The 2008 SNACC meeting was held in Orlando Florida October 17.

There was a nice mix of basic science, clinical presentations, oral research, and poster presentations. The day started with a presentation by Emery Brown MD PhD from Massachusetts General Hospital discussing mechanisms of anesthesia. He elegantly reviewed the brainstem pathways involved in anesthesia, EEG correlates, and arousal pathways.

Crosby and Prough did a session on the aging brain. This discussion included an overview of the demographics, micro and macro anatomic changes, and issues with age related tolerance of various insults and the role of training and life long learning in making things a bit better.

Editors of major anesthesia journals, Mike Todd, Adrian Gelb, John Hartung, and Dave Warner presented issues in scientific publishing. This was followed by a very spirited discussion.....

Ansgar Brambrink presented the New Investigator Award to Alexander Zlotnik of the University of Washington and Dr Zlotnik presented his work called “Effect of Maleate on Blood Scavenging Activity and Neurological Outcome in Closed Head Injury in Rats.” This remarkable study showed how systemic oxaloacetate administration, by decreasing blood glutamate levels, produces a brain: blood concentration gradient which decreases brain glutamate to then confer neuroprotection. Maleate specifically blocks this peripheral effect of OAA and attenuates neuroprotection.
SNACC President’s Message

Basil Matta, M.D., F.R.C.A.
Cambridge University Foundation Trust Hospitals
Cambridge, U.K.
President, SNACC

Dear colleagues:

It gives me great pleasure to write my first report as president of this most truly international society. The world seems in turmoil with never ending bad news. However, despite the uncertainty in the world about jobs and finances, and the implications of the changing political climate, our society must preserve its multidisciplinary nature which makes it unique amongst the various subspecialty societies so that we can continue to go from strength to strength. In these difficult times, it is necessary to look closely at our programs and our conduct as a Society in order to ensure longevity. It is disappointing, although probably not surprising given the world financial slump, to see our membership has shrunk from 464 in 2007 to 428 in 2008; almost 10%. More concerning to me is the fact that most of these losses are due to reductions in international and resident members. We have built our reputation on being truly international, and as being the guardians of our subspecialty. Hence, this decline must be reversed if we are to achieve our raison d’etre!

At the society’s annual meeting in Orlando, Florida on October 17th, 2008, I was touched by the number of individuals who offered me their congratulations and best wishes on becoming the president. I was also encouraged by the number of members who thrust their business cards in my hand offering to get more involved in the Society’s business in a variety of ways. Some are keen on education, some on promoting research, others willing to take part in improving communication and international collaborations, but by far the largest proportion were keen to encourage and mentor our young faculty to join and take an active part in SNACC. This is very timely and extremely welcome. Our Society has many active programs that require more input and dissemination. These programmes are designed to build on, and continue to further advance the research and educational accomplishments already achieved in Neuroanaesthesia and Neuro-Critical Care by the collective talents of the diverse members of SNACC. The Board has created a committee structure that will provide a venue for the talents of these volunteers. The committees (International relations, Scientific, Education, Neurointensive Care, Neuroanaesthesia Fellowship, Neuromonitoring, and Nominations committee), each with chair and task, are listed in the newsletter and on the website. Reports from these committees are presented to the board at the Spring Meeting and are available for those interested. Although the work of all these committees is important, the one that requires most support at present is the Neuroanaesthesia Fellowship task force chaired by George Mashour, University of Michigan. The situation with subspecialty fellowship accreditation and certification has been the subject of significant debate in recent years with articles in the JNA and the SNACC newsletter arguing the pros and cons of this. However, while we continue to debate this, colleagues in other subspecialties are soldiering on ahead with the development of fellowship programmes in neurocritical care, pain, cardiac anaesthesia and pediatric anesthesia. Thus the board felt it necessary to appoint an energetic individual eager to take on this potentially daunting and possibly time consuming task for neuroanaesthesia. Please contact Dr Mashour if you want to help or to make any suggestions. gmashour@umich.edu

Another debate that continues to rumble is the name of the society, and whether “Society of Neurosurgical Anesthesiology and Critical Care” accurately reflect what the society represents. It has been suggested by several members that “Society for Neuroscience in Anesthesia and Critical Care” more accurately reflects our activities now. After 37 years from inception, SNACC members will be asked to think about a possible name change this coming year. This is your society and the board is here to serve you, our members. However, we can only do this if you keep us informed of your wishes, likes and dislikes. The board is here to represent your interests, not to rule! So please think, debate, decide and, later on this year, vote!

