



**AMERICAN BRAIN FOUNDATION**  
 Research Advisory Committee Meeting  
 January 24, 2020  
 3:00 p.m. ET/ 2:00 p.m. CT/ 1:00 p.m. MT/ 12:00 p.m. PT  
 Conference Call

Call-in number: 866-740-1260  
 Access code: 9286317

Committee Members	Robert Griggs, MD, Chair; Raymond Roos, MD, Vice Chair; Carsten Bonnemann, MD; Jose E. Cavazos, MD, PhD; Merit Cudkowicz, MD; James Grotta, MD; Mark Mehler, MD; John Morris, MD; Ralph Sacco, MD; Eugene Scharf, MD; Ira Shoulson, MD; Phyllis C. Zee, MD, PhD
Staff	Jane Ransom, ED; Julia Miglets-Nelson, PhD

AGENDA ITEM	PRESENTED BY
1. Call to Order Approval of the November 22, 2019 minutes	Robert Griggs, MD
2. AAN/ABF Research Summit Update	Robert Griggs, MD; Jane Ransom
3. Potamkin and Essey Awards	John Morris, MD; Robert Griggs, MD
4. CRTS/CSDA Updates	Julia Miglets-Nelson
5. Annual Meeting Updates	Julia Miglets-Nelson
Adjourn	

**Meeting Materials:**

- Minutes of November 22, 2019 (pg. 2)
- AAN/ABF Research Summit Memo (pg. 4)
- AAN/ABF Research Summit Agenda (pg. 5)
- AAN Science Committee 2020 Scientific Awards (pg. 32)
- 2021-2022 CRTS/CSDA Status (pg. 62)
- 2020 RAC Meeting Dates (pg. 63)



**American Brain Foundation  
Research Advisory Committee Meeting  
November 22, 2019  
3:00 p.m. ET / 2:00 p.m. CT / 1:00 p.m. MT / 12:00 p.m. PT  
Conference Call**

**Meeting Minutes**

**In Attendance:** Raymond Roos, MD, Vice Chair; James Grotta, MD; Mark Mehler, MD; John Morris, MD; Ralph Sacco, MD; Eugene Scharf, MD; Ira Shoulson, MD

**Staff:** Jane Ransom; Julia Miglets-Nelson; Christy Phelps

**Excused:** Robert Griggs, MD, Chair; Carsten Bonnemann, MD; Jose E. Cavazos, MD; Merit Cudkowicz, MD; Phyllis C. Zee, MD

The meeting was called to order by Dr. Raymond Roos at 2:02 p.m. CT. The meeting minutes of August 2, 2019 and September 27, 2019 were approved unanimously.

1. **ABF Status Update:** Jane Ransom introduced Julia Miglets-Nelson as the ABF's new Grant Writing and Program Manager and liaison to the Research Advisory Committee.
2. **AAN/ABF Research Summit Invitation:** Christy Phelps shared the date and time of the joint, four-hour meeting between the AAN Science Committee and representatives of the ABF Research Advisory Committee, which will be held on January 15, 2020 from 2:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. ET. She outlined the AAN's goals for the summit, which include:
  - Identifying gaps between AAN programs and the ABF's funding and fundraising
  - Establishing a "global grant support picture"
  - Sharing the AAN's plan for research awards, including increasing the number and monetary amount of awards, as well as making new awards and new types of awards in areas of need as identified by the Science Committee
  - Facilitating more effective collaboration across the Science Committee and the Research Advisory Committee by reducing siloing
  - Envisioning of this meeting as the first of what will become an annual priority-setting meeting between the two groups to discuss the AAN and ABF's research agendas.

Dr. Ralph Sacco added that while there has been much alignment between the AAN and ABF on the CRTS/CSDA awards, there is room for more collaboration, and this meeting will offer a chance to align those collaborative opportunities. Dr. Sacco added that the

ABF has a unique perspective on what gaps in research funders perceive, and that the funders' perspective needs to mesh with the research agenda of the Science Committee.

Jane Ransom outlined the ABF's goals for the meeting, which include addressing challenges in communication between the AAN and ABF. Slow communication has been a consistent challenge to the relationship, and has damaged relationships with major funders, e.g. the Alzheimer's Association.

The Research Advisory Committee recommended that its delegates to the Science Committee Research Summit plan to meet before the summit meeting to identify priorities. Jane Ransom and Julia Miglets-Nelson were asked to draft a brief white paper to present to the group that will be attending the summit.

- 3. CRTS/CSDA Updates:** Jane Ransom provided an update on the status of the CRTS and CSDA awards. The ABF is working on confirming 2021 awards; many have been confirmed, but conversations with the Alzheimer's Association, Tourette Association, and Muscle Study Group are ongoing. She reported that there has been some drop off in funding from 2020, mostly due to groups in smaller disease areas dropping out because they feel that they have not received enough applicants for those awards. Some have decided to take these awards in-house, or have requested that their funding relationship with the ABF be reversed (i.e. that the ABF provide a grant to the partner organization, with the partner organization administering the award). Dr. Sacco asked that the ABF include some detail about the drop-off in funding from partners in the white paper that they will share with the Research Advisory Committee prior to the January summit meeting.
- 4. Crowdfunding Updates:** Jane Ransom reminded the committee of the changes to the ABF's crowdfunding program that were presented and discussed at the committee's August 2019 meeting. These changes include limiting crowdfunding campaigns to \$5-15k, and encouraging potential grantees to have a lead gift in hand before the crowdfunding campaign launches. She also provided a brief summary of a promising new crowdfunding project for diagnosing neuromuscular disorders in Zambia.
- 5. 2020 Research Advisory Committee Meeting Dates:** Jane Ransom drew the committee's attention to the proposed 2020 committee meeting dates and asked members to send any potential conflicts to her as soon as possible. Meeting invitations will begin going out in December. Additional information about RAC and ABF roles at the 2020 AAN meeting will be shared at the January 2020 RAC call.

**Adjourned 2:42 p.m. CT.**

## AAN/ABF Research Summit Memo

### I. CRTS/CSDAs

- A. We will put more emphasis on raising money for the diseases with the most applicants.
- B. ABF is open to the idea of CRTS/CSDA applicants all completing the same application for these awards, and sorting qualified applicants out by disease area on the backend of the selection process. We need to analyze how this could work and to test this idea out with our funding partners.
- C. ABF will consult with AAN, as usual, when we have a fundraising opportunity for a less prevalent brain disease or disorder.
- D. ABF would like feedback on pursuing research on mental illnesses that are co-morbid with major brain diseases and disorders, such as depression in neuro-degenerative diseases. We believe there is a good fundraising opportunity in this.

### II. Career Development Awards (CDAs)

- A. ABF sees promise in adding disease-specific CDAs to AAN's general CDAs and needs feedback from AAN on whether it would accept funding for a disease-specific CDA in one of the 5-7 most prevalent brain diseases and disorders.

### III. Pipeline opportunity

- A. ABF's prospect research shows that some donors are interested in having greater impact by funding several steps in a pipeline.
  - We'd like to be able to show a donor who cares about a specific brain disease how they could have great impact by funding a whole pipeline/package of opportunities in in one disease, from med student stipends, to CRTSs, to CDAs.

### IV. Scientific awards

- A. ABF likes the ideas that were "outside of the annual meeting box" for promoting the scientific awards. We suggest these next steps:
  - The RAC and SC jointly approach AAN publications to propose:
    - Publication of scientific articles by awardees (could be links in online versions of *AANews*, *Neurology Today*, and *Neurology*)
    - Publication of popular article(s) on recipients of Potamkin and Essey awards in *Brain & Life*.
  - Form taskforce of RAC and SC to develop a multi-year plan for expanding visibility of the scientific awards among two audiences: neurologists and public
  - For 2020, prior to the development of the multi-year plan:
    - Jointly sponsor and afternoon presentation of the Potamkin and Essey awards in a large room, preferably in the Tues.-Thurs. window of the annual meeting
      - Use discussion format, with moderator from AAN Science Committee
      - Provide good publicity for the session
      - Messaging about the program would highlight that these are AAN's scientific awards, generously funded through the ABF by the Potamkin and Essey families



# **AAN/ABF Research Summit**

**January 15, 2020**

*Meeting: Fort Lauderdale Marriott Harbor  
Beach Resort & Spa  
3030 Holiday Drive  
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33316*



## **Agenda and Schedule**

# Agenda

## AAN/ABF Research Summit

January 15, 2020

Fort Lauderdale Marriott Harbor Beach Resort & Spa  
3030 Holiday Drive  
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33316

<b>Meeting called by:</b>	Natalia Rost, MD, MPH, FAAN, FAHA
<b>Science Committee Attendees:</b>	Martinson Arnan, MD; A.M. Barrett, MD, FAAN; Amy Brooks-Kayal, MD, FAAN; John Corboy, MD, FAAN; Brent L. Fogel, MD, PhD, FAAN; Paul George, MD, PhD, MSE; Peter Goadsby, MD, PhD; Robert Griggs, MD, FAAN; Deborah Hall, MD, PhD, FAAN; Holly Hinson, MD, MCR; Allan I. Levey, MD, PhD; Irene Malaty, MD, FAAN; Karen Marder, MD, MPH, FAAN; Randolph Marshall, MD, FAAN; Antonio Omuro, MD; Temitayo Oyegbile, MD; Nina Schor, MD, PhD, FAAN; Joshua M. Shulman, MD; Fernando Testai, MD, PhD; Alejandro Tobon, MD
<b>ABF Research Advisory Members</b>	David Dodick, MD, FAAN, ABF Board Chair (via phone), Mark Mehler, MD, FAAN; John Morris, MD, FAAN; Raymond Roos, MD, FAAN; Ralph Sacco, MD, MS, FAHA, FAAN
<b>Guest:</b>	James Stevens, MD, FAAN
<b>Unable to attend:</b>	Michael Benatar, MBChB, DPhil, FAAN; Riley Bove, MD; Jessica Robinson Papp, MD, FAAN; Mathula Thangarajh, MD, PhD, FAAN
<b>Staff Liaisons:</b>	Kris Fridgen, Deputy Chief, Education, Science, & Conferences Christine E. Phelps, Deputy Executive Director, AANI Susan Rodmyre, Senior Director, Education & Research
<b>AAN Staff:</b>	Michelle Maxwell, Program Manager, Science Committee Activities; Laura Southwick, Senior Administrator, Annual Meeting and Science Activities
<b>ABF Staff:</b>	Jane Ransom, Executive Director, American Brain Foundation; Julia Miglets-Nelson, Grant Writing and Program Manager, American Brain Foundation

### Meeting Schedule

#### Wednesday, January 15

2:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. AAN/ABF Research Summit – Caribbean Ballroom VI-VIII at Fort Lauderdale Marriott Harbor Beach Resort  
6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. Reception and Dinner – Key West and Palm Beach Rooms at Fort Lauderdale Marriot Harbor Beach Resort

## Agenda Topics

### Wednesday, January 15, 2020

<b>2:00 PM – 2:15 PM</b>	<b>Call to Order and Welcome</b>	Natalia Rost, MD, MPH, FAHA, FAAN
<b>2:15 PM – 6:00 PM</b>	<b>AAN/ABF Research Summit</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Overview of Summit</li> <li>• How the AAN Supports Clinical Research</li> <li>• Administration of AAN/ABF Research Program – Gaps and Vision</li> <li>• Relationship with NINDS-Research</li> <li>• American Brain Foundation (ABF) – Research Advisory Committee Vision</li> <li>• Brainstorm Funding the AAN/ABF Research Mission <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Breakout Groups</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Next Steps</li> </ul>	Dr. Rost/ Robert Griggs, MD, FAAN Deborah Hall, MD, PhD, FAAN Paul George, MD, PhD  Dr. Rost/ Nina Schor, MD, PhD, FAAN Dr. Griggs  All



## **How the AAN Supports Clinical Research**

**To:** Members of the Science Committee and ABF Research Advisory Committee

**From:** Deborah Hall, MD, PhD, FAAN, Chair of the Clinical Research Subcommittee

**Copy:** Christine E. Phelps, Deputy Executive Director of American Academy of Neurology Institute; Kris Fridgen, Deputy Chief, Center for Education, Science and Conferences; Susan Rodmyre, Senior Director, Education and Research; Michelle Maxwell, Program Manager, Science Committee Activities

**Date:** January 2020

**Subject:** Clinical Research Subcommittee – Status of Clinical Research

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### **Clinical Research Subcommittee Charge:**

The Clinical Research Subcommittee deals with all issues related to clinical research, including clinical research training, Annual Meeting programming, relationships with certain aspects of funding organizations, and maintenance of other clinical research resources.

The below information highlights the work of the Clinical Research Subcommittee as it has worked to identify the needs and provide resources to Neurologists at all career stages.

### **Partner / Grant Support:**

**TRANSCENDS (Training in Research for Academic Neurologists to Sustain Careers and Enhance the Numbers of Diverse Scholars)** - In 2016, the NIH awarded a 5-year R25 Diversity Programming to the Medical University of South Carolina (MUSC) and AAN is a collaborating partner. MUSC provides a 2-year master's degree in Clinical Research and pairs each Scholar with a mentor to encourage and support the Scholar in his/her research and pursuit of the additional degree. Under supervised mentorship, by the end of the training period, each Scholar is expected to write a draft NIH K award-type proposal. The TRANSCENDS program is designed to train promising early-career neurologists to conduct high-quality neurologic research and achieve a successful academic career. In 2020, the fourth cohort will start the two-year program and the third cohort will finish.

