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President’s Message

By Andrew Baird, PhD, University of California San Diego

In my note to WHS members last spring (if you missed it, you can find it on the website at www.woundheal.org), I mentioned my propensity to use my Saturday mornings to reflect on the experiments of the previous week and then plan for a week of new ones. But I was called-out on it. In reality, most of the time is spent on a plan to repeat the experiments that didn’t work. That’s research. It is true however that just before heading home, I’ll open my eRA account at NIH.gov and read the latest (negative) review. That seems to characterize my funding track record lately. In a state of despair, I’ll shut down my computer, head to the beach and think of Howard Aiken’s quote (as reported in the 1987 Portraits in Silicon book by Robert Slater) “Don’t worry about people stealing an idea. If it’s original, you will have to ram it down their throats.” So it is with funding, evidently. It might be rationalization but by dinner, all will be well.

This Saturday however, I get to reflect on the WHS and expand on the networking role that it plays for its members: for mentorship, awards, research grants, scientific support and in fostering invaluable friendships. So it sounds like a bit like a cliché, but any society is only as strong as the extent to which its members are willing to participate. So this Saturday’s ruminations are about how each of you can get involved in WHS initiatives. If something strikes your fancy, reach out to your colleague(s) below. If there is something completely new you think that we should be doing, then reach out to your Executive Committee (WHSpresident@FASEB.org) or our management group (lhetherington@faseb.org) at FASEB.

So here goes. If you are interested in scientific communications, contact Brian Eliceiri in the Publications committee (beliceiri@ucsd.edu) and help us improve the way our members can publish their research. Maybe you see the need for the WHS to start a new journal (why not? A new one seems to pop up every week) or maybe you see a new way to create a scientific presence in the community (Twitter anyone?). It’s your call, sign up. Look at what the cancer research community is doing in consolidating research, should we be doing the same? (More on that later…)

If you feel that you are more drawn by a desire to help communication amongst WHS members, then maybe you could join the WHS newsletter team? Contact Manuela Martins-Green (manuela.martins@ucr.edu). She is always looking for help in identifying member activities, highlighting accomplishments and bringing new funding opportunities to everyone’s attention. Don’t be shy, if you have an accomplishment, let your peers know. It can be a research grant or an award, or maybe you were named most popular professor in the department, or maybe you just made tenure. If you’ve got it, flaunt it. We can put it in a “Member in the News” section. Don’t be shy, be proud.

Some of our members are extraordinarily committed to Education and Outreach. This is an area that is very close to the heart of your Past-President Lisa Gould (woundpastpres@gmail.com) in particular, so drop her a line. It’s also a great way to help unify our field. One of the “education” initiatives that we have just started is to reach out to our elected officials and make them aware of what we do. Sashwati Roy (Sashwati.Roy@osumc.edu) is leading this new effort to get us to Washington to meet with our elected representatives, go to the NIH and help our program officers understand that, we are cardiovascular disease, we are diabetes, we are trauma, we are cancer, we are child health and development, we are alcohol and substance abuse, we are health disparities research, we are nursing research and yes, we are also alternative and lifestyle medicine. But when it comes to funding, why are we often no one??? Contact Sashwati, call your congress-person or better yet, join her team in Washington.
Right now your thinking “OK, but all this costs money”. That's for sure and what we want is you and your volunteer time. The WHS wants to cover the out-of-pocket expenses of members for activities on its behalf and to move the field forward. For that we need philanthropy. No one likes to ask donors for money, but the WHS certainly can do it for you, either directly or through the Foundation. If you are one of our clinical-scientist members in particular, you often interact with industry representatives and patients who truly know the scope of the wound healing clinical problem. Often, they want to help, but don’t know how. Supporting the outreach, education and research activities of the WHS is a great way for the public and private sectors to help the field. Think for example of the research awards, travel grants, research grants, young investigator awards and education grants/awards that we give out every year. Can you help us increase our influence? Contact Braham Shroot (braham.shroot@gmail.com) who is coordinating our philanthropy efforts, get them to join in our newest category of membership as corporate members by having them contacting our Executive Director (latherington@faseb.org) or join us on the Awards committee to help invest these funds in the future of our field.

Finally, let me tell you about WHS Regional Meetings. Two task forces initiated by Lisa Gould last year, and led by Paul Lui (paulyliu@cox.net) and Marjana Tomic-Canic (MTCanic@med.miami.edu) respectively, have been exploring ways to increase scientific communication amongst our members. If you are interested, respond to our call for proposals to host an annual meeting by contacting FASEB (whspresident@faseb.org) or think about pulling together a local-regional scientific meeting with support from the WHS (whspresident@faseb.org). It can be small or large, but make it local and collaborative. Oh yeah, and why not advertise it on our website and in our newsletter? When its done, send us pictures!

As we look towards 2016, the future seems bright and exciting for our field. With increased membership involvement, the WHS can accomplish many of the things that were but a dream at its inception over 25 years ago. If we look at the successes of other fields in education, outreach and research, it is clear that they managed to mobilize their professionals, patients and researchers as a community. Members of the WHS are in a unique position to catalyze a similar unification of diverse and disparate groups of scientists, educators, clinicians and health care providers. The first step is engagement and involvement, so join the WHS interest group closest to your heart.

Andrew Baird, PhD
President, Wound Healing Society

Join the Wound Healing Society

Our mission: To improve wound healing outcomes through science, professional education, and communication by:

• Leading multi-disciplinary research in wound science and outcomes.
• Linking scientists and clinicians to advance wound healing research.
• Translating discovery into evidence based clinical outcomes.
• Communicating through mentoring, education, publications, and global networking.
Letter from the Editor

By Manuela Martins-Green, PhD, University of CA Riverside

The newsletter is back! After a two-year pause, we will begin to put out our newsletter three times a year – Summer, Fall and Spring. In the Summer issue, we will feature key events of the Spring Meeting. In the Fall issue, we will emphasize the program for the next Spring Meeting and we’ll elaborate on abstract submission and registration. We will also focus on non-WHS honors received by our members, so please be attuned to the request when it goes out to the membership. In the Spring issue, we will concentrate on the upcoming meeting, emphasizing key sessions, speakers and events. Please feel free to write me about suggestions for the content of the newsletter, in particular for the sections “What you might want to know” and members you would like to see profiled manuela.martins@ucr.edu.

