



AMERICAN  
THYROID  
ASSOCIATION  
FOUNDED 1923

# ATA SIGNAL

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE AMERICAN THYROID ASSOCIATION

VOLUME 6 NO. 2, AUGUST 2003

## 75th Annual Meeting Features State of the Art Lecture on Proteomics

This year's **Abbott State of the Art Lecture** is being presented by Mark W. Duncan, PhD, who is a professor of pharmaceutical sciences, biochemistry, molecular genetics, director of the Biochemical Mass Spectrometry Facility, and director of the Cancer Center's Protein Microchemistry Core at the University of Colorado Health Sciences Center in Denver. The lecture, *Promises and Pitfalls of Proteomics*, is being given on Saturday, Sept. 20, during the ATA Annual Meeting in Palm Beach, Fla.

"Consistent with the views of many other scientists, both from commercial and academic quarters, I am convinced of the potential of proteomics to contribute to many avenues in the biomedical sciences," says Dr. Duncan. Proteomics is projected to grow from a \$565 million market in 2001 to more than \$3.3 billion in 2006,

representing more than 40 percent average annual growth rate.

He describes proteomics as large-scale science, and explains that investigators working in their own laboratories find the cost of the capital equipment prohibitive. "It is difficult to amass the special expertise required to generate meaningful data," says Dr. Duncan. A central resource is the model most leading institutions have adopted.



Good examples include Harvard University, University of Pennsylvania, Vanderbilt University, Washington University, Yale, the Mayo Clinic, and many others. "Our facility at the University of Colorado has more than \$4 million in capital equipment and is one of the best equipped facilities in the country," he adds.

In his lecture, Dr. Duncan will explain proteomics, talk about its potential, discuss *continued on page 2*

## Three New Investigators Receive ATA Research Grants

Three new research projects in thyroid function and disease are being supported by the 2003 ATA Research Grant Program:

- Two investigators received \$25,000 two-year grants funded solely by the ATA.
- One investigator received a \$25,000 research grant from ThyCa: the Thyroid Cancer Survivors Association, Inc., being awarded for the first time, specifically for research in thyroid cancer.

*continued on page 6*

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



This will be my last *Signal* message to you as ATA president. My brief term is

nearly completed, just about at the time I'm finally becoming comfortable! It has been a singular honor and pleasure for me to serve.

Now, what do I think I accomplished this year? In my first *Signal* message after assuming the ATA presidency, I set forth several goals: One goal was to ensure that the committees, the lifeblood of our organization, continued to function effectively. That goal,

*continued on page 2*

## IN THIS ISSUE

**New ATA Logo**  
Page 3

**Secretary's Report**  
Page 3

**Treasurer's Report**  
Page 3

**New Members**  
Page 5

**Public Health Forum**  
Page 7

**Council Highlights**  
Page 8

**Upcoming Meetings**  
Page 9

**2003 Candidates**  
Page 10-11

## IMPORTANT ATA MEMBER NOTICES

- See ATA candidates for president-elect and directors on pages 10-11.
- Annual ATA Business Meeting—Wednesday, Sept. 17—See page 4 for details.

**President's Message***continued from front page*

for the most part, has been achieved, I believe. Indeed, a few of our committees have been working overtime this year, especially Public Health and Clinical Affairs. These committees, under the leadership of Vic Bernet and Ken Burman and Mike Tuttle, respectively, have been confronted with special challenges, particularly relating to the Subclinical Thyroid Disease Consensus Panel issue. The committees functioned superbly and continue to do so.

Patient Education and Advocacy, chaired by Alan Farwell, has been generating articles for lay readers for our web site; Alan has also been active in exploring additional areas of patient education as well. I would also like to acknowledge the Research Committee, chaired by Sandra McLachlan. Sandy never says "no" to a request, and she and her committee have spent countless hours reviewing proposals. Ditto for the Program Committee, chaired by Rebecca Bahn and Bryan Haugen. Unfortunately, space limitations do not allow me to acknowledge each committee individually. Please know that I sincerely appreciate the efforts of all committee members. The committee structure is thriving, but it can only continue to do so if members of our organization stay involved and if those who are on the "sidelines" become active. So, please contact the ATA office regarding your willingness to serve your organization.

Another goal I had set forth for this year was to expand our reach internationally, and I personally had in mind Vietnam. Our colleagues there would like to form a society similar to the ATA – with our help. As you may recall from an earlier message, I had envisioned assisting with a first-ever thyroid symposium in Hanoi for spring 2003. The SARS epidemic prevented that from happening, but I'll be going to Vietnam the week after our September ATA meeting to explore the possibility further.

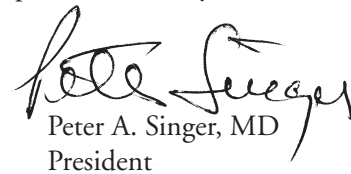
Perhaps the one area where I think I have had the most impact this year was in fostering a closer relationship with our sister society, AACE, augmented by the efforts of liaisons Elliot Levy and Jeffrey Garber. Collaborative ventures have taken place, such as with the KI conference in February. AACE and the ATA will be joining together at our annual meeting, with AACE having their ultrasound course at Palm Beach. Other collaborative efforts include participation by ATA in AACE's upcoming thyroid awareness program in January 2004 and future AACE/ATA ultrasound workshops. AACE Immediate Past-President Hossein Gharib and AACE President Don Bergman have taken enlightened leadership positions regarding working together; and for that, I am deeply appreciative.