The first SNACC event I attended was the 20th annual meeting in 1993 which was held in Washington DC. I have just joined the Department of Anesthesiology in Seattle as an Assistant Professor on my 2 year “experience abroad” from the British system. I, like my British-trained colleagues, wanted to travel, do a bit of skiing, and gain a little bit more experience in dealing with major trauma. Contrary to some of my other colleagues who went stateside, I did not want to buy a 4x4 to take back to England, nor did I want one of my children born in the USA so they can have an American Passport! Before I got to Seattle, I did not consider myself to be a future neuroanaesthesiologist, and most certainly not someone who is interested in research. How did all that change you may ask? I was fortunate enough to meet Professor Arthur Lam. Arthur managed to spark my interest in clinical and academic neuroanaesthesia, and then mentored me for the remainder of my time in Seattle. The rest as they say is history! If we are to survive as an international society looking after that welfare of neuroanaesthesia, then we must encourage young and international members to join us. Encourage your trainees to pursue a career in neuroanaesthesia and critical care. Be an advocate for SNACC in your own departments, hospitals and universities. Let your colleagues know about the clinical and research expertise of our membership. Inform your neuroscience colleagues about the scientific discourse in our annual meeting, and what a great platform for networking our annual meeting is. Our objective is to make every resident and every non member feel like the lady in the dinner who watched Meg Ryan in Sleepless in Seattle in that famous scene – I want what she’s having!

I would like to conclude by thanking you once again. I am honored to serve you as president of SNACC this year and proud to count on you as colleagues and friends moving forward. I wish you all a very Happy and Prosperous New Year, and see you in New Orleans.

Yours truly,
Basil Matta
The Business meeting included three important events

The recognition of residents presenting quality abstracts who were recipients of the SNACC resident travel awards.

The presentation of the Distinguished Teacher Award to Ebgerhard Kochs

And the orderly transfer of power to the new SNACC president, Basil Matta.

Many oral and poster abstracts were presented.

A sampling of what I saw follows.

Gupta et al. presented their experience giving adenosine boluses during aneurysm surgery.

Whittington et al. showed tau phosphorylation with isoflurane.
Barodka et al showed toxicity of isoflurane but not sevoflurane to human glioma cells at relatively low clinical concentrations.

Straatman et al showed no effect of isoflurane given to elderly rats.

Zhang et al showed enhanced neuronal repair mechanisms with isoflurane preconditioning before brain ischemia.

Ricken et al reported that sevoflurane compared to isoflurane given during TBI produced less edema but more histological damage.

Sato et al demonstrated the potential for both remifentanil and sevoflurane to induce seizure spikes during intraoperative ECoG.

Gupta et al reported on potentially useful plasma biomarkers of brain damage during aneurysm surgery.
Gaudet et al in CEA patients found a correlation of plasma MMP-9 levels and the occurrence of postoperative cognitive dysfunction.

Thiele and Nemergut reported no effect of tight glucose control on outcome after SAH.

Shakespeare et al reviewed the records at Mayo Clinic in patients sustaining postoperative neck hematoma, describing their successful airway algorithms.
The meeting ended with a debate on value of ICP monitoring and then a Wine and cheese soiree.
2008 John D. Michenfelder New Investigator Award Goes to Alexander Zlotnik, University of Washington

Dr. Zlotnik presented his work called “Effect of Maleate on Blood Scavenging Activity and Neurological Outcome in Closed Head Injury in Rats.” This remarkable study showed how systemic oxaloacetate administration, by decreasing blood glutamate levels, produces a brain: blood concentration gradient which decreases brain glutamate to then confer neuroprotection. Maleate specifically blocks this peripheral effect of OAA and attenuates neuroprotection. Congratulations to Dr Zlotnik, his colleagues, and mentors.

Effect of Maleate on Blood Scavenging Activity and Neurological Outcome in Closed Head Injury in Rats
Alexander Zlotnik, M.D., Avner Leon, M.D., Alan A. Artru, M.D., Shaun E. Gruenbaum, B.S., Yoram Shapira, M.D., Ph.D., Soroka University Medical Center, University of Washington Medical Center.

Introduction: Treatment with oxaloacetate following traumatic brain injury (TBI) has been shown to decrease blood glutamate (G) levels, thereby protecting against the neurotoxic effects of G on the brain. A number of potential mechanisms have been suggested to explain the neuroprotective properties of oxaloacetate. The present study proposes that the primary mechanism by which oxaloacetate provides neuroprotection is by activation of glutamate-oxaloacetate transaminase (GOT), a glutamate-scavenging enzyme. Following TBI, the addition of GOT-blocking maleate is thus expected to prevent the neuroprotective effects of oxaloacetate.

