Prepare yourself for the 23rd Annual Scientific Meeting and Education Day of the Society for Neuro-Oncology November 15-18, 2018 in New Orleans, Louisiana.

Please refer to the SNO website (www.soc-neuro-onc.org) and follow us on Twitter @NeuroOnc for additional information. The lead-up to the meeting includes the popular Neuro-Oncology Review Course and the CNS Anticancer Drug Discovery and Development Conference pre-conference sessions beginning November 14, the latter of which runs until the 15th.

This year’s Education Day, held on Thursday, November 15, will focus on “Transforming Clinical Trials in the Modern-Day” and is organized by Brian Alexander, Ingo Mellinghoff, Joohee Sul, and Martin Taphoorn. Highlights include two keynote presentations by Ronald DePinho and Gideon Blumenthal followed by four sessions emphasizing cancer biology and genomics, fundamentals of clinical trials, new trial designs and biomarkers, and improving trial recruitment. Building on the success of last year’s Thursday evening session, three topics will be addressed in a lively Town Hall format, including Drug Repurposing, Lower Grade Glioma treatment and “Right to Try” legislation. Be sure to join your colleagues at the Welcome Reception, which this year will be in the theme of a New Orleans “block party”, celebrating the wonderfully eclectic personality of our host city, with live music and delicious Cajun cuisine.

The scientific program begins Friday, November 16, and runs through Sunday morning, November 18. Congratulations are in order for the Scientific Meeting Chairs – Frank Furnari, Daphne Haas-Kogan, and Vinay Puduvalli – for putting together an exciting and comprehensive program consisting of numerous daily Sunrise Sessions (with more topics than in previous years), plenary talks, and concurrent sessions with oral abstract presentations, oral eTalk posters, and traditional poster sessions. And, new this year, posters will also be available on your mobile app.

Friday (November 16) starts with morning yoga at 6:00 followed by Sunrise Sessions featuring the following topics:
- ASNO/SNO Joint Session: WHO 2016 Classification of CNS Tumours
- Complexity of the Brain Tumor Microenvironment
- Immune Based Therapies
- Synthetic Lethal Strategies in Glioma: The Quest for Targetable Vulnerabilities
- Update on Lower Grade Gliomas
- Sex Differences in Brain Tumors: Biology and Therapeutic Implications
- Brain Cancer Metabolism
- Clonal Evolution of Adult and Pediatric Glioma

The first plenary session will follow with an official meeting welcome by Frank Furnari, Haas-Kogan, and Puduvalli followed by keynote presentations by William G. Kaelin Jr.

Continued on page 4
Dear Colleagues,

Thank you so much for the privilege of serving as the president of SNO. I am honored to provide an update of SNO’s key efforts during the past year. This has been a very busy and productive year. I want to especially thank Chas Haynes and the wonderful administrative staff of SNO, as well as our Officers, Vice-President, Gelareh Zadeh and Treasurer, Tracy Batchelor, members of our Executive Committee, our Board of Directors, and the committee chairs and members for all their hard work.

Our annual meeting will take place in New Orleans on November 14-18, 2018 with a focus on clinical trials. A major goal of SNO, in partnership with the Response Assessment in Neuro-Oncology (RANO) Working Group, patient advocacy organizations and cooperative groups is to increase trial accrual in neuro-oncology, as well as increasing the number of high-quality trials in the hope that this will help accelerate the development of better treatments for our patients.

We have an outstanding Education Day organized by Ingo Mellinghoff, Brian Alexander, Joohee Sul and Martin Taphoorn aimed at improving the scientific conduct of clinical trials and increasing trial accrual. The scientific chairs, Frank Furnari, Vinay Puduvalli and Daphne Haas-Kogan have also assembled an exciting and comprehensive scientific program through their tireless efforts. The scientific program continues to grow and this year there will be eight Sunrise sessions. We appreciate the increasing difficulty participants have in attending all the excellent sessions that are of interest. To address this issue for the first time all the sessions at SNO will be recorded so that participants can review sessions they may not have been able to attend in person.

Pre-meeting events include the CNS Anticancer Drug Discovery and Development Meeting chaired by Victor Levin, the Neuro-Oncology Review Course organized by Maciej Mrugala, and a new SNO initiative, a “think tank” devoted to addressing important issues in the field. This year’s inaugural meeting will focus on tumor heterogeneity.

A goal of SNO is to increase the participation of nurses and midlevel providers who provide so much of the care to our patients. Under the leadership of Christine Amidei, the Allied Health representative on the SNO Board of Directors, a number of efforts have been made to increase their attendance and participation at the meeting this year.

This year SNO also helped organize a highly successful International Symposium on Pediatric Neuro-Oncology in Denver, Colorado chaired by Nicholas Foreman and Michael Handler. Next year we plan on a biennial conference on Pediatric Neuro-Oncology Basic and Translational Research in San Francisco chaired by Sabine Mueller and Nada Jabado, and a Brain Metastases meeting in New York chaired by Manmeet Ahluwalia, Ayal Aizer and Eudocia Quant Lee.

With the support of SNO members and the neuro-oncology community our journal Neuro-Oncology has continued to thrive, and the impact factor rose to 9.384 in 2018. After a search, Ken Aldape has taken over the role of Editor-In-Chief from me, and the journal could not be in better hands. Neuro-Oncology Practice also continues to flourish under the outstanding leadership of Susan Chang with monthly article downloads increasing at a rapid pace.

The various SNO committees have been very active over the past year. Developing and mentoring the careers of young investigators in neuro-oncology has been a particular priority of SNO. The Young Investigators’ Committee chaired by Monica Venere, Milan Chheda and Eudocia Quant Lee, and aided by Priscilla Brastianos, The Young Investigator representative on the SNO Board of Directors, has a very active program planned for the annual meeting, and we hope to develop more extensive formal mentoring programs in the near future.