One unfinished piece of business pertains to the levothyroxine bioequivalence issue, and the thyroid

community will have another opportunity to present its case to the FDA. On Sept. 15, 2003, AACE President Don Bergman, Endocrine Society President Chip Ridgway, ATA Secretary Paul Ladenson, and I will meet with an FDA panel.

As my term draws to an end, I especially wish to acknowledge the members of the "e-mail and conference call loop" – Secretary Paul Ladenson, Treasurer David Cooper, and Executive Director Bobbi Smith. Their support, guidance, and (at times) gentle prodding were a great source of comfort, and they made me feel like I knew what I was doing. Whether or not I did, I certainly have enjoyed the process. I also would like to acknowledge the members of the Executive Council; several members took on additional ad hoc tasks, as have other members of the ATA, and for that I am grateful.

Mostly, colleagues, I am grateful for the honor of having being afforded this unique opportunity to serve the ATA. Whatever your opinions may be about the infamous 16 words in President Bush's State of the Union Address, here are 16 words you can absolutely accept at face value: "It has been my very great privilege to serve the ATA as your president – many thanks!"



Peter A. Singer, MD  
President

**75th Annual Meeting***continued from front page*

the practical aspects, and demonstrate how it is easy to be confounded if very careful consideration is not given to data generation and interpretation. He

will provide insight into proteomics with examples from his institution's data, including some examples from the thyroid.

To pre-register for the ATA 75th Annual Meeting, Sept. 16–21, at The Breakers Hotel, go to [www.thyroid.org](http://www.thyroid.org).

## New ATA Logo Represents Organization Focus

The ATA has adopted a new look that represents its membership and the forward-looking goals of the society. The process to develop a new logo came about in 2001 when then-President Carole Spencer, proposed the idea based on recommendations in the ATA Strategic Plan.

The Executive Council

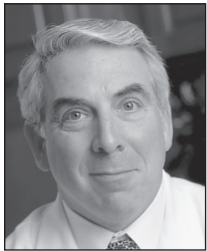
created the ATA Logo Task Force, composed of Drs. Stephanie Lee, Angela Inzerillo, Elliot Levy, Shireen Fatemi, James Hennessey, and Carole Spencer. Logo proposals were considered by the Council, posted on the ATA web site, and displayed at the 74th Annual Meeting in Los Angeles. The task force presented the final logo designs to the Council in



March 2003, and the Council selected the current logo to symbolize the evolving nature of the ATA.

“Much appreciation should be given to the ATA Logo Task Force and to the ATA Executive Council for accomplishing an important step forward for the ATA,” says ATA President Peter A. Singer. “The new logo is a modern and elegant symbol that represents the focus of our society.”

## Secretary's Report



The last five years have been a period of considerable accomplishment for the ATA. We have enhanced our societal voice,

impact, and infrastructure. We are financially strong. And we have retained the collegial ambience that enriches our society and its network of friends and colleagues around the world.

Our publications now include *Thyroid*, the premier publication worldwide dedicated to thyroid research, under the creative leadership of Terry Davies; the *Signal* newsletter,

launched by Peter Singer and now ably piloted by Jeff Garber; and *Clinical Thyroidology*, which under Bob Utiger's wise direction reaches an audience of 12,000 physicians with the latest thyroid clinical research.

The ATA has become a “player” in sponsorship of special conferences in our field: the Subclinical Thyroid Disease Consensus Conference, held in conjunction with The Endocrine Society and the American Association of Clinical Endocrinologists (AACE); the conference on Public Health Strategies for Protecting the Thyroid With Potassium Iodide in the Event of a Nuclear Incident, which drew national attention; our planned 2004 Maternal and Fetal Thyroid Health

Conference, and the 2005 Horizons in Clinical Thyroidology Meeting. Our potent [www.thyroid.org](http://www.thyroid.org) web presence is prominently recognized by every major Internet search engine – as of today, it is first among thyroid listings by both Google and AltaVista – and it is visited by thousands of web surfers each month.

One key to becoming the “mouse that roared” has been close cooperation with other professional societies. We cooperated with AACE in presenting the potassium iodide (KI) conference, in the joint scheduling for ultrasound courses, and will be participating in the upcoming thyroid awareness program. We have

*continued on page 4*

## Treasurer's Report



It has been a pleasure and an honor to serve as your treasurer for the last five years. The time has gone very quickly, and I am pleased to say that our financial picture continues to be strong. During my

tenure, there has been significant changes in the ATA's finances and fiscal strategy.

As our operations have grown more complex, we have added dedicated staff to assist in the management of our budgets and accounts. We have retained a new accountant who is located closer to our central office in Virginia, and we will also be employing a new insurance agent in

the coming year. Starting in 1998, we embarked on a major fundraising campaign that has raised almost \$1.5 million.