Materials and Methods: Spontaneously breathing 40 male S.D. rats weighing 200 to 300 g were anesthetized with 2 isoflurane and a cranial impact of 0.5 J was delivered by a rod. A neurological severity score (NSS) was measured 1 hour after closed head injury (CHI) in rats, after which the rats received 30 microliter/minute/100 g infusion of saline, or 1 mmoL/100 g solution of oxaloacetate, maleate, or a mixture of oxaloacetate and maleate. The NSS was reassessed at 24 hours and 48 hours after CHI. Blood G and glucose levels were measured at 0, 60, 90, and 120 minutes. The decrease in blood G concentrations and the NSS improvement were calculated respectively as follows: (Gt=0-Gt= 90 min)/Gt=0; (NSSt=1 h-NSSt=48 h)/NSSt=1 hour.

Results: Significant improvements in NSS were measured only in the rats treated with oxaloacetate at 24 hours (P<0.0001) and 48 hours (P<0.001) compared with the control group (Fig. 1). Significant reductions in blood G levels were measured only in the oxaloacetatetreated group at 90 minutes (immediately after treatment) compared with the control group (P<0.0001). A strong correlation was demonstrated between the percent decrease in blood G levels and percent decrease in NSS (P<0.001) (Fig. 2).

Discussion: The results of this study demonstrate that the primary mechanism by which oxaloacetate provides neuroprotective activity following CHI is related to its blood G scavenging activity. A greater understanding of this mechanism may have important implications in the treatment of acute brain conditions, including CHI, hemorrhage, and stroke.
SNACC travel awards are given to residents presenting abstracts judged by the SNACC Scientific Affairs Committee to be in the top 10 among resident submissions.

In 2008, awardees were:

John Patrick F. Bebawy, M.D., *Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine*

Veit-Simon Eckle, M.D., *Technical University of Munich*

John G. Gaudet, M.D., *Columbia University*

Hironobu Hayashi, M.D., *Nara Medical University*

Shinichiro Miyazaki, M.D., *National Cardiovascular Center*

Ryo Ota, M.D., *University of California, San Francisco*

Ryan P. Pong, M.D., *University of Washington*

Clara Ricken, PharmD, *Johannes Gutenberg- University, Mainz*

Claudia K Stapelfeldt, M.D., DEAA, *University of Schleswig-Holstein Campus Kiel*

Robert H. Thiele, M.D., *University of Virginia Health System.*

*Funded by the Integra Foundation.*
Distinguished Service Award Nominations

SNACC members are asked to submit nominees for the Society’s Distinguished Service Award for presentation at the SNACC 2009 Annual Meeting in New Orleans. The award is presented to an individual who has made outstanding contributions to the field of neuroanesthesia and their distinguished service to the Society. Nominations may be made to the SNACC office by August 3, 2009. To make a nomination, please forward the name of the nominee along with a brief summary of the reasons for the nomination. Nominations should be forwarded to Jill Mlodoch at j.mlodoch@asahq.org

International Neuroanesthesia Meetings

Asian Society for Neuroanesthesia and Neurocritical Care

- The first congress of Asian Society for Neuroanesthesia and Critical Care (ASNACC) was held from Nov 28th to Dec 1st 2008 in, Beijing, China.  http://www.asnacc.com/en/index.asp

Annual Italian Neuroanesthesia Meeting 2009

- The 2009 Meeting will take place on May 20 – 23 at the splendid Certosi di Pontignano, property of the University of Siena.
  www.unisi.it/servizi/certosa and www.annualneuromeeting.it

Bi Annual Autumn German Neuroanesthesia Meeting 2008

- The last meeting took place in Günszburg (29th of November 2008) and the program of this future meeting is on the web-page of the German Neuroanesthesia Society
  www.neuroanaesthesie-online.de/index1.html
- The 2009 meeting will be in Murnau in autumn 2009.

Annual Meeting of the Neuroanesthesia Society of Great Britain and Ireland

- This year’s meeting will be held May 7-8 2009 in Liverpool. Maybe you will see one of the remaining Beatles!
- Keep an eye on their web page for more information. http://www.nasgbi.org.uk
By Karen B. Domino, M.D., M.P.H.

Professor Dr. Eberhard Kochs, M.D., M.Sc., Chair of the Department of Anaesthesia, Klinikum rechts der Isar, Technische Universität in Munich, Germany, received the 2008 Award for Distinguished Teacher of the Year at the 36th Annual Meeting on Friday October 17 in Orlando, Florida. During the business luncheon meeting, a large group of Professor Kochs’ past trainees stood up and cheered when Professor Kochs received this important and prestigious honor!

