



ATA SIGNAL

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE AMERICAN THYROID ASSOCIATION

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Terry Davies Selected As New THYROID Editor-In-Chief

After a nearly year-long search, the American Thyroid Association has selected Terry F. Davies, M.D. to be the second Editor-in-Chief of THYROID. According to Lynn Burmeister, Chair of the Publications Committee, which conducted the search, there were several highly qualified candidates. "This was not an easy task, and the Committee selected Terry because he possesses the leadership skills and the initiative to carry the Journal into the next millennium" said Burmeister.

Terry Davies will officially take over THYROID in January 2000, following the more than nine-year editorship of Jerome Hershman, under whose leadership the Journal has seen remarkable growth. Indeed, according to Jerry, Volume 1 of THYROID, completed in 1991, consisted of four issues and contained 371 pages. By 1995, THYROID had become a bi-monthly journal and contained 507 pages. And by 1998, ATA members received monthly issues of the Journal, and that year's volume consisted of

THYROID

HAS DEVELOPED INTO
FIRST RATE JOURNAL

1261 pages. Gregory Brent became Associate Editor in 1997, and has assisted Jerry immeasurably.

THYROID has developed into a first-rate journal during Jerry Hershman's tenure, and Journal readers owe him a sincere debt of gratitude.

Our new Editor-in-Chief,



Terry F. Davies, M.D.

Terry Davies, is currently the Florence and Theodore Baumritter Professor of Medicine, and Director of the Division of Endocrinology and Metabolism, at the Mt. Sinai School of Medicine. Terry hails from Manchester England, and completed most of his training in the United Kingdom. He moved to the United States in 1977 to take additional training at the NIH. He joined the faculty at Mt. Sinai in 1979, and quickly moved up the academic ranks.

Terry Davies has been a faithful and energetic advocate of the ATA for many years, and has served on various committees. In addition, he was Program Chair of the 1994 Annual Meeting, and since 1995 has been an ATA Director. Terry has received many awards during his career, but considers his most noteworthy achievement that of being married to Naomi "for most of my life", with whom he has four children and two "beautiful" grandchildren.

Since no doubt our membership is interested in Terry's plans for the Journal, he was interviewed by the Signal Editor recently:

Ed: Terry- first of all, congratulations on your selection. Did you seek the position, or did the job seek you?

TD: Of course I wanted the position and it magically became possible. I am just finishing six years as Associate Editor of JCE & M and I needed something new to do. Before that I was an Associate Editor of Autoimmunity. So, I felt that I could bring my editorial experience to THYROID, and hopefully effect some positive changes to what has been a magnificent start under Jerry Hershman's leadership.

Ed: What are your immediate plans for the Journal?

TD: Well, since we are moving into the new millennium and our first issue will be January 2000, we'd like to start with a facelift (the Journal's, not mine - the beard has already gone), so we plan to create a new cover for the Journal. Also, I'd like to extend our reach, and therefore intend to select one of our Associate Editors from among our international colleagues, since ours should truly be an international journal.

Ed: What about plans for the content, Terry?

TD: Good question - that's what the Journal is all about, isn't it? Obviously, the challenge is not only to maintain the high quality of papers published established during Jerry Hershman's editorship, but also to try to improve it, and our citation rate, and that's what I'll be striving for.

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I could hardly have imagined, when I attended my first American Thyroid Association



meeting in 1974, that I would have the honor and privilege of serving you as your President 25 years later. This past year has gone by so quickly, in no small measure due to the wise counsel and assistance I received from both staff members and professional colleagues. I am especially indebted to ATA Administrator Diane Miller, and Secretary Paul Ladenson. A priority of my

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Ed: *Any specifics?*

TD: Pushy, aren't you? Well, first of all, my Associate Editors and I will solicit colleagues, both here in the U.S., and among the international community, to submit clinical and research reviews, which are very popular. And I'll stress that both of types of articles need to be understandable and readable to all our constituencies, since our readership consists of practicing clinicians as well as researchers. So, anyone reading this column should know that they may be the recipient of one of my phone calls in the future. But even more importantly, we intend to encourage people to submit their best work to THYROID. I do not believe that our Journal should be a "back up". The way to attract high quality work is to have an increased circulation, rapid publication, and only publish the best.