I also want to take this opportunity to address two important issues that I would like to bring to your attention: 1. **We must continue to build our membership.** Yes, we do have a membership committee that is very active making great efforts to recruit and retain new members, but it is incumbent upon all of us to recruit colleagues, students and post-docs to the Society. 2. Just as important, if not more important, is the **lack of adequate funding for wound healing research.** This discourages new junior investigators to embark in the field and affects the morale of those already committed to wound healing research. Recently, some of us have shown that the funding allocated by NIH to cutaneous wound healing in 2012 was 0.1% of the National Institutes of Health budget (Richmond et al., WRR, 2013). A similar situation occurs with budgets from other sources of Federal funding (Nole et al., WRR, 2014). Therefore, it is critical that you raise your voices with your Congressman, Senators and federal funding institutions to increase allocations to wound-healing research. On that note, NIH is seeking input on research priorities and planning so please take some time to send them your ideas and suggestions.

I look forward to working with all of you to increase the visibility of our society and our field.

Thank you in advance for your help and commitment, Manuela

Meet Your WHS Executive Director

By Lisa Hetherington

For those of you who do not yet know me, my name is Lisa Hetherington and I’ve had the pleasure of serving as your Executive Director since 2013. I joined Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology (FASEB) in 2007 and have been responsible for implementing activities for multiple client societies.

It’s been almost two years since the Wound Healing Society has retained FASEB to provide full service association management services and moved its business offices from Florida to Bethesda, Maryland, but it feels like just yesterday. FASEB services include administrative services (including me!), financial services (accounting and bookkeeping), membership services (dues renewals and general customer service support) and information technology support (website hosting and email support).

I’ve enjoyed working through the transition of onboarding the Society to FASEB, learning about the relationships with SAWC through attendance of the last two annual meetings, and meeting all of the members and active volunteers of the Wound Healing Society. I’m excited to be a part of such an engaged group of people and look forward to supporting the future goals of the Society. I can’t wait to see what the future holds for you and the Wound Healing Society!

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FASEB has been providing association management services to societies and organizations within the scientific and academic community for more than 60 years. For more information about FASEB’s association management services, visit [www.faseb.org/ams](http://www.faseb.org/ams).

Contact Lisa!
And What You Might Want to Know

By Lisa J. Gould, MD, PhD, FACS

The transition into the position of Past-President is usually accompanied by the question of what was accomplished during your tenure as President. In this case, I was not the one to ask that question because I was already planning for the year ahead. However, it is a good time to reflect upon what was done, where we are going and how we get that done.

I began my Presidency with the goal of collaboration and breaking down silos. That meant increased collaboration within the organization and reaching out to other organizations to work on projects that will bring better outcomes and visibility for our patients with wounds. As a cheerleader on the sidelines, I witnessed the group effort of the WHS committees, the life-blood of our organization. As an example, those who attended the annual meeting saw the outcome of the Program Committee’s year-long collaborative efforts. This committee worked tirelessly to develop a strong program with the best speakers, collaborating with the Foundation, our international colleagues, AAWC, and the management of the SAWC meeting to ensure that WHS was appropriately represented and had the tools needed for a spectacular program. The Program Committee and especially the co-chairs Traci Wilgus and Sundeep Keswani deserve the credit for one of our most successful meetings. As President, I was merely a catalyst and advisor, to spur on this intra- and inter-organizational collaboration.

I believe that it is critical to reduce fragmentation in the wound care field and speak with one voice. Despite our ‘co-presence’ at the annual meeting, we have not previously developed a strategic alliance with AAWC. Thus, I began several collaborations with this large, clinically active organization. These projects are ongoing and include a major undertaking to consolidate and ‘harmonize’ the various wound healing guidelines into one cohesive document that will provide clinically useful evidence-based practice guidelines. This is now a global collaboration – in addition to the North American societies, our colleagues in Europe, Japan and Australia are also participating. Your immediate past-president, Paul Liu, took the lead on this and worked with the AAWC guidelines committee to ensure that the WHS guidelines are well represented. The venous ulcer guideline document is currently undergoing content validation and the pressure ulcer guidelines will not be far behind. The second collaboration is between AAWC, WHS and the FDA to re-examine the clinical endpoints in wound healing, dubbed “Wound-Care Experts/FDA – Clinical End-points Project (WEF-CEP)”. The Guidance for Industry regarding developing products for chronic cutaneous ulcers and burns, drafted in 2006, defines complete wound closure as “complete reepithelization without drainage or dressing requirements confirmed at two consecutive study visits 2 weeks apart.” The Guidance further advises: “trial subjects generally should remain in the study for follow-up evaluation at least 3 months following complete wound closure.” Those who have helped design or enroll patients in clinical trials know that this definition has been a major factor affecting the conduct and outcomes of chronic wound clinical trials. We have completed an on-line survey of critical stakeholders and have met with the FDA in person to discuss revising this document to incorporate new clinical endpoints that are meaningful to our profession and to our patients. There is much more to do and I will continue to represent WHS in this very important project.

I have previously summarized the WHS strategic planning meeting, held in November 2014. The energetic work of three highly directed task forces shaped that meeting and much that has happened since. As many of you know, Jeff Davidson is our new Editor in Chief for our signature journal, Wound Repair and Regeneration. The Publications Task Force was instrumental in conducting the search and crafting a vision for modernization that will capitalize upon the high quality demanded by our former Editor in Chief, Pat Hebda. The work of two other task forces continues as we strive to improve our annual meeting and develop new programs that provide member benefit and put WHS firmly in the center of the wound-healing universe.

Thus, you can see that the one-year term of WHS President is not long enough for ‘accomplishments’. That is why we have an Executive Committee, consisting of Secretary, Treasurer, Vice President, President-Elect, President and Past-President. This leadership structure provides several years of continuity and serves as the ‘institutional memory’ for the Board of Directors. As I look back over the activities...
of the past year and my role in WHS prior to becoming President, I believe that my major accomplishment has been to fully utilize this Executive Committee for their wisdom, insight and judgment. We have great discussions, rarely agree and yet are able to arrive at policies and projects that keep the organization on track with our mission statement. As Past President, I will continue to break down silos and expand upon WHS collaborations using our guiding principles of Leading, Linking, Translating and Communicating.

