



AMERICAN  
THYROID  
ASSOCIATION  
FOUNDED 1923

# ATA SIGNAL

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE AMERICAN THYROID ASSOCIATION

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## Mark Your Calendar for ATA/AACE Spring Symposium on Maternal Thyroid Status

The ATA and the American Association of Clinical Endocrinologists (AACE) are offering an important educational symposium, The Impact of Maternal Thyroid Status: Pregnancy, Fetal, and Childhood Development, on April 2, 2004, in Alexandria, Va.

The program will highlight—

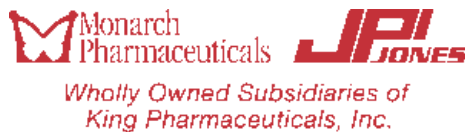
- Patients at risk for thyroid dysfunction,
- The diagnosis and management of thyroid disorders during pregnancy,
- Normal thyroid function in healthy women and changes during pregnancy,

- The prevalence and etiology of thyroid dysfunction during pregnancy,
- Evidence of adverse effects on pregnancy outcome and fetal and childhood development,
- The potential role of environmental toxins on thyroid function, and
- The diagnosis and management of thyroid disorders during pregnancy, including whether at-risk patients can be identified and the potential benefits of population screening.

Co-Chairs of the symposium are Stephen H. LaFranchi, MD, Professor of *continued on page 5*

## New Gifts for Thyroid Research Announced in Palm Beach

Great news was delivered during the 75th Annual Meeting Banquet. Monarch Pharmaceuticals and Jones Pharma, wholly owned subsidiaries of King Pharmaceuticals, Inc., contributed a gift of \$250,000 to the Campaign for Thyroid Discovery, a \$3 million research endowment effort. Vice President of Marketing Ed Reilly and Product Director of Endocrinology Rick Kelly presented the check to Peter Singer, outgoing President, Clark Sawin, incoming



President, and Paul Ladenson, outgoing Secretary.

Dr. Ladenson also thanked other corporate benefactors during the banquet. He extended the sincere appreciation of the ATA to Connie Trump, of Abbott Pharmaceuticals, as they are fulfilling their five-year pledge of \$1 million. He recognized Paul Gelep of Genzyme for his company's contributions to the endowment, totaling \$75,000 over several years. *continued on page 10*

### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



As chair of history and archives for many years, I have spent much of my ATA time

looking back at the important contributions and members who have gone before us. As I take on the mantle of the presidency, I realize that my work is to look forward and plan with you for the future of the ATA. That future, of course, depends on you and on your willingness to contribute to the work today.

Many of you have come forward with enthusiasm to serve on committees, and I

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### IMPORTANT ATA MEMBER NOTICES

- Call for nominations for 2004–2005 officers (page 2) and awards (page 14).
- Apply for 2004 Thyroid Research Grants—see page 11.

## Treasurer's Report: Thyroid Economy – Thyroid Status



The first goal of the American Thyroid Association is “To foster and support research on thyroid molecular and cell biology, physiology, and diseases.” Thyroidologists recognize many “thyroid diseases,” not in their strictest sense, but as conditions that impair “thyroid status.” Thus, in patients with thyroid hormone resistance, an intrinsic thyroid gland abnormality does not cause thyroid-related organ dysfunction. Conversely, estrogen-induced changes in serum thyroxine binding globulin can transiently affect thyroid hormone secretion but generally have only a minimal effect on thyroid status.

The term “thyroid economy” is perhaps somewhat less familiar. Our incoming President and Chair of the ATA History and Archives Committee, Clark Sawin, might speak to its origin. Those of us with less extensive sources can confirm, however, that the scientist whose accomplishments are recognized by the Sidney H. Ingbar Distinguished Lectureship was fond of the term. Whereas many of Dr. Ingbar’s earliest papers dealt with “thyroid function,” in 1966 and several times thereafter, the expressions “thyroid economy” or “thyroid hormone economy” were employed. Dr. Ingbar’s use of “thyroid economy” was a testament to the evolving understanding of the complex physiology underlying normal thyroid status and a harbinger of future advances. These include recognition of multiple sites for thyroid hormone feedback on TSH secretion, the importance of local hormone generation and transport on thyroid hormone action, the multifaceted interactions among T3 nuclear receptors and their ligands, the extra-nuclear effects of thyroid hormone, and genetic determinants of thyroid morphogenesis, carcinogenesis, and autoimmunity.

As I begin the next term as ATA Treasurer, my vision of “thyroid economy” and even “thyroid status” continues to evolve. The previous five years have been remarkable in the development of new ATA programs, services, and innovations. These include the Strategic Plan, the Alliance for Thyroid Patient Education, the Endocrine Sister Societies, *Clinical Thyroidology*, and the *ATA Signal*.

Although the ATA web site is more than five years old, in the past several years, it has matured immensely in content and ease of use. Similarly, ATA research grants and sponsored symposia occurred prior to 1998; now, they have become a part of our *modus operandi*. New programs, the expansion of older activities, and the administration of ATA funds have made “thyroid economy” bigger and more complex. Most important, perhaps, is the fact that the asset base of the ATA – “thyroid status,” so to speak – has also grown tremendously. Whereas total endowment funds were approximately one-half million dollars in 1998, they have now quadrupled. Contributions by pharmaceutical companies have been a major factor in achieving this asset base. ATA members through their donations and encouragement of other donors have also been important. An exciting development in the past year is the fact that a lay group, ThyCa: Thyroid Cancer Survivors’ Association, made a substantial pledge to the ATA to fund thyroid cancer research.

Looking to the future I believe we need to further develop our capabilities for administering ATA funds, a process that was ably fostered by Dave Cooper, our former Treasurer, and Theresa Ronk, current Director of Finance. At the suggestion of Executive Director Bobbi Smith, we are moving to expand the program-based reporting of financials. It is vital that the asset base of the ATA continues to expand. An excellent portent during the preparation of this edition was the news from ThyCa that they will renew their pledge in 2004, providing an additional \$25,000 beyond their initial commitment. This support will foster ATA’s message that research, in addition to education, is required for future patient care and satisfaction.

Ultimately it is the ATA membership that will determine our future. The ATA needs your time and ideas. Its “economy” will be greatly enhanced by timely payment of your dues; its “status,” if you will, by direct donations and efforts to promote giving to the ATA. I look forward to assisting Greg Brent, Bobbi Smith, and the ATA staff in serving you.

Charles H. Emerson, MD

### CALL FOR NOMINATIONS FOR 2004–2005 ATA PRESIDENT-ELECT AND COUNCIL DIRECTORS

The ATA Nominating Committee is soliciting nominations from the membership for candidates for the offices of president-elect and directors to serve on the ATA Executive Council. Two candidates will be on the ballot for president-elect and two candidates can run for each of the two director positions.

