A Message from the President

It is truly an honor to serve as your president this year. I appreciate the hard work and guidance from all of our council members, especially Drs. Gady Har-EI, Lucian Sulica, Dinesh Chhetri, and Clark Rosen, not to mention our tireless administrator, Maxine Cunningham. They have made my job much easier, and I am grateful for their help.

I am looking forward to seeing you at our 140th Annual ALA meeting in Austin, Texas. It's a happy coincidence that the conference is taking place in my home state, right up the road from San Antonio. Our program committee, chaired by Julina Ongkasuwan, MD and with committee members Drs. Mona Abaza, Norm Hogikyan, Joel Blumin, Lucian Sulica, and Lee Akst, have prepared an outstanding program. The emphasis this year is on clinically relevant papers and translational research. We are excited to have an additional half-day session at this year's meeting. This expansion of our footprint is long overdue, and reflects our growing specialty and the ALA as a whole. One of my primary goals as president has been to increase the number of podium presentations, so that more of our rising stars have the opportunity for an oral presentation at the meeting; this is a crucial part of developing an academic career. Because of the additional session, we will have a record 45 podium presentations on this year's program, as well as 56 posters.

The additional session also allowed us to add a third panel to the program. With this year's panels, we emphasized collaboration with other specialties and even other fields in medicine. The panel titles are "The Geriatric Laryngology Patient" in collaboration with the American Society of Geriatric Otolaryngology. This panel will include a Speech Language Pathologist to provide additional perspectives on treatment and decision making. The second panel is "Laryngeal Dysplasia", in conjunction with the European Laryngological Society and include two members of the ELS and a pathologist. The final panel is "Laryngology Training: Past, Present and Future” and will feature a variety of panelists to include ACGME representatives, Department Chairman, and Fellowship Directors. It will be moderated by Dr. Albert Merati, President of the AAO-HNS.

The State of the Art lecturer will be Dr. Peter Belafsky, a top notch clinician-scientist and one of the world experts on dysphagia, a topic which continues to gain prominence in our society. His lecture is entitled "The Laryngologist as Deglutologist". The Baker Lecturer this year is Dr. Greg Postma and his address is entitled "Mentoring in a Changing World". This topic is timely, as we all need to adapt to evolving mentorship models.

My Guest of Honor will be Dr. Robert Ossoff, who was my fellowship director almost 25 years ago. I am honored to have him as a teacher, advisor, confidant and friend. The Presidential Citations will go to my heroes and those who have inspired me over the years: Drs. Jamie Koufman, Robert Sataloff, Robert Bastian, James Netterville and Clark Rosen. Finally, my presidential address entitled "Rock Stars of the ALA: Past, Present and Future" will honor these individuals and many others who have contributed to our field.

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Each year, a Council member’s term expires after many years of service. To replace that Councilor, an individual elected by the voting membership is installed at the Annual Meeting. This page is dedicated to this year’s outgoing Council Member who are will be concluding his term on the Council.

First Councilor - Peak Woo, MD

Inducted into the ALA Active Fellowship in 1996, Dr. Woo elected to the Council in 2012 as a Councilor-at-Large that was designated as a “Fast-track” position to help maintain the flow for officers. Dr. Woo has continuously served the Association as a staunch supporter of the Sustainers’ Fund and an advisor to the Post-Graduate Member category. He was elected President in 2012.

Dr. Woo graduated from Boston University School of Medicine Six year BA-MD Honors Program in 1978. He then went on to general surgery internship at the University of Pennsylvania Hospitals and returned to Boston University and Tufts University for otolaryngology specialty training.

Since graduating from otolaryngology residency in 1983, Dr. Woo has practiced and taught at SUNY Upstate Medical Center in Syracuse, NY, Tufts University Hospital in Boston, MA, and Mount Sinai Medical Center in New York City. At Mt. Sinai, he was director of the Grabscheid Voice Center from 1996 to 2008. In 2008, he opened his private practice with a focus on laryngology and voice disorders. Dr. Woo continues to be active in training residents and fellows in laryngology as Clinical Professor of Otolaryngology at the Department of Otolaryngology at the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai.

During his 25 years in academic medicine, he spearheaded the development of the computerized videostroboscope and the high-speed video imaging system, now standard for imaging of vocal fold vibration. He also developed some novel applications of office lasers for treatment of disease of the throat. As a leader in his field, Dr. Woo is frequently asked to give courses and talks nationally and internationally on topics of phono-surgery, laser surgery, voice.

Dr. Woo was recognized as the Guest of Honor by Dr. Gady Har-EI and was selected to receive the James Newcomb Award at the The American Laryngological Association, April 2018.