Under the leadership of the past President David Reardon, SNO started a public policy committee, which is currently chaired by E.A. (Nino) Chiocca, Jann Sarkaria and Monica Venere. This committee has been active over the past year, sending representatives to Capitol Hill and advocating for insurance coverage of genetic testing of brain tumors. With support from Albert Kim and Jennie Taylor of the Communications Committee, information was provided to lawmakers in Washington regarding the 1500% price hike of lomustine.

The Guideline Committee under the leadership of Tracy Batchelor and Susan Chang has also been very busy, with several joint ASCO-SNO guidelines in progress, as well as an epilepsy guideline being developed with the American Academy of Neurology (AAN) and the European Association of Neuro-Oncology (EANO). In addition, a joint SNO-AAN paper on quality measures in neuro-oncology was published this year.

As the work of SNO expands, three new committees have been approved including a Women’s in Neuro-Oncology Committee (led by Alyx Porter and Priscilla Brastianos),
which will focus on the important issue of nurturing and providing support for women in neuro-oncology and increasing their representation, a Wellness Committee (led by Terri Armstrong and Alvina Acquaye) to address member burnout, and an External Relations Committee (led by Vinay Puduvalli), which will evaluate SNO's interactions with outside groups.

An important mission of SNO is to partner with and provide help to neuro-oncology efforts throughout the world. This effort is coordinated by the International Outreach Committee, led previously by Gelareh Zadeh and currently by Jason Huse and Mustafa Khasraw. This year, with the help of the Wilkins-Barrick Outreach fund, a very successful inaugural Sub-Saharan African Neuro-Oncology meeting was held in Nigeria and plans for future meeting in that region are already in place. Another successful course was organized in Peru.

This was also the first year of the Neuro-Oncology Fellowship Match sponsored by SNO and led by Scott Plotkin and John De Groot with 28 participating institutions. This is an important and successful effort to streamline the fellowship match process.

From a financial perspective, the Society has never been in a stronger position. The Society is indebted to Mark Gilbert for leading the SNO Foundation during his tenure as Chair of the Foundation. His efforts, along with the other members of the Foundation, ensure that SNO has the resources necessary to invest in new initiatives to advance the field, add more benefits to SNO membership and perhaps most importantly, subsidize a range of initiatives to support the next generation of neuro-oncology professionals.

The mission of SNO is to advance the field of neuro-oncology, improve treatments for our patients and serve the needs of its wonderfully dedicated membership. As SNO grows it has the potential to address additional issues that may be of interest to its members. Recently, SNO sent out a survey to the membership, developed by Gelareh Zadeh, to find out what the most important issues are. These results will be presented at the annual meeting and will have a major role in guiding future SNO initiatives. We are very grateful for the support and input from the SNO membership and are always looking to receive additional advice and feedback, as well as ideas for new initiatives.

Sincerely,

Patrick Y. Wen
SNO President

**Membership Committee Report**

With a current membership of over 2400, the Society continues to flourish and grow, and includes 1823 full members, 396 trainee members, 168 student members, and 39 emeritus members. Membership is reflective of the diversity of disciplines that are involved in the field with representation from neuro-oncology/neurology, neurosurgery, radiation oncology, basic sciences, medical oncology, pathology, pediatric oncology, and other disciplines including radiology, psychology, pharmacology, epidemiology, statistics, nursing, industry, and public health.

As a truly global Society, membership includes those from 47 countries, spanning six continents. SNO is committed to its international outreach efforts and continues to engage colleagues worldwide; memberships from South America, South/Central Africa, and China are on the rise.

As part of an effort to attract and mentor the next generation of neuro-oncology professionals, SNO added a special student membership category in 2018. Available to those attending an academic institution and pursuing their first professional degree (MD, PhD, DO, etc), the SNO Student Membership has generated tremendous response in its first year. It is hoped that early interaction with senior leaders will result in a long-term professional commitment to the research and treatment of CNS tumors.

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,

Macarena de la Fuente
SNO Membership Committee Chair

Linda Greer
Manager, Member and Program Services

A complete listing of membership levels and their corresponding benefits can be found by clicking here.
and Maryam Fouladi on cancer metabolism and clinical translation in pediatric brain tumors, respectively. This is followed by the Victor Levin Award presentation to Antonio Chiocca, the SNO Presidential Address by Patrick Wen, results of the SNO Membership Survey from Gelareh Zadeh, and comments on the SNO meeting transition to convention centers. Next up are awards for top-scoring abstracts. Lunch will include the option of attending tutorials or educational sessions on several diverse topics.

Afternoon concurrent sessions will focus on:
- Adult Clinical Trials
- Practical and Applied Neuro-Oncology
- Experimental Therapeutics
- Immunology
- Genetics/Epigenetics/Computational Omics
- Microenvironment/Angiogenesis and Invasion

This will be followed by a general session on Factors Impacting Clinical Trial Accrual and an evening with e-talks and traditional poster presentations located in the Sheraton Hotel immediately adjacent to the Marriott.

Saturday (November 17) starts again with morning yoga at 6:00am followed by Sunrise Sessions featuring the following topics:
- EANO/SNO: Status Update: What failed, what remains, what is new?
- Diffuse Intrinsic Pontine Glioma - New Insights and Emerging Therapeutic Strategies
- Brain Metastases Biology
- Neurotoxicity of CAR T Therapy
- Targeted Therapies in Neurofibromatosis
- Molecular Life History of Glioma
- Patient Centered Outcomes and Net Clinical Benefit in Brain Tumor Clinical Trials
- Radiation Therapy of GBM in the Era of Personalized Medicine

After, we head into the morning plenary session with keynote presentations on clinical development in glioma and immunotherapy by Timothy Cloughesy and John Sampson, respectively. This will be followed by presentations of the Abhijit Guha Award to Linda Liau, the Lifetime Achievement Award to Gregory Cairncross, the Neuro-Oncology Community Service Award to David Arons, and the Jan Esenwein Public Service Award to Chas Haynes. After additional top-scoring abstract presentations and awards, lunch will offer further tutorial and educational sessions on assorted topics.