The president-elect serves a one-year term, followed by a one-year term as president (2005–2006) and another year as a director on the Executive Council (2006–2007). Two directors will each serve a four-year term (2004–2008).

This will be the third year of competitive elections for the

offices of president and directors. In accordance with the ATA Bylaws, the Nominating Committee evaluates all nominations and proposes the election slate to the Executive Council for approval. A ballot of nominees will be sent to the membership by mail in August 2004. The election results are announced at the ATA Annual Business Meeting at the Annual Meeting each fall.

To nominate a candidate, go to the ATA web site, [www.thyroid.org](http://www.thyroid.org), for a nomination form. All nominations must be submitted to the ATA secretary by letter, fax, or e-mail by March 31, 2004.

## Secretary's Report



My training wheels are off. When I set out down the driveway, I wobbled a little, but I am picking up speed as I head down the road. I now have a much better appreciation for the wide range and scope of the influence of our society, some of which I will describe in this report. Our members are passionate about the ATA. I am encouraged by how many work tirelessly on behalf of our society. I have received only enthusiastic responses to requests for help and many pledges of support.

For most ATA members, the Annual Meeting is the flagship of our organization and the most visible representation of its work. The inspiring venue, wonderful scientific presentations, and social program at Palm Beach combined for an outstanding meeting experience once again this year. Rebecca Bahn and Bryan Haugen, program Co-Chairs, put together a unique and very well-received program. Elliot Levy again provided the link to local arrangements. A record number of fellows, 147, attended the Annual Meeting, including 38 clinical fellows who came for the one-day fellows conference, organized by Chip Ridgway, and stayed for the entire meeting. Meeting presentations and the availability of shared rooms for reasonable rates in the beautiful resort setting were cited as reasons that enticed the fellows to stay on. Coordination of the fellows housing for the Annual Meeting required days of work by our dedicated administrative staff.

The meeting content is readily available this year by way of abstracts in *Thyroid*, and informative highlights of newsworthy abstracts for the news media and patients on the ATA web site. And, for the first time, selected programs will be available online.

The Annual Meeting also was the launch of an ATA-organized alliance of thyroid patient education groups.

Through the leadership of Alan Farwell, Chair of the Patient Education and Advocacy Committee, and Larry Wood, ATA member and Director of Thyroid Foundation of America (TFA), the long-planned cooperation among these groups has become a reality. Each organization will remain independent but will work under this umbrella group to share web-based resources, obtain professional input, plan patient forums, and work cooperatively to avoid overlap or duplication of effort. The "charter" groups in the alliance include the TFA, the Thyroid Foundation of Canada, ThyCa: Thyroid Cancer Survivors' Association, the National Graves' Disease Foundation, and the Light of Life Foundation. Several others are planning to join in the near future.

The impact of our organization outside of the Annual Meeting is best reflected in our recent web figures. We are on track to record almost 1 million visitors to our web site in 2003! The vast majority of these visits are for patient-related information, such as brochures and fact sheets on thyroid diseases and doctor referrals. Many members have contributed to the format and outstanding content on our web site, including our web task force, chaired by Matt Ringel. Much of the patient-related content has been provided by the Patient Education and Advocacy Committee. The redesign of our web site has made it more attractive and accessible than ever.

Pregnancy and thyroid disease will be the focus of two related, but distinct conferences, described in more detail in this issue of *Signal*. Joe Hollowell, who has long-standing ties to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), has invited the ATA to co-sponsor a workshop in January to be held at the CDC, bringing experts together primarily to

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## ATA Executive Council Meeting Highlights

Palm Beach, Fla. – Sept. 16, 2003

- President Peter Singer reported on the close ATA–AACE relationship that led to collaboration on the February 2003 KI conference, the ultrasound course at the Annual Meeting, and the upcoming national thyroid awareness initiative in January 2004.
- The Council heard a report of a recent FDA meeting regarding levothyroxine bioequivalence attended by Peter Singer and Paul Ladenson, representing ATA, along with AACE President Don Bergman and Endocrine Society President Chip Ridgway. The three societies expressed concern about the equivalence of different thyroxine preparations and the current FDA standard for defining it.
- Treasurer David Cooper reported that the 2002 audit was complete and has been reviewed and approved by the Finance and Audit Committee. At the end of August, ATA investment account balances totaled \$1,662,415 which in combination with other ATA assets totaled \$2,176,808. Dr. Cooper concluded that the ATA continues to be in good financial health.
- Rebecca Bahn reported that the Program Committee reviewed and scored 205 submitted regular abstracts. The committee increased poster presentations to two days. The top five short calls, out of 22 submissions, were chosen for presentation.

*continued on page 4*

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

consider the issue of screening pregnant women for thyroid disease. The ATA will join with AACE to co-sponsor a one-day CME conference, The Impact of Maternal Thyroid Status: Pregnancy, Fetal, and Childhood Development, in Old Town Alexandria, Va., on April 2, 2004. Bob Smallridge and Steve LaFranchi are serving as program co-chairs. We will also use this opportunity to raise awareness among the public and policy makers of the impact of thyroid disease.

ATA members are at the center of several major public policy issues. The National Academy of Sciences (NAS) has appointed ATA members David Becker, Lewis Braverman, and S. Dillwyn Williams to a committee that is charged with the "Assessment of Distribution and Administration of Potassium Iodide in the Event of a Nuclear Incident." Rosalind Brown, David Cooper, Robert Utiger, and I have been appointed to the newly formed NAS Committee to Assess the Health Implications of Perchlorate Ingestion. Paul Ladenson and Peter Singer, representing the ATA, joined Chip Ridgway, representing The Endocrine Society, and Donald Bergman, representing AACE, in a meeting with FDA Director of the Center for Drug Evaluation and Research Dr. Janet Woodcock. The meeting focused on the

criteria used to assess dosing precision and bioequivalence standards for levothyroxine products. Paul Ladenson will continue his leadership role in this important initiative.

Under Paul Ladenson's stewardship as Secretary from 1998–2003, the society has maintained excellence in our areas of traditional strength, but expanded our reach and impact into areas far beyond what even seemed possible five years ago. We hope to strengthen these areas and explore new avenues while preserving those features that have historically defined our society. We need help and participation from as many members as possible to accomplish these goals. We will be sending out a survey to solicit member input on a range of issues, including meeting venues, use of web-based resources, and our new logo. Please take the time to complete the survey and give us your feedback. If you want to be involved in some aspect of ATA service, contact Clark Sawin, Bobbi Smith, or myself, and we will find a way for you to serve.



