto Nacional de Neurología y Neurocirugía Manuel Velasco Suarez in Mexico City, Mexico.

**MDS-PAS Educational Needs Assessment Survey**

We recently distributed a survey to the membership related to educational needs in the section. The information gleaned from the survey results will assist the MDS-PAS in planning educational activities with relevant topics and providing education in areas that are in need of Movement Disorders education.

**2nd PAS Congress**

The 2nd PAS Congress, which has a theme of *Movement Disorders across the Americas: Translating Science to Clinical Practice*, will be held in Miami, FL, USA on June 22-24, 2018. The Scientific Program is completed, faculty have been invited, and the abstract submission site is now open. Registration is also open as of February 1, 2018. We hope to see you in Miami.

We will continue to work toward our educational goals and provide you with another update early next year. Thank you all for your efforts and dedication to our Society and Regional Section.

Sincerely,

Henrique B. Ferraz, MD
Chair, MDS-PAS

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**Virtual Professor Program**

**Benefits:**

- Access to MDS expert speakers
- No travel costs
- Interactive program with live feed
- **New!** Up to $500 in support (Waived Dues countries only)

The MDS Virtual Professor Program is a web-conferencing program that can be utilized as a standalone program or in conjunction with any outreach or live program.

To learn more and apply online, please visit [www.movementdisorders.org/virtualprofessor](http://www.movementdisorders.org/virtualprofessor)
The Neuroimaging in Parkinson's Disease and Related Disorders Symposium took place in Calgary, AB, Canada, June 9 – 10, 2017 and was attended by 42 participants from 14 countries across the Pan American, European, and Asian and Oceania Sections of MDS. The Symposium was held at the Hotchkiss Brain Institute, University of Calgary, Cumming School of Medicine, Health Sciences Centre, Libin Theatre. The development of this symposium was a goal of the MDS Neuroimaging Study Group in Movement Disorders, which Dr. Strafella leads.

We would like to thank the course faculty who participated in making this course high quality education, interactive with dynamic conversations: Nico Bohnen (Ann Arbor, MI, USA), Richard Camicioli (Edmonton, AB, Canada), Doris Doudet (Vancouver, BC, Canada), David Eidelberg (Manhasset, NY, USA), Mario Masellis (Toronto, ON, Canada), Martin McKeown (Vancouver, BC, Canada), Cecilia Peralta (Buenos Aires, Argentina), Bruce Pike (Calgary, AB, Canada), Gwenn Smith (Baltimore, MD, USA), A. Jon Stoessl (Vancouver, BC, Canada), and David Vaillancourt (Gainesville, FL, USA).

Day one of the course spanned topics such as Imaging of Animal Models of Parkinson’s Disease (Doris Doudet), Presynaptic Imaging of Parkinson’s Disease (A. Jon Stoessl), The Role of Dopamine in Behavioural Complications (Antonio Strafella) and then moved on to the The Role of the Cholinergic System & Proteinopathies in Cognitive Decline (Nico Bohnen), Metabolic Networks (David Eidelberg), and Molecular Imaging of the effects of DBS in Neurodegenerative Disease (Gwenn Smith).

Before the course, participants were encouraged to submit abstracts for poster consideration. Twenty-five abstracts were accepted and two of those were selected for oral presentation. Helena Bejr-Kasem of Spain presented her talk titled “The neural correlates of minor hallucinations in Parkinson’s disease (PD): A multimodal imaging study.” Penny MacDonald of Canada presented her talk titled “Dopaminergic therapy enhances dorsal and attenuates ventral striatum functions and corresponding fMRI BOLD signal in Parkinson’s disease.”

Participants took advantage of the ample time provided for viewing and discussing posters with the presenters and faculty. The lively discussion, networking and newly formed friendships was great to see.