The SNACC Distinguished Teacher of the Year Award is given to individuals who have shown continued excellence in neuroanesthesia education. Professor Kochs was chosen by the selection committee (Karen B. Domino, M.D., M.P.H., Deborah Rusy, M.D., and Brenda Fahy, M.D.) based upon over two decades of outstanding mentorship, curricular design, and development of educational programs in neuroanesthesia and neurological critical care. Professor Kochs has mentored over 50 trainees in neuroanesthesia and the majority of these trainees have excelled in careers in academic medicine. Two of his trainees (Christian Werner, M.D. and Kristin Englehard, M.D.) recently held leadership positions in SNACC. Professor Kochs’ ability to inspire and motivate such a large number of residents and fellows to develop and succeed in academic medicine is truly remarkable!

Professor Kochs has been instrumental in the design of medical student, resident, and fellow education at the Technische Universität in Munich. He is responsible for curricular design in anesthesiology, emergency medicine, and intensive care curriculum in the medical school. Professor Kochs has strongly promoted simulation-based education, and he was instrumental in establishing simulation-based anesthesia training for medical students and simulation-based training in CPR and crisis resource management. He was instrumental in developing a curriculum in neuromonitoring in anesthesia, which was implemented throughout Germany. This program provides theoretical and practical training in a variety of neuromonitoring techniques and results in certification.

Professor Kochs was described by his trainees as possessing superb broad clinical and research expertise, with the unique talent to impart knowledge in a “fascinating and exciting way”. He constantly contributes to education with “precise comments and scientific remarks, regardless of the topic at hand” and with a “very structured and analyzed manner with a strong theoretical background.” Professor Kochs is described as one of the “most gifted teachers in the international arena of academic medicine.” See the photo on page 11, taken at the 2007 ASA meeting of Dr Kochs with his colleagues and trainees who were presenting their research.

Professor Kochs is internationally recognized for his clinical and basic research throughout anesthesiology, including depth of anesthesia monitoring, neuroprotection, postoperative cognitive deficit, mechanisms of pain, modulation of receptor function by anesthetics, and septic encephalopathy. He has produced over 245 journal articles and 55 book chapters. His research is internationally highly regarded, and he has received many awards and research grants over the decades, as well as journal editorships.
In addition to being a prolific clinician, teacher, and scientist, Professor Kochs possesses the personal attributes that are so important in medical training and development of professionalism today. These characteristics include honesty, respect, dedication, reliability, kindness, and humility.

To sum it up, Christian Werner, MD, Professor and Chairman at the Department of Anesthesiology, Johannes Gutenberg-Universitat, in Mainz, Germany and Past President of SNACC wrote in his nomination letter: “I can truly and by all heart characterize Dr. Eberhard Kochs as my teacher. My maturation to become an academic physician was clearly related to Professor Kochs’ ability to identify potential in individuals, to motivate for research and clinical work, and to taper teaching programs according to individual skills”. Clearly, Professor Kochs educational efforts have resulted in a legacy of successful academicians and clinicians in neuroanesthesiology for which all of us aspire. We congratulate him on receiving the 2008 SNACC Distinguished Teacher of the Year Award.
Feeling Fine in ’09: 
Journal of Neurosurgical Anesthesiology

Having refrained from investing our Office Supplies Slush Fund with Bernie Madoff, JNA headed into 2009 with an OSSF surplus of more than fifty-seven dollars!

More important, between Ovid and jnsa.com, we received approximately 166,920 visits, 28,956 full-text article views and 297,312 page hits in 2008. These new metrics (remember when we used to talk about subscriptions?) accord well with JNA’s Impact factor of 2.53 ... an IF that places JNA 6th among 22 journals grouped under anesthesiology. Indeed, discounting pain journals (because most of their readers, and so most of their citations, come from other specialties), JNA has the third highest citation rate in anesthesiology ... behind only Anesthesiology and the British Journal of Anaesthesia. Not bad for a subspecialty journal!

And to whom do we owe this good fortune? First and foremost, to the investigators who submit manuscripts for publication; second (and not far behind), to reviewers who hone the best of those manuscripts; third, to loyal readers (most of whom also read the SNACC Newsletter!); and fourth, to our marvelously supportive publisher, Lippincott Williams & Wilkins.

JNA, the subspecialty whose work it publishes, and the societies with which it is affiliated, have thrived through economic downturns and upswings ... thanks to all of you. We look forward to the pending economic upswing and the increase in research that it will support. Meanwhile, with the continued support of SNACC members as authors, reviewers and readers, we look forward to holding our own among anesthesiology journals.

Jim Cottrell and John Hartung
John D. Michenfelder New Investigator Award

The Society of Neurosurgical Anesthesiology and Critical Care, in its efforts to encourage anesthesiology residents, fellows, and junior faculty to become more involved in the Society, is excited to offer the John D. Michenfelder New Investigator Award. The award is presented annually to the resident, fellow or starting junior faculty whose research exemplifies the Society’s mission of improving the art and science of neurosurgical anesthesia, and the care of the critically ill, neurologically impaired patient.

