Dear Colleagues,

It is truly an honor to begin my two-year term as chair of the AANS/CNS Section on Tumors. The Section was the first professional organization devoted to the study and treatment of brain tumors when it was founded in December of 1984 and has since grown to over 2,300 members. I am particularly thrilled to be inheriting the leadership of the Section from Steve Kalkanis, MD, FAANS, my close friend and former co-resident at Massachusetts General Hospital.

The Section benefited immensely from numerous initiatives that occurred under Dr. Kalkanis’s leadership, including expansion of overall Section membership by 10 percent at a time when membership in professional societies and meeting attendance are dropping; hosting a wonderful Satellite Symposium in San Diego in 2016, which set an attendance record while honoring multiple luminaries in our field; launching a new Tumor Section mentorship award named in honor of the late Andy Parsa, MD, PhD, FAANS; renaming our Distinguished Service Award in honor of our founder, Mark Rosenblum, MD, FAANS(L); launching two new $50,000 NREF awards, the Andrew Parsa Research Award and the B*Cured - Tumor Section Award; launching the Section’s Twitter account (@NSTumorSection); and creating our first international observership program, which will support an Argentinian neurosurgeon spending time observing tumor neurosurgery in the U.S.

Looking forward to my upcoming two-year term, I am thrilled to be working with Jason Sheehan, MD, PhD, FAANS, who has been elected Secretary/Treasurer of the Section, and the outstanding Executive Committee that we have assembled and whose reports can be found throughout this newsletter. Together, we hope to accomplish several strategic initiatives throughout our 2018-2020 term.

Specific goals for the 2018-2020 term include:

- Produce a successful 2018 Tumor Section Satellite Symposium (see below). Besides being the engine that drives much of the other goals of the Section, the Tumor Satellite Symposium remains one of the most important initiatives of our section. It represents the pre-eminent opportunity for our membership to gather and learn about the latest technologies that our sponsors have to offer for tumor neurosurgeons and to hear about the latest clinical and scientific breakthroughs in the world of tumor neurosurgery.
- Work with the Committee on Advanced Subspecialty Training (CAST), which is part of the Society of Neurological Surgeons, to formally define tumor fellowship criteria, both in surgical neuro-oncology and skull base surgery.

Continued on the next page >>
Chair’s Message

• Expanding our international observership programs to enable neurosurgeons from developing countries to observe tumor surgeries at major American centers.
• Continuing to fund innovative tumor research through the NREF, including the Tumor Section Parsa Fellowship, with the first recipient of the Parsa Fellowship presenting research results at the 2018 CNS meeting (see below).
• Seeking donations to ensure that the NREF Honor Your Mentor Fund created for Charlie Wilson, MD, FAANS(L) reaches sufficient size to enable it to reward neurosurgical oncology research. Dr. Wilson, who passed away earlier this year, was the past chair of my department at UCSF and a mentor to generations of neurosurgical oncologists.
• Seeking donations to ensure that the NREF Honor Your Mentor Fund created for Jim Rutka, MD, PhD, FAANS, reaches sufficient size to enable it to reward neurosurgical oncology research. Dr. Rutka is chair of the neurosurgery department at University of Toronto and current editor of the Journal of Neurosurgery.
• Expanding our website, including allowing people to submit cases for expert review.
• Formalizing the process by which surveys are sent to members of the Section and how data is collected from these.
• Improving our advising for young tumor neurosurgeons seeking academic positions.
• Enhancing the Section’s leadership in clinical trials through the continued work of Michael Vogelbaum, MD, PhD, FAANS; James Elder, MD, FAANS; Daniel Cahill, MD, PhD, FAANS; and Andrew Sloan, MD, FAANS, of our clinical trials sub-committee.
• Remaining at the forefront of guidelines development in efforts that will continue to be led by Jeff Olson, MD, FAANS.
• Building relationships with our radiation oncology colleagues in the Radiosurgery Society (RSS) and American Society for Radiation Oncology (ASTRO), just as we have done over the years with our neuro-oncology colleagues in the Society for Neuro-Oncology (SNO).

2018 Biennial Tumor Satellite Symposium
Our first major event of the new term will be the 2018 Biennial Tumor Section Satellite Symposium. Under the direction of Scientific Program Chairs Jeff Weinberg, MD, FAANS, and Isaac Yang, MD, FAANS, we are thrilled to be holding our 13th Biennial Tumor Satellite Symposium immediately before the 2018 CNS Annual Meeting on October 5-6, 2018, at the Houston Marriott Marquis (the headquarters hotel of the main CNS meeting) in Houston. Event highlights include:

• Keynote lectures from NASA astronaut Gregory Reid Wiseman about the technology and communication advancements needed to explore space.
• A comprehensive symposium on the wide-ranging aspects of brain tumor technologies, including laser interstitial therapy and fluorescent visualization of tumors.
• Top scoring peer-reviewed oral and poster presentations.
• On Friday evening, October 5, before dinner there will be three breakout sessions for our younger attendees, covering a primer on the basics one needs to know to start clinical trials, advice on starting a basic science lab as a neurosurgeon and guidance in transitioning from residency to a job.
• Also on Friday, October 5, there will be a Tumor Section gala event with dinner and award presentations at the Four Seasons Hotel in Houston. Awards presented at the gala will include:
  o The Charles B. Wilson Award for distinguished career accomplishments in neurosurgical oncology, presented to Nino Chiocca, MD, PhD, FAANS.
  o The Rosenblum Distinguished Service Award for service to the Section, presented to Susan Chang, MD, who has been serving the Section as a medical neuro-oncologist through teaching courses and seminars since 2005.
  o The Andy Parsa Mentorship Award presented to Henry Brem, MD, FAANS.
• On Saturday, October 6, after lunch, the meeting will transition into a symposium honoring the career of Ray Sawaya, MD, FAANS, who chaired the neurosurgery department at MD Anderson since its establishment in 1990, until this year.

2018 CNS and 2019 AANS Annual Meetings
Following the Satellite Symposium, the Tumor Section will host an outstanding program for the 2018 Annual Meeting of the Congress of Neurological Surgeons, under the direction of Scientific Program Chairs Gordon Li, MD, FAANS, and Seunggu Han, MD. The overarching theme of this year’s scientific program focuses on the impact of technological advances in shaping the

Continued on the next page >>
way we deliver neurosurgical care to our patients with tumors. The main scientific sessions, held on Monday and Tuesday, will feature two main themes:

(1) Contemporary Management of Incidentally Discovered Tumors – including lower grade gliomas, meningiomas and vestibular schwannomas; and
(2) Technological Advances in Adjuncts to Brain Tumor Surgery, such as fluorescence guided surgery, augmented reality and adaptive hybrid surgery.

