

# ATA Signal



AMERICAN  
THYROID  
ASSOCIATION  
FOUNDED 1923

VOLUME 9 NO. 1, MARCH 2006

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE AMERICAN THYROID ASSOCIATION

## ATA Spring Meeting to Focus on Thyroid Health and the Environment

The upcoming ATA Spring Meeting, "Thyroid Health and the Environment:

Threats and Effects" will share the latest information on the effects of

the environment on the thyroid, especially those factors that might adversely affect thyroid function. The meeting, held in cooperation with the American Association of Clinical Endocrinologists (AACE), will



take place Friday, March 24, 2006, at the Hamilton Crowne Plaza in Washington, DC.

"The Program Committee has developed an inclusive scientific program covering the most up-to-date information about the effects of the environment on thyroid disorders," said Lewis Braverman, MD, *continued on page 6*

## Thyroid History Resource Center Comes to Life With Sawin Endowment

The *Clark T. Sawin History Resource Center* has officially been established, with a \$50,000 endowment from his wife, Mrs. Leslie Sawin. Mrs. Sawin attended ATA annual meetings over many years, establishing long-time friendships in the ATA's collegial community.

The *Clark T. Sawin History Resource Center* will help to continue Dr. Sawin's historical work and further his vision of

bringing an appreciation of history to current thyroid research and clinical practice. This generous endowment will support operations and management of the history initiatives and programs. This includes development of the history section of the existing ATA web site and archival preservation of Dr. Sawin's slides, including conversion to CD-ROM and other

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### Important ATA Member Notices

- Register for Thyroid Health and the Environment, the spring meeting of the ATA (page 16).
- Renew your ATA membership TODAY (page 5).
- Call for nominations for 2006–2007 (page 9).
- *Clinical Thyroidology* will soon become available as an online service. Sign up now: <http://www.thyroid.org/professionals/publications/clinthy/subscription.html>
- ATA Management Guidelines for Patients with Thyroid Nodules and Differentiated Thyroid Cancer are now available at [www.thyroid.org](http://www.thyroid.org).

### President's Message



Nearly 29 years ago when I attended my first annual meeting of the

American Thyroid Association, I never dreamed that I would have the honor and privilege of serving as your president. Stepping into a position that has been so gracefully and expertly managed by Past President Paul Ladenson is a challenge, but one made easier by his contributions to our society.

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One of the remarkable features of this issue of *Signal* is what it does not contain. It is the first-ever issue of *Signal* without a report from Paul Ladenson. At the recent ITC in Buenos Aires, Paul Ladenson completed his presidential term, the culmination of a remarkable period of leadership and service to our association as secretary and then president. Although Paul will continue on the Council in the coming year, serving his past president term, I wanted to express my deep appreciation for the profound impact Paul has had on our association, and the fruits of his vision and leadership that will be felt for years to come.

The ATA has launched a number of web initiatives that have been in development for some time and are the culmination of the work of a large number of individuals. The pharmacovigilance web site, under the direction of Elliot Levy and Bryan Haugen, has been providing much needed information on the clinical consequences of switching among thyroxine preparations. We have partnered with The Endocrine Society and the American Association of Clinical Endocrinologists; and, after an initial period of collecting information from our members, we will be sending a revised version to thyroxine prescribers across the country. The thyroid clinical trials web site, through the efforts of Website Advisory Group Chair Matt Ringel and Council member Steve Sherman, will provide a central resource of available clinical trials. Finally, the Thyroid Cancer Roadmap web site, initiated by Paul Ladenson and developed by Matthew Kim at Johns Hopkins, will provide a link for those involved in the care of patients with thyroid cancer.

Our lay outreach has been expanded significantly with the launch of the Friends of the ATA. President Ernie Mazzafferri has provided leadership for this initiative that grew out of our strategic planning meeting two years ago. The pace of enrollment has exceeded our most optimistic projections, and we have jumped to a quick start of several thousand members. The link to "Friends" can be accessed from our home page. We will be providing high quality information on thyroid diseases to those that sign up and develop a network of lay people with an interest in our mission. Elizabeth Pearce has agreed to be the editor for the Friends newsletter and will be enlisting the help of our expert members to assist in this important initiative.

The ATA thyroid history program in honor of Clark Sawin, and supported by the generous endowment of Leslie

Sawin, has been launched. The Clark T. Sawin Historical Lecture at the ITC meeting included a retrospective of Clark's career and contributions that I gave, and a first-hand account by John Stanbury of the early efforts to study and treat iodine deficiency in South America. The Sawin Lecture will be a regular feature of our Annual Meeting program. The History and Archives Committee, under the direction of Rita Hays, met at the ITC and is taking a lead role in carrying forth this initiative. The full scope of the program will be introduced in the coming months, and there will be an opportunity to make donations to carry out this important initiative.

The ATA "Management Guidelines for Patients with Thyroid Nodules and Differentiated Thyroid Cancer" is published in the February issue of our journal *Thyroid*. Dr. David Cooper and his task force have produced an

outstanding set of evidenced-based guidelines that provide a clear and balanced approach to this complex area of disease management. These guidelines required an enormous amount of dedicated effort on the part of David and each member of the task force, as well as our professional staff. We are indebted to them for this effort that is certain to have a major impact on improving the care of patients with

thyroid nodules and cancer. *Thyroid* Editor-in-Chief Dr. Terry Davies and our publisher Mary Ann Liebert were very cooperative and helpful in the timely publication of the guidelines and in allowing the ATA to retain the copyright of the material. There has already been significant interest from the media and other medical organizations in this information.

The spring thyroid health and public policy meeting, *Thyroid and the Environment: Threats and Effects*, will be held in Washington, DC, March 24, 2006, under the direction of Program Chairs Tom Zoeller and Lew Braverman. The one-day CME program is designed to attract clinicians and scientists across a large spectrum of disciplines in an area representing the interface of thyroid health and public policy. An outstanding slate of speakers is scheduled, and it promises to be a high impact gathering.

Our Council meeting this spring will include a discussion on how our leadership can position our association to function with the highest standards of ethical conduct. This will include personal standards for leadership, guidelines for our interaction with industry, and issues that arise from our oversight of publications, meetings, committee work, and

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I wanted to express my deep appreciation for the profound impact Paul [Ladenson] has had on our association

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# ATA Signal

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Please notify the ATA of changes  
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## Treasurer's Report



The audit for 2004 is complete, and the audit for 2005 should be underway by the end of February. Monetary and other assets of the ATA grew from \$1.17 million in 1999 to \$3.01 million in 2004. Monetary assets of the ATA are held in two groups of accounts, operational and investment. Operational accounts hold monies for yearly budget-related expenses as well as reserves. Investment accounts hold monies for Endowment and Designated Funds.

