It is indeed a great honor to serve as president of the American Society for Stereotactic and Functional Neurosurgery during the next two years. The organization is going through a process of self-review with a critical analysis of all of its key programs. Your board has worked hard to address the issues of membership, publications, meetings and scientific programs. I would like to bring you up-to-date on work done on all of these fronts.

The official society journal, *Stereotactic and Functional Neurosurgery*, has been ably managed by Phil Gildenberg, MD, together with our publisher, Karger Publishers, for many years. The journal has gone through several incarnations and has been effective at preserving the history of stereotactic neurosurgery through the recording of important meeting proceedings, as well as through publication of free papers. Our goal is to make the journal broader in scope, make publication more efficient, and increase the open paper format. Together with our publisher, we have worked to plan for a large format journal that will be published more frequently, include more new manuscripts, and include advertising as a new source of revenue directed towards the society. New journal leadership will be more responsible to the official parents (ASSFN and WSSFN). Past ASSFN president David Roberts, MD, has graciously accepted the position of chief editor. Reporting to him will be representatives from both the ASSFN and WSSFN. In addition there will be a senior advisory council and a separate scientific review board. We hope to begin the new journal format in January 2003. At present, these plans remain to be ratified by the ASSFN and WSSFN boards and by you, the membership.

Michael Schulder, MD, has chaired our membership committee. He has been instrumental in increasing membership applications, predominantly through improving the visibility of the society. Together with Andres Lozano, MD, Mike has managed our Web site (www.assfn.org) which includes information on the society’s leaders, bylaws, educational initiatives, future meetings and links to many related societies in movement disorders, pain, epilepsy, brain tumors, computer assisted surgery, and other sources of general information. There has been a good response to our new Resident category of membership, for which there is a one-time dues payment of $25.

Andres Lozano, the current secretary and treasurer of the society, has chaired our initiative to review the society’s bylaws. These will require a vote by the membership at our next business meeting (to be held April 9 during the AANS Annual Meeting in Chicago).

The ASSFN has been asked to comment on the reimbursement and the present status of deep brain stimulation for movement disorders. We have asked the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services to be efficient in their evaluation of data provided to them, so that a safe and appropriate decision can be made on behalf of patients and neurosurgeons. At the same time we have emphasized the degree of work and effort performed by the neurosurgeon in placing one or two deep brain stimulator systems and that reimbursement should be appropriate, particularly given the fact that many hours are spent in the operating room inserting these systems.

The ASSFN is proud to announce the Philip L. Gildenberg Resident Award in Stereotactic and Functional Neurosurgery, to be given to the best resident paper presented at the Stereotactic Section’s

*continued on page 2*
Resident Award Winners

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Dragan Dimitrov, Jerald Kralik, Miguel Nicolelis

*Developing Hybrid Brain-Machine Interfaces: Chronic, Multisite, Microwire Electrode Recordings in Primates*

This award was presented at the 2001 Annual Meeting of the Congress of Neurological Surgeons.

Toshinori Hasegawa, James McInerney, John YK Lee, Douglas Kondziolka, John Flickinger, L. Dade Lunsford

*Long Term Follow-up of Patients with Cavernous Malformations Treated by Stereotactic Radiosurgery*

Highlights at the 70th AANS Annual Meeting

**Saturday, April 6, 2002**

**Practical Clinic**

**Contemporary Management of Movement Disorders**

*Director: Andres M. Lozano*

*Faculty: Ronald D. McKay, Philip A. Starr, Steven B. Wilkinson, Joachim K. Kraus, Alim L. Benabid, Michael G. Kaplitt, Peter Ashby, Jean Saint-Cyr, Christopher Goetz*

*Clinic Fee: $450 Material Fee: $0 Total: $450*

The practical aspects of functional stereotactic surgery will be presented via lecture, video presentation and equipment demonstration. The primary emphasis will be on Parkinson's disease, but tremor and dystonia will also be discussed.

**AANS/CNS Section on Stereotactic and Functional Neurosurgery**

**Tuesday, April 9, 2002**

**Symposium:**

**Imaging Before the OR and in the OR: What Provides Value**

*Moderators: Douglas S. Kondziolka, Ali R. Rezai*

*Speakers: L. Dade Lunsford, Richard D. Buchholz, Garnette Roy Sutherland*

**Scientific Session**

*Moderators: Andres M. Lozano, G. Rees Coggrove*

*Subthalamic Nucleus Intraoperative Mapping Suggests Somatotopic Organization*

Pantaleo Romanelli, Gary Heit, Bruce Hill, Helen Bronte-Stewart

*Long Term Results of Microvascular Decompression of the Cochlear Nerve for Intractable Tinnitus*

Yong Ko, Hyung-Jung Yi, Young-Soo Kim, Sung-Hoon Oh, Suk-Jun Oh, Kwang-Myung Kim

*Chronic Stimulation of STN and/or SNr in Intractable Epilepsy: A Three Year Experience*

Alim L. Benabid, Adnan Koudsie, Stephan Chabardes, Laurent Vercaill, Abdelhamid Benazzou, Loreda Minotti, Jean F. LeBas, Philippe Kabane

*Epileptiform Activity From the Subthalamic Nucleus in Patients With Intractable Seizures*

Jorge A. Gonzalez-Martinez, Ashicini D. Sharan, Ali Rezai, Silvia Leme, Erwin Montgomery, Hans Luder

*Conditionally Immortalized Neuronal Progenitor Cells Restore Barrel Cortex Function After Focal Injury*


*Prevention of Alzheimer's Plaque Formation in a Transgenic Mouse Model*

Terry Lichtor, Neelima B. Chauhan, George J. Siegel

**Functional Forum**

*5–5:20 PM*

Please join us for the first “Functional Forum,” a dedicated time for open discussion and interchange of ideas on topics of interest to attendees at the section meeting.