AAN support of TRANSCENDS includes marketing regarding the application process, Annual Meeting activities (Scholar Orientation, Executive Committee Meeting, Mentor/Scholar Breakfast, Research ELA presentation, and Scholar Networking Event), Annual Meeting registration for the two current cohorts, AAN membership for the two current cohorts.

### **Clinical Trials Methodology Course (CTMC):**

In 2014, the Science Committee partnered with the NIH to support the CTMC which is managed through the University of Iowa and University of Michigan. In 2016, the Science Committee charged the Clinical Research Subcommittee with being the liaison with the NINDS Clinical Trials Methodology Course.

AAN support of CTMC includes a CRS member attending the course, course promotion, Annual Meeting activities (Executive Advisory Board Meeting, Alumni Reception), sponsoring a dinner during the summer course, and CME process and support for the course and webinars.

**Combining Clinical and Research Careers in Neuroscience Symposium (CCRC):**

The Combining Clinical and Research Careers (CCRC) in Neuroscience Course affords medical students the opportunity to learn from early-career peers, and exposure to leading researchers and clinicians in neuroscience and neurology. The course provides students with the potential to become providers of excellent clinical care while incorporating research into a meaningful career in neurology.

Support in 2017, 2018, 2019 of \$15,000 each year.

**PCORI iHOPE Study:**

The Clinical Research Subcommittee represented the AAN in participation of a Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI) – funded study with the goal to improve hospital outcomes using input of patients, providers, and other stakeholders. Deborah Hall, MD, PhD, FAAN represented the AAN at the 2018 stakeholder meeting.

**Futures in Neurological Research Programs at the Annual Meeting:**

The Futures in Neurological Research Programs have morphed over the years with multiple names but with the consistent goal of exposing, motivating, and engaging medical students, residents and fellows to elements that will encourage participants to consider a career in neurological research.

**Futures in Neurological Research Luncheon – encourages participants to consider research as part of career.**

The luncheon started in 2003 and has had multiple names since its inception. In 2019, 165 people attended.

**Futures in Neurological Research Bootcamp – provides resources for successful research strategies and outcomes.**

The first year of the Bootcamp was 2018 with 180 people in attendance. In 2019, 195 people attended

**Futures in Neurological Research Scholarship – travel scholarship to the Annual Meeting**

2019 was the fourth year of the scholarship.

Number of Scholarships offered in the last three years –

In 2019, thirty-five \$1,000 scholarships were offered, thirty- four distributed

In 2018, twenty-five \$1,000 Scholarships

In 2017, fifteen \$1,000 Scholarships

**Resident Research Scholarship:**

The scholarship was designed for neurology residents who are interested in a career in clinical research in neuroscience. The award is intended to be a springboard into the AAN's Research Program or other programs focused on early-career investigators. Three \$3,000 awards were granted in 2019 which was the inaugural year.

### **Research Experiential Learning Area at the Annual Meeting:**

The purpose of the Research ELA is to provide innovative, relevant science findings and resources to support the researchers of today and tomorrow. The area also celebrates and acknowledges award recipients. The program consists of over twenty-five presentations, a day of NIH programming, and scientific sessions.

### **Annual Meeting Courses:**

#### **Mid-Level Faculty Career Development Course (offered in 2019, continuing in 2020)**

A two-hour Mid-Level Career Course was delivered at the Annual Meeting with around 40 attendees. Participants learned about finances pertinent to the mid-career faculty member, including protected time and transparency issues, developed skills for negotiating with the chair, and heard advice on how to sustain a career in neurology. CRS is requesting this course is offered again in 2020.

#### **Introduction to Clinical Research and Methods (2012 - present)**

The complex building of current clinical research continues to stand on three methodological pillars: the clinical trial, the cohort study, and the case-control study. These three methods, along with their combinations and modifications, enable us to investigate any possible cause-effect relationship across biological, personal, or social factors or events, symptoms, diseases, or conditions, and treatments, procedures, or interventions. This program provided a brief introduction to the three methods with emphasis on their complementarities and their relative strengths and weaknesses.

#### **Developing the Treatments of Tomorrow II: Clinical Trials in Neurology (2017, 2018)**

This program provided an overview and update of the science of clinical trials for practicing neurologists, researchers, and trainees. Clinical trials are the bedrock of evidence-based neurology and one of the most important methodological innovations of modern medicine. Faculty from academia, industry, and government will provide an overview of clinical trials, discuss approaches to optimize success, review advances in trial design and implementation, address statistical and regulatory considerations, and facilitate a discussion with attendees. A companion session addressed the preclinical drug development pipeline, translation of research breakthroughs to the clinic, and first-in-human studies. This program complements C43: Developing the Treatments of Tomorrow I: Taking Molecules from Lab to Man, but covers independent topics.



**Administration of AAN/ABF  
Research Program – Gaps and Vision**

# Memorandum

**To:** Members of the Science Committee, Members of the Research Advisory Council, Guests, ABF and AAN Staff

**From:** Paul M. George, MD, PhD, MSE

**Copy:** Bridget McDonald, Program Manager, Education and Research Grants

**Date:** December 2019

**Subject:** RPS Update for the AAN/ABF Research Summit

## AAN Research Program History

The AAN began the AAN Research Program in 1993. The program’s grants provide 2-3 years of salary support (\$65,000/year) with an additional \$10,000 for education or research expenses. These grants are mentored scholarships with the expectation that most research costs will be supported by the trainee’s mentor. Since its inception, the program has awarded 297 scholarships at over 70 different institutions.

88% who started their scholarship before 2017 have received national funding.

## Partner Program

In 2008, there was a significant increase in the number of AANI scholarships available. This was a result of an additional commitment of funding to the ABF from the AANI for additional scholarships. At this time, there was also a committed effort to increase the research partnership program. The research partnership program is an opportunity for the AANI/ABF to partner with other associations, foundations and pharmaceutical companies. The program is structured where the AANI/ABF pays 1/3 of the scholarship award and administers the award and the partner pays 2/3 of the award when the partner is an association. If the partner is a pharmaceutical company the goal is for the pharmaceutical company to pay the entire award amount plus a \$5,000 administration fee per year. These awards are disease specific as dictated by the partner.

The challenge with partner scholarships is the variability of the scholarships. We partner with the ABF to secure partnerships, some partners are willing to sign multi-year contracts, but some are reluctant, and will only sign on for one award cycle at a time.

We do not currently have any partnerships with pharmaceutical companies, which would be facilitated by the AANI rather than the ABF.

Name of Partnered Award	2018	2019	2020
<b>Clinical Research Training Scholarship in ALS</b> <i>Funded by The ALS Association and American Brain Foundation, in collaboration with the American Academy of Neurology</i>	✓	✓	✓
<b>Clinical Research Training Scholarship in Dementia with Lewy Bodies</b> <i>Funded by the American Brain Foundation and The Mary E. Groff Charitable Trust, in collaboration with the American Academy of Neurology</i>	✓	✗	✓

<b>Clinical Research Training Scholarship in Headache</b> <i>Funded by the American Brain Foundation and the International Headache Society. In collaboration with the American Academy of Neurology</i>	✓	✓	✗
<b>Clinical Research Training Scholarship in Multiple Sclerosis</b> <i>Funded by the National Multiple Sclerosis Society and American Brain Foundation</i>	✗	✓	✗
<b>Clinical Research Training Scholarship in Multiple Sclerosis</b> <i>Funded by Genzyme and the American Academy of Neurology</i>	✓	✗	✗
<b>Clinical Research Training Scholarship in Muscular Dystrophy</b> <i>Funded by the American Brain Foundation and the Muscular Dystrophy Association, in collaboration with the American Academy of Neurology</i>	✓	✓	✗
<b>Clinical Research Training Scholarship in Neuromuscular Disease</b> <i>Funded by the American Brain Foundation and the Muscle Study Group, in collaboration with the American Academy of Neurology</i>	✓	✗	✓
<b>Clinical Research Training Scholarship in Parkinson's Disease</b> <i>Funded by Lundbeck</i>	✓	✗	✗
<b>Clinical Research Training Scholarship in Parkinson's Disease</b> <i>Funded by the Parkinson's Foundation and American Brain Foundation, in collaboration with the American Academy of Neurology</i>	✗	✓	✓
<b>Clinical Research Training Scholarships in Tourette Syndrome</b> <i>Funded by the American Brain Foundation and the Tourette Association of America, in collaboration with the American Academy of Neurology</i>	✓	✓	✓
<b>Clinician Scientist Development Award in Interventional Neurology</b> <i>Funded by the Society of Vascular and Interventional Neurology and American Brain Foundation, in collaboration with the American Academy of Neurology</i>	✓	✓	✗
<b>Clinician Scientist Development Award in Multiple Sclerosis</b> <i>Funded by the National Multiple Sclerosis Society and American Brain Foundation</i>	✗	✗	✓
<b>Clinician Scientist Development Award in Myasthenia Gravis</b> <i>Funded by the Myasthenia Gravis Foundation of America and American Brain Foundation, in collaboration with the American Academy of Neurology</i>	✗	✓	✗

<p><b>Lawrence M. Brass Stroke Research Award</b> <i>Funded by the American Brain Foundation and the American Heart Association/American Stroke Association</i></p>	✓	✓	✓
<p><b>McKnight Clinical Translational Research Scholarships in Cognitive Aging and Age-Related Memory Loss</b> <i>Funded by the McKnight Brain Research Foundation, through the American Brain Foundation, and the American Academy of Neurology</i></p>	✓	✓	✓
<p><b>Richard Olney Clinician Scientist Development Award in ALS</b> <i>Funded by The ALS Association and American Brain Foundation, in collaboration with the American Academy of Neurology</i></p>	✗	✓	✓
<p><b>Robert W. Katzman, MD, Clinical Research Training Scholarship in Alzheimer's and Dementia Research</b> <i>Funded by the Alzheimer's Association and American Brain Foundation, in collaboration with the American Academy of Neurology</i></p>	✗	✓	✓
<p><b>Susan S. Spencer, MD Clinical Research Training Scholarship in Epilepsy</b> <i>Funded by the American Brain Foundation, the American Epilepsy Society, and the Epilepsy Foundation, in collaboration with the American Academy of Neurology</i></p>	✓	✓	✓

## AAN Research Training Scholarship Portfolio

### Clinical Research Training Scholarship (CRTS)

1. Mentored scholarships for researchers interested in an academic career in *clinical research*
2. Completed residency within the past five years. Priority given to those early in career
3. Provides funds for education/training
4. Two-year non-disease specific grants
5. \$75,000 per year for two years = \$150,000
6. Three grants are funded annually

### **Neurology Research Training Scholarship (NRTS)**

1. Mentored scholarships for researchers interested in an academic career in *laboratory-based research*
2. Completed residency within the past five years. Priority given to those early in career
3. Provides funds for education/training
4. Two-year non-disease specific grants
5. \$75,000 per year for two years = \$150,000
6. Two grants are funded annually

### **Practice Research Training Scholarship (PRTS)**

1. Mentored scholarships for researchers interested in training in clinical practice research, defined as clinical research that evaluates translation of evidence into best clinical practice. This may include evaluation of health services, quality of care, implementation of proven therapies, physician performance or patient adherence
2. Completed residency within the past five years. Priority given to those early in career
3. Provides funds for education/training
4. Two-year non-disease specific grants
5. \$75,000 per year for two years = \$150,000
6. One grant is funded annually

### **Career Development Awards (CDA)**

1. An award comparable to a K award
2. Applicants may apply for a CDA and K award simultaneously but only allowed to accept one
3. Three-year non-disease specific grants
4. Funding for the person and the research (75% protected time)
5. \$150,000 per year for three years = \$450,000
6. Two grants are funded annually



## **Relationship with NINDS-Research**

# Memorandum

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**To:** Members of the Science Committee and ABF Research Advisory Committee  
**From:** Natalia Rost, MD, FAAN, Chair Science Committee  
**Date:** December 2019  
**Subject:** AAN Relationship with NINDS and NIA

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The AAN has a very long and successful relationship with the NINDS. This started when Walter Koroshetz, MD, FAAN was a member of the Science Committee and continues with his role as Director of the NINDS. The Science Committee is pleased that Nina Schor, MD, Deputy Director of the NINDS now sits on the Science Committee. Further, Dr. Clinton Wright, Director of the NINDS Division of Clinical Research serves on the AAN's Clinical Research Subcommittee.