Because of the need to wisely invest these monies, the Council approved a new investment strategy in late 1999. With the assistance of a professional money manager, we entered the stock

*continued on page 7*

**Secretary's Report***continued from page 3*

also worked with The Endocrine Society and others in Endocrine Sister Societies, the AMA Endocrine Interest Group, and the Association of Subspecialty Professors. Our society has interacted effectively with several government agencies on issues of importance to our field: The Congress regarding KI for thyroid radioprotection; the NIH on study section reorganization; the FDA on thyroxine therapy; the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services on testing for thyroid cancer; and most recently, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

We have accomplished these things without sacrificing the ATA's special intimacy. Our membership has increased only modestly – some would say too modestly – from 482 to 562 members, but Annual Meeting attendance by members increased by 50 percent between 1998 and 2002. And we weathered the tragic events of Sept. 11, which was – as our members will always remember – to be the evening of our 2001 opening reception.

In parallel with these achievements, the ATA has achieved substantial financial growth and stability. Our annual income from dues, meeting registration, industry support, the fund-raising campaign,

and other contributions and investment income has risen from \$554,390 in 1998 to \$2,042,938 in 2002, including a doubling of Annual Meeting revenue and a five-fold increase in philanthropic support. Meanwhile, our association's expenses for staff, office, and programs have only doubled, from \$532,889 to \$1,085,487. As our result, our total cash reserves and endowment have increased from \$870,175 to \$2,222,898.

Many people deserve credit for these accomplishments. Each of our five recent presidents has made their own important contribution to the association's future. Pepper Davis launched the Campaign for Thyroid Discovery; Marty Surks championed recruitment of qualified new members; Bill Chin led development of a visionary strategic plan that has charted our course; Carole Spencer strengthened the composition and effectiveness of our committees and heightened our commitment to improving laboratory service; and Peter Singer has shown the way to even greater inter-societal cooperation with AACE and the Thyroid Foundation of America.

Many members have labored effectively and imaginatively on our committees. All of them deserve our

thanks, but several have been special standouts: Susan Mandel and Mike Tuttle of Clinical Affairs, Sandy McLachlan of Research, Vic Bernet of Public Health, and Alan Farwell of Patient Education and Advocacy. Year after year, our program chairs have also risen to the enormous challenge of creating a fresh and exciting Annual Meeting. Your Treasurer David Cooper has been not only the steady hand on our financial helm but also my most trusted consigliere. And, of course, the ATA's professional and dedicated staff, led by Bobbi Smith, deserves more credit than any member, except the secretary and treasurer, will ever know.

It has been such a joy to be your secretary during this exciting time. To paraphrase General MacArthur, old secretaries don't die, and they don't "just fade away" either. As is evident from my immediate predecessors – Colum Gorman, Lew Braverman, Len Wartofsky, and Marty Surks – they remain the ATA's most loyal and enthusiastic supporters.



Paul W. Ladenson, MD

## **Don't Miss the ATA Annual Business Meeting on Opening Day**

ATA active members are invited to attend the Annual Business Meeting, Wednesday, Sept. 17, from 3 p.m.–4:30 p.m., in the Ponce de Leon Ballroom at The Breakers Hotel during the ATA Annual Meeting in Palm Beach, Fla. This members-only meeting will feature election results, committee reports, and other important member issues.

## ATA Welcomes New Members

The ATA expresses appreciation to the sponsors who are responsible for recommending and introducing colleagues to the benefits of membership.

### Active

Richard Berkson, MD  
Marge Ewertz, RN  
Sunil Gopinath, MD  
Cheryl Pickett, MD, PhD

### Sponsor

Peter A. Singer, MD  
Paul W. Ladenson, MD  
Cary N. Mariash, MD  
William L. Green, MD

### Associate

Sako Chen, MD

Jonathan S. LoPresti, MD, PhD

### Corresponding

Hans Graf, MD, PhD

Antonio C. Bianco, MD, PhD

**To become an ATA member, go to [www.thyroid.org](http://www.thyroid.org), and click on “Professionals.”  
Or call the ATA headquarters at 703-998-8890.**

## Keep the ATA Strong: Recruit New Members



Dear ATA Member:

The Membership Committee has continuously proposed and, with the full support of the Council, implemented measures to attract young clinicians and investigators to join the ATA. As a result, during the last 10 years, the committee has approved an average of 21 new active members per year. Although encouraging, the current number of new active members only keeps us in the steady state and does not support membership growth directed by the ATA Strategic Plan. The Membership Committee has strengthened the programs already in place and implemented new initiatives

in order to attract members and minimize the potential loss of membership over the next 10 years.

Last year, the Membership Committee proposed a bylaw amendment which would expand our eligibility criteria to include professionals without MD or PhD degrees, who work in both clinical and thyroid research-related areas. Nurses constitute an example of the type of professional category that would qualify for membership under the new amended bylaws. The nomination, review, and approval process by the Membership Committee and Council would remain unchanged. The proposal was placed “on the table” during our last assembly and will be voted on during our upcoming meeting in Palm Beach. We think this will only strengthen the ATA and increase its

impact in both patient care and research.