Also, back by popular demand, the program includes two interactive breakout sessions with case-based review format. The Monday session will cover the management of challenging tumors, such as pineal region tumors, insular tumors, fourth ventricular tumors and tumors of the eloquent motor cortex. Discussion of surgical approaches and techniques as well as complication avoidance and management strategies are included. The second breakout sessions will explore the modern management strategies for brain metastases, including newer techniques, such as LITT, as well as roles of different radiotherapeutic modalities. The Guidelines session on Wednesday will feature a review of the current body of evidence guiding the management of various skull base tumors, including vestibular schwannoma, meningioma and chordoma. The 2018 CNS meeting also includes an oral presentation from Darryl Lau, MD, of UCSF, the first winner of the Section's NREF Parsa Research Fellowship, summarizing the work he accomplished during his fellowship. Looking forward to 2019, I am thrilled to have invited Linda Liau, MD, PhD, MBA, FAANS, to deliver the Ronald L. Bittner Lecture at the 2019 AANS Annual Scientific Meeting on Monday, April 15, 2019, in San Diego. The scientific programs for this meeting are being developed by Mike Ivan, MD, and Dan Orringer, MD, FAANS.

As you can see, this is an exciting time in neurosurgical oncology and for the Section on Tumors. I hope you enjoy this newsletter and I look forward to seeing you at an upcoming meeting. For the latest details on Tumor Section activities and for information on becoming a member, please visit our website at www.tumorsection.org.

Sincerely,

Manish K. Aghi, MD, PhD, FAANS
Chair, Section on Tumors
2018 CNS Annual Meeting

Seunggu Han, MD and Gordon Li, MD, FAANS

For the 2018 Annual Meeting of the Congress of Neurological Surgeons, the Section on Tumors is excited to offer a rich program, highlighting the advances in the diagnosis and treatment of oncological disorders of the nervous system. The overarching theme of this year’s scientific program focuses on the impact of technological advances in shaping the way we deliver neurosurgical care to our patients with tumors.

The main scientific sessions, held on Monday and Tuesday, will feature the following topics:
- Contemporary Management of Incidentally Discovered Tumors, including lower grade gliomas, meningiomas and vestibular schwannomas
- Technological Advances in Adjuncts to Brain Tumor Surgery, such as fluorescence-guided surgery, augmented reality and adaptive hybrid surgery

Back by popular demand, the program includes two interactive breakout sessions with a case-based review format. The Monday session will cover the management of challenging tumors, such as pineal region tumors, insular tumors, fourth ventricular tumors and tumors of the eloquent motor cortex, and include discussion of surgical approaches and techniques as well as complication avoidance and management strategies. The second breakout sessions will discuss the modern management strategies for brain metastases, including newer techniques, such as LITT, as well as roles of different radiotherapeutic modalities.

The Guidelines session on Wednesday will feature a review of the current body of evidence guiding the management of various skull base tumors, including vestibular schwannoma, meningioma and chordoma.

The weekend portion of the tumor program will offer six of the highest scoring practical courses, led by world-class faculty:
- 3-D Surgical Neuroanatomy
- Modern Application of Radiosurgery
- Surgical Management of Eloquent Area Tumors
- Management of Challenging Brain Tumors
- Brain Tumor Update Part 1: Malignant Brain Tumors
- Brain Tumor Update Part 2: Benign Brain Tumors

The lunch seminars, Monday-Wednesday, will highlight the latest advances across multiple oncological entities:
- Update on Diagnosis and Management of Low Grade Gliomas
- Current Management Strategies for Vestibular Schwannomas
- Surgery and Adjuvant Treatment of Malignant Gliomas
- Management of Pituitary Adenomas and Other Sellar Tumors
- Cutting Edge Management of Brain Metastases
- Advances in Imaging of Brain Tumors

We look forward to seeing you in Houston!

Continued on the next page >>
The 2018 AANS Annual Scientific Meeting was fantastic! Congratulations and thank you to all the speakers and faculty who participated in the Breakfast Seminar and Practical Clinics. They were clearly a tremendous success.

The scientific sessions were also well-attended and well-received. On Tuesday, May 1, our scientific session was focused on spinal oncology. We heard excellent presentations from experts in the field including Ziya Gokaslan, MD, FAANS; Mark Bilsky, MD, FAANS; Claudio Tatsui, MD, IFAANS; and Laurence Rhines, MD, FAANS, which covered up-to-date material for management of primary and metastatic spinal tumors. This was followed by a very engaging interactive panel discussion simulating a Spinal Tumor Board with audience polling using the app Pollev. Wajd Al-Holou, MD, organized the session and assembled the cases for discussion by the group, which included Nicholas Szerlip, MD, FAANS, on the panel. The audience of general neurosurgeons and specialists found this session very informative.

Our second scientific session on May 2 focused on viral oncolytic therapy in glioma. The last decade has seen tremendous scientific progress made in designing viruses for oncolytic purposes, with many phase 2/3 trials underway. We assembled a stellar group to put this all in perspective, showcase its promise, describe its limitations and point the way forward. These luminaries include Robert Martuza, MD, FAANS(L); Nino Chiocca, MD, PhD, FAANS; Fred Lang, MD, FAANS; James Markert, MD, FAANS; and our special guest Juan Fueyo, MD. This was a tremendous scientific exchange and we are indebted to our speakers for making themselves available.

13TH BIENNIAL AANS/CNS SECTION ON TUMORS SATELLITE SYMPOSIUM

The American Association of Neurological Surgeons (AANS)/Congress of Neurological Surgeons (CNS) Section on Tumors is having the 13th Biennial Tumor Satellite Symposium immediately before the 2018 CNS Annual Meeting on October 5-6, 2018, at the Houston Marriott Marquis (the headquarters hotel of the main CNS meeting) in Houston. The tumor satellite symposium will feature three specific thematic focuses, each revolving around the central meeting theme of leveraging technology to improve the care of patients with central nervous system tumors:

1. The latest advancements and technology developments in brain tumor treatments;
2. Immunotherapy; and
3. Big data automation.

