I hope this newsletter finds everyone enjoying a great start to the New Year. As you know, the 17th International Symposium on Inner Ear Medicine and Surgery is scheduled for March 12-19, 2016, at the Hotel Theresa in Zell im Zillertal, Austria. For those who have attended the meeting in the past, you probably know why we will return to the Hotel Theresa next year. The Theresa has been a great meeting venue for the past 11 years, and we look forward to having our meeting there again.

I am most pleased and excited to announce that the next Gold Medal Award Recipient will be Ian Curthoys PhD, of the University of Sydney. Professor Curthoys was nominated and chosen by the members of the Society and has graciously accepted this honor. He will join a long list of “GREATS” who have been awarded this honor, and we look forward to seeing a presentation of his work at the meeting.

The setting of the International Symposium is casual and allows time for free discussion and ad hoc involvement. I hope that you will plan to attend the conference and participate in the presentations. As you can see from the last meeting’s program, the content is excellent. The call for abstracts has been placed on the Prosper Meniere Society website at www.prospermieniere.com. Please visit the site and find the meeting details.

Sincerely,

John Dornhoffer, M.D.
Executive Director
Professor Ian Curthoys completed his BA at the University of Sydney in 1965. In 1968 he received his PhD from Monash University. He was a Fulbright Scholar at UCLA from 1968-1971 when he returned to the University of Sydney as a lecturer in Psychology. In 1997 he became the Professor of Vestibular Function at the University of Sydney. In 1999 he was given the position of Head of the School of Psychology at the University whilst maintaining his personal chair as Professor of Vestibular function. In 2006 he retired and was appointed as Emeritus Professor of Vestibular Function which he continues to hold today. He is a member of the Editorial Board of Experimental Brain Research, one of the highest impact journals in neuroscience. He has also been on the committee of the Ménière's Research Fund of New South Wales for about 3 years.

Professor Curthoys runs the School of Psychology's Vestibular Research Laboratory which has state-of-the-art equipment and software for vestibular research. He travels regularly to vestibular and neuroscience conferences in Australia and overseas, as well as making numerous and fruitful visits to overseas research laboratories and receiving visits to his own laboratory from both new and experienced researchers. As of 3 December 2014 he has published around 241 refereed papers, with a total of 7,188 citations at an average of 29.83 citations per paper. His H index is 49. He collaborates with many vestibular researchers around the world. For almost all his research career his work has been supported by the National Health and Medical Research Council of Australia and from 1992 by the Garnett Passe and Rodney Williams Memorial Foundation.

In 1996 the international professional society for vestibular research (the Bárány Society) awarded him the Hallpike-Nylén medal for “outstanding contributions to basic scientific knowledge of the vestibular system” and in 2012 that society awarded him the Robert Bárány Jubilee Gold Medal “In recognition of outstanding morphological and physiological studies on the vestibular organs and for innovative and crucial contributions to vestibular research in its widest sense”.

He has been involved in vestibular research in the laboratory and the clinic since 1969, initially with Charlie Markham at UCLA but then at Sydney, working with Michael Halmagyi since 1977. Since 2006 he has also been collaborating with Leonardo Manzari in Cassino, Italy.

The goal of his research has been to understand the vestibular system and he has studied many aspects of this system: anatomy, physiology, development, vestibulo-ocular response in health and disease, vestibular compensation, otolith function, vestibular perception and clinical testing and has made original research contributions in every one of these areas.

Some of these contributions are amongst the most cited papers in the vestibular literature.

The “head impulse test” of semicircular canal function he developed with Michael Halmagyi is used around the world and has been now realized by Hamish MacDougall as the video Head Impulse Test (vHIT). This is a very quick simple and effective indicator of the function of every semicircular canal. Complementing this has been his research on the mechanisms by which air-conducted sound and bone-conducted vibration activate otolithic neurons. The results of this neurophysiological work underpin the interpretation of the new clinical tests of otolith function – the vestibular evoked myogenic potential tests (oVEMPs and cVEMPs). He has shown how these new clinical tests, vHIT and VEMPs, allow the testing of all vestibular sense organs and they are being used to allow clinicians to measure the functional changes in patients with Ménière’s Disease at various stages.

One theme running through his research continues – the study of vestibular anatomy. With his colleagues he developed a method for visualizing the membranous labyrinth in fixed human tissue using microCT. This provided 3-d images of the utricle and saccular maculae and their spatial orientation, and more recently he has been pursuing the use of this method to reconstruct, in 3d, images of the human membranous labyrinth, including Bast’s valve.
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Winner and Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1982</td>
<td>Professor Georges Portmann, Bordeaux, France</td>
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<tr>
<td>1983</td>
<td>George E. Shambaugh Jr., M.D., Chicago, Illinois, USA</td>
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<tr>
<td>1986</td>
<td>William F. House, M.D., Newport Beach, California, USA</td>
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| 1990 | Professor Michel Portmann, Bordeaux, France  
Professor Emeritus Toshi Naito, Osaka, Japan |
| 1994 | Ugo Fisch, M.D., Zurich, Switzerland  
Howard House, M.D., Los Angeles, California, USA  
Brian McCabe, M.D., Iowa City, Iowa, USA |
| 1995 | David Austin, M.D., Idaho Falls, Idaho, USA |
| 1996 | Herbert Silverstein, M.D., Sarasota, Florida, USA |
| 1997 | Michael Paparella, M.D., Minneapolis, Minnesota, USA |
| 1998 | Professor W.P.R. Gibson, M.D., F.R.C.S., Sydney, Australia  
Joseph E. Hawkins Jr., Ph.D., D.Sc., Ann Arbor, Michigan, USA |
| 1999 | Malcolm Graham, M.D., Savannah, Georgia, USA  
Remy Pujol, M.D., Montpellier, France |
| 2000 | Derald Brackmann, M.D., House Ear Institute, Los Angeles, California, USA  
Thomas Van De Water, Ph.D., New York City, New York, USA |
| 2001 | Josef Miller, Ph.D., Ann Arbor, Michigan, USA  
Jan Helms, M.D., Ph.D., Würzburg, Germany |
| 2003 | David Lim, House Ear Institute, Los Angeles, California, USA  
John J. Shea Jr., M.D., Shea Ear Clinic, Memphis, Tennessee, USA |
| 2006 | I. Kaufman Arenberg, M.D., Bayville, New York, USA |
| 2008 | Alec Salt, Ph.D., St. Louis, MO, USA |
| 2010 | Lloyd B. Minor, M.D., Baltimore, MD, USA |
| 2012 | Helge Rask-Andersen, M.D., Ph.D., Uppsala, Sweden |
| 2014 | Paul Van de Heyning, M.D., Ph.D., Antwerp, Belgium |
**PURPOSES/OBJECTIVES**

