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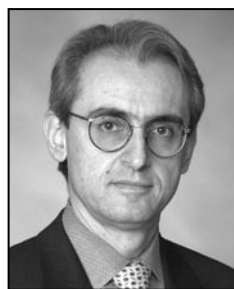
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Section Leadership

Chairman's Message

20 Years of Growth and Accomplishments



Raymond Sawaya, MD

Twenty years ago, a vision began to take shape in the field of brain tumors. The opportunity to realize that vision, offered by the then president of the Congress of Neurological Surgeons, Ed Laws, MD, was firmly seized by Mark Rosenblum, MD. Through seven years of nurturing, Dr. Rosenblum launched the AANS/CNS Section on Tumors within organized neurosurgery, serving as the section's first chairman. The section became the first national grouping of experts in the United States to focus on research and education in the field of brain tumors. The baton has since passed to seven subsequent chairmen, each of whom was aided by a growing body of executives and advisers and who collectively have brought this section to its preeminent status among our peers.

A Special Journal Project

To commemorate the historic occasion of our founding, the section has arranged for our official journal, the Journal of Neuro-Oncology, to put together a special issue on the state-of-the-art in neurosurgical oncology. This special issue includes 22 articles, starting with a review of the section's history and followed by reviews addressing specific tumor types, special techniques and innovations, and organizational as well as philosophical topics. Credit goes to Mark Linskey, MD, for this entire project. The issue is due to be released in advance of the Sixth Biennial Tumor Symposium.

A Symposium and a Celebration

The Sixth Biennial Satellite Symposium will take place on Oct. 21-22, 2004, at the Palace

Hotel in San Francisco immediately following the CNS annual meeting. Frederick Lang, MD, has planned three special symposia on stem cells, molecular imaging and neurosurgical oncology. Patrick Kelly, MD will present the keynote address, "Computer-Assisted Stereotactic Surgery." In addition, a gala dinner will commemorate the section's 20th anniversary. At the dinner, special awards will be presented and Charles Wilson, MD, will deliver a keynote speech.

The members of the Tumor Section can be proud of their affiliation with a vibrant and dynamic organization, and I encourage everyone to participate in the joyous occasion of celebrating the section's founding.

See you in San Francisco!

Neuro-Oncology Fellowship

Franco De Monte, MD

Success! The Society of Neurological Surgeons is now accepting applications for accreditation of fellowship programs in neurosurgical oncology. At its May 2004 meeting the Society of Neurological Surgeons accepted the program description for these fellowships. The society soon will post the program description on its Web site, at www.sns.org. The application form for accreditation of fellowship programs is also posted on the site. All interested program directors are encouraged to begin the accreditation process. If the Tumor Section can assist in some way, please contact me at fdemonte@mdanderson.org.

Tumor Highlights at the 2004 CNS Meeting

Linda M. Liau, MD, PhD

The 54th Annual Meeting of the Congress of Neurological Surgeons, "Bridges to the Future," will be held Oct. 16–21, 2004, in San Francisco. The Tumor Section Special Symposium on Tuesday, Oct. 19, will illustrate the current state-of-the-art and the latest advances in the surgical management and adjuvant treatment of pituitary adenomas, craniopharyngiomas, meningiomas and other neoplasms of the skull base. Three topics in skull base neurosurgery will be highlighted, bridging perspectives from both the United States and Italy.

For the first topic of this session, Edward Laws, MD, from the University of Virginia, and Enrico Di Divitiis, MD, from the Italian Society of Neurosurgery (SINch), will impart their expertise on the management of pituitary adenomas and craniopharyngiomas. For the second topic, Ossama Al-Mefty, MD, from the University of Arkansas, will coordinate with Franco Tomasello, MD, from SINch, to discuss the treatment of sphenoid wing and cavernous sinus meningiomas. For the third topic, William Couldwell, MD, from the University of Utah, and Francesco DiMeco, MD, from Istituto Tumori Besta, Milan, Italy will relate the cutting-edge management of anterior skull base tumors. Linda Liau, MD, from the University of California-Los Angeles, and Albino Bricolo, MD, from SINch, will summarize and moderate this session.