Operational account monies are held in cash or cash equivalents. The 2005 budget contained 194 income and expense related line items in support of the seven ATA programs. These are awards, governance, meetings, membership services, patient services, publications, and research and education. Expenses for 2005 operational activities were approximately \$1.02 million with a 53 to 47 split between meetings and the other programs.

The 2005 Frontiers in Thyroid Cancer meeting, held from April 14–17 in Baltimore last year, was a financial success as it contributed \$297,689 net income to the 2005 budget. This protected reserves that are usually required every five years when no Annual Meeting is held. As activities of the ATA continue to grow, however, it is important to retain reserve funds. Therefore, the policy of budgeting reserve monies in the years that an Annual Meeting is held will be continued.

Investment accounts hold assets for the following funds:

*Arthur Bauman* – Supports a clinical symposium at the Annual Meeting

*Campaign, Endowment* – Endowment to support thyroid research

*Meeting Endowment Funds* – Supports scientific and educational programs for members and provides travel grants for younger physicians and scientists to attend meetings

*Ingbar* – Supports an award lectureship at the Annual Meeting

*Ruth Volpe* – Helps to defray the cost for fellows in training who attend the Annual Meeting and provides funds for the hosting the Ruth Volpe Hospitality Suite

*The Clark T. Sawin History Resource Center* – Encompasses an online library of history and archival resources and an endowed history lectureship at the Annual Meeting

*Pathophysiology* – Supports the ATA Pathophysiology Award

Investment account monies are invested in cash and cash equivalent, equities, and bonds. As of Dec. 31, 2005, the total value of ATA investment accounts was approximately \$2.6 million, with about 14 percent in cash, 45 percent in equities, and 40 percent in bonds. In 2005, the return for equity investments was 12.99 percent with the S & P 500 return being 4.91 percent.

The ATA is in good financial health. Although 2005 was an “off” year for the Annual Meeting, the Frontiers in Thyroid Cancer conference was an important contributor to maintaining fiscal stability. Other important enhancements to this stability were Annual Fund contributions by ATA members, online giving through the ATA web site, designated gifts through the Independent Charities of America, and ATA support from ThyCa: Thyroid Cancer Survivors Association. In 2005, \$111,830 was received from these sources.

However, thyroid research is still under funded in North America, and there is a continued need to address the concerns of patients and those who deliver their health care. These require more resources than are currently available. It is essential, therefore, that the ATA nurtures new programs, such as the “Friends of the ATA,” and develops diverse sources of support, including legacy donations from generous benefactors.

Charles H. Emerson, M.D. – Treasurer

Thyroid research is still under funded in North America.

## 95 New ATA Members Welcomed in 2005!

The ATA Membership Committee proudly announces 95 new members for the year 2005! The committee thanks all ATA members who recruited and sponsored new members this past year. Special recognition goes out to Paul Ladenson, who sponsored seven new members, and Terry Davies and Stephanie Lee, who each sponsored three new members. Virginia Sarapura also deserves much appreciation for her leadership during her second stint as chair of the Membership Committee from 2003–2005 (with 1996–1997 being her first).

Gregorio Chazenbalk, the new chair of the ATA Membership Committee, encourages all ATA members to invite physicians, surgeons, and scientists interested in thyroidology to join the ATA. Membership application forms can be found in the journal *Thyroid* or on the ATA web site, [www.thyroid.org](http://www.thyroid.org) — click on “Professionals” and then “Join the ATA.” If you would like to become more involved in the ATA Member Recruitment Program, please contact Patrice Dickens at 703-998-8890 or [pdickens@thyroid.org](mailto:pdickens@thyroid.org).

### New Member

Bahar Aghighi, MD  
 Cumali Aktolun, MD  
 Ali S. Alzahrani, MD  
 Nicholas B. Argento, MD  
 Michel Babajanian, MD  
 Giuseppe Barbesino, MD  
 Helen L. Baron, MD  
 John H. Bassett, MA, PhD  
 Joel J. Bergh, PhD  
 Donald L. Bodenner, MD, PhD  
 Marcia S. Brose, MD, PhD  
 Janete Cerutti, MD  
 Gary L. Clayman, DMD, MD  
 James I. Cohen, MD, PhD  
 Raffaella M. Colzani, MD  
 John A. Copland, III, PhD  
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 Monica Dentice, PhD  
 Lucy Dey, MD  
 Carlos M. Duncker, PhD  
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 Charlotte H. Edinboro, DVM, PhD  
 Marisa C. Eisenberg, MD  
 Samer El-Kaissi, MD  
 Dana Erickson, MD  
 Douglas B. Evans, MD  
 Jadwiga Furmaniak, PhD  
 Pablo Garcia-Solis, MD  
 Eric M. Genden, MD  
 Michael K. Gibson, MD  
 Whitney S. Goldner, MD  
 Dona L. Gray, MD  
 Molly H. Harrington, MD  
 Aleck A. Herbergs, MD  
 Mark C. Horattas, MD  
 Dyde A. Huysmans, MD, PhD  
 Hani Z. Ibrahim, MD  
 Hiroyuki Iwasaki, MD, PhD  
 Roberto E. Izquierdo, MD  
 Nicholas C. Kaloudis, MD  
 Yasuhito Kato, MD  
 Matthew Kim, MD  
 Ashok Kumar, PhD  
 Keith R. Latham, PhD  
 Simeon A. Lauer, MD  
 Jennifer E. Lawrence, MD  
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 Faith Davis, MD  
 Stephanie L. Lee, MD, PhD  
 Susan Mandel, MD  
 Rui Maciel, MD, PhD  
 Virginia Sarapura, MD  
 Mary Samuels, MD  
 Charles Emerson, MD  
 Robert Smallridge, MD  
 Juan Carlos Jaume, MD  
 Virginia Sarapura, MD  
 Virginia Sarapura, MD  
 Virginia Sarapura, MD  
 Virginia Sarapura, MD  
 Steven Lamm, MD  
 Joe Di Stefano, III, PhD  
 Jack Wall, MD, PhD  
 Rebecca Bahn, MD  
 Virginia Sarapura, MD  
 Terry Davies, MD  
 Carmen Aceves-Velasco, PhD  
 Terry Davies, MD  
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 Susan Mandel, MD  
 Paul Skierczynski, MD  
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 Manjula Gupta, PhD  
 Virginia Sarapura, MD  
 Stephanie L. Lee, MD, PhD  
 Virginia Sarapura, MD  
 Virginia Sarapura, MD  
 Virginia Sarapura, MD  
 Kenneth Hupart, MD  
 Sheue-yann Cheng, MD  
 Paul W. Ladenson, MD  
 Madan Godbole, PhD  
 Jacqueline Jonklaas, MD  
 Virginia Sarapura, MD  
 Lewis Braverman, MD  
 Marie-France Langlois, MD  
 Bo Youn Cho, MD