Event highlights include a keynote lecture from NASA astronaut Gregory Reid Wiseman about the technology and communication advancements needed in exploring space. On Friday evening, October 5, before dinner there will be three breakout sessions for our younger attendees, covering a primer on the basics one needs to know to start clinical trials, advice on starting a basic science lab as a neurosurgeon and guidance in transitioning from residency to a job. Afterwards, there will be a Tumor Section gala event with dinner and award presentations at the Four Seasons Hotel in Houston. On Saturday, October 6, after lunch, the meeting will transition into a symposium honoring the career of Ray Sawaya, MD, FAANS, who chaired the neurosurgery department at MD Anderson since its establishment in 1990, until this year. This portion of the symposia will offer a chance to hear about the core principles by which Dr. Sawaya established the neurosurgery department at MD Anderson and how these principles are vital to the practice of neurosurgical oncology today. Registration for this meeting is open at https://www.cns.org/meetings/2018-tumor-section-satellite-symposium. Sign up for the CNS annual meeting and the Tumor Satellite Symposium jointly to save $100 on your registration.
SNO to Expand Annual Meeting Format in 2020

Gelareh Zadeh, MD, PhD, FAANS and Chas Haynes

The annual meeting of the Society for Neuro-Oncology has experienced significant growth in recent years. Indeed, as noted in the chart below, the annual meeting has more than doubled in size since 2010, in terms of both abstract submission and overall attendance. These are exciting times for the society, reflecting a growth in the field and an opportunity for greater impact.

While this certainly indicates an encouraging increase in the level of interest in the field of neuro-oncology and a corresponding increase in new scientific findings, such dramatic growth has presented challenges to the leadership and administrative staff as they seek to find suitable venues for the meeting. Indeed, the number of hotels able to accommodate upwards of 2,500 participants is already limited, and if the meeting continues its growth trajectory as expected, a hotel-based meeting model will simply not be a viable option for SNO in the near future.

Consequently, the SNO leadership has made plans to transition the SNO annual meeting from hotels into convention centers starting in 2020, when the meeting will be held in Austin, Texas. Apart from the obvious benefit of providing more square footage in which to hold the meeting, it is anticipated that the transition to convention centers will offer a range of benefits, including:

1. Improved Technology Capabilities and Technology Infrastructure. As more and more elements of the annual meeting move from traditional print to electronic media (e.g., publication of meeting abstracts, e-posters, moderator Q&A, program scheduling, on-site push notifications, etc.), convention centers will offer SNO access to state-of-the-art technology and a robust infrastructure that will accommodate SNO’s growing IT needs. Bandwidth speeds and device capacities in convention centers are significantly better than those found in even the largest hotels.

2. Expanded Educational Opportunities. In the current hotel model, SNO is limited in the number of educational sessions that can be held simultaneously. In addition, over 100 ancillary investigator meetings, SNO committee meetings, industry events and social functions consume significant portions of the hotel space. Convention centers will provide SNO’s scientific leadership with a range of new options for organizing concurrent sessions during the meeting, as well as add flexibility for the introduction of new pre- and post-conference boutique meetings and courses.

3. Better Choice in Food and Beverage. The labor required to prepare and distribute 2,500 meals during the various mealtimes that occur during the four days

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of the SNO meeting presents a significant logistical challenge for hotel staff. The move to convention centers will provide attendees with multiple dining outlets during mealtimes and offer considerably more choice and variety.

4. Improved Experience for Exhibitors and Sponsors. At present, exhibit booth opportunities at SNO sell out well in advance of the SNO meeting. The ability for the exhibitor to create a customized booth space and display capabilities are also limited. A dedicated “exhibit hall” in a convention center will allow for a variety of options to enhance the overall experience of exhibitors and attendees.

One of the hallmarks of the SNO annual meeting has been its role as a nexus for networking, collaboration and exchange. Consequently, one of the principle factors considered by the SNO leadership in selecting future convention center sites has been the venue’s ability to maintain the intimate nature of the SNO meeting. All of the convention centers selected for future SNO meetings provide a compact physical footprint featuring a centralized convention center, surrounded by or connected to adjacent satellite hotels. The sites below will offer a “campus-like” feel to attendees and were specifically reviewed and evaluated based on their ability to provide an accessible, convenient layout with natural light and green space.

- 2020 Austin, Texas
- 2021 Boston
- 2022 Tampa Bay, Fla.
- 2023 Vancouver, Canada
- 2024 Open TBD
- 2025 Honolulu (WFNOS)

It is worthwhile to note that SNO’s first convention center meeting in 2020 will also mark the 25th anniversary of the Society. The transition from hotels to convention centers therefore provides a timely and tangible indicator of how far SNO has come since its inception in 1995.

TUMOR SECTION AWARDS UPDATE

Isabelle M. Germano, MD, MBA, FAANS

The Tumor Section Awards Committee continues to actively develop the most robust award program for outstanding research of any of the AANS/CNS Sections. At the AANS Annual Scientific Meeting each year, the AANS/CNS Section on Tumors sponsors 12 awards and one named lectureship, the Ronald L. Bittner Lecture. At the CNS each year, we offer nine awards and one lectureship every other year, the Abhijit Guha Lecture. Additionally, we offer three awards at our Biennial Tumor Satellite Symposia.

The Tumors Section would like to thank the award sponsors for helping to encourage submissions of the highest quality work in neuro-oncology. Most of the awards are limited to Tumor Section members, providing an additional incentive for membership.

The 12 AANS 2018 award winners are shown below. Congratulations to each Awardee!

The Section is looking forward to the upcoming Biennial Tumor Satellite Symposia and celebrating nine awardees at the 2018 CNS Annual Meeting, as summarized in the table at the end of this article.

Continued on the next page >>
2018 AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF NEUROLOGICAL SURGEONS Awardees

Ronald L. Bittner Lecture
Mark Rosenblum, MD, FAANS(L), delivered the Ronald L. Bittner lecture at the 2018 AANS Annual Scientific Meeting on Monday, April 30, 2018, opening the Scientific Session on Tumors. He was introduced by AANS/CNS Section on Tumors Chair Steven Kalkanis, MD, FAANS.