Sincerely,

Lisa J. Gould, MD, PhD, FACS
woundpastpres@gmail.com

Blast from the Past: 1999 Annual Meeting

Harriet W. Hopf, MD

Tom Mustoe was President of the Wound Healing Society in 1999, a year that included two official WHS meetings: a joint annual meeting with the European Tissue Repair Society in Bordeaux, France August 24-28 and a joint educational symposium with the Wound Ostomy and Continence Nurses Society held in Minneapolis June 19-23.

Although I was unable to attend in person I have been told the ETRS – WHS joint meeting in Bordeaux was a scientific and social success. Abstracts were divided into three categories: Clinical Studies and Wound Management Considerations, Analysis of Human Wound Tissues and Fluids, and Laboratory Studies. The meeting was clearly international, with contributions from Europe, North America, Australia, and Asia. WHS was well-represented and familiar themes and names emerged. Assessment of wound perfusion, healing in aging, living skin equivalents, negative pressure, electrical stimulation, and assessment of various dressings were prominent in the Clinical category. Marty Robson and his team had an abstract on using healing trajectory to determine treatment efficacy. My group presented evidence that warming venous ulcers increases perfusion and data on the relationship between arterial oxygen and blood flow in a pig flap model. The Analysis and Laboratory categories included numerous growth factor, cytokine, protease, cell, and hyaluronic acid studies, with increasing sophistication in the molecular analysis. Bob Diegelmann presented data on the presence of excessive neutrophils and highly active fibroblasts in non-healing pressure ulcers, IL-8 regulation in fetal fibroblasts. Annette Wysocki defined protease inhibitor profiles in acute wound fluid. Tom Hunt’s lab presented data on age-related decreases in IGF levels in wound fluid, stimulation of VEGF by oxidants, and stimulation of collagen deposition by lactate. Adrian Barbul’s group evaluated wound healing in iNOS knockout mice and the effect of L-arginine on diabetic wound healing. Elof Eriksson evaluated reversible regulation of growth promoting gene expression. Boris Hinz presented data on modulation of fibroblast motility by alpha-SM actin. Ken Liechty presented the effect of overexpression of PDGF-B on impaired wound healing and a collagen-alginate based gene therapy delivery system. Susan Opale- nik and Jeff Davidson evaluated CD34 and FLK-1 antigen expression by different cell populations. Louisa DiPietro had an abstract on delayed angiogenesis in aged mice.

The joint WHS – WOCN meeting in Minneapolis was organized as an educational symposium, in order to reduce overlap with the joint ETRS – WHS meeting two months later. A highlight of the conference was the presentation of recommendations by the WOCN and WHS Consensus Panels For Wound Care. These panels were convened by the Past Presidents of the WOCN and WHS (Richard A.F. Clark) “to develop a recommendation for appropriate state of the art wound care in the control arm of wound care clinical trials that addresses arterial ulcer, venous ulcers, pressure ulcers and diabetic ulcers.” I remember this meeting as the beginning of my active engagement in the governance of WHS. After badgering Richard Clark to add an arterial ulcer panel to the Consensus Panel, I was called on to Co-Chair the panel with Phyllis Bonham from WOCN. Sharing the podium at the panel was a challenge: Phyllis required a step to be able to see over the podium, while it was hard to make the microphone tall enough for me. At the meeting, I was recruited to the Education and Government Relations Committees. The lesson: speak up, identify solutions, and take part!
Meet Our New Board Members

**Robert D. Galiano, MD**
Rob Galiano is a native of Quito, Ecuador, and grew up in Chicago. He first joined the Wound Healing Society as a medical student when he worked in Tom Mustoe’s laboratory at Northwestern University. Following medical school, he did his combined plastic surgery/general surgery residency at NYU Medical Center under the chairmanship of Dr. Joseph McCarthy. He did a 3-year postdoctoral fellowship in the lab of Dr. Geoff Gurtner, where he worked on the impact that diabetes has on hypoxia-induced signaling pathways, and where he also developed the mouse splinted wound model. He returned to Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine in 2006, and has been at Northwestern since that time. He currently is an Associate Professor and Director of Research in the Division of Plastic Surgery. The majority of his clinical practice is dedicated to the care of patients with complex wounds. A dedicated surgeon-scientist, he directs the Laboratory for Tissue Repair and Regenerative Surgery, and his work centers on models of biofilm, scarring, diabetic healing and in-vivo tissue engineering with the use of implantable bioreactors. Along with co-Directors Tom Mustoe and Jay Hong, the lab participates in the AFIRM II Consortium and has 2 projects funded by this DOD-run group. He also runs a productive Clinical Trials Unit, and has participated in more than 20 industry-sponsored clinical trials in areas of wound healing, scarring and plastic surgery. He also has initiated several outcome-based studies examining economic impact of wound healing technologies as well as disparities in wound care. He is on the editorial boards of the journals Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery, the Journal of Surgical Research, and Ostomy and Wound Management, and is a frequent ad-hoc reviewer of other wound healing journals. He has published nearly 100 articles, reviews and book chapters and edited the textbook Current Therapy in Plastic Surgery. He has been the recipient of approximately $6 million in research funding in wound healing, tissue engineering and scarring projects, and has mentored approximately 30 students, residents and postdoctoral fellows in the field of wound healing. He currently serves on the Program Committee of WHS as well as multiple committees in other societies. He hopes to “give back” to WHS with his service. His goal is to leverage his passion for wound healing and utilize collaborations with industry, academia, and government colleagues in order to enhance the role that the Society has on both fundamental research in tissue repair as well as translational and educational initiatives that derive from our collective expertise.

**Harriet W. Hopf, MD**
Statement of Interest: I have been a member of the Wound Healing Society since 1991. I served on the Board of Directors from 2001-4, as Secretary from 2006-10, and in the presidential succession from 2009-2013, including as President from 2011-12. I currently serve on the Website Committee and on the Editorial Board of Wound Repair and Regeneration. As a member of the BOD, I would work to advance the mission of the WHS. I would be honored to serve.