Afternoon concurrent sessions then follow on:
- Metabolomics/Cell Biology/Cell Signaling
- Surgery/Radiation/Radiobiology and DNA Repair
- Neuro-Imaging
- Pediatrics: Clinical and Basic Science
- Meningioma
- RANO Update

E-talks and poster viewing will take place afterward to conclude the formal day. The SNO Gala Dinner begins later that evening as we gather for libations in the lobby of the Marriott Hotel and then proceed to parade through the streets of New Orleans, escorted by police, stil walkers, costumed performers, and a raucous brass band. Our parade will terminate at the New Orleans Contemporary Arts Center, where we will be treated to wonderful food and music for the remainder of the evening! Tickets are limited, please check availability by visiting the registration desk.

Sunday (November 18) Sunrise Sessions include:
- Brain Tumor Stem Cells as Drivers of Therapeutic Resistance
- Viral Therapies in Brain Tumor
- The Use of Machine Learning Methods in Neuro-Oncology
- Reproductive and Women's Neuro-Oncology
- Targeting Gliomas, Perspective from China
- Circulating Biomarkers
- Meningiomas: Molecular Advances and Targeted Therapy

Morning concurrent sessions follow on:
- Adult Clinical Trials
- Molecular Pathology/Stem Cells
- CNS Metastases
- Drug Discovery/Drug Resistance/Tumor Models
- Practical & Applied Neuro-Oncology
- Immunology

The meeting will adjourn with a discussion of meeting highlights by the Scientific Meeting Chairs and poster awards. This year’s meeting in “The Big Easy” promises to be a fantastic destination for brain tumor science, education, and networking!
SNO Pre-Conference Sessions

The SNO is pleased to present two special pre-conference sessions to the 2018 Annual Meeting. Details on each of these pre-conference events is provided below.

**Neuro-Oncology Review Course**  
*Chair: Maciej Mrugala*  
(Endorsed by the American Academy of Neurology)  
**Wednesday, November 14, 2018**

Building on the success of past programs, the Society for Neuro-Oncology is pleased to again host a full-day Neuro-Oncology Review Course as part of its educational programs for 2018. The course will take place on November 14, 2018 at the Marriott Hotel in New Orleans, Louisiana, immediately preceding the SNO Annual Scientific Meeting and Education Day, and offers a fast paced, full-day activity that provides high quality education and CME credits for all participants. Practicing physicians, residents and fellows, medical students, nurse practitioners, nurses, and all those interested in reviewing and enhancing their knowledge in the principles of clinical neuro-oncology will benefit from this program. The faculty of the course, selected from top neuro-oncology programs, will offer a comprehensive overview of clinical neuro-oncology.

**3rd CNS Anticancer Drug Discovery and Development Conference**  
*Chair: Victor Levin*  
**November 14–15, 2018**

The 3rd CNS Anticancer Drug Discovery and Development Conference will provide a setting to facilitate discussion of the range of issues that have impacted on the failure to develop unique drugs for CNS cancers as well as innovative approaches being applied to brain tumor chemotherapy. Through this educational and research-oriented conference the goals are to create a dialogue amongst attendees and their collaborators to enhance drug development for primary gliomas, medulloblastoma, and secondary metastatic CNS tumors and, thereby, improve patient outcomes.

Over 20 speakers representing a wide range of academia and industry have been invited to speak at this year’s conference. Select abstract presentations will be featured and an evening poster and networking reception will allow attendees the opportunity to discuss their research in a more informal setting.

For more information or to register for either of these important pre-conference sessions, visit the SNO website: www.soc-neuro-onc.org.

International Outreach Lunch

All members are welcome to join a lunch-time meeting of the SNO International Outreach Committee, on Saturday, November 17, in Galerie 4, led by committee co-chairs Jason Huse and Mustafa Khasraw.

The meeting will highlight SNO’s efforts to foster neuro-oncology education in the developing world, including recaps of the Wilkins Barrick Courses held this year in Peru (Rosdali Díaz) and Nigeria (James Balogun and Edjah Nduom). See articles on both of these events in pages of this newsletter.

SNO is pleased to award 2018 travel scholarships to the individuals listed below, who were selected based on a competitive application process. The scholarship recipients have been invited to present posters of their work during the Outreach Luncheon.

- Marianela Candolfi  
  Argentina
- Carlos D. Giménez Méndez  
  Paraguay
- Mehmet Kantar  
  Turkey
- Paul Vincent Opinaldo  
  Philippines
- Hoai an Hoang Nguyen  
  Viet Nam
- Qixue Wang  
  China
- Supriya Mallick  
  India
- Anish Man Singh  
  Nepal
- Khrystyna Zapotochna  
  Ukraine

Preregistration for the International Outreach Luncheon is not required; simply pick up your box lunch and proceed to Galerie 4.
Networking and Career Development Sessions at SNO

Three 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.

Career Development and Networking Reception
Thursday, November 15, 7:30-8:30PM.
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.

SNO Young Investigator’s Luncheon
Friday, November 16, 12:15 - 1:15PM. This year’s lunch will focus on the topic “Demystifying the Grant Application Process” and will feature a panel of experts who will cover various aspects of the process as well as answer questions. Pre-registration not required. Attendees will pick up lunch and make their way to meeting room.