In addition to the Ronald Bittner Award, the Bittner Family Foundation sponsors an annual Bittner Lectureship, awarded by the AANS at its annual scientific meeting. The lectureship is awarded to an established investigator and is presented during the scientific program component the meeting. Selection of the Bittner Lecturer is made by the Scientific Program Planning Subcommittee of each AANS Annual Scientific Meeting.

American Brain Tumor Association Young Investigator Award
Sponsored by the American Brain Tumor Association, the Young Investigator Award is given at the AANS and the CNS meetings to a young faculty member involved in neuro-oncology research who has demonstrated outstanding potential for future basic science research. The applicant must have been out of training for less than six years. A $2,000 honorarium accompanies this award.

Gautam Mehta, MD, received the American Brain Tumor Association (ABTA) Young Investigator Award at the 2018 AANS Annual Scientific Meeting for the work entitled Repeat stereotactic radiosurgery for Cushing’s disease: outcomes of an international multi-center study, presented during the AANS/CNS Section on Tumors I, on May 1, 2018.

BrainLab Neurosurgery Award
Koray Odzuman, MD, collected the BrainLab Neurosurgery Award at the 2018 AANS Annual Scientific Meeting for the work entitled Analysis of mutations processes in 23 adult hemispheric diffuse gliomas identifies DNA damage repair deficiencies as a major contributor to gliomagenesis, presented during the Scientific Session I: Tumor, on April 30, 2018.

The BrainLab Neurosurgery Award is presented at the annual meetings of the AANS and CNS. This award is given to a neurosurgeon practicing in a nonacademic or international setting with the best abstract related to central nervous system tumors. Previous AANS/ CNS Section on Tumors chairs Michael McDermott, MD, FAANS, and Ronald Warnick, MD, FAANS, were instrumental in securing this award, given through the generosity of BrainLab. The award carries an honorarium of $1,000.
Columbia Softball Pediatric Award
Peter Madsen, MD, was presented the Columbia Softball Pediatric Award at the 2018 AANS Annual Scientific Meeting for the work entitled *In silico identification of neoantigens in a high grade pediatric brain tumor cohort utilizing next generation sequencing: Pilot study of a discovery pipeline for immunotherapy targets*, during the AANS/CNS Section on Tumors I, on May 1, 2018.

Dr. Madsen receives the Columbia Softball Charity Award from Dr. Kalkanis and Dr. Germano.

The Columbia Softball Charity Award is given to the best pediatric tumor abstract submitted by a resident or faculty member who is a member of the Tumors Section. The section would like to acknowledge previous Section Chairs Jeff Bruce, MD, FAANS; Fred Barker, MD, FAANS; and Rich Anderson, MD, FAANS, for putting together the plan to use a portion of the proceeds from the annual tournament to support this award. The award carries an honorarium of $1,000.

Integra Foundation Award
Andrew Little, MD, FAANS, was the recipient of the Integra Award at the 2018 AANS Annual Scientific Meeting for the presentation entitled Prospective Multi-center Study comparing surgical outcomes of microscopic transphenoidal surgery and fully endoscopic transphenoidal surgery techniques for nonfunctioning pituitary adenomas (TRANSSPHER Study), presented during the Plenary Session III, May 2, 2018.

The Integra Foundation Award, sponsored by the Integra Foundation, is given at both the AANS and CNS meetings for the best research or clinical paper submitted investigating benign brain, spinal or peripheral nerve tumors. The award carries an honorarium of $1000.

Leksell Radiosurgery Award
Dale Ding, MD, received the Leksell Award at the 2018 AANS Annual Scientific Meeting for the presentation entitled: *Stereotactic radiosurgery for the management of acromegaly: Outcomes of a multicenter retrospective cohort study*, during the AANS/CNS Section on Tumors I, May 1, 2018.

Dr. Ding, MD, is the recipient of the Leksell Award.

This award, presented each year starting in 2009, is for the best paper on stereotactic radiosurgery related to brain tumors and is given through the generosity of Elekta. The award includes a monetary component of $2,000.

Mahaley Clinical Research Award
Ganesh Shankar, MD, was the recipient of the National Brain Tumor Society Award for the presentation entitled *Genotype based local targeted therapy for glioma*, presented during the Scientific Session I: Tumors, April 30, 2018.

The Mahaley Clinical Research Award is given at each of the AANS and CNS annual meetings to a neurosurgery resident, fellow or attending physician who submits the best clinical study in neuro-oncology. This year, the Award was re-named as the Rosemblum-Mahaley Clinical Award and will be awarded to the best clinical study in neuro-oncology with special recognition to innovative approaches and those that lead to improved patient outcomes and quality of life. About 25 years ago, just after founding the Section, Dr. Mark Rosenblum established the Mahaley Clinical Award in honor of his friend and colleague, Steve Mahaley, MD, who was terminally ill at the time of the award’s inception. While this award is not independently funded, it has been a hallmark of the Section and the Section funds it with a $1,000 honorarium. In considering his legacy, Dr. Rosenblum and his wife, Pam, would like to donate funds to

Continued on the next page >>
the Section to continue this award in perpetuity. He and Dr. Mahaley were very close friends. Dr. and Mrs. Rosenblum committed to a $10,000 pledge every five years to fund these awards.

**Preuss Research Award**
Rohan Ramakrishna, MD, FAANS, accepted the Preuss Research Award at the 2018 AANS Annual Scientific Meeting for *Whole exome and targeted sequencing of adult infiltrating astrocytomas: Experience at a single institution*, presented during the Scientific Session I: Tumor, April 30, 2018.

Sponsored by the Preuss Foundation, the Preuss Research Award is given at each of the AANS and CNS meetings to a young scientist investigating brain tumors, within 10 years of training, who has submitted the best basic science research paper. This award has a $1,000 honorarium.

**The Brian D. Silber Award**
Anick Nater-Goulet, MD, was presented the 2018 Brian D. Silber Award at the 2018 AANS Annual Scientific Meeting during the Scientific Session II: Spine.

Established in 2015, this award is given to the best abstract related to vertebral column or spinal cord tumors. The section would like to thank the family of Brian D. Silber, who passed away in 1996 at the age of 28 from a malignant spinal cord tumor, for their generous support of this award. The award has a $1,000 honorarium.