### New Member (continued)

Matthew S. Leone, MD  
 Don N. Lerner, MD  
 Sandra D. Licht, MD  
 Reigh-yi Lin, PhD  
 Monika Mannan, MD  
 Mara Marga, MD  
 Andrew J. Martorella, MD  
 Angela D. Mazza, DO  
 Rinku Mehra, MD  
 Maryann N. Mugo, MD  
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 Rachel S. Redman, MD  
 Roberto Rocchi, MD  
 M. Sara Rosenthal, PhD  
 Olga V. Sakharova, MD  
 Joseph B. Savage, MD  
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 David E. Scarborough, MD  
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 Sabine Schnyder, MD  
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 Mira S. Torres, MD  
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 Tamotsu Takozaura, MD  
 Paul W. Ladenson, MD  
 Marvin Gershengorn, MD  
 E. Chester Ridgway, MD  
 Alvin Taugog, PhD  
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 Paul W. Ladenson, MD  
 Peter Arvan, MD, PhD  
 Paul W. Ladenson, MD  
 Kenneth Burman, MD  
 Terry Davies, MD  
 Manjula Gupta, PhD  
 Nicole Massoll, MD  
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 Stephanie L. Lee, MD, PhD  
 Mario Pisarev, MD  
 Peter Kopp, MD  
 Nils Morgenthaler, MD, PhD  
 Mario Andreoli, MD  
 Bellur Prabhakar, PhD  
 Virginia Sarapura, MD  
 Virginia Sarapura, MD  
 Virginia Sarapura, MD  
 Kenneth Ain, MD  
 Steven Sherman, MD  
 Hossein Gharib, MD  
 Charles Emerson, MD  
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 Paul Ladenson, MD  
 Nobuyuki Amino, MD  
 Virginia Sarapura, MD  
 Klaus-Werner Wenzel, MD  
 Ronald Koenig, MD, PhD

## Editor's Corner: Spot 14 Revealed



### Rebecca S. Bahn, MD, ATA Signal Editor

Spot 14 mRNA was first identified 25 years ago by Jack Oppenheimer and colleagues while using 2D gel screening of hepatic tissue for thyroid hormone regulated genes. Over the ensuing years, information about the Spot 14 gene accumulated: It is expressed only in lipogenic tissues, and tissue-specific Spot 14 mRNA levels correlate well with tissue lipogenic rate. Studies suggested that the gene acts to regulate lipogenic enzyme transcriptional activation by stimuli such as feeding and thyroid hormone treatment.

It is only now — 25 years after its discovery — that the full importance of Spot 14 has been revealed. Cary Mariash, Qihong Zhu, and colleagues studied the role of this gene in *de novo* lipid synthesis using their recently generated Spot 14 null mouse (1). They found that Spot 14 null pups nursed by Spot 14 null dams gain less weight than wild-type pups nursed by wild-type dams. On the other hand, Spot 14 null pups nursed by heterozygous dams show similar weight gain to wild-type littermates. This was because the triglyceride content of Spot 14 null milk was reduced due to decreased lipid synthesis in the lactating dam mammary glands.

Contrary to expectation, however, the reduced lipogenic rate was not associated with significant changes in the activities or mRNA of key lipogenic enzymes; Mariash and Zhu hypothesized that Spot 14 may function to relieve allosteric inhibition of these enzymes.

A hint of the fundamental importance of Spot 14 was provided by the early finding that the gene is present only in the genome of mammalian species. It now appears to have evolved to regulate milk energy content and, as a result,

confers a survival advantage to mammalian neonates. The ability to efficiently synthesize lipids in the lactating mammary gland enables the dam to maintain high milk lipid levels when feeding on a low-fat diet, allowing pups to thrive independent of maternal food source and quantity. Perhaps tongue in cheek, Mariash suggested that deletion of the bovine gene could provide a mechanism for making genetically low-fat commercial milk, thus providing an economic survival benefit to dairy farmers.

Running counter to its putative positive contributions to mammalian evolutionary advantage, however, is the observation that the human Spot 14 gene locus is amplified in a subset of aggressive breast cancers. In fact, high level expression of the protein in invasive cancers predicts disease recurrence, while low level expression is associated with prolonged disease-free survival, even in the presence of nodal metastasis (2). Other studies have shown that its expression in breast tumors is highly concordant with the overabundance of a key lipogenic enzyme. This suggests an association with enhanced tumor lipogenesis, itself a marker of poor prognosis that may enhance survival of breast cancer cells.

An important lesson to be learned here — frequently the case in science — is that persistent attention to a small but consistent finding can turn a small spot into a big splash.

1. Zhu Q, Anderson GW, Mucha GT, Parks EJ, Metkowski JK, Mariash CN. 2005 *Endocrinology* 146:3343-3350.
2. Wells WA, Schwartz GN, Morganelli PM, Cole BF, Gibson JJ, Kinlaw W. 2006 *Breast Cancer Research* (in press).

## ATA Members to be Honored by ACP

Four ATA members will soon advance to being Masters in the American College of Physicians (ACP). Those receiving the honor at the Convocation of the April 2006 ACP Annual Session include Jerome Hershman of Los Angeles; Hossein Gharib of Rochester, Minn.; Stephen C. Beuttel of Winston-Salem, N.C.; and Geraldo Medeiros-Neto of Sao Paulo, Brazil. They join E. Chester Ridgway, Leonard Wartofsky, and Ernest Mazzaferri, who each had previously received Master's status.

Masters comprise a small group of highly distinguished physicians, selected from among ACP Fellows, who have achieved recognition in medicine by exhibiting preeminence in practice or medical research, holding positions of high honor, or making significant contributions to medical science or the art of medicine.

### Membership Renewal and Dues

ATA membership renewals were due Jan. 31. However, payment can still be made online at [www.thyroid.org](http://www.thyroid.org). Members are encouraged to renew membership as soon as possible to avoid any interruption in the delivery of *Thyroid* and other services. A \$40 late fee has been applied to all renewals after Feb. 8.