For the most up-to-date program listings and meeting details, go to www.neurosurgeon.org.

Saturday, Oct. 16, 2004

PRACTICAL COURSE 1:00–5:00 PM

CPT Coding: What's New

Course Director: Gregory J. Przybylski

PRACTICAL COURSE 1:00–5:00 PM

Operating in the Eloquent Cortex

Course Director: Jeffrey P. Blount

Sunday, Oct. 17, 2004

PRACTICAL COURSE 8:00 AM–5:00 PM

Practical Update on Brain Tumors

Course Directors: Jeffrey Bruce, Frederick F. Lang

PRACTICAL COURSE 1:00–5:00 PM

Cranial Endoscopic Procedures in Neurosurgery

Course Directors: David F. Jimenez, Mark G. Luciano, Paul A. Grabb

Monday, Oct. 18, 2004

GENERAL SCIENTIFIC SESSION I

7:30–7:45 AM

Decision Making and Surgical Techniques for Resection of Cranial Facial Skull Base Tumors

Chandra N. Sen

8:20–8:35 AM

Application of Endoscopy to Third Ventricular Tumors

Charles Teo

11:10–11:25 AM

Metastatic Spinal Cord Compression: The Role for Direct Decompression

Roy A. Patchell

11:40 AM–12:00 NOON

Treatment of Intramedullary Spinal Cord Tumors: Microsurgery and Molecular Biology

Paul C. McCormick

LUNCHEON SEMINARS

12:30–2:00 PM

Anterior Skull Base Approaches: What, When and How?

Moderator: Mitesh V. Shah

Acoustic Schwannomas: Options, Approaches and Results

Moderator: Steven L. Giannotta

State-of-the-Art Management of Brain Metastases

Moderator: Raymond Sawaya

Emerging Techniques in Brain Tumor Diagnosis and Treatment

Moderator: James T. Rutka

Cranial Minimally Invasive Techniques Including Endoscopy

Moderator: Wesley A. King

Tuesday, Oct. 19, 2004

GENERAL SCIENTIFIC SESSION II

7:45–8:00 AM

Human Gliomas: From Mouse Model to Rational Chemotherapy for Humans

Eric C. Holland

8:00–8:15 AM

Keyhole Surgery in the Treatment of Sellar Region Tumors

Paolo Cappabianca

8:45–9:00 AM

New Techniques of Cortical Mapping

Theodore H. Schwartz

LUNCHEON SEMINARS

12:30–2:00 PM

Technical Aspects of Acoustic Neuroma Surgery

Moderator: Carl B. Heilman

Multimodality Treatment of Malignant Gliomas

Moderator: Mitchel S. Berger

Intraoperative Imaging: Current Applications

Moderator: Peter McLaren Black

Mastery of Pituitary Surgery

Moderator: Ian Earl McCutcheon

Neurosurgical ICD-9 and CPT Coding: Questions and Answers

Moderator: John Allan Wilson Jr.

2:00–5:30 PM

SECTION ON TUMORS I

Moderators: Linda M. Liau, Albino Bricolo

Wednesday, Oct. 20, 2004

GENERAL SCIENTIFIC SESSION III

10:30–10:45 AM

Emerging Indications for Stereotactic Radio-surgery

Douglas Kondziolka

10:45–11:00 AM

Multimodality Treatment of Pituitary Tumors

Nelson M. Oyesiku

LUNCHEON SEMINARS 12:30–2:00 PM

Treatment of Spinal Tumors

Moderator: Mark H. Bilsky

Intraventricular Tumor Surgery

Moderator: Albert L. Rhoton Jr.

