The 21st Annual Scientific Meeting and Education Day of the Society for Neuro-Oncology is coming soon to Scottsdale, Arizona on November 17 – 20, 2016.

Note that on Wednesday, November 16, the day before Education Day, there will be pre-conference sessions, including a Neuro-Oncology Review Course and a CNS Anticancer Drug Discovery and Development Conference (the latter of which runs until the 17th).

This year’s Education Day, held on Thursday November 17, will emphasize the dual themes of precision medicine and the newly minted 2016 WHO classification system for CNS tumors; it will include a morning joint session followed by concurrent sessions focused on molecular taxonomy, the relationship between big data and clinical practice, precision medicine, and cognitive dysfunction in patients. The afternoon joint session will be run in the style of a multidisciplinary tumor board. That night, the main meeting will commence with the SNO Welcome Reception.

The Scientific Meeting begins Friday, November 18. Credit goes to Scientific Meeting Chairs, Drs. Manish Aghi and Tracy Batchelor, for composing a comprehensive program built on a varied format of top-scoring abstracts, plenary talks, mini-symposia, sunrise sessions, rapid reports, e-talks and traditional/oral/e-posters. Friday begins with sunrise sessions, followed by the start of the first general session. The Friday sunrise sessions will be on the following topics:

Session 1: Novel Metabolic Targets in Glioma
Session 2: Tumor Predisposition and Genetic Counseling in a Neuro-Oncology Practice
Session 3: EANO/SNO: Umbrella and Basket Trials in Neuro-Oncology
Session 4: Quality of Life - Net Clinical Benefit of Brain Tumor Treatment
Session 5: ASNO/Radiation Oncology
Session 6: Immuno-Epidemiology of Glioma

After the sunrise sessions, the first plenary session will begin with an official meeting welcome by Drs. Aghi and Batchelor followed by a mini-symposium on the 2016 WHO classification with keynote presentations by Drs. David Louis and David Ellison. This will be followed by awards and top-scoring abstracts. Lunch will include the option of attending tutorials or educational sessions on a number of diverse topics. Afternoon concurrent sessions will focus on 1) Clinical Trials, 2) Experimental Therapeutics, 3) Surgery, 4) Pre-Clinical Immunology, and 5) Radiation Therapy. Friday evening will allow for e-talks and traditional poster viewing.

On Saturday, November 19, sunrise sessions will feature the following topics:

Session 1: Immune Based Therapies for Gliomas
Session 2: Biology of Brain Metastases
Session 3: Circulating Biomarkers/Liquid Biopsy
Session 4: Current Update on the Diagnosis and Management of Low Grade Gliomas
From the President

I thank you for the opportunity and privilege to provide you with a summary of SNO’s accomplishments over this past year. I would like to recognize the leadership of our Officers: our Vice-President, Terri Armstrong, and our Treasurer, Gelareh Zadeh. I also would like to recognize the work of the members of our Executive Committee and of our Board of Directors.

One of the biggest objectives we have to meet every year is to ensure that our Annual Meeting will be a success. Under the leadership of our Scientific Co-Chairs, Drs. Tracy Batchelor and Manish Aghi, the upcoming meeting in Scottsdale this November promises to not only meet this objective but to exceed our expectations. We are expecting the largest meeting to date in terms of attendees and highly interesting scientific and clinical talks, posters and seminars focused on our 2016 theme, the 2016 WHO Guidelines on CNS Tumors and how they will impact scientific research and clinical care. We had approximately 1000 abstracts submitted (a record!) from which our abstract reviewers selected ones for oral presentation (platform, rapid-report and e-talks) or poster presentation (e-posters and traditional posters). Due to the increasing number of submitted abstracts, our reviewers also elected to not accept a small number of abstracts, evidence that our meeting is becoming more selective in the content that is being presented. The program will also feature several invited speakers for the plenary sessions, notably David Louis and David Ellison, who will discuss the significance of WHO2016, and Drs. Joseph Costello and Bradley Bernstein, who will discuss genetics and epigenetics of tumor evolution. Please also note that a special keynote address will be delivered by the Pulitzer Prize Winner, Siddhartha Mukherjee, author of the bestsellers “The Emperor of all Maladies” and “The Gene”.

In addition to the regular Scientific Meeting program, we also have an exciting Education Day on Thursday, chaired by Drs. Manmeet Ahluwalia, Jaishri Blakeley, Kristina Hardy, and Keith Ligon. The program will be focused on Precision Medicine and the new WHO Classification with sessions dedicated to basic and clinical science as well as clinical and applied neuro-oncology. An exciting mock tumor board will also be trialed for the first time during this day.