Gregory A. Brent, MD

**ATA Executive Council Meeting Highlights***continued from page 3*

- Steven Sherman reported that Blue Sky Broadcast will be video taping and synchronizing slide presentations for the clinical sessions throughout the 75th Annual Meeting. The streaming video will be available on the ATA web site at [www.thyroid.org](http://www.thyroid.org).
- CME symposia programs were carefully developed this year. The Program Committee chairs met with four different industry sponsors and then independently developed four CME symposia programs to enhance and complement the scientific program. Planning was coordinated with Tony Hollenberg, Chair of the Education Committee.
- President Peter Singer appointed Steve Sherman to fill the vacated position of Executive Council Director, due to Gregory Brent's appointment to Secretary-Elect of the ATA.
- Gregory Brent discussed plans for a winter workshop on "The Impact of Maternal Thyroid Disease on the Developing Fetus: Implications for Diagnosis, Treatment, and Screening," to be co-sponsored with the CDC. It will be followed by a spring symposium on the same topic that will be co-sponsored with AACE and Johns Hopkins CME.
- John Morris reported for the Public Health Committee that the federal government now mandates the availability of KI in a 20-mile perimeter around nuclear power plants, giving the states and localities leeway in making plans specific to their locale.
- The Council accepted the Research Committee's recommendations that ATA research grant applications be restricted to "young investigators" and that grants be awarded for a two-year period.
- Peter Singer reported that the Patient Education and Advocacy Committee has developed patient educational materials for the ATA web site and continues to strengthen the Alliance of Thyroid Patient Groups, which is currently composed of the Thyroid Foundation of America, Thyroid Foundation of Canada, the National Graves' Disease Foundation, ThyCa: Thyroid Cancer Survivors' Association, and the Light of Life Foundation.
- David Cooper reported that the Publications Committee unanimously recommended that *Thyroid* Editor-in-Chief Terry Davies be invited to serve another four-year term. Dr. Davies has accepted.



## ATA Continues Dialog With FDA on Levothyroxine Dose Precision and Bioequivalence Standards

The ATA, along with The Endocrine Society and the American Association of Clinical Endocrinologists (AACE), has taken a lead role in working with the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) about thyroxine dose precision, encouraging the FDA to address limitations in its current thyroxine bioequivalence standard. The three groups met with the FDA in September, voicing their concerns, and sent a letter in early October outlining the issues to be addressed while offering assistance in the matter.

In the Oct. 1 letter to Director of the FDA Center for Drug Evaluation and Research Janet Woodcock, MD, ATA President-Elect Paul Ladenson acknowledged the preliminary action taken by the FDA in response to the concerns of physicians groups, patients, and industry. "We are heartened by the commitment that you made to plan and hold a workshop of sufficient depth and duration to address all of the relevant issues: bioequivalence testing baseline correction, optimal test subjects, and acceptable confidence limits, and TSH as a pharmacodynamic measure," wrote Dr. Ladenson. "We also support your interest in designing a crossover chronic thyroxine therapy trial with serum TSH as an outcome. We agree with you that a properly

designed and executed study could address the fundamental concerns that physicians and their patients have about optimizing the safety and effectiveness of thyroxine therapy. We offer our assistance in designing, implementing, and interpreting the results of such a study."

Moreover, Dr. Ladenson asked that the FDA suspend approval of new formulations until these matters are resolved and that the FDA not make a final decision regarding equivalence testing until it has received further input from experts at the workshop that the FDA has proposed. In response to an FDA request, the ATA, The Endocrine Society, and AACE agreed to draft an agenda for the FDA-proposed workshop as well as provide other assistance.

In response to the ATA letter, CDER Acting Director Steven Galson, MD, MPH, confirmed that the FDA is "committed to plan and hold a workshop of sufficient depth and duration" to address the issues outlined by the three organizations and welcomed input. He added that the FDA acknowledges the concerns raised about thyroxine dose precision and limitations in current bioequivalence standards and will take these concerns into consideration when reviewing applications.

## ATA Members Appointed to a National Academy of Sciences Committee to Assess Health Implications of Perchlorate Ingestion

ATA members David Cooper, Rosalind Brown, Robert Utiger, and Gregory Brent have been appointed to serve on the National Academy of Sciences (NAS) Committee to Assess the Health Implications of Perchlorate Ingestion. The committee will assess the adverse health effects resulting from ingestion of perchlorate from a clinical, toxicological, medical, and public health perspective.

The committee will critically evaluate the scientific literature, including both human and animal data, and will assess the key studies underlying the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) 2002 Draft Toxicological Review

and Risk Characterization for Perchlorate in terms of quality, reliability, and relevance to draw conclusions about the health implications of exposure to low levels of perchlorate in drinking water. At the conclusion of its assessment, the committee will make recommendations to the EPA about –

- The strength of the EPA's analyses to date,
- Errors that require further investigation, and
- Suggestions for further research.

The project, sponsored by the EPA, is expected to be completed in the fall of 2004, at which time a report will be issued. For more information, go to [www.nas.edu](http://www.nas.edu).

### Symposium on Maternal Thyroid Status

*continued from front page*

the Department of Pediatrics—Endocrinology at the Oregon Health & Science University in Portland and Robert C. Smallridge, MD, Chair of the Endocrinology Division at the Mayo Clinic Jacksonville in Jacksonville, Fla.

"This conference is timely and important because maternal hypothyroidism, which is 100 times more common than congenital hypothyroidism, may have harmful effects on the developing brain," said Dr. LaFranchi. "To protect fetal brain development, physicians caring for women of reproductive age—or in early pregnancy—who are at risk for thyroid

disorders should consider testing them for thyroid dysfunction and ensure appropriate management during their pregnancy." Dr. Smallridge added, "Because of the significant impact of maternal thyroid status on fetal development, many have proposed that all women of reproductive age should be screened for thyroid dysfunction."

This symposium has been approved for AMA PRA credit. Program and registration information will be available two months before the conference on the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine web site at [www.hopkinscme.org/cme](http://www.hopkinscme.org/cme).

## New Officers and Directors Announced at ATA Annual Meeting

At the close of the ATA's Annual Business Meeting on Sept. 17, four new ATA officers and two new directors for the Executive Council took office.

Clark T. Sawin, MD, 2002–2003 ATA President-Elect, is the new ATA President; Gregory A. Brent, MD, 2002–2003 Secretary-Elect, is the new ATA Secretary; and Charles H. Emerson, MD, 2002–2003 Treasurer-Elect, is the new ATA Treasurer.