Day two began with a talk on Structural Imaging of Dementia (Richard Camicioli), followed by MRI Based Neuroimaging Studies of Cognitive Deficits and Evolution in Parkinson’s Disease (Oury Monchi), FDG studies in Parkinsonism (Cecilia Peralta), and Biomarkers in PD (Mario Masellis). In the afternoon, talks continued on MRI Studies of Progression in Parkinson’s Disease and Parkinsonian Disorders (David Vaillancourt), Morphological Alterations in Parkinson’s Disease (Martin McKeown), and Multi-Modal Imaging Approaches for Deep Brain Stimulation Targeting in Parkinson’s Disease (Bruce Pike).

Course evaluations revealed that participants experienced one of the best meetings they have attended and many stated that the science presented was relevant and of outstanding quality.

In closing, thank you to our local team who helped with organizing the course, Iris Kathol, Jenelle Cheetham, Linda Shorting and Susana Escobedo from the University’s CME Department and the University of Calgary Hotchkiss Brain Institute for their financial support. And thank you to the enthusiastic participants who made the course successful.
The 2017 Aspen Course, A Comprehensive Review of Movement Disorders for the Clinical Practitioner, was held in Aspen, Colorado, USA, on August 1-4, 2017. This course was attended by 221 participants from 14 countries and 31 fellow scholarships were given to select institutions throughout the MDS-PAS which supported 54 fellow attendees.

The course was held at the St. Regis Aspen Hotel in Aspen. Six additional faculty participated in the Aspen Course: Stanley Fahn (New York, NY, USA), Jennifer Goldman (Chicago, IL, USA), Mark Hallett (Bethesda, MD, USA), Joseph Jankovic (Houston, TX, USA), Michael Okun (Gainesville, FL, USA), and Kapil Sethi (Augusta, GA, USA).

Day one of the course began with an overview of the phenomenology of hypokinetic movement disorders. Lectures were given on the physiology and pathophysiology of movement, functional neuroanatomy of the basal ganglia, and the clinical features, differential diagnosis and prodromal features of Parkinson’s disease. The first day of the course concluded with a welcome reception for all course participants and dinner for the fellows.

Day two continued with the etiology and pathogenesis of Parkinson’s disease, the medical treatment of motor and non-motor symptoms of Parkinson’s disease, as well as the surgical treatment of Parkinson’s disease. The day concluded with a lecture on restless leg syndrome and peripheral movement disorders.

Day three addressed atypical Parkinsonism in two parts: Parkinsonism with synuclein and Parkinsonism with tau, continuing with part two of an overview of the phenomenology of hyperkinetic movement disorders, ataxia, chorea, ballism, athetosis, and Huntington’s disease. On the evening of day three, participants were encouraged to bring interesting video case studies of their own for presentation and discussion during the Night Video Rounds.

The final day of the course ended with lectures on gait disorders, stiffness and stiff-people, a two-part series on psychogenic movement disorders, tremor, deep brain stimulation for hyperkinetic disorders, and paroxysmal movement disorders.

In addition to the informative lectures given by the esteemed faculty and video cases presented by the course participants, the Fellow Scholars were invited to participate in a luncheon sponsored by the National Parkinson Foundation (NPF). During the luncheon, Dr. Okun presented on the importance of building an interdisciplinary team, and offered career advice. Following the presentation, a panel of faculty offered additional career insight and discussed their career paths.

The Aspen Course received positive feedback from the onsite evaluations citing particular appreciation for the videos and excellent lectures by the faculty. Registration is already open for the 2018 Aspen Course, taking place again at the St. Regis Aspen Hotel, July 29-August 2, 2018. Please visit www.movementdisorders.org/aspen for more information.
Pan American Botulinum Toxin Workshop – Cartagena de Indias, Colombia, August 24, 2017
— Contributed by Course Co-Directors: Gabriel Arango, MD and Sonia Catalina Cerquera-Cleves, MD

The Pan American Botulinum Toxin Workshop took place in Cartagena de Indias, Colombia on August 24, 2017 and was attended by 96 participants from 12 countries across the Pan American Section of MDS.

