It is indeed a great honor to serve as president of the American Society for Stereotactic and Functional Neurosurgery during the next two years. The organization is going through a process of self-review with a critical analysis of all of its key programs. Your board has worked hard to address the issues of membership, publications, meetings and scientific programs. I would like to bring you up-to-date on work done on all of these fronts.

The official society journal, Stereotactic and Functional Neurosurgery, has been ably managed by Phil Gildenberg, MD, together with our publisher, Karger Publishers, for many years. The journal has gone through several incarnations and has been effective at preserving the history of stereotactic neurosurgery through the recording of important meeting proceedings, as well as through publication of free papers. Our goal is to make the journal broader in scope, make publication more efficient, and increase the open paper format. Together with our publisher, we have worked to plan for a large format journal that will be published more frequently, include more new manuscripts, and include advertising as a new source of revenue directed towards the society. New journal leadership will be more responsible to the official parents (ASSFN and WSSFN-World Society for Stereotactic and Functional Neurosurgery). Past ASSFN president David Roberts, MD, has graciously accepted the position of chief editor. Reporting to him will be representatives from both the ASSFN and WSSFN. In addition there will be a senior advisory council and a separate scientific review board. We hope to begin the new journal format in January 2003. At present, these plans remain to be ratified by the ASSFN and WSSFN boards and by you, the membership.

Michael Schuler, MD, has chaired our membership committee. He has been instrumental in increasing membership applications, predominantly through improving the visibility of the society. Together with Andres Lozano, MD, Mike has managed our Web site (www.assfn.org) which includes information on the society's leaders, bylaws, educational initiatives, future meetings and links to many related societies in movement disorders, pain, epilepsy, brain tumors, computer assisted surgery, and other sources of general information. There has been a good response to our new Resident category of membership, for which there is a one-time dues payment of $25.

Andres Lozano, the current secretary and treasurer of the society, has chaired our initiative to review the society's bylaws. These will require a vote by the membership at our next business meeting (to be held April 9 during the AANS Annual Meeting in Chicago).

The ASSFN has been asked to comment on the reimbursement and the present status of deep brain stimulation for movement disorders. We have asked the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services to be efficient in their evaluation of data provided to them, so that a safe and appropriate decision can be made on behalf of patients and neurosurgeons. At the same time we have emphasized the degree of work and effort performed by the neurosurgeon in placing one or two deep brain stimulator systems and that reimbursement should be appropriate, particularly given the fact that many hours are spent in the operating room inserting these systems.

The ASSFN is proud to announce the Philip L. Gildenberg Resident Award in Stereotactic and Functional Neurosurgery, to be given to the best resident paper presented at the Stereotactic Section's...
Resident Award Winners

First Philip L. Gildenberg Resident Award in Stereotactic & Functional Neurosurgery

This award was presented at the 2001 Annual Meeting of the Congress of Neurological Surgeons.

Development of Hybrid Brain-Machine Interfaces: Chronic, Multisite, Microwire Electrode Recordings in Primates

Toshinori Hasegawa, James McInerney, John YK Lee, Douglas Kondziolka, John Flickinger, L. Dade Lunsford

Long Term Follow-up of Patients with Cavernous Malformations Treated by Stereotactic Radiosurgery

Pat Kelly, MD, has been working hard as local host for the 2003 ASSFN meeting. The meeting will be held in New York City May 14-16, 2003, and at present the plan is to have it at the Plaza Hotel, adjacent to Central Park. We have negotiated a very attractive meeting rate with the hotel. This should be a tremendous venue for what we know will be a strong scientific program. Scientific Meeting Chairman Andres Lozano has been working to put together the preliminary program. A meeting announcement and call for abstracts will be sent in the next few months.
Membership Application

American Society of Stereotactic and Functional Neurosurgery

Name: ________________________________________________
Office Address: _________________________________________
Phone: __________________________ Fax: __________________________
E-mail: ______________________________________________
Residency Training: ___________________________ Years: ____________
Medical School: ______________________________________

AANS Member: ❑ Yes ❑ No  CNS Member: ❑ Yes ❑ No  Type of Membership: ❑ Full Member ❑ Resident Member

Interests in Stereotactic and Functional Neurosurgery: (please check)
❑ Movement disorders  ❑ Pain  ❑ Tumors  ❑ Imaging
❑ Epilepsy  ❑ Computers  ❑ Radiosurgery  ❑ Basic Science

Annual membership dues for full members are $325.00 per year, which includes:
❑ membership in the AANS/CNS Section on Stereotactic and Functional Neurosurgery;
❑ membership in the American Society for Stereotactic and Functional Neurosurgery;
❑ membership in the World Society for Stereotactic and Functional Neurosurgery;
❑ a subscription (including shipping) to the journal, Stereotactic and Functional Neurosurgery; and
❑ reduced meeting fees.

Membership dues for resident members are a $25.00 one time fee, which includes:
❑ As above excluding a subscription to the journal, Stereotactic and Functional Neurosurgery, and excluding membership in the World Society for Stereotactic and Functional Neurosurgery.

Please attach your current curriculum vitae and mail to:
Andres Lozano, MD, Secretary/Treasurer, ASSFN
Toronto Western Hospital, West Wing 4-447, 399 Bathurst St., Toronto M5T 2S8 Canada
Fax: (416) 603-5298 • E-mail: lozano@uhnres.utoronto.ca

ASSFN Mission Statement

The mission of the American Society of Stereotactic and Functional Neurosurgery is to foster the use of stereotactic and functional neurological methods for the treatment of diseases of the nervous system and to advance stereotactic and functional neurosurgery and related sciences to improve patient care, to support meaningful basic and clinical research, to provide leadership in undergraduate and graduate education and continuing education, and to provide administrative facilities necessary to meet these goals.

Further, the society will provide a forum for the review of the basic form and function of the human nervous system toward the improvement of stereotactic and/or functional neurosurgical procedures that alleviate human disease and suffering through diagnosis or treatment of the function of the nervous system and to establish minimum standards for the performance of stereotactic surgery.
ASSFN Officers

President
Douglas S. Kondziolka, MD

Vice President
G. Rees Cosgrove, MD

Secretary/Treasurer
Andres Lozano, MD, PhD

Past President
Philip L. Gildenberg, MD, PhD

Executive Council

Antonio A.F. De Salles, MD, PhD (1998-2002)
Alain J. de Lotbiniere, MD (1999-2003)
Richard D. Bucholz, MD (2000-2004)
Phillip A. Starr, MD (2000-2004)
Robert J. Maciunas, MD (2000-2004)
Robert Cross, MD (2000-2004)

ASSFN Meeting

Third Arctic Stereotactic Conference
Place: Svalbard, Spitsbergen, Norway
Date: June 16-20, 2002
Contact: Alain de Lotbiniere, MD
tel. (203) 785-2808
e-mail: alain.delotbiniere@yale.edu
or
Doug Kondziolka, MD
tel. (412) 647-6782
e-mail: kondziol@neuronet.pitt.edu
www.assfn.org/meetings/ArcticFlyer.pdf

ASSFN Meeting

Quadrennial Meeting of the ASSFN
Place: New York, NY
Date: May 14-16, 2003
Contact: Patrick Kelly, MD
tel. (212) 263-8031
e-mail: kelly@mcns04.med.nyu.edu