For the positions of president-elect and Council directors, member elections were finalized at the Business Meeting based on previously mailed ballots and onsite votes by ATA members. Paul W. Ladenson, MD, was elected as the 2003–2004 President-Elect and Bryan R. Haugen, MD, and Sandra M. McLachlan, PhD, were selected as Directors for the ATA Council.

**Dr. Sawin** is the Medical Inspector for the Veterans Administration's Health Care System in Washington, D.C., responsible for monitoring quality of care. An ATA member since 1972, Dr. Sawin has served on and chaired the Education Committee. For the past 15 years, he has chaired the History and Archives Committee, and, for more than 10 years, he has lectured on thyroid history at ATA annual meetings. He will serve a one-year term.

"As ATA President, I will continue to support our efforts to raise funds for thyroid research, to expand the public's knowledge of thyroid disease, and to expand the membership, particularly focusing on efforts to bring in younger members," said Dr. Sawin. "I also will lead the organization in keeping with the goals of the ATA Strategic Plan."

**Dr. Ladenson** is Director of the Division of Endocrinology and Metabolism at Johns Hopkins Medical School in Baltimore, where he is the John Eager Howard Professor of Endocrinology and Professor of Medicine, Pathology, Oncology, and International Health. An active member of the ATA, Dr. Ladenson just

completed a five-year term as the organization's secretary. In addition, 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. Dr. Ladenson will serve a one-year term, after which he will become ATA President.

"I am deeply honored to have been chosen President-Elect by my ATA colleagues," said Dr. Ladenson. "I look forward to working with our current



President, Clark Sawin, to make certain that the organization maintains its remarkable momentum in promoting thyroid health."

**Dr. Brent** is Chief of the Endocrinology and Diabetes Section of the VA Greater Los Angeles Healthcare System and Director of its Fellowship Program in Endocrinology, Metabolism, and Diabetes. He is also a Professor of Medicine and Physiology at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA. Since joining the ATA in 1988, Dr. Brent has served on the Program and Patient Education committees and has chaired the Membership Committee. He was also a member of the ATA Executive Council. He co-chaired the Program Committee and chaired the Local Arrangements Committee for the 2002 ATA Annual Meeting. He is a member of the Editorial Board of the ATA journal, *Thyroid*, and has also served as an Associate Editor. Dr. Brent is a past

recipient of the ATA Van Meter Award in recognition of his outstanding contributions to thyroid research. He will serve a five-year term.

"The ATA has positioned itself to be the leading organization bringing together clinicians and scientists from around the world to focus on thyroid diseases," said Dr. Brent. "In addition to our long-standing commitment to promoting research and clinical care, we have moved more recently into the areas of patient education and public advocacy," he added.

**Dr. Emerson** is a Professor of Medicine at the University of Massachusetts Medical School in Worcester, where he has practiced since 1980. An ATA member since 1976, Dr. Emerson has served on the Bylaws, Awards, Program, and Membership committees. He will serve a five-year term.

"I am very enthusiastic about this opportunity to serve the ATA," said Dr. Emerson. "During the next five years, I hope we can increase philanthropic support for ATA-sponsored research in thyroid cancer, autoimmunity, and other thyroid disorders. At the same time," he added, "it is important to sustain and expand our efforts in supporting patients and educating the public about the vital role of the thyroid in optimal health and childhood development."

**Dr. Haugen** is an Associate Professor of Medicine and Pathology 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. Dr. Haugen has been a member of the ATA since 1994, served as Co-Chair of the Program Committee for the 2003 ATA Annual Meeting, and is a member of the Editorial Board for the journal *Thyroid*. He will serve a four-year term.

“It is really a privilege to be a part of the leadership of this important organization,” said Dr. Haugen. “The American Thyroid Association is the leading voice for patient care, research, education, and public health issues involving thyroid-related disorders. We have a firm commitment to ensure that there is an organization that will continue to encourage the academic development of thyroid specialists, to

support research that will lead to improved care, and to educate the public about thyroid disorders.”

**Dr. McLachlan** is an Adjunct Professor of Medicine at Cedars-Sinai Medical Center in Los Angeles and the University of California Los Angeles. A member of the ATA since 1985, Dr. McLachlan has served as the Chair of the Research Committee for the last two years. She also served previously on

the Program Committee and is an Editorial Board member of the journal *Thyroid*. She will serve a four-year term.

“My major goal for the ATA is to encourage participation by younger members to ensure that the society continues to thrive and maintain its high profile in all areas—scientific, clinical, community-directed, and historical—related to the thyroid,” said Dr. McLachlan.

## ATA Welcomes New Members for 2003

The ATA Membership Committee proudly welcomes 32 new members for the year 2003. The ATA extends its appreciation to members who recruited and sponsored applicants for membership as well as to outgoing Membership Committee Chair Antonio C. Bianco. Dr. Bianco and incoming Chair Virginia Sarapura encourage all members of the ATA to invite physicians, surgeons, and scientists interested in thyroidology to join the ATA.

Membership application forms can be found in the ATA journal, *Thyroid*, or on the ATA web site at [www.thyroid.org](http://www.thyroid.org).

### February 2003

#### Active

Electron Kebebew, MD  
Yan-Yun Liu, MD  
Rui Maciel, MD  
Paul Mystkowski, MD  
James O. McCallum, MD  
Elizabeth Pearce, MD

#### Associate

Balazs Gereben, PhD  
Geeta Lal, MD

### June 2003

#### Active

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

#### Corresponding

Hans Graf, MD, PhD

#### Associate

Sako Chen, MD

#### New Member Sponsors

Orlo Clark, MD  
Gregory A. Brent, MD  
Antonio C. Bianco, MD, PhD  
Paul W. Ladenson, MD  
George Dailey, III, MD  
Lewis Braverman, MD

Antonio C. Bianco, MD, PhD  
Orlo Clark, MD

#### New Member Sponsors

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

Antonio C. Bianco, MD, PhD

Jonathan S. Lo Presti, MD, PhD

### September 2003

#### Active

Erik K. Alexander, MD  
Donald Bergman, MD  
Oscar Castro, MD  
Vasu Chenthamarakshan, PhD  
Sabrina Diano, MD  
Narula Harmeet, MD  
Jeffrey Knauf, PhD  
Rui Maciel, MD, PhD  
Ellen Marqusee, MD  
Nicole Massoll, MD  
James Powell, MD  
Kathryn Schuff, MD  
Whitney Woodmansee, MD

#### Corresponding

Ramadas Ramkumar, MBBS

#### Associate

Shalini Bhat, MD  
Michael Goldberg, MD  
Rajaram Karne, MD  
Travis Monchamp, MD  
Jeffrey Sicat, MD

#### New Member Sponsors

Antonio C. Bianco, MD, PhD  
Peter A. Singer, MD  
Antonio Bianco, MD, PhD  
Bellur S. Prabhakar, PhD  
Cary N. Mariash, MD  
Antonio C. Bianco, MD, PhD  
James A. Fagin, MD  
Antonio C. Bianco, MD, PhD  
P.Reed Larsen, MD, PhD  
Ernest L. Mazzaferri, MD  
Antonio C. Bianco, MD, PhD  
Mary H. Samuels, MD  
Antonio C. Bianco, MD, PhD

Antonio C. Bianco, MD, PhD

Charles H. Emerson, MD  
Terry F. Davies, MD  
Paul M. Yen, MD  
Andre Van Herle, MD  
David F. Gardner, MD

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.