Upon completion of this course, participants should be able to:

- Describe the pathophysiology of inner ear disorders
- Identify and discuss appropriate medical and/or surgical treatment regimens for Ménière’s disease and other diseases of the inner ear, including tinnitus
- Assess the indications and basic interpretations of diagnostic findings for vertiginous patients
- Review implantable hearing devices and cochlear implants
- Discuss inner ear fluid dynamics and homeostasis in the normal and hydropic inner ear
- Describe the three dimensional spatial organization of the membranous labyrinth.
- Utilize the video Head Impulse Test (vHIT) of all semicircular canals properly and to be able to identify artifacts and errors and interpret results.
- Review the physiological basis and clinical interpretation of the new tests of otolith function-oVEMPS and cVEMPS.

**CALL FOR 2016 ABSTRACTS**
Deadline Dec 1, 2015
Submit Abstracts to Brenda Speed at speedbrendao@uams.edu

**TOPICS**

**Basic Science**
- Anatomy and Physiology-Cochlear and Vestibular System
- Inner Ear Pharmacology

**Diagnosis of Vestibular Disorders**
- Imaging techniques
- Vestibular testing-Head Impulse Test
- oVEMPS
- cVEMPS

**Surgical and Medical Management of Vestibular Diuretic**
- Migraine therapy
- Perfusions-dexamethasone, gentamicin
- Low pulse generators
- Surgery

**Surgical and Medical Management of Hearing Loss**
- Implantable Hearing Devices-BAI, middle ear, and cochlear implants
- Hearing Aids

**Cochlear Implants**
- Surgical Techniques-soft insertion, hearing preservation, and hybrids
- Unilateral vs bilateral
- Age of implantation

**Tinnitus**
- What’s New?
The Prosper Ménière Society
17th International Symposium & Workshops
on Inner Ear Medicine & Surgery
March 12 - 19, 2016

☐ YES, please register me for the seminar.

Name _________________________________________________   Company ____________________________________________

Address ________________________________________________________________

City ____________________________________________

State ___________ Zip ___________ Country ____________________________ Telephone ____________________________

REGISTRATION FEES - EARLY REGISTRATION THROUGH DECEMBER 1, 2015
Registration includes meeting materials and ticket to Gold Medal Honors Award Reception.

Physician: ☐ Member Fee $400 ☐ Late Fee $500 ☐ Non-member Fee $500 ☐ Late Fee $600
Audologist/Ph.D./Resident/Military: ☐ Member Fee $300 ☐ Late Fee $400 ☐ Non-member Fee $400 ☐ Late Fee $500

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To become a member of the Prosper Ménière Society
Please fill out a Membership Application at www.prospermeniere.com

Hotel Theresa

The Hotel Theresa is a very popular ski resort, so the Prosper Ménière Society has reserved a block of rooms at a special price. Make sure you ask for the Prosper Ménière Society room rate.

Room Rates:
165 Euros per person per night in double occupancy
195 Euros per night in single occupancy
Children's reduction in parent's room: (free up to age 5, 50% Reduction from ages 6 to 11 and 30% Reduction from ages 12 to 16 years).

Please contact the hotel directly and ask for the Prosper Ménière room rate. E-mail at info@theresa.at or contact by telephone (+43 5282 2286-0) or fax (+43 5282-4235).

For ski areas, ski rates, and ski packages visit: www.zillertalski.at or www.zillertalarena.com

We encourage you to please book your room early so that you will not miss out on the great accommodations of this hotel. Please visit the hotel's website at www.theresa.at

The room rate includes:
• Voluminous breakfast buffet
• Lunch buffet from midday to 4 p.m.
• A marvelous five-course dinner with menus to choose from
• Guided hiking, skiing, and tobogganing tours
• Exercise room
• Indoor and outdoor heated pool with Jacuzzi
• Sauna zone with multiple saunas, Tuscany court and large relaxing area
• And much, much more
The 17th International Symposium and Workshops on Inner Ear Medicine and Surgery

The Hotel Theresa in Zell im Zillertal, Austria
www.theresa.at

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Yuen Heng Wai, M.D.
Changi, Singapore

Registration Deadline: December 31, 2015
Mail or fax your registration to: The Prosper Meniere Society
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