Robotics, Telepresence and Future Technology

Moderator: John G. Frazee

2:00–5:00 PM

SECTION ON TUMORS II

Moderators: Michael W. McDermott,

Raymond Sawaya

Thursday, Oct. 21

GENERAL SCIENTIFIC SESSION IV

8:45–9:00 AM

Evolution of Management Strategies for Cerebral Gliomas: The Effects of Science and Technology

Mitchel S. Berger

Sixth Biennial Satellite Symposium

Frederick F. Lang, MD

The Sixth Biennial Satellite Symposium of the AANS/CNS Section on Tumors will take place Oct. 21–22, 2004, at the Palace Hotel in San Francisco, immediately following the annual meeting of the Congress of Neurological Surgeons.

An outstanding scientific program has been organized and includes three special symposia highlighting the most recent advances in basic and clinical neurosurgical oncology. Specific topics include (1) the role of stem cells in brain tumor biology and therapeutics; (2) molecular imaging of brain tumors; and (3) an update on neurosurgical oncology as it relates to spine surgery, skull base surgery, peripheral nerve surgery and pain management. An exciting luncheon seminar analyzing the role of neurosurgeons in clinical trials is planned.

The organizers are also pleased to announce that Patrick J. Kelly, MD, has agreed to be the keynote speaker for the meeting. He will present his unique perspective, drawn from his personal paradigm-shifting efforts, on the development and future of computer assisted stereotactic surgery and its influence on tumor surgery.

To complement the planned lectures, more than 100 peer-reviewed oral and poster abstracts have been chosen for presentation at this meeting. Likewise, exhibits displaying the latest technological advances by many of the meeting sponsors will be on display.

Lastly, the Tumor Section has arranged a special gala dinner commemorating the 20th anniversary of the section's founding. Charles B. Wilson, MD, the keynote speaker for this event, will present his personal viewpoint on the history of neuro-oncology. During this dinner we will pay tribute to the pioneers who brought the Tumor Section to its current status and to the many organizations that have supported the section's scientific programs and awards.

We look forward to seeing you at this event.

Registration Information

Online registration for the meeting is available at www.neurosurgery.org/sections/section.aspx?Section=TU, where there also is

a link to the Palace Hotel San Francisco's online reservation system.

Continuing Medical Education Credit

This activity has been planned and implemented in accordance with the Essential and Standards of the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education and is designated for a minimum of 13.25 credits in category 1 toward the American Medical Association's Physician's Recognition Award.

Thursday, Oct. 21, 2004

1:00–1:15 PM
Opening Remarks
Frederick F. Lang

1:00–5:00 PM
Exhibits and Poster Viewing

1:15–2:45 PM
SPECIAL SYMPOSIUM I
Stem Cells and Brain Tumors: Biology and Therapeutics
Moderator: Frederick F. Lang

1:15–1:45 PM
Brain Tumor Stem Cells
Peter B. Dirks

1:45–2:15 PM
Stem Cell Differentiation and Tumor Formation
Sadhman Majumder

2:15–2:45 PM
Neural Stem Cells as Therapeutic Agents
John S. Yu

2:45–3:00 PM
Beverage Break

3:00–5:15 PM
Oral Paper Presentations
Moderators: Ian E. McCutcheon, Timothy C. Ryken

6:00–7:00 PM
Cocktail Reception
Sponsored by the University of California, San Francisco

7:00–9:30 PM
SPECIAL TICKETED EVENT
Gala Dinner Honoring the 20th Anniversary of the AANS/CNS Section on Tumors
Neuro-Oncology—Past, Present and Future: A Point of View
Keynote Speaker: Charles B. Wilson

Friday, Oct. 22, 2004

8:00–9:30 AM
SPECIAL SYMPOSIUM II
Molecular Imaging in Brain Tumors
Moderator: Juri G. Gelovani

8:00–8:30 AM
Molecular Imaging in Brain Tumors: Current State and Future Perspectives
Juri G. Gelovani

8:30–9:00 AM
CNS Molecular Imaging
Martin G. Pomper

9:00–9:30 AM
Surrogate Biomarkers of Glioma by Quantitative MR Imaging
Soonme Cha

9:00 AM–3:30 PM
Exhibits and Poster Viewing

9:30–9:45 AM
Beverage Break

Keynote Address
9:45–10:30 AM
Foundations and Advances in Computer-Assisted Stereotactic Surgery: A Historical Perspective
Patrick J. Kelly

10:30 AM–12:00 NOON
Oral Paper Presentations
Moderators: Behnam Badie, Bruce M. Frankel

12:00 NOON–1:15 PM
Luncheon Seminar—Clinical Trial Design: Role of the Neurosurgeon
Moderator: Anthony L. Asher

12:15–12:30 PM
Medical Oncologist Perspective
Susan M. Chang

12:30–12:45 PM
Neurosurgeon's Role in Evaluating Novel Therapeutic Approaches
James M. Markert Jr.

