Letter from the Director

Dear Colleagues,

I am very happy to announce that the 19th International Symposium on Inner Ear Disorders will host Dr. P. Ashley Wackym as the next recipient of the Gold Medal Award. Dr. Wackym is the Chair of the Department of Otolaryngology - Head and Neck Surgery at the Rutgers Robert Wood Johnson Medical School and a Chancellor Scholar of Rutgers Biomedical Health Sciences. At the meeting, he plans to give several talks highlighting his research, which currently focuses on cognitive dysfunction before and after surgical management of third window syndrome, cochlear implantation, outcomes of Gamma Knife surgery, balance disorders, and the development of new biomedical engineering technologies. Dr. Wackym was nominated and chosen by the Prosper Meniere Society board members and will join a long list of “GREATS” who have received the Gold Medal Award. You will find more about Dr. Wackym in this newsletter.

The 19th International Symposium is scheduled to run from Saturday, March 21 (registration) to Friday, March 27, 2020, at the Hotel Theresa in Zell im Zillertal, Austria. For those who have attended the meeting in the past, you probably know why we return there year after year. Not only is it a great venue for our meeting, with all-inclusive accommodations for guests, the location provides many excellent opportunities for skiing, hiking, bike riding, or—if you prefer—relaxation.

I hope that you will plan to attend the conference and participate in the presentations. The call for abstracts has been placed on the Prosper Meniere Society website at www.prospermeniere.com. Please visit the site and find the meeting details.

John Dornhoffer, MD, FACS
Executive Director, Prosper Meniere Society
Professor and Chair, Department of Otolaryngology—Head and Neck Surgery
University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences
Dr. P. Ashley Wackym is a seasoned administrator, investigator, and surgical otologist-neurotologist and skull base surgeon. He is currently the Chair of the Department of Otolaryngology – Head and Neck Surgery at the Rutgers Robert Wood Johnson Medical School and a Chancellor Scholar of Rutgers Biomedical Health Sciences. Dr. Wackym's clinical emphasis is on cochlear implantation and skull base surgery as well as other hearing and balance disorders. He is particularly well known for the surgical management of patients with superior semicircular canal dehiscence. His basic research was funded by the National Institutes of Health for over two decades in the area of gene discovery in the inner ear. Currently his research is focused on cognitive dysfunction before and after surgical management of third window syndrome, cochlear implantation, outcomes of Gamma Knife surgery, balance disorders, and the development of new biomedical engineering technologies. He has published over 170 papers, 60 book chapters, and 20 video productions and has edited three books, including the 18th edition of *Ballenger's Otorhinolaryngology Head and Neck Surgery*.

Dr. Wackym has received numerous national and international awards, including the Nicholas Torok Vestibular Award of the American Neurotology Society, the Edmund Prince Fowler Award, a Presidential Citation from the American Laryngological, Rhinological and Otological Society, and the Honor Award and Distinguished Service Award of the American Academy of Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery. He has also served as President of the Collegium Oto-Rhino-Laryngologicum Amicitiae Sacrum, the President of the Association for Research in Otolaryngology, and the President of Otology and Neurotology, Inc.

---

2020 Gold Medal Award Recipient

**P. Ashley Wackym, MD, FACS, FAAP**

“Let us GIVE THANKS to SEEKING SPIRITS, to those with INITIATIVE, who RAISE QUESTIONS OF INTEREST, STIMULATE ACTIVE RESEARCHES, PROVOKE OPPositions, because in a word, SCIENCE GAINS AND HUMANITY APPLAUDS.”

—Prosper Ménière, 1861
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

■ **UNDERSTAND** 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 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

TOPICS

BASIC SCIENCE

■ Anatomy and physiology of the cochlear and vestibular system

■ Inner ear pharmacology

DIAGNOSIS OF VESTIBULAR DISORDERS

■ Imaging techniques

■ Vestibular testing: Head Impulse Test

■ VNG

■ cVEMPS and oVEMPS

SURGICAL AND MEDICAL MANAGEMENT OF VESTIBULAR DISORDERS

■ Migraine therapy

■ Perfusions: dexamethasone and 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

■ Neuroplasticity

TINNITUS TREATMENT

■ Transcranial Magnetic Stimulation

■ Cochlear Implantation

■ Behavioral Therapy
EARLY REGISTRATION THROUGH DECEMBER 1, 2019

MEMBER Early Registration $400
MEMBER Late Registration $500
NON-MEMBER Early Registration $500
NON-MEMBER Late Registration $600

Name
Company
Address
State Zip Country Telephone

Registration includes meeting materials, admission to the Welcome Reception, and ticket to Gold Medal Award Reception.

Return this form by Fax: (501) 686-8029 or Email to bospeed@uams.edu.

Pay by PayPal or Credit Card at www.prospermeniere.com

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:
- 185 Euros per person per night in double occupancy
- 220 Euros per night in single occupancy

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