- Pre-grant preparation (choosing a study section, how much preliminary data do you really need, etc), Amy Heimberger
- Writing the grant (dos and don’ts, touching on comments that routinely come up in study sections, etc.), Eva Galanis
- The NIH perspective, Jane Fountain

Neuro-Oncology Trainee Forum
From Fellowship to Leadership – Navigating the Early Years in Neuro-Oncology
Saturday November 17, 12:15-1:15PM

- Neuro-Oncology career search - avoiding pitfalls and gauging the needs against what programs have to offer, Vinay Puduvalli
- Contract negotiation - pitfalls and opportunities, Nina Paleologos
- Working for the FDA as a Neuro-Oncologist, Joohee Sul

For complete information on these sessions, visit the SNO website: www.soc-neuro-onc.org.

Career Lounge To Be Held In Exhibit Area

Building on a successful initiative career development initiative established by Gelareh Zadeh, 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 in the exhibit area of the Marriott Hotel and will be open on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday from 10am to 4pm during the SNO meeting. Contact the Career Lounge Coordinator, Sheela Purandhara, SNOcareerlounge@gmail.com.

Meet the Expert Videos

Be sure to watch SNO’s “Meet the Expert” videos, which will be available for viewing throughout the conference area, and via the app.

These 10-minute, videotaped talks by esteemed scientists and clinicians provide an overview of some of the key issues in brain tumor research. This year’s topics include CART T cell technology, neural stem cells, immunotherapy and neurosurgery-CAR T cells for glioblastoma.

2018 Meeting the Expert Video Presenters

Yvonne Chen
CAR T Cell Technology

Steve Pollard
Neural Stem Cells

Donald O’Rourke
Neurosurgery-CAR T Cells for Glioblastoma

Dean Lee
Immunotherapy
Enhance Your Meeting Experience with the 2018 SNO App

SNO is excited to announce that a mobile app for the 2018 Scientific Meeting and Education Day will soon be available for download! The 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, view posters and take session notes. Access the Attendee Directory to connect with new acquaintances and browse the scientific abstracts. You can even use the app as a reference tool after the conference ends.

Registered attendees will receive an email when the app is available for download.

Daily Highlights of the 2018 Meeting Available From the App

Videoptaped SNO Daily Highlights will again be featured at the Annual Meeting this year, in which invited discussants will review the most cutting-edge science from that day’s basic science and clinical research presentations. The SNO Daily Highlights will be recorded and made available for viewing that same evening via the meeting app.

Friday, November 16
Clinical: Marta Penas-Prado
Basic Science: Anita Hjelmeland

Saturday, November 17
Clinical: Jennifer Clarke
Basic Science: Annette Molinaro

Sunday, November 18
Meeting Recap & Poster Awards
Frank Furnari
Daphne Haas-Kogan
Vinay Puduvalli

Content for Neuro-Oncology Nurses, Nurse Practitioners, Physician Assistants, Social Workers, and other Allied Health Professionals

SNO appreciates that it may be a challenge for Allied Health Professionals (AHPs) to attend the entire annual meeting. All AHPs involved in neuro-oncology are therefore encouraged to attend the first two-days of the SNO meeting with sessions that will contribute to their professional competence in a rapidly changing work environment.

Focused content and networking sessions will bring together this important part of the neuro-oncology community, fostering collaboration and greater involvement in the activities of the Society.

Wednesday, November 14
- Full day Neuro-Oncology Review Course covering the principles and fundamentals of clinical neuro-oncology.
- Allied Health Professionals Networking Reception: Balancing Research with Clinical Care
  Stacey D. Green, Lauren Kloeppinger
  (Refreshments provided by Novocure)

Thursday, November 15
- Breakfast focus group addressing the future of AHPs within SNO.
- The SNO Education Day, focusing on clinical trials in the modern-day era.

In an effort to increase the participation of AHPs within SNO, registration scholarships for qualifying AHPs were offered for the first time this year. Those who did not qualify for a scholarship were still able to register for the annual meeting at a significantly reduced Allied Health rate. For complete details on AHP content at SNO, click here.
SNOCares Returns to Address Member Burnout at Annual Meeting

SNOCares, a wellness initiative, was launched last year to address member burnout after results shared from the Neuro-Oncology Burnout and Career Satisfaction survey found that 63% of neuro-oncology professionals have a higher incidence of burnout than those working in other areas of cancer.

Through the SNOCares initiative, SNO will incorporate various activities and tools throughout the annual meeting to provide healthy ways to manage stress, which in turn can mitigate symptoms of burnout.

Massages

On Thursday from 8:00am - 5:00pm, massage therapists will be available to provide complimentary chair massages in 15-minute increments. Routinely receiving massages triggers a relaxation response and improves the physical effects that can arise from stress. The massage chairs will be placed in the Preservation Hall Foyer area and will be available on a first-come basis.

Morning Yoga

Yoga has been shown to promote mindfulness providing overall awareness making it a great tool when plagued with stress-related events. Yoga sessions, led by a professional instructor, will be offered from 6:00 - 7:00am on Thursday, Friday and Saturday morning during the conference in Riverview II. Yoga mats will be provided. Space is limited and will be available on a first-come basis.

Wellness Events

Body Relax: On Friday from 10:05 - 10:20am, visit the SNOCares booth in Preservation Hall and attend a 5-minute body scan relaxation session. You’ll learn a simple method to help you tune-in to your body and relax the areas prone to stress. This technique can help you manage stressors in the midst of your busy day by teaching your body to invoke a healthy relaxation response instead of a stress response.