12:45–1:00 PM
Tissue Acquisition in Prospective Clinical Trials
Michael A. Vogelbaum

1:00–1:15 PM
AANS/CNS Section on Tumors and the American College of Surgeons Oncology Group: Potential for Partnership
Frederick G. Barker II

continued on page 5

Awards Committee Update

Michael McDermott, MD

The Awards Committee is happy to report that for the past two national meetings the process of selecting awardees ran more smoothly than ever. The Tumor Section presented the Bittner, Mahaley, Preuss, Young Investigator, Farber, Bittner, and Journal of Neuro-Oncology awards at the 2004 AANS Annual Meeting. Past president James Rutka, MD, was asked to deliver the Ronald L. Bittner Invited Lecture titled, "The Pathogenesis of Human Tumors: Clues from Disordered Neuroembryogenesis."

Recently this year's National Brain Tumor Translational Research Grant Award recipient was selected. Many thanks to those who submitted their grant applications for consideration and to the Tumor Section members (Donald O'Rourke, Linda Liau, Ab Guha, Adam Mamelak, Michael McDermott and Ray Sawaya) who assisted with the selection process.

The Awards Committee's special thanks go to Isabelle Germano, who has done a great job of pulling together the photographs of award winners from each meeting for inclusion in this newsletter. Thanks also to the incredible Executive Committee members who have assisted with the fair and appropriate selection of award winners. See you in San Francisco!

Mahaley Award: This year's recipient was Ossama Al-Mefty, MD, who presented "Radiation Induced Meningiomas: Clinical, Pathological, Cytokinetic and Cytogenetic Characteristics." Named in memory of neurosurgeon Steven Mahaley, MD, a neurosurgeon long devoted to neuro-oncology, the Mahaley Clinical Research Award is given at each AANS and CNS annual meeting to a neurosurgeon who is an established investigator and presents the best clinical research paper in the field. The applicant must be a member of the Tumor Section. The National Brain Tumor Foundation sponsors the award.



Preuss Award: This year's award, presented by Ronald Warnick, MD, left, was Manish Aghi, MD, who presented a paper titled "Transplanted Bone Marrow Contributes to Glioma Vasculature." Established in 1990 by longtime Tumor Section benefactor Peter Preuss, the Preuss award is given at each AANS and CNS annual meeting to the neurosurgery resident who has submitted the best basic science research paper. The award is given to a recipient only once.



Young Investigator Award: This year's winner was Makoto Furuta, MD, who presented a paper titled "Protein Patterns and Proteins that Identify Subtypes of Glioblastoma Multiforme." Sponsored by the American Brain Tumor Association, the Young Investigator Award is given at each AANS and CNS annual meeting to a young faculty member involved in neuro-oncology research who has demonstrated outstanding potential for basic science research. The applicant must be a member of the section and have been in practice for less than six years.



Farber Award: This year's award, presented by Raymond Sawaya, MD, left, was Eric Holland, MD, who presented "Mouse Modeling of Human Brain Tumors." The Farber awardee is selected by a subcommittee from the AANS/CNS Section on Tumors and the Society of Neuro-Oncology. Sponsored by the Farber Foundation, the award is presented at the annual meeting of the respective societies on alternate years. The award recognizes the most promising investigators who are achieving significant results early in their careers.