Ed: *Any topics that you feel could use more emphasis?*

TD: Well, as you know, I'm a bit partial to autoimmunity and politics, and soccer and grandchildren (notice the NIH is not included). Also, as we move ahead with thyroid research, I think we need to place more emphasis on genetics and cell biology, particularly of thyroid cancer. Therefore, I hope that researchers in these areas will consider THYROID as their first journal for submission.

Ed: *What about clinical work Terry?*

TD: I'm glad you asked that. My hope is to have one of our Associate Editors, yet to be designated, devote a fair amount of time to areas of interest to practicing thyroidologists. Clearly we have to recognize the importance of high quality clinical studies. This is an area that has been enormously fruitful in thyroidology, and the best is yet to come. Don't forget, like you, I am a practicing clinician!

Ed: *Any other ideas for THYROID?*

TD: One of my thoughts is to include a section devoted to ATA news, thyroid politics, and correspondence. I'd like to see the annual ATA President's Address published. There are a lot of thyroid

ATA JOURNAL PASSES FROM JERRY TO TERRY



Showing off his handiwork of more than nine years is Jerry Hershman, in the current THYROID editorial office, which he describes as "a bit cramped".

issues we should discuss, like the fiasco over HMO's not approving us to sonogram our own patients. Unbelievable! No other profession would allow itself to be treated like this. Guest editorials would also be good to relate to exciting articles, something that has become very popular in JCE & M. Editorials are going to be real hot. I don't see why we can't be a little political and not just all scientific. Profiles of some of our members, would also be of great interest to our readers. I'd like to look at electronic submission of manuscripts, which would shorten the receipt to publication interval. This may be a further inducement for submission of first-rate work. My hope is to have THYROID not only be a premier scientific and clinical journal, but to include other topics of interest to our readership as well.

Ed: *Terry, Jerry Hershman put up "Ruthian" numbers in terms of the duration of his editorship, and expansion of the Journal. Any McGwire, Sosa, or Ripkin-type records in your sights?*

TD: I haven't thought about it, although with luck and the support of my colleagues, perhaps my young grandchildren will be able to read THYROID during my editorship. I want to tell you though, Peter, that I follow soccer, not baseball.

Ed: *Does Manchester have a good soccer team?*

TD: Let me remind the readers that the Manchester United is the best soccer team in the world. The problem is that I support Manchester City. I recommend a



Terry Davies, in his office, wastes no time in spreading the word about the Journal to potential ATA members.

new book just published called "How Manchester United Ruined My Life".

Ed: *Any final thoughts, Terry?*

TD: Yes. I want all who read this column to know that I will do my best to ensure that our Journal continues to be outstanding and topical. THYROID is the journal of the ATA - it reflects our members, and should also reflect the diversity of our membership, and I look forward to the support of the ATA members, and would encourage anyone to call me or drop me a line with suggestions as well as positive criticisms.

Ed: *Thanks Terry. Congratulations again, and good luck.*

ATA JOURNAL SHOULD
REFLECT DIVERSITY
OF MEMBERSHIP



Terry Davies, a stickler for detail, checks his landmarks as he prepares to assume leadership of THYROID.

President's Message

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presidency has been to increase our membership, and especially to encourage younger individuals, and those in surgical subspecialties, to join our organization. I am pleased to tell you that initiatives we have taken have paid dividends; membership is growing, and as Paul Ladenson points out in his Secretary's Report, a classification of Industrial Associate membership has been approved by Council. As we enter into the new millennium, I am pleased to tell you that the ATA is doing very well, but needs your continued support. I am personally most grateful for the support you have given me this past year, and in addition to Diane and Paul, would like to acknowledge Jennifer Ellis, Project Manager, my fellow ATA Council Members, Committee Chairs and Committee Members for helping me along the way. I extend to Marty Surks, your President-Elect, congratulations and best wishes for a successful term.

Respectfully submitted,

ORLO H. CLARK, M.D.

President, American Thyroid Association

COUNTDOWN TO KYOTO

Haven't read "Memoirs of a Geisha" yet? If not, do so soon, and you'll be even more eager than before to register for the International Thyroid Association Meeting, to be held in Kyoto, Japan from October 22-27, 2000.