Lastly, the Membership Committee relies on you and all ATA members to continuously identify and nominate new members who will be the future leaders in the thyroid field and maintain the exceptional level of professional distinction of the ATA.

We are counting on you to encourage your colleagues and associates to join the ATA. Offer to write a letter of sponsorship and shepherd their application through the membership committee process. Guarantee that our society carries on for another lively 80 years!

Antonio C. Bianco, MD, PhD  
Chair, Membership Committee

## Thyroid Cancer Survivors Plan 6th International Conference

The 6th International Thyroid Cancer Survivors' Conference is being held at the Wyndham Greenspoint Hotel in Houston, Tex., from Oct. 24–26, 2003, and is sponsored by the national voluntary nonprofit organization ThyCa: Thyroid Cancer Survivors' Association, Inc. This special educational conference for thyroid cancer survivors, families, and friends will include more than 50 sessions for people with every type of thyroid cancer, including those newly diagnosed with thyroid cancer, long-term survivors, and their family members.

Prominent physicians, including numerous members of the ATA, will speak and answer questions about thyroid cancer from patients and family members. These physicians represent the many specialties involved in thyroid cancer

care, including endocrinology, surgery, pathology, nuclear medicine, and palliative care. They will address issues ranging from diagnosis and treatment to research advances and future trends in thyroid cancer care.

An informal, give-and-take format will give participants the chance for in-depth discussion of issues related to thyroid cancer care. Workshops will also focus on coping with the emotional and practical effects of thyroid cancer, self care, well-being, health insurance, employment issues, caregivers' needs, and the perspectives of long-term thyroid cancer survivors.

Registration materials and conference details are available on ThyCa's web site, [www.thyca.org](http://www.thyca.org). For more information, e-mail [thyca@thyca.org](mailto:thyca@thyca.org) or call toll free at 877-588-7904.



### ATA Research Grants

*continued from front page*

"The ATA continues to expand its research grant opportunities and is very excited to offer a new research award in thyroid cancer due to the generosity of ThyCa," said Sandra M. McLachlan, PhD, chair of the ATA Research Committee.

The 2003 ATA research grant recipients are Eric M. Jacobson, PhD, of Mount Sinai School of Medicine in New York City for his research proposal *Molecular Determinants of*

*the Presentation of Immunogenic Thyroglobulin Peptides by HLA-DR3* and Jeffrey A. Knauf, PhD, of the University of Cincinnati College of Medicine in Cincinnati for his research proposal *Tyrosine Kinase Receptor Oncogenes and Prostanoid Biosynthesis: Role of RET/PTC-induced Activation of Prostaglandin E2 Synthase in Thyroid Tumorigenesis*.

The recipient of the 2003 ATA ThyCa Research Grant is Xiulong Xu,

PhD, of Rush Presbyterian St. Luke's Medical Center in Chicago for the research proposal *BRAF Gene Mutation and the Oncogenesis of Papillary Thyroid Carcinomas*.

"On behalf of all thyroid cancer survivors, I would like to thank everyone at the ATA for helping us begin funding thyroid cancer research," said Gary Bloom of ThyCa. "We are pleased to have an opportunity to advance thyroid cancer research."

**ATA research awards** are targeted to fund new investigators to obtain preliminary data that can lead to further work and funding from additional sources, such as the National Institutes of Health.

The grant recipients received their awards in July to enable them to begin their research immediately. Their names will be announced at the Annual Business Meeting in Palm Beach, Fla., in September. It is anticipated that their findings will be presented at future ATA meetings, later published, and will provide the basis for future applications.

## ATA and Colleagues Offer Public Health Forum

During the ATA Annual Meeting, a free public awareness educational forum will be held on Thursday, Sept. 18, 2003, from 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. at The Breakers Hotel in Palm Beach, Fla. Residents of South Florida will hear from thyroid experts and thyroid patients about thyroid disorders and have the opportunity to have their questions answered.

The forum is being organized by the ATA and the Thyroid Foundation of America (TFA) along with the

Endocrine Nurses' Society, ThyCa: Thyroid Cancer Survivors' Association, the National Graves' Disease Foundation, and the Light of Life Foundation.

Attendees will receive educational materials at no cost. Reservations are requested by calling the TFA at 800-832-8321 or by e-mailing [thyca@thyca.org](mailto:thyca@thyca.org). Walk-ins are also welcome.

If you are interested in helping promote this forum in South Florida, contact Bobbi Smith at [bsmith@thyroid.org](mailto:bsmith@thyroid.org).

### Consumer publications available on radioactive iodine

The National Cancer Institute (NCI) has released new publications addressing radioactive iodine (I-131) from fallout. The materials are designed to address the concerns of Americans who were exposed to I-131 from above-ground nuclear testing in the 1950s and early 1960s.

The resources available for distribution include:

- **Get the Facts about Exposure to I-131 Radiation** — A general information brochure that provides information about the Nevada tests and identifies individuals at particular risk.
- **Making Choices: Screening for Thyroid Cancer** — A workbook for individuals concerned about their exposure to I-131 from fallout.
- **Radioactive Iodine (I-131) and Thyroid Cancer— an Educational Resource** — A flipchart presentation for Native Americans, available online and in print.