Bittner Award: This year's recipient was Alfredo Quinones-Hinojosa, MD, left, who presented a paper titled "Changes in Myogenic Transcranial Motor Evoked Potential Responses During Intramedullary Spine Cord Tumor Resection Predicts Severity of Postoperative Motor Function." Michael McDermott, MD, who presented the award, is pictured at right. The Bittner Award, sponsored by the Ronald Bittner Foundation, is given for excellence in clinical and basic science research in neuro-oncology.



The Journal of Neuro-Oncology Award: Ronald Warnick, MD, presented the award to this year's recipient, Justin Smith, MD, right, for his paper titled "Frame-Based Stereotactic Biopsy Remains an Important Diagnostic Tool with Distinct Advantages Over Frameless Stereotactic Biopsy." Sponsored by Kluwer Publishing, this award is given to the highest-ranked presentation on tumor during the section's annual meeting.



1:30–2:45 PM

SPECIAL SYMPOSIUM III

Neurosurgical Oncology, Not Just Glioma Surgery

Moderator: Raymond Sawaya

1:30–1:45 PM

Issues in Spine Neurosurgical Oncology

Ziya L. Gokaslan

1:45–2:00 PM

Neurosurgical Oncology and Pain Management

Samuel J. Hassenbusch

2:00–2:15 PM

Neurosurgical Oncology of Malignant Skull Base Tumors

Franco De Monte

2:15–2:30 PM

Neurosurgical Oncology of Anterior Skull Base Tumors

Mark H. Bilsky

2:30–2:45 PM

Peripheral Nerve Tumors

Allan J. Belzberg

2:45–3:15 PM

Beverage Break

3:15–5:00 PM

Oral Paper Presentations

Moderators: Andrew T. Parsa, Steven A. Toms

5:00–5:15 PM

Closing Remarks – Awards

Frederick F. Lang

- Best Abstract Award
- Best Poster Award

Membership Benefits in the Tumor Section

Gene Barnett, MD

Selected Benefits:

Reduced registration at the section's Biennial Tumor Satellite Symposium

- Up-to-date clinical and basic research on nervous system tumors presented by leaders in the field

Access to colleagues with similar interests

- Neurosurgeons with interest in peripheral, primary and metastatic central nervous system, skull base and spinal tumors

Semiannual newsletter

- The latest news on section activities
- Announcements of clinical trials
- Interesting articles on advances in brain tumor management

50 percent discount on the Journal of Neuro-Oncology (the official journal of the Tumor Section)

- A multidisciplinary journal encompassing basic, applied and clinical investigations in all research areas as they relate to cancer and the central nervous system

For an application as well as details on membership requirements, go to www.neurosurgery.org/sections/section.aspx?Section=TU, then click on "Application for Membership" or "Membership Information."

History Committee Update

Frederick Barker, MD

In 2003, Section Chair Raymond Sawaya, MD, formed the History Committee of the AANS/CNS Section on Tumors with an eye toward the upcoming celebration of the section's 20th anniversary in October 2004. The History Committee's first project was to compile a brief history of the section, written by Fred Barker, MD, and Mark Linskey, MD. It will be published in the special issue of the Journal of Neuro-Oncology to be distributed at the Biennial Satellite Symposium in San Francisco this fall.

Through interviews with early section leaders and an archive of section newsletters generously provided by Dr. Sawaya, the events surrounding the section's founding were first sketched out, then a brief account of the section's activities since its origin was compiled. These include educational activities, awards and grants, guidelines, surveys of the membership, patterns of care studies, growth in membership and membership services, and other activities. Progress toward achieving the section's stated mission—to educate neurosurgeons in tumor-related skills and to foster and encourage tumor-related research—was assessed by considering patterns of mortality after brain tumor craniotomy in the United States during the section's lifetime (which showed a dramatic decrease), as well as by assessing the (remarkably high) track record of publication for abstracts presented at section meetings. Appended to the forthcoming article is a bibliography of 174 articles on the history of brain tumor surgery and treatment. It is believed to be the first formal history of any of the subspecialty sections of the American Association of Neurological Surgeons or the Congress of Neurological Surgeons.