**The Springer Journal of Neuro-Oncology Award**
Bob Carter, MD, PhD, FAANS, was the recipient of the Springer Journal of Neuro-Oncology Award at the 2018 AANS Annual Scientific Meeting for the work entitled *Evaluation of durable response rate in post-resection setting and association with survival in patients recurrent high grade glioma who received vocimagene amiretroprevpvec and 5-fluorocytosine treatment*, presented during the Plenary Session II, May 1, 2018.

The Springer Journal of Neuro-Oncology Award is presented at both the AANS and CNS annual meetings to a highly-ranked abstract in either clinical or basic science as related to neuro-oncology. This award is sponsored by the generosity of Springer and carries a $1,000 honorarium.

**AANS/CNS Section on Tumors Skull Base Award**
Soichi Oya, MD, IFAANS, received the AANS/CNS Section on Tumors Skull Base Award at the 2018 AANS Annual Scientific Meeting for the presentation entitled: *Intraoperative assessment of meningioma proliferative potential revealed intratumoral heterogeneity and its relevance to biological characteristics*, during the AANS/ CNS Section on Tumors I, May 1, 2018.

The AANS/CNS Section on Tumors Skull Base Award is given to a high-ranking brain tumor clinical or basic science abstract submitted by a resident or medical student. The award is presented at the CNS and AANS annual

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Dr. Ramakrishna receives the Preuss Research Award from Dr. Germano.

Dr. Carter is presented the Springer Journal of Neuro-Oncology Award.

Dr. Nater-Goulet receives the Brian D. Silber Award from Dr. Kalkanis and Dr. Germano.
meetings and the senior author of the paper must be a member of the AANS/CNS Section on Tumors. This award carries a $1,000 honorarium.

**AANS/CNS Section on Tumor Neuro-Oncology Trainee Award**

Amparo Wolf, MD, PhD, was presented the AANS/CNS Section on Tumor Neuro-Oncology Trainee Award at the 2018 AANS Annual Scientific Meeting for the presentation entitled: The risk of malignancy after stereotactic radiosurgery, during the Scientific Section I: Tumor, April 30, 2018.

The AANS/CNS Section on Tumor Neuro-Oncology Trainee Award is given to a high-ranking brain tumor clinical or basic science abstract submitted by a resident or medical student. The award is presented at the CNS and AANS annual meetings and the senior author of the paper must be a member of the AANS/CNS Section on Tumors. The award has a $1,000 honorarium.

Please join us to celebrate the 2018 Biennial Tumor Satellite Symposia. Nino Chiocca, MD, PhD, FAANS, is the recipient of the Charles B. Wilson Award and Susan Chan, MD, is the recipient of the Rosenblum Distinguished Service Award.

**Congratulations to the 2018 CNS Tumor Section Award Winners. Please join us for their presentations.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Award</th>
<th>Awardee</th>
<th>Talk Title</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
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<tr>
<td>Rosenblum-Mahaley Clinical Brain Tumor Research Award</td>
<td>Wataru Ishida, MD</td>
<td>In Vivo Synergistic Effect of Checkpoint Blockade and Radiation Therapy Against Chordomas in a Humanized Mouse Model</td>
<td>October 8, 2018</td>
<td>3:54-4:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Section on Tumors</td>
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<td>BrainLab Neurosurgery Award</td>
<td>Mohana Rao Patibandla, MBBS, MCh</td>
<td>Stereotactic Radiosurgery for Skull Base Meningiomas: 20-year Long-term Outcomes with Volumetric Analysis</td>
<td>October 8, 2018</td>
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<td>Journal of Neuro-Oncology Award</td>
<td>Joseph P. Antonios</td>
<td>Non-invasive Monitoring of Immunotherapeutic Responses in Glioblastoma using Novel Imaging Techniques</td>
<td>October 9, 2018</td>
<td>3:36-3:42 p.m.</td>
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<td>American Brain Tumor Association Young Investigator Award</td>
<td>Pascal O. Zinn, MD, PhD</td>
<td>Radiomic Machine Learning Algorithms Discriminate Pseudo-Progression from True Progression in Glioblastoma Patients: A Multi-Institutional Study</td>
<td>October 9, 2018</td>
<td>3:30-3:36 p.m.</td>
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<td>Preuss Research Brain Tumor Award</td>
<td>Ezequiel Goldschmidt, MD, PhD</td>
<td>Cerebrospinal Fluid (CSF) Can Inhibit Wound Healing and Induce CSF Leaks by Inhibiting Angiogenesis</td>
<td>October 9, 2018</td>
<td>3:48-3:54 p.m.</td>
<td>Section on Tumors</td>
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**Pamela S. Jones, MD, MPH**

Tumor Section membership statistics as of August 2018 are below. In summary, Section membership has gained a little over 120 new members in the last six months and nearly 400 new members over the last year! This is thanks to the work of our outgoing Membership Chair Jennifer Moliterno-Gunel, MD, FAANS, and represents a trend we hope to continue in the coming years.

### Tumor Section Membership Statistics 8/20/2018

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Michael Vogelbaum, MD, PhD, FAANS

The focus of the Clinic Trials Committee has been promoting neurosurgical participation in NCI-funded multi-center clinical trials led by NRG Oncology, ALLIANCE and ABTC. Each of these groups holds a working meeting, typically once or twice per year. NRG Oncology and ALLIANCE have open meetings and neurosurgeons interested in developing multicenter, prospective clinical trials are encouraged to attend. While the ABTC meeting is primarily intended for institutional members, any investigator is free to bring a trial concept to ABTC and, if the trial is activated, their site will be included in the trial.

For further information about these groups (and the working meetings):

https://www.nrgoncology.org
Section Contact: Dan Cahill, MD, PhD, FAANS DCahill@partners.org

https://www.allianceforclinicaltrialsinoncology.org/main/
Section Contact: Brad Elder, MD, FAANS jelder75@gmail.com

http://www.abtconsortium.org/index.php
Section Contact: Andy Sloan, MD, FAANS Andrew.Sloan@uhHospitals.org

In addition, we would like to focus attention on a clinical trial that will require active neurosurgical participation (read as accrual) in order to be successful. NRG-BN003: A newly-opened clinical trial NCT03180268: NRG-BN003, a Phase III Trial of Observation Versus Irradiation for a Gross Totally Resected Grade II Meningioma

This trial is for patients with World Health Organization (WHO) grade II (atypical) meningiomas who have received gross-total resection (GTR), which is built upon results from the prior study (RTOG-0539) from the legacy RTOG group. This study showed that in a group of patients with grade II atypical meningiomas who had undergone GTR and intensity modulated radiation therapy (IMRT), only one patient had died from disease progression at the three-year mark. Thus, the investigators concluded that postoperative RT was a supported treatment option for GTR WHO grade II meningiomas, due to the documented minimal toxicity from IMRT and high rates of tumor control.

