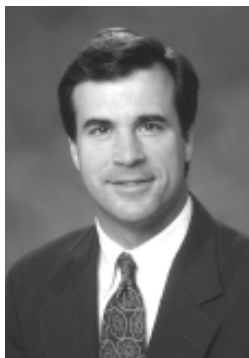


President's Message



Thomas A. Londergan, MD

Greetings to Wisconsin Urological Society members and friends! I hope that you all had an enjoyable summer and early fall. Our meeting this past March at the American Club in Kohler was informative and well attended. We look forward to our upcoming meeting in early April 2009, to be held at the Pfister Hotel in Milwaukee. Our program is currently in the planning stages, but should include two expert presenters as well as abstracts and panel discussions, which should be useful in our clinical practice.

As you may be aware, there have been changes in the way that pharmaceutical companies fund CME programs. There are increasing restrictions on funding from industry and this situation will certainly continue to evolve. Our organization is financially stable, but we depend on industry support. Our challenge is to nurture a collegial working relationship with our pharmaceutical industry supporters, while maintaining our academic integrity and professional ethical standards.

It is my pleasure to serve as president this year. I would like to thank Doug Dewire, MD for his tireless efforts behind the scenes as secretary/treasurer, and WJ Weiser and Associates for their outstanding administrative help. I wish you all the best, and look forward to seeing you next spring in Milwaukee!

Wisconsin Urological Society
Board of Directors
2008 – 2009

Table of Contents

President's Message 1
WUS Board of Directors 1
Secretary/Treasurer's Report 2
Wisconsin Medical Society Update 2
WUS State Affairs 2
2008 WUS Resident's Competition Winners — 3
2008 – 2009 Proposed Bylaws Change . . . 3
Thank You to Corporate Members 3
Upcoming Meetings 4

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Associate Director
Mary Tully
Schaumburg, IL

Secretary/Treasurer's Report

Douglas Michael Dewire, MD



Douglas M. Dewire, MD

The 2008 Wisconsin Urological Society Annual Meeting was held March 14 – 15 at the American Club in Kohler, Wisconsin. Over 70 participants enjoyed lectures on prostate cancer by Dr. Herb Lepor, and an update on sexual health by Dr. Christopher Steidle. Resident papers from both the Madison and Milwaukee programs filled out the program. Our industry support was solid again, as well, with Astellas Pharma US, MD Custom Rx, Sanofi-Aventis and Tap Pharmaceuticals

supporting the meeting as 2008 WUS Industry Partners. Thanks to all who attended.

The society shares the same economic pressures facing all of us right now. Rest assured that due to careful stewardship by our past and present officers, the Wisconsin Urological Society enjoys solid financial status despite the expected losses in our investment portfolio over the past few months. Our current assets stand at \$255,034 as of 9/30/2008. We will continue to monitor the investment marketplace and protect the society's interests going forward.

The 2009 annual meeting will be held April 3 – 4 at the Pfister Hotel in Milwaukee. We'll kick things off with a banquet on Friday evening. This is a great opportunity for everyone to renew old friendships and create new ones. On Saturday, the meeting will commence at 8:00 a.m., and will feature lectures on incontinence and pelvic reconstruction by renowned Urogynecologist Linda Brubaker, and an update in pediatric urology by Dr. Mike Mitchell, professor of pediatric urology at the Medical College of Wisconsin. Practical issues of interest to urologists will be the focus of an interactive discussion headed by Dr. Bruce Neale, the society's health policy representative.

We look forward to seeing everyone at the Pfister!

Wisconsin Medical Society Update

Dr. James Wright, WUS Representative to the Wisconsin Medical Society

The activities of the Wisconsin Medical Society (WMS) in 2008 have been largely focused on the 200 million dollar raid of the Injured Patient and Family Compensation Fund (IPFCF) by Gov. Doyle. In his 2007 – 2009 budget, Gov. Doyle illegally took 200 million dollars from the IPFCF (\$71,500,000. for 2007 – 2008 and \$128,500,000. for 2008 – 09). The WMS promptly filed a lawsuit against Gov. Doyle on Oct. 29, 2007 and it continues to wind its way through the court system. Late this past summer the governor's attorneys argued before Dane County Circuit Court Judge Michael Nowakowski that the suit should be thrown out. Judge Nowakowski has not ruled as of yet (mid November). No matter what the decision is, appeals are expected from both sides. The suit is expected to go on for about two to three years and cost the WMS approximately seven figures.

Another relevant issue from the WMS concerns protecting our DEA numbers. In the spring of 2008 the state attorney general began enforcement of statute 146.87 with violators subject to a \$10,000 fine. Statute 146.87 makes it unlawful for anyone to:

1. Require a physician to include his or her DEA number on a prescription that is not a controlled substance
2. Disclose a physician's or other registrant's DEA number without that person's consent, for any purpose other than complying with or enforcing federal or state law related to controlled substances
3. Use a DEA number to identify or monitor prescribing practices of a physician or other DEA registrant

If you experience any trouble with your DEA number as listed above please contact the WMS or your county representative from the WMS for help.