## New Officers and Directors Join the ATA Council



David S. Cooper, MD



Matthew D. Ringel, MD



Mary H. Samuels, MD



Paul W. Ladenson, MD

Based on the results of the fall 2005 election, new ATA officers and directors were announced on Nov. 2, 2005, at the ATA Membership Meeting during the 13<sup>th</sup> International Thyroid Congress in Buenos Aires.

**David S. Cooper, MD**, of Baltimore, was elected as the 2005–06 president-elect, which will be followed by a one-year term (2006–07) as president. Dr. Cooper is the Director of the Division of Endocrinology at Sinai Hospital of Baltimore and is Professor of Medicine at the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine. He is the immediate past treasurer of the ATA, has served on the ATA Council, and has chaired the Public Health, Publications, and Clinical Affairs committees. He also led the ATA task force that developed the new guidelines for the management of thyroid nodules and thyroid cancer. He is the recipient of the ATA's 2005 Distinguished Service Award.

**Matthew D. Ringel, MD**, of Columbus, Ohio, and **Mary H. Samuels, MD**, of Portland, Ore., were elected as directors, each to serve a four-year term (2005–09). Dr. Ringel is Associate Professor of Medicine in the Divisions of Endocrinology and Oncology at The Ohio State University. He is also the Director of The Ohio State Endocrinology Fellowship Program and is the Co-director of The Ohio State Thyroid Cancer Unit. Dr. Samuels is Professor of Medicine at Oregon Health & Science University (OHSU) in the Division of Endocrinology, Diabetes and Clinical Nutrition. She also serves as the Associate Program Director of the OHSU General Clinical Research Center.

**Paul W. Ladenson, MD**, of Baltimore and the ATA's 2004–2005 president, continues his service to the ATA, as do all past presidents, as a director in 2005–2006.

### ATA Spring Meeting, *continued from front page*

meeting co-chair and CME course director.

The goal of this year's Spring Meeting is to bring information about the potential adverse effects of environmental agents on thyroid function to the attention of various health care workers and professionals as well as the general public.

"The meeting will provide attendees with cutting-edge information provided by a world-class faculty, allowing them the opportunity to evaluate and distinguish the various environmental effects on thyroid function in an evidence-based and rigorous manner," said Thomas Zoeller, PhD, meeting co-chair.

Meeting participants will also learn how to recognize and interpret the recommendations by various national and state agencies on the regulations of the potential environmental factors affecting thyroid health.

The symposium will discuss the following issues:

- The physiology and pathophysiology of the thyroid and the biochemical and molecular events within the thyroid that can be affected by environmental chemicals and radiation.
- The major impact of iodine nutrition on the thyroid will be carefully reviewed, especially the current

situation in the United States, as well as the growing concern about mild-to-moderate iodine deficiency in reproductive-age women and the nursing infant.

- The environmental agents that could inhibit the concentration of iodine by the thyroid and the effects of environmental perchlorate on thyroid function in pregnant women, nursing mothers, children, and adults in the United States and South America.
- The effect of thiocyanate, a byproduct of smoking, on the concentration of iodine in the thyroid and in breast milk will also be discussed, as will the environmental contaminants nitrates and PCBs.
- The radiation exposure of children and young adults in the Chernobyl area following the nuclear accident in 1985, as well as the effect of radiation on gene mutations, the development of thyroid cancer, and the role of radiation in the induction of autoimmune thyroid disease.

This program is being supported in part by unrestricted educational grants from Genzyme, Inc. and Abbott Laboratories.

To learn more about the meeting, visit the ATA web site, [www.thyroid.org](http://www.thyroid.org).

## ATA Executive Council Highlights

Buenos Aires, Argentina, Nov. 1, 2005

Paul Ladenson welcomed the Council and expressed his satisfaction with the President's Reception, which he hosted the previous evening. At the reception, he was pleased to be able to thank the Latin American Thyroid Society hosts and welcome ATA and other international leaders to Buenos Aires.

### A Tribute to Paul Ladenson

Greg Brent congratulated Dr. Ladenson on his seven years of service to the ATA, which included many major successes for the ATA. Some of which he mentioned include:

- ▶ Professionalization of the ATA staff and establishment of the ATA's permanent Washington-area office;
- ▶ Founding the campaign, raising funds, and responsibly investing the ATA endowment;
- ▶ Implementing competitive elections;
- ▶ Instituting a second annual "themed" educational meeting, including during the "ITC year" when there is no Annual Meeting;
- ▶ Launching the *ATA Signal*; acquiring, supporting, and strengthening *Clinical Thyroidology*; and expanding the ATA's Internet identity ([www.thyroid.org](http://www.thyroid.org)) and capabilities, with its enormous public participation, effective member services, and satellite web capabilities;
- ▶ Seizing leadership in public policy related to thyroid disease, especially in prophylaxis for radioiodine exposure and thyroxine formulation equivalence;
- ▶ Becoming a "go-to source" for the media in all matters pertaining to the thyroid; setting up the ATA Alliance for Patient Education as a liaison with the advocacy and education groups; and making a commitment to build direct relationships with the public and founding the Friends of the ATA; and
- ▶ Establishing the associate membership category and the fellows track at educational meetings; admitting the first non-MD/PhD nurse to membership; nurturing Women in Thyroidology; supporting and implementing the Arthur Bauman Clinical Symposium, Pathophysiology Award and Ruth Volpe activities; producing the ATA's first truly evidence-based clinical practice guideline; bouncing back from the effects of Sept. 11; and, even updating the ATA's original logo.

Dr. Ladenson expressed his personal thanks to those who inspired, advised, criticized, and supported him. He pointed out that the common purpose of these changes was to make the ATA more effective in its mission of the better

understanding, prevention, and management of thyroid diseases. "I hope many agree that we have accomplished a great deal, and done so without undue change in the Association's special character and heart," said Dr. Ladenson. "Thank you to all those who worked hard and smart to effect these advances: the Association's leaders, members, and staff."

### History and Archives

Gilbert Daniels reported on the recommendations of the History and Archives Committee, which met on Oct. 31, 2005, in Buenos Aires. The discussion was broadly directed to the goal of recording the organizational history of the ATA and to stimulating continued and expanded interest in the history of thyroidology.

The Council was very supportive of the work of the committee, including plans to digitize society proceedings and past scientific programs as well as to make available on the web the history of the ATA, a thyroid history timeline and related papers, and interviews of key figures in thyroidology.