Two pre-conference sessions, one on CNS Anticancer Drug Development (Chair: Victor Levin) and the popular Neuro-Oncology Review Course (Chair: Maciej Mrugala), will precede the meeting.

I also wanted to take the opportunity to thank Drs. Xing Fan and Khalid Shah who chaired the Neuro-Tumor Club at the annual conference of the American Association of Cancer Research earlier this year. It was a resounding success. Although this meeting has been held every year during AACR for many years, we have been informed by the AACR leadership that we will not be able to not offer it any longer. If this proves true, we are working to come up with an alternative plan to keep this meeting alive, based on its historical success.

Over the last year, three new committees were established. SNO is increasingly being asked to review, recommend changes and/or endorse guidelines related to diagnosis and /or treatment of CNS tumors. A Guidelines Committee, chaired by Drs. Tracy Batchelor and Susan Chang, is charged with overseeing and recommending to our executive committee and the Board these requests. Already this new committee has reviewed and endorsed radiation oncology guidelines drafted by ASTRO. SNO also is the voice of numerous groups of stakeholders, including doctors, allied health professionals, scientists, patients, and industrial partners. As such, SNO is increasingly at the forefront of public policy questions, issues and concerns, and we continue to try and make the case for public attention to our quest against CNS Tumors. A new Public Policy Committee, chaired by Drs. Jan Sarkaria and Terri Armstrong, has thus been formed to help guide SNO through this process. Finally, our educational efforts and our challenge to properly train the next generation of CNS oncologists have prompted the formation of a new Fellowship Committee, chaired by Drs. John de Groot and Scott Plotkin, who are charged with helping to regulate the process of neuro-oncology fellowship matching. Guidelines and a code of conduct for this process are being developed and will be further discussed at the Annual Meeting. These new committees join the other SNO committees in studying issues and providing recommendations to foster growth in the field.

SNO News
This past January, SNO leadership met over two days at a strategic planning retreat to discuss the growth of our Society. With over 2000 members it is not inconceivable that SNO will grow to a size that requires larger venues for our Annual Meeting. Corresponding investments in new technologies to deliver educational content will also be needed. As strategic plans are being compiled, we continue to work to ensure that SNO retains the closeness and the nimbleness that has characterized its early years, while growing into a mature organization with the relevance and significance represented by its swelling membership numbers. In fact, starting in 2020 our meeting will be held in convention centers since hotel ballrooms are unable to provide the space required to accommodate our meeting.

We are now planning for our next strategy retreat to be held in Miami in January 2017. The focus of this session will center around SNO’s entire publishing enterprise, including our journals and our electronic publications. Dr. Patrick Wen, editor-in-chief of *Neuro-Oncology*, continues to lead our flagship journal to increasing success as evidenced by the number of readers and its latest citation impact score of 7.371. Dr. Susan Chang has now successfully nurtured *Neuro-Oncology Practice* through its early years of life, and we expect that this journal will also be indexed and start receiving impact factor scores over next few years.

Our Society remains in great financial shape. Our total operating revenue continues to hover around the 3MM dollar range and we continue to accrue positive changes in our net assets on an annual basis. The most recent independent audit of our financial standing was very positive and we continue to remain vigilant for opportunities to increase revenue and reduce expense.

In addition, please join me in thanking Chas Haynes and all the members of SNO’s administrative office who ensure that the Society remains successful and responsive to our members.

Respectfully yours,

E.A. (Nino) Chiocca, MD, PhD
SNO Honors Margaret Wrensch with the SNO Lifetime Achievement Award

The Society for Neuro-Oncology is pleased to announce that Dr. Margaret Wrensch has been honored with SNO’s Lifetime Achievement Award. Dr. Wrensch currently serves as a Professor in the Departments of Neurological Surgery and Epidemiology and Biostatistics at the University of California, San Francisco, where she is also Co-Director of the Division of Neuroepidemiology.

The SNO Lifetime Achievement Award is given to a meritorious individual who has made significant contributions in neuro-oncology over his or her career, either in clinical care and/or translational or basic research. The award also recognizes an individual who has trained, influenced or motivated many of the current clinicians and investigators in neuro-oncology. Dr. Wrensch will be honored during the Presidential Address at the 2016 SNO Meeting on Saturday, November 19.

SNO Honors David Louis with the 2016 Victor Levin Award

Named after the Society's Founder, the Victor Levin Award recognizes an individual with a career commitment to neuro-oncology who has demonstrated leadership and, through scientific innovation, has made extraordinary achievements in neuro-oncology research.

This year, this prestigious award will be given to Dr. David Louis, who currently serves as the Pathologist-in-Chief at Massachusetts General Hospital, and is the Benjamin Castleman Professor of Pathology at Harvard Medical School. Dr. Louis will deliver a plenary lecture entitled The 2016 WHO Classification of CNS tumors: an overview and a review of diffuse gliomas in adults at the 2016 SNO Meeting on Friday, November 18.