In recognition of Dr. Woo’s numerous contributions to the field of Laryngology, his tireless devotion to the ALA, we extend our deepest appreciation for his dedication and service.
IN MEMORY OF

Paul L. Chodosh, MD
May 17, 1924—September 5, 2008

Paul L. Chodosh, M.D., an Emeritus Fellow of the American Laryngological Association, age 84 years old, died peacefully at his home in Oquossoc, Maine on Friday, Sept. 5, 2008 surrounded by his wife of 61 years, Melba, at his side. Unfortunately, the Association only learned of his passing in August, 2018. Dr. Chodosh was inducted as an Active Fellow in 1985 and elevated to emeritus status in 1995. During his 55 years as a physician, Dr. Chodosh served as an officer of several medical organizations and became a fellow of every major otolaryngology society, including the American Laryngological Association and the American Triological Society.

A graduate of the University of Virginia Medical School in 1948 and after completing a residency in otolaryngology in 1956 at the New York Eye and Ear Infirmary, Dr. Chodosh began his distinguished career. He became a vital member of the Infirmary’s teaching faculty, a surgeon director, and a renowned practitioner in head and neck cancer surgery. During his busy practice years in Elizabeth and Hillside, N.J., he was also on the staff of what was then called the Elizabeth General, St. Elizabeth and Alexian Brothers hospitals.

Dr. Chodosh also published in a multitude of major medical journals. Though Dr. Chodosh retired from his private practice in 1988, he continued teaching residents and medical students in all aspects of otolaryngology at the Eye and Ear Infirmary until just 2005. He was one of three doctors to receive the 2003 Physician of the Year Award for excellence in medicine from the New York Eye and Ear Infirmary’s Department of Otolaryngology in Head and Neck Surgery. The Paul L. Chodosh Professorship, an endowed chair established in 2001 in head and neck surgery, honors his service to the Infirmary. When not attending to patients, Dr. Chodosh was an avid golfer, fisherman and violinist.

Anthony J. Maniglia, MD
June 14, 1937 – July 17, 2017

A long-time Fellow of the American Laryngological Association, Dr. Anthony Maniglia passed away on July 17, 2017 from injuries sustained in a fall at his Bay Point home in Miami, Florida. Inducted into the ALA in 1989, Dr. Maniglia was elevated to Emeritus status in 2002.

Dr. Maniglia, a graduate from Ribeirão Preto Medical School at the University of São Paulo, joined Dr. Ryan Chandler to become the second senior faculty member in the Department of Otolaryngology at the University of Miami in 1973. He taught and practiced in the areas of ear, nose, throat, head and neck at UM for 12 years until 1985. This was followed by his establishing similar department at Case Western Reserve University and University Hospitals of Cleveland until his retirement in 2008.

In 1985, serving as the Secretary General and President of the Pan-American Association of Otorhinolaryngology — Head and Neck Surgery, Dr. Maniglia organized the 12th World Congress of Otolaryngology in Miami Beach where the major focus was Electronic cochlear implants for the ear’s inner chamber to restore some hearing. He also is credited with developing numerous surgical innovations, including outpatient tonsillectomy techniques and patenting early versions of implantable hearing aids, including the cochlear implant.

According to numerous colleagues, such as Dr. Jarrard Goodwin, “Dr. Maniglia was a devoted teacher, mentor, and then friend. I was blessed to have him in my life.”
IN MEMORY OF

Nels R. Olson, MD
May 6, 1933 - September 17, 2012

Notification was received in late 2018 of the passing of Dr. Nels Robert Olson, who passed away on Monday, September 17, 2012 at his home after surviving many years with Alzheimer's disease. Dr. Olson was inducted as an Active Fellow in 1978 and elevated to emeritus status in 1990.

Born on May 6, 1933, in Detroit, Michigan, Dr. Olson was the younger of two children of Dorothy May Place and Olof Olson. After graduating from St. Olaf College in Minnesota, he attended the University of Michigan Medical School and specialized in ear, nose and throat surgery. He worked as a doctor primarily in private practice at St. Joseph's Hospital, where he was a pioneer in the study of acid reflux. Dr. Olson’s practice was characterized by compassion for his patients, a schedule that allowed him time to get to know them, and a preference for avoiding unnecessary intervention. He also worked at the Veteran's Administration Hospital and taught at the University of Minnesota.

While a student at St. Olaf College, Dr. Olson met another student, Mary Knutson who he married September 1, 1956, and raised their four children in Ann Arbor, Michigan. He was a devoted father and provided his family a quiet example of perseverance, faithfulness, and subtle wit. During his free time, he loved boating, dogs, golfing, and jogging. Most of all, he loved to be with his family at the lake in the summer.