Brief Bio: Harriet W. Hopf, MD is Professor and Vice Chair for Faculty Development in the Department of Anesthesiology; Adjunct Professor of Bioengineering; and Associate Dean for Academic Affairs in the School of Medicine at the University of Utah. After receiving her BA from Yale and her MD from Dartmouth Medical School, she completed surgical internship at the University of Minnesota, anesthesia residency at UCSF, and research fellowships with TK Hunt in the Wound Healing Laboratory at UCSF. Her research focuses on preventing surgical site infections, improving research training in anesthesiology, and developing promotion and tenure policies that align with institutional mission and value.

**Sundeep G. Keswani, M.D., FACS, FAAP**
Thank you for considering me for a position on the WHS Board of Directors. I am a practicing pediatric surgeon and director of our Pediatric Wound Care Center and also have an NIH funded lab that explores the underlying mechanisms of regenerative tissue repair. I have been actively involved with the WHS since 2002. I have served on the website committee, the annual task force committee, have chaired the membership committee, and am currently the co-chair for this year’s annual meeting program in San Antonio. I am a past recipient of the WHS Young Investigator Award and the WHS Foundation’s 3M Fellowship. I am highly committed to the Wound Healing Society and vested in helping the society maintain and expand its role as the leading scientific group in the field of wound healing.
Katherine Amanda Radek, PhD

Research Focus: Cholinergic Regulation of Wound Healing and Infection

WHS History and Service: Katherine Radek has been a member of the WHS since 2005. She received her PhD from the laboratory of Luisa DiPietro, and completed her post-doctoral fellowship with Dr. Richard Gallo. She joined the Burn and Shock Trauma Research Institute at Loyola University Chicago in 2009 as a tenure-track Assistant Professor in the Department of Surgery, and was recently promoted to Associate Professor with tenure. She received the 3M WHSF Fellowship Award in 2012 for her research project entitled “Impairment of Epidermal Wound Healing Responses by the Cholinergic Anti-inflammatory Pathway”. Dr. Radek has also served on the WHS Program Committee since 2013 and has served as Chair of the WHS Website Committee since 2013. Over the past year, she and the rest of the WHS Website Committee members have been diligently working to make the WHS website more informative and easy to navigate, to improve website design and content, and to prioritize a list of preferred functionality enhancements. The WHS website is a continuous and influential entity in the wound care field that globally represents the Society. As a BOD member, I hope to better serve the wound healing community by identifying new research and fundraising opportunities for the WHS, increasing membership, and assisting with the legal and financial responsibilities of the WHS.

Current Research and Honors: Research in the Radek lab is designed to tease apart the epidermal α7 acetylcholine nicotinic receptor (nAChR) cholinergic microenvironment and elucidate how keratinocyte α7 nAChR activation influences Toll-like receptor 2-mediated inflammatory responses and antimicrobial peptides after skin injury and infection. A better fundamental understanding of how keratinocyte nAChRs regulate inflammatory responses during wound infection will expedite the development of new targeted treatment modalities to improve clinical care for uncontrolled inflammation and infection in chronic wound patients. Dr. Radek was the 2012 recipient of the Presidential Early Career Award for Scientists and Engineers (PECASE) via the NIH and United States Department of Health and Human Services for her work on cholinergic regulation of cutaneous antimicrobial peptide responses in relation to inflammatory skin diseases, and the 2014 recipient of the Loyola Junior Scientist of the Year Award.
The Wound Healing Society Foundation (WHSF) is a non-profit organization dedicated to improving wound healing world-wide through funding research and education and raising awareness. WHS members can benefit from WHSF funded lectures, grants and scholarships. The WHSF will give out over $51,000 in grants and scholarships during 2015. Checking the WHSF website and Facebook page is the best way to stay up to date on new funding opportunities and requirements.

The Board recognizes the importance of furthering research in the area of wound healing by assisting and facilitating top researchers’ presentation and scientific discussion of new discoveries. The Foundation raises public awareness, understanding and funds to support research for wound healing problems in alliance with the Wound Healing Society. Thank you to all of you who have made a difference in people’s lives by donating funds. Please join us to improve wound healing research and education by going to our donation page to make a donation today. For as little as $10, you can help increase the number of travel scholarships that are awarded. In less than 5 minutes, you can sign up at Goodsearch, select the WHSF as your cause to support and begin Internet searching and shopping while donating advertising dollars to the WHSF scholarship fund.

The WHSF Programs during the first six months of 2015 have been noteworthy in success by providing significant support to patients, scientists and health care professionals looking to improve their performance in healing wounds. Here are a few selected examples of our success.

WHSF-Sponsored Lectures

WHSF-Thomas K. Hunt Endowed Lecture- The WHSF board selected Leroy Hood, M.D., Ph.D. from the Institute for Systems Biology as the 2015 Honorary WHSF-Hunt Lecturer. Dr. Hood is a pioneer in the systems approach to biology and medicine and his research on transforming healthcare, has focused on the study of molecular immunology, biotechnology and genomics. At the WHS meeting in San Antonio, he gave a stimulating talk about wellness, disease and the use of systems biology in personalized medicine. A lively and thought provoking question and answer period gave insights into the pros and cons of such approaches in medicine and wound care. Afterwards, Dr. Hood and several WHSF Fellows discussed wound healing research over lunch making the day a special networking opportunity. Dr. Hood was honored with a plaque and honorarium from WHSF.

WHSF-3M Fellowship Lecture- 2014 WHSF-3M Fellow Peter M. Abadir, M.D. from Johns Hopkins University, School of Medicine presented his WHSF-3M Fellowship research results on the impact on angiotensin systems in diabetic wound healing. The session was co-moderated by 2012 Fellow Katherine Radek. Dr. Abadir gave an overview of the angiotensin system followed by his hypothesis and research results. Given the tight regulation of the angiotensin system and the key role it plays in multiple organ systems, it was interesting to see how angiotensin and inflammation affected healing. Dr. Abadir also introduced the audience to a new term called “inflamm-aging” or the aging affects caused by aging. Next year Dr Abadir will co-moderate the session.