“These materials were developed by a broad-based committee, including health physicists, epidemiologists, and thyroidologists such as myself and other ATA members,” said David V. Becker, MD, of New York Presbyterian Hospital in New York City and an ATA past president. “The NCI had in-depth input from a number of groups, including activists, to be certain that necessary authoritative information was included but on a level that would be understandable by the public. The materials also provide nomograms to enable exposed individuals to estimate their radiation dose from nuclear weapons tests fallout.”

These materials can be viewed and ordered online at [www.cancer.gov/i131](http://www.cancer.gov/i131). Or, for more information, call the NCI's Cancer Information Service at 800-4-CANCER.

### Treasurer's Report

*continued from page 3*

market with some trepidation in early 2000. Since then, we have experienced the same turmoil and uncertainty as have other investors over the last three years. Thankfully, our conservative investment strategy has allowed us to preserve our principal, and we can optimistically look forward to improving market conditions in the coming months and years.

The disaster on Sept. 11, 2001, had major financial repercussions for the ATA because of the loss of substantial anticipated meeting income. Fortunately, owing to the foresight of purchasing meeting cancellation insurance, as well as our staff's persistence and diligence, we were able to recoup the losses.

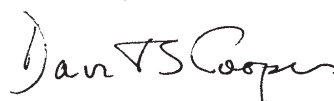
I would like to thank Bob Smallridge and Manny Blum, two former treasurers who assisted me in my transition to the

office of treasurer, and Paul Ladenson, Bobbi Smith, and our budget administrator, Theresa Ronk, for their support and understanding over the last five years. I also thank the five outstanding ATA presidents under whom I served, as well as the chairs and members of the Finance and Audit Committee who diligently husbanded our assets.

I am confident that our Treasurer-elect Charles Emerson will be taking the financial reins of an organization that is poised to do great things in the next five years.

And remember — doing great things takes money!

Sincerely,



David S. Cooper, MD

## ATA Executive Council Meeting Highlights

Philadelphia Marriott, Philadelphia, PA  
June 19, 2003

- The new ATA logo will be unveiled at the Annual Meeting in Palm Beach, where two new awards will be presented: the Pathophysiology Award and Outstanding Committee Chair Award.
- Support for the annual Fellows Symposium has been secured from Abbott Pharmaceutical Division. Five ancillary CMES programs will be sponsored by industry.
- The ATA is now represented by three members on the Thyroid Foundation of America board of directors. They are Patient Education and Advocacy Committee Chair Alan Farwell, Council Liaison Stephanie Lee, and member James Hennessey. Their mission is to determine how ATA's patient education and advocacy goals can be strengthened through collaboration with TFA.
- Plans for a joint ATA–CDC symposium on April 2, 2004, titled “The Impact of Maternal Thyroid Status: Pregnancy, Fetal and Childhood Development,” have begun. A Center for Disease Control think tank session will be held in January 2004, where ATA will be represented by Greg Brent, Susan Mandel, Steve LaFranchi, and Bob Smallridge.
- Treasurer David Cooper reported that the ATA remains in good financial health with investment assets totaling \$1.6 million and a recent satisfactory report from the association's auditors.
- Executive Director Barbara (Bobbi) Smith has been offered and accepted a new two-year contract. The ATA's officers and councilors praised her superb management of the ATA's increasingly effective and complex affairs.

### COMMITTEE UPDATES

#### Education

ATA representatives Susan Mandel and Bob Smallridge participated in a thyroid symposium at the 2003 Annual Meeting of the American College of Obstetrics and Gynecology.

#### Research Committee

Twenty-six short applications were received for ATA research grants. From the seven finalists invited to submit full proposals, ATA and ThyCa grants have been awarded to Jeffrey Knauf, Eric Jacobson, and Xiulong Xu.

The committee recommends that the ATA sign-on to a letter from the American Society for Reproductive Medicine about governmental regulation and funding of stem cell research.

#### Clinical Affairs Committee

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services has recommended coverage for FDG PET scanning in certain patients with thyroid cancer. The ATA Clinical Affairs Committee proposes to create guidelines for PET scanning for thyroid cancer management.

#### Public Health

The ATA's Symposium on “Public Health Strategies for Protecting the Thyroid with Potassium Iodide in the Event of a Nuclear Incident,” co-sponsored by AACE, continues to generate positive comments and financially broke even.

Interactions with the FDA regarding thyroxine bioequivalence standards continue.

Feedback to the Subclinical Thyroid Disease Consensus Panel is ongoing.

#### Publications

The ATA journal *Thyroid* needs to reappoint or appoint a new Editor-in-Chief in 2004 and is preparing for negotiation of a new contract with the publisher in 2004.





AMERICAN  
THYROID  
ASSOCIATION  
FOUNDED 1923

# ATA SIGNAL

## Editor

Jeffrey R. Garber, M.D.