Michael Taylor Receives 2016 Abhijit Guha Award

The Society for Neuro-Oncology and the Section on Tumors of the AANS/CNS are pleased to award the 2016 Abhijit Guha Award to Dr. Michael Taylor of the Hospital for Sick Children in Toronto, Canada.

This award, sponsored jointly by SNO and the Section on Tumors, acknowledges the importance of collaborations between the neurosurgical and brain tumor community in making advances in knowledge and treatment for these diseases. Dr. Taylor will deliver the Abhijit Guha Lecture entitled Biology of Medulloblastoma Dictates Behaviour in the Clinic during the plenary session of the 2016 SNO Meeting on Friday, November 18.

Mary Lovely Receives SNO Public Service Award Award

The leadership of the Society is pleased to announce that Mary Lovely has been selected as the recipient of the 2016 SNO Public Service Award. Dr. Lovely has held positions with the American Brain Tumor Association, the National Brain Tumor Society, the International Brain Tumor Alliance and presently serves as a Patient Advocate and Support Liaison for Tocagen.

This award recognizes the Dr. Lovely’s significant contributions to the field of neuro-oncology, and her tireless efforts on behalf of brain tumor patients, their families and caregivers.
Networking and Career Development Sessions at SNO

Two special career development events will be offered at this year’s meeting focusing on promoting and facilitating mentorship and collaboration for those seeking to advance their careers in the field of neuro-oncology.

Networking and Career Development Reception
Thursday, November 17, 7:30pm - 8:30pm

This innovative and exciting event returns for a fifth year. Attendees will take part in an organized networking and mentoring session where each participant will have the opportunity to interact with many potential collaborators and mentors for brief, high-value exchanges that will form the basis of mutually beneficial professional relationships. The formal session will then transition to the SNO welcome reception to allow for more extensive follow-up conversations and socializing. There is no charge for this event; however, you must specifically register to confirm your attendance. Registration deadline November 1.

Young Investigators Luncheon
Meet the Chairs
Saturday, November 19, 12:00pm

This special lunch session will feature a panel of two distinguished Departmental Chairs, representing both the basic and the clinical department, and will provide a unique opportunity to get their view and advice on everything from putting together a strong application package to navigating the promotion and tenure process. The session will include brief talks from both Chairs followed by a Q & A segment to expand on themes of particular interest. Pre-registration is not required.

Panel Discussants: Etty (Tika) Benveniste, E. Antonio Chiocca. Session Chair: Manish Aghi.

While these events have been initiated by the SNO Young Investigators Committee, attendees at all career levels are invited to participate.

For more information or to register for the networking reception, visit the SNO website: www.soc-neuro-onc.org.

SNO Pre-Conference Sessions

The SNO is pleased to present two special pre-conference sessions to the 2016 Annual Meeting. Details on each of these pre-conference events is provided below.

Neuro-Oncology Review Course
Maciej Mrugala, Chair
(Endorsed by the American Academy of Neurology)
Wednesday, November 16

This course will take place on November 16, 2016, from 7:15am - 6:00pm at the Scottsdale Fairmont Princess Hotel in Scottsdale, Arizona, immediately preceding the SNO Annual Scientific Meeting and Education Day.

This year the organizers will host a full-day of fast paced, high quality education and CME credits for all participants. The faculty of the course, selected from top neuro-oncology programs, will offer a comprehensive overview of clinical neuro-oncology. In addition to the course syllabus, participants will receive a set of multiple-choice questions that allow for consolidation of the acquired material and help them prepare for the specialty boards.

CNS Anticancer Drug Discovery and Development Conference
Victor Levin, Chair
Wednesday, November 16 – Thursday, 17, 2016

Building on the success of the first meeting in 2014, the Society for Neuro-Oncology is pleased to host the Second CNS Anticancer Drug Discovery and Development Conference, which will be held November 16 - 17, 2016 at the Fairmont Princess Hotel in Scottsdale, Arizona, immediately prior to the 2016 Annual SNO Meeting.

The conference, organized by academic and pharmaceutical industry scientists and physicians, is intended to improve drug discovery and development for primary infiltrative tumors in adults and children as well as tumors that metastasize to the CNS. It will provide education and networking opportunities for scientists in academia, government, and the pharmaceutical industry that will, we hope, foster greater collaboration and, thereby, improve patient outcomes.

For more information or to register for either of these important pre-conference sessions, visit the SNO website: www.soc-neuro-onc.org.
Enhance Your Meeting Experience with the 2016 SNO App

SNO is excited to announce that a mobile app for the 2016 Scientific Meeting and Education Day will soon be available for download! The SNO2016 app will serve as your all-in-one event guide by putting everything you need to know right onto your mobile device.