The AAN and NINDS partner on several activities:

1. Quarterly Conference Calls – The AAN and NINDS meeting via call multiple times a year. The calls provide the AAN an opportunity to discuss issues related to research, equity, diversity and inclusion, and advocacy. The chairs of the Science and Advocacy Committees, along with the AAN president participate in the calls.
2. Face-to-Face Meeting – The two groups meet at the AAN Annual Meeting. The agenda is jointly developed and focusing on key issues of concern/interest to both groups.
3. NIH Day at the AAN Annual Meeting – NINDS staff works with AAN staff to provide content for one full day of programming on the Research Experiential Learning Area stage. This has been very popular and well received.
4. Patient Focus Publications – The AAN provides reviewers for the patient disease publications created by the NINDS. This has been very helpful to NINDS and allowed AAN members to participate.
5. Brain Health Fair – The NINDS has a presence at the AAN Brain Health Fair.
6. AAN Research Program – Drs. Koroshetz and Schor are regular speakers in AAN programming to research program recipients. Given that 80 %+ of the AAN Research Program recipients competitively compete and receive NIH funding, the opportunity for recipients to meet with and learn from NIH leaders is invaluable.

In the past two years, the AAN has reached out to the NIA to start to form a similar relationship. Eliezer Masliah, MD, Director, NIA, participates in the conference calls and in person meeting. Dr. Masliah has also been a speaker in NIH Day.

The Science Committee feels the relationship is very important and continues to find new opportunities for partnership.



## **American Brain Foundation (ABF) – Research Advisory Committee Vision**



**TO:** Natalia Rost, MD, FAAN, Chair, AAN Science Committee  
**FROM:** Robert Griggs, MD, FAAN, Chair, ABF Research Advisory Committee  
**DATE:** December 30, 2019  
**SUBJECT:** *The AAN/ABF Research Collaboration: Looking to the Future*

We are excited about the upcoming Research Summit with the AAN's Science Committee as an opportunity to develop strategies for accelerating toward our shared goal of raising both awareness of the impact of brain disease as well as funding for research that promises to cure brain disease.

The research partnership between the American Academy of Neurology and the American Brain Foundation provides the ability to source and fund research from the best and brightest researchers in the world. The AAN has access to the best minds in neuroscience research capable of evaluating and selecting research proposals that have the highest merit and potential for translational impact. The ABF is targeting the public to raise funding for research. It has attracted public leaders and influencers who want to use their stature and expertise to defeat brain disease.

This memo is written from an ABF perspective, to share some of the challenges and opportunities, particularly with regard to the AAN/ABF collaboration. We are excited that together, we can maximize the opportunities and minimize the barriers so that we can accomplish our mutually shared vision of advancing brain research to cure brain disease.

### **Next Generation Researcher Grants (CRTS/CSDA)**

The ABF has developed a funding stream to support the next generation of brain disease researchers in collaboration with the AAN's CRTS/CSDA program. We have made grants in the amount of \$7 million for this program since 2017.

Our funders are primarily nonprofit brain disease organizations. Some additional support is coming from foundations. The funding partners have confidence in giving, knowing that the ABF is working with AAN scientists to vet proposals. (See Attachment A for a summary of trends in our prospect research.) The ABF understands that the AAN is interested in increasing the number of CSDAs, and is willing and able to encourage these with current and future funding partners.

Over the last year, some funding partners have fallen away, primarily because they are not seeing enough applicants, or not well-enough qualified applicants, for the awards they are

funding. The result has been a loss in CRTS's for vascular and interventional neurology, headache, Tourette, and muscular dystrophy.

The AAN's planned analysis of the application trends for various diseases over the years is a welcome idea. We may want to consider a focus on fundraising for multiple awards in the diseases with the most applicants, rather than spreading ourselves thin raising funds for those diseases which attract few applications.

Deepening our understanding of why there are so few applicants in certain diseases would also be helpful. The AAN's marketing of the early-career research opportunities is extensive, and the ABF, and in some cases the individual subspecialty societies, have applied extra marketing drives for the diseases with fewest applicants. Is there a gap in our marketing strategy, or are there simply too few researchers in certain sub-specialties? Perhaps a marketing drive also directed toward affiliated subspecialties (vascular and interventional neurology – endovascular surgical neuroradiology or vascular surgery; headache – pain) with a more robust research infrastructure could draw scientists to these areas, take advantage of the funding opportunities, and drive research forward in these underserved but important areas of research.

The ABF believes that there are opportunities to raise resources for other elements of AAN's research program. Disease-specific Career Development Awards (CDA), in addition to the general ones AAN now sponsors, could be fundable if the AAN were open to incorporating them into its research program. If this were possible, the ABF would begin talking with potential donors about the opportunity to fund a CDA in the disease states they are passionate about.

The ABF has had opportunities in the past to receive funding from other disease-specific professional societies or foundations and we would like to ensure that a streamlined and timely approval process (e.g. ad hoc meeting between chair and ABF research committee together with chair and AAN science committee) is in place so that ABF and AAN could take advantage of such awards. This is especially important for those opportunities that may arise spontaneously or through the networks of ABF board members. The ABF would also be interested in being able to present opportunities to fund AAN's Neuroscience Research Scholarships or Practice Research Training Scholarships to interested donors. We look forward to discussing funding priorities with the Science Committee.

## **High-Risk, High-Reward Projects**

### **1. LBD Biomarker Project**

After consistently hearing from potential major donors in Lewy Body Dementia of their interest in funding early diagnostics in LBD, the ABF went independently to LBD researchers and asked them to confirm a need for this research focus. The experts we assembled enthusiastically agreed that there is a great need; and, at ABF's request, they designed a 5-year \$5 million research award as a vehicle for advancing the idea. The ABF is currently fundraising for this award for which the AAN has agreed to vet applications and provide grant administration. The ABF is hopeful that this unique project can become a template for the design and funding of similar research awards for other disease areas, and that the AAN will be interested in using its experts to select recipients and administer the awards. We look forward to having the AAN Science committee provide their expert insight and direction regarding individual disease-specific areas to further develop and prioritize.

## 2. X-Prize

A visionary idea of one of the ABF's past board chairs is to establish an X-Prize for a disease area. An X-Prize is an incentive competition to entice a team to solve a big problem. In neuroscience, it could be, for example, a \$50 million prize for a cure for Alzheimer's disease. The ABF has been exploring this idea with the X-Prize foundation and with a few donors who are also interested. We do not have the capacity to make this a top priority, however, we look forward to our discussion and having the AAN Science committee provide recommendations and direction regarding the development of an X-Prize in collaboration with the AAN. Some consideration should also be given to the pros and cons of establishing a 50M X-prize versus smaller but substantial and very meaningful X-prizes (e.g. five 10M x-prizes).

### **Mental Health Illnesses and Disorders**

The ABF's Research Advisory Committee studied the idea of funding research on mental health illnesses and disorders in 2018, deciding that this would be appropriate in certain circumstances. (See Attachment B, "Consensus Statement on Funding Mental Illness" adopted by ABF's RAC and Board in 2018.). There is substantial comorbidity between mental health disorders (e.g. depression, anxiety) and neurological diseases, including epilepsy, neurodegenerative diseases, movement disorders, stroke, demyelinating diseases, and migraine. Mental health disorders also have a pervasive and significant impact on the burden, disability and reduced quality of life associated with these and other neurological diseases. We therefore see significant fundraising potential for mental health illnesses and neurological disorders and an opportunity to not only bridge the artificial divide between Psychiatry and Neurology, but also to inspire and drive collaborative research between the two disciplines and between subspecialty areas (e.g. behavioral neurology, epilepsy) within the two disciplines. We have incoming board members (neurologists) who have strong connections with organizations working in the area of mental health and who are eager to approach them about funding for research.

### **Scientific Awards**

The Nobel Prizes, the Booker Award, the Academy Awards, and the Pulitzer Prizes are examples of awards with broad name recognition. The AAN's scientific awards have the potential for this kind of name recognition and to thereby attract more philanthropy for research.

The ABF is the financial steward of the endowments that fund the AAN's scientific awards and lectureships. In addition, the ABF raises \$150,000 per year for the Potamkin Prize in Pick's, Alzheimer's, and Related Dementias, and for the Sheila Essey Award in ALS Research. The donors to the Potamkin and Essey awards are concerned that the research being honored by their prizes is not being shared widely enough with the neurology profession.

There would also be great benefit in promoting these awards publicly as a way of both elevating neurology and attracting new funding for research. Putting a public spotlight on the awards would draw attention to the AAN, to its prestigious research program, and to its preferred charity, the ABF. Developing an impressive, respected public awards program would require thinking outside the annual meeting and potentially moving toward an event like a symposium or gala that attracts the press and prospective donors.

Please see Attachment C for a conversation-starter about what we might do.

## **Medical Student Research Scholarships**

The ABF is working on a proposal to add funds it has raised for autism research to the AAN's Medical Student Research Scholarship program whose purpose is to provide research funding support to students with limited research experience relevant to clinical or neuroscience fields. Stipends of \$3,000 would be awarded to students interested in working in an autism lab for a semester.

We believe that funding stipends like these—whether general, in autism, or other disease states, could be very attractive to those donors who cannot afford to give \$100,000+ for CRTSs. More resources for medical students in clinical or neuroscience research labs would contribute to the AAN's goal of growing the field by increasing the number of students who pursue a career in the neurosciences. Perhaps, too, stipends like these could be focused on building the pipeline of talent for the diseases not attracting enough applicants.

### **Attachments:**

- A. Institutional Prospect Research Summary (pages 5-6)
- B. Consensus Statement on the Advisability of Funding Research on Mental Illness by the AAN and the ABF with Particular Emphasis on Clinical Research Training Awards and Crowdfunding Projects, 2018 (pages 7-9)
- C. Collaboration to Elevate Scientific Awards (pages 10-11)
- D. ABF Research Advisory Committee Roster (page 12)

## Assessment Report: Institutional Fundraising for Brain Disease Research December 2019

### Situation Analysis:

In December 2019, the American Brain Foundation completed an assessment of funding opportunities from foundations and nonprofit partners, resulting in a robust portfolio of potential funders that align with the Foundation's programs and its strategic "cure one, cure many" approach. The basis of the assessment strategy and recommendations include:

- A meeting with the AAN Science Committee's Research Program Subcommittee to discuss areas of high priority for research awards
- Conversations with key ABF and AAN staff
- A review of the Foundation's current and past funders
- Research and assessment of additional local, regional, and national funding prospects

### Key Findings:

- Institutional donors overwhelmingly prefer to direct their funds towards disease-specific research rather than towards overall brain disease research.
- Substantial institutional funding is available for disease areas that have not traditionally been a focus of the AAN's research program, including autism and mental health.
- The entrepreneurial approach of the CRTS/CSDA program, with its emphasis on supporting the next generation of researchers in brain disease, is appealing to a wide range of funders.
- Private funders remain resistant to funding the administrative costs of research rewards, but they may be open to supporting indirect costs for other programs, and there is room for the ABF to educate donors on the necessity of administrative and indirect costs.

### Recommendations:

- **Consider sustainability and impact on all areas of brain disease research in balancing donors' interests with career development priorities.** The ABF and AAN should strive to balance a donor-centric approach to institutional fundraising with research needs, long-term viability of funding streams, and expert assessment of the anticipated benefit of disease-specific research on our understanding of other brain diseases.
- **Cultivate dialogue about brain diseases and disorders with potential donors.** Institutional fundraising offers an opportunity for the ABF to educate potential donors about the research areas with greatest need for funding and highest potential for near-term translational benefits for patients, as well as the need for funding to support brain disease research overall, as determined through the scientific leadership of the AAN. Important points to communicate in any dialogue with potential funders are:
  1. Research priorities have been determined by the nation's brain-trust in neuroscience (AAN) and take into account many factors including our current level of understanding of disease mechanisms, the personal and public health impact of a disease, the availability of highly qualified scientists working in this particular disease area and the feasibility of having the research conducted properly, the near-term translational implications of the research and the likelihood that the research will get us rapidly close to new treatments and potentially a cure.

2. The selection of researchers and projects will be determined by those who are the experts in that disease area and are in the best position of deciding how the money will be best spent/utilized.
- **Consider submitting proposals that bundle CRTS/CSDAs with complimentary programs.** Institutional funders are showing ever greater interest in supporting programs that create a “pipeline” of support for a particular initiative, typically by providing funding that supports an objective over a span of time rather than at a single point. Examples:
    - Medical student scholarships build the pipeline of researchers qualified to apply for CRTS's and CSDAs.
    - CRTS's and CSDAs build a pipeline of researchers qualified to apply for Career Development Awards (CDAs).

**Consensus Statement on the Advisability of Funding Research on Mental Illness by the  
AAN and the ABF with Particular Emphasis on  
Clinical Research Training Awards and Crowdfunding Projects**

Research on neurological disorders is currently funded by 18 separate NIH Institutes including the NINDS and the NIMH. While there has been explosive growth in basic and translational science and clinical research initiatives in the brain sciences, DSM-5 encapsulates the dilemma of focusing on mental disorders as primary areas of research inquiry, rather than as complementary areas of focus in instances exhibiting a partial continuum of clinical signs and symptoms to those of neurological disorders, particularly given their frequent phenotypic complexity, heterogeneity, intricate inciting events and incomplete nosology. The 2018 NIMH Strategic Plan and an extensive review of the relevant biomedical literature highlights the benefits of keeping the focus of funding separate for neurological and psychiatric disorders while deriving shared benefits from explosive growth in each discipline as they relate to the scientific underpinnings of normal and deregulated brain functions and of commonalities of cross-over syndromes such as autism spectrum disorders.