Myron J. Shapiro, MD
C. 1921 – September 27, 2014

Late in 2018, the Association also confirmed the passing of our Emeritus Fellow, Dr. Myron J. Shapiro, who passed away died peacefully in Morristown, N.J., at the age of 93. Dr. Shapiro was inducted as an Active Fellow in 1979 and elevated to Emeritus status in 1990.

During a career of nearly six decades, Dr. Shapiro built an international reputation for both his clinical and academic work in the field of otolaryngology, with a particular focus on cancer surgery. Born in Toronto, Canada, in 1921, he was one of the first Jewish students admitted to the University of Toronto's medical school, where he studied under Sir Frederick Banting, who won the Nobel Prize in medicine for the first use of insulin in diabetes. He served as a captain in the Royal Canadian Army Medical Corps during World War II.

Following post-doctoral studies in Chicago, IL., and Philadelphia, PA., Dr. Shapiro settled in New Jersey in 1949, where he built a medical practice and was one of the founding faculty members of the New Jersey Medical School of the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey. He authored more than 100 studies on tumors of the head and neck and pioneered multiple surgical procedures which continue to be used today.

After his retirement in 1990, Dr. Shapiro volunteered for more than two decades assisting elderly residents of the Morristown area in woodworking and furniture restoration.
On May 1st, we are encouraging you to attend the Business Meeting at 7:00 AM. A few years ago, the ALA held two business meetings; however, with the additional of a third half-day session, the footprint sometimes schedules afternoon sessions that prevent us from having a business meeting prior to the beginning of the session. This year, we have a record number of Active and Corresponding Fellow candidates who will be introduced. The Post-Graduate Member category has grown tremendously since its inception in 2008 and this year, we will introduce 15 new members. Our Post-Graduate member category continues to provide opportunities for junior laryngologists to play an active role in the Association while satisfying requirements for the Triological Society and move toward our Active Fellow membership. Reports from the Secretary, Treasurer, Editor, and Historian will be presented to the Fellowship. Fellows (Active and Emeritus) will elect the 2019-2020 Council.

The ALA will observe its 140th Annual Meeting on May 1st at 8:00 AM in Austin, Texas with three half-day sessions (May 1-3). Attendees may register on-line by logging on to www.cosm.md. The program is available on the ALA website, www.alahns.org. Dr. Simpson provides detailed information on the program in his President’s Message.

President’s Reception—To culminate President Simpson’s term, join us in honoring him at the 2019 President’s Reception on Wednesday evening, May 1st. This year’s theme will be, “Rocking to the Great Classical Rock of the 70’s & 80’s”. Enjoy the evening by spending it with friends and colleagues while listening to a musical tribute by a group, The Willy Kickit Band, that Dr. Simpson was one of the original members (he may even play a few selections). To purchase tickets, please contact our Administrator, Maxine Cunningham, at Maxine.c@comcast.net or by calling her at 615-812-6170. Tickets purchased on or before April 15, 2019 will be available for $90 for ALA members and $120 beginning April 16th. Non-members may purchase tickets during the same time period for $100 and $125 beginning April 16th. You may remit payment via credit card (VISA, MasterCard or American Express). Checks are accepted as well but must be received prior to the aforementioned dates.

2019 Council
First Row (left to right): C. Blake Simpson, President; Paul Flint, Vice President/President-elect; Lucian Sulica, Secretary; Clark Rosen, Treasurer; Dinesh Chhetri, Editor; Michael Benninger, Historian; Second Row (left to right): Peak Woo, First Councilor; Kenneth Altman, Second Councilor; Gady Har-El, Third Councilor; Michael Johns III, Councilor-at-Large; Joel Blumin, Councilor-at-Large
The winter meeting of the ALA Council was held January 25, 2019 in Coronado, California during the Combined Section Meetings of the Triological Society.

A summary of this year’s program was presented by President Simpson to include additional podium presentations, lectures, and panels. It was reported that 104 abstracts were submitted to the Program Committee’s (Drs. Julina Ongkasuwan, Mona Abaza, Lee Akst, Joel Blumin, and Norman Hogikyan). Of this total, 45 were selected to present orally. Dr. Greg Postma will present the Daniel C. Baker Lecture and Dr. Peter Belafsky will be the State of the Art Lecturer. The Council encourages you to attend each of the three half day sessions as well as the business meeting of Wednesday, May 1st at 7:00 AM.

Dr. Sulica reported that the Membership Committee (Drs. Stacey Halum, Dana Thompson, and Adam Klein) reviewed a record number of applications for Active and Corresponding Fellowship and candidates for the Post-Graduate Member categories. On the recommendation of the Membership Committee, Council approved all candidates who will be introduced during the business meeting.

Dr. Rosen reported that the ALA continues to be financially healthy. Even with the downturn of the markets in 2018, we continue to receive positive returns with investments. In November 2018, several Fellows were suspended from the Association due to the delinquency of membership dues of three years or more.