WHSF-Award Recipients

WHSF-3M Fellowship Program- The Foundation annually presents the 3M Fellow Award to an outstanding young scientist so he/she can become an independent investigator based on merit of the proposal. This year, Ivan Jozic from the University of Miami received a plaque and a Fellowship award of $15,000 for his proposal entitled “Novel mechanism for regulation of cutaneous wound healing by..."
2015 WHSF Travel Scholarship Recipients- Travel scholarships based on scientific merit were awarded to 3 U.S. and 1 International recipients attending the WHS meeting in San Antonio.

- **Swathi Balaji, Ph.D. and Vivekananda Sunkari, Ph.D.** Sponsor: Paul L. Bollyky, M.D., D.Phil. Cincinnati Children’s Hospital; “Regulatory T-cells potentiate wound repair and augment diabetic wound healing”.
- **Shomita Mathew-Steiner, Ph.D.** Sponsor: Chandan K. Sen, Ph.D. Ohio State University; “Wound healing in the Ossabaw model of obesity and pre-metabolic syndrome.”
- **Sina Nassiri, Ph.D.** Sponsor: Kara L. Spiller, Ph.D., Drexel University; “A macrophage phenotype-related expression ratio predicts healing outcome in human chronic diabetic foot ulcers: a preliminary study.”
- **Gary Sidwick, Ph.D.** Sponsor: Ardeshir Bayat, Ph.D., University of Manchester; “Comparative analysis of proteomic and whole genome microarray datasets in both keloid and normal skin tissue and fibroblasts.”

Current WHSF Grant Opportunities

**WHSF Wound Care Economics Research Grant**- The Wound Healing Society Foundation, through the support of Cardinal Health, is pleased to announce the creation of a new, one time grant, the WHSF Wound Care Economics Research Grant for the year 2015. This $15,000 research grant will be given to a successful applicant to evaluate and review the current health economics in wound care.

**WHSF Chitosan in Wound Healing Research Grant**- The Wound Healing Society Foundation, through the support of Medline Industries, is pleased to announce the creation of a new grant, the WHSF Chitosan in Wound Healing Research Grant for the year 2015. This one-year $10,000 research grant is to stimulate research about chitosan in wound healing. Study proposals may include in vitro, in vivo, and/or clinical based studies. Interested candidates meeting the grant requirements should submit their proposals by August 15, 2015.

**WHSF Clinical Wound Healing Research Grant**- A new clinical grant, the WHSF Clinical Wound Healing Research Grant, was created through the support of the Wound Reach Foundation. This one-year $5,000-10,000 grant is to stimulate clinical research in wound healing. Only clinical research studies will be considered. Preference will be given to proposals that focus on evidence gaps as identified in the WHS clinical wound care guidelines. Interested candidates meeting the grant requirements should submit their proposals by September 13, 2015.

**WHSF 3M Fellowship**- This 17th fellowship award is given as a gift to the institution accepting responsibility for the research environment of the successful applicant. The purpose of this one year, $15,000 Fellowship is to stimulate scientific research and career development of young investigators or junior faculty who are pursuing a career in wound healing research. The funds must be expended solely for the purpose of the sponsored research. Interested candidates meeting the fellowship requirements should plan to submit their proposals in November, 2015.

For more information on awards, contact H. Paul Ehrlich, chair of the WHSF Award Committee, at h.paul.ehrlich@gmail.com

Outreach Program

**Wounded Warrior Athlete Initiative**- Learn More WHSF was a proud sponsor and provided approximately 300 Warrior Care kits for athletes participating in the Defense Department’s *Warrior Games* in June at Marine Corps Base Quantico, Virginia to active and veteran U.S. service members from Special Ops, Navy/Coast Guard, Marines, Army, Air Force and the British Armed Forces team. These kits include hand sanitizer, sunscreens, moisturizer, wound gel, skin protectant, silver antimicrobial and antifungal as well as wound dressings and a hand mirror in a lightweight backpack. The WHSF logo was seen on banners throughout the games and brochures were distributed to athletes and families.

**Nepal Earthquake Relief**- WHSF raised funds for a monetary contribution for Nepal earthquake relief efforts specific for surgical and wound needs while at the meeting in San Antonio.

Pat Parks from 3M, Peter Abadir, WHSF President Laura K. S. Parnell and Katherine Radek
WHS Profile: Chandan K. Sen
By Gayle Gordillo, MD and Sashwati Roy, PhD

Chandan Sen is a well-known name in the area of wound healing research. If you have not met him yet, you soon will! He has been actively associated with WHS for over a decade serving in multiple committees and also on the Board of Directors. He currently serves as the Chief Editor for Advances in Wound Care, a WHS Journal. Chandan’s life in wound healing research began with him being recruited to participate as project PI for a trauma center P50 grant that Dr. Thomas K. Hunt, co-founder and first president of the Wound Healing Society (WHS), was submitting for renewal. After this grant was funded in 1999, Chandan started his search for the next step in his career path with a vision to integrate basic sciences research with wound care outcomes. In other words he was looking to relocate from the basic sciences hub that Berkeley is, to a health sciences campus. This resulted in his being recruited to The Ohio State University (OSU) in 2000 as an Assistant Professor by Dr. Pascal Goldschmidt, then newly appointed Director of the Heart and Lung Research Institute. Chandan quickly rose through the ranks. In 2001 he was appointed the first Vice-chair for Research in the Department of Surgery under the leadership of Chair and noted general surgeon, Prof. E. Christopher Ellison. Two years later, Chandan was tenured and promoted to Associate Professor. The very next year, in 2004, his extraordinary contributions to Ohio State were recognized by promotion to full Professorship, at the age of 38. In 2005, he led an interdisciplinary team (including both of us) to establish the OSU Comprehensive Wound Center. This was approved by the Board of Trustees of the University with the vision to fuse clinical care with patient-based knowledge creation/dissemination. In 2008, Chandan was appointed as Associate Dean of the College of Medicine at Ohio State. He continues as Associate Dean today. In 2012, Chandan founded the university’s Center for Regenerative Medicine and Cell-Based Therapies with support from seven health sciences Deans (including Engineering). This Center, which he directs, has over 150 faculties at present. Earlier this year, the university Board of Trustees awarded to Chandan the John H and Mildred C Lumley Chair for Medical Research, one of the largest endowments at the Wexner Medical Center.