"Memoirs" takes place in the Gion district of Kyoto, which was the capital of Japan from 794-1868, after which the Imperial seat was transferred to Tokyo (note the anagram, Kyoto-Tokyo). Kyoto is full of remarkable shrines and temples, beautiful scenery, and is wonderful for sightseeing and walking. The city reflects the essence of Japanese tradition and culture.

As a further inducement, the ITC is being held in the autumn, which is a perfect time to visit Kyoto. The weather is temperate, and the city and its surroundings show off the fall colors. So, if you haven't already done so, please complete and return the ITC travel survey attached to the last issue of the SIGNAL, and begin making your plans to attend.

SECRETARY'S REPORT



The American Thyroid Association will launch a historic initiative at our Annual Meeting Banquet on

October 2: a \$3,000,000 campaign to fund the Endowment for Thyroid Research. For two years, your officers, councilors, and Development Committee have been planning a major effort to create a substantial resource for discovery in thyroidology. Former ATA President Pepper Davis has agreed to serve as campaign chair and will work in close cooperation with Development Committee chair Eli Dow.

It is more than a cliché to say that the ATA occupies a special place in the hearts of our members. The Association promotes a unique combination of intellectual stimulation, professional achievement, and collegial warmth for all of us. Over the next three years, every ATA member is going to be asked to express their appreciation and support for the extraordinary characteristics of our association by helping our Endowment for Thyroid Research achieve its goal. There will be many ways to contribute. Members can identify potential donors, particular foundations and individuals who might be interested in supporting the ATA's

mission. Once prospects are approved by the Campaign leadership, members can assist in making the case for ATA support to them. And of course, members will be asked to make personal commitments to the Endowment for Thyroid Research. Broad participation by our own members will be one of the best ways for us to convince others that the ATA is a cause worthy of their support.

A successful campaign will require us to describe the tremendous impact that ATA Members have on thyroid patient care, clinical and basic research, education about thyroid disease at all levels, and national and international public policy regarding thyroid diseases. These activities have very concrete consequences in terms of healthcare expenditures, education, and discovery. We need our members help to make the case to industry, foundations, the public, and our own members. In this issue of the SIGNAL, there is an ATA Member Impact Survey. Please complete this and return it promptly. We need this information to develop the strongest case for support possible. We look forward to hearing from you!

Sincerely,

PAUL W. LADENSON, MD
Secretary, American Thyroid Association

REMINDERS FOR MEMBERS

- Last call for "short- call" abstracts. The deadline to submit short- call abstracts is August 20, 1999. Only four short- call abstracts will be selected for 10 minute oral presentations. The remainder of the submitted short call abstracts will not be published or presented at the meeting in any format. Notification of accepted abstracts will be faxed to the investigator, and will be posted on the ATA home page (<http://www.thyroid.org>). No notification will be given to investigators whose abstracts are not selected for presentation.
- Committee Chairs must have

their final reports submitted by August 20, 1999. All reports should be sent to Paul Ladenson, M.D., c/o ATA Administrative Office, for Council consideration at the Annual Meeting.

- Last call for hotel/meeting pre-registration. Forms are available for the 72nd Annual Meeting on our web-site (<http://www.thyroid.org>). Forms must be completed prior to September 8th. After that, registration will be on-site. The Breakers Hotel reservation cut off date is August 28th. For reservations, telephone (561) 655-6611, or fax forms to (561) 655-3577

72nd Annual Meeting Just Around The Corner

If you missed the first seventy-one Annual Meetings of the American Thyroid Association, the 72nd Annual Meeting, to be held at the historic Breakers Resort in Palm Beach, Florida, from September 30 to October 3, 1999 is the perfect venue to begin attending; and for regular attendees don't miss the opportunity to participate in the last Annual Meeting of the 20th century, as well as the millennium. This year's meeting promises to offer a seamless blend of scientific and clinical medicine, thanks to John Morris and his Program Committee, and will also provide many opportunities for exciting and diverse recreational and social activities, due to the efforts of Local Arrangements Chairs Elliot Levy and Bob Smallridge.

The members of the Program have worked very hard to satisfy the interests of both bench researchers and bedside clinicians. According to John Morris, the 1999 meeting will be a "banner year", in terms of quality abstracts scheduled for presentation. The highest-ranked abstracts, from among the very large number submitted, will be presented at the Plenary Session, on the first day of the meeting.