## ATA 2004 Dues Renewal

ATA members will be receiving a 2004 membership invoice in the mail and by e-mail in the next few weeks. Membership can be renewed online when paying by credit card. The ATA now accepts American Express along with Visa and Mastercard. Be sure to renew by Dec. 31, 2003, to avoid any interruption in the delivery of the journal *Thyroid* and other ATA member services.

## Highlights of the ATA 75th Annual Meeting

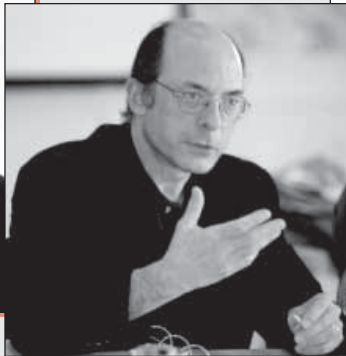
The ATA 75th Annual Meeting, held in Palm Beach, Fla., Sept. 16–21, 2003, was a great success, allowing thyroid specialists the opportunity to hear the latest updates in thyroidology while also offering time to catch up with colleagues in a beautiful, relaxing setting.

**Plan now to attend next year's meeting at the Westin Bayshore Resort & Marina in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada, Sept. 29–Oct. 3, 2004.**

### Scenes from the Executive Council meeting, held on the eve of the Annual Meeting.



Clark Sawin, who took office as ATA President during the Annual Meeting



Then-Treasurer David Cooper



Signal Editor and Executive Council Director Jeff Garber



Current Secretary Greg Brent with then-Secretary Paul Ladenson, who was named President-Elect during the meeting.



Alan Farwell, Irini Veronikis, and ATA Treasurer Charles Emerson take time out to catch up at the Opening Reception.



Michael Brennan, Norm Eberhardt, and Annual Meeting Co-Chair Rebecca Bahn take a break from committee meetings.

Local Arrangements Chair Elliot Levy and then-President Peter Singer show off the proclamation signed by Gov. Jeb Bush pronouncing Sept. 17, 2003, as Thyroid Awareness Day in the state of Florida.



Annual Meeting Co-Chair and newly elected Executive Council Director Bryan Haugen provides an update on the activities of the Program Committee.



Christine Spitzweg updates attendees on advances in gene therapy to treat thyroid cancer at a Meet the Professor session.



ATA members review issues on the agenda at the ATA Annual Business Meeting.



Annual Meeting attendees gather to discuss new research in thyroid diseases at the Poster Session.



Sandra McLachlan, who was elected as a director on the Executive Council during the meeting, reports on the work of the Research Committee.



Valerie Ann Galton addresses the Women in Thyroidology meeting, describing her career path that included juggling work and family life.



ATA member Joe DiStefano, on saxophone, and band entertain meeting attendees at the opening of the Exhibit Hall.

The Exhibit Hall was bustling with activity throughout the week as attendees had the opportunity to get insight on products, equipment, and other thyroid-related initiatives.



Visit [www.thyroid.org](http://www.thyroid.org) to view a slide show of the meeting and streaming video of clinical sessions.

**Gifts for Thyroid Research**

*continued from front page*

So far, the campaign has raised more than \$400,000 in gifts from ATA members. Major donors—contributors of \$1000 or more—were feted at a reception with leadership during the Annual Meeting.

The growth of the ATA endowment is already benefitting thyroid research. Council recently voted to increase the time frame of the ATA research grants to two years. (See page 11 for information about the 2004 call for research grant proposals.) Other sources of support for thyroid research include the United Way, the Combined Federal Campaign, and Health and Medical Research Charities, which contribute \$20,000 or more, which must be used in the year of the gift.

The ATA extends its appreciation to many senior members and international members who have made leadership gifts of \$10,000 or more. The ATA also thanks ThyCa: Thyroid Cancer Survivors' Association, Inc., for renewing the \$25,000 gift provided this year for

2004. With the help of additional ATA members, friends in patient education, friends in industry, and grateful patients, the campaign will reach its goal. Contact the ATA at [bsmith@thyroid.org](mailto:bsmith@thyroid.org) or 703-998-8890 if you can help!



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**Your support makes a real difference!**

Funding excellence and innovation in thyroid research and patient education to help scientists, physicians, and the public better understand thyroid disorders: causes, treatments and prevention. We can help you today with information about thyroid disease at [www.thyroid.org](http://www.thyroid.org).

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CFC #2559

**The Campaign for Thyroid Discovery Thanks Its Major Donors**

The ATA members and industry sponsors who are Major Donors to the *Campaign for Thyroid Discovery* are recognized for their generosity in securing a permanent endowment fund for thyroid research.

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**Major Donors have pledged or contributed \$1000 or more.**

*Major Donors who are deceased are noted with an asterisk.*

## ATA, Thyroid Patient Groups Hold Successful Patient Education Forum in Florida

On Thursday, Sept. 18, the ATA and the Thyroid Foundation of America (TFA), along with other thyroid patient groups, held a free, educational forum for thyroid patients and their families during the ATA Annual Meeting in Palm Beach. More than 150 thyroid patients, family members, and others interested in thyroid disorders in the South Florida area attended. They heard personal stories and received advice from patients with thyroid diseases, physicians, and a nurse. They also were able to ask the thyroid experts questions about individual thyroid problems.

ATA members Drs. David Cooper, Alan Farwell, James Hurley, and Lawrence Wood, who is also the Executive



South Florida residents listen to an panel of thyroid experts and patient advocates at the free public education forum held during the Annual Meeting.

Director of the TFA, participated on the panel. Marge Ewertz, an ATA member and a nurse, was also a panel member. Nancy Patterson represented the National Graves' Disease Foundation, Joan Shey represented the Light of Life Foundation, and Leia Gujold represented ThyCa, Thyroid Cancer Survivors' Association. The panel members from the patient groups described their experiences with various thyroid diseases, such as Graves' disease and thyroid cancer.