Chandan has always believed in the need for translating research from the bench to the bedside (and back) and keeping true to this belief, he initiated the translational to clinical (T2C) regenerative medicine wound care conference at OSU, which brings together national leaders in these fields to share in research initiatives and stimulate productive collaborations. Started in 2002, the ninth T2C will be held in March 17-19, 2016 with focus on DoD and VA related interests. Ever the mentor, this also provides a learning opportunity for young scientists-in-training. In January 2015, the first ever OSU-India health innovations conference (H3C) brought together scientists from 9 countries to discuss various topics related to health care, commerce and careers. This event, a brainchild of Chandan, was hosted at the historical Taj Mahal Palace Hotel in Mumbai India and attended by over 300 delegates and felicitated by India’s Union Health Minister as well as the US Consul General of India. Dr. Drake, President of Ohio State, opened the meeting and developed several strategic partnerships with Indian academic institutions.

Chandan lives his life always striving to stand apart, to fight the tide, to test the limits of his capacity. He will always be the square peg that just does not care to fit into the round hole expected of him! Never one to shy away from challenges, you will always find him striving to elevate the bars of scientific excellence. His scientific work has been cited over 20,000 times and over 10,000 times in the last 5 years alone (H-index 75). He has been the recipient of numerous awards, among which a few that deserve particular mention include the prestigious Sci-
The Wound Healing Society Volume 6 Issue 1

Chandan Sen’s life began in 1966, in Kolkata, India. Through his career path to the United States, he received training in Asia, Europe and North America! While pursuing his graduate degree in Finland which was awarded to him in July 1994, he created opportunities to work with scientists at top Universities in Sweden, Denmark and Japan (Osaka) for training in thiol redox biochemistry. As a graduate student, he was already laying the foundations for his future scientific career and working towards a focused goal. Following the receipt of his PhD, Chandan moved to the University of California, Berkeley for a postdoctoral fellowship in the Department of Molecular and Cellular Biology, during which time his natural enterprise and scientific acumen resulted in the launching of the journal – Antioxidant Redox Signaling – which is the top journal in its field today with an impact factor of 7.4. When he learned that there wasn’t enough money for the Awards Committee in WHS, he signed a book contract that brought $5000 to the Society each year. WHS members and leaders supported the cause and it evolved into what is now known as a WHS journal – Advances in Wound Care (AWC). Proceeds from AWC support multiple mission areas of WHS including awards.

When he is not relentlessly striving for scientific excellence and motivating scientific collaborations at conferences, you will find Chandan heading out in his RV for camping trips. His love for nature and wildlife motivate his frequent trips to the Ludington coast of Lake Michigan – for king salmon fishing in August. He hosts numerous gatherings in the summer for his lab family and encourages team building exercises over white-water rafting, camping and fishing trips to local places. At home, he is always ready to dig a hole and build something new! If he is in town, there is not a weekend when his lab folks are not in his home playing table tennis, congregating on one of his multiple backyard decks nested in dense foliage, discussing science and sharing a meal or two. He calls his backyard meeting location “the wild-type”. He has a passion for photography and an eye for detail that reflects in some of the art that decorates the walls of his Upper Arlington home.

Submit to Advances in Wound Care
Submit to Wound Repair and Regeneration
The Wound Healing Society Volume 6 Issue 1

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13

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WRR Editorial
By Jeff Davidson, PhD, Editor-in-Chief

The WRR journal has had a distinguished lineage of editorial leadership for the past 23 years, and it has served the tissue repair and regeneration communities very well. With the departure of Pat Hebda at the end of June after 9 years of continual improvement in the quality, impact, and design of Wound Repair and Regeneration, the WHS selected me from a list of highly-qualified candidates to take on the responsibility of guiding WRR forward for the next several years as editor-in-chief. Having served in more junior editorial capacities at WRR and other journals, this seemed to be an appropriate progression of my scientific career: to concentrate on the promotion of the science of tissue repair and regeneration through peer-reviewed publication. This position is certainly an honor and a challenge.

WRR is currently in a good position as a biomedical publication, with a sustained impact factor of 2.7, a turn-around time that has fallen to ~40 days, the rapid release of un-edited manuscripts following acceptance via PubMed, the subsequent replacement of those articles with typeset proofs (Early View), and the assembly of published issues. We now have a sufficient backlog of accepted articles to proceed rapidly to the production of issue 5 for 2015. This progress is due to the effort of the entire editorial and our publishing staff. However, we continue to rank behind related biomedical journals, and the ranking of many of these publications has continued as authors have placed more value on citation index than society affiliation. Hence, the principal task of our new editorial team will be to elevate the quality, novelty, and depth of scientific results that we accept, with the goal of publishing original and perspective articles that are most likely to receive recognition through citation.

The editorial structure will be similar to the existing status; however, Alan Wells will now serve as Deputy Editor to assure uninterrupted, supervisory editorial continuity throughout the year. The primary responsibility for reviewer selection and manuscript evaluation will fall upon the Deputy Editor and the expanded cadre of Senior Editors (Bernard Coulomb, Adrian Barbul, David Greenhalgh, Sabine Eming, Boris Hinz, Finn Grottrup and JoAnne Whitney), each of whom has outstanding qualifications in clinical and/or basic research. This is a terrific group of talented scientists with proven editorial acumen. Our Associate Editors will continue to represent each of the affiliated scientific societies: ETRS, AWMA, and JWHS. The Editorial Board will be more gradually restructured to remain representative of the top scientific expertise in our fields. This academic team is strongly supported at Wiley by our Assistant Managing Editor, Rachel Yehl, and Production Editor, Wendy Druck.

The main changes you can expect to see in editorial management relate to our primary goal of increased scientific impact: (1) rigorous, comprehensive investigation of basic cellular and biochemical mechanisms and (2) well-controlled clinical studies, that together can affect and guide advances in repair and regeneration. Of course, it is incumbent upon you as investigators and authors who want the biomedical community to recognize WRR as the best source for the latest and most important advances in tissue repair. Authors that present at national and international meetings of WHS/ETRS/AWMA/JWHS should always consider WRR as the primary venue for reporting their work. Few other publications make the commitment to providing a coherent presentation of high-quality, state-of-the-art research findings in our discipline.

