

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Caroline D. Robson, MB, ChB, ASHNR President

In the weeks since writing the “final draft” of this newsletter we have all joined the global response to the COVID-19 pandemic. From providing health care in hospitals that are battling to save critically ill patients, to falling ill or dealing with family members, colleagues and friends who have been sickened, we are all involved. “Safer at home” or “shelter in place” has become the mantra, while economic hardship encroaches across the world. Although many predictions as to how this pandemic will play out seem dire, we will get through this with resilience, adaptation and grit. As academic conferences are cancelled, it is with a degree of nostalgia that we look back at the year past and wonder about the years ahead. With this in mind the ASHNR 2020 meeting that was to have taken place in Orlando, Florida has been cancelled, and in its place Ilona Schmalfuss, President-elect and Program Chair, and the Program Committee are creating a virtual meeting. We are also planning many other educational offerings: Christine Glastonbury, Education Committee Chair, is organizing weekly ASHNR educational webinars for CME credit that will commence in May. Gul Moonis, Amy Juliano, Felice d’Arco and I are hosting a biweekly temporal bone case conference that will commence shortly. The ASHNR Executive Committee recently held their first Zoom meeting, and we have also convened an ASHNR Ad Hoc Strategic Task Force to provide guidance to the Executive Committee on a number of considerations that have arisen due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Looking to the future, as we continue to negotiate a world that has irrevocably changed, we wish for your safety and the good health of you and your loved ones during the year ahead.

## Scottsdale ASHNR 2019 Recap

Thank you to all who attended and contributed to the success of the 53rd Annual ASHNR meeting in Scottsdale, Arizona. A total of 562 registrants included 98 international members from 25 countries. The Westin Kierland provided a beautiful venue with panoramic mountain views and blue skies. Despite the enticements of warm weather and the great outdoors, the sessions were exceptionally well attended. The meeting kicked off with the Early Bird Session entitled “Errors are Opportunities: Mistakes, Misses and Difficult Diagnoses”. Fascinating and challenging cases were submitted ahead of time by audience members. The meeting proceeded through Sunday with core curriculum and SAM sessions covering most aspects of head and neck anatomy and diseases. Amongst the speakers were familiar faces of established head and neck imaging experts as well as several brilliant new speakers – rising stars in the field. New this year were lectures on Artificial Intelligence and educational and clinical applications of Augmented Reality and 3D Computer Generated Imagery Models. “Pearl from my Mentor” vignettes reprised, providing wonderful tributes to teachers and mentors. Finally, of course, no ASHNR meeting would be complete without the ever popular jeopardy game show, hosted by Doug Phillips, Rick Wiggins and Larry Ginsberg.

The educational content of the meeting was, as always, exceptional. Thanks to the Program Committee for their help





in designing the program, to the faculty who worked so hard on delivering excellent talks and to the moderators. Heartfelt thanks to Kris Mosier (Education Committee Chair), Christine Glastonbury (Education Committee Vice Chair and Case of the Day organizer) and Education Committee members for all their hard work in reviewing and accepting the electronic exhibits and oral scientific presentations, and to the many registrants who submitted electronic exhibits or delivered oral scientific presentations.

One of the themes of this year was mentoring. So we were delighted when Paul Bunch took the initiative to organize a mentoring meal with 13 panelists and approximately 50 preregistered attendees. There was lively discussion during the event and many excellent suggestions were received.

The Gold Medal lunch on Friday honored Laurie Loevner - a truly deserving recipient - with a wonderful tribute delivered by Dave Yousem. Laurie was joined at the event by members of her family. Social functions included the opening reception and gala event both held outdoors in the balmy Arizona evenings. The Friday free afternoon provided an opportunity to relax and enjoy the outdoors. For some, this meant leisurely golf, a visit to the spa, or swimming, while others braved the daunting heat and went hiking. Later that evening the speaker's dinner was held at Deseo restaurant. A highlight throughout this meeting was the delicious food served at the various restaurants and other venues throughout the Westin Kierland resort.

Behind the scenes, huge thanks to all of the ASHNR executive committee members, especially first past president Debbie Shatzkes, for her endless support, advice and guidance. This year we secured a wonderful outdoor table for the lengthy ex-com meetings and narrowly escaped being drenched by the sprinklers which abruptly switched on at random moments. Thanks also to other committee members, especially Nick Koontz and the Website and Social Media Committee who curated the ASHNR Case of the Week (COTW) series, maintaining an active ASHNR pres-



ence on Twitter. Finally, thanks primarily to Debbie Shatzkes and Salman Qureshi, we are delighted to announce a formal ESHNR-ASHNR collaboration which will facilitate reciprocal joint sessions organized during future annual meetings of each society.

Thanks to our colleagues at ESI for their incredible hard work and dedication in ensuring that everything ran smoothly, from site selection a couple of years ago, to sending innumerable emails, helping with our technical exhibitors, providing AV services and dealing with inevitable behind-the-scenes mini crises! Thanks to Mary Beth Hepp and the staff at the ASNR for their help, and we are so excited to now have excellent support from Kristi Olson, assisted by Julie Strozza who joined the ASNR since our last annual meeting. A big thank you to our generous technical exhibitors for attending the meeting and providing corporate support. A generous grant was also provided by the ASHNR Core Curriculum Fund.