It is important to place these issues within the relevant context. Components of the NIH BRAIN Initiative are helping to interrogate the enormous and poorly defined diversity of regional neural cell types, cell fate specification hierarchies, profiles of associated synaptic connections and neural circuitries, electrophysiological properties, behavioral outputs, functional modularity, mechanisms orchestrating specification and maintenance of neural precursor and terminally differentiated cellular identities, and advanced technologies and analytical tools to better interrogate the micro-circuitry and associated neural network properties. Whole brain multimodal imaging parameters will determine the involvement of brain networks, such as default mode and saliency networks in health and specific neuropsychiatric disease states and associated state-dependent transitions. At the nanotechnology level, the ability to visualize individual cellular transcriptional events and translational processing as well as intra- and inter-cellular transport of biomolecules within the brain and throughout non-neural tissues and organs including the germ line has already allowed an unprecedented examination of biophysical parameters (including transcriptional pausing, circadian rhythmicity and intercellular transport routes and principles) underlying dynamic genomic processes as well as informational pathways involving whole organism and even intergenerational signaling and relevant biological processes. One potentially tangible goal will be to link single molecule to whole organism functional imaging in health and disease.

These initiatives encompass the fields of evolutionary biology; developmental, molecular, cellular, systems and computational neuroscience; genetics, epigenetics, epitranscriptomics (biochemical modifications of RNA with protean functions including mediating developmental timing and cell fate mechanisms); translational control and proteostasis; autophagy and cellular biomolecular turnover; immunobiology and inflammatory states; the microbiome and associated ecosystems; energy regulation and metabolism; aging and longevity; organelle interactomes; stem cell biology and tissue regeneration; cell division, planar polarity, viability and cell death; cellular vulnerability; cellular competition and extrusion of irrevocably damaged cells through signaling mechanisms; cell intrinsic and environmental stressors; and critical periods of plasticity amongst many others.

Scientific investigations into neurological disorders and mental illnesses have also furnished major new insights into the observation that each neuron (and macro- and microglia and other constituents of the cellular microenvironment) may harbor hundreds of somatic mutations with dynamic trajectories based on DNA repair processes, context-specific enzyme effectors,

transcriptional and replication stressor states, and excessive degrees of aneuploidy. Brain somatic mosaicism may therefore arise, in part, from developmental stage-specific mutations that alter subsets of neural transcriptomes and proteomes that, in turn, affect cardinal cellular and systems processes including homeostasis, plasticity, connectivity, reprogramming efficiency and many other seminal cellular properties. In this regard, there is increasing recognition of a variety of structural variations including copy number variations, inversions, translocations, chromotripsis (thousands of clustered chromosomal rearrangements occurring as a single event in localized and confined genomic regions in a limited subset of chromosomes) with micronuclei and immunostimulatory DNA linking genomic instability to innate immunity, as well as the dynamic insertions of mobile genetic elements.

Moreover, the study of different classes of brain disorders have pioneered the study of how certain master transcription factors and epigenetic effectors associated with the risk architecture of specific neuropsychiatric diseases can improve cognitive profiles in model organisms. In a broader sense, these scientific initiatives have accelerated our understanding of *cis*- and *trans*-acting regulatory organization of the human genome in health and brain disorders. They have also defined the modular profiles of nuclear matrix microdomains, nuclear/cytoplasmic compartmentalization, mechanosensing and biophysical state transitions as well as chromosome-wide regulation of boundary elements that define topological-associated domains and higher-order chromatin interactions that define complementary compartmental structures. These evolving conceptual frameworks and their deregulated cytoskeletal-nucleoskeletal linkages help to define cell fate determination, transitional states and epigenetic corollaries.

Such separate but conjoint research initiatives have also taken advantage of evolutionary biology to identify 'human accelerated genes' that impart evolutionary innovations in form and function to higher-order neocortical regions that frequently represent the unique brain substrate for mediating sophisticated cognitive and behavioral functions as well as enhanced vulnerability to neurological disorders such as neurodegenerative diseases as well as mental illnesses. These human-specific mechanisms can increasingly be interrogated through combinatorial techniques employing precision medicine applications such as patient-specific iPSC-mediated constituent functional differentiation in concert with self-organization within human organoids. These studies will foster innovative biomarker initiatives, next generation therapeutic applications, an enhanced and integrative nosology, more definitive assessment of biological mechanisms, cross-disciplinary application of deep-brain stimulation and related neuromodulatory procedures and investigations of disease co-morbidities and inverse co-morbidities as well as their mechanisms of actions, societal contexts, and corresponding service models.

However, there are specific areas where neurology and psychiatry meet and should be supportable. Most major classes of pediatric and adult neurological disorders have varying degrees of intricate behavioral and more classical psychiatric manifestations that frequently provide insights into disease pathogenesis and therapeutic applications. Two final instructive articles represent ideal examples of potential novel conceptual insights involving this neuropsychiatric interface. The first journal article postulates a unified 'theory of mind' that places metabolism and energy regulation (allostasis) as well as the sensory consequences of that regulation (interoception) at its core and postulates that depression may represent a disorder of allostasis that is due to an insensitivity to sensory context. Since the nervous system appears to represent the epicenter of longevity mechanisms with its modular organization mediating different components of sensory processing including nutrient sensing and energy regulation and remote somatic signaling promoting mitochondrial biogenesis and additional quality control mechanisms including hormesis. Interestingly, there is increasing evidence that

both neuropsychiatric and neurodegenerative disorders are associated with developmental pathogenesis, and longevity mechanisms also appear to be developmentally programmed, with maternal and prenatal stressors deregulating hormonal and epigenetic mechanisms that maintain the integrity of longevity responses and mitigate the impact and consequences of earlier stressor states on late-onset nervous system dysfunction and disease. The second article highlights the fact that a subset of children with autism spectrum disorders (ASD) exhibit improved behaviors and enhanced communications during febrile episodes. The authors hypothesize that febrigenesis and the behavioral state changes associated with fever depend upon selective normalization of key components of a functionally impaired locus coeruleus-noradrenergic (LC-NA) system. They posit that autistic behaviors result from developmental dysregulation of LC-NA specification and neural network deployment and modulation linked to the core behavioral features of autism. Fever transiently restores the modulatory functions of the LC-NA system and ameliorates autistic behaviors. Fever-induced reversibility of autism suggests preserved functional integrity of widespread neural networks orchestrated by the LC-NA system, and specifically the subsystems involved in mediating changes of behavioral set (state-dependent switching mediated by the default mode network). Alterations of complex gene-environmental interactions and associated epigenetic mechanisms during seminal developmental critical periods are viewed as instrumental in LC-NA dysregulation as emphasized by the timing and severity of prenatal maternal stressors on autism prevalence. This hypothesis has major implications for a rational approach to further interrogating the interdisciplinary etiology of ASD and for designing novel biological detection systems and therapeutic agents that target the LC-NA system's diverse network of pre- and postsynaptic receptors, intracellular signaling pathways and dynamic epigenetic remodeling processes involved in their regulation and functional plasticity. Most major classes of adult and pediatric neurological disorders have varying degrees of intricate behavioral and more classical psychiatric manifestations that frequently provide insight into disease pathogenesis and therapeutic applications.

## COLLABORATION TO ELEVATE SCIENTIFIC AWARDS:

### A Conversation-Starter

#### Background

Each year the AAN confers almost 20 awards for scientific achievement to the all-stars of brain disease research. The AAN has done the heavy lifting in creating the awards, and the Science Committee is responsible for the expert work of selecting the prize recipients each year. The ABF raises \$150,000 annually for two awards with the largest monetary prizes (Potamkin Prize and Essey Award). In addition, the ABF is fiscally responsible for several endowments, located at the foundation, which fund the other awards.<sup>1</sup>

The ABF would like to start a conversation about collaborating to raise the profile of these awards. The scientific awards offer untapped potential to build awareness of progress in brain disease research and of the pivotal role of neurology in research advances. In this way, we can ensure that existing funds are sustained and new funding opportunities for funding research are generated in the process.

The Nobel Prizes, the Booker Award, the Academy Awards, and the Pulitzer Prizes are examples of awards with broad name recognition. The AAN's scientific awards have the potential for this kind of name recognition and to attract philanthropy for research.

#### Objective

Raise the profile of the scientific awards within the neurology profession and the public through a multi-year AAN/ABF collaboration.

#### Goals

1. Create name-recognition for the awards and the key contributions of the recipients.
2. Inspire philanthropy for brain disease research.

#### A Potential Annual Program

We envision a series of annual activities to realize our shared objective and goals. The activities would be on two tracks aimed at two different audiences: (1) neurology professionals and (2) the public, including prospective individual and institutional donors. Potential activities for each of the two tracks include,

##### **Track One – Neurology Professionals**

- Create opportunities for awardees to share their contributions widely within the neurology profession. Possible activities:
  - Public relations strategy anticipating and announcing the awards
  - Summary information on awardees and their significance in *Neurology*
  - A single, well-publicized awards session featuring Potamkin, Essey and other top awardees at the annual meeting
  - Rotating articles about awardees in AANews with links to bios and papers by recipients

- A review in *Neurology* by each of the awardees on the body of work and research breakthroughs that led to this award, unanswered questions, and future areas of research.

### **Track Two – The Public**

- Create awareness and anticipation of the awards as the “Nobel Prizes” of research on brain diseases and disorders. Possible activities:
  - Public relations strategy anticipating and announcing the awards
  - Feature article on the awards in *Brain and Life*
  - Annual awards event and symposium featuring key awardees with special invitations to:
    - National media
    - Prospective major donors
    - Prospective corporate and foundation donors
  - Speakers Bureau of awardees for ABF donor events

### 2020 Annual Meeting

We realize that these and other ideas will need time for development. We suggest a streamlined version of Track-One, above, for the annual meeting with a focus on the Potamkin and Essey Awards, whose donors are anxious to build more awareness of significant awardee contributions in the neurology community. Meanwhile, we could plan some of the broader initiatives, as suggested above, for 2021 and beyond.

<sup>i</sup> Endowments funding AAN scientific awards include:

Bruce S. Schoenberg international Award in Epidemiology Fund  
 Dreifuss-Perry Epilepsy Award Fund  
 Harold Wolf-John Grisham Award Fund  
 Michael S. Pessin Stroke Leadership Prize  
 Mitchell B. Max Award for Neuropathic Pain  
 Movement Disorders Research Award Fund  
 Neuro-Infectious Disease Young Investigator Award  
 Neuro-Oncology Investigator Award Fund  
 Neuro-Oncology Scientific Award Fund  
 Norman Geschwind Prize in Behavioral Neurology  
 Sleep Science Award Fund  
 Wayne A. Hening Sleep Medicine Award Fund



## Research Advisory Committee

Robert C. Griggs, MD, FAAN, Chair  
University of Rochester

Raymond Roos, MD, FAAN, Vice Chair  
University of Chicago

Carsten Bonnemann, MD  
Porter Neuroscience Research Center

Jose E. Cavazos, MD, PhD, FAAN  
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Ralph Sacco, MD, MS, FAAN, FAHA  
University of Miami

Eugene Scharf, MD  
Mayo Clinic

Ira Shoulson, MD, FAAN  
Georgetown University

Phyllis C. Zee, MD, PhD  
Northwestern University Medical School



## **TAB 9:**

# **2020 SCIENTIFIC AWARDS**

# Memorandum

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**To:** Members of the Science Committee

**From:** Randolph S. Marshall, MD, FAAN

**Copy:** Christine E. Phelps, Deputy Executive Director of American Academy of Neurology Institute; Kris Fridgen, Deputy Chief, Center for Education, Science and Conferences; Susan Rodmyre, Senior Director, Education and Research; Michelle Maxwell, Program Manager, Science Committee Activities

**Date:** January 2020

**Subject:** Policies Concerning Awards and Lectures

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## **Background:**

At the June 2019 Science Committee meeting, a review of the Policies Concerning the Awards and Lectures of the American Academy of Neurology occurred. A workgroup reviewed the comments and feedback given at the Science Committee meeting and a new version is up for approval. The workgroup members are Randolph S. Marshall, MD, FAAN; A. M. Barrett, MD, FAAN; Amy Brooks-Kayal, MD, FAAN; and Martinson K. Arnan, MD.

## **Proposed Document:**

The Policies Concerning Awards and Lectures document is included behind this memorandum with the original behind that.

## **Next Steps:**

If the Policies Concerning Awards and Lectures document is approved, the document will be moved to the Board of Directors for approval.