## Managing Editor

Barbara (Bobbi) R. Smith, CAE

## Contributing Editor

Melanie Caudron

## Officers and Directors 2002-2003

### President

Peter A. Singer, MD

### Secretary

Paul W. Ladenson, MD

### Treasurer

David S. Cooper, MD

### President-Elect

Clark T. Sawin, MD

### Secretary-Elect

Gregory A. Brent, MD

### Treasurer-Elect

Charles H. Emerson, MD

### Directors

Carole A. Spencer, PhD  
Sheue-yann Cheng, PhD  
Jeffrey R. Garber, MD  
Marvin C. Gershengorn, MD  
Elliot G. Levy, MD  
Stephanie L. Lee, MD, PhD  
John C. Morris, III, MD  
Rebecca S. Bahn, MD  
Donald L. St. Germain, MD  
Steven I. Sherman, MD

### Executive Director

Barbara (Bobbi) R. Smith, CAE

## Published by the

American Thyroid Association  
6066 Leesburg Pike, Suite 650  
Falls Church, VA 22041  
phone 703 998-8890  
fax 703 998-8893  
e-mail [admin@thyroid.org](mailto:admin@thyroid.org)  
web [www.thyroid.org](http://www.thyroid.org)

Office hours: 9:00 am – 6:00 pm  
Eastern time

Please notify the ATA of changes  
in contact information.

Copyright 2003  
American Thyroid Association

## UPCOMING MEETINGS

### American Thyroid Association Upcoming Meetings

#### Sixth International Workshop: Resistance to Thyroid Hormone

Sept. 13–16, 2003  
OceanPoint Resort and Club  
Miami Beach, Florida

#### AACE/ATA Thyroid Ultrasound Accreditation Course

Sept. 15–16, 2003  
The Breakers  
Palm Beach, Florida  
Web site: [www.aace.com](http://www.aace.com)

#### 75th Annual Meeting of the American Thyroid Association

Sept. 16–21, 2003  
The Breakers  
Palm Beach, Florida  
Phone: 703-998-8890  
Fax: 703-998-8893  
Web site: [www.thyroid.org](http://www.thyroid.org)

#### The Impact of Maternal Thyroid Status: Pregnancy, Fetal, and Childhood Development

April 2, 2004  
Holiday Inn Select  
Old Town Alexandria, Virginia

#### 76th Annual Meeting of the American Thyroid Association

Sept. 29–Oct. 3, 2004  
Westin Bayshore Resort &  
Marina; Vancouver, British  
Columbia, Canada  
Phone: 703-998-8890  
Fax: 703-998-8893  
Web site: [www.thyroid.org](http://www.thyroid.org)

#### ATA 2005: Horizons in Thyroidology

April 15–17, 2005  
Baltimore Marriott  
Waterfront Hotel  
Baltimore, Maryland

#### 13th International Thyroid Congress

Oct. 30–Nov. 4, 2005  
Buenos Aires, Argentina  
Web site: [www.lats.org](http://www.lats.org)

#### 77th Annual Meeting of the American Thyroid Association

Nov. 1–5, 2006  
Chicago Sheraton Hotel  
& Towers  
Chicago, Illinois

#### Upcoming Thyroid-Related Meetings

#### 29th Annual Meeting of the European Thyroid Association—2003

Oct. 18–22, 2003  
Edinburgh International  
Conference Centre  
Edinburgh, Scotland  
Web site: [www.eurothyroid.com](http://www.eurothyroid.com)

#### American Board of Internal Medicine—2003 Certification Examination in Endocrinology, Diabetes and Metabolism

Nov. 5, 2003  
Phone: 800-441-2246  
or 215-446-3500  
Web site: [www.abim.org](http://www.abim.org)

#### AACE Advances in Thyroid Ultrasound Course

Nov. 14–16, 2003  
Swan Hotel  
Walt Disney World  
Orlando, Florida  
Phone: 904-353-7878, ext. 28  
E-mail: [mmorgan@aace.com](mailto:mmorgan@aace.com)  
Web site: [www.aace.com](http://www.aace.com)

#### AFES 2003 & AOTA 2003 12th Congress of the ASEAN Federation of Endocrine Societies (AFES) & 7th Congress of Asia & Oceania Thyroid Association (AOTA)

Nov. 30–Dec. 4, 2003  
Raffles City Convention Centre  
Singapore  
Phone: 65-326-6690  
or 65-321-3564  
Fax: 65-223-9789  
E-mail: [afes\\_aota@sgh.com.sg](mailto:afes_aota@sgh.com.sg)  
Web site: [www.afes-aota.com](http://www.afes-aota.com)

#### AACE Thyroid Ultrasound Accreditation Course

Jan. 22–25, 2004  
Snowbird Ski Resort  
Snowbird, Utah  
Phone: 336-659-8959  
E-mail: [abrunsa@aace.com](mailto:abrunsa@aace.com)  
Web site: [www.aace.com](http://www.aace.com)

#### 2004 AAAS Annual Meeting

Feb. 12–17, 2004  
Seattle, Washington  
Web site: [www.aaas.org](http://www.aaas.org)

#### AACE 13th Annual Meeting and Clinical Congress

April 28–May 2, 2004  
Sheraton Boston Hotel  
John B. Hynes Veterans  
Memorial Convention Center  
Boston, Massachusetts  
904-353-7878  
E-mail: [mtaylor@aace.com](mailto:mtaylor@aace.com) or  
[tkisner@aace.com](mailto:tkisner@aace.com)  
Web site: [www.aace.com](http://www.aace.com)