Last but not least, the WMS board recently, at an October 11th meeting, passed a controversial new policy on money and gifts from the health products industry. The policy, ETH-004 states: "Physicians shall accept no gifts from any provider of products that they prescribe to their patients, such as personal items, office supplies, food, travel, and time costs or payment for participation in online CME. A complete ban eases the burden of compliance, biased decision making, and patient distrust." This is sure to create some interesting conversations at the local county meetings, and already has at my local meeting. Please attend your local meetings and make your voice and opinions are heard.

WUS State Affairs

Bonnie J. Shadid, State Affairs Manager

After the elections of 2008, the Democrats now control both chambers of the Wisconsin legislature. The party picked up five seats in the state assembly and the chamber switched party control for the first time since the late 1980s. Health care reform was an active topic in the 2008 elections in Wisconsin and, with control of both legislative chambers and the Governor's office by the Democrats, will likely continue to be so in 2009. The 2008 ballot included a question asking if the state should make health insurance that is at least equivalent to that offered to state legislators available to all residents by December 31, 2009. The measure was placed on the ballot in twenty-two communities throughout the state by a public interest organization seeking a government single-payer health insurance system in the state. While it passed overwhelmingly in each of the jurisdictions in which it appeared, it is not binding on the legislature and there is debate as to whether the system is viable for all residents. Wisconsin has been quite active in health care reform recently, with another, similar single-payer system, dubbed "Healthy Wisconsin," passing the Senate in 2007, although it was opposed by Governor Doyle and was not ultimately passed by the Assembly.

While these proposals are popular in the abstract with citizens, the details often make them untenable in practice. "Healthy Wisconsin," which was similar to the ballot initiative, was estimated to cost in the billions of dollars. That proposal was funded mainly through a Social Security-type tax on employees and a payroll tax on employers. The governor's opposition to this type of government-based health insurance system also makes its future uncertain. There are some serious concerns for the urology community in these types of proposals. First, they could place greater emphasis on primary care

and, as such, may do so by limiting reimbursement to specialty medical providers. In addition, if the costs of the program are greater than expected or if state revenues decline and the predicted funding is not available, reimbursements under the program could be reduced, delayed, or even go unpaid entirely. Since virtually all residents in the state would likely be covered by this single plan, physicians would not have a viable alternative in opting out of the program.

This and other legislative initiatives affecting the practice of medicine in general and the practice of urology in particular will likely be active in Wisconsin in 2009. If you have any questions or would like more information on any legislative proposals affecting you and your practice, please email your questions to info@wisurolog.com. You can also check the AACU web page at www.aacuweb.org or email the AACU State Society Network, created specifically to track and monitor state legislative issues affecting urology, at statesociety@aacuweb.org.

Winners of the 2008 WUS Resident's Competition

Madison

1st Place: Sara Best, MD *"Flexible Ureteroscopy for Proximal Ureteral Stones"*

2nd Place: Christopher Manakas, MD *"Identification and Preservation of Accessory Pudendal Vessels During Robotics-Assisted Laparoscopic Radical Retropubic Prostatectomy"*

Milwaukee

1st Place: Paul Tonkin, MD *"Is Surgical Therapy for BPH Required in the Setting of Bladder Stones?"*

2nd Place: Stephanie Harris, MD *"Effect of Male Age on Pregnancy Rates after Vasectomy Reversal"*

2008 - 2009 Proposed Bylaws Change

Article I: Membership

Section 2: Society membership includes active members, senior members, **and affiliate members.**

Section 5: Eligibility for Affiliate Member – Members are eligible for affiliate membership in the society if they :

1. Are an individual with an interest in the field who does not satisfy the criteria as an Active Member including, allied health professional (nurse, NP, PA) or individuals in industry-related positions.

*Thank You to Our 2008 Corporate Members and
We Encourage Your Continued Support in 2009!*

Astellas Pharma US
MD Custom Rx
Sanofi-Aventis
TAP Pharmaceuticals

Plan to Attend the 2009 WUS Annual Meeting

April 3 – 4, 2009
The Pfister Hotel
Milwaukee, Wisconsin

CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

The call for abstracts is open to members and non-members of the Society and we encourage all Wisconsin residents to submit a presentation for our annual Resident's Competition. The deadline to submit abstracts is noon CST on January 15, 2009.
Visit the website at www.wisurolog.com for more information.

Mark Your Calendars for Other Important Upcoming Meetings

AUA 2009 Annual Meeting
April 25 – 30, 2009
McCormick Place
Chicago, Illinois

NCS 83rd Annual Meeting
November 9 – 14, 2009
Camelback Inn, A JW Marriott Resort & Spa
Scottsdale, Arizona



Two Woodfield Lake
1100 E. Woodfield Road, Suite 520
Schaumburg, IL 60173

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