### Membership

Membership in the ATA currently stands at 638 Active, 127 Corresponding, 55 Senior, 74 Associate, 28 Emeritus, and 1 Honorary member for a grand total of 923. This represents a 10 percent increase in Active, 8 percent increase in Corresponding, no change in Senior, 30 percent increase in Associate, and 10 percent increase in Emeritus. Nineteen members who had not paid dues since Dec. 31, 2003, were removed from member status. One member, Dr. Robert Volpe, passed away in 2005.

### Finance and Audit Report

The Council approved the Finance and Audit Committee's recommendations to approve the audit for 2004. The committee continues to review the investment portfolio consistent with the ATA's investment policy and guidelines. The previously recommended change in asset allocation to increase the percentage invested in foreign investments was approved and implemented.

The ATA's top priority is to increase current revenue to support the goals of the ATA. The committee endorsed a limited reduction in the amount of funds maintained in checking or money market accounts and reinvestment in short-term bonds as long as these funds were invested with appropriate time frames.

Greg Brent congratulated Dr. Ladenson on his seven years of service to the ATA...

## The ATA Recognizes 2005 Annual Fund Donors

The ATA's Annual Fund supports scientific and educational programs and provides travel grants that enable younger physicians and scientists to attend ATA meetings. The ATA extends its appreciation to all the members who contributed to the Annual Fund in 2005.

- Kenneth B. Ain, MD  
Nobuyuki Amino, MD  
Robert J. Anderson, MD  
Peter Angelos, MD, PhD  
Nicholas B. Argento, MD  
Ernest O. Asamoah, MD, FACP, FACE, FRCP  
Rebecca S. Bahn, MD  
James R. Baker, Jr., MD  
Zubair W. Baloch, MD, PhD  
David V. Becker, MD  
Gregory P. Becks, MD  
Diego Bellabarba, MD  
Victor J. Bernet, LTC, MC, MD  
Bernadette Biondi, MD  
Manfred Blum, MD  
Glenn Braunstein, MD  
Lewis E. Braverman, MD  
Lee A. Bricker, MD  
Rosalind S. Brown, MD, CM  
Gerard N. Burrow, MD  
Robert H. Caplan, MD  
Eric Carnell, MD  
Sally E. Carty, MD  
Sheue-yann Cheng, PhD  
Stuart R. Chipkin, MD  
Gary L. Clayman, DMD, MD, FACS  
David S. Cooper, MD  
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Faith B. Davis, MD  
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Mete Duren, MD  
Nadir R. Farid, MB, BS  
Alan P. Farwell, MD  
Shireen Fatemi, MD  
Henry G. Fein, MD  
Sebastiano Filetti, MD  
John E. Freitas, MD  
Francesco Frigato, MD  
Shuji Fukata, MD  
Hiroshi Fukazawa, MD  
Valerie Anne Galton, PhD  
David F. Gardner, MD  
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Eli Ginsburg, MD  
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M. Carol Greenlee, MD  
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Jerome M. Hershman, MD  
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Helmut Huber, MD  
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J. Larry Jameson, MD, PhD  
Anthony S. Jennings, MD  
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Michael M. Kaplan, MD  
Jan L. Kasperbauer, MD  
Yoshio Kasuga, MD, PhD  
Richard Kleinmann, MD  
Leonard D. Kohn, MD  
Peter A. Kopp, MD  
Shinji Kosugi, MD, PhD  
Mitchell A. Lazar, MD, PhD  
John H. Lazarus, MD  
Stephanie L. Lee, MD, PhD  
Larry C. Levin, MD  
Robert A. Levine, MD, FACE  
Elliot G. Levy, MD  
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Paul Margulies, MD  
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Ernest L. Mazzaferri, MD  
James D. McCallum, MD  
Robert J. McConnell, MD  
Thomas J. McDonald, MD, FRCPC  
J. Maxwell McKenzie, MD  
Sandra M. McLachlan, PhD  
Jeffrey Ian Mechanick, MD  
Edward Merker, MD  
Fabrizio Monaco, MD  
Sam J. Morayati, MD  
Nils Morgenthaler, MD, PhD  
Endre Nagy, MD  
Muriel H. Nathan, MD, PhD  
Jerald C. Nelson, MD  
Ernst H. Nystrom, MD  
Masayuki Ohmori, MD  
Nobumitsu Okita, MD  
Johanna A. Pallotta, MD  
Pascal G. Pandos, MD  
Andre Pineau, MD  
Daniel H. Polk, MD  
Marvin L. Rallison, MD  
Basil Rapoport, MB, ChB  
S. Sethu K. Reddy, MD, MBA  
Samuel Refetoff, MD  
James Reynolds, MD  
Jacob Robbins, MD  
James K. Rone, MD  
David S. Rosenthal, MD  
Corbin P. Roudebush, MD  
Joanne Rovet, PhD  
Harvey A. Rubenstein, MD, FACP, FACE  
Marjorie Safran, MD  
David H. Sarne, MD  
Kanji Sato, MD  
Mark Sawicki, MD  
Arthur B. Schneider, MD, PhD  
George C. Schussler, MD  
Lawrence D. Schuster, MD, PhD  
Salvatore Sciacchitano, MD, PhD  
Simona Scumpia, MD  
Taeko Shinozawa, MD  
J. Enrique Silva, MD  
Jay D. Silverberg, MD  
Peter A. Singer, MD  
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Nalini Singh, MD  
John W. Sistrunk, MD  
Paul Skierczynski, MD  
David H. Solomon, MD  
Kathryn A. Spanknebel, MD  
Donald L. St. Germain, MD  
Alex S. Stagnaro-Green, MD  
Antonia E. Stephen, MD  
Akira Sugeno, MD  
Gopinath S. Sunil, MD  
Martin I. Surks, MD  
Satoru Suzuki, MD, PhD  
Junichi Tajiri, PhD  
Kyoko M. Takeda, MD, PhD  
Hajime Tamai, MD  
Alvin M. Taugog, PhD  
Terry Taylor, MD  
John H. Turco, MD  
Hidemasa Uchimura, MD  
Robert Udelsman, MD  
Irina E. Veronikis, MD  
Theo J. Visser, PhD  
Robert Volpe, MD  
Paul G. Walfish, MD  
Sylvia Wengrowicz, MD  
Max V. Wisgerhof, MD  
Kenneth A. Woeber, MD  
Lawrence C. Wood, MD  
Paul D. Woolf, MD, MBA, FACP  
Paul M. Yen, MD  
Tamotsu Yokozawa, MD  
Michelle A. Zaniewski-Singh, MD  
Martha A. Zeiger, MD



## Call for Nominations for ATA Executive Council

The ATA Nominating Committee is soliciting nominations from the membership for candidates for the offices of president, secretary, treasurer, and directors to serve on the ATA Executive Council. Two candidates will be on the ballot for president-elect and four candidates can run for two director positions. In the event that the secretary-elect or treasurer-elect is currently a Council member, the number of director positions increases commensurately.