Attendees were given educational brochures and learned how to access many other patient resources for future inquiries.

**Visit [www.thyroid.org](http://www.thyroid.org) to view ATA's patient brochures.**

## ATA Forms Alliance With Thyroid Patient Groups

An ATA-organized alliance of thyroid patient support groups was launched at a meeting on Sept. 18, 2003, during the ATA 75th Annual Meeting in Palm Beach, Fla. ATA Patient Education and Advocacy Committee Chair Alan Farwell worked closely with Larry Wood, ATA member and Director of Thyroid Foundation of America (TFA) to bring these groups together to work cooperatively on issues of common interest.

The current members of the Alliance for Thyroid Patient Groups include the TFA, ThyCA: Thyroid Cancer Survivors' Association, the Graves' Disease Foundation, the Light of Life Foundation, and the Thyroid Foundation of Canada. Several other organizations are planning to join in the near future.

"Our goal is to work cooperatively to provide accurate

and reliable information for patients about the diagnosis, evaluation, and treatment of thyroid diseases," said Dr. Farwell. "We believe that we can best serve the needs of our common audiences if we establish better channels of communication between our organizations, exchange information, and coordinate efforts in responding to media inquiries and reporting new information for patients."

The Alliance will meet annually at the ATA's Annual Meeting. In addition, by combining efforts, the group plans to initiate thyroid patient educational forums, such as the one held in Palm Beach in September, as well as at the 2004 annual meetings of the American Association of Clinical Endocrinologists, being held in Boston in April, and The Endocrine Society, being held in New Orleans in June.

### Apply for 2004 Thyroid Research Grants

The ATA research grant program is now accepting proposals for 2004 research grants. Proposals for research in thyroid function and disease and thyroid cancer are due Jan. 31, 2004. The ATA Research Committee will rank proposals according to their scientific merit. Authors of selected proposals will be asked to submit full grant applications.

ATA Research Grants support a limited number of research projects in thyroid function and disease. Topics include, but are not limited to, clinical thyroidology, thyroid cancer, thyroid autoimmunity, thyroid and the brain, thyroid hormone action and metabolism, and thyroid cell biology. Research grants, up to \$25,000 annually, will be awarded for two-year terms, based on receipt and review of a satisfactory progress report from funded investigators in the fourth quarter of the first year.

In addition, the ATA is excited to announce the availability of a 2004 Thyroid Cancer Research Grant through the generous support of ThyCa: Thyroid Cancer Survivors' Association, Inc. A grant of up to \$25,000, which ThyCa provided for the first time in 2003, will again fund a research project in thyroid cancer

Research awards are targeted for funding of new investigators to obtain preliminary data for submission of a more substantial application to, for example, the National Institutes of Health. Detailed guidelines on applicant eligibility and use of research funds can be found on the ATA web site, [www.thyroid.org](http://www.thyroid.org).

Authors of selected proposals will be notified by late February 2004 and invited to submit detailed grant applications that are due by April 1, 2004.



## IN MEMORIAM

**Paul LoGerfo, MD**

June 23, 1939 – Sept. 16, 2003

Long-standing ATA member Paul LoGerfo, MD, died on Sept. 16, 2003, at Columbia-Presbyterian Medical Center in New York City, where he co-founded and was Co-Director of the New York Thyroid Center. He was also the David V. Habif Professor of Surgery at Columbia University College of Physicians & Surgeons. In addition, Dr. LoGerfo was the 2003–2004 President of the American Association of Endocrine Surgeons.

Described by his colleagues as the “heart and soul” of the New York Thyroid Center, he also was a pioneer in diagnosing and treating thyroid cancer. He created a technique for using local anesthesia during thyroid and parathyroid surgery and developed the coarse needle biopsy. He is also recognized for establishing a thyroid registry to collect outcomes data from all thyroid operations performed at the medical center.

The author or co-author of more than 100 scientific articles, he also contributed to several books, including *The Thyroid Guide*, developed to empower patients by educating them about their conditions so they could play an active role in treatment decisions.

In addition to his career in medicine, Dr. LoGerfo was an artist who took inspiration from the admiration he felt for his patients that he lost to cancer. He created large wooden sculptures that incorporated visible DNA, which he believed to be the core of a person’s true identity. He described his sculptures as portraying the “wonderful spirits of patients which always shine through, despite the illness that their bodies endure.” His creations have appeared in galleries across the country.

He was raised on a farm in Middletown, N.Y., and was one of three brothers who all became prominent physicians and professors. He received his bachelor’s degree from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute and his medical degree from the State University of New York Upstate Medical University in Syracuse. He completed his residency at Columbia-Presbyterian and went on to head its general surgery and surgical specialties divisions.

Dr. LoGerfo is survived by his wife, Kristin Larkin LoGerfo; two daughters, Susan Goetz and Cathy Haims; three grandchildren; his father, Paul; and his brothers, Frank and James. Memorial contributions may be made to the Paul LoGerfo Medical Research and Education Trust; c/o James LoGerfo; 10 E. 29th St., #37D, New York, NY 10016.

—Includes material from the New York Thyroid Center and *The New York Times*.

**President’s Message**

*continued from front page*

thank you. Major donors to the Campaign for Thyroid Discovery have put their money down on thyroid research, and there is no greater gift to the future of the ATA and that of thyroidology than research. New members are joining us with new ideas and energy (especially the energy) for discoveries in thyroid. This is all very gratifying to me and to the society. This society has been a home for many of us, filled with the support of friends over many years. We need to give back to the society so that she will be here for the future thyroidologist who needs a home.

This year, we will continue our assessment and evaluation of the Strategic Plan. In addition, we will be reassessing the functions and interactions of the committees to be sure they align well with the plan. As Peter Singer said at this time last year, “The plan includes strategies for membership growth, stressing the importance of diversity, and emphasizes our members’ roles not only as research scientists and clinicians but as medical teachers and advocates for public health.” The plan is far-reaching, and it is being implemented. We have achieved much of what the plan set out for us, and we look to you to let us know the initiatives that will carry us

into the future. The ATA Council will spend its meeting time next spring focused on the Strategic Plan. Between now and then, be sure to weigh in with your vision for the ATA.

Our collaborations are strong, as evidenced by the partnership with AACE on the maternal fetal symposium and Thyroid Awareness Month, the ATA’s involvement in the Alliance for Thyroid Patient Groups, the cooperative work of the sister societies related to the FDA, and many more projects in the hopper.