While this was the 3rd MDS-PAS botulinum toxin workshop held in Latin America, with the first two previously held in Bolivia (2012) and Chile (2014), respectively, it was the first MDS-PAS course to be organized in Colombia.

The workshop was held at the InterContinental Cartagena de Indias Hotel, one day prior to the Colombian Association of Neurology’s Parkinson Symposium.

The morning workshop topics presented were: Available Preparations and Pharmacology of the Botulinum Toxin (William Fernández); Application Techniques (Mauricio Rueda-Acevedo); Botulinum Toxin in Craniofacial Dystonias and Hemifacial Spasm (Gabriel J. Arango); Treatment of Cervical Dystonia via Skype (Joseph Jankovic); Treatment of Limbs Dystonia (Oscar Bernal-Pacheco); Management of Spasticity (Xiomara García); and Other uses of the Botulinum Toxin (Sonia Catalina Cerquera-Cleves) followed a Panel Questions and Answers (Q & A).

The afternoon consisted of three interactive workshops on Craniofacial Dystonias and Hemifacial Spasm Facial; Cervical Dystonia; and Limbs Dystonia and Spasticity.

The course evaluation feedback showed that the topics delivered by the speakers were of high quality and informative. Participants enjoyed the interactive afternoon workshops that featured clinical cases and videos and allowed for discussion among their international colleagues.

We would like to thank the course faculty who delivered exceptional presentations and created interactive workshops with dynamic conversations: Oscar Bernal-Pacheco (Chia, Colombia); William Fernández (Bogotá, Colombia); Xiomara García (Bogotá, Colombia); Joseph Jankovic (Houston, TX, USA); and Mauricio Rueda-Acevedo (Medellín, Colombia). Additionally, thank you to the participants who made this course a resounding success. Your participation throughout the workshop allowed for meaningful conversations to transpire that we hope will carry over into your professional practice.

With the Colombian Movement Disorders group becoming an MDS Affiliate Society in August of 2016 and the successful completion of the Pan American Botulinum Toxin Workshop, we look forward to bringing additional educational opportunities to Colombia and the rest of Latin America.
The 7th MDS-PAS School for Young Neurologists was a two-and-a-half-day school that took place in Philadelphia, PA, USA, at Pennsylvania Hospital, September 24-26, 2017. This is the second school that has taken place in the USA.

There were eight other faculty: Rizwan Akhtar (Philadelphia, PA, USA), Kelvin Chou (Ann Arbor, MI, USA), Jill Farmer (Philadelphia, PA, USA), Pedro Gonzalez-Alegre (Philadelphia, PA, USA), Tsao-Wei Liang (Philadelphia, PA, USA), Naomi Lubarr (New York City, NY, USA), Harini Sarva (New York City, NY, USA), and Andrew Siderowf (Philadelphia, PA, USA).

The program was designed to provide young neurologists with exposure to a variety of movement disorders. The program consists of large lectures, small group case presentations, and interactions with patients to discuss diagnosis, examination findings, and treatment. The structure of the course on the first two days was inclusive of faculty lectures in the morning and patient evaluation rounds during the afternoon. The topics were inclusive of Parkinson's disease on day one and of other movement disorders on day two. On the third day, the program broke into small groups to present their case presentations to faculty, while the best in each group presented to all participants after lunch. This program was also ACCME accredited for 17.5 credits.

Sixteen participants attended the school in Philadelphia: eight were from the United States, two from Argentina, two from Brazil, and one from each of Canada, Costa Rica, Cuba, and Mexico.

The evaluations for this course showed positive results including a positive change in participant’s knowledge base and a course score of 3.90 (out of 4). Comments also showed that the “hands on” patient rounds were the most valuable portion of the course and that it contributed the most to the attendee’s likely changes in practice. The faculty all received scores between 3.67 and 4.00 (out of 4).

