



AMERICAN RADIUM SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

WINTER 2009

■ PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dr. Bruce G. Haffty
ARS President

I am indeed honored to serve as this year's president of the American Radium Society, the country's oldest multidisciplinary cancer society. This year's meeting, to be held at the Four Seasons Vancouver from April 25th – 29th, 2009, in beautiful Vancouver, British Columbia promises to be an exciting annual meeting. The city, as it prepares for the upcoming 2010 Winter Olympics, is ideally suited as a venue for this year's meeting.

This year the ARS received a record number of abstracts for the meeting, and we are fortunate in having the opportunity to expand our travel grants and essay awards for young oncologists in training. The scientific program committee, headed by Lynn Wilson, has organized an exciting series of panels on Proton Beam, Breast Cancer, Esophageal Cancer and Sarcoma, and a featured debate on Stereotactic vs Whole Brain Irradiation for Limited Brain Metastasis. We have outstanding keynote lectures being given by Dr. David Stewart of MD Anderson Cancer Center and Dr. Paul Harrari of the University of Wisconsin, and Dr. Larry Kun from St. Jude Children Research Hospital will deliver this year's Janeway Lecture. For radiation oncologists enrolled in Maintenance of Certification, two Self-Assessment Modules on Gynecologic Cancers and Lymphomas will be submitted to the ABR for qualification.

The Saturday afternoon prior to the meeting we will feature a special post-graduate course which will be dedicated to a computer based contouring workshop. This course, organized by Andre Konski, will focus on *Contouring for GI, Lung and Prostate Cancers* and will be led by experts in the field. We anticipate a heavy turnout for these popular sessions, which will be of particular value to practicing physicians and residents in training.

The American Radium Society continues to grow its membership and in the past few years we have expanded the value of the society to our membership on several fronts. In addition to the Annual Meeting and Post-Graduate Contouring Course, the SAM's and a Practice Quality Improvement Template (available on line to members) have been developed for members at no additional cost to provide an added mechanism for fulfilling the ABR Maintenance of Certification program requirements. In addition the ARS has recently become a member of the American College of Surgeons Commission on Cancer, expanding our visibility and interaction with other multidisciplinary organizations dedicated to the advancement of research, education and clinical care in cancer.

Again I feel honored and privileged to serve as the President of the American Radium Society and look forward to seeing you in Vancouver in April.

– Bruce G. Haffty, MD

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Dr. Bruce G. Haffty

IN THIS ISSUE:

President's Message

1

*ARS Joins the Commission
on Cancer*

2

*ARS Young Oncologist
Essay Awards &
Travel Grants*

2

*ARS 91st Annual
Meeting*

3



Dr. Erich Sturgis

■ ARS JOINS THE COMMISSION ON CANCER

Dr. Erich Sturgis
ARS Representative

The American Radium Society has recently been accepted as a member organization to the American College of Surgeons Commission on Cancer. The Commission on Cancer (CoC), established by the American College of Surgeons in 1922, is a consortium of professional organizations dedicated to improving survival and quality of life for cancer patients through standard-setting, prevention, research, education, and the monitoring of comprehensive quality care.

Multidisciplinary membership is comprised of 97 individuals who are either surgeons representing the American College of Surgeons or representatives from the 42 national, professional organizations affiliated with the CoC. These individuals each participate in one of the standing committees or in one of the thirteen Disease Site Teams that work to pursue the Commission's goals.

Dr. Erich Sturgis, an active ARS member who has served on the Executive Committee of the American Radium Society and is the former recipient of both the ARS Young Oncologist Travel Grant and ARS Essay awards, has been selected to be the ARS representative to the CoC. Dr. Sturgis is an Associate Professor with Tenure in the Department of Head and Neck Surgery and Department of Epidemiology at The University of Texas-M.D. Anderson Cancer Center.

He will serve on the Quality Integration Committee of the Commission on Cancer. The main function of this committee has to do with oversight of the National Cancer Database. His first meeting with the CoC will take place in May 2009 in Chicago.

■ ARS YOUNG ONCOLOGIST ESSAY AWARDS & TRAVEL GRANTS

The American Radium Society has selected six recipients for a Young Oncologist Essay Award and ten recipients for a Travel Grant to this year's Annual Meeting. There were a record number of submissions this year, and the ARS thanks all applicants for submitting their information for these awards.