**AANS/CNS Section on Stereotactic & Functional Neurosurgery Business Meeting**

*5:20–6 PM*

Vote by ASSFN members on ASSFN bylaw amendments will take place.

**Wednesday, April 10, 2002**

**Poster Reviewing Session**

**Stereotactic and Functional Posters**

*2:15–2:45 PM*

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President’s Message continued from front page

symposium at the Annual Meeting of the American Association of Neurological Surgeons.

Pat Kelly, MD, has been working hard as local host for the 2003 ASSFN meeting. The meeting will be held in New York City May 14-16, 2003, and at present the plan is to have it at the Plaza Hotel, adjacent to Central Park. We have negotiated a very attractive meeting rate with the hotel. This should be a tremendous venue for what we know will be a strong scientific program. Scientific Meeting Chairman Andres Lozano has been working to put together the preliminary program. A meeting announcement and call for abstracts will be sent in the next few months.
Membership Drive

An e-mail membership drive has focused on members of the AANS/CNS Section on Tumors who do not yet belong to the Stereotactic Section and ASSFN. The interaction between tumor neurosurgery and stereotactic methodology makes membership in both sections a logical choice for neurosurgeons. At the same time a “snail mailing” was sent out to neurosurgical residents in approved U.S. and Canadian training programs. Twelve neurosurgeons have recently joined the ASSFN as full members, while eight resident memberships have been processed; another 12 have been received.

Once this phase of member recruitment has been completed, another effort will be mounted, taking into account the wide interest in and active use of stereotactic techniques and treatment concepts by an increasing number of neurosurgeons.

Visit our new Web site at www.assfn.org

ASSFN Mission Statement

The mission of the American Society of Stereotactic and Functional Neurosurgery is to foster the use of stereotactic and functional neurological methods for the treatment of diseases of the nervous system and to advance stereotactic and functional neurosurgery and related sciences to improve patient care, to support meaningful basic and clinical research, to provide leadership in undergraduate and graduate education and continuing education, and to provide administrative facilities necessary to meet these goals.

Further, the society will provide a forum for the review of the basic form and function of the human nervous system toward the improvement of stereotactic and/or functional neurosurgical procedures that alleviate human disease and suffering through diagnosis or treatment of the function of the nervous system and to establish minimum standards for the performance of stereotactic surgery.

Membership Application

American Society of Stereotactic and Functional Neurosurgery

Name: ____________________________________________________________
Office Address: __________________________________________________

Phone: ___________________________ Fax: ____________________________
E-mail: __________________________

Residency Training: __________________________________________ Years: __________
Medical School: ________________________________________________

AANS Member: ❑ Yes ❑ No    CNS Member: ❑ Yes ❑ No    Type of Membership: ❑ Full Member ❑ Resident Member

Interests in Stereotactic and Functional Neurosurgery: (please check)
❑ Movement disorders    ❑ Pain    ❑ Tumors    ❑ Imaging
❑ Epilepsy    ❑ Computers    ❑ Radiosurgery    ❑ Basic Science

Annual membership dues for full members are $325.00 per year, which includes:
❑ membership in the AANS/CNS Section on Stereotactic and Functional Neurosurgery;
❑ membership in the American Society for Stereotactic and Functional Neurosurgery;
❑ membership in the World Society for Stereotactic and Functional Neurosurgery;
❑ a subscription (including shipping) to the journal, Stereotactic and Functional Neurosurgery; and
❑ reduced meeting fees.

Membership dues for resident members are a $25.00 one time fee, which includes:
❑ As above excluding a subscription to the journal, Stereotactic and Functional Neurosurgery, and excluding membership in the World Society for Stereotactic and Functional Neurosurgery.

Please attach your current curriculum vitae and mail to:
Andres Lozano, MD, Secretary/Treasurer, ASSFN
Toronto Western Hospital, West Wing 4-447, 399 Bathurst St., Toronto M5T 2S8 Canada
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ASSFN Officers

President
Douglas S. Kondziolka, MD

Vice President
G. Rees Cosgrove, MD

Secretary/Treasurer
Andres Lozano, MD, PhD

Past President
Philip L. Gildenberg, MD, PhD

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Antonio A.F. De Salles MD, PhD (1998-2002)
Alain J. de Lotbiniere, MD (1999-2003)
Richard D. Bucholz, MD (2000-2004)
Phillip A. Starr, MD (2000-2004)
Robert Gross, MD (2001-2005)
Robert J. Maciunas, MD (2001-2005)
Michael Schulder, MD (2001-2005)

Third Arctic Stereotactic Conference
Place: Svalbard, Spitsbergen, Norway
Date: June 16-20, 2002
Contact: Alain de Lotbiniere, MD
Tel. (203) 785-2808
E-mail: alain.delotbiniere@yale.edu
or
Doug Kondziolka, MD
Tel. (412) 647-6782
E-mail: kondziol@neuronet.pitt.edu
www.assfn.org/meetings/ArcticFlyer.pdf

ASSFN Meeting
Quadrennial Meeting of the ASSFN
Place: New York, NY
Date: May 14-16, 2003
Contact: Patrick Kelly, MD
Tel. (212) 263-8031
E-mail: kelly@mcns04.med.nyu.edu