## POLICIES CONCERNING AWARDS AND LECTURES

American Academy of Neurology Institute

November 2019

1. **Purpose.** This policy governs the awards process for the American Academy of Neurology Institute (“AANI”) to ensure consistency with the mission, vision, and values of the AANI and the American Academy of Neurology (“AAN”).
2. **Types of Scientific Awards.** The AANI supports several award types: Premier Lectures, Category 1 Recognition Awards, Category 2 Recognition Awards, Permanent Awards, and Research Program Awards. These awards are described below:
  - a. **Premier Lectures.** The AANI has several Premier Lectures presented at plenary sessions during each Annual Meeting.
    - i. The Presidential Lecture - This lecture is awarded in non-election years to a neurologist chosen by the AAN/AANI President/Chair. In election years this lecture is awarded to the outgoing President/Chair of the AAN/AANI.
    - ii. The Robert Wartenberg Award Lecture - The premier award sponsored by the AANI; this lifetime achievement lecture is awarded to a neurologist for excellence in clinically relevant research. The Wartenberg Lecture is presented during the Presidential Plenary Session at the Annual Meeting.
    - iii. The H. Houston Merritt Lecture (formerly Netter) - This lecture is awarded for excellence in education involved in clinically relevant research. The Merritt lecture is presented every other year during the Presidential Plenary Session of the Scientific Program of the Annual Meeting.
    - iv. The George C. Cotzias Lecture - This lecture is awarded and endowed by ROCHE Pharmaceuticals. This lecture is awarded to a neurologist for excellence in neuroscience and is presented every other year during the Presidential Plenary Session at the Annual Meeting.
    - v. The Sidney Carter Award in Child Neurology - Endowed by Isabelle Rapin, MD, FAAN, this award recognizes outstanding work by an individual in the field of child neurology/developmental neurobiology. The Carter lecture is presented every year during the Presidential Plenary Session at the Annual Meeting.
  - b. **Other Lecture Types.**
    - i. Hot Topics Plenary Session – This session features the latest, cutting-edge translational research related to clinical issues of importance. Four outstanding speakers provide summaries of their recent research findings and describe the clinical implications of the results.
    - ii. Neurology Year in Review Plenary Session – This session will feature four to six speakers, each focusing on the latest developments of interest to the clinician that have occurred in a specific subspecialty topic.
    - iii. Clinical Trials Plenary Session - This session covers landmark clinical trials that affect patient care in every subspecialty of neurology.

Investigators will present the latest clinical trials results that are impacting the landscape of neurological care.

- iv. Contemporary Clinical Issues Plenary Session - This plenary session highlights the issues most critical to practicing neurologists, including abstracts related to new therapeutic developments, clinical applications of basic and translational research, and innovative technical developments already affecting the practice of neurology.
- v. Controversies in Neurology Plenary Session - Experts discuss the most current and controversial issues in neurology. It is set up as a debate format in which two speakers argue a side of a single topic, followed by a rebuttal.
- vi. Frontiers in Neuroscience Plenary Session - This plenary session features translational research related to clinical issues of importance. Six outstanding speakers provide summaries of their recent research findings and describe the clinical implications of the results.

- c. **Category 1 Recognition Awards.** These awards must be financially secured in perpetuity by an endowment of at least \$75,000. The size of the award (including any travel support) may be adjusted in future years to ensure that the principal maintains value, and that AANI's administrative costs are covered. At present, \$75,000 in endowment will generate \$3,000 annually to include the \$1,000 award prize, expenses, registration, travel, etc. The endowment withdrawal amount will be reviewed biannually.

The award will usually be announced or presented at a formal venue during the Annual Meeting. The method of announcement or presentation will be selected by the AANI's Science Committee and will most likely be in a scientific session or Experiential Learning Area.

Current Category 1 Recognition Awards include the following:

- i. Dreifuss-Penry Epilepsy Award
- ii. John Dystel Prize for Multiple Sclerosis Research
- iii. Sheila Essey Award: An Award for ALS
- iv. Research Norman Geschwind Prize in Behavioral Neurology Neuro-oncology Investigator Award
- v. Neuro-oncology Scientific Award
- vi. Movement Disorders Research Award
- vii. Michael S. Pessin Stroke Leadership Prize
- viii. Potamkin Prize for Research in Pick's, Alzheimer's, and Related Diseases
- ix. Bruce S. Schoenberg International Award in Neuroepidemiology
- x. Sleep Science Award
- xi. Harold Wolff-John Graham: An Award for Headache/Facial Pain Research
- xii. Jon Stolk Award in Movement Disorders for Young Investigators
- xiii. Mitchell B. Max Neuropathic Pain Award
- xiv. Wayne A. Hening Sleep Medicine Investigator Award

xv. Irwin Schatz Award for Autonomic Disorders

- d. Category 2 Recognition Awards.** These awards need not be secured with an endowment; but at least \$1,000 per year is required to cover administrative costs and the prize. This will guarantee the maximum amount that may be given for a Category 2 Award, \$500 per year. The award should be guaranteed for at least five consecutive years.

The award winner will be mentioned in electronic or print materials distributed to attendees of the Annual Meeting, but formal presentation during the meeting program itself will usually not occur.

Category 2 awards will be allowed to exist at the Category 2 level for a period of five years. At the end of this time, the award may be renewed for one additional time at the Category 2 level. After this second five-year period has expired, the award must be renewed at the Category 1 level, or it will cease to exist.

Current Category 2 Recognition Awards include the following:

- i. Neuroendocrine Research Award
- ii. Frank A. Rubino for Excellence in Clinical Neurology Teaching

- e. Permanent Awards.** The AANI supports several awards that are treated as Category 1 awards, but do not need to conform to the monetary guidelines.

Current Permanent Awards include the following:

- i. AANI Alliance Awards: Founders and S. Weir Mitchell (Prize, \$1,000)
- ii. Lawrence C. McHenry Award: An Award for the History of Neurology (Prize, Annual Meeting Registration)
- iii. The Medical Student Essay Awards: Korey, Mackay, Shy, and Extended Neuroscience (Prize, Four Awards at \$350 Each)
- iv. Neuroscience Research Prize (Prize, \$1,000)

- f. Research Program Awards.** These awards provide salary or research support to facilitate training in neurology or a subspecialty area, usually during post-residency fellowships. They need not be secured by endowment and can be funded on a year-by-year basis. Award recipients will be mentioned in print in materials distributed to attendees of the Annual Meeting.

Current AANI Research Program Awards include the following:

- i. Career Development Award (3 yrs, \$450,000)
- ii. Clinical Research Training Scholarship (2 yrs, \$150,000)
- iii. Neuroscience Research Training Scholarship (2 yrs, \$150,000)
- iv. Practice Research Training Scholarship (2 yrs, \$150,000)

- 3. Selection Procedures.** Each award type has a set of guidelines outlining their selection procedures. These procedures are described below.

- a. **Premier Lectures.** The Science Committee nominates the individuals to deliver the Premier Lectures (other than the Presidential Lecture), subject to the approval of the AAN/AANI President/Chair.
- b. **Category 1 Recognition, Category 2 Recognition, and Permanent Awards.** Each Category 1 Recognition, Category 2 Recognition, and Permanent Award will be administered by a dedicated workgroup of the AANI which functions independently from whatever group/individual provided the funds for the award. This dedicated subspecialty award workgroup will include a chairperson and at least four other AAN members approved by the Science Committee. The review process and final approval will be by the Science Committee or the Science Committee Chair and Vice-Chair. The workgroup and reviewers will ensure diversity is taken into effect in all areas of the award process.

Workgroup members will rate candidates on a 1(best) to 5(worst) scale. The average score of each candidate will be calculated and provided to workgroup members prior to a conference call to identify the winner. Recipients are subject to the approval of the chairperson of the Science Committee and the President.

- c. **Research Program.** The AANI Research Program is managed by the Research Program Subcommittee. Applications are evaluated by members of the Research Program Subcommittee, and various ad-hoc reviewers. Partner scholarship applications are reviewed by both AANI reviewers and reviewers chosen by the partner, according to the following:
  - i. Each application is reviewed by three reviewers.
  - ii. The recipient is selected via conference call.
  - iii. AANI staff manage oversight of the recipient in consultation with the Research Program Subcommittee.

The Research Program Subcommittee oversees each recipient's performance for the duration of the grant period. The first opportunity to assess performance takes place with the first annual report due in the spring and funding for the second year is contingent upon the approval of this report. The decision regarding the funding of the second year of the grant is made by the Research Program Subcommittee. Similarly, the final report of the recipient undergoes the same review process.

Each fall, available training awards will be announced to the AAN membership. Applications will be solicited using a common form and deadline (October 1), so that the selection of awardees can be made by the beginning of each calendar year. Usually, scholarships will commence the following July 1.

- 4. **Eligibility.** The Science Committee will create a base set of standards that applicants or nominees will have to meet in order to be eligible, including:

- a. Awards that target young investigators should specify a timeframe of completion from the applicant or nominee's most recent training program as well as the nature of this training program, i.e., medical school, graduate school, residency, or post-doctoral fellowship. They can also specify the research field in which their work has been carried out although it is not a requirement.
  - b. Awards that target middle-to-senior level investigators must indicate the research field in which the applicant or nominee is actively involved. Exceptions will be made for awards that do not conform to the regular guidelines. These awards include the Neuroscience Research Prize, Medical Student Essay Awards, Alliance Awards, Potamkin Prize, Bruce S. Schoenberg International Award in Neuroepidemiology, and the Lawrence C. McHenry Award.
  - c. Science Committee members and the President are ineligible to be selected to deliver Premier Lectures (besides the Presidential Lecture).
  - d. Members of the subspecialty award workgroups are ineligible to apply for or be nominated for an award during the duration of their workgroup term.
  - e. Members of the Science Committee may not nominate individuals from his/her own institution. Should there be a nominee from an institution of any Science Committee member, that member should recuse him/herself from discussion and/or vote.
  - f. Pharmaceutical or other industry employees are ineligible except under extraordinary circumstances defined by the Science Committee on a case by case basis.
  - g. Individuals may not apply for more than one Category 1, Category 2, or permanent award within the same year's award cycle.
  - h. For all but the AAN/AANI non-scientific awards, changes to eligibility requirements are subject to the approval of the Science Committee. Changes to the AANI Research Program guidelines require additional approvals from the Research Program Workgroup.
- 5. Selection Criteria.** Each dedicated subspecialty award subcommittee will identify recipients using the following methods: 1) third-party nominations, 2) self-referral, or 3) nomination by the Award Workgroup. All awards will require a current curriculum vitae. If the award targets young-to-middle level investigators, the application must include a letter summarizing the applicant's research program and contributions to the field. If the award targets senior-level investigators, the application must include a letter from a colleague summarizing the applicant's body of work. Optional criteria can include an appendix of publications, reprints, additional letters of recommendation, or an abstract. The specific selection criteria will be approved by the Science Committee prior to implementation. The subspecialty award workgroup will select award recipients, in time

so that the nomination can be approved at the Science Committee meeting, followed by the AAN/AANI President/Chair.

## 6. Disclosure and Abstention.

- a. **Disclosure.** All AANI and AAN Committee, Subcommittee, and Workgroup members are required to fill out Relationship Disclosure Forms, in accordance with the AAN/AANI's *Relationships and Conflicts of Interest Policy*. This information will be provided to chairs of award workgroups, who will provide this information to the workgroup prior to the start of the selection conference call.
- b. **Abstentions.** If it is determined that an individual's disclosed relationships create an actual or perceived conflict of interest, that individual should recuse him-or-herself from the proceedings, in accordance with the Relationships and Conflicts of Interest Policy.

The Science Committee has identified times when award reviewers must abstain, or should consider abstaining, from reviewing or discussing a candidate:

A reviewer must abstain if:

- i. The candidate in question is from the reviewer's institution;
- ii. The reviewer is a contributor to the research submitted as part of the application; or
- iii. The reviewer is a relative of the candidate.

A reviewer is not required to abstain, but may wish to consider abstaining if:

- i. The candidate and reviewer previously worked at the same institution;
- ii. The candidate trained under the reviewer, or the reviewer trained under the candidate; or
- iii. The reviewer and candidate are frequent research collaborators.

If an additional situation arises where a reviewer feels there may be an actual or perceived conflict of interest, the reviewer should abstain from reviewing the submission or discuss with Science Committee leadership.

When abstaining for a candidate, the reviewer must mark their score for that candidate as "abstain", rather than with a numerical score. In addition, the reviewer must recuse him-or-herself from the conference call during the portion when the candidate in question is being discussed.

7. **Creating New Awards.** AANI may sponsor additional awards to recognize accomplishments or support training in subspecialties areas of neurology. New AANI-sponsored awards may be proposed by individuals, sections of the AAN/AANI, or other appropriate organizations.

- a. **Criteria.** Key criteria for AANI sponsorship of a subspecialty award will be:
  - i. If the award is named after an individual, the person for whom the award is named will be an acknowledged major contributor to the subspecialty field. Awards should not be named after living individuals.
  - ii. The award should have the approval of relevant subspecialty societies, and any relevant subspecialty sections of the AANI or AAN.
  - iii. In the case of recognition awards, the target audience should be specified.
  - iv. Criteria for each target audience will be dictated by the Science Committee. Typically, these awards recognize lifetime career accomplishment, a specific recent accomplishment, or a rising younger investigator exhibiting outstanding promise. The award proposer should specifically define the target audience and identify the current size of the target audience to ensure there is a large enough pool to warrant creating an award.
  
- b. **Review.** A recommendation for a new AANI-sponsored award will initially be reviewed by the Science Committee. The Science Committee can either approve the proposal as is, return the proposal with recommended changes, or reject it. If approved, the award proposer is free to seek funding for the award. Once funding has been obtained, the Science Committee must review the proposal again. The AANI Board of Directors must provide final approval of the creation of the award. If accepted, it will be deemed an official AANI award and placed in one of the previously mentioned categories. Some common reasons for rejecting a new award recommendation include: an incomplete application, the proposed award already having existing award(s) in its subspecialty topic, and a general oversaturation of awards.