Customize your conference experience by creating your schedule in advance. Communicate with other attendees during the event, follow along with presentations and take session notes. Email session notes to yourself and use SNO2016 as a reference tool even after the conference ends. Access the Attendee & Member Directory to connect with new acquaintances and browse the scientific abstracts. Use the QR code reader to email poster presenters and to enter a competition to win an iPad mini.

The app will be available for download via the SNO website, www.soc-neuro-onc.org, on November 7.

New Impact Factor of 7.371 for Neuro-Oncology!

The Society for Neuro-Oncology is pleased to announce that the impact factor for its flagship journal, Neuro-Oncology, has risen from 6.776 to 7.371 according to Thompson Reuters. This ranks Neuro-Oncology 9th of 192 Clinical Neurology journals, and 19th of 213 Oncology journals in the 2015 Journal Citation Reports.

SNO congratulates the journal’s Editor-in-Chief, Dr. Patrick Wen, for this accomplishment. Under his leadership, the journal continues to rise in stature among oncology publications and is well-positioned to maintain its reputation of featuring high impact articles, reviews, and commentaries.

One of the many benefits of SNO membership is an annual subscription to Neuro-Oncology, as well as a subscription to its sister journal, Neuro-Oncology Practice.

Pulitzer Prize-Winning Author, Siddhartha Mukherjee, To Deliver Special Keynote Address

SNO is pleased to announce that Pulitzer Prize-winning author Siddhartha Mukherjee will deliver a special keynote address on Saturday, November 19, during the SNO annual meeting.

Dr. Mukherjee is the author of the New York Times number one best seller, The Emperor of All Maladies. His new book, The Gene, is a magnificent history of the gene and a response to the defining question of the future: What becomes of being human when we learn to “read” and “write” our own genetic information?

Throughout the narrative, the story of Mukherjee’s own family—with its tragic and bewildering history of mental illness—cuts like a bright, red line, reminding us of the many questions that hang over our ability to translate the science of genetics from the laboratory to the real world. In superb prose and with an instinct for the dramatic scene, he describes the centuries of research and experimentation—from Aristotle and Pythagoras through to the revolutionary twenty-first century innovators who mapped the human genome.

As The New Yorker said of The Emperor of All Maladies, “It’s hard to think of many books for a general audience that have rendered any area of modern science and technology with such intelligence, accessibility, and compassion…An extraordinary achievement.”

Dr. Mukherjee’s keynote address is made possible through the generous support of Novocure.
Career Lounge To Be Expanded at SNO

Building on a successful initiative established by Gelareh Zadeh at the 2015 SNO meeting in San Antonio, a designated area of this year’s meeting space will again be reserved for job seekers and employers to connect with one another.

The “SNO Career Lounge” is intended to facilitate a convenient environment where you can meet prospective candidates for employment or learn of career opportunities currently available in the field of neuro-oncology. Employers are encouraged to post listings of available positions on the Job Board located outside the Career Lounge area. Personal interviews can then be arranged in a designated area of the Career Lounge.

The Career Lounge will be located on the “Plaza Bar” area of the Fairmont Hotel and will be open on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday from 10am to 3pm during the SNO meeting. Scheduling of the interviews may be arranged in advance of the meeting through November 1, or thereafter on-site by contacting the Career Lounge Coordinator, Sheela Purandhara, SNOcareerlounge@gmail.com. Visit the SNO website. www.soc-neuro-onc.org for additional information.

International Outreach Lunch

The SNO International Outreach Committee Co-Chairs Jason Huse and Gelareh Zadeh invite interested members to attend a special lunch session on Saturday during the 2016 annual SNO meeting.

Regunath Kandasamy of the Centre for Neuroscience Services & Research at the University of Malaysia will provide an update on the inaugural Wilkins-Barrick International Outreach Course that was organized in January of this year. This exciting initiative seeks to strengthen the ties between SNO and the international neuro-oncology community. Kathy Oliver of the IBTA will then discuss a proposed neuro-oncology symposium in Sub-Saharan Africa. Drs. Huse and Zadeh will also recognize the 2016 International Travel Scholarship recipients during the lunch.

The International Outreach Committee lunch will be held Saturday, November 19, from 12:00-1:30pm, in Room Moor 1, at the Fairmont Hotel in Scottsdale, Arizona.