The president-elect serves a one-year term, followed by a one-year term as president (2007–2008) and another year as a director on the Executive Council (2008–2009). Two directors will each serve a four-year term (2006–2010).

The secretary will serve a one-year term as secretary-elect, followed by four years as secretary (2007–2011). Election of the secretary is not competitive. The Nominating Committee will select the secretary from those nominated.

The treasurer will serve a one-year term as treasurer-elect, followed by four years as treasurer (2007–2011). Election of the treasurer is also not competitive.

This will be the fourth 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 2006. The election results will be announced at the ATA Annual Business Meeting in Phoenix on Oct. 12, 2006.

Candidates may be nominated online through the ATA web site, [www.thyroid.org](http://www.thyroid.org). The nomination form can also be printed and mailed, faxed, or e-mailed to the ATA secretary at the ATA headquarters: 6066 Leesburg Pike, Suite 550, Falls Church, VA 22041; 703-998-8893 fax; or [admin@thyroid.org](mailto:admin@thyroid.org). All nominations must be received by March 31, 2006.

## Call for Nominations for the ATA 2006 Awards

The ATA is now accepting nominations for its 2006 distinguished awards: the Van Meter Award, the Paul Starr Award, the Sidney H. Ingbar Distinguished Lectureship Award, the Distinguished Service Award, and the Pathophysiology Award. The deadline for nominations is March 31, 2006.

Candidates may be nominated online through the ATA web site, [www.thyroid.org](http://www.thyroid.org), or contact the ATA at [admin@thyroid.org](mailto:admin@thyroid.org) or at 703-998-8890 for a nomination form. Nominators must submit the following information (preferably electronically):

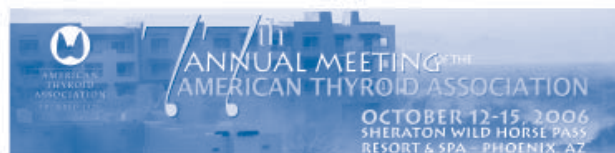
1. Completed nomination form;
2. Curriculum vitae of nominee with publications, excluding abstracts;
3. Letter stating nominee's qualifications, noting the significance and quality of research; and
4. Reprints or copies of up to four selected publications by the nominee.

## Call for Abstracts for the ATA 77<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting

The ATA announces its call for abstracts for the 77<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting, taking place in Phoenix, Oct. 12–15, 2006, at the Wild Horse Pass Resort

& Spa. Meeting Co-chairs Susan Mandel and Antonio Bianco, along with the Program Committee, are laying the plans for an informative and exciting meeting and welcome your participation in the call for abstracts.

The deadline for **regular abstracts** is Wednesday, May 31, 2006. Regular abstracts are presented either by a 10-



minute oral talk or by poster and are published in the proceedings of the meeting. Abstracts can be submitted online at [www.thyroid.org](http://www.thyroid.org).

**Short call abstracts**, which should represent the very latest in thyroid-related research, are open for submission on Tuesday, August 15, 2006, and the deadline is Wednesday, August 30, 2006.

For more information, go to [www.thyroid.org](http://www.thyroid.org) or call the ATA at 703-998-8890.

# ATA Web Sites Break New Ground in Helping Manage Thyroid Disease

## Thyroid Clinical Trials Web Site

This first-of-its-kind web site ([www.thyroidtrials.org](http://www.thyroidtrials.org)) is dedicated to providing listings and information on all current thyroid clinical trials. The web site's goal is to be the primary source of accurate Internet information for thyroid clinical trials for health care providers and patients.



[www.thyroidtrials.org](http://www.thyroidtrials.org)

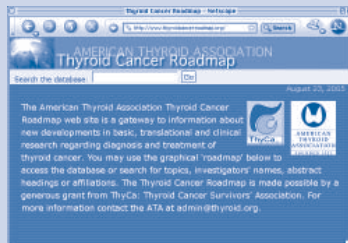
[www.thyroidpharmacovigilance.org](http://www.thyroidpharmacovigilance.org)

[www.thyroidcancerroadmap.org](http://www.thyroidcancerroadmap.org)

## Thyroid Cancer Roadmap Web Site

The Thyroid Cancer Roadmap web site ([www.thyroidcancerroadmap.org](http://www.thyroidcancerroadmap.org)) provides information about new developments in basic, translational, and clinical research regarding the diagnosis and treatment of thyroid cancer for professionals and patients.

The new web site includes descriptions of research studies as well as links to institutional web sites, clinical trial web sites, abstracts of current publications listed in PubMed, and pdf files of materials available in the public domain.



## Pharmacovigilance Web Site

The ATA has developed a Thyroid Pharmacovigilance web site ([www.thyroidpharmacovigilance.org](http://www.thyroidpharmacovigilance.org)) to collect information about possible adverse events or product availability problems related to thyroid hormone medications from physicians and other health care providers. The recent FDA decision to allow substitution among certain levothyroxine products has resulted in confusion among patients, pharmacists, and doctors. In some patients, changes between thyroxine formulations could potentially be associated with adverse clinical outcomes.



# Enlist Your Patients to Raise Funds for Thyroid Research and Education



**Brochure  
Now  
Available!**

One of the ATA's high priorities is to expand our resources to fund new research and educate patients about thyroid diseases. To achieve this goal, the ATA Development Committee is proactively reaching out to thyroid patients and their families to support these efforts by creating a donor brochure.

This new ATA brochure describes ways that patients and their loved ones can contribute to efforts to prevent, diagnose, treat, and potentially cure thyroid-related diseases. It also

highlights how past and ongoing research has positively affected how we live today.

In addition to this, the brochure provides information about the patient resources available on the ATA web site, as well as through our toll-free phone line and alliances with patient support organizations.

The ATA recently mailed 25 copies of the new brochure to all members in clinical practice. We encourage you to hand them out to your patients, place them in your waiting room, or distribute them in any other way you believe is effective. Please contact the ATA office at 703-998-8890 or [admin@thyroid.org](mailto:admin@thyroid.org) to receive more copies of this brochure. And thank you for your generous support of this important ATA endeavor.