Dr. Chhetri, as Editor, reported the website’s traffic continues to show a steady increase. Each Fellow/Member is encouraged to obtain his/her user name and a temporary password by contacting our Administrator, Maxine Cunningham, at maxine-alahns@comcast.net. Additional pages are being created to provide educational-related information.

As Historian, Dr. Benninger requested Council to observe a moment of silence in memory to Drs. Paul Chodosh, Anthony Maniglia, Nels Olson, and Myron Shapiro. He reported that a collaboration of the 2018 Sustainers Fund Campaign with Dr. Rosen resulted in several first-time donors. Donations are accepted throughout the year and each member is encouraged to make a contribution.

Research Grants - Nine applications were received for consideration of funding in 2019. Once the Research Committee, chaired by Dr. Ted Mau, completes its review and forward recommendations to the Council, an announcement will be made at the Annual Meeting in Austin, Texas.

Nominating Committee - The 2019 Committee, comprised of Drs. Gady Har-El (chair), Kenneth Altman, Robert Buckmire, Natasha Mirza, and Gayle Woodson provided an in-depth report of those who were nominated or nominated themselves for either the position of Councilor-at-Large or the nominating committee for 2020. A report will be presented at the Business Meeting on Wednesday, May 1st. As a reminder, Active Fellows of the Association may submit recommendations and suggestions for a new Councilor-at-Large and to fill two positions of non-Council members for the next nominating committee. Active Fellows may also submit self-nominations. Contact Dr. Lucian Sulica to submit nominees by September 1, 2019.

Ballot for 2019 Candidates - Enclosed with this newsletter is the ballot for Active and Corresponding candidates presented to the ALA Fellowship by the Membership Committee and the Council. Remember to vote, sign, and return your ballot no later than April 10, 2019. Ballots returned incomplete or after April 10, 2019 will be considered invalid. Please follow the instructions on the last page of the ballot book.
Once again, with tremendous support from the ALA and the ALA Council, the post-graduate members had an outstanding year of growth in 2018 with 11 new members inducted at the Spring Meeting. The total post-graduate membership is 92. We maintain the overall mission of supporting the post-graduate members in their pursuit of full membership.

2018 Accomplishments

2018 Mentorship Match
We continue to match new post-grad members to active members for mentorship. We had 5 new matches and 4 new mentor volunteers. There are now a total of 37 pairs and a generous pool of 41 total mentor volunteers. The match program graduated 4 mentees into full ALA membership last year.

2018 Peer-to-Peer Match
Interested members may be matched with post-grad members into a peer-to-peer group. The match is run every year in the summer and is set up to foster post-grad members in collaboration and peer-support in career development.

2018 Laryngology Curriculum Development
This year, in concerted effort with Dinesh Chhetri and Michael Johns, the post-graduate membership was fortunate to develop web content for the ALA. Two arms of the educational content include 1) the Comprehensive Laryngology Curriculum which is directed toward students, residents, physicians and voice practitioners and 2) the patient educational materials which will be made available publically online through the ALA for patient care. This was a large undertaking with contributions from most members of the post-graduate ALA membership and edited by the post-graduate ALA steering committee. We look forward to web publication in the spring 2019!

2019 Breakfast Symposium
This year’s annual breakfast symposium will be a panel on “How to be a good journal reviewer” and take place on Thursday, May 2nd at 6:30 am. Panelists include Drs. Seth Dailey, Mark Courey and Kenneth Altman who are all Laryngology section editors of our prominent journals. The panel will be moderated by Lee Akst. We anticipate an informative and educational session.
We look forward to an especially dynamic and engaging meeting in Austin in May. The program extends to three half-days for the ALA alone. Because the ABEA having been granted their own third session, time will no longer be split with our colleagues from that organization. Through the efforts of the President and the Program Committee, the program is replete with clinically-relevant papers, and a higher number of them appearing as podium presentations that has been possible in the past. Dr. Simpson’s message on the cover of this letter details the content further.

I do highlight one change to the evening program. The Former Fellows’ Reception will no longer occur. With time, fellowship-trained laryngologists have become a larger and larger proportion of the ALA, and the Former Fellows’ group increasingly looks like the ALA as a whole. Originally conceived to foster a sense of collegiality among a small group of young practitioners, the Reception invite list is now close to duplicating that of other ALA events (and some of those practitioners are no longer quite so young – seven of eleven Council Members are former fellows). As a result, this event has now been folded into the President’s Reception.

I encourage you former fellows – and everyone else - to attend the President’s Reception. This year’s President has considerable musical chops and has personally vouched for the quality of the entertainment, and we know the quality of the company is unsurpassable!

I look forward to seeing all of you in Austin.

Warm Regards,

Lucian Sulica, MD
Secretary