NRG-BN003 is a phase III study that aims to accrue 148 patients to determine whether IMRT after GTR of a WHO grade II meningioma improves progression-free survival when compared to observation, as measured from randomization to the first documented disease progression or death due to any cause, whichever comes first, assessed up to 10 years. GTR must be confirmed on post-operative imaging following the most recent surgery; submission of both pre-operative and post-operative MRIs is required for patients. In ARM 1, patients undergo observation. In ARM 2, patients undergo radiation therapy five days a week over six and a half to seven weeks for a total of 33 fractions (59.4 Gy in 33 daily fractions of 1.8 Gy each). After completion of study treatment, patients are followed up with at three, six and 12 months, every six months for years two and three, then yearly for 10 years.

Neurosurgeons are the critical drivers of patient enrollment in this trial, through the identification of patients who can meet enrollment criteria.
The Journal of Neuro-Oncology (JNO) is the official journal of the AANS/CNS Section on Tumors. Other prominent organizations have now sponsored the journal. These include the following:

- The Chinese Society of Neuro-Oncology (CSNO)
- The EANS Section of Neuro-Oncology
- The Korean Neurosurgical Society (JKNS)
- The Mexican Society of Neurosurgeons (SMCN)
- The Society of British Neurological Surgeons (SBNS)
- The Taiwan Society for Neuro-Oncology (TSNO)
- The Society of Neuro-Oncology of Latin America (SNOLA)

The new impact factor for JNO has increased to 3.06. In 2016, we had 364,018 downloads and 9,765 citations. As of 2018, we are on track for the highest rate of submissions to date. The mean time to first decision for a submission is 27 days. We have also embraced social media to further the journal’s missions. Please follow us on Twitter @JNeurooncol and like us on Facebook @JournalNeurooncology.

Special issues of JNO that are planned include updated GBM guidelines with Timothy Ryken, MD, FAANS; Jeff Olson, MD, FAANS; and Steven Kalkanis, MD, FAANS; 5-ALA update with Costas G. Hadjipanayis, MD, PhD, FAANS; and Walter Stummer, MD, as well as a brain metastasis update with Drs. Ahluwalia and Brown.

I remain very grateful for the efforts provided by our outstanding reviewers, editorial board members and associate editors.

For those interested in serving as a reviewer, contact me. Also, ideas for JNO supplements and the willingness to serve as an associate editor or editor for a supplement would be most appreciated. I can be reached at jsheehan@virginia.edu.
Visualization and localization during any surgery is paramount to be able to delineate normal from abnormal structures. Neural surgeons currently rely on visualization tools, such as the operative microscope or endoscope, for greater illumination and magnification during surgery. While these tools were introduced into neurosurgery over 50 years ago, decades went by before they became mainstream tools routinely used by neurosurgeons. Another, more recent, advance in neurosurgery occurred with the introduction of frameless stereotactic neuronavigation in the early 1990s for localization of structures in the brain and image-guided neurosurgery. The operative microscope, neuro-endoscope and neuronavigation have lead to scientific revolutions, or paradigm shifts, in neurosurgery. Better visualization and localization has permitted the successful treatment of complex neurosurgical disorders, while minimizing morbidity for the patient. Image-guided microscopic or endoscopic neurosurgery has become the standard of care for most cranial procedures performed by neurosurgeons worldwide.

We are now part of a new paradigm shift in neurosurgery with the addition of fluorescence-guided surgery (FGS) (Fig. 1). We can further delineate abnormal structures in real-time with agents that can permit direct fluorescence visualization in the brain. In 1947, Dr. G.E. Moore noticed that after intravenous administration of the ophthalmic agent, fluorescein, a malignant brain tumor could be visualized by fluorescence in a patient during surgery. Walter Stummer, MD, described for the first time in 1998 the use of 5-aminolevulinic acid (5-ALA) FGS of high-grade glioma (HGG) tumors in patients with use of a modified operative microscope.

The approval of 5-ALA for resection of HGG tumors by the European Medicine's Agency (EMA) in 2007 heralded the birth of FGS globally. A landmark randomized Phase 3 clinical trial revealed how effective 5-ALA FGS was at almost doubling the amount of tumor neurosurgeons could remove due to the ability to better visualize the tumor in real-time. Ten years later, in June of 2017, 5-ALA (Gleolan) was approved by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) in the United States for resection of suspected high-grade gliomas as an imaging agent to facilitate the real time detection and visualization of malignant tissue during glioma surgery.

Two decades have now gone by since Dr. Stummer’s initial description of 5-ALA FGS in a human patient. As with the operative microscope, neuro-endoscope and neuronavigation, years pass before widespread adoption of new technologies in neurosurgery. We are now at a point in our specialty where FGS will likely be adopted by most neurosurgeons throughout the world.

As the launch of 5-ALA for glioma surgery occurs in the U.S., our neurosurgeons will need to learn how to use this powerful intraoperative imaging tool. The first 5-ALA Fluorescence-Guided Surgery Brain Tumor Symposium will be held on November 30, 2018, at Mount Sinai in New York City. This CME event will feature 5-ALA experts, from both the U.S. and Europe, discussing FGS. Program objectives include defining the use of 5-ALA FGS for gliomas, discussing the use of 5-ALA FGS for different tumor types and the use of 5-ALA FGS in combination with other intraoperative imaging technologies. Allied health professionals, residents and fellows are also welcome to register online at https://msm.cloud-cme.com/5ALA.

References

SPOTLIGHT ON EDUCATION
FLUORESCENCE-GUIDED SURGERY BRAIN TUMOR SYMPOSIUM

Costas Hadjipanayis, MD, PhD, FAANS
INAUGURAL INTERNATIONAL OBSERVERSHIP PROGRAM (IOP)

Ricardo Jorge Komotar MD, FAANS

The AANS/CNS Tumor Section, in conjunction with the CNS Foundation, is pleased to announce the inaugural International Observership Program (IOP), which will provide an Argentinean neurosurgeon the opportunity to participate as an observer for three months at the University of Miami in the division of surgical neurooncology. The rotation focuses on all tumors of the central nervous system, with participation in clinic, conferences, surgery and consultations. Website: www.cns.org/InternationalObservership.