#### Endo 2004: 86th Annual Meeting of The Endocrine Society

June 16–19, 2004  
New Orleans, Louisiana  
Phone: 301-941-0200  
Fax: 301-941-0259  
E-mail:  
[bglover@endo-society.org](mailto:bglover@endo-society.org)  
Web site: [www.endo-society.org](http://www.endo-society.org)

#### International International Society of Endocrinology 2004

Sept. 1–4, 2004  
Lisbon, Portugal  
Phone: +44 20 76064012  
Fax: +44 20 77964676  
Web site: [www.jingo.com](http://www.jingo.com)

#### Second Joint AACE–AME Congress

Nov. 5–7, 2004  
Rome, Italy  
Web site: [www.aace.com](http://www.aace.com)

## MEMBER ALERT!

## Cast Your Vote for ATA's 2003 President-Elect and Directors

Following in the success of ATA's 2002 elections – the first competitive election in ATA history, ATA members will once again vote to select the president-elect and directors for the ATA Council. Members should have received a ballot in mid-August and are asked to return it to the ATA postmarked no later than Sept. 3, 2003.

Candidates for president-elect are Paul W. Ladenson and Ernest L. Mazzaferri. The candidates for two director positions are Bryan R. Haugen, Anthony N. Hollenberg, Cary N. Mariash, and Sandra M. McLachlan.

“Potential candidates were solicited from the membership by the Nominating Committee, who ranked them based on the number of nominations, experience, and past service to the ATA,” explained Paul Walfish, chair of the Nominating Committee.

Ballots received by members are proxy ballots. Votes on these ballots will direct the ATA president to cast these votes at the Annual Business Meeting on Sept. 17, 2003, during the ATA Annual Meeting. The proxy ballot should be returned whether or not members plan to attend the meeting. For those who attend the meeting and want to change any votes, the proxy ballot may be exchanged for an on-site ballot.

“The change in the ATA election process arose from a recommendation in the 2001 ATA Strategic Plan,” said Dr. Walfish. “In 2002, our successful first competitive election broadened member participation in choosing the society's future leaders.”



**Paul W. Ladenson, MD**  
(Candidate for President-elect)

Paul W. Ladenson, MD, is director of the Division of Endocrinology and Metabolism at Johns Hopkins in Baltimore, where he is the John Eager Howard Professor of Endocrinology and professor of medicine, pathology,

oncology, and international health.

Dr. Ladenson was raised in Missouri and educated at Dartmouth College, Oxford University, and Harvard Medical School before training in Internal Medicine and in endocrinology and metabolism at Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston.

In addition to Dr. Ladenson's current role as secretary of the ATA, he has served the ATA on the Education Committee, Development Committee, *Ad Hoc* Standards of Care Committee, and on the Awards Committee as a member and chair. His other professional leadership experience includes president of the Association of Program Directors in Endocrinology and Metabolism, president of the Association of Subspecialty Professors, and president of the Maryland Endocrine and Metabolism Society. He also served on the The Endocrine Society's Annual Meeting Program Steering Committee and as associate editor of the *Journal of Clinical Endocrinology & Metabolism*. Dr. Ladenson is a past recipient of the Robert Graves' Award of the Thyroid Society and the Distinction in Clinical Endocrinology Award of the American Association of Clinical Endocrinologists.

“As we consolidate recent advances in the ATA's influence, capabilities, and resources, I envision a more prominent and direct role for the ATA in patient education and advocacy – with emphasis on the cost-effective delivery of information to meet patients' needs while simultaneously increasing the number of lay donors and public constituency for thyroid research funding.”



**Ernest L. Mazzaferri, MD**  
(Candidate for President-elect)

Ernest L. Mazzaferri, MD, is adjunct professor of medicine at the University of Florida in Gainesville. He is the immediate past chair of the American Board of Internal Medicine (ABIM) Subspecialty Board on Endocrinology, Diabetes and Metabolism

and recently completed a four-year term on the ABIM Board of Directors.

Dr. Mazzaferri received his medical degree from Ohio State University College of Medicine. He served as chair of medicine and dean at the University of Nevada (1978–1984) and as professor of medicine and physiology and chair of medicine at The Ohio State University (1984–1999). Research interests include the clinical management of thyroid disease, especially thyroid cancer.

He has been a member of the ATA for 25 years, has served as a member and chair of both the Awards Committee and the Development Committee and as a member of the Public Health Committee. He is the recipient of the ATA's Paul Starr Award, The Robert Graves' Award of the Thyroid Society, and the Light of Life Award.

“I strongly support the strategic plan, particularly efforts to expand membership of and enhance outreach to young professionals. I also support plans to further enhance the recognition of ATA as the source of thyroid-related patient information and outreach as well as collaborating with sister societies and others to benefit patients and members. My vision for the ATA is to support the provision of the best possible care of patients with thyroid disease by the finest providers.”