Eligibility: Member of SNACC and Resident, Fellow, or Junior faculty at the time of the award and within three years of the end of training.

Selection Process: Recipient of award is chosen by the SNACC Committee on New Investigator Award based on the submission of a full length manuscript reporting the research. To be considered, the applicant must be a SNACC member and will need to submit an online abstract, checking the respective box to identify their interest in the NIA. In addition, the applicant for the award needs to submit a full length manuscript to snaccmeetings@asahq.org. New Investigator Manuscript Deadline is: June 19, 2009
Meet the New Board Members

Rafi Avitsian
Cleveland Clinic Foundation
Dept. of Anesthesiology
avitsir@ccf.org

Rafi Avitsian M.D. is the Section Head for the Neurosurgical Anesthesiology Section in Cleveland Clinic Foundation (CCF) in Cleveland, Ohio. He is also a staff anesthesiologist in this department and Assistant Professor of Anesthesiology in Cleveland Clinic Lerner College of Medicine of Case Western Reserve University.

Highly interested in promoting and elevating professional and educational activities, Dr. Avitsian has been active in the Resident & Medical Student and PBLD committees of ASA, as well as involving himself with the Society of Education in Anesthesia. Dr. Avitsian also has a special passion in resident education and was awarded various teaching awards including: Best Teacher of the Year, the Arthur Barnes Distinguished Teacher Award and the Distinguished Educator Award. His academic interest is mostly in brain tumors, brain protection and outcomes of spine surgery as well as Difficult Airway Management. His clinical studies are mostly directed to finding ways to improve the outcome of surgery after neurosurgical procedures. He is also interested in the development of new airway devices. Following his passion for neuroanesthesia he has been an active member of SNACC since residency submitting posters and acting as poster session moderator. As a member of SNACC Education Committee, he has assisted in the formation of online PBLD discussions. Dr. Avitsian envisions establishment of a nationally accepted curriculum for neuroanesthesia fellowships.

Antoun Koht, M.D.
Northwestern University
a-koht@northwestern.edu

After completing residency in anesthesiology and fellowship in neuroanesthesiology at Northwestern University, Dr. Koht joined the staff there and soon assumed the role of Director of Neuroanesthesia. One of his first accomplishments in that position was formalizing and strengthening the neuroanesthesia clinical fellowship, which saw continuous growth and productivity over the following ten years. During that period of time, Dr. Tod Sloan and he oversaw the clinical neuromonitoring service, and made great strides in the provision of intraoperative neuromonitoring. A one year sabbatical in Germany with Professor Schramm (neurosurgeon) broadened his research base in intraoperative evoked potentials and paved the way for him to serve on the board of four international spinal cord monitoring symposiums. In 2006, he rejoined the faculty of Northwestern University as Director of Neuroanesthesia. Dr Koht was named Teacher of the Year by the Northwestern residents and was honored by a mentorship award from the junior staff.

His clinical interests are education and research in neurosurgical anesthesia in general, and intraoperative evoked potential monitoring in particular.
The Subcommittee on Education continues its initiative: a web-based problem-based learning discussion (PBLD). Web-based PBLD is conceptually similar to the PBLD presented at the ASA and PGA. It commonly includes:

a) three-to-four learning objectives,
b) case for discussion,
c) several sets of questions, and
d) discussion.

Questions would be interspersed throughout the case. Initially, we would plan to introduce one case every two months. New questions would be posted every two weeks. A reader then could write a short opinion or suggest an approach to solve a particular problem. The Moderator would be responsible to review the opinion, respond to each participant, as well as post a “correct” answer at the end of each period (approximately two weeks). We would appreciate it if the attending anesthesiologists would encourage their residents to participate in the discussion. The committee believes that a web-based PBLD would play an important role in meeting the educational needs of practicing anesthesiologists as well as residents.

SNACC members are encouraged to submit their cases and direct their students to take advantage of this new educational resource. See http://www.snacc.org. A member of the educational subcommittee will review the submissions. Cases are needed. Submit now!

Please contact Alex Bekker directly if you have any questions or would like to contribute. alex.bekker@nyumc.org

SNACC 2009 Preliminary Scientific Program

Monica Vavilala, VP for Education and Scientific Affairs

BASIC SCIENCE TALK: GENDER NEUROBIOLOGY (Today’s Knowledge, Future Applications in neuroanes-
thesia/critical care):

MINISYMPOSIUM # 1: Clinical Implications of Emerging Technologies in Neuroanesthesia/CCM
CNS Tissue oxygen monitoring
Photothera IR therapy

MINI-SYMPOSIUM # 2: “Editor’s Picks of three best articles” in NA/CCM JNA
Anesthesiology
Anesthesia & Analgesia

CLINICAL FORUM: Perspectives on Subspecialty Accreditation:
Experience with Pediatric Anesthesia
Chair’s perspective
Neuroanesthesiologist perspective
SNACC 2009 Nominations

The Nominating Committee shall consist of two (2) regular members of the Society who are not officers or directors and who are elected at the annual meeting for staggered two (2) year terms, and the President-Elect (Greg Crosby) who shall preside as chair of the committee. The Nominating Committee will be seeking nominations for nominating committee, Vice-President for Communications, Secretary-Treasurer, and one Director-at-Large for election at the October 2009 SNACC meeting. Plus, at least one member of the nominating committee will need to be chosen.