In addition to the usual outstanding clinical and research lectures and Meet-the-Professor workshops, 1999 will mark the First Annual Arthur Bauman Clinical Symposium, which is sure to be a highlight. John Morris reminds all attendees to pay close attention to the program, since the final days' scientific and clinical activities promise to be as intellectually rewarding and enjoyable as the earlier sessions. Check the June 1999 issue of THYROID for the complete program of the Annual Meeting.

In keeping with the ATA tradition of combining rest and

recreation with science and medicine, Elliot Levy and Bob Smallridge have outdone themselves, by not only selecting a spectacular resort setting, but also by ensuring that the social activities will provide something for everyone. "The Breakers Hotel has a magnificent Grand



One of the many Spectacular Views of
The Breakers Resort

Ballroom, exquisite gardens, and great shopping", according to Elliot, and for the athletically-inclined, there are tennis courts, golf courses, swimming pools, and of course the warm ocean, for salt-water buffs.

Everyone is encouraged to attend the Wednesday, September 29, Welcome Reception at The Breakers. This will be an opportunity to renew acquaintances, and to see if your Palm Beach attire is in keeping with local tradition (just kidding - no dress code).

A special social event will be held on Thursday, September 30 at the Flagler Museum, the original home of real estate magnate Henry Flagler. Active as a Palm Beach socialite, Flagler built the Breakers Hotel, which is only a short walk from his home. The evening will be spent enjoying the beautiful Flagler estate, which as a residence, probably exceeds the means of most ATA members.

For Friday, evenings' activities, Elliot and Bob have organized a buffet dinner cruise, which will sail along the Intercostal Waterway. There will

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BULLETIN BOARD

• The Secretary urges members willing to help define the mission, features, and capabilities of the ATA's website to volunteer for the Ad Hoc ATA Website Committee. Extensive hardware, software, or programming experience are not required, just ideas about how the ATA can advance its missions via the web. Please respond to ladenson@jhu.edu.

• Please send "newsworthy" items (which may include personal announcements) to the SIGNAL editor at psinger@hsc.usc.edu.

ATA SIGNAL



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72nd Annual Meeting

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be entertainment and dancing (for those with sea legs). The more sedentary may enjoy views of the many mansions along the route. Elliot and Bob have promised that no one will become seasick.

Rounding out the social events will be the Annual Reception and Banquet, to be held on Saturday, October 2. Again, for our energetic members, there will be music and

dancing until 'til midnight. Staying up late, though, will be no excuse for missing the Sunday morning symposia and presentations.

The organizers of the 1999 Annual Meeting hope that everyone will remain until the final Sunday session, to have taken full advantage of the varied scientific, clinical, and social activities, in the beautiful ocean setting of Palm Beach. See you there.

Second Annual Thyroid Awareness Gala Nets Research Dollars For ATA

The Second Annual Thyroid Awareness Gala, organized by ATA member Harvey Cohen and his wife Karen Levanduski, was held on June 26, 1999, in Rancho Cucamonga, California, on a hot summer evening. Most of the heat, though, was generated by the enthusiasm of the more than 200 people who attended the Gala evening, as they were treated to excellent food, great music, and entertaining presentations. Peter Singer represented the ATA at the event, and discussed the importance of thyroid research in advancing the treatment of thyroid

McGwire.

The success of this year's Gala is due to the efforts of Harvey and Karen, who also organized last year's event. "We had 85 attendees last year, and this year we had more than 200", said Karen. Last year, the event netted approximate-



Los Angeles television personality and author, Christopher Nance made a pitch for thyroid research as he introduced the Rancho Cucamonga Goiter-in-Residence



Rancho Cucamonga Mayor William Alexander received an ATA Certificate of Appreciation from Peter Singer.

disease. In addition, he presented ATA awards to Rancho Cucamonga Mayor Bill Alexander, to the leadership of Heritage Hospital, which helped support the evening, and to Karen and Harvey. Southern California television personality Christopher Nance was compelling in his pitch on behalf of thyroid research, as he helped raise funds by conducting a live auction, which included a baseball autographed by Mark

ly \$7500, and went directly into the ATA's Research Fund. The final tally for this year is not in yet, but no doubt will significantly exceed the 1998 sum.