Time Management: On Saturday from 10:05 - 10:20am, visit the SNOCares booth to get tips on planning and prioritizing the time and energy you spend on tasks. Learning to better utilize your time can help you be more effective and achieve your goals. You will learn tips to help you focus and complete certain tasks, and how to be aware of your environment and needs for success. These tips should enable you to be in control of your time and ultimately, improve your work-life balance.

Stress Balls

Repeatedly gripping and releasing will help with management of tension and stress. Stress balls will be available at the SNOCares booth and the registration desk.

Stress Management Tips

Pick up a tip card on techniques to incorporate within one’s daily routine to promote relaxation at the SNOCares booth. You can also see our tip of the day featured each day on the meeting screens.

Twitter

On Friday from 3:00 - 4:00pm, Alvina Acquaye, the SNOCares Wellness Committee Co-chair, will be sharing live tweets on the SNO’s Twitter page @NeuroOnc on ways to manage stress and relaxing tips. Follow and share her #SNOCares tweets.

SNOCares hopes you find these activities, tips and techniques helpful and we look forward to more opportunities to implement overall wellness to improve work/life balance amongst our members.

SNO thanks Alvina Acquaye and Terri Armstrong for serving as co-chairs of the SNO Wellness Committee.
New Impact Factor of 9.384 for Neuro-Oncology!

The editorial office of Neuro-Oncology is pleased to announce that Science Citation Index (SCI) has assigned Neuro-Oncology an Impact Factor of 9.384 in its most recent ranking (up from 7.786).

Noted Editor-in-Chief Kenneth Aldape on the rise, “The steady increase in the Impact Factor, including that which has occurred in the past year, is a testament to the growth of our field and to the outstanding authors who have contributed work to the journal. Credit for this success goes to Patrick Wen, who served as Editor-in-Chief during this time, as well as our dedicated editors and editorial board for all their hard work and commitment to the success of Neuro-Oncology.”

The editors have collected the top 10 most cited articles which contributed to the new Impact Factor, which you can explore for free, by clicking here.

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.

SNO2018 Town Hall: Hot Topics in Neuro-Oncology

All registrants to the 2018 Annual SNO Meeting are invited to attend a “Town Hall” format session for some lively discussion on three topics of interest in the neuro-oncology community. Topics include:

- Drug repurposing
- Low grade glioma treatment
- “Right to Try” legislation

The Town Hall will take place on Thursday, November 15, 2018, 5:45pm-7:30pm, in the Grand Ballroom Acadia/Bissonet. Light refreshments will be provided prior to the session. Advance registration is not required.

Women in Neuro-Oncology (WiN)

The Society for Neuro-Oncology is pleased to announce the formation of the Women in Neuro Oncology (WiN) committee, written into the SNO bylaws in 2018.

The primary mission of WiN is to support women through education, mentorship, funding, and the collection of resources and metrics. WiN evolved from a working group of its founding members: Alyx Porter, Priya Kumthekar, Katy Peters, Erin Dunbar and Priscilla Brastianos, who acknowledged a critical unmet need for neuro-oncologists to support each other within this dynamic and evolving sub-specialty. These leaders represent the constellation of practicing neuro-oncologists; academic to private, leadership to administration, clinician to educator and investigator to industry.

Within this committee, strategies will be developed to support the diverse and evolving needs of our members. The accomplishments of women will be recognized and promoted. Innovative solutions to the dilemmas faced by our members will be implemented.

Kickoff Events at SNO2018

You are invited to be part of the kickoff event lunch at the SNO meeting in New Orleans on Thursday, November 15! Pick up your box lunch and make your way to room Galerie 5/6, where you will learn more about the committee and its activities. The following trail-blazing women in the field have been invited to share their experiences and answer questions during the luncheon: Terri Armstrong, National Institutes of Health/National Cancer Institute, Susan Chang, University of California, San Francisco, Amy Heimberger, MD Anderson Cancer Center, Helen Shih, Massachusetts General Hospital, and Lynne Taylor, University of Washington.

Additional information about WiN, including a listing of working groups and contact information, can be found by clicking here.
2018 Independent Supported Symposia at SNO

This year’s meeting will feature multiple Independent Supported Symposia (ISS) Sessions. Lunch-time and evening sessions will be offered as noted below. Register for the events by clicking on the links provided.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2018

12:15PM – 1:15PM
Integrative Solutions to Fragmented Glioblastoma Care in Community and Academic Settings
Sponsored by PRIME through an education grant by AbbVie, Inc.
Location: Galerie 5 – 6
Speakers:
Manmeet S. Ahluwalia
Gabriel Zada
Patrick Y. Wen
Craig M Horbinski
For more information and to register, click here.

5:30PM – 7:30PM
The Role of the Neuro-Oncologist in EGFR-Mutant NSCLC: Treating Leptomeningeal Carcinomatosis Within the Multidisciplinary Team
Supported by PrimeOncology through a grant by AstraZeneca.
Location: Galerie 5 – 6
Chair:  Maciej Mrugala
Speakers:
Barbara O’Brien
Jhanelle Gray
Helen Shih
For more information and to register, click here.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2018

12:15PM – 1:15PM
TRANSFORMING GlioBLASTOMA MANAGEMENT: A MasterClass on Evaluating Newer and Emerging Options in the Precision Medicine and Person-Centered Care
Jointly provided by PVI, PeerView Institute for Medical Education and Medical Learning Institute, Inc., supported by an educational grant from Novocure, and developed in collaboration with the American Brain Tumor Association
Location: Galerie 5-6
Chair: Steven Brem
Speakers:
Suriya Jeyapalan
Katherine Peters
For more information and to register, click here.

