

# Newsletter of the Section on Tumors

## American Association of Neurological Surgeons Congress of Neurological Surgeons

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Harold F. Young, M.D., Editor

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### CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

Neurosurgical involvement with tumors of the nervous system has had a long and frequently frustrating history. Whereas several tumor types have yielded to improving diagnostic and surgical skills, the malignant neoplasm, as well as the benign tumor that cannot be totally removed, has remained an enigma to the therapist. With the expansion of basic knowledge concerning neoplasia and a proliferation of approaches to handle its ravages has come an increasing need for continuing education of and interaction within the medical community. The Congress of Neurological Surgeons, under the Presidency of Edward Laws, acted on that observation by requesting the development of a Section on Nervous System Tumors in October, 1983. Following approval by the AANS Board of Directors in December, 1984, the Tumor Section of CNS became the Joint Section on Tumors of the AANS and CNS. The Joint Section has continued to develop as an active group of neurosurgeons with interest in nervous system tumors of all types. The primary goal of the organization is to provide a forum for education and promotion of research on tumors to the neurosurgical community and to other organizations as needed. The Section will provide expertise to the parent organizations on the topic of tumors and will serve as a resource to them in matters they deem appropriate to foster the Section's goals. Finally, the Section will endeavor to assure neurosurgical representation in national affairs related to tumors of the nervous system.

Active membership in the Joint Section is open to all active members of either the AANS or CNS who have demonstrated a special interest in tumors of the nervous system. Only active members may hold office and vote. At present, there are approximately 120 active Section members. Senior members of the CNS as well as associate, lifetime, active senior and corresponding members of the AANS are eligible for membership in the Section. A resident membership has just been developed for individuals who are resident members of the CNS or candidate members of the AANS. Resident members can serve on committees and will not pay Section dues until considered for active membership upon completion of their residency training. Associate (honorary) membership may be granted to certain individuals chosen from recognized leaders in the field of neurological sciences. They must be sponsored by two active members of the Section, appointed by the Executive Committee, and approved by the active membership.

The successful initiation of the Tumor Section can be credited to a large group of enthusiastic, hard-working individuals which include the Secretary-Treasurer (Michael Apuzzo), five members of the Executive Committee (Michael Apuzzo, Edward Laws, Stephen Mahaley, Mark Rosenblum, Harold Young) and chairmen of several standing committees. The Membership Committee is chaired by Dennis

Bullard and has been very active in soliciting new members from many sources. The Bylaws Committee is chaired by Michael Salzman and has been responsible for developing bylaws acceptable to both parent organizations. The Nominating Committee is chaired by Stephen Mahaley and will be responsible to present to the Executive Committee and general membership a slate of officers when appropriate. The Research Committee is chaired by Paul Kornblith who has organized a group that will investigate the present status of basic science and clinical research in the field of tumors. The Program Committee, chaired by Edward Neuwelt and Philip Gutin, has been responsible for the presentation of a workshop on the treatment of recurrent meningiomas at the Congress of Neurological Surgeons meeting in New York and is planning a workshop on the diagnosis and treatment of metastatic disease for the 1985 Congress meeting in Hawaii (as will be outlined elsewhere in this newsletter). It has also been responsible for reviewing the abstracts for the annual CNS and AANS meetings. The Publications Committee, chaired by Michael Edwards, has been accumulating abstracts from both neurosurgery and non-neurosurgery literature that have particular relevance to our field; these abstracts and commentaries will be published for the use of the members. In addition, they are responsible for publication of the proceedings of Section-sponsored workshops. The CNS Workshop of Metastatic Brain Tumors will be published in the Journal of Neuro-Oncology; the forum for future workshops reports has not yet been determined. The Newsletter Committee, chaired by Harold Young, has been responsible for the pre-

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### SECTION SEEKS TO EXPAND MEMBERSHIP

The Joint Section on Tumors of the AANS/CNS is expanding its membership and is attempting to involve all segments of the neurosurgical community. Currently, there are two membership categories which are open to neurosurgeons. The first is ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP, which is available to any individual who is an active member of either the AANS or CNS. The second category is the newly created CANDIDATE/RESIDENT MEMBERSHIP, which is opened to individuals who are either a candidate member of the AANS or a resident member of the CNS. This category of membership will allow participation in the activities of the Joint Section for persons in their residency or in the transition period before active membership in either of the Societies. No membership fees are charged for this latter category. All those interested in applying should contact Dr. Dennis E. Bullard, Chairman, Membership Committee; Joint Section on Tumors of the AANS/CNS; Box 3128, Duke University Medical Center; Durham, NC 27710.