Our new Secretary, Gregory Brent, and Executive Director Bobbi Smith have already begun the indoctrination of your President. And, with your help, the committee chairs, members, and the Executive Council will be good stewards of our unique society. We all realize the importance and value of the ATA’s history and trust that on that foundation we will build a rich and full future.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Clark T. Sawin".

Clark T. Sawin, MD  
President





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# ATA SIGNAL

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## UPCOMING MEETINGS

### American Thyroid Association Upcoming Meetings

#### 2004

**The Impact of Maternal Thyroid Status: Pregnancy, Fetal, and Childhood Development**  
A symposium co-sponsored by the ATA and AACE  
April 2, 2004  
Holiday Inn Select, Old Town Alexandria, Virginia  
Phone: (410) 955-3169 or (410) 955-2959  
Email: [cmenet@jhmi.edu](mailto:cmenet@jhmi.edu)

#### 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  
[www.thyroid.org](http://www.thyroid.org)

### Upcoming Thyroid-Related Meetings

#### 2004

**AACE Thyroid Ultrasound Accreditation Course**  
Jan. 22–25, 2004  
Snowbird Ski Resort; Snowbird, Utah  
336-659-8959  
[abrums@aace.com](mailto:abrums@aace.com); [www.aace.com](http://www.aace.com)

#### 2004 AAAS Annual Meeting

Feb. 12–17, 2004  
Seattle, Washington  
[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  
[mtaylor@aace.com](mailto:mtaylor@aace.com) or [tkisner@aace.com](mailto:tkisner@aace.com)  
[www.aace.com](http://www.aace.com)

#### Vitória - Espírito Santo XI ENCONTRO

**BRASILEIRO**  
June 10–13, 2004  
DE TIRÓIDE (EBT)  
[icaser@terra.com.br](mailto:icaser@terra.com.br); [www.lats.org](http://www.lats.org)

#### 2005

**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  
[www.lats.org](http://www.lats.org)

#### 2006

**77th Annual Meeting of the American Thyroid Association**  
Nov. 1–5, 2006  
Chicago Sheraton Hotel & Towers, Chicago, Illinois

**Endo 2004: 86th Annual Meeting of The Endocrine Society**  
June 16–19, 2004  
New Orleans, Louisiana  
phone: 301-941-0200; fax: 301-941-0259  
[bglover@endo-society.org](mailto:bglover@endo-society.org)  
[www.endo-society.org](http://www.endo-society.org)

**International Society for Endocrinology Congress 2004**  
Sept. 1–4, 2004  
Lisbon, Portugal  
phone: +44 20 76064012; fax: +44 20 77964676  
[www.jingo.com/ise/index.html](http://www.jingo.com/ise/index.html)

**European Thyroid Association Meeting**  
September 18–22, 2004  
Istanbul, Turkey  
[www.eurothyroid.com](http://www.eurothyroid.com)

**American Society for Bone and Mineral Research Annual Meeting**  
October 1–5, 2004  
Washington State Convention Center  
Seattle, Washington  
phone: 202-367-1161; fax: 202-367-2161  
[ASBMR@dc.sba.com](mailto:ASBMR@dc.sba.com); [www.asbmr.org](http://www.asbmr.org)

## Preceptor Program for Endocrine Nurses

The Endocrine Nurses Society (ENS) has developed a Preceptor Program for nurses who are new to the field of endocrine nursing and want to hone their skills for this specialty. To participate, a candidate must be identified by fellow nurses, physicians, colleagues, and/or pharmaceutical representatives. Those interested in becoming preceptees must join the ENS.

The program is composed of a one- to two-day visit of an experienced nurse's site. This visit will enable the preceptor to orient the new nurse to an endocrine specialty, to nursing care specific to the adult endocrine patient, to education specific to this patient population, and to the long-term management of patients. The Preceptor Program is *observational and informational only*.

For more information or applications, visit [www.endo-nursing.org](http://www.endo-nursing.org) or call 314-577-5600, ext. 3103.

## ATA Presents 2003 Distinguished Awards

At the ATA 75th Annual Meeting in Palm Beach, Fla., in September, the ATA honored five thyroid specialists. Three honorees delivered lectures about the work that was the basis for becoming distinguished awardees.

### Sheue-yann Cheng, PhD



#### Sidney H. Ingbar Distinguished Lectureship

Sheue-yann Cheng, PhD, is Chief of the Gene Regulation Section at the National Cancer Institute in Bethesda, Md., and was honored with this award in recognition of the major contributions she has made to thyroid-related research over many years. Her

award lecture was titled "Thyroid Hormone Receptor Mutants: Molecular Actions and Role in Disease."

Each year, the Ingbar award recognizes outstanding academic achievements in thyroidology, in keeping with the innovation and vision that epitomized Dr. Ingbar's brilliant investigative career. The award is endowed by donations made in memory of Dr. Ingbar and is supported by Abbott Laboratories.

Dr. Cheng's recent work is focused on the use of knock-out and knock-in mouse models to delineate the mechanisms of in vivo functions of thyroid hormone receptors and to understand the molecular basis of human diseases due to mutations of thyroid hormone receptors.

She received her PhD from the University of California San Francisco. After working as a postdoctoral fellow with Drs. Hans Cahnmann and Jacob Robbins at the National Institute of Diabetes, Digestive and Kidney Diseases, she joined the Laboratory of Molecular Biology at the National Cancer Institute as a Senior Investigator in 1979 and was appointed to her current position in 1991.

Dr. Cheng currently serves as a director on the ATA Executive Council and as a member of the Annual Meeting Steering Committee of The Endocrine Society.

### Yaron Tomer, MD



#### Van Meter Award

Yaron Tomer, MD, is an Associate Professor of Medicine in the Endocrine Division at Mount Sinai Medical Center in New York City. He was honored with this prestigious award because of his outstanding contributions to research on autoimmune

thyroid disease.

Established in 1930, the Van Meter Award is the ATA's oldest and most anticipated because it is kept secret until the recipient presents a major lecture at the ATA Annual Meeting. Dr. Tomer's lecture was titled "Genetic Dissection of Autoimmune Thyroid Diseases." The award is supported in part by Quest Diagnostics, Inc.

Recently, Dr. Tomer's group, as well as others, has made significant advances toward identifying susceptibility genes for autoimmune thyroid diseases. Dr. Tomer and his colleagues have identified several genes and genetic regions associated with autoimmune thyroid diseases. They recently discovered that thyroglobulin and CD40 are particularly important in contributing to thyroid autoimmunity.