5:00PM – 7:00PM
Modern Tumor Board – Translating Molecular Pathology into Practice
Supported by Illumina
Location: Galerie 5-6
Chairs:
Farshad Nassiri
Suganth Suppiah
Speakers:
Daniel De Carvalho
William Couldwell
Michael McDermott
Ian Dunn
Leland Rogers
Sandro Santagata
Craig M Horbinski
Felix Sahm
For more information and to register, click here.
Inaugural Meeting of the Society for Neuro-Oncology Sub-Saharan Africa

The first meeting of the Society for Neuro-Oncology Sub-Saharan Africa (SNOSSA) was held at the Transcorp Hilton Hotel, Abuja on 22-23 July, 2018. SNOSSA was born out of the first Sub-Saharan Africa Neuro-Oncology Collaborative (S-SANOC) planning meeting in London last year (read more here), which was facilitated by the International outreach committee of the Society for Neuro-Oncology (SNO) led by Gelareh Zadeh, the International Brain Tumour Alliance (IBTA), the Greg-Wilkins Barrick Chair in International Surgery of the University of Toronto, and the Zimbabwe Brain Tumor Association (ZBTA) with the additional support of the European Association of Neuro-Oncology (EANO), Indian Society of Neuro-Oncology (ISNO) and the Asian Society of Neuro-Oncology (ASNO).

The meeting was attended by delegates from Sub-Saharan African countries as well as speakers drawn from the United States, United Kingdom, Canada, India and Greece.

There were a variety of sessions throughout the event, covering a range of topics. These included talks that considered the landscape of neuro-oncology in sub-Saharan Africa alongside discussions about gliomas. The highlight of this session was a keynote address by Rakesh Jalali, in which he concisely addressed the WHO 2016 update of brain tumours and the practical recommendations in the clinics – particularly in low-medium income countries. The session ended with a great talk from Evangelia Razis about palliative care for patients with brain tumours, in which she also noted the need for care providers to give psychological support.

The paediatric tumour session was kick-started by the President of the International Society of Pediatric Oncology (SIOP) Eric Bouffet, who gave an exciting talk about the management of medulloblastomas. Discussion centred on adapting the care of medulloblastoma to sub-Saharan Africa and leveraging on the recommendations of SIOP. There were also insightful discussions on the challenge of caring for children with gliomas and craniopharyngiomas.

The second day of the meeting had a thrilling patient advocacy session, which was co-sponsored by the IBTA, with talks about “the physician as a patient advocate”, the challenges of advocacy in Nigeria and Sub-Saharan Africa, and the challenges faced by caregivers of brain tumour patients. The session brought to the fore the need for collaboration between physicians and patient advocates, the need for increased listening and empathy by providers and the need to document the available neuro-oncology capacity in sub-Saharan Africa to facilitate access to services.

The event hosted panel discussions that looked at education, research and collaboration within and outside Africa. Chas Haynes, the executive director of the Society for Neuro-Oncology (SNO), explained more about the continuing support of SNO and the development of a resource to document neuro-oncology capacity in sub-Saharan Africa, which will also serve as an educational portal. He read a goodwill message from IBTA co-Director Kathy Oliver.

The meeting ended with a SNOSSA business meeting, where the Society’s Constitution was adopted and an Executive Council - to be led by James Balogun - elected. Two patient advocates were elected to the Executive Council: Bonita Suckling of Rainbows and Smiles in South Africa and Irene Azong-Wara of Jacob’s Hope Foundation in Cameroon. The hosting for the 2019 SNOSSA meeting was awarded to Cape Town, South Africa with Professor Alan Davidson as the conference chair.
The Wilkins-Barrick Course on Pediatric Neuro-Oncology held in Lima, Peru

Thanks to the efforts of the SNO International Outreach Committee and on behalf of Mark Bernstein, the Greg Wilkins-Barrick Chair in International Surgery at the University of Toronto, and Antonio Chiocca, President of SNO, the Pediatric Oncologists of the National Institute of Neoplastic Diseases, Rosdali Díaz and the Edgardo Rebagliati Martins National Hospital, Liliana Vasquez and Ivan Maza had the opportunity to organize an International Scientific event aimed at the care of pediatric patients with Central Nervous System Tumors in Latin America, for which we counted on the mentorship from the Neuro Oncology Program at Nationwide Children's Hospital, through Diana S. Osorio and Jonathan L. Finlay. We also took advantage of this great event to continue to develop the Third Pediatric Neuro Oncology Symposium for Latin America (PLANO), which had its beginnings with GRAACC in Sao Paulo, Brazil.

The event took place on August 31 and September 1, 2018, uniting 21 globally recognized subspecialists in the fields of pediatric Neuro-oncology, Neurosurgery, Neuro-Pathology, Radiation Oncology, Neuro-Radiology, Neuro-Rehabilitation, Palliative Care and Cancer Data Registry. We initiated with a general overview of the current state of neuro-oncology in Latin America with a brief discussion about the available resources for neuro-oncology throughout Latin America and expanded on patient outcomes in countries like Peru and Chile, which was given by local oncologists. We proceeded with our educational program discussing on all the main topics of pediatric neuro-oncology. Starting with the perils of delays in diagnoses seen not only in developing countries, but in developed countries as well, and we discussed ways of educating the general community to help prevent such delays including programs that originated in the UK known as “HeadSmart.” Our expert panel of speakers provided us with educational material as well as emphasized the importance of multi-disciplinary team effort and communication among the different subspecialties. We delved into the management of the specific pediatric brain tumors tying in the current molecular understanding of some of these entities while still keeping it relevant to Latin America. We focused on neuro-surgical techniques and challenges and provided basics in neuro-radiology and neuro-pathology. Each day closed after discussion of several, local clinical cases in the presence of the expert panel of speakers, who provided their valuable feedback. We understood the audience especially liked this part seeing the various opinions from these experts.