CBTRUS joins with CAP and CDC to urge use of the CAP eCC during 2016 SNO Education Day

The Central Brain Tumor Registry of the United States (CBTRUS) has been advocating for the collection of biomarkers in cancer surveillance so that its future Statistical Reports published as Supplements to Neuro-Oncology would include biomarker incidence by histology. Anticipating the changes in 2016 WHO Classification of Tumors of the Central Nervous System, CBTRUS President approached the SNO Guidelines Committee, and later became one of its members, with the intent to elicit support for population-based biomarker collection. As a result, the Committee agreed to include a luncheon session during Education Day during the SNO Annual Meeting on November 17, entitled Rebooting Our Approach to CNS Tumors: Unleashing the Power of Biomarker Standard Reporting.

This session is jointly sponsored by the College of American Pathologists (CAP), the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), and CBTRUS and will focus on the use of the CAP electronic Cancer Checklists (Cap eCC) to capture CAP Cancer Protocols directly within the laboratory information system. The benefits of using the eCC for brain and other CNS tumors will be elucidated during this exciting session and complements the theme of the 2016 SNO Education Day, Precision Medicine and the new WHO Classification of Central Nervous System Tumors.

Speakers include Carol Kruchko (CBTRUS), Sandy Jones (CDC), Daniel Brat (Director, Neuropathology, Emory University School of Medicine), and Gemma Lee (Cancer Care Ontario). Standardized reporting of CNS tumors leads to improved data quality for surveillance, research, and patient care.

This special lunch session will take place on Thursday, November 17, at noon in Room Princess A-G. To learn more about this session, please contact Carol Kruchko at ckcbtrus@aol.com.
2016 Annual Neuro-Tumor Club Dinner Meeting Recap

The 2016 Neuro-Tumor Club Dinner Meeting took place in New Orleans, Louisiana. This meeting, which has been organized every year by the Society for Neuro-Oncology for over two decades, has been a long-standing venue for brain tumor researchers attending the annual meeting of the AACR. The meeting took place at the Sheraton Hotel, which provided an excellent location in central New Orleans near the main AACR venue, and was co-chaired by Khalid Shah, from Massachusetts General Hospital/Harvard Medical School, and Xing Fan of the University of Michigan. Generous support for the meeting was provided by Genentech and Novocure.

Thirty-three abstracts of uniformly high quality were received. This made the task of selecting the abstracts to a number compatible with the length of the dinner difficult and required careful consideration from the Chairs, who ended up selecting 16 abstracts to be presented in four thematic sessions: Cancer stem cells and tumor heterogeneity; Tumor epigenetics and CNS metastases; Cell signaling in tumorigenesis and therapeutics; and Novel therapeutics and translational approaches.

The first session started with a presentation revealing a new finding that extracellular vesicles released by GBM cancer stem cells (CSCs) retain GBM subtype specificity and contribute to tumor heterogeneity through exchanging diverse pro-oncogenic signals (Jakub Godlewski, Harvard University). The second presentation illustrated strong evidence that TRIM8 is both required and sufficient for GBM CSCs propagation through regulating PIAS3-STAT3 pathway (Changming Zhang, Emory University). Finally, the last speaker of this session elegantly demonstrated that Semaphorin 3C and Plexin D1 are over-expressed in GBM CSCs, required for their propagation in vitro and in vivo through regulating Rac1/NFkB pathway, and contribute to radiation resistance in GBMs (Jennifer Yu, Cleveland Clinic). These studies not only addressed the critical role of GBM CSCs in contributing tumor heterogeneity, but also identified several signaling pathways that regulate GBM CSC propagation and contribute to therapeutic resistance, providing novel approaches for CSC targeted therapy in GBMs.

In the second session, two epigenetic studies and two brain metastasis studies were presented. The first epigenetic presentation revealed in detail that TP53 mutation-associated CpG sites, including EPHA2 and miR34a at 1p36 are differentially methylated in choroid plexus carcinomas (CPC), and that miR-34a promoter methylation correlates with poor clinical outcome in CPC patients (Nardin Samuel, University of Toronto). The second epigenetic study showed a convincing result that H3-K27me3 is decreased after DNA damage and that targeting the enzymes responsible for histone methylation sensitizes GBM CSCs to radiation therapy (Barbara Rath, NCI/NIH). The first of the two brain metastasis presentations exquisitely showed that pSTAT3 is over-expressed in brain metastasis tumors from breast cancer, and that a STAT3 inhibitor decreases brain metastases through reducing tumor invasion and angiogenesis in a mouse xenograft model (Suyun Huang, MD Anderson Cancer Center). The last presentation in this session presented extensive evidence that spinal metastases of group 3 medulloblastoma express a higher level of Notch1 receptor compared to primary medulloblastoma, and that over-expression of NICD1 increases spinal metastases through regulation of Twist1 and BMI1 (Suzana Khan, Stanford University). The studies in this session provided strong evidence that epigenetics plays a very important role in tumorigenesis and therapy of brain tumors, and that STAT3 and Notch signaling pathways are critical for tumor metastases. These findings will help develop new therapeutic strategies for both primary and metastatic brain tumors.