I strongly encourage all readers and authors to provide us with feedback on the editorial process. This publication is the flagship of Wound Healing Society, and I will serve at the helm for the benefit of our mutual interests.
Website Committee Update

By Katherine A. Radek, PhD, Chair, and the Website Committee Team

As the Chair of the WHS Website Committee, I am pleased to announce the launch of the new Wound Healing Society website http://woundheal.org. Over the past 18 months, the members of the WHS Website Committee have been diligently working to make the website more informative and easy to navigate, to improve website design and content, and to prioritize a list of preferred functionality enhancements.

The Wound Healing Society website is a continuous and influential entity in the wound care field that globally represents the Society. It is critical that our website embodies and sustains the society’s overall objectives and goals. Such objectives include leading multi-disciplinary basic and translational research in wound healing and tissue regeneration, connecting scientists and clinicians to facilitate this research, and communicating to the wound healing community through education and networking.

As you peruse and utilize this revitalized website, please note several improved key features:

• Rotating banner to highlight the annual meeting, past WHS awardees, benefits of WHS membership and publications.
• Mobile friendly
• Static menu bar with direct access to submenus
• Home page icon to redirect you back to the home page from any page
• Links to social media at the bottom of the home page

Don’t forget to join the WHS or renew your WHS membership through our home page to secure the benefits of membership. The Members Only portal provides WHS members with access to:

• an online community of members and free website listing for research labs or clinics
• numerous discounts for the annual meeting registration and publication costs in our premiere journal Wound Repair and Regeneration
• access to webinars and professional development opportunities

In the coming months, the Website Committee will continue to improve website design and content, and to more efficiently highlight and disseminate pertinent information for WHS members.

WHS Education Committee

By Randall G. Cook, MD, FACS, CWSP, Chairman, Education Committee

Since the beginning of this calendar year the Education Committee has been busy exploring opportunities where the Wound Healing Society might make an impact by helping to close the knowledge gap that exists between basic science and clinical practice. For the past several years, the Committee produced a Basics of Wound Care course that was presented at SAWC annually. That course is no longer a part of the SAWC agenda, so our current plan is to re-organize content from the Basics Course and make it available to membership on the WHS website. Hopefully this will serve as a helpful resource to other instructors and clinicians.

The Committee is also exploring other opportunities in e-learning. We have been in discussions with developers of a smartphone based wound care education app, which would present wound management education in the format of a game. Presently, that project is looking for funding, so target for completion remains uncertain.

Finally, and perhaps most importantly, we are exploring opportunities to partner with other organizations to advance wound care education within other disciplines. The American Geriatric Society, as an example, has shown substantial interest in finding a source for wound care education content for presentation at their own society meetings. We feel that Wound Healing Society could and should be a valuable partner in those efforts and we will continue to seek out and develop such collaborative relationships.

We are excited about our future.
Publications Committee Update
By Brian Eliceiri, PhD

As Wound Repair and Regeneration has grown to be a leading journal for the members of the wound healing community, credit for this growth is due, in part, to the support of the Wound Healing Society as well as guidance by Dr. Pat Hebda. At the close of Dr. Hebda’s tenure as Editor-in-Chief the number of published papers has grown, with submissions and impact factor increased. We thank Dr. Hebda for her hard work and commitment to the journal. Effective this year, the leadership of the journal has transitioned to Dr. Jeff Davidson (Vanderbilt University) who has agreed to serve as the new Editor-in-Chief. In support of the overall publications activities of the WHS, leadership of the Publications Committee has transitioned from Dr. Alan Wells (University of Pittsburgh) to Dr. Brian Eliceiri (University of California San Diego) for 2015-2016. With a membership including Drs. Ardeshir Bayat, Luisa DiPietro, Elof Ericksson, Geoffrey Gurtner, and Manuela Martins-Green, the Publications Committee meets monthly to discuss issues related to the publication of Wound Repair and Regeneration, Advances in Wound Care, and the online presence of publications-related content, especially as it relates to WHS Wound Care Guidelines. We are especially excited to integrate the content of the WHS Newsletter through new distribution channels that are relevant to junior investigators in the field. The Publications Committee reports to the WHS Board of Directors and actively encourages input related to WHS Publications that can be brought to the attention of Lisa Hetherington (lhetherington@faseb.org) or Brian Eliceiri (beliceiri@ucsd.edu).

Scalpels to Stem Cells
1st Annual Wound Care Symposium
October 16–17, 2015
Providence, Rhode Island

The 1st Annual Rhode Island Hospital and Alpert Medical School Wound Care Symposium presented by a multidisciplinary center team and faculty supplemented by perspectives from nationally recognized leaders in wound care. This symposium will provide attendees who study and treat wounds across all practice settings with state-of-the-art review of clinical problems and research information.
Annual Meeting Recap

Photos available on the WHS Facebook

WHS

Henry B Gonzalez Convention Center — in San Antonio, Texas.

WHS Board of Directors

WHS Member Services - Karen Wrublik, Lisa Hetherington, and Silvy Song

The Program

Hunt Lecturer - Leroy Hood

WHS Day 1

Keynote Speaker - Mina Bissell

WHS Poster Session

Rapid Fire Poster Talks

Exhibit Hall
The Awards

Natalie Jumper, WHS 1st Place Young Investigator Award Winner

WHS Young Investigator Award Finalists, Qing Lin, Monika Vinish, Kasturi Ganesh and Joshua Vorstenbosch

SAWC Scholarship Award winner, Sue Gardner

WHS IR&D Poster Award Winner, Alla Danilkovitch

Distinguished Service Award Winner Luisa DiPietro and WHS President, Lisa Gould

WHS Young Investigator Award Winners, Natalie Jumper (1st place), Brian Wulff (not pictured), Graham Walmsley (not pictured) and Michael Hu

The Social

WHS Member Social at the Alamo

Live Music - Henry Brun Band

WHS Member Social
Business Meeting

Anita Roberts Award winner, Michael W Morris, Jr

WHS Treasurer, Braham Shroot, reporting on the financial health of WHS

Translational & Regenerative Science Award, Toloo Taghian

WHSF Travel Award Recipients, Sina Nassiri, Vivekananda Sunkari, Shomita Mathew-Steiner, Gary Sidwick (not pictured) and Swathi Balaji (not pictured)

Translational & Regenerative Science Award, Jaideep Banerjee

Jr Faculty Travel Award winner, Kara Spiller

Passing of the Gavel from Lisa Gould to Andrew Baird

WHS 2015 Program Chairs, Traci Wilgus & Sundeep Keswani

Outgoing Board of Director member, Manuela Martins-Green
Upcoming Meetings
Save the Date!