The bylaws reads “Additional nominations for officers may be made by the membership by petitions duly filed with the Secretary/Treasurer at least thirty (30) days prior to an election at the annual membership meeting. In order to qualify as nominating petitions, there shall be affixed thereto the signatures of twenty-five (25) members of the Society as a minimum.” Individuals chosen for these positions are those who have demonstrated a commitment to SNACC and have served in a number of administrative positions. Their experience with these administrative responsibilities as well as their effectiveness in performing these tasks is crucial in their nomination. The following lists the responsibilities expected from each position up for election this year.

Vice-President for Communications. The Vice-President for Communications shall serve to publish a newsletter, to maintain a Web site for the Society, and to perform such other duties as may be prescribed by the Board of Directors or President. The Vice-President for Communications will serve a two (2) year term.

The bylaws permit one person to hold two offices and the position of secretary and of treasurer have recently been combined into one position.

Secretary. The Secretary shall attend all sessions of the Executive Committee and Board and act as clerk thereof, and record all the votes of the Society and the minutes of all its transactions in a book to be kept for that purpose; and shall perform like duties for all committees of the Board of Directors when required. The Secretary shall give, or cause to be given, notice of all meetings of the Executive Committee or Board of Directors, and shall perform such other duties as may be prescribed by the Board of Directors or President, under whose supervision the Secretary shall be. The Secretary shall keep in safe custody the corporate seal of the Society, and, when authorized by the Board affix the same to any instrument requiring it.

Treasurer. The Treasurer shall have custody of the corporate funds and securities and shall keep full and accurate accounts of receipts and disbursements in books belonging to the Society, and shall keep the moneys of the Society in a separate account to the credit of the Society. The Treasurer shall disburse the funds of the Society as may be ordered by the Executive Committee or Board, taking proper vouchers for such disbursements, and shall render to the President and directors, at the regular meetings of the Executive Committee or Board, or whenever they may require it, an account of all transactions as Treasurer and of the financial condition of the Society.

Directors at Large of the Board of Directors. These individuals should be members in good standing of SNACC and provide advice and promote the activities of the Society. They are required to attend the Board of Director’s meeting on Thursday before the annual meeting in the fall. They will serve staggered 3 year terms.

Nominating Committee. This is described above.

Please forward suggested nominees for these positions to the SNACC office at snacc@ASAhq.org
One of the highlights of the SNACC Annual Meeting has been presentation of scientific abstracts. The format of the scientific sessions has been poster discussions. Abstracts are typically divided into groups of ten to twelve that cover similar subject matters. Each poster session has been lead by two moderators. At least one of the moderators is a “senior member” of SNACC. SNACC has been pleased by the high quality and wide variety of topics of the abstracts. Presenters have represented multiple countries and have ranged from students to full professors. These scientific sessions have received excellent reviews by SNACC meeting attendees.

The 37th SNACC Annual Meeting will be held in New Orleans on October 16, 2009. It is time again to start preparing abstracts for the 2009 SNACC Annual Meeting. This year’s submission deadline is June 1, 2009. The abstracts should be submitted electronically through the SNACC website, and follow the format outlined in the instructions. Submissions can start on April 6, 2009. Each abstract will be graded by three Scientific Affairs Committee Members, and selected based on their scientific merit. Accepted abstracts will be published in the October 2009 issue of the Journal of Neurosurgical Anesthesiology. Presenting abstracts in the 2009 SNACC annual Meeting does not conflict with presenting also at the 2009 ASA Annual meeting.

SNACC encourages investigators to support their students, residents and junior faculty. The SNACC scientific meeting provides an excellent environment for young investigators to present their work and gain experience in communicating their research with other scientists. It also offers a good opportunity to discuss future research ideas with nationally and internationally known experts.

In the past years, due to a generous contribution from Integra Foundation, SNACC has been able to offer a travel award to the ten residents with highest scoring abstracts. When submitting the abstracts please mark the form accordingly (travel award), as we hope to be able to present travel awards again this year. Also, posters that will be presented by residents will be marked as such on the poster boards with recognition noted in the meeting book and at the business meeting.

