SNO News

Lang FF, Haynes C

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First and foremost, the leadership and members of the Society for Neuro-Oncology (SNO), the North American sister society to the European Association for Neuro-Oncology (EANO), congratulate EANO for publishing this inaugural edition of *European Association of Neuro-Oncology Magazine*, which will offer exciting reading to all those interested in the discipline of neuro-oncology. SNO leaders look forward to contributing regularly to this magazine and hope that through this medium we will be able to keep our EANO colleagues up-to-date on SNO initiatives that may be of interest to them.

**SNO Celebrates 15 Years**

In this spirit, 2010 marked the 15th anniversary of the founding of SNO. To commemorate this milestone, the SNO leadership commissioned the development of a brochure to chronicle the history of SNO and to celebrate the vision and efforts of the founders and members who have steered SNO to its current place. The brochure highlights the events surrounding the formation of SNO and outlines milestones and achievements of the first 15 years of the society. It also acknowledges the members who actively contributed, and continue to contribute, to the success of the Society. Members of EANO are encouraged to download an electronic copy of the brochure from the SNO website at the address below.

**SNO Conferences and Annual Meeting**

SNO’s first boutique meeting, the Paediatric Neuro-Oncology Basic and Translational Science Conference, was held May 19–20, 2011, in New Orleans, Louisiana. The meeting enjoyed attendance of over 200 paediatric basic and translational scientists from 12 countries. The conference encouraged the sharing of ideas and results, new collaborations, and provided attendees with a state-of-the-art update in the field of paediatric brain tumour research. The Scientific Program Committee created a highly informative and educational program from over 130 accepted abstracts. The program featured informative plenary sessions and informal poster sessions, as well as “Meet the Expert Sunrise Sessions”, at which attendees were able to catch up with late breaking areas of research and controversies in the field. Based on the success of the meeting, SNO has decided to make this meeting a regular biennial event and is already planning for the next conference in 2013.

Looking ahead, SNO is actively planning for its 16th Annual Scientific Meeting and Education Day, which will take place November 17–20, 2011, at the Hyatt Regency Hotel, in Orange County, California. SNO is pleased to announce that this year the meeting will be held in conjunction with the AANS/CNS Section on Tumours. This added neurosurgical component will further enhance this already highly educational meeting. Over 650 abstracts were received this year, an increase of over 10 % from 2010. In addition to the plenary, concurrent and poster sessions, the meeting will feature an Education Day which this year will focus on Radiosurgery and Radiobiology. Concurrent Quality of Life sessions will also be offered. In addition, a young investigators’ workshop on Thursday afternoon will explore current challenges associated with neuro-oncology clinical trials design, conduct, and evaluation. Members of the Section on Tumours and SNO who have served as a principal investigator of clinical trials will review trial endpoints, response assessments, evaluation of treatment toxicities as well as statistical considerations. Regulatory requirements for applications to the Federal Drug Administration and institutional review boards will also be reviewed during the course. If the response to the course is favourable, SNO hopes to work with our colleagues from EANO and other sister societies to develop a 2-day workshop addressing clinical trial issues to be held during the next World Federation of Neuro-Oncology Quadrennial Meeting that will take place in San Francisco, California, in 2013.

As part of SNO’s international outreach efforts to developing regions, SNO is now accepting applications for travel scholarships to our annual meeting. A total of 8 US$ 1500.– scholarships will be awarded to recipients from each of the following geographical regions (one per region): Central America & the Caribbean, Central and Southern Africa, China & associated countries, Eastern Europe, Far East and Australasia, Indian Sub-Continent, North Africa & the Middle East, and South America.

**Neuro-Oncology Journal**

As many EANO members of already know, the impact factor for our official journal, *Neuro-Oncology*, has increased by 10 % to reach 5.483 in the most recent Journal Citation Reports (up from 4.98). This means that *Neuro-Oncology* has maintained its position as the premier journal in the field and is now ranked 15th out of 185 titles in the clinical neurology category, and 24th out of 184 titles in oncology. Thanks to a historic agreement between SNO, EANO, and Oxford University Press, EANO members now have electronic access to the journal via the EANO website.

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**SNO and EANO Collaborations**

In an effort to foster improved relations between the leading neuro-oncology societies, SNO leadership met with EANO leadership during the recent American Society of Clinical Oncology Annual Meeting. It was agreed that a new inter-organizational committee should be established and that outreach to other international sister organizations should be undertaken and formalized. It is hoped that this committee will allow for regular communication between the various international organizations, addressing issues such as the Quadrennial World Federation of Neuro-Oncology, educational exchange, administrative issues, and other multilateral collaborative opportunities.

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For more information on the Society for Neuro-Oncology, please visit our website, [http://www.soc-neuro-onc.org](http://www.soc-neuro-onc.org)