As a foreign-born pediatric neuroradiologist, it has been an incredible honor to have served as Program Chair and now to serve as President of the ASHNR. I'm also so very grateful for the love, support and encouragement from my wonderful family. Finally, it is with great enthusiasm that I urge you to attend Ilona Schmalfuss's ASHNR 2020 virtual meeting and to register for all the other educational offerings ahead.





COVID is currently dominating our lives! It is unpredictable what the next months will bring but it is certain it will not be the same as a year ago. Are we able to travel? Do we want to travel? Do we want to be in a conference room with 600 people from all over the world? Many questions surround “social” and “physical” distancing – the opposite of our traditional ASHNR meetings!

With all of the uncertainty on the horizon, the ASHNR Executive Committee has determined that it would be best to cancel the face-to-face ASHNR meeting in September 2020. Nevertheless, we are not willing to completely skip the 2020 ASHNR meeting! Therefore, we are in the process of converting the 54th ASHNR meeting into a virtual meeting instead. The meeting will take place during the same days as the original conference scheduled for September 9th through 13th, with presentations each day yielding CME credits for each participant. To accommodate different time zones, the program will most likely be scheduled for the early afternoon. As we adjust to the new “normal” we would like to provide high quality virtual lectures that the ASHNR is known for, maintain scientific presentations, highlight electronic exhibits and of course somehow incorporate the

cases of the day. So stay tuned for the revised program and abstract submission deadlines!

As you can imagine, ASHNR would not be the same without some type of “social” programming. In fact, getting to know each other is an important part of any ASHNR meeting! As we work on some ideas, we invite you to share yours by emailing [schmai@radiology.ufl.edu](mailto:schmai@radiology.ufl.edu).



Let us embrace the new “normal” by supporting the 54th ASHNR virtual meeting! The registration website will be opening soon. In addition, please encourage your residents, fellows and all others to submit scientific abstract(s) and/or electronic exhibits – we can do it! The submission website will open soon!

As we will be missing out on the little chats, hugs and the opportunities to make new friends, let’s connect virtually in 2020 and in person for the 2021 ASHNR meeting in San Diego!

Stay safe!

## AD HOC STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE

The ASHNR has convened an Ad Hoc Strategic Planning Committee charged with providing guidance to the ASHNR Executive Committee. Strategies will be developed to anticipate and navigate through changes that will impact the Society’s activity and well-being during and following the COVID-19 pandemic.

Committee members include:

Deborah Shatzkes, MD (Co-Chair)  
Caroline Robson, MB,ChB (Co-Chair)  
William Dillon, MD  
Vijay Rao, MD, FACR  
Suresh Mukherji, MD, FACR, MBA  
Douglas Phillips, MD, FACR  
Ilona Schmalfuss, MD  
Nancy Fischbein, MD  
Christine Glastonbury, MBBS  
Nicholas Koontz, MD  
Tabby Kennedy, MD



On behalf of myself and the past Chair of the committee, Dr Kris Mosier, I would like to extend an enormous thank you to the hard-working members of the Education Committee. We had a terrific committee last year and a great breakfast discussion in Arizona, and are excited to see so much enthusiasm from ASHNR members volunteering to join the committee this year. At ASHNR19, the Education Committee reviewed more than 160 educational and scientific exhibits and attended the oral scientific presentation sessions in order to award the following:

### Radiologist-in-Training

#### Best Oral Scientific Presentation Award

**Mikell Yuhasz, MD** et al from NYU. Quantitative and stereotactic MRI characterization of auditory pathways in pediatric cochlear implant candidates.

#### Electronic Scientific Presentations

**Gold:** *Yong Ju Kim, MD* et al from Seoul National University, Korea. MRI-based assessment of pharyngeal constrictor muscle as a predictor of positive surgical margin after transoral robotic surgery for HPV-positive tonsillar cancer.

**Silver:** *Gloria J Guzman Perez-Carrillo, MD MSc* previously of Banner University Medical Center. Increased ADC values in optimized H&N DWI utilizing RESOLVE and multiband versus conventional DWI.

**Bronze:** *Jung Hyun Noh, MD* et al. Sungkyunkwan University School of Medicine, Korea. MR imaging of Teflon granuloma: a plausible cause of failed microvascular decompression in patients with trigeminal neuralgia and hemifacial spasm.

Congratulations to all the winners, and a sincere thank you to all the contributors and presenters who brought their hard work and their expertise to share with us at ASHNR19. Please look for the upcoming announcement for the ASHNR20 presentation submission site to open. We are looking forward to another terrific meeting this September!

### Electronic Educational Exhibits

**Gold:** *AM Foust, DO* et al from Boston Children's Hospital. The ossicles in pediatric conductive hearing loss.

**Silver:** *Valeria Onofrij, MD* et al from Cincinnati Children's Hospital. Can you hear me now? Congenital and acquired causes of SNHL and MHL.

**Bronze:** *Jacqueline Junn, MD* et al from UCSF. Fake meningiomas: a case based approach to nailing the diagnosis of skull base meningiomas.