Available for residents, fellows and junior faculty within three years of ending their post-graduate training, is the John D. Michenfelder New Investigator Award. Please note you must be a SNACC member to be eligible. To be considered, the applicant will need to submit an online abstract, and check the respective box to identify their interest. In addition, the applicant for the award needs to submit a full length manuscript to snaccmeetings@asahq.org. The deadline to submit your manuscript is June 19, 2009. The final award recipient will be asked to make an oral presentation of their work at the SNACC Annual Meeting and will receive a plaque in honor of this occasion and $2500 for travel reimbursement. Last years winner was Alexander Zlotnik of the University of Washington, Seattle, with a manuscript and presentation titled “Effect of Maleate on Blood Scavenging Activity and Neurological Outcome in Closed Head Injury in Rats.”

With the 2009 SNACC Annual Meeting approaching, please start making travel arrangements and preparing your abstracts. I look forward to seeing you in New Orleans and SNACC thanks you in advance for making the scientific sessions of the SNACC Annual Meetings enjoyable and scientifically rewarding.

SNACC Call for Abstracts 37th Annual Meeting, New Orleans
October 16, 2009

Online abstract submission available: April 6, 2009
Abstract Submission Deadline is: June 1, 2009
New Investigator Manuscript Deadline is: June 19, 2009

Please contact the SNACC office at (847) 825-5586 or snacc@asahq.org should you have any questions regarding the above information. We look forward to receiving your submission.
SNACC Committees  How to contribute to the Society!

Many members have approached us and enthusiastically offered to work more closely with SNACC activities going forward. We need to maintain this momentum in order to strengthen our society. Given this outpouring of volunteerism, we have created a committee structure that will provide a venue for the talents of our membership. The committees, each with charge and chair, are listed below. Reports of those presented at the spring board of directors meeting follow below.

**International Relations**  Martin Smith, chair and Kristin Engelhard, co-chair
1) Contact international neuroanesthesia societies
2) Propose joint programs with sister societies
3) Establish an international network for clinical trials

**Scientific**  Deborah Culley
2008 annual meeting abstract grading and presentations
Propose clinical studies for research network

**Education**  Alex Bekker, chair and Katherine Lauer, co-chair
Case-studies for website
Trainee outline
residents
fellows

**Neurointensive Care**  Ansgar Brambrink
Liaison with Neuro Critical Care Society
Propose educational programs

**Neuroanesthesia fellowship**  George Mashour
Survey US training programs offering neuro fellowships
Propose training guidelines

**Neuromonitoring Committee**  Marc Bloom, chair and Tony Koht, co-chair
Establish educational programs for neuromonitoring (Web site and Meeting)
Propose clinical studies for research network

**Website-Newsletter**  Andy Kofke

**Nominations Committee**  Gregory Crosby

If you are interested in serving on any of these committees please send a note to SNACC President Basil Matta basil@bmatta.demon.co.uk
Mashour appointed Head of Neuroanesthesia Fellowship Task Force

George Mashour, University of Michigan, has accepted the position as chair of the Neuroanesthesia Fellowship task force. The situation with subspecialty fellowship accreditation and certification has been the subject of significant debate in recent years with articles in the JNA and the SNACC newsletter arguing pro and con on this. As we debate this however, colleagues on neurocritical care, pain, cardiac anesthesia and pediatric anesthesia are moving along with their own debates and proceeding with fellowship development. Thus the board thought it necessary to appoint an energetic individual eager to take on this potentially daunting and possibly time consuming task for neuroanesthesia. Please contact Dr Mashour if you want to help or to make any suggestions.
gmashour@umich.edu  734-936-4280.
WHAT DOES ASA MANAGEMENT SERVICES DO FOR SNACC

Financial Management:
• Prepare Annual Operating Budgets
• Prepare Meeting Budgets
• Process Accounts Payable and Accounts Receivable
• Prepare Monthly Financial Statements for Society Treasurer
• Maintain Societies’ Financial Books
• Prepare and Submit All Necessary Tax Forms
• Arrange for Society Financial Audits

Governance Management:
• Assist Society Leaders in Strategic Planning, Planning Major Society Programs and Managing Society Board and Committee Meetings
• Organize, Produce and Distribute Board Books and Other Committee Meeting Materials
• Prepare Board and Committee Meeting Minutes (where applicable)
• Staff Board and Committee Meetings and Teleconferences
• Provide Assistance to Boards and Committees on Their Activities Between Meetings and Teleconferences