Chairman's Message

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paration of Section newsletters and the submission of items to the CNS and AANS newsletter regarding our activities. Newsletters will be distributed at first to the entire AANS and CNS membership, but will eventually be distributed solely to the members of the Section. An International Committee, chaired by Nicholas de Tribolet, will inform the Section of international activities related to tumors and will interact with other international neurosurgery organizations on our behalf. A Pediatric Committee, chaired by Fred Epstein, will provide the Section with expertise in pediatric neuro-oncology and will serve as a link to the Pediatric Section of AANS. Finally, the Advisory Committee is chaired by Michael Walker and Charles Wilson; they have aided the Executive Committee in the development of the Section and in a variety of other functions.

Several Task Forces have been initiated to investigate various topics relevant to the Joint Section. A task force has been developed by Stephen Mahaley that will work with the American College of Surgeons-Commission on Cancer to survey the present status of brain tumor treatment in the United States. The Board of the ACS will finalize consideration of our proposal in October, 1985, and, hopefully, initiate efforts to pursue this survey within 1986. Similar surveys have been developed for other types of tumors and have provided relevant information on the status of tumor treatment for other specialities. We anticipate that it will take approximately two years to perform and evaluate the results. Other task forces have been developed to focus on specific tumor types. The Task Forces and their chairmen are as follows: Acoustic Neuromas- Robert Ojemann; Pituitary Tumors- Edward Laws; Peripheral Nerve Tumors- Robert Martuza; Spinal Tumors- Bennett Stein; and Meningiomas- Donald Quest. Each task force will provide the Section with knowledge on the present status of tumor diagnosis, treatment, and follow-up. They will also inform us about the most relevant clinical and basic science research that has been published and propose new directions for the future. Such information will be invaluable for the planning of future workshops, publications, and interactions with other medical specialities and the public. We anticipate that it will take one to two years for the task forces to complete their initial phase of work.

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Address Correction Requested

The ultimate success of any Section will depend upon how well it fulfills the mandates of their parent organizations and members. We hope that everyone involved will actively participate in the various committees and task forces. In particular, we encourage suggestions as the best means to serve the needs of our membership and will make every effort to act upon them.

Mark L. Rosenblum  
Chairman  
Joint Section on Tumors  
of the AANS and CNS

SYMPOSIUM ON BRAIN METASTASIS TO BE PRESENTED  
IN HAWAII

A symposium on Brain Metastasis will be presented at the Congress of Neurological Surgeons Annual Meeting in Honolulu, Hawaii, September 29-October 5, 1985. The symposium will be held 3:30-5:15p.m. on Wednesday, October 2, 1985, in the Maui Room, Sheraton-Waikiki Hotel.

Garth Nicolson, Ph.D., of the Department of Tumor Biology, University of Texas System Center, M.D. Anderson Hospital and Tumor Institute will speak on "The Biology of Preferential Metastasis to the Brain." Steven Mahaley, M.D., Professor and Chairman, Neurosurgery, University of North Carolina Medical Center will discuss the "Diagnosis and Surgical Considerations in Brain Metastasis." "The Role of Radiotherapy in Brain Metastasis" will be presented by Glenn Sheline, M.D., Professor, Department of Radiation Oncology, University of California Medical School, San Francisco, California. Dr. Edward A. Neuwelt, Associate Professor of Neurosurgery and Assistant Professor of Biochemistry, Oregon Health Sciences University will speak on "The Role of Chemotherapy and Monoclonal Antibodies in Brain Metastasis."

The symposium will be followed by an open membership meeting for one-half hour.