The rotation will be in the fall/winter of 2018 and consists of a scholarship/grant of $25,000 (including air travel, accommodations and expenses during the observership). Requirements include the following: the applicant must be 35 years of age or younger; in the final year of residency, chief resident or up to two years post-residency; submit a recommendation letter from the director of the candidate’s residency program, a curriculum vitae, a description of a project on basic or clinical research in the field of neurooncology.

Each observer will be required to provide a monthly report of activities, highlighting the most significant/relevant learning during the observership. The observer will also write a paper on the observership experience for publication in the Revista Argentina de Neurocirugia. The observer will also present the results of their clinical investigation project at SNOLA 2020.

SOCIETY FOR NEURO-ONCOLOGY SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA ANNUAL MEETING (SNOSSA)

Edjah Nduom, MD

The inaugural meeting of the Society for Neuro-Oncology Sub-Saharan Africa (SNOSSA) was held on July 22-23, 2018, in Abuja, Nigeria, prior to the Continental Association of African Neurosurgical Societies (CAANS) meeting. SNOSSA is the first organization focused on improving the care for patients across Sub-Saharan Africa (SSA) with brain and spinal tumors. Of note, unlike most professional neuro-oncology organizations, SNOSSA was founded in cooperation with local patient advocacy organizations, who will continue to contribute to the governance of the group. SNOSSA was created as a result of the efforts of the Sub-Saharan Africa Neuro-Oncology Collaborative (S-SANOC) planning meeting, with 33 participants representing 16 countries, which was held in London, October 18-19, 2017.

The inaugural SNOSSA meeting catered to nearly 100 attendees, representing several countries across Sub-Saharan Africa. Keynote presentations were provided by Rakesh Jalali, MD, Director of Neuro-Oncology at the Tata Memorial Center in India, and Eric Bouffet, MD, Director of the Brain Tumour Program, Hematology/Oncology at SickKids, Toronto. The conference featured additional local and international faculty presenting on topics including:

- The Neuro-Oncology Landscape in SSA;
- Standard of care for Gliomas and Pediatric Brain Tumors;
- Neuro-Oncology Training in SSA;
- Neuro-Oncology Research and Collaboration within and without SSA; and
- Patient Advocacy.

The meeting was sponsored by the International Brain Tumour Alliance, the Society for Neuro-Oncology, The European Association of Neuro-Oncology, the University of Toronto, the University of Ibadan, Novocure, JNCI Ltd. and Elekta. The second annual SNOSSA meeting will be held August 7-8, 2019, in Cape Town, South Africa. For more information on how the Tumor Section can continue to be involved in this initiative, contact Edjah Nduom, MD, at Edjah.nduom@nih.gov or visit http://www.snossa.org.

Continued on the next page >>
SNOSSA ANNUAL MEETING IN PICTURES

View of Abuja, Nigeria, from the Hilton Transcorp Hotel

SNOSSA Day One Group Photo

Rakesh Jalali, MD, presenting the Keynote Address

Professor Olasode discussing neuropathology techniques in Sub-Saharan Africa

Panel discussion on neuro-oncology training in Sub-Saharan Africa
SNOSSA ANNUAL MEETING IN PICTURES

Participants in the first SNOSSA Business Meeting

Drs. Kanu and Nduom represented the Tumor Section at the SNOSSA meeting

Dr. Bankah, a pediatric neurosurgeon from Ghana, presenting experience with pediatric tumors

Dr. Aisha Umar presents on the challenges of making a radiological diagnosis in Sub-Saharan Africa with limited resources

A discussion during the Patient Advocacy Session
ANNUAL WORLD COURSE IN ADVANCED BRAIN TUMOUR SURGERY
LONDON

George Samandouras, MD

In partnership with the CNS, on July 15, 2018, the 7th Annual World Course in Advanced Brain Tumour Surgery concluded in London with great success.

The four-day course featured 12 consecutive hours of live surgeries, from seven academic institutions: in Shanghai, Jinsong Wu, MD, PhD, performed an awake craniotomy on iMRI; Lorenzo Bello, MD, PhD, Milan, resected a glioma from the primary motor cortex; in Mumbai, Atul Goel, MD, IFAANS, performed four surgeries, including resection of petroclival meningioma. We then moved from Asia and Europe to the U.S., where Mitchel Berger, MD, FAANS, UCSF, performed mapping and resection of a dominant frontal lobe glioma; Theodore Schwartz, MD, FAANS, Cornell, removed endoscopically a pituitary tumor; George Jallo, MD, FAANS, Johns Hopkins, resected a spinal cord tumor; and, finally, Michael Lawton, MD, FAANS, Barrow, showed resection of an AVM.

The next day all surgeons flew to London, where they explained their techniques to the delegates, mostly experienced neurosurgeons, coming from all parts of the world. Additional lectures were given by CNS President-elect Steven Kalkanis, MD, FAANS; Hugues Duffau, MD; and Isabelle Germano, MD, FAANS.

The Master’s Seminars included neuro-oncology sessions from the past and current Presidents of the European Organization for Research and Treatment of Cancer (EORTC), Roger Stupp, MD, and Michael Weller, MD, as well as interactive 3-D anatomy shows by Guilherme Ribas, MD. Highlights of the course included “What I learned from my complications” and “Ask the Masters,” where delegates asked advice for challenging cases.

The course included hands-on workshops with the use of advanced technologies, run by academic neurosurgeons, including among others, Daniel Barrow, MD, FAANS, Emory University; Walter Stummer, MD, Muenster, Germany; and Constantinos Hadjipanayis, MD, PhD, FAANS, Mount Sinai.

As an effort between friends, the London course was started seven years ago to educate and train

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neurosurgeons in the principles of brain mapping and connectivity, underpinning safe, maximum brain tumor resection. During the last few years, the Course has expanded tremendously, mainly by “word of mouth”, known as an exceptional educational experience for practicing neurosurgeons and motivated residents.

The course is directed and run by George Samandouras, MD, Queen Square, London, and Dr. Berger, San Francisco. More information and future dates can be found at www.neurosurgery-courses.com.