The second half of the second day was split into three concurrent sessions, in the main room continuing with educational talks about neurocutaneous syndromes and other genetic conditions that can predispose children to CNS cancers. Followed by sessions regarding survivorship, palliative care, neuro-rehabilitation, abandonment rates in Latin America (specifically in Peru), and the importance of a cancer registry. In two other rooms we concurrently held workshops on specific neurosurgical topics including local case discussions while in the other room we split time between radiation oncology and neuropathology, each with didactics and case discussions.

Ninety percent of our participants had free registration thanks to the support of our sponsors Nationwide Children's Hospital, St. Jude Childrens Research Hospital and Children's National DC, as well as local sponsors who helped to make such an ambitious event possible. There were 144 participants, with representation from 86 pediatric oncologists, 27 neurosurgeons, 15 radiotherapists, 4 pathologists, 2 radiologists, 1 geneticist, 3 neurologists, 6 fellows. One of the reasons for the success of this meeting was the experience and expertise of the speakers since they are world leaders in their respective subspecialties and the recommendations given were relevant to the resources and capabilities of low-to-middle income countries.

Additionally, we were able to record the sessions onto video, and we hope to make this available on the internet. Again, we would like to express our immense gratitude to SNO for having provided us with this magnificent learning opportunity for pediatric subspecialists from all over Latin America. Thank you for supporting us in our desires to find ways to bridge and lessen the survival gap for children with CNS cancers in our countries.
1st Asia-Pacific Neuro-Oncology CME Conference

The inaugural Harvard Medical School Asia-Pacific Neuro-Oncology CME Conference was held July 23-27, 2018 at the Fairmont Orchid Hotel in Waimea, Hawaii. The meeting was led by course director Tracy Batchelor and course co-directors Patrick Wen, Nino Chiocca, Jay Loeffler, Deborah Forst, and Nancy Tarbell from Harvard Medical School. This five-day CME course provided a comprehensive review of the diagnosis and management of adult and pediatric patients with primary and metastatic brain and spinal cord tumors and neurologic complications of cancer.

Nearly 100 participants from 13 different countries and 4 continents attended 52 talks on selected topics in neuro-oncology, presented by an international faculty of adult and pediatric neuro-oncologists, neurosurgeons, radiation oncologists, neuropathologists, neuroradiologists, and epidemiologists. In addition, the course featured two interactive “International Tumor Board” sessions, in which clinicians from across the world presented challenging cases for group discussion. The 2nd Harvard Medical School Asia-Pacific Neuro-Oncology CME Conference will be held August 3-7, 2020 at the Sheraton Maui Resort & Spa in Lahaina, Hawaii.

1st Annual Middle East Neuro-Oncology Conference held at American University Beirut

The 1st Annual Middle East Neuro-Oncology Conference was held September 21-22, 2018, at the American University of Beirut. Organized by the Naef K. Basile Cancer Institute (NKBCI) and the Continuing Medical Education (CME) Office at the American University of Beirut Medical Center (AUBMC) in collaboration with Massachusetts General Hospital (MGH) and Heidelberg University (HU), the conference agenda was designed to address practice gaps and to convey recent advances in neuro-oncology to practitioners, researchers, and trainees from the region. The conference directors, Drs. Hazem Assi (AUBMC), Tracy Batchelor (MGH), and Wolfgang Wick (HU) invited experts from different subspecialties worldwide for this first meeting.

Conference topics included current updates in neuro-oncology, pathology, imaging, and treatment strategies, as well as the implementation of new techniques into current practices. Attendees were also provided with a platform for collaborations with other disciplines to implement more effective multidisciplinary care of neuro-oncology patients in the region. The conference faculty included 22 international, regional, and local speakers. Nearly 200 physicians, nurses, and trainees attended the conference representing multiple disciplines and 12 countries including Lebanon, Syria, Iraq, Jordan, Saudi Arabia, Turkey, and Qatar. The 2nd Annual Middle East Neuro-Oncology Conference will be held at AUBMC on September 13-14, 2019.
SNO Member Survey Results

By Gelareh Zadeh

The field of neuro-oncology has experienced considerable positive growth in the past decade, with increasing interest in research and clinical care delivery for patients with brain tumors. There is a clear exponential rise in membership to the Society for Neuro-Oncology, with expertise being built in each of the multiple disciplines to advance neuro-oncology. The Society has benefitted tremendously from this growth and we are witnessing a transformation. SNO leadership felt it would be essential to hear from the membership on areas of interest and opportunities for improvement and growth to assess how best to engage a growing membership.

A survey was prepared with input from leadership of SNO. The survey was distributed electronically to the SNO membership in June 2018. The survey resulted in over 400 responses, which is the highest response rate of any survey sent exclusively to active members, reflecting interest and engagement of the membership.

Overall, the respondents indicated that:

1. SNO should advocate on Capitol Hill regarding issues relevant to the SNO membership or to the field (85%)
2. SNO’s flagship journal, Neuro-Oncology, serves the membership well (94%)
3. SNO’s second journal, Neuro-Oncology Practice, serves the membership well (90%)
4. SNO should serve as a resource for obtaining research funding and offer training on obtaining funding (90%)

Common themes emerged in the aggregate responses that can be synthesized to four key areas. First, the membership expressed a desire to have more information on the structure of leadership of the Society (49%) together with open understanding in mechanisms on how to more directly engage and become involved with the Society. Second, and related to the first, is having more information and input in the strategic directions of the Society (71%). Notably however, as shown in the following chart, only 22% of respondents were aware of how to become involved in leadership within SNO.

A third common theme is to improve representation of different disciplines, different levels of trainees and learners. The fourth common theme is to build the educational content and opportunities in the form of updates, primers, and practical teaching.