Endowed awards are preferred. The AANI will be responsible for raising and retaining the funds used to endow recognition or training awards.

- 8. **Other Non-Scientific Awards.** The AANI/AAN support several awards that do not fall under the auspices of the Science Committee. These awards may receive recognition in materials distributed to attendees of the Annual Meeting.

- a. **Current AAN/AANI non-scientific awards include:**
  - i. A.B. Baker Award for Lifetime Achievement in Neurologic Education
  - ii. B. Baker Teacher Recognition Award
  - iii. AAN Award for Creative Expression of Human Values in Neurology
  - iv. AAN Diversity Leadership Program
  - v. AAN International Scholarship Award
  - vi. AAN Leadership for Women Program
  - vii. Advanced Leadership for Women
  - viii. AAN President's Award
  - ix. Association of Indian Neurologists in America (AINA) Lifetime Achievement Award
  - x. Career Development Award

- xi. Clerkship Coordinator Recognition Award
- xii. Clerkship Director Innovation Award
- xiii. Clerkship Director Teaching Award
- xiv. Clerkship Director/Program Director Leadership Course
- xv. Education Research Grant
- xvi. Enhanced Adult Resident Leadership Program
- xvii. Enhanced Child Resident Leadership Program
- xviii. Fellow Scholarship to the Annual Meeting
- xix. Future Clinical Researchers in Neurology and Neuroscience Scholarship
- xx. H. Richard Tyler Award
- xxi. Kenneth M. Viste, Jr., MD, Patient Advocate of the Year Award
- xxii. Medical Student Diversity Program
- xxiii. Medical Student Prize for Excellence
- xxiv. Medical Student Scholarship to the Annual Meeting
- xxv. Medical Student Summer Research Scholarship
- xxvi. Minority Scholars Program
- xxvii. Neurology Research Training Scholarship
- xxviii. Program Coordinator Recognition Award
- xxix. Program Director Recognition Award
- xxx. Resident Scholarship to the Annual Meeting
- xxxi. Safety and Quality Awards

The selection procedures for these awards are determined by the parent committees responsible for the award. The AANI or AAN Board of Directors (as appropriate), upon the recommendation of the appropriate committee, may establish a new AAN or AANI-sponsored award.

#### Policy history:

This policy was initially approved by the Science Committee on April 14, 2005, and the AAN Board of Directors on June, 25, 2005 (AAN Policy 2005-25). On February 11, 2006, the Board of Directors voted to disband the Carter Award Subcommittee; nominations for the Carter Award shall be evaluated by the Lecture Awards Subcommittee of the Science Committee (Policy 2006-9). The Harold Wolff-John Graham Award for Headache/Facial Pain Research was elevated from a Category 2 award to a Category 1 award by the Board of Directors on October 14, 2006 (Policy 2006-70) (the paragraphs on Category 1 and Category 2 awards was edited by the General Counsel to reflect this change). The Jon Stolk Award in Movement Disorders for Young Investigators was approved by the AAN Executive Committee on July 19, 2007 and ratified by the Board of Directors by email vote on August 2, 2007 (AAN Policy 2007-36) (The paragraph concerning Category 1 awards was edited by the General Counsel to reflect this change). The Science Committee recommended the Mitchell B. Max Neuropathic Pain Award award in July 2009 and Dr. Robert Griggs, AAN President, approved the award on May 6, 2010. The Wayne A. Hening Sleep Medicine Investigator Award and the Neuroendocrine Research Award were approved by the Science Committee in 2010, and Dr. Robert Griggs, AAN President, approved the awards on August 3, 2010. This document has been edited by the General Counsel to reflect the approvals by the Academy president.

Prior awards:

AAN Journalism Fellowship Award. The AAN Board of Directors terminated this award on September 26, 2009 (AAN Policy 2009-35).

H. Richard Tyler Award. The AAN Board of Directors terminated this award on September 26, 2009 (AAN Policy 2009-34).



## **Policies Concerning the Awards and Lectures of the American Academy of Neurology**

### **Science Awards**

#### **Award types**

The AAN supports several award types: Premier Lectures, Category 1 Recognition Awards, Category 2 Recognition Awards, Permanent Awards, American Brain Foundation Research and Training Awards, and AAN non-scientific awards. These awards are described below.

#### **Premier Lectures**

The Academy shall have several Premier Lectures presented at plenary sessions during each annual meeting.

- The Academy President shall select the Presidential Lecturer. Normally, this is another individual in the first year of the Presidency, and the President him/herself in the second year of the Presidency.
- The Wartenberg Award Lecture – Career achievement in clinically relevant research.
- The Cotzias Award Lecture (alternate year) – Career achievement in neuroscience research.
- The Sidney Carter Award Lecture (alternate year) – Career achievement in the field of child neurology or developmental neuroscience.
- The H. Houston Merritt Lecture (alternate year) – Career achievement in neurological education.

#### **Other Lecture Types**

- Hot Topics Lectures - This session highlights important and interesting abstracts presented at subspecialty meetings leading up to the Annual Meeting that are not on the program but should be heard by a wide audience at the Annual Meeting. Usually four Hot Topics Lectures will be presented at each Annual Meeting.
- Contemporary Clinical Issues and Case Studies Lectures - This session highlights issues most critical to practicing neurologists, including abstracts related to new therapeutic developments, clinical applications of basic and translational research, and innovative technical developments. In addition to the Contemporary Clinical Issues discussion, a case study format addresses topics of interest. Usually three abstracts are presented during the Contemporary Clinical Issues portion and four lectures are presented during the Invited Discussants portion.

- Frontiers in Clinical Neuroscience Lectures – This session focuses on translational research related to clinical issues of importance. Usually four Frontiers Lectures will be presented at each annual meeting.
- Clinical Trials Lectures – This session covers important clinical topics that affect patient care identified from other society meetings. Lecturers will present the latest updates within several clinical trials conducted over the last year. An open panel discussion concludes the session.
- Neurology Year in Review Lectures – This session features four to six speakers, each focusing on the latest developments of interest to the clinician that have occurred in a specific subspecialty topic.
- Controversies in Neurology Lectures – This session features current and controversial issues in neuroscience. It is set up as a debate format in which two speakers argue a side of a single topic, followed by a rebuttal. Each round concludes with a question and answer period.

### **Category 1 Recognition Awards**

These awards must be financially secured in perpetuity by an endowment of at least \$75,000. The size of the award (including any travel support) may be adjusted in future years to insure that the principal maintains value, and that AAN's administrative costs are covered. At present, \$75,000 in endowment will support an award size of \$1000.

The award will usually be announced and/or presented at a formal venue during the AAN annual meeting. The method of announcement or presentation will be selected by the Science Committee, but will most likely be in a scientific session or Experiential Learning Area, at the American Academy of Neurology Annual Meeting.

Current Category 1 Recognition Awards include the following:

Dreifuss-Penry Epilepsy Award  
 John Dystel Prize for Multiple Sclerosis  
 Sheila Essey Award: An Award for ALS Research  
 Norman Geschwind Prize in Behavioral Neurology  
 Neuro-oncology Investigator Award  
 Neuro-oncology Scientific Award  
 The Movement Disorders Research Award  
 Michael S. Pessin Stroke Leadership Prize  
 Potamkin Prize for Research in Pick's, Alzheimer's, and Related Diseases  
 The Bruce S. Schoenberg International Award in Neuroepidemiology  
 Sleep Science Award  
 Harold Wolff-John Graham: An Award for Headache/Facial Pain Research  
 Jon Stolk Award in Movement Disorders for Young Investigators  
 Mitchell B. Max Neuropathic Pain Award  
 Wayne A. Hening Sleep Medicine Investigator Award  
 Irwin Schatz Award for Autonomic Disorders

### **Category 2 Recognition Awards**

These awards need not be secured with an endowment; but at least \$1,000 per year is required to cover administrative costs and the prize. This will guarantee the maximum amount that may be given for a Category 2 Award, \$500 per year. The award should be guaranteed for at least five consecutive years.

The award winner will be mentioned in print in materials distributed to attendees of the AAN Annual Meeting, but formal presentation during the meeting program itself will usually not occur.

Category 2 awards will be allowed to exist at the Category 2 level for a period of five years. At the end of this time, the award may be renewed for one additional time at the Category 2 level. After this second five-year period has expired, the award must be renewed at the Category 1 level, or it will cease to exist.

Current Category 2 Recognition Awards include the following:

Neuroendocrine Research Award

Frank A. Rubino for Excellence in Clinical Neurology Teaching

### **Permanent Awards**

The AAN supports several awards that are treated as Category 1 awards, but do not need to conform to the monetary guidelines.

Current Permanent Awards include the following:

AAN Alliance Awards: Founders and S. Weir Mitchell

Lawrence C. McHenry Award: An Award for the History of Neurology

The Medical Student Essay Awards: Korey, Mackay, Shy, and Extended Neuroscience  
Neuroscience Research Prize

### **Research Program Awards**

These awards provide salary or research support to facilitate training in neurology or a subspecialty area, usually during post-residency fellowships. They need not be secured by endowment and can be funded on a year-by-year basis. Award recipients will be mentioned in print in materials distributed to attendees of the AAN Annual Meeting.

Currently the Research Program Awards include the following:

Career Development Award

Clinical Research Training Scholarship

Clinical Research Training Scholarship in ALS Research

Clinical Research Training Scholarship in Alzheimer's Disease

Clinical Research Training Scholarship in Epilepsy

Clinical Research Training Scholarship in Multiple Sclerosis

Clinical Research Training Scholarship in Muscular Dystrophy

Clinical Research Training Scholarship in Parkinson's Disease

Clinical Research Training Scholarship in Stroke

Clinical Research Training Scholarship in Tourette Syndrome  
Clinician Scientist Development Award in Multiple Sclerosis  
Clinician Scientist Development Award in Myasthenia Gravis  
Clinician Scientist Development Award in ALS  
John F. Kurtzke Clinician Scientist Development Award in Multiple Sclerosis  
Lawrence Brass Postdoctoral Scholarship in Stroke  
Neuroscience Research Training Scholarship  
Practice Research Training Scholarship  
Susan S. Spencer Clinical Research Training Scholarship in Epilepsy

### **Selection Procedures**

Each award type has a set of guidelines outlining their selection procedures. These procedures are described below.

### **Premier Lectures**

The Science Committee shall nominate the individuals to deliver the Premier Lectures (other than the Presidential Lecture), subject to the approval of the President.

### **Category 1 Recognition, Category 2 Recognition, and Permanent Awards**

Each Category 1 Recognition, Category 2 Recognition, and Permanent Award shall be administered by a dedicated workgroup of the AAN which functions independently from whatever body provided the funds for the award. This dedicated subspecialty award workgroup will include a chairperson and at least four other AAN members selected by the Science Committee.

Workgroup members will rate candidates on a 1 (best) to 5 (worst) scale. The average score of each candidate will be calculated and provided to workgroup members prior to a conference call to identify the winner. Recipients are subject to the approval of the chairperson of the Science Committee and the President.

### **Research Program**

The American Academy of Neurology Research Program is managed by the Research Program Subcommittee. Applications are evaluated by members of the Research Program Subcommittee, and various ad-hoc reviewers. Partner scholarship applications are reviewed by both AAN reviewers and reviewers chosen by the partner.

- a) Each application is reviewed by three reviewers.
- b) The recipient is selected via conference call.
- c) AANI staff manage oversight of the recipient in consultation with the Research Program Subcommittee.

The Research Program Subcommittee oversees each recipient's performance for the duration of the grant period. The first opportunity to assess performance takes place with the first annual report due in the spring and funding for the second year is contingent upon the approval of this report. The decision regarding the funding of the second year of

the grant is made by the Research Program Subcommittee. Similarly, the final report of the recipient undergoes the same review process.

Each fall, available training awards will be announced to the Academy membership. Applications will be solicited using a common form and deadline (October 1), so that the selection of awardees can be made by the beginning of each calendar year. Usually, scholarships will commence the following July 1.

### **Eligibility**

The Science Committee will create a base set of standards that applicants or nominees will have to meet in order to be eligible. Awards that target young investigators should specify a timeframe of completion from the applicant or nominee's most recent training program as well as the nature of this training program, i.e., medical school, graduate school, residency, or post-doctoral fellowship. They can also specify the research field in which their work has been carried out although it is not a requirement. Awards that target middle-to-senior level investigators must indicate the research field in which the applicant or nominee is actively involved. Exceptions will be made for awards that do not conform to the regular guidelines. These awards include the Neuroscience Research Prize, Medical Student Essay Awards, Alliance Awards, Potamkin Prize, Bruce S. Schoenberg International Award in Neuroepidemiology, and the Lawrence C. McHenry Award.

Science Committee members and the President shall be ineligible to be selected to deliver Premier Lectures (besides the Presidential Lecture).

Members of the subspecialty award workgroups are ineligible to apply for or be nominated for an award during the duration of their workgroup term.

Members of the Science Committee may not nominate individuals from his/her own institution. Should there be a nominee from an institution of any Science Committee member, that member should recuse him/herself from discussion and/or vote.

Pharmaceutical or other industry employees are ineligible except under extraordinary circumstances defined by the Science Committee on a case by case basis.

Individuals may not apply for more than one Category 1, Category 2, or permanent award within the same year's award cycle.