The next session focused on the role of cell signaling in tumorigenesis and development of therapeutics in brain tumors. Remco Molenar (University of Amsterdam, The Netherlands) presented compelling data on the role of radioprotection of IDH1-mutated tumors by IDH1-mutant inhibitor AGI5198 and cautioned on the concomitant use of IDH-1 mutant inhibitors and irradiation in clinical trials for glioma patients. The second presentation focused on providing evidence that a stem cell factor, DNA binding protein HMGA2 is a therapeutic target for diffused intrinsic pontine glioma (DIPG) and GBM, and the knockdown or pharmacological inhibition of HMGA2 results in the inhibition of tumor cell invasion and promotes survival in orthotopically xenografted mice (Harpreet Kaur, Johns Hopkins University). Continued on next page
The 2016 Neuro-Tumor Club Dinner was held in New Orleans and chaired by Drs. Khalid Shah and Xing Fan.

University). The next presentation indicated the role of LIN28 and mTOR expression in atypical teratoid/rhabdoid tumor (AT/RT) development and revealed the therapeutic efficacy of TORC1/2 inhibitor MLN0128 alone or in combination with cisplatin in mice bearing AT/RTs (Jeffery Robins, Johns Hopkins University). The next presentation shed light on the metabolic targeting and antagonism of EGFRvIII/PDK1 axis in temozolomide resistant glioblastoma models (Kiran Velpula, University of Illinois). The last presentation in this session provided strong evidence on the role of PIN1 in hedgehog-driven medulloblastoma development (Jean-Francois Rual, University of Michigan).

In the last session four presentations focused on novel therapeutics and translational approaches for brain tumors. The first presentation revealed the therapeutic efficacy of the combined use of oncolytic adenovirus (Delta24-RGD) that induces PD-1 and TILs with T cell co-signaling antibodies in pre-clinical mouse models of intracranial gliomas. (Zineb Belcaid, University of Rotterdam). The next presentation provided extensive in vivo studies on the therapeutic efficacy of a novel humanized anti-CD47 antibody for effective treatment of malignant pediatric brain tumors (Sharareh Gholamin, Stanford University). The third presentation in the session revealed data on the comparative genomics using dog as a model for meningiomas. The data presented identified potential molecular targets in sporadic canine tumors that could have implication in developing therapeutics for both canine and human tumors (MR Chambers, University of Alabama). The last presentation revealed some exciting findings on the mechanism of action of the Tumor Treating Fields (TTFields) on gliomas; and the recent findings on combining TTFields with TMZ in newly diagnosed glioma patients (Moshe Giladi, Novocure).

Sadly, it is SNO’s understanding that due to changes in the educational format of the AACR conference, third-party satellite meetings will not be permitted during future AACR events. Given the long-standing success of the Neuro-Tumor Club, the SNO leadership will explore new ways and formats to deliver important basic and translational neuro-oncology education to its membership. SNO thanks Drs. Shah and Fan for concluding the Neuro-Tumor Club – at least in its current format – with a tremendously successful evening in New Orleans.

Treasurer’s Report

I am pleased to report that the Society for Neuro-Oncology’s overall financial status has never been better.

Total revenue in our 2016 fiscal year was over $3.5 million, representing an increase of approximately $700,000 over fiscal year 2015. SNO’s main source of revenue remains our annual meeting, including registration fees and financial support from Platinum Level partners, which in the most recent fiscal year included AbbVie, Bristol-Myers Squibb, Celldex, Genentech, the National Brain Tumor Foundation, Novocure and the Sontag Foundation. SNO also receives income from membership dues and from a profit sharing arrangement with our journal publisher, Oxford University Press.

Revenue generated by the Society’s activities fund and maintain the SNO administrative office, the editorial offices of our two journals, Neuro-Oncology and Neuro-Oncology Practice, SNO’s international outreach efforts, as well as the costs associated with the SNO annual meeting, including support for scientific speakers, special speaker fees supported by industry, food and beverage, AV, travel scholarships, awards and initiatives for Young Investigators.

In all, the Society’s financial health is sound and we are well-positioned to support our educational mission. More detailed financial information will be included in our Annual Report which will be made available to all attendees of the 2016 Annual Meeting in Scottsdale.

Respectfully submitted,
Gelareh Zadeh, SNO Treasurer
2016 Conference on Meningioma Recap

In June, 2016 the Conference on Meningioma was held in Toronto, Ontario, Canada. This highly successful meeting was organized by the Consortium on Meningioma in Toronto, with support from the Society for Neuro-Oncology. The Scientific Planning Committee included Gelareh Zadeh and Kenneth Aldape from the University of Toronto, Michael Vogelbaum from Cleveland Clinic and Ghazaleh Tabatabai from the University of Tübingen. This prestigious team organized a very scientifically robust and well-received meeting.