In response to these common themes the current SNO leadership has considered introducing the following new initiatives:

1. Improving Understanding of the Structure and Organization of SNO Leadership

To be launched at the 2019 annual meeting, the SNO elected and administrative leadership will host a special session open to all members that will provide an overview of the leadership positions within SNO, the current officers holding those positions, and the process for nominating a slate of candidates for elected office. Pathways for members wishing to be considered for service positions will also be discussed. In addition, the strategic initiatives of SNO will be reviewed, along with a review of the various SNO committees and the leadership structure of each.

2. Improve Engagement and Involvement of Membership

To ensure members of the Society have an opportunity for increased engagement we have decided to reach-out with a call for expression of interest for two key roles: a) Abstract reviewers and b) Journal editorial board members.

Abstract reviewers: The annual scientific meeting of SNO is primarily abstract driven. Peer-review of abstracts is essential to ensure selection of the most impactful and highest quality abstracts for presentation at the annual meeting. There will be a call for expression
of interest to participate as an abstract reviewer to those members who have not had prior involvement. There will be an online form to complete and 50 new members will be selected based on priority to fields of expertise under-represented in SNO, including young investigators and allied health.

Journal editorial board members: To increase and build a robust membership of the journal editorial board, the leadership of *Neuro-Oncology, Neuro-Oncology Practice*, and any new SNO publishing efforts will have a call for expression of interest to attract and invite new members to join the editorial boards and provide the opportunity to serve as reviewers of manuscripts submitted to the society’s journals.

3. Improve Membership from Under-represented Disciplines
We will focus on increasing membership in disciplines that hold less than 10% of membership in the society. A peer-invitation program will be piloted for a two-year period. Every SNO member is encouraged to invite a member from one of the following disciplines: radiation oncology, nursing, scientists, epidemiologists and statisticians, pediatric neuro-oncology, psychology. With introduction of each new member a discount on subsequent meeting registration will be offered to the SNO member.

4. Improve Understanding of Strategic Priorities and Input in Future Directions
Given the growth of the society and that majority of themes emerging in the survey reflect a desire for more knowledge about the society, the SNO presidential address will include updates on the organization, strategic directions, and new initiatives of SNO. In addition, a continued annual survey of the membership will allow for input and engagement of the broader community of SNO.

5. Introduction of New Educational Content
A new initiative that will role out in the upcoming year is to request submission of proposals for educational courses or educational tools that can be promoted by SNO through the annual meeting, web-based or via other educational platforms. Topics that were indicated in the survey to be of interest include Young Investigators Practical Courses on How To Build an Academic Career, How To Set-up a Lab, and Allied Health.

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**Mark Your Calendars for SNO’s Conferences in 2019!**

**5th Biennial Pediatric Neuro-Oncology Basic and Translational Research Conference**
May 3 - 4, 2019
Westin St. Francis Hotel
San Francisco, California
*Submission Deadline Friday, December 7, 2018*

- Conference Co-Chairs
  - Nada Jabado
  - Sabine Mueller

**The Inaugural SNO Conference on Brain Metastases**
August 16-17, 2019
InterContinental New York Barclay Hotel
New York City
*Submission Deadline Monday, April 29, 2019*

- Conference Co-Chairs
  - Ayal Aizer
  - Manmeet Ahluwalia
  - Eudocia Quant Lee

**24th Annual Scientific Meeting and Education Day of the Society for Neuro-Oncology**
November 20-24, 2019
JW Marriott Desert Ridge Hotel
Phoenix, Arizona

- Conference Co-Chairs
  - Monika Hegi
  - Daphne Haas-Kogan
  - Michael Lim
  - David Schiff

- Education Day Co-Chairs
  - Christina Amidei
  - Ranjit Bindra
  - Daniel Cahill
  - Michelle Monje Deisseroth
  - Deborah Forst
  - Duane Mitchell
2018 SNO Committees

Audit Committee
Chair: Gene Barnett

Awards Committee
Chair: Manish Aghi

Bylaws Committee
Chair: Michael Lim

Communications Committee
Co-Chairs: Albert Kim, Jennie Taylor

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

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

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

International Outreach Committee
Co-Chairs: Jason Huse, Mustafa Khasraw

External Relations Committee
Chair: Vinay Puduvalli

Membership Committee
Chair: Macarena de la Fuente

Public Policy Committee
Co-Chairs: Jann Sarkaria, Monica Venere, E. Antonio Chiocca

Website and Technology Committee
Chair: Erik Sulman

Wellness Committee
Co-Chairs: Alvina Acquaye, Terri Armstrong

Women in Neuro-oncology Committee (WIN)
Co-Chairs: Priscilla Brastianos and Alyx Porter Umphrey

Young Investigators Committee
Co-Chairs: Monica Venere, Milan Chheda, Eudocia Lee

Congratulations to incoming
Radiology Board Representative:
Raymond Huang

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President: Patrick Wen
Vice President: Gelareh Zadeh
Secretary-Treasurer: Tracy Batchelor

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Nicholas Butowski, Neuro-Oncology
Ian Dunn, Neurosurgery
Annette Molinaro, Other Specialties
Michelle Monje, Pediatrics
Whitney Pope, Radiology
Solmaz Sahebjam, Medical Oncology
Erik Sulman, Radiation Oncology
Michael Taylor, Basic Science

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SNO Editor Patrick Wen

Neuro-Oncology Practice
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SNO Editor Jeffrey Wefel

WFNOS Magazine
SNO Editor Nicholas Butowski

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

Editors: Albert Kim and Jennie Taylor
SNO Communications Chairs

Associate Editor: Chas Haynes
SNO Executive Director

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