For all but the AAN non-scientific awards, changes to eligibility requirements are subject to the approval of the Science Committee. Changes to the AAN Research Program guidelines require additional approvals from the Research Program Workgroup.

### **Selection criteria**

Each dedicated subspecialty award subcommittee will identify recipients using the following methods: 1) third-party nominations, 2) self-referral, or 3) nomination by the Award Workgroup. All awards will require a current curriculum vitae. If the award

targets young-to-middle level investigators, the application must include a letter summarizing the applicant's research program and contributions to the field. If the award targets senior-level investigators, the application must include a letter from a colleague summarizing the applicant's body of work. Optional criteria can include an appendix of publications, reprints, additional letters of recommendation, or an abstract. These selection criteria shall be approved by the Science Committee prior to implementation. The subspecialty award workgroup shall select award recipients, in time so that the nomination can be approved at the Science Committee meeting followed by the President.

### **Disclosure and abstention**

All AAN Committee and Subcommittee members are required to fill out forms indicating financial disclosure information. This information will be provided to chairs of award workgroups, who will read this information to the workgroup prior to the start of the selection conference call. If it is determined that an individual's financial disclosure creates an actual or perceived conflict of interest, that individual should recuse him-or-herself from the proceedings.

There are times when award reviewers may need to abstain from the reviewing or discussing of a particular candidate. The Science Committee policy for this is as follows:

A reviewer should abstain if:

- The candidate in question is from the reviewer's institution.
- The reviewer is a contributor to the research submitted as part of the application
- The reviewer is a relative of the candidate

A reviewer is not required to abstain, but may wish to consider abstaining if:

- The candidate and reviewer previously worked at the same institution
- The candidate trained under the reviewer, or the reviewer trained under the candidate
- The reviewer and candidate are frequent research collaborators

If an additional situation arises where a reviewer feels there may be an actual or perceived conflict of interest, the reviewer should abstain from reviewing the submission.

When abstaining for a particular candidate, the reviewer should mark their score for that particular candidate as "abstain", rather than with a numerical score. In addition, the reviewer should recuse him-or-herself from the conference call during the portion when the candidate in question is being discussed.

### **Industry Employee Eligibility**

Industry employees cannot be AAN award recipients. Industry employees cannot serve as plenary session speakers.

### **Creating new awards**

The Academy may sponsor additional awards to recognize accomplishments or support training in subspecialties areas of neurology. New Academy-sponsored awards may be

proposed by individuals, sections of the Academy, or other appropriate organizations.  
Key criteria for Academy sponsorship of a subspecialty award shall be:

If the award is named after an individual, the person for whom the award is named shall be an acknowledged major contributor to the subspecialty field. Awards should not be named after living individuals.

- The award should have the approval of relevant subspecialty societies, and any relevant subspecialty sections of the Academy.
- In the case of recognition awards, the target audience should be specified. Criteria for each target audience will be dictated by the Science Committee. Typically, these awards recognize lifetime career accomplishment, a specific recent accomplishment, or a rising younger investigator exhibiting outstanding promise. The award proposer should specifically explain what the current size of the target audience is to ensure there is a large enough pool to warrant creating an award.

A recommendation for a new Academy-sponsored award will initially be reviewed by the Science Committee. The Science Committee can either approve the proposal as is, return the proposal with recommended changes, or reject it. If approved, the award proposer is free to seek funding for the award. Once funding has been obtained, the Science Committee must review the proposal again. The AAN Board of Directors must provide final approval of the creation of the award. If accepted, it will be deemed an official AAN award and placed in one of the previously mentioned categories. Some common reasons for rejecting a new award recommendation include: an incomplete application, the proposed award already having existing award(s) in its subspecialty topic, and a general oversaturation of awards.

Endowed awards are preferred. The AAN will be responsible for raising and retaining the funds used to endow recognition or training awards.

### **Other Awards**

The AAN supports several awards that do not fall under the auspices of the Science Committee, but may receive recognition in materials distributed to attendees of the AAN Annual Meeting.

Current AAN non-scientific awards include:

A.B. Baker Award for Lifetime Achievement in Neurologic Education

A. B. Baker Teacher Recognition Award

AAN Award for Creative Expression of Human Values in Neurology

American Brain Foundation Chair's Award

AAN Diversity Leadership Program

AAN International Scholarship Award

AAN Leadership for Women Program

Advanced Leadership for Women

AAN President's Award

Association of Indian Neurologists in America (AINA) Lifetime Achievement Award

Career Development Award  
Clerkship Coordinator Recognition Award  
Clerkship Director Innovation Award  
Clerkship Director Teaching Award  
Clerkship Director/Program Director Leadership Course  
Education Research Grant  
Enhanced Adult Resident Leadership Program  
Enhanced Child Resident Leadership Program  
Fellow Scholarship to the Annual Meeting  
Future Clinical Researchers in Neurology and Neuroscience Scholarship  
H. Richard Tyler Award  
Kenneth M. Viste, Jr., MD, Patient Advocate of the Year Award  
Medical Student Diversity Program  
Medical Student Prize for Excellence  
Medical Student Scholarship to the Annual Meeting  
Medical Student Summer Research Scholarship  
Minority Scholars Program  
Neurology Research Training Scholarship  
Program Coordinator Recognition Award  
Program Director Recognition Award  
Resident Scholarship to the Annual Meeting  
Safety and Quality Awards

The selection procedures for these awards are determined by the parent committees responsible for the award.

The Board of Directors, upon the recommendation of the appropriate committee, may establish a new Academy-sponsored award

Policy history:

This policy was initially approved by the Science Committee on April 14, 2005, and the AAN Board of Directors on June, 25, 2005 (AAN Policy 2005-25). On February 11, 2006, the Board of Directors voted to disband the Carter Award Subcommittee; nominations for the Carter Award shall be evaluated by the Lecture Awards Subcommittee of the Science Committee (Policy 2006-9). The Harold Wolff-John Graham Award for Headache/Facial Pain Research was elevated from a Category 2 award to a Category 1 award by the Board of Directors on October 14, 2006 (Policy 2006-70) (the paragraphs on Category 1 and Category 2 awards was edited by the General Counsel to reflect this change). The Jon Stolk Award in Movement Disorders for Young Investigators was approved by the AAN Executive Committee on July 19, 2007 and ratified by the Board of Directors by email vote on August 2, 2007 (AAN Policy 2007-36) (The paragraph concerning Category 1 awards was edited by the General Counsel to reflect this change). The Science Committee recommended the Mitchell B. Max Neuropathic Pain Award award in July 2009 and Dr. Robert Griggs, AAN President, approved the award on May 6, 2010. The Wayne A. Hening Sleep Medicine Investigator Award and the Neuroendocrine Research Award were approved by the Science

Committee in 2010, and Dr. Robert Griggs, AAN President, approved the awards on August 3, 2010. This document has been edited by the General Counsel to reflect the approvals by the Academy president.

**Prior awards**

AAN Journalism Fellowship Award. The AAN Board of Directors terminated this award on September 26, 2009 (AAN Policy 2009-35)

H. Richard Tyler Award. The AAN Board of Directors terminated this award on September 26, 2009 (AAN Policy 2009-34).

# Memorandum

**To:** Members of the Science Committee  
**From:** Christine Phelps, AANI Deputy Executive Director  
**Date:** January, 2020  
**Subject:** Alliance Awards Discussion

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The Alliance Awards, S. Weir Mitchell and Founders, are two of the AAN's longest lasting awards and have a history of outstanding recipients. The awards were originally funded by the AAN Auxiliary. Both awards have a long and impressive history. The Founders award is in its 26<sup>th</sup> year. The S. Weir Mitchell award originated in 1955 and is one of the first AAN awards. The award recipients include leaders in the AAN and the field of neurology. (See attachment A for comprehensive list of S. Weir Mitchell and Founders awards recipients.) However, in recent years the endowment that funds these awards has not had sufficient financial return to cover the full cost of the awards.

The S. Weir Mitchell award is intended to support basic research in neuroscience by physicians less than 18 months out of residency in clinical neurology training programs. Recipients receive: a medallion and \$1,000 prize, complimentary registration for AAN Annual Meeting, reimbursement for AAN Annual Meeting travel and housing, and \$100 per diem per day for expenses (up to two days). The Founders award is designed to encourage clinical and translational research in neuroscience by physicians less than 18 months out of residency in clinical neurology training programs. Recipients receive: a certificate of recognition and \$1,000 prize, complimentary registration for AAN Annual Meeting, reimbursement for AAN Annual Meeting travel and housing, and \$100 per diem per day for expenses (up to two days).

The Founders award and S. Weir Mitchell award are funded by the Alliance Endowment. The permanent balance of the Alliance Endowment is currently \$26,021, reflecting the original balance of the gift agreement as no additional gifts have been made to the fund. The concern is that the fund won't continue to support the award. In 2018 the Alliance Endowment deficit was (\$581) and in 2019 the deficit was (\$589). (See Attachment B for original Endowment Fund Agreement.)

Solutions to this deficit are varied. One option is to move the Alliance Endowment into another endowment fund, eliminating the awards. Another option is to gift the awards every other year however this is not a long-term solution. A third option would be to embark on a joint fundraising campaign with the American Brain Foundation (ABF) in order build the endowment to a sustainable level. Fundraising efforts could include petitioning past award recipients.

**ACTION: That the Science Committee DISCUSS these awards and DETERMINE next steps.**

## ATTACHMENT A

### AAN Alliance Award: Founders Award

*Sponsored by the American Academy of Neurology and endowed by the former American Academy of Neurology Alliance.*

### Past Recipients Founders

- 2019 Lily Zhou, BHSc, MD
- 2018 Ezequiel Gleichgerrcht, MD
- 2017 Emer McGrath, MBChB
- 2016 Michelle P. Lin, MD, MPH
- 2015 Aasef Shaikh, MD, PhD
- 2014 Shennan Weiss, MD, PhD
- 2013 Korak Sarkar, MD
- 2012 Amer Ghavanini, MD, PhD
- 2011 Peter Turkeltaub, MD, PhD
- 2010 Farrah Mateen, MD
- 2009 Kazuma Nakagawa, MD
- 2008 Richard Swartz, MD, PhD
- 2007 Jan Claassen, MD, PhD
- 2006 Michael Waters, MD
- 2005 Orhun Kantarci, MD
- 2004 David Williams, MBBS
- 2003 Santosh Kesari, MD, PhD
- 2002 Monique M. Ryan, MD, MB, BS
- 2001 Osama Zaidat, MD
- 2000 Jonathan Rosand, MD
- 1999 Peter Hedera, MD
- 1998 Steven A. Vernino, MD, PhD
- 1997 Joon H. Uhm, MD
- 1996 Wim Van Paesschen, MD
- 1995 Peter R. Bergethon, MD
- 1994 Kathy Gardner, MD

### AAN Alliance: S. Weir Mitchell Award

*Sponsored by the American Academy of Neurology and endowed by the former American Academy of Neurology Alliance.*

### Past Recipients

- 2019 Andrew Findlay, MD
- 2018 Eric C. Landsness, MD, PhD
- 2017 Richard Ryan Darby, MD
- 2016 Aaron D. Boes, MD
- 2015 Isaac Marin-Valencia, MD
- 2014 Michael Fox, MD, PhD
- 2013 Christopher Janson, MD, PhD
- 2012 Nandakumar Narayanan, MD, PhD
- 2011 Dong Wang, MD

## ATTACHMENT A

- 2010 Peter Todd, MD, PhD
- 2009 Sashank Prasad, MD
- 2008 Thomas Lloyd, MD, PhD
- 2007 Robert H. Baloh, MD, PhD
- 2006 Shyamal Mehta, MD, PhD
- 2005 Jeffrey Rumbaugh, MD, PhD
- 2004 Yaping Liao, MD
- 2003 Pedro Gonzalez-Alegre, MD
- 2002 David F. Moore, MD, PhD, DIC
- 2001 Aneesh Singhal, MD
- 2001 Chulhee Choi, MD
- 2000 Alexandre Prat, MD
- 1999 Joon H. Uhm, FRCP(C)
- 1998 Gabriel A. Erasquin, MD, PhD
- 1997 Russell H. Swerdlow, MD
- 1996 John McDonald, MD
- 1995 Lawrence J. Hayward, MD
- 1994 Jeff Bronstein, MD
- 1993 Roger P. Woods, MD
- 1992 David M. Holtzman, MD
- 1991 Donald Weaver, MD, PhD, FRCP
- 1990 Michael M. Segal, MD, PhD
- 1989 Bradley T. Hyman, MD
- 1988 Mark Goldberg, MD
- 1987 Robert A. Gross, MD, PhD
- 1986 Joseph Herbert, MD
- 1985 Edward J. Novotny, Jr., MD
- 1985 Arthur P. K. Dick, MD
- 1984 Not given
- 1983 Kenneth L. Tyler, MD
- 1982 Dana Giulian, MD
- 1981 John C. Mazziotta, MD
- 1980 Gavril W. Pasternak, MD
- 1979 Lawrence Steinman, MD
- 1978 Robert L. Macdonald, MD, PhD
- 1977 Robert W. Clark, MD
- 1976 Steven Novom, MD
- 1975 Howard Feit, MD, PhD
- 1974 Ronald M. Kobayashi, MD
- 1973 David Holzman, MD
- 1972 Michael E. Goldberg, MD
- 1971 Lorenz K. Y. Ng, MD
- 1970 Edwin H. Kolodny, MD
- 1969 Margaret M. Waddington, MD
- 1968 Peter C. Dowling, MD
- 1968 Stuart D. Cook, MD
- 1967 Norman H. Bass, MD
- 1966 John H. Seipel, MD, PhD
- 1965 Wigbert C. Weiderholt, MD
- 1964 Irwin A. Brody, MD
- 1963 Ture O. Tuncbay, MD
- 1962 W. King Engel, MD
- 1961 Joel Brumlik, MD
- 1960 Robert Katzman, MD

## ATTACHMENT A

- 1959 Wallace Tourtellotte, MD, PhD
- 1958 D. Frank Benson, MD
- 1957 Ernst A. Rodin, MD
- 1956 Not given
- 1955 John Logothetis, MD

***American academy of neurology foundation***  
**The Alliance Founders and S. Weir Mitchell Awards**  
**ENDOWMENT FUND AGREEMENT**

The American Academy of Neurology Alliance ("Donor") and the American Academy of Neurology Foundation ("Foundation") agree to formally define the name, purpose, and management of the Alliance Founders and S. Weir Mitchell Awards Permanent Endowment Fund ("Fund").