“I want to thank the ATA for recognizing Clark’s contributions and embracing his love of history.” — Leslie Sawin

electronic or digital media.

The endowment will also support the continuance of the historical vignettes that made Clark a well-known and highly appreciated figure on the ATA Annual Meeting program. The first *Sawin Historical Lecture*, “The Seeds of Thyroid Cancer Research: The American Thyroid Association in the 1950s,” was delivered in Baltimore by Gregory Brent at the 2005 ATA spring meeting. The organizers of the 13<sup>th</sup> International Thyroid Congress also honored Dr. Sawin’s memory with historical talks given by Drs. Brent and John Stanbury.

Dr. Rita Hays, chair of the History and Archives Committee, recalls Dr. Sawin’s early contributions to medical history. “Indeed, Clark published an article on the history of endocrinology in the *New England Journal of Medicine* in 1969. He regularly took a course at Woods Hole with other medical historians, and he was elected to serve a term on the governing board of the American Association for the History of Medicine.” Dr. Hays is taking a lead role in carrying forth this initiative.

“I want to thank the ATA for recognizing Clark’s contributions and embracing his love of history,” said Mrs. Sawin. “Continuation of the historical vignettes means a great deal to my family. We are proud to work with the ATA in the establishment of the History Resource Center. Creating this center will provide a legacy for Clark that will carry on his love of history in a manner that also acknowledges his love of endocrinology, the ATA, and teaching.” She added, “We are looking forward to the continuation of his important work of maintaining a living history of endocrinology.”

The ATA and the Sawin family strongly encourage ATA members interested in the history of thyroid practice and research to contact Dr. Hays at [ritahays19@yahoo.com](mailto:ritahays19@yahoo.com) to participate in this ongoing program.

Contributions to the Sawin Endowment should be sent to the ATA headquarters at 6066 Leesburg Pike, Suite 550, Falls Church, VA 22041 or e-mail Bobbi Smith at [bsmith@thyroid.org](mailto:bsmith@thyroid.org).

### Secretary’s Report, continued from front page 2

clinical activity of members. We also want to make our operations as transparent as possible to members, who entrust us to conduct ATA business with the highest ethical standards. We welcome input on these issues and will be introducing some mechanisms to institute and monitor these programs.

Ernie Mazzaferri brings a great depth of experience in academic leadership, enthusiasm, and vision to his term as president. It is a pleasure to work with him and benefit from his wisdom and insight. His recognition as a national leader in endocrinology has already provided new opportunities for expanding the impact of the ATA across a range of organizations.

Bobbi Smith and her staff continue to expand the reach and impact of our organization with an enlarging membership and an ever-increasing number of meetings, publications, and programs. This has been accomplished without increasing our full-time staff. They welcome member calls and are dedicated to responding promptly and professionally to member requests.

Early in his term as secretary, Paul cast a vision for an association that would build on our strengths of a dedicated membership with an outstanding Annual Meeting, but

expand into new frontiers. He envisioned a professional association management and development team, an expanding and diverse membership, increasing web visibility, impact in fields of public education and advocacy, and a standard of quality and excellence in all of our activities. Paul has led us towards these goals and encouraged others to join with him. The strategic planning conference convened by President Bill Chin and Paul Ladenson in 1999 was the beginning for many of us to join this vision and engage in the work of the ATA.

It will be, perhaps, Paul’s greatest legacy that he has encouraged and nurtured so many new people into leadership positions in the association. I hope all those in the association will join me in personally thanking Paul for his service to the ATA for the past eight years, a period of time that has transformed our organization.

It is a privilege to serve as your secretary.



Gregory A. Brent, MD  
ATA Secretary

The ATA has enjoyed a growing national and international influence, which I am confident will continue. This was readily apparent at the highly successful 13<sup>th</sup> International Thyroid Congress in Argentina, which was organized by our good friend Hugo Niepomnische, MD, PhD. The meeting was, by any standard, a great success, to which many of our members contributed.

During 2006, you will see the growth and fruition of important new initiatives. In 2005, a team of 10 thyroid cancer experts led by President-elect David Cooper developed "Management Guidelines for Patients with Thyroid Nodules and Differentiated Thyroid Cancer," which is published in the February issue of *Thyroid* and is also available on the ATA web site. The ATA Guidelines Task Force used a strategy similar to that employed by the National Institutes of Health for its Consensus Development Conferences, and contains explicit advice based upon a literature survey. During 2006, our plan is to develop similar guidelines for the management of medullary thyroid cancer. My hope is that these efforts will serve as a model for developing new guidelines for the management of other thyroid conditions.

One of the most exciting ATA developments is our effort to increase our educational interaction with the public. In late 2005, the ATA took the first steps to formally begin a free patient outreach program. Friends of the ATA intended to serve as a resource to patients and the public by providing reliable, high-quality thyroid-related information and links to a number of resources through the ATA web site. Over the span of just a few months, more than 2,200 Friends across the nation have already signed up to receive regular e-news from the ATA and are already benefiting from this new initiative! My anticipation is that over the next few years this program will likely reach hundreds of thousands, if not millions, of individuals across the nation and abroad. A number of ATA members have already joined in the effort to make this one of our most important initiatives.

The long-term overall goals of Friends are to build a network in the public domain that cares about thyroid research and to create an infrastructure to communicate with that network to facilitate news alerts and calls to action; to disseminate information about the prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of thyroid disease; and to cultivate relationships with the public through this communication.

An important group of patient-oriented organizations have been brought together under the auspices of the ATA Alliance

for Patient Education, including ThyCa: Thyroid Cancer Survivors' Association led by Gary Bloom; Joan Shey's Light of Life Foundation; the Thyroid Foundation of America under the direction of Dr. Larry Wood; the National Graves' Disease Foundation led by Dr. Nancy Hord-Patterson, the Thyroid Foundation of Canada (pending), and Thyroid Federation International (pending). With these partners, we intend to weave a closely linked network of patient-oriented organizations that by mutual association will grow stronger and will reach millions of people with thyroid disorders in the United States and abroad that have not yet benefited from these important associations. It would be especially nice if we could link with our colleagues around the world in this effort.

Other important events and issues on the horizon include the ATA spring symposium, *Thyroid Health and the Environment: Threats and Effects*. The ATA will also continue its participation in the ongoing debate with the FDA concerning practices and regulations related to prescribing thyroxine, one of the most widely prescribed drugs worldwide. New FDA regulatory changes may have the potential to negatively affect the thyroid health of patients, which the ATA, along with the help of our sister societies, The Endocrine Society and the American Association of Clinical Endocrinologists, is monitoring with information collected at our Pharmacovigilance web site (<http://www.thyroidpharmacovigilance.org>), in hopes that we will provide important new clinical information concerning this issue.