Discussion with faculty and delegates on "How to succeed in Neurooncology" with (from left to right) Drs. Goel, Germano, Duffau, Jallo, Berger and Stupp.

AANS/NREF AND ASTRO STEREOTACTIC RADIOSURGERY REGISTRY

Randy Jensen, MD, PhD, FAANS

The AANS, NREF and ASTRO Stereotactic Radiosurgery Registry (SRS) is a joint venture of organized neurosurgery and radiation oncology to define national patterns of care in radiosurgery. The goals are to identify gaps in treatment quality, measure comparative effectiveness and ultimately generate hypotheses for connections between care and outcomes. This work will also provide benchmark data and quality improvement tools for neurosurgeons to use to work toward enhanced quality during daily practice, maintenance of certification and accreditation. The registry is open to patients undergoing stereotactic radiosurgery for an intracranial target (benign and malignant tumors, trigeminal neuralgia and vascular malformations). Patients with an expected survival of under two months or who are not expected to participate in follow-up of at least two months are excluded from the study.

Currently, there are 23 sites participating in the SRS Registry. So far, 3,306 patients have been included with 3,770 SRS plans submitted. Follow-up data is available for 2,275 patients to date. With more patient accrual and eventual data analysis, our long-term goals are to improve health care outcomes and potentially lower cost of care delivered to patients undergoing SRS treatment. We hope this work will facilitate the development of novel methods for conducting high quality comparative effectiveness research in stereotactic radiosurgery and provide longitudinal data for outcome studies related to stereotactic radiosurgery. Ultimately, we hope to afford government agencies, corporate partners, medical insurance agencies and other third parties access to robust data pertaining to radiosurgical outcomes and quality.
NORTH AMERICAN SKULL BASE SOCIETY 29TH ANNUAL MEETING

The North American Skull Base Society (NASBS) will hold its 29th Annual Meeting on February 15-17, 2019, at Hilton Bonnet Creek Resort in Orlando, Fla. The scientific program committee has developed an outstanding program with the theme of Teamwork through Multidisciplinary Collaboration. Special sessions will include expert debates, hot topics and video sessions. The NASBS meeting also features Dueling Dissections, with experts demonstrating both open and endoscopic surgical approaches through cadaveric dissection. Faculty for this program will also present 3-D anatomy, followed by pertinent diagnostic imaging of the area. Preceding the main meeting, there will be two courses: a hands-on two-day dissection course and a Pituitary Symposium. The hands-on dissection course will offer didactics and cadaveric dissection with modules, taking participants through open and endoscopic approaches to the skull base. This course is led by leaders in the field of skull base surgery and is designed to promote anatomical understanding and practice of complex approaches to the skull base. The one-day Pituitary Symposium will feature endocrinologists and skull base surgeons covering topics, including:

- Pituitary physiology;
- Subtypes of pituitary tumors;
- Ophthalmologic evaluation of sellar and suprasellar lesions;
- Endoscopic anatomy for trans-sphenoidal and expanded endonasal surgery; and
- Novel treatment options for pituitary tumors.

The annual meeting anticipates an attendance of over 750 surgeons and allied health partners. It will include a simulation station to practice endonasal control of carotid artery bleeding as well as numerous exhibit booths from industry partners. Information for all of the above can be found at www.nasbs.org.

THE YOUNG NEUROSURGEONS RECEPTION

Walavan Sivakumar, MD

Professor and Chair of Neurosurgery at MD Anderson Cancer Center Frederick Lang, MD, FAANS, was the honored guest at the AANS/CNS Section on Tumors Young Neurosurgeons Reception, co-hosted by the Young Neurosurgeons Committee, at the AANS Annual Scientific Meeting in New Orleans.

An internationally recognized neurosurgical oncologist and researcher, Dr. Lang addressed over 100 young neurosurgeons and shared with them his recipe for success. Defining success as “ending up where you’re supposed to be,” as opposed to “where you think you should be,” he described the five “Fs” that serve as his framework. Using his transition as a young neurosurgeon focusing on functional neurosurgery to jumping on opportunities that ultimately led him to neurosurgical oncology, he extolled the importance of:

- Focus;
- Flexibility;
- Foresight;
- Fellowship;
- Fearlessness.

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of fostering core values that help guide your path and maintaining one's faith during this process. Throughout his early troubles in the laboratory with p53 gene therapy models, he developed the prerequisite ability to embrace failure and maintain the focus and grit that enabled him to delve deep into a subject and ultimately become the principal investigator on numerous NIH-funded studies. Throughout the entirety of the process, he recommended developing a strong foundation of friends and family to: keep you grounded, provide objective and constructive feedback when necessary and open up pathways.

The AANS/CNS Section on Tumors and the Young Neurosurgeons Committee are pleased to announce that the honored guest for the Young Neurosurgeons Reception at the 2018 CNS Annual Meeting (Tuesday, October 9, 6:15-8:15 p.m.) will be Professor of Neurosurgery at Emory University and Editor-in-Chief of Neurosurgery Nelson Oyesiku, MD, PhD, FAANS.

Charles Wilson was born in Neosho, Mo. in 1929. He graduated first in his class from Tulane University School of Medicine in 1954, where he also completed a neurosurgery residency in 1960. He then became an instructor at Tulane, but soon left to join the faculty at Louisiana State University. In 1963, he moved to the University of Kentucky in Lexington, establishing their division of neurosurgery.

In 1968, Dr. Wilson was invited to the University of California, San Francisco (UCSF) to be professor and chair of neurological surgery. By 1972, he had established the Brain Tumor Research Center (BTRC), which would become an internationally recognized center for research and treatment of brain tumors and one of the first examples of translational research in the U.S. In 1985, Dr. Wilson was appointed Tong-Po Kan professor of neurological surgery at UCSF.

In addition to his legacy in the field of brain tumor research, Dr. Wilson greatly contributed to advancing the transsphenoidal approach to pituitary tumors, as well as to cerebrovascular procedures, spinal surgery and the surgical treatment of trigeminal neuralgia with microvascular decompression.

In 1994, Dr. Wilson stepped down as chair of the department of neurological surgery and became director of tertiary care services at UCSF. He obtained a master’s degree in health science administration and then became senior associate on medical affairs to the president of the University of California in 1996. In 2001, he co-founded the Global AIDS Interfaith Alliance and he became UCSF professor emeritus in 2002.
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