The History Committee's next planned activity is a sketch of the subsequent activities of winners of the section's various awards and grants, to be presented by Michael McDermott, MD, at the section's October banquet.

The history article would have been impossible to prepare in the absence of written records of the section's many activities. Unfortunately, however, the collection of section newsletters remains incomplete for the earliest years. If any section members possess Tumor Section newsletters or other printed or written records of section activities before 1991, the History Committee would very much appreciate a copy, to complete both the section's archives and the archives of the AANS and the CNS. Please contact me at barker@helix.mgh.harvard.edu if you have such materials, or if you have suggestions for future History Committee projects.

International Reports

Report from Germany

Jorg-Christian Tonn, MD

The multicenter study for assessment of the efficacy of fluorescence guided resection of malignant glioma after administration of 5-aminolevulinic acid is in its final stage. Recruitment of patients has largely been closed, and the final evaluation has already begun. Final results of the study are expected to be available and published within six months. First interim analyses have shown very encouraging results. After termination of the phase II study, it is expected that licensing of the substance will be granted. At present it is being examined, inasmuch as this study is transferable to the United States as well and would be performed there in order to obtain Food and Drug Administration licensing (after positive outcome in Germany).

The Neuro-Oncology Committee of the European Association of Neurosurgical Societies, chaired by Jorg-Christian Tonn, MD, currently advises on, supervises and accompanies several studies on convection-enhanced delivery of logically active substances in malignant gliomas and their recurrences. A study on the infusion of interleukin (IL)-3 immunotoxin is currently being performed, and a further study (involving transferin immunotoxin conjugates) will be forthcoming shortly. In addition, there exist a number of local activities related to locoregional therapy for brain tumors, which should be better bundled in the future.

Report from Italy

Francesco DiMeco, MD, and Alessandro Olivi, MD

We are extremely excited about the Congress of Neurological Surgeons hosting the Italian Society of Neurosurgery at the upcoming CNS annual meeting in San Francisco. The two organizations have worked very closely together in the past, with frequent and intense interactions among their members. In addition, Neurosurgery, the official journal of the CNS, has consistently recognized the Italian group as major and steady contributors to the journal's established success.

This official collaboration in San Francisco, a city with a long-standing Italian presence and traditions, will provide an ideal opportunity for the two organizations to enhance their ties and establish even more productive future collaborations. We anticipate a great level of participation and a very exciting scientific program.

Report from Brazil

Reynaldo Brandt, MD

Brazilian neurosurgeons will meet at the XXV Brazilian Neurosurgical Congress Sept. 4–9, 2004, in Goiania. Nine sessions will be dedicated to intracranial tumors during the first two days of the meeting. Topics will range from gliomas to skull base tumors and from surgical to radiosurgical treatment options. Raymond Sawaya, MD, Richard Kerr, MD, Jim Rutka, MD, and Ossama Al-Mefty, MD, will be among the speakers.

Tumor Section Meeting World Federation of Neurosurgical Societies



Main Meeting: Oct. 11–13, 2004, Jaipur, India

Satellite Meeting (National Neuroscience Center): Oct. 15–16, 2004, Kolkata, India

Please join us at the World Federation of Neurosurgical Societies Tumor Section Meeting to be held in Jaipur, India, Oct. 11–13, 2004. The meeting is being held in collaboration with the Neuroscience Society of India. A satellite mini-meeting, co-hosted by the National Neuroscience Center, will follow on Oct. 15–16, 2004, in Kolkata, India.

Registration, travel information and additional details are available at www.wfnstumormet2004.com

Organizers:

A. Guha and J. Rutka (University of Toronto, Canada)	S.R. Dharker (Jaipur Medical College)	R.P. Sengupta (National Neuroscience Center, Kolkata)
International Organizers	Local Organizer - Main Meeting	Local Organizer - Satellite Meeting