2009 YOUNG ONCOLOGIST ESSAY AWARDS

- Leon M. Chen, BS, *Tulane School of Medicine*
- Camille P. Green, BS, *UMDNJ-Robert Wood Johnson, Cancer Institute of New Jersey*
- Kilian Salerno May, MD, *Roswell Park Cancer Institute*
- Thomas J. Pugh, MD, *University of Colorado Denver and Health Science Center*
- Navesh K. Sharma, DO, PhD, *Fox Chase Cancer Center*
- Kevin L. Stephans, MD, *Cleveland Clinic*

2009 TRAVEL GRANT AWARDS

- Mehee Choi, MD, *The University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio*
- Sharad Goyal, MD, *The Cancer Institute of New Jersey*
- Vishal Gupta, MD, *University of California at Davis Medical Center*
- Gene-Fu F. Liu, BA, *Yale University School of Medicine*
- Daniel J. Ma, MD, *Washington University*
- Joshua E. Meyer, MD, *New York Presbyterian Hospital / Weill Cornell Medical Center*
- Rahul R. Parikh, MD, *UMDNJ-Robert Wood Johnson, Cancer Institute of New Jersey*
- Gregory M. Richards, MD, *University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health*
- Lei Sima, MD, *National Pain Management and Research Center*
- John S. Yordy, MD, PhD, *MD Anderson Cancer Center*

“Congratulations
 to all winners!
 See you in
 April at the
 91st Annual
 Meeting.”

INDUSTRY SUPPORTERS

The American Radium Society gratefully acknowledges the generous support of industry in helping to make our meeting a success. The ARS meeting construct fosters professional relationship building and the opportunity to learn about industry products and services in an informal context. Attendees are encouraged to interface with our corporate colleagues throughout the meeting.

Thanks to the following companies for their generous educational grants in support of the 2009 meeting*:

Platinum Level

Varian Medical Systems

Silver Level

Elekta, Inc.

Hitachi, Ltd.

Bronze Level

BrainLAB

Endo Pharmaceuticals

Genomic Health

Still River Systems

TomoTherapy, Inc.

Supporter Level

Calypso Medical Technologies Inc.

Midwest Proton Radiotherapy Institute (An Indiana University Melvin and Bren Simon Cancer Center Affiliate and Clarion Health Partner)

The American Radium Society gratefully acknowledges in-kind educational grants from Anatom-e and IBM Life Sciences for the use of their software and computers in the post-graduate course.

*Supporters as of February 2009

FUTURE MEETING DATES

2010 Annual Meeting

May 1-5, 2010

JW Marriott Cancun Resort & Spa
Cancun, Mexico

ARS 91ST ANNUAL MEETING

It's not too late to register for the **ARS 91st Annual Meeting** that will take place at the beautiful Four Seasons Vancouver from April 25-29, 2009. Registration can be submitted online by visiting www.americanradiumsociety.org/registration.

ARS presents their first ever Computer Learning Lab!

“CONTOURING FOR GI, LUNG AND PROSTATE CANCER”

NEW THIS YEAR!

Course Chair: Andre Konski, MD, MBA, MA, FACR
Fox Chase Cancer Center

April 25, 2009, 12:30 - 5:00 PM

Join experts in the fields of GI Cancer, Lung Cancer and Prostate Cancer and practice contouring real cases. Laptop computers will be provided for use. Registration for the course gets you 4 hours of hands on contouring.

Separate registration fees apply. Visit www.americanradiumsociety.org/registration for details.

SCHEDULE

12:30 – 1:00 PM “Learning the Software”

1:00 – 1:45 PM “Prostate” – Alan Pollack, MD; University of Miami

2:00 – 2:45 PM “Lung” – Ken Rosenzweig, MD; Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center

3:00 – 4:45 PM “Upper and Lower GI” – Lisa Kachnic, MD; MA Hospital Cancer Center and Chris Crane, MD; MD Anderson Cancer Center

HOTEL INFORMATION

Hotel reservations can now be made for the ARS 91st Annual Meeting at: Four Seasons Vancouver

791 West Georgia Street, Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada V6C 2T4

The standard ARS Group Rate is \$245 CAD.

Reservations can be made directly with the hotel.

Via Telephone: 604-689-9333

Via Facsimile: 604-844-6744

Via Email: reservations.vcr@fourseasons.com

Please be sure to use group code **“ARS2009”** or **“American Radium Society”** when making reservations to secure the group rate.

AIRPORT INFORMATION

All major domestic and international airlines serve Vancouver International Airport, which is about 30 minutes from the Hotel. All major car rental companies operate from the airport and several are located near the Hotel.

PLEASE NOTE: ALL ATTENDEES WILL NEED A PASSPORT TO TRAVEL TO CANADA.

OPTIONAL TOUR INFORMATION

Vancouver is a dynamic, multicultural city set in a spectacular natural environment. Majestic mountains, a sparkling ocean, rainforests and beautiful foliage make it one of the most beautiful cities in the world. No matter what time of the year you visit, there are indoor and outdoor activities to suit everyone's tastes. To experience all that Vancouver has to offer, we recommend booking a tour through the Four Seasons Vancouver's Concierge Desk.

Vancouver City Tours occur daily, with stops at Stanley Park, Granville Island, English bay, and many more. There will be plenty of opportunities for shopping and sightseeing. For the more adventurous, book a tour to visit Grouse Mountain and the Capilano Suspension Bridge, or ride the Whistler Mountaineer through some of the world's most rugged fjords and mountains.

All tours require advanced registration and are booked on a first-come, first-serve basis.

To book a tour, please contact the Four Seasons Vancouver Concierge directly at 1-604-844-6718.

The desk is open daily from 6:30 AM to 11:00 PM.