### Case of the Day [ASHNR COD]

Nine presenters from Europe, Australia and across the US stumped many of us (!) with their brilliant unknown cases and we look forward to some more great cases this year that Phil Chapman, MD is collating with the 9 new presenters.

**Overall COD winner:** *Blair Winegar, MD*

## MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT

Nancy Fischbein, MD  
ASHNR Vice President & Committee Chair

We are so fortunate that the ASHNR continues to attract a strong and committed membership! In 2019, our total membership approached 900, with over 500 Active Members, over 200 Members-in-Training, and with many Emeritus, Affiliate, and Associate members participating in our society. Being an ASHNR member continues to offer great benefits, including reduced fees for meeting attendance, subscription to AJNR at the member rate, member mailings, and access to the "members only" section of the ASHNR website. Your membership dollars also help to support the society and allow ASHNR to keep providing all the great educational benefits and opportunities that we are known for.

The Membership Committee is composed of national and international members representing all levels of seniority, and the committee is actively engaged in developing new ideas and initiatives to enhance member experience. We look forward to introducing some of these offerings at upcoming meetings, both virtual and in person, and we welcome input from our membership at large. Please feel free to send any ideas to [fischbein@stanford.edu](mailto:fischbein@stanford.edu), and please also remember to renew your membership for 2020 if you have not already done so!

Congratulations to the 2019 recipient of the William N Hanafee M.D. Research Grant:

***Xin (Cynthia) Wu, MD, Emory University, Atlanta, GA***

for MRI Neurography for Surgical Planning in Head and Neck Cancers: An Imaging-Pathologic Correlation to Determine Imaging Accuracy for Prediction of Perineural Disease Extent

The ASHNR Research Committee has the unique privilege of being able to support innovative research in head and neck radiology through the William N Hanafee M.D. and ASHNR Core Curriculum research grants. The William Hanafee Grant is intended to support pilot 1-year scientific projects with the potential for subsequent external grant funding. Strong consideration will be given to applicants who are young investigators. The deadline for letters of intent for the Hanafee Research Grant was April 24, 2020, and completed applications are due Aug 7, 2020.

Applications for the 2020 ASHNR Core Curriculum Seed Grant are also being accepted. Priority consideration will be given to young investigators and projects with the potential for generating a noteworthy publication or external grant funding. The deadline for full proposal submissions is August 7, 2020.

Full details of these grant opportunities are available at: <https://ashnr.org/awards/>. Grant recipients will be notified in writing prior to and will be announced during the ASHNR 54<sup>th</sup> annual meeting.

## CASE OF THE WEEK NEWS

Nick Koontz, MD  
ASHNR Website & Social Media Committee Chair

On behalf of the ASHNR Website and Social Media (SoMe) Committee, I would like to thank all of the society members who have contributed to and routinely participate in the ongoing "ASHNR Case of the Week" education initiative. This weekly case-based, image-rich offering utilizes SoMe (Twitter) and gamified education strategy to disseminate radiology education materials to learners around the world. Participation is free, open to any interested participant, and archived on Twitter via the #ASHNRCOTW hashtag.

Each Wednesday, an unknown head and neck imaging case is tweeted via the official ASHNR Twitter account (@ASHNRSociety). Twitter followers then submit answers in the form of an appropriate animated Graphics Interface Format (GIF) image, so as not to spoil the answer for other participants. On the subsequent Thursday, the answer is tweeted from the official ASHNR account with an image-rich

case summary that includes key imaging findings and diagnostic pearls.

During its first year of existence, #ASHNRCOTW was seen over 400,000 times and interacted with almost 36,000 times on Twitter! This initiative demonstrates tremendous reach, steady growth, and demonstrable engagement of learners and society members via a novel, free educational tool. The format lends to participation across all career levels, particularly with trainees, as it utilizes both SoMe and gamification for learning to extend the reach of the ASHNR's educational mission beyond traditional boundaries. We encourage ASHNR members to follow along on Twitter and consider contributing cases to this ongoing education initiative. Please contact Nick Koontz ([nakoontz@iupui.edu](mailto:nakoontz@iupui.edu)) for more details.

## UPCOMING MEETINGS

### 54th Annual Meeting

September 8 -13, 2020  
Now Virtual!

### 55th Annual Meeting

September 8 -12, 2021  
Hilton San Diego Bayfront  
San Diego, California

### 56th Annual Meeting

September 6 -10, 2022  
Gaylord Rockies Resort  
Aurora, Colorado

## ASHNR Appreciates the Generous Member Support of the Core Curriculum Fund!

*The ASHNR gratefully acknowledges the support and generosity of those who contributed to the Fund between March 8, 2019 and March 12, 2020.*

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### Ways to make a tax deductible contribution:

1. Online at [www.ashnr.org](http://www.ashnr.org)
2. Check, payable to ASHNR Core Curriculum Fund, to:  
ASHNR Core Curriculum Fund, 800 Enterprise Drive, Suite 205, Oak Brook, Illinois 60523-4216
3. Phone 630-574-0220 ext.234

*Help support your future, contribute today!*

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