About the ACOSOG

Frederick Barker, MD, and Anthony Asher, MD

For those members who remain unfamiliar with The American College of Surgeons Oncology Group, this group is the newest of 10 cooperative groups funded by the Cancer Therapy Evaluation Program of the National Cancer Institute. It is the only cooperative group whose primary focus is the surgical management of patients with malignant solid tumors. As a clinical trials group, the ACOSOG possesses a number of unique characteristics that deserve emphasis: First, unlike other cooperative groups, the primary leadership of ACOSOG derives from surgical specialties. Second, ACOSOG seeks to be inclusive and surgeons are encouraged to participate in surgical trials regardless of their practice setting or geographic location. Finally, ACOSOG is committed to educating surgeons about the correct conduct of clinical research and the importance of adhering to the principles of good clinical practice as they relate to human subjects. For more information on ACOSOG visit the site, www.acosog.org, or contact either Frederick Barker, MD, barker@helix.mgh.harvard.edu, or Anthony Asher, MD, asher@cnsa.com.

Editor's Corner

Isabelle M. Germano, MD

In this issue, as we prepare for the 20th anniversary of the AANS/CNS Section on Tumors, Raymond Sawaya, MD, reviews the section's accomplishments and the anniversary celebration plans. Linda Liau, MD, covers highlights of the outstanding scientific program on tumors at the upcoming CNS annual meeting. Ron Warnick, MD, summarizes the financial aspects of the section. Gene Barnett, MD, emphasizes the benefits of section membership. In addition, Franco De Monte, MD, reports on the final approval of the neurosurgical oncology fellowship description.

Also in this issue, Frederick Lang, MD, reviews the outstanding scientific program for the Sixth Biennial Satellite Symposium. Frederick Barker, MD, reports on the History Committee's progress in preparation of the section's 20th anniversary. Michael McDermott, MD, provides details on recent section awards. Mark Linskey, MD, highlights the exciting issue of the Journal of Neuro-Oncology being published for the section's 20th anniversary. Our international colleagues—Jorg-Christian Tonn, MD, from Germany, Reynaldo Brandt, MD, from Brazil, and Francesco DiMeco, MD, and Alessandro Olivi, MD, from Italy—provide updates from their respective countries. The issue also includes a special invitation to the upcoming World Federation of Neurological Surgeons Tumor Section Meeting, organized by Ab Guha, MD, and Jim Rutka, MD.

Many thanks to all those who contributed to this issue. If you would like to submit content for the newsletter, please contact me at isabelle.germano@msnyuhealth.org

Secretary-Treasurer's Report

Ron Warnick, MD

The Executive Committee of the AANS/CNS Section on Tumors held a busy and productive meeting on May 3 in Orlando, Fla.

The section remains in sound financial condition with total assets of \$298,200, which is a 9 percent increase from the previous year. The section has invested \$100,000 in an intermediate-term, fixed-interest investment vehicle from USB Financial Services and this is producing a 4 percent annual return, which is much more favorable than the previous 1.4 percent money market rate.

The Executive Committee reviewed the fiscal 2004 Statement of Activities and it appeared to be on target with budget considering normal timing issues. Of note, the section will contribute \$10,000 to the AANS/CNS Washington Committee and \$15,000 to Neurosurgeons to Preserve Health Care Access (NPHCA) in support of their important activities.

Journal of Neuro-Oncology: 20th Anniversary Issue

Mark E. Linskey, MD

The AANS/CNS Section on Tumors will celebrate its 20th anniversary during the section's Biennial Satellite Symposium, immediately following the Congress of Neurological Surgeons meeting in San Francisco in October. To commemorate this historic occasion, the section has organized a special commemorative supplement publication of the Journal of Neuro-Oncology.

The special 20th anniversary issue is designed to showcase progress in the field of neurosurgical oncology. The goal is to provide a comprehensive overview of the current state-of-the-art in patient care, with articles written by recognized experts in each area of concern.

The issue contains 22 articles. Each contribution was thoroughly peer-reviewed and revised to be consistent with the scope and focus of the entire volume. Topics stem from benign and low-grade primary brain tumors, to metastatic tumors, skull base tumors and pineal region tumors. Also included in the issue are the first complete history of the Tumor Section, strategies for developing comprehensive brain tumor programs, and the practical aspects of designing, implementing and performing brain tumor clinical trials.

