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Subject: News From Wound Healing Society

Wound Healing Society Bulletin

News & Views

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Message from the President

By Allen Holloway, MD

A message from your President:

I am happy to report that the comments from the 2008 WHS/SAWC meeting were overwhelmingly positive.

Negotiations with Health Management Publications, who run the meeting, have recently been completed and the Board of Directors has voted to continue the joint meeting with the SAWC. This new contract will be for five years, and we will continue efforts to assure that the aspects of our meeting which are important and meaningful to our members are continued. The 2009 meeting will be at the Gaylord Resort just outside of Dallas, Texas, and Tai-Lan Tuan and Bill Marston have done an excellent job in planning for that meeting.

The deadline for abstract submission has just been moved back to November 7th to allow as much leeway as possible, yet meet the deadline for WRR publication. The meeting details and preliminary program can be viewed on the website, and abstracts are now being accepted on-line. I urge you all to plan to attend the meeting and submit abstracts, as these are
the bread and butter of our annual program.

I am now just returning from the ETRS annual meeting in Malta. The meeting was smaller this year than usual, as many of their membership had opted to attend the WUWHS meeting in Toronto in June. Despite this, the meeting was successful and there were a number of excellent sessions. Several members of the WHS were in attendance as speakers as well. There were several excellent keynote talks one of which was presented by Holger Gerhardt who gave a very enlightening presentation on angiogenesis.

I was also able to attend the ETRS Board of Directors meeting. They are currently smaller than we are with about 150 members. Part of the discussion involved the presentation by Alexis Desmoulierè on the joint meeting we will be having with the ETRS in Limoges, France next August 25-29. Limoges is a smaller town in the northern center of France, but can be easily reached from Paris as well as other European cities. The meeting will be held at the University that should be a very nice venue, and should attract a number of good speakers. The initial details for the meeting will be on our website shortly and I encourage our membership to seriously consider attending.

I also hope most of you have visited our website recently. The Website Committee has been working hard to improve both the content and its ease of use, and the results are already visible. Suggestions and/or criticism are always welcome and represent the best way to for us to have the content we would like, and to showcase our society.

Wound Repair and Regeneration continues to thrive and improve under Pat Hebd’s leadership as I assume many of you have noticed. The number of manuscripts received continues to climb as does their quality and the impact factor continues to improve. We hope that you will continue to send your best manuscripts. We want you to know that your support of the Society is indeed valuable.

Sincerely,

Allen Holloway, MD
President

Allen Holloway, MD
President of the Wound Healing Society
by Dave Hobson, Chair of the Membership Committee
Email: Dave@LoneStarPharmTox.com

WHS began 2008 with a total membership of 498 members, and by mid-2008 the total membership had increased to 580 members. This includes 10 members who are qualified government/military members, a new category that was implemented by the Membership Committee last year.

Membership growth this year was aided by the efforts of volunteers who staffed the WHS information booth at the joint SAWC/WHS annual meeting in San Diego in April. The efforts of these volunteers, including the assistance of our society's professional Crow-Segal Management organization, in informing and attracting new members are greatly appreciated.

Despite our growth, the Membership Committee is aware that we continue to have a number of members each year who do not renew their membership. The Membership Committee continues to work with the Board and other WHS Committees toward increasing the value of membership for our current members and improving member retention. Some of these efforts are evidenced by the improved content of the member's only portion of our website and of our annual meeting program. We welcome any suggestions that you may have for further improving the value of membership please send them to Dave Hobson, the Chair of the Membership Committee at the e-mail address above.