Kudos to Karen and Harvey, and "thank you" to the City of Rancho Cucamonga, and Heritage Hospital, for their fund-raising efforts on behalf of thyroid research. For those who would like to learn how to put on a fundraising event, please attend the workshop Karen and Harvey will be conducting at the Annual Meeting. For information, contact the ATA Administrative Office at (718)882-6047, or e-mail at jenniferellis@sprynet.com.

Council Meeting Highlights

June 12, 1999
 San Diego, California

• Council endorsed a new investment policy proposed by the Finance and Audit Committee. The policy defines a responsible diversification of ATA's endowment funds to generate a higher rate of return with an acceptable low long-term risk. (The full text of this policy can be accessed at www.thyroid.org)

• Council further directed the F&A Committee 1) to identify three potential money managers to advise the organization, one of whom will be selected at the September Council meeting; and 2) to define specific investment prohibitions that would be appropriate for a health-related organization.

• Council voted to support creation of a new category of membership: Industrial Associate. To be eligible for Industrial Associateship, individuals in healthcare-related firms must have materially contributed to elements of the ATA's Mission. Industrial Associates will be dues-paying, but non-voting members capable of participating on ATA Committees. The By-laws Committee was instructed to draft a by-laws revision for presentation to ATA members this October.

• Council affirmed its commitment to a \$3 million dollar Campaign for Thyroid Research, to be launched at this fall's Annual Meeting.

• Council was informed that "Highlights of the Annual Meeting" will be broadcast on the worldwide web under the terms of a new agreement between the ATA and Rockpoint Broadcasting. It is anticipated that web broadcasting will increase the ATA's global visibility, while also providing a new source of revenue.



ATA Member Impact Survey

The Campaign for Thyroid Research

Please complete, (front and back), the following survey and return it to the ATA Office by August 30. This information is vital to support our fund-raising efforts. Identifying information will be held strictly confidential, but is essential to ensure follow-up of non-respondents. Let us hear from you!

Your name (print or type): _____

Please provide any new address, telephone, fax, and e-mail information:

Your principal professional role? (Check category that best applies.)

Clinician Clinician-Educator Clinical-Investigator
 Physician-Scientist Basic Scientist Other: _____

For Members engaged in any clinical practice, please answer the following:

How many total patients do you care for? _____

With Thyroid disease? Diabetes? Metabolic bone diseases?

Menopausal Hormone Replacement? Pituitary diseases?

How many patients to you see in a typical week? _____

How many prescriptions per week do you write or administer in each category?

Thyroid hormone preparations Antithyroid drugs 131-Iodine

Estrogen/Progesterone Diabetes treatment Lipid lowering agents

Androgens Agents to treat pituitary conditions

How many of the following tests do you order or perform in a typical week?

TSH Total/free T4/T3 Antithyroid antibodies (incl. TSI)

FNA biopsy Other hormone assays Glycohemoglobin Lipid profile

Radionuclide thyroid scans Sonograms Bone mineral density scans

Do you maintain your own clinical lab? _____ (Y/N) If yes, list assays performed below:

Check testing capabilities in your practice: _____ Radionuclide imaging _____ Sonography



For Members engaging in any research, please answer the following:

How many persons in these categories perform research under your direction?

Faculty scientists Postdoctoral fellows Technicians
 Nurses Other:

Estimate the annual direct expenditures in these categories for your research activities?

\$ Equipment \$ Consumable supplies \$ Commercial lab tests \$
 Other:

Estimate the total purchase cost of equipment currently used in your laboratory: \$

For Members who teach, please answer the following:

How many times per year do you lecture to the following audiences on thyroid disease?

Primary Care Physicians Endocrinologists Fellows/residents
 Students Lay persons

How many times per year do you lecture on other endocrine topics?

Primary Care Physicians Endocrinologists Fellows/residents
 Students Lay persons

How many persons total do you teach each year in these categories?

Primary Care Physicians Endocrinologists Fellows/residents
 Students Lay persons

What meetings do you regularly attend?

Endocrine Society Annual AACE Annual ETA Annual

What years did you attend the ATA Annual Meeting?

1998 1997 1996 1995 1994

Return this completed form to the ATA Office before August 30, 1999.

Fax (718) 882-6085