We anticipate that this volume will be circulated as a supplement to the Journal of Neuro-Oncology by September 2004. Complimentary copies will be free to all registrants of the Tumor Section Satellite Symposium in October. It is hoped that this special issue will serve as a celebration of the section's anniversary, as well as a benchmark reference for the current state-of-the-art in surgical neuro-oncology.

We sincerely thank the contributing authors, whose efforts and personal sacrifices made completion of this project possible. We also wish to thank Journal of Neuro-Oncology Editor in Chief Joseph Piepmeyer, MD, Special Issues Editor Joachim Baehring, MD, and Managing Editor Laura Walsh, as well as Kluwer Academic Publishing for its steadfast and generous support of this project.

Brain Tumor Research Projects Wanted!

The Neurosurgery Research and Education Foundation (NREF) presents two annual neurosurgical research opportunities:

- **Research Fellowship** — for residents
- **Young Clinician Investigator Award** — for full-time faculty

For details on these fellowship offerings, visit www.AANS.org and select "Research"; or contact the AANS Development Department at (847) 378-0500.

AANS/CNS Section on Tumors Leadership

Chair Raymond Sawaya, MD

Secretary-Treasurer Ronald E. Warnick, MD

Past Chair James T. Rutka, MD

Advisory Board Ossama Al-Mefty, MD
 Mitchell S. Berger, MD
 Peter McL. Black, MD, PhD
 William Broadus, MD, PhD
 William T. Couldwell, MD, PhD
 Edward R. Laws Jr., MD
 Mark L. Rosenblum, MD
 Manfred Westphal, MD, PhD

International Reynaldo Brandt, MD
 Francesco DiMeo, MD
 Jorg-Christian Tonn, MD
 Fumio Yamaguchi, MD

Journal of Neuro-Oncology Representative Joseph Piepmeyer, MD

Young Neurosurgeons Committee Liaison Andrew Parsa, MD, PhD

Washington Committee Andrew Sloan, MD

Research Abhir G. Guha, MD

Program E. Antonio Chioocca, MD, PhD
 Linda Liau, MD, PhD
 Kevin O. Lillehei, MD
 Alessandro Olivi, MD
 Donald O'Rourke, MD

Nominating James T. Rutka, MD, PhD, FRC

Member Services Adam Mamelak, MD

Newletter Isabelle M. Germano, MD

Membership Gene Barnett, MD

Education Anthony Asher, MD
 Jeff Bruce, MD
 Franco De Monte, MD, FRC
 Roberta Glick, MD
 Nalin Gupta, MD, PhD
 Frederick F. Lang Jr., MD
 Mark Linskey, MD
 Corey Raffel, MD, PhD
 Jack Rock, MD

Guidelines Jeffrey Olson, MD

History Frederick G. Barker II, MD

Awards Committee Michael W. McDermott, MD

Bylaws Benham Badie, MD

SAN FRANCISCO 2004

SAVE THE DATE!

AANS/CNS Section on Tumors Sixth Biennial Satellite Symposium

October 21-22, 2004

The Palace Hotel San Francisco

San Francisco, California

Meeting Highlights include:

•Convenedly held at the conclusion of the 2004 CNS Annual Meeting

•Special Dinner honoring the 20th Anniversary of the Tumor Section

•Keynote Speaker: Charles B. Wilson, MD

•Special Symposium on exceptional educational topics presented by leaders in the field

•Symposium I: Stem Cells and Brain Tumors: Biology and Therapeutic Applications

•Symposium II: Molecular Imaging in Brain Tumors

•Symposium III: Neurosurgical Oncology: Not Just Glioma Surgery

•Presentations will cover Neuro-Oncology of the Spine, Skull Base, Peripheral Nerve Tumors and Pain Management.

•Seminar on the Neurosurgeon's Role in Clinical Trials of Brain Tumors

Further information, including a Call for Abstracts, will be available at <http://www.neurosurgery.org/tumor/meetings>. For further information contact:

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