Our organization is in good health. We are growing, and we are diversifying. Many members are engaged in ATA activities, including the many who volunteered for committee positions this year, without which we simply could not function.

Our highly professional staff continues to provide remarkably smooth and efficient support to our society, from which we all benefit immensely. Secretary Greg Brent continues to provide the ATA with strong leadership, which I personally value greatly. The footsteps of his wisdom are readily apparent throughout our organization.

In 2006, we shall all work diligently to broaden our membership and, particularly, to welcome our younger colleagues to the ATA.



Ernest Mazzaferri, MD  
ATA President

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One of the most exciting ATA developments is our effort to increase  
our educational interaction with the public.

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## ITC Meeting Highlights

The 13<sup>th</sup> International Thyroid Congress (ITC) was held in Buenos Aires, Argentina, Oct. 30–Nov. 4, 2005, and drew more than 1900 attendees from 42 countries, including 270 ATA members. The meeting takes place every five years and is a joint meeting of four sister associations: the ATA, the European Thyroid Association (ETA), the Latin American Thyroid Society (LATS), and the Asia and Oceania Thyroid Association (AOTA).

LATS, under the organizational direction of Hugo Niepomniszcze, MD, PhD, chair of the LATS Local Organizing Committee, hosted the meeting and warmly greeted attendees from all over the world. The ATA's Program Organizing Committee (POC) members Martin Surks, Sheueyann Cheng, and Jorge Mestman were involved in the program planning.

"Our high expectations for science and collegiality were more than satisfied," said Paul Ladenson, MD. "It was also exciting to know that this ITC was the largest gathering of thyroid experts in history."

The ITC program offered 199 lectures, including 23 clinical symposia, 18 basic, 10 mixed, and 24 Meet-the-Professor sessions. Abstract submissions were up 10 percent compared to the last meeting, and 669 abstracts from 54 countries were accepted — 138 as oral and 531 as poster presentations. North Americans submitted 67 abstracts.

"The scientific program provided an unprecedented range of outstanding clinical and basic thyroid presentations to attend," said Gregory Brent, MD. "There were wonderful opportunities for discussion and exchange at all of the sessions."

The Clark T. Sawin Historical Lecture — adopted by the 13<sup>th</sup> ITC to honor Dr. Sawin — was presented by Drs. Brent and John Stanbury. ATA Alliance for Patient Education members — The National Graves' Disease Foundation and the Thyroid Foundation of America — exhibited at the meeting. The ATA also co-sponsored a pre-meeting patient forum on thyroid cancer organized by Sandra Licht, MD, and Joan Shey of the Light of Life Foundation.

At the ATA Business Meeting, President Paul Ladenson, MD announced the election results: David S. Cooper, MD, was elected president-elect, and Matthew Ringel, MD and Mary Samuels, MD were elected as new directors. Ernest Mazzaferri, MD, took office as ATA president.

Dr. Ladenson expressed his appreciation for a year of accomplishments, including the thyroid cancer spring meeting in Baltimore, the launch of the Friends of the ATA, and the FDA workshop that pressed for changes in the standards for assessing levothyroxine.



“...this ITC was the largest gathering of thyroid experts in history.”

—Paul Ladenson, MD

### Upcoming Meetings

**ATA Spring Symposium**  
*Thyroid Health and the Environment: Threats and Effects*  
March 24, 2006  
Washington, DC

**American Thyroid Association**  
**77<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting**  
October 12–15, 2006  
Sheraton Wild Horse Pass  
Resort & Spa  
Phoenix, Arizona

**American Thyroid Association**  
**78<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting**  
October 4–7, 2007  
Sheraton New York  
New York City

For more information, visit [www.thyroid.org](http://www.thyroid.org)

# Highlights from the 13<sup>th</sup> International Thyroid Congress

Rita Hays, ATA Secretary Greg Brent, and Elaine Kaptein enjoy the ATA President's Reception and the beautiful view of Buenos Aires.



Hugo Niepomniscze, chair of the 13<sup>th</sup> ITC Local Organizing Committee, and wife are flanked by Dott. Salvatore Benvenga and ATA Executive Director Bobbi Smith as they welcome them to Buenos Aires.

Len Wartofsky, Sandra Licht, and Enrique Steimberg catch up at the 13<sup>th</sup> ITC.



Aldo Pinchera, past president of the Italian Society of Endocrinology, and then-ATA President Paul Ladenson share stories of their respective societies.

European Thyroid Association President Wilmar Wiersinga and his wife, of Amsterdam, chat with host Paul Ladenson at the ATA President's Reception.



Society officers from around the world share the dais at the 13<sup>th</sup> ITC Opening Session.



Dr. and Mrs. Junji Konishi and Mrs. Shigenobu Nagataki, of the Asia and Oceania Thyroid Association, enjoy the ATA reception.

# Buenos Aires, Argentina, Oct. 30–Nov. 4, 2005

Paul Ladenson awards the Van Meter to Charis Eng, with nominator Jim Fagin standing by.



Gil Daniels and ATA President Ernie Mazzaferri greet Mario Pisarev, of Buenos Aires and chair of the ITC Program Organizing Committee.



Francine Ridgway and Donna Wartofsky enjoy the opportunity to see their international friends.



Out on the estancia, Sergej Hojker, from Ljubljana, Slovenia, and his wife and daughter learn about ATA membership.



Alan Farwell, David Cooper, and Aldo Pinchera gather at the ATA President's Reception.

Michael Brennan and Peter Smyth catch up at the 13th ITC welcome reception.



Robert Utiger and John Stanbury take a moment to relax with colleagues from around the world.



Sam Refetoff, Pathophysiology Award recipient and Charis Eng, Van Meter awardee, shared the award spotlight with Distinguished Service Award recipient David Cooper (not pictured).

# ATA Signal



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ASSOCIATION  
FOUNDED 1923

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**ATA Spring Meeting to Examine the Thyroid and the Environment**



AMERICAN  
THYROID  
ASSOCIATION  
FOUNDED 1923

# Thyroid Health and the Environment

THREATS AND  
EFFECTS

**Friday, March 24, 2006**

**Washington, DC**

Hamilton Crowne Plaza  
at 14th and K Streets, NW

**A Publication of the American Thyroid Association**