<b>NAME:</b>	The Alliance Founders and S. Weir Mitchell Awards Permanent Endowment Fund.
<b>PURPOSE:</b>	The purpose of the Fund is to provide annual support for the Founders and S. Weir Mitchell Awards, in the amount of \$1,000 for each award. Both awards are treated as Category 1 awards, but are not required to conform to the monetary guidelines of Category 1 awards pursuant to the Operational Policies Concerning the Awards of the American Academy of Neurology ("AAN"), attached as Appendix A.
<b>RECOGNITION:</b>	The mission of the American Academy of Neurology Alliance (a non-profit incorporated organization from 1978 to 2012) is to educate its members (spouses of AAN members, widows/widowers of deceased AAN members, and honorary members) in recent advances in neurology and medical legislation and to encourage neurological research and education by contribution of funds to two awards. The Founders Award was established in honor of the founders of the AAN and the American Academy of Neurology Alliance and recognizes a junior member of the AAN for research in the field of clinical neurology. The S. Weir Mitchell Award recognizes a junior member of the AAN for research in basic neuro-science.
<b>SOURCE OF FUNDS:</b>	At the time of signing this Agreement, the parties acknowledge a gift of \$26,021.25 has been made to the Foundation for the Fund. Additional contributions may be made by other persons or sources such as Alliance members. Gifts may be given at any time, and include lifetime as well as gifts from an estate through a planned gift.
<b>AVAILABILITY OF DISTRIBUTIONS:</b>	Distributions will be made at such times and in such amounts as the earnings permit.
<b>REPORTING:</b>	The Foundation will prepare an accounting of the use of the Fund and a brief financial report annually to the Donor or the Donor's representative(s), as requested.
<b>SELECTION OF FELLOWS:</b>	The awardees selected to receive the Founders and S. Weir Mitchell Awards supported by the Fund shall be approved by the AAN.



**To:** Members of the Science Committee  
**From:** Erin Jackson, Associate Director, Annual Meeting and Conferences  
**Date:** December 20, 2019  
**Subject:** Award Panels/Research ELA Presentations

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At the 2019 Annual Meeting, award panel presentations were debuted as part of the Grand Experience. Three high-profile scientific awards, the John Dystel Prize for Multiple Sclerosis Research, the Sheila Essey Award: An Award for ALS Research, and the Potamkin Prize for Research in Pick's, Alzheimer's, and Related Diseases, were given on a presentation stage instead of a course room. In addition to the traditional formal award presentation by the recipient, past award recipients were invited to give a brief presentation on their research path since winning the award and then participated in an award panel discussion with the current award recipient (Attachment A).

Each session saw an increase in attendance as compared to past years, but the open concept made it difficult to hear given the proximity of other sessions and lectures. Despite this challenge, the sessions were well received and will once again be offered at the 2020 Annual Meeting. Sessions will take place in a course room to help mitigate the issues that were previously encountered.

At this time, staff is asking for input from the Science Committee to determine which awards should be given in this format. The awardees as well as the major donors were pleased with the format of the session. In 2020, we can look to repeat any or all of the three awards or we can opt for new awards in their place.

**ACTION: That the Science Committee REVIEW and IDENTIFY three awards to be given in the award panel format.**

On the Potamkin Prize selection call, Bradley Hyman, MD, FAAN, Chair of the Potamkin Prize Award Workgroup, discussed the award panels. If the Potamkin prize is selected for another award panel, they would like to alter slightly the current format. In addition to inviting past recipients, Dr. Hyman is recommending that J. Paul Taylor, MD, PhD, the 2020 selected recipient, identify one of his current residents or fellows to attend the session and discuss where they plan to take the research they're doing under his tutelage. By doing so, this would encourage an "up and comer" to experience the Annual Meeting and be exposed to research and networking opportunities they may not get otherwise.

**ACTION: That the Science Committee DISCUSS the recommendation for the Potamkin Prize presentation.**

And finally, smaller scientific platform sessions will once again be scheduled within the Research Experiential Learning Area. Traditional award presentations will still occur as part of these scientific platform sessions similar to how they have occurred in the past. Current awards slated for the Research ELA include the Irwin Schatz Award for Autonomic Disorders, the Lawrence C. McHenry Award: An Award for the History of Neurology, and the Mitchell B. Max Award for Neuropathic Pain.

**Presentation of the Potamkin Prize for Research in Pick's, Alzheimer's, and Related Diseases  
Monday, May 6, 2019  
3:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.**

- 3:30 p.m. – 3:40 p.m. Welcome and Introduction  
*Bradley Hyman, MD, PhD*
- 3:40 p.m. – 4:10 p.m. Presentation of the Potamkin Prize  
*Recipient: Randall Bateman, MD*
- 4:10 p.m. – 5:10 p.m. Panel Member Presentations  
*Reisa Sperling, MD*  
*David Holtzman, MD, FAAN*  
*Virginia Lee, PhD*
- 5:10 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. Panel Discussion

**Presentation of the Sheila Essey Award: An Award for ALS Research  
Tuesday, May 7, 2019  
3:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.**

- 3:30 p.m. – 3:40 p.m. Welcome and Introduction  
*Orla Hardiman, MD, FRCP, FAAN*
- 3:40 p.m. – 4:10 p.m. Presentation of the Potamkin Prize  
*Recipient: Aaron Gitler, PhD*
- 4:10 p.m. – 5:10 p.m. Panel Member Presentations  
*Jeremy Shefner, MD, PhD, FAAN*  
*Merit Cudkowicz, MD, MSc*  
*Serge Przedborski, MD, PhD*
- 5:10 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. Panel Discussion

**Presentation of the John Dystel Prize for Multiple Sclerosis Research  
Wednesday, May 8, 2019  
3:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.**

- 3:30 p.m. – 3:40 p.m. Welcome and Introduction  
*Nancy Sicotte, MD, FAAN*
- 3:40 p.m. – 4:10 p.m. Presentation of the Potamkin Prize  
*Recipient: Anne Cross, MD, FAAN*
- 4:10 p.m. – 5:10 p.m. Panel Member Presentations  
*Jack Antel, MD, FAAN*  
*Howard Weiner, MD*  
*Lawrence Steinman, MD, FAAN*  
*Cedric Raines, PhD, DSc*
- 5:10 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. Panel Discussion

# Memorandum

**To:** Members of the Science Committee

**From:** Erin Jackson, Associate Director, Annual Meeting and Conferences, and Laura Southwick, Senior Administrator, Annual Meeting and Science Activities

**Date:** January, 2020

**Subject:** Scientific Award Breakout Session Outcomes

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During the June 2019 meeting of the Science Committee, the chair, Natalia Rost, MD, MPH, FAAN, FAHA, asked committee members to look strategically at facets of the scientific award program. Breakout groups were organized to focus on award review work groups, the quantity and quality of awards, and the onsite recognition during the Annual Meeting. Following that meeting, AAN staff have been working toward enacting several recommendations that came from these breakout groups.

For the 2020 award program process, AAN staff made changes to the award review work groups. Work group members that had reached the six-year term limit were rotated off and an effort was made to ensure that equity and diversity were represented within each workgroup. The updated award work groups were reviewed and approved in late October by Dr. Rost and Randolph Marshall, MD, FAAN. When work groups were contacted regarding applications and grading, each applicant was assigned a primary reviewer. Work group members still graded and rated every application. The primary reviewers were assigned randomly and acted as the application expert during the conference call. If an assigned primary reviewer had a conflict of interest, they were reassigned. The addition of primary reviewers went well and will continue to be a part of the award review work group process.

Additional recommendations from the June breakout groups concerned the quantity and quality of awards. Suggestions included critical evaluation when approving new awards and reviewing the award application process. AAN staff has begun reviewing the overall award process, but still needs to identify recommendations in some areas. Staff will continue to look at the following items:

- Award monetary amounts
- Award marketing opportunities
- Award application simplification
- Reviewing gaps in award offerings; are some subspecialties over or underrepresented?
- Opening submissions earlier to allow more lead time

Award recognition occurs onsite at the Annual Meeting and is done through several mechanisms such as recognition in publications, onsite signage, and floor clings (Attachment A). Staff will continue to examine the ideas brought forth by one of the breakout groups as we move closer to the Annual Meeting. Some of these ideas include star-shaped floor clings instead of circular, app push notifications prior to award presentations, award winner pins, and alternative award presentation locations.

And finally, in an effort to ensure that applicants and reviewers have an optimal experience, we have purchased new software, OpenWater, to house the awards module. The transition process from our current, outdated software to OpenWater has begun and will continue over the next few months, with the goal of having all awards transitioned over by April 2020. One new aspect of the new software is the requirement for judging criteria for each award. At this time, staff are requesting that a workgroup of the Science Committee be formed to review each award and determine the necessary criteria needed to implement this step.

**ACTION:** That the Science Committee creates a work group to establish judging criteria for scientific awards.

2021 Confirmed Awards		
Award	Partner	Notes
Lawrence Brass Stroke Award	American Heart Association	
McKnight CRTS (2)	McKnight	
CSDA in MS	National MS Society	Looking at 2-year contract, waiting to hear back from Doug
CRTS in Parkinson's	Parkinson's Foundation	
Richard Olney CSDA in ALS	ALS Association	
CRTS in ALS	ALS Association	
Susan Spencer CRTS in Epilepsy	American Epilepsy Society / Epilepsy Foundation	
Outstanding 2021 Awards (not confirmed)		
Award	Partner	Notes
Robert Katzman CRTS in Alz	Alzheimer's Association	Pending proposed changes.
CRTS in Neuromuscular Disease	Muscle Study Group	Pending agreement re: timing of funding
CRTS in Tourette Syndrome	Tourette Association	Likely not renewing.

2022 Confirmed Awards		
Award	Partner	Notes
CRTS in Lewy Body Disease	Alzheimer's Association / Mary Groff	
McKnight CRTS (2)	McKnight	
CRTS in Parkinson's	Parkinson's Foundation	
CSDA in MS	National MS Society	Looking at 2-year contract, waiting to hear back from Doug
Richard Olney CSDA in ALS	ALS Association	
CRTS in ALS	ALS Association	

**2020 ABF Research Advisory Committee Meeting Schedule**

**\*Meets every two months on the 4<sup>th</sup> Friday of those months**

**3:00 p.m. ET / 2:00 p.m. CT / 1:00 p.m. MT / 12:00 p.m. PT**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Place</b>	<b>Begin</b>	<b>Ends</b>
Jan. 24	Conference Call	3:00 p.m. ET 2:00 p.m. CT 1:00 p.m. MT 12:00 p.m. PT	4:00 p.m. ET 3:00 p.m. CT 2:00 p.m. MT 1:00 p.m. PT
Mar. 27	Conference Call	3:00 p.m. ET 2:00 p.m. CT 1:00 p.m. MT 12:00 p.m. PT	4:00 p.m. ET 3:00 p.m. CT 2:00 p.m. MT 1:00 p.m. PT
May 15	Conference Call	3:00 p.m. ET 2:00 p.m. CT 1:00 p.m. MT 12:00 p.m. PT	4:00 p.m. ET 3:00 p.m. CT 2:00 p.m. MT 1:00 p.m. PT
July 24	Conference Call	3:00 p.m. ET 2:00 p.m. CT 1:00 p.m. MT 12:00 p.m. PT	4:00 p.m. ET 3:00 p.m. CT 2:00 p.m. MT 1:00 p.m. PT
Sept. 25	Conference Call	3:00 p.m. ET 2:00 p.m. CT 1:00 p.m. MT 12:00 p.m. PT	4:00 p.m. ET 3:00 p.m. CT 2:00 p.m. MT 1:00 p.m. PT
Nov. 20	Conference Call	3:00 p.m. ET 2:00 p.m. CT 1:00 p.m. MT 12:00 p.m. PT	4:00 p.m. ET 3:00 p.m. CT 2:00 p.m. MT 1:00 p.m. PT