Dr. Tomer received his medical degree Magna Cum Laude from Sackler School of Medicine at Tel-Aviv University in Israel. He trained in internal medicine at Sheba Medical Center in Israel and in endocrinology at Mount Sinai Medical Center in New York City. Upon completion of his training, Dr. Tomer joined the faculty of the Endocrine Division at Mount Sinai.

Dr. Tomer is a fellow of the American College of Physicians and the American College of Endocrinology. He serves on the editorial boards of the journals *Thyroid*, *Endocrinology*, *Autoimmunity Reviews*, and *Clinical and Developmental Immunology*. He was on the organizing committee for the third International Congress on Autoimmunity in Geneva in February 2002 and is a member of the ATA Research Committee and the Genomics and Nutrition committees of the American Association of Clinical Endocrinologists. Dr. Tomer has also received the ATA Research Award, the Al-Zohar Award, the Prochobnik Award, and the Gaisman Frontiers of Biomedical Sciences Research Award.

### Call for Nominations for ATA 2004 Awards

The ATA is now accepting nominations for its 2004 distinguished awards: the Van Meter Award, the Sidney H. Ingbar Distinguished Lectureship Award, the Paul Starr Award, the Distinguished Service Award, and the Pathophysiology Award. The deadline for nominations is March 31, 2004.

To nominate a candidate, go to the ATA web site, [www.thyroid.org](http://www.thyroid.org), for a nomination form, or contact the ATA at [admin@thyroid.org](mailto:admin@thyroid.org) or at 703-998-8890. Nominators must submit the following information:

1. Completed nomination form;
2. Curriculum vitae of nominee with publications, excluding abstracts;

3. Letter stating nominee's qualifications, noting the significance and quality of research; and
4. Reprints or copies of up to four selected publications by the nominee.

## E. Chester Ridgway, MD



### Paul Starr Award

E. Chester Ridgway, MD, is head of the Division of Endocrinology, Metabolism and Diabetes at the University of Colorado Health Sciences Center in Denver and also is the Senior Associate Dean of Academic Affairs in the School of Medicine.

Dr. Ridgway was honored with this award in recognition of his outstanding contributions to clinical thyroidology. His award lecture was titled "TSH: Reverse Translation of Human Assays to Molecular Physiology." The award is supported by ATA member Boris Catz, MD, and by Monarch Pharmaceuticals.

With more than 30 years of experience in thyroid research and molecular biology, he was one of the developers of the TSH assay, the most commonly used diagnostic test for thyroid diseases. He has authored hundreds of scientific articles and publications.

Dr. Ridgway is the 2003–2004 president of The Endocrine Society, a past president of the ATA, and the recipient of numerous prestigious awards.

## Paul J. Davis, MD



### Distinguished Service Award

Paul J. Davis, MD, is a research endocrinologist and the Director of the Ordway Research Institute, a nonprofit biomedical research corporation affiliated with the Wadsworth Center/New York State Department of Health and Albany Medical

College in Albany, N.Y. In addition, he is Senior Associate Dean for Clinical Research, Professor of Medicine and Cell Biology and Cancer Research at Albany College of Medicine.

Dr. Davis received the Distinguished Service Award in recognition of his important and continuing contributions to the ATA. A past president of the ATA, Dr. Davis has served in a number of other leadership positions and is currently Chair of the ATA's Campaign for Thyroid Discovery to raise funds for thyroid research.

He has also been very active with other medical organizations. He was a member of the ABIM Board of Directors from 1993–1997, a member of the Board of Scientific Counselors of the NIH's National Institute on Aging, a Governor of the American College of Physicians–American Society of Internal Medicine (ACP–ASIM), and President of the New York Chapter of ACP–ASIM.

His previous professional experience includes serving as a professor and Chair of the Department of Medicine at Albany Medical College from 1990–1999. Before coming to Albany, he was head of the Endocrinology Division and

a Professor of Medicine at the University at Buffalo, Chief of the Medical Service at the Veterans Affairs Medical Center, and Vice Chair of the Department of Medicine at the University at Buffalo. Prior to these posts, he served as head of the Endocrinology Division and an Associate Professor of Medicine at Johns Hopkins.

Dr. Davis has co-authored more than 140 research papers, largely on actions of thyroid hormone, has written 20 textbook chapters, and has edited two books. He received his medical degree from Harvard Medical School and is a past president of the Harvard Medical Alumni Association.

## Lewis Braverman, MD



### Thyroid Pathophysiology Medal

Lewis Braverman, MD, is a Professor of Medicine and Chief of the Section of Endocrinology, Diabetes and Nutrition in the Department of Medicine at Boston University School of Medicine and Boston Medical Center in Boston. He is the first

recipient of the Thyroid Pathophysiology Medal, which recognizes outstanding research contributions to the understanding of thyroid physiology or the pathophysiology of thyroid disease.

Dr. Braverman's research and clinical interests have focused on the physiology and pathophysiology of the thyroid. He was honored with this award for the seminal effect his work has had on thyroid research and clinical thyroidology.

He has been principal investigator on several key clinical and research studies as well as an invited presenter at numerous medical conferences, both nationally and internationally. Dr. Braverman's work has been published in many leading medical journals. He is Editor and Co-Editor of two leading thyroid textbooks, has served as Editor-in-Chief of the *Journal of Clinical Endocrinology and Metabolism*, and currently serves as the Editor-in-Chief of *Current Opinion in Endocrinology and Diabetes*. He is a member of many national and international research and clinical organizations and has been honored widely with many national and international awards. Dr. Braverman is a past president of the ATA.

Dr. Braverman earned his undergraduate degree in biology at Harvard University, and then received his medical degree from Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine. His internal medicine residency, as well as an endocrinology fellowship, under the direction of the late Sidney H. Ingbar, MD, was completed at Boston City Hospital. He also received an honorary doctorate in medicine from the University of Parma in Parma, Italy.

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## Announcing a Symposium of the American Thyroid Association and the American Association of Clinical Endocrinologists

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

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

Evidence is accumulating that maternal thyroid dysfunction has an untoward impact on fetal and childhood development. Maternal hypothyroidism is estimated to be 100 times more common than congenital hypothyroidism.

### Target Audience

- ▶ Primary care physicians (obstetrician-gynecologists, family medicine, and internists)
- ▶ Pediatric, adult, and reproductive endocrinologists; perinatologists; neonatologists; and genetic counselors
- ▶ Specialists in human development (medical psychologists)
- ▶ Epidemiologists, public health policy makers, and advocacy groups for maternal and child health



### Additional Information and Registration

This activity has been approved for AMA PRA credit. Program and registration information will be available two months before the conference on the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine web site at [www.hopkinscme.org/cme](http://www.hopkinscme.org/cme).

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