Chaired by Gelareh Zadeh, this two-day educational event brought together a focused multidisciplinary group of researchers and clinician scientists committed to improving the outcome of patients with meningioma through the translation of research into clinical practice. Over 100 high quality abstracts were submitted and contributed to the scientific excellence of the program. A mix of oral and poster presentations, as well as invited talks by internationally recognized and world class speakers, provided a great overview of advances in the diagnosis and treatment of meningioma. The first meeting of the International Meningioma Consortium was held at this conference, bringing together 11 international institutions with the aim to create a clinical, tissue and genomic repository for molecular analysis of aggressive meningiomas. In addition, a special Patient Advocacy session brought awareness to important issues facing patients and caregivers and included presentations by patients experiencing this disease as well as patient advocates from the American Brain Tumor Association, the Brain Tumour Foundation of Canada and the International Brain Tumour Alliance.

Based on very positive feedback from the attendees and survey results, this meeting received an excellent response with recommendations to support annual/biannual meningioma conferences. SNO and University of Toronto have a commitment to continue offering this scientific gathering to promote meningioma research, clinical management and advances in the field.

In addition, those attending the SNO Annual Meeting are invited to a Meningioma Consortium Update, to be held Friday, November 18, 7:00-8:30am, in Room Moor 2.

Highlights of the 13th Annual Meeting of the Asian Society for Neuro-Oncology

The 13th Asian Society for Neuro-Oncology (ASNO) 2016 Meeting was held from in Australia for the first time. This meeting was held in conjunction with the 9th COGNO (Cooperative Trials Group for Neuro-Oncology) Annual Scientific Meeting. The convening members of the organizing committee were Mark Rosenthal, Elizabeth Hovey and Cecelia Gzell. Mustafa Khasraw, Zarnie Lwin, Jonathan Parkinson did an outstanding job as members of the scientific committee and chose the theme of “Neuro-Oncology: is the landscape changing?” highlighting advances in the new integrated histological and molecular classification of brain tumors, as well as new approaches to care of the brain tumor patient.

International faculty included Roger Stupp, Mitchel Berger, Paul Mischel, Arjun Sahgal, Al Yung, Greg Riggins and Mary Lovely. They, along with Asian and Australian faculty, contributed to a comprehensive, multidisciplinary program that reviewed topics that included molecular classification, imaging, technological advances, novel therapeutics and quality of life. The session on “Next generation clinical trials” highlighted the challenges in current design and the planned international AGILE (Adaptive Glioblastoma Innovative Learning Environment) study as an example of incorporating the innovative adaptive biostatistical techniques into trials.

In addition to the main meeting program with invited presentations and original research papers, there were educational offerings that included a stereotactic radiosurgery workshop, a luncheon seminar focused on CNS lymphoma, a communications workshop on “difficult dialogues” and a “glioma master class” with presentations outlining the practical and philosophical approach to caring for a glioma patient and managing the consequences of the disease process and therapy. One of the exciting highlights of the meeting was the ASNO country update session where neuro-oncology leaders from Thailand, Indonesia, Malaysia and the Philippines outlined the unique challenges in providing brain tumor patients with the best multidisciplinary care.
The organizing committee in Australia is to be congratulated on hosting an exciting meeting this year in the beautiful city of Sydney, and we look forward to the next ASNO meeting that will be held in Osaka, Japan from October 29-31, 2017.

Respectfully submitted by Susan M. Chang  
SNO liaison to the ASNO meeting

Elsevier PracticeUpdate Brain Cancer Center of Excellence

PracticeUpdate’s Brain Cancer Center of Excellence is a free virtual institute and online community that brings multidisciplinary medical experts together to discuss and provide treatment advice and information. Similar to the experience gained from attending a major academic center, Elsevier’s Center of Excellence combines lectures, journal clubs, grand rounds, case discussions, and a library of relevant textbooks, to both educate and optimize patient outcomes. Content is developed by Editors-in-Chief Minesh P. Mehta MD, FASTRO and Patrick Y. Wen MD and Associate Editor Manmeet Ahluwalia MD, FACP. Members of PracticeUpdate have access to a suite of innovative features, including:

- GBM Institute: Engage with new research, cases, expert opinions and more on glioblastoma multiforme in Elsevier’s GBM Institute.
- Colleague Insights: Each week PracticeUpdate’s faculty selects and comments on important articles from over 120 journals.
- Tumor Boards: Join interactive, ongoing discussions with peers and the Center of Excellence faculty.
- Living Resources: Stay current with textbook chapters, simplified guidelines, seminal articles, and FAQs.
- Video Expert Opinion: Watch expert presentations and discussions on key topics related to Brain Cancer.
- Conferences: Access breaking news from SNO, ASTRO, ASCO, ONS, and other major conferences.