2015

September 8-11 2015 4th TERMIS World Congress, Boston, MA
www.termis.org/wc2015/

September 18-21 - Advances in Skin and Wound Care, New Orleans, LA
http://goo.gl/mPdQwy

September 26-28 - Symposium on Advanced Wound Care Fall (SAWC Fall), Las Vegas, NV
www.sawcfall.com

September 27-29 - 48th Annual Meeting of the Society for Leukocyte Biology, “Immunity in Health and Disease”, Hilton North Raleigh, NC
leukocytebiology.org

October 15-19 - Montagna Symposium on the Biology of Skin, Salishan Resort, OR
www.montagnasymposium.org/future.html

October 16-17, 2015 - 1st Annual Woundcare Symposium, Providence, RI
http://bit.ly/1gUPgiN

October 21-23 - 7th Joint Meeting of the European Tissue Repair Society and the Wound Healing Society, Copenhagen, Denmark
www.ets-r-whs2015.org

October 29-November 1 - 21st Annual CAWC Conference, Toronto, Ontario
http://cawc.net/index.php/conference/

December 10-13 - Innovations in Wound Healing, Hawks Cay, Florida Keys, FL
www.WHIinnovations.com

2016

April 13-17 - WHS Annual Meeting/SAWC Spring, Atlanta, GA
http://www.sawc.net/spring

September 25-29 - 5th Congress of World Union Wound Healing Societies, Florence, Italy
www.wuwhs2016.com

2016 WHS ANNUAL MEETING
SAWC SPRING MEETING
April 13-17, 2016
GEORGIA WORLD CONGRESS CENTER
ATLANTA, GEORGIA

The Wound Healing Society
**WHSF 2015 Donors**

*With Thanks from WHS*

**Smith & Nephew** ([http://www.smith-nephew.com](http://www.smith-nephew.com)) - Smith & Nephew Advanced Wound Management provides high quality products, medical education and services supporting initial wound bed preparation through to full wound closure, enabling better outcomes for patients and healthcare systems.

**Texas Teas** ([http://www.teasof indx.com](http://www.teasofindx.com)) - Texas Tea is a generous company in Austin, Texas that has ready to drink iced teas with each flavor being made with and highlighting a uniquely Texas product or town.

**CL Ranch** - CL Ranch is a Texas family owned farm and ranch in Fort Bend County that works the land raising cattle and growing citrus, nuts and other fruits and vegetables.

**Swiss-American Products** ([http://www.elta.net](http://www.elta.net)) - Swiss-American Products, Inc., was founded on the principle that the use of medically accepted products in daily skin care can help solve and prevent a wide range of skin and wound problems. Products include silver antimicrobial products, protease-enhanced products, a complete offering of wound care dressings, moisturizers, sun blocks and products for incontinence, wound healing, massage, psoriasis and eczema while keeping a focus on innovation and product development.

**Elta MD** ([http://eltamd.com](http://eltamd.com)) For more than 25 years, we have developed wound healing, sunscreens and skin care products that are widely used and recommended by physicians and other medical professionals in hospitals, burn centers, rehabilitation clinics, and long-term and short-term care centers. EltaMD applies that experience to create innovative products that help restore, protect and maintain healthy skin. We are committed to providing physicians and their patients innovative products that help develop and maintain great skin for life.

**3M** ([http://www.3m.com/3M/en_US/health-care-us/?WT.mc_id=www.3m.com/3M/en_US/country-us/all-products/health-care/](http://www.3m.com/3M/en_US/health-care-us/?WT.mc_id=www.3m.com/3M/en_US/country-us/all-products/health-care/)) 3M is a global innovation company that never stops inventing. Over the years, our innovations have improved daily life for hundreds of millions of people all over the world. Every day at 3M, one idea always leads to the next, igniting momentum to make progress possible around the world.

**Medline Industries** ([http://www.medline.com/home.jsp](http://www.medline.com/home.jsp)) Medline is the largest privately held manufacturer and distributor of healthcare supplies in the United States, providing more than 350,000 products that serve the entire continuum of care. Our innovative products and programs can be found in most hospitals, extended-care facilities, surgery centers, physician offices, home care dealers, home health agencies and retail outlets.

**Wound Reach Foundation** ([http://woundreach.org](http://woundreach.org)) Volunteering wound care following the 2010 Haiti earthquake, compelled Founder Barbara Bates-Jensen to try and make a difference in wound care by improving wound research, education and clinical health for patients and clinicians globally. Too little knowledge about diagnosis and treatment of wounds and not enough access to therapies, medical technologies, and wound care professionals afflict many areas of the U.S. Together we can raise public awareness of the needs of wound patients and clinicians and improve the quality of wound care globally.

**Goodsearch** ([http://www.goodsearch.com](http://www.goodsearch.com)) Simply do good. That’s the phrase we have up on our wall here at Goodsearch. Why? Well, because doing good can be simple. And a simple act, combined with those of the millions of other people on Goodsearch, can make a big difference in the world. Helping a cause you care about and making the world a better place can be something you do every day -- not only when you have time to volunteer or extra money to donate. This is what Goodsearch is all about. We give you the ability to turn your everyday actions into simple ways to support and raise funds for your favorite cause. You Search We Give® Search the Internet with our patent-protected, Yahoo!-powered search engine (just like you’d search on any other search engine), and we’ll donate about a penny for nearly all searches to your selected cause. Select the WHSF as your cause and the donation is used for the WHSF travel scholarship funds.

**Goodshop** ([http://www.goodsearch.com/goodshop](http://www.goodsearch.com/goodshop)) Goodshop is part of the Goodsearch family. Shop at one of our more than 2,800 participating stores (from Amazon to Zazzle) and a percentage of what you spend will be donated to your cause at no cost to you. Oh, and by the way, there’s a big added bonus here too. Goodshop lists more than 100,000 coupons and deals so you could save money while doing good! Select the WHSF as your cause and the donation is used for the WHSF travel scholarship funds.