### **Bryan R. Haugen, MD**

(Candidate for Director)

Bryan R. Haugen, MD, is associate professor of medicine and pathology and director of the Thyroid Tumor Program at the University of Colorado Health Sciences Center (UCHSC) in Denver.

His administrative roles at UCHSC

include associate director of the General Clinical Research Center, assistant chief in the Division of Endocrinology, and director of the Thyroid Tumor Program at the University of Colorado Health Sciences Center.

Dr. Haugen's interest and expertise are in the area of thyroid cancer, nuclear hormone receptors, and the effects of retinoids on pituitary-thyroid function. He is a member of the National Thyroid Cancer Treatment Cooperative Study Group and on the editorial board for the journals *Thyroid* and *Journal of Clinical Endocrinology & Metabolism*. Dr. Haugen has been a member of the ATA since 1994 and currently serves as co-chair of the Program Committee for the 2003 ATA Annual Meeting.

"I am strongly committed to the mission and strategic goals of the ATA, particularly efforts to encourage and educate future thyroid specialists and scientists and to foster basic and clinical research that will translate into improved diagnoses and therapies for patients with thyroid disorders."



### **Anthony N. Hollenberg, MD**

(Candidate for Director)

Anthony N. Hollenberg, MD, is associate professor of medicine at Harvard Medical School and chief of the Thyroid Unit and director of clinical endocrinology at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center in Boston. His laboratory

focuses on both thyroid hormone action and the central regulation of the thyroid axis. He also teaches both basic and clinical endocrinology at Harvard Medical School.

Dr. Hollenberg has been a member of the ATA since 1994 and has served as chair of the Education Committee for the past three years. He has been involved in growing the role of the ATA as a leader in educating other medical societies. In addition, he supports expanding ATA grant opportunities for young investigators conducting research in thyroid disease. Dr. Hollenberg received the ATA's Van Meter Award in 2000. He is a graduate of the faculty of medicine at the University of Calgary in Calgary, Alta, Canada.

"The ATA should continue to develop its role as the recognized leader in research and education of physicians in diseases of the thyroid. Crucial to this is increasing research support to promising young clinical and basic investigators who will become the future of the ATA."



### **Cary N. Mariash, MD**

(Candidate for Director)

Cary N. Mariash, MD, is the division director of the Department of Endocrinology and Diabetes at the University of Minnesota Academic Health Center in Minneapolis. He is a practicing thyroidologist and a clinical and basic

science researcher.

Dr. Mariash has been an active member of the ATA for more than 20 years. His initial participation with the ATA began just after his fellowship as a member of the local arrangements committee for the 1981 Annual Meeting in Minneapolis. He also has participated in the membership, research, standards, and patient education committees. He has been a member of the editorial board of *Thyroid* since the journal's inception.

"I believe that the ATA continues to play a critical role in the development of the young academic thyroidologist while promoting the continued success of the established academician. It is vital for the ATA to continue to attract new young members. The organization also can raise a strong voice in developing and guiding public policy related to thyroid disease. To maintain these goals, it will be critical for the ATA to develop, nurture, and grow stronger ties with other organizations that represent similar constituencies."



### **Sandra M. McLachlan, PhD**

(Candidate for Director)

Sandra M. McLachlan, PhD, is an adjunct professor of medicine at Cedars-Sinai Medical Center and the University of California Los Angeles. The focus of her research is to elucidate the molecular and cellular interactions leading to the

generation of TSH receptor autoantibodies in Graves' disease and autoimmune responses to thyroid peroxidase and thyroglobulin in Hashimoto's thyroiditis.

A member of the ATA since 1985, Dr. McLachlan has served as the chair of the Research Committee for the last two years, overseeing the evaluation of applications for the ATA research grant program. She also served previously on the Program Committee and is an editorial board member of the journal *Thyroid*.

"As part of the Research Committee, it has been very rewarding to provide research support for promising young thyroidologists. My major goal for the ATA is to encourage participation by younger members to ensure that the ATA continues to thrive and maintain its high profile in all areas – scientific, clinical, community-directed, and historical – related to the thyroid."

American Thyroid Association  
6066 Leesburg Pike, Suite 650  
Falls Church, VA 22041

PRESORTED  
FIRST-CLASS  
US POSTAGE  
PAID  
WASHINGTON, DC  
PERMIT #3070

Forwarding Service Requested

# ATA SIGNAL



AMERICAN  
THYROID  
ASSOCIATION  
FOUNDED 1923

## The American Thyroid Association invites you to...

Meeting information online  
at [www.thyroid.org](http://www.thyroid.org)  
or call the ATA at 703-998-8890

- President's Welcome >
- Online Registration >
- General Information >
- Annual Meeting Program & Events >
- Instructions for Faculty & Presenters >
- Exhibitor Prospectus >
- Travel Information >
- Hotel Information >
- Palm Beach >
- Pre-Conference Workshops >
  - **Sixth International Workshop: Resistance to Thyroid Hormone**  
September 13-16, 2003, OceanPoint Resort and Club, Miami Beach, Florida



### Headquarters Hotel: The Breakers Hotel

One South County Road  
Palm Beach, Florida 33480  
Toll Free Number:  
1-888-BREAKERS (273-2537)