Directing the course was a very rewarding experience, which afforded us the opportunity to interface with neurologists from throughout the Americas and to understand how neurological care is delivered abroad. For the attendees, we believe this was an unparalleled experience that will translate into better patient care in the United States, Canada and Latin America. The examination sessions, which not only allow participants to hear from and see patients with unusual diseases but also enable intimate discussion of cases with faculty, set this educational course apart from any other programs available to young neurologists. Based on our own experience as well as feedback from faculty and participants, we feel the course ran smoothly, the knowledge transmitted was relevant to the attendees’ practice, and the course helped fulfill the International Parkinson and Movement Disorder Society’s mission of disseminating knowledge about movement disorders. We thank you wholeheartedly for granting us the opportunity to direct this course, and for your help in making it a success.
An Introduction to Rare Movement Disorders Diseases – Montevideo, Uruguay, September 29–30, 2017
— Contributed by Course Co-Directors: Emilia Gatto, MD, Buenos Aires, Argentina, and Ignacio Amorín, MD, Montevideo, Uruguay

An Introduction to Rare Movement Disorders Diseases was held at Sindicato Médico del Uruguay – SMU. SMU is the headquarters for the “Health Foundation - Dr. Augusto Turenne”, an organization integrated by past-presidents of the SMU dedicated to promote international activities of specialized training for physicians and support patients and families associations in Uruguay. The current president of SMU, Dr. Alfredo Toledo, is interested in the topic of Rare Diseases and the support of the Uruguayan Neurology Society made for a great partnership to hold this course in Montevideo, Uruguay. In demonstration of their support, SMU graciously provided complimentary meeting space, audio/visual and internet access.

The development of a Rare Disease course was a direct charge from the MDS Rare Movement Disorders Study Group, which Dr. Gatto is the current Chair. Presently, approximately 7,000 different disorders fulfill the criteria for rare diseases, and all together affect 6-8 % of the population, that represents 300 million people worldwide. Interestingly a high percentage of them are genetically determined, affect children and in several cases the neurologic phenotypes are characterized by movement disorders. To learn more about MDS Rare Movement Disorders Study Group, please visit the MDS website at www.movementdisorders.org/Rare-MDS-Study-Group.

The course was attended by 84 participants from eight Latin American countries: Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Honduras, Mexico, Peru, Portugal and Uruguay. The course was presented by 11 expert faculty, seven international faculty and four local faculty. Some of the lectures were presented in English in order to promote the MDS-PAS vision to include English lectures at courses, the scientific language of the world.

We created a welcoming atmosphere and engaged in dynamic discussion, making sure that all questions were answered. Throughout the two day course, there were many interesting topics presented, beginning with An Introduction to the Definition of Rare Movement Disorder Diseases, New Genetic Technology of Diagnosis and Therapy, Genotype meets Phenotype, Treatable Ataxias, DBS and many other related topics.

Participants were encouraged to submit a letter of intent for the Video Case Challenge. The submitted letters were reviewed and 12 cases were selected for presentation. The case sessions were chaired and judged by Dr. Cardozo and Dr. Medici, selecting the best case presentation on each day. The goal of this sessions is for participants to learn from a series of unusual, very interesting patient cases and to see how senior experts approach these types of challenging cases. Congratulations to Dr. Federico Baltar from Montevideo, Uruguay and Dr. Gustavo Da Prat, from Buenos Aires, Argentina for being selected as having the best presentations.

We would like to thank the faculty who participated in making this course a success:
From left to right in the picture above: Drs. Teive, Amorín, Lescano, Chaná-Cuevas, Merello, Gatto, Mata, Jinnah, Cardozo, Medici and Cosentino.

In closing, thank you to the local team at SMU who helped with logistics, the Uruguayan Neurology Society, MDS for their financial support and to all the wonderful participants who attended. We are very pleased with the partnership and success of our very first educational program in Uruguay.
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International Congress of Parkinson’s Disease and Movement Disorders

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