The Membership Committee is responsible for the stability and growth of membership by increasing the value of belonging to the Wound Healing Society. The committee works with the Executive Director's team to create and maintain a membership database, and this group is crucial for creating and implementing membership recruitment and retention strategies. The committee advises the Board on membership status and recommends membership policy for consideration. This committee coordinates its activities with the Scientific Liaison and Website committees. The current WHS Membership Committee is composed of thirteen dedicated members working effectively with the WHS Board to attract future membership in the organization and to increase the value of WHS offerings to the current membership. The composition of the current Committee can be found at WHS Membership Committee. We have five very effective members rotating off of the committee this year and are currently seeking dedicated and interested members to take their place for a three year term beginning in 2009. If you are interested in serving on the Membership Committee please contact Dave Hobson (Dave@LoneStarPharmTox.com) and become a part of this very important and active Committee.
by Lisa Gould, Chair of the Education Committee
Email: Lisa.Gould@va.gov

Following on the heels of another successful presentation of the Principles of Wound Care Course, the Education Committee is revamping the course to be more "basic", more clinically relevant and even more in tune with the WHS Guidelines. Next year's course will include case presentations to reinforce practical implementation of basic knowledge. In the meantime, the 2008 Principles of Wound Care slide series will soon be available on the Members' only section.

New projects for this year include polling the WHS membership for their expert opinion about what aspects of wound care/basic science of wounds should be included in the curriculum of a medical professional. This survey is still in development but should arrive on your doorstep by the first of the year. And wouldn't you like to learn more about the advanced topics of wound care in your leisure time? We plan to make this a reality with the debut of WHS PODCASTS. Stay tuned for further information.

The current roster of members of the Education Committee can be found at: http://www.woundheal.org/organization/description-education.html

If you are interested in serving on the Education Committee, please contact Lisa Gould (Lisa.Gould@va.gov).

Free Access to the Wound Care Guidelines
Did you know? Permanent open access is available for the Chronic Wound Care Guidelines (http://www3.interscience.wiley.com/journal/118605275/issue) and "**NOW**" the Chronic Wound Prevention Guidelines (http://www3.interscience.wiley.com/journal/119413535/issue). The guidelines represent the culmination of several years of effort by a large collaborative group assembled and led by the WHS through a grant from the Wound Healing Foundation. Open access is provided through the cooperation of the WHS and Wound Repair and Regeneration.

A pocket-sized abridged version of the Wound Care Guidelines has been created with the support of the 3M Company for easy access in the clinic. If you wish to receive copies of these pamphlets for yourself and to share with colleagues, trainees and staff, send an email to: member@woundheal.org with the quantity needed, name, company, complete address and phone number and in what manner you will be using the guidelines and we will send them to you free of charge.

And stay tuned for the Acute Wound Guidelines, which completes the set, coming out in the November-December 2008 issue of WRR. (NOTE: These 3 sets of Guidelines will be updated on an ongoing basis by a committee chaired by Dr. Marty Robson, so if you have any comments or additions regarding information in the Guidelines, please send these to him directly or through the WHS office.)

WHS Elects New Board Members and Officers

In spring 2008, the WHS membership elected three new members of the Board of Directors and a Vice President-Elect. New Board members include Laura L Bolton, Ph.D., Adj. Assoc. Professor, Surgery (Bioengineering), UMDNJ, Lillian B. Nanney, PhD, Professor of Plastic Surgery, Vanderbilt School of Medicine, and Alan Wells, M.D., DMSc (2008-2011) Professor of...
Pathology & Vice-Chair for Laboratory Medicine, University of Pittsburgh. The Vice-President Elect is Luisa Ann DiPietro, DDS, PhD, Professor and Director, Center for Wound Healing and Tissue Regeneration, U Illinois at Chicago.

We also officially thanked our outgoing Board members for their service: Robert Warriner, MD, Diversified Clinical Services, and Kris Kieswetter, PhD, Kenetic Concepts, Inc.

A complete roster of the current WHS officers and board members can be found at: http://www.woundheal.org/organization/bod.html

Should you have any news or notes you would like us to include in future bulletins, please email them to Luisa DiPietro at ldipiet@uic.edu or Phil Pyster at phil@crowsegal.com

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