Membership Management:
• Prepare and Distribute Dues Statements, Including Payment Reminders and Final Notices
• Answer Members Inquiries About the Status of Their Membership and Dues Payments
• Send Welcome Certificates to New Members
• Process Dues Payments and (where applicable) Separate Payments for Society Journal Affiliations
• Maintain Membership Database
• Prepare Monthly Membership Status Reports
• Confirm Members’ Society Memberships for Outside Groups (e.g., employers) Seeking to Confirm Prospective Employees’ Credentials

Newsletter Management:
• Edit Newsletter Content from Society Newsletter Editors/Authors
• Manage Newsletter Distribution

Society Meetings Management:
• Develop and Distribute Requests for Proposals to Prospective Meeting Facilities, Including Meeting Specifications and Other Logistical Considerations
• Assist Society Leaders with Final Site Selection
• Negotiate and Manage Contracts with Hotels and Other Meeting Facilities
• Negotiate and Manage Contracts with Vendors (e.g., A/V, exhibitor set-up)
• Prepare and Conduct Site Visits
• Ensure Program Meets ACCME Requirements for CME Credit
• Promote Meetings
• Set-up Meeting Registration System
• Process Meeting Registrations
• Manage Meeting Abstract Solicitation and Collection Process as Part of Abstract Review Process
• Work with Exhibits Manager on Exhibitor Prospectus and Logistics for Exhibits
• Solicit and Collect Speaker Disclosure Forms, Registration Forms and A/V Requirements
• Prepare Meeting Syllabi and Other Meeting Materials
• Provide On-Site Meeting Management Services
• Assist Societies Leaders with Post-Meeting Evaluation Process
• Manage Overall Process for Meeting Attendees to Obtain CME Credits
Web Site Management:
- Host Web Sites

Miscellaneous:
- Store Society Files
- Answer Member and Non-Member Inquiries
At the 2008 ASA Annual Meeting, simulation-based teaching was sponsored by sub-specialty societies for the first time. SNACC kicked off the five sessions with two simulated cases presented to small groups of doctors. Non-neuroanesthesiologists had the opportunity to manage cases they might occasionally encounter in a regular anesthesia practice. Participants had the chance to learn about and improve their management skills for crisis events, and to hear advice from specialists in neuroanesthesia. The teachers representing SNACC included: Dimitry Baranov & Andy Kofke-University of Pennsylvania, William McIvor & Steve Whitehurst-University of Pittsburgh, Kathryn Lauer-University of Wisconsin, Keith Ruskin-Yale University, Lisa Sinz-Penn State University, and Ellen Wang-Harvard University. Many thanks for their help and expertise! Planning for next year’s event is underway, and SNACC is again being asked to develop a session with neuroanesthesia cases that would be challenging and appropriate for anesthesiologists in a typical practice. Please contact Lisa Sinz with any suggestions or questions about the sessions. esinz@psu.edu

“Participants had the chance to learn about and improve their management skills for crisis events, and to hear advice from specialists in neuroanesthesia.”
2008-09 Officers

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1974-1975 John D. Michenfelder, M.D.
1975-1976 Maurice Albin, M.D.
1976-1977 Brian M. Marshall, M.D.
1977-1978 Harvey M. Shapiro, M.D.
1978-1979 Donald P. Becker, M.D.
1979-1980 James R. Harp, M.D.
1980-1981 S. Craighead Alexander, M.D.
1981-1982 James E. Cottrell, M.D.
1982-1983 Peter J. Janetta, M.D.
1983-1984 M. Jane Matjasko, M.D.
1984-1985 Derek Bruce, M.D.
1985-1986 Robert F. Bedford, M.D.
1986-1987 Lawrence Marshall, M.D.
1987-1988 Phillipa Newfield, M.D.
1988-1989 Neal Kassell, M.D.
1989-1990 Wayne K. Marshall, M.D.
1990-1991 Lawrence H. Pitts, M.D.
1991-1992 David S. Smith, M.D., Ph.D.
1992-1993 Alan A. Artru, M.D.
1993-1994 William L. Lanier, M.D.
1994-1995 David S. Warner, M.D.
1995-1996 Adrian W. Gelb, M.D.
1996-1997 William L. Young, M.D.
1997-1998 Arthur M. Lam, M.D.
1998-1999 Patricia H. Petrozza, M.D.
1999-2000 Jeffrey R. Kirsch, M.D.
2000-2001 Christian P. Werner, M.D.
2001-2002 Daniel J. Cole, M.D.
2002-2003 Tod B. Sloan, M.D.
2003-2004 Piyush M. Patel, M.D.
2004-2005 Karen B. Domino, M.D.
2005-2006 Concezio Tommasino, M.D.
2006-2007 Cornelis J. Kalkman, M.D.
2007-2008 Sulpicio G. Soriano, M.D.
2008-2009 Basil Matta, M.D.
2009-2010 Gregory J. Crosby, M.D.