Members can review these sections on PracticeUpdate.com, or have highlights delivered to their inbox weekly though their Center of Excellence Week in Review eNewsletters or their own customized email with subspecialty Topic Alerts. Membership is free. Visit www.PracticeUpdate.com to register and for additional details.

Membership Committee Report

Year to Date 2016

The membership of SNO has increased by over 5% in the past year. Current membership stands at 2183 members consisting of 1645 full members, 84 associate members, 432 trainee members and 22 emeritus members. Membership is reflective of the diversity of disciplines that are involved in the field with representation from neuro-oncology (789), neurosurgery (480), radiation oncology (172), basic sciences (248), medical oncology (133), pathology (85), pediatric oncology (63), and other disciplines including radiology, psychology, pharmacology, epidemiology, statistics, nursing and public health. Members of SNO include representatives from 43 countries spanning six continents. The future growth and success of SNO will be dependent on continued efforts to reach out to interested individuals in each of these disciplines to inform them of the advantages of SNO membership.

The Membership Committee encourages all members to reach out to their professional colleagues to encourage participation and to make them aware of the benefits available through active membership. This personal effort has been the key to the continued growth in our high quality and engaged membership.

Respectfully submitted by Gavin Dunn  
SNO Membership Committee Chair

Congratulations to the Newly Elected SNO Board Members!

Allied Health Representative  
Christina Amidei

Radiation Oncology Representative  
Erik Sulman

Pathology Representative  
Daniel Brat

Young Investigator’s Representative  
Priscilla Brastianos

The incoming board members will officially assume their positions at the SNO Annual Meeting in Scottsdale.
2016 SNO Committees

SNO Audit Committee
Chair: Gene Barnett

SNO Awards Committee
Chair: Gelareh Zadeh

SNO Bylaws Committee
Chair: David Schiff

SNO Communications Committee
Chair: Albert Kim

SNO Fellowship Match Committee
Co-Chairs: John de Groot, Scott Plotkin

SNO Future Sites Committee
Co-Chairs: Susan Chang, Mark Gilbert, James Perry

SNO Guidelines and Reported Outcomes Committee
Co-Chairs: Tracy Batchelor, Susan Chang

SNO International Outreach Committee
Co-Chairs: Gelareh Zadeh, Jason Huse

SNO Annual Meeting Committee
Scientific Meeting Co-Chairs: Tracy Batchelor, Manish Aghi
Education Day Co-Chairs: Manmeet Alhuwalia, Keith Ligon
Clinical and Applied Neuro-Oncology Co-Chairs: Jaishri Blakeley, Kristina Hardy

SNO Membership Committee
Chair: Gavin Dunn

SNO Public Policy Committee
Co-Chairs: Jann Sarkaria, Terri Armstrong

SNO Technology Committee
Chair: Erik Sulman

SNO Young Investigators Committee
Chair: Monica Venere

SNO Officers
E. Antonio Chiocca, MD, PhD  President
Terri Armstrong, APN, PhD  Vice President
Gelareh Zadeh, MD, PhD  Secretary/Treasurer

SNO Board of Directors
Manish Aghi, MD, PhD  Young Investigators Representative
Tracy Batchelor, MD  Neuro-Oncology Representative
Daniel Brat, MD, PhD  Pathology/Radiology Representative
Paul Brown, MD  Radiation Oncology Representative
Frank Furnari, PhD  Basic Science Representative
Daphne Haas-Kogan, MD  Pediatrics Representative
Ingo Mellinghoff, MD  Medical Oncology Representative
Margaretta Page, BSN, MS  Allied Health Representative
Whitney Pope, MD, PhD  Neuroradiology Representative
John Sampson, MD, PhD  Neurosurgery Representative
Jeffrey Wefel, PhD  Other Specialties Representative

Past President  David Reardon, MD

SNO Foundation
Mark Gilbert (Foundation President)
Mitchel S. Berger
Victor A. Levin (Society Founder)
Susan Chang

SNO Publications
Neuro-Oncology
Editor-in-Chief  Patrick Wen
SNO Editor  Kenneth Aldape

Neuro-Oncology Practice
Editor-in-Chief  Susan Chang
SNO Editor  Jeffrey Wefel

WFNOS Magazine
SNO Editor  Nicholas Butowski

SNO News
The SNO News is published two times per year and is distributed to members and friends of the Society for Neuro-Oncology.

Editor: Albert Kim
SNO Communications Chair

Associate Editor: Charles Haynes
SNO Executive Director

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