
The Post

Newsletter of the AAN Student Interest Group in Neurology Program
<http://www.aan.com/students/medical/student.cfm>

Greetings from the AAN

Mark your calendars—the AAN Annual Meeting will be held in Boston, Massachusetts, from April 28, 2007 to May 5, 2007. The Annual Meeting is the best place to see the latest scientific breakthroughs, education courses, and networking opportunities for neurologists from around the world. More than 10,000 people attend the meeting each year. See below for instructions on how to register.

Remember to apply for your reimbursement funds. Contact me if you need forms, have content for the newsletter, or have anything you would like the Undergraduate Education Subcommittee of the AAN's Education Committee to consider.

Gloria Barnard
AAN Staff Liaison to SIGN
Phone (651) 695-2733
Fax (651) 361-4833
Email Gbarnard@aan.com

Quote of the Month

The human brain is the last, and greatest, scientific frontier. It is truly an internal cosmos that lies contained within our skulls. The more than 100 billion nerve cells and trillion supporting cells that make up your brain and mine constitute the most elaborate structure in the known universe.

Joel Davis (from *Mapping the Mind: The Secrets of the Human Brain and How it Works*, 1997)

59th AAN Annual Meeting

Medical Students are entitled to FREE ADMISSION to the AAN Annual Meeting if you are an AAN member or present a student ID card.

Registration entitles you to free access to:

- Scientific platform and poster sessions
- Plenary sessions
- Opening Party
- Neurobowl®
- Awards Luncheon
- Exhibit Hall
- Patient Safety Colloquium
- Education Colloquium
- BRAINS Colloquium
- Guidelines, Practice and Advocacy Open House
- NINDS Clinical Research Collaboration Colloquium
- Integrated Neuroscience

Medical students also receive a reduced rate for educational courses and can check in at the Membership Booth first thing in the morning each day for free course tickets through the Medical Student Rush Line.

SIGN Meeting at the AAN Annual Meeting

The next SIGN meeting will be held in Boston at the AAN Annual Meeting on Monday, April 30, 2007, 5:00 p.m.-6:30 p.m. All SIGN and CO-SIGN members and students interested in joining a chapter are encouraged to attend. There will be speakers, chapter representatives will share with the group what their chapter did during the year, a celebration of SIGN's 10th anniversary will be held. Come and

meet your fellow students and make some valuable contacts. Free, no registration required.

How to Register for the AAN Annual Meeting

If you are an AAN member, you may register, book your flight, and select your hotel in one stop via the AAN Annual Meeting Website at <http://am.aan.com>. Early registration ends March 23, 2007. After that date you will need to register at the Convention Center.

Medical students who are not AAN members should contact CMR (Convention Management Resources) at an.aan.com/registration or 1-800-676-4226 or you can register on-site at the Hynes Convention Center. To arrange travel, email aanparticipants@carlsonwagonlit.com or call 1-877-317-0006.

Contact Gloria Barnard at gbarnard@aan.com or (651) 695-2733 with questions.

SIGN Scholarships

SIGN offers two scholarships to its members:

- 40 \$1,000 Annual Meeting Scholarships
- 20 \$3,000 Summer Research Scholarships

The applications are emailed to SIGN advisors and presidents to distribute to all SIGN members. If you need an application, contact your SIGN officers.

Annual Meeting Scholarship—deadline February 15, 2007

Forty \$1,000 Annual Meeting Scholarships are available to SIGN chapter presidents or a designated SIGN representative to cover travel costs to attend the AAN Annual Meeting in Boston, which runs from April 28-May 5, 2007. Scholarships are awarded by lottery, based on the following criteria:

- The student must be from a registered SIGN chapter and serve as either the SIGN chapter president or a designated representative.
- The department chair is encouraged to provide a supplemental grant to the student so that all expenses can be covered.

- The student must attend the SIGN meeting at the AAN Annual Meeting in order to receive the scholarship. You will be asked to share your chapter's activities with the group. The check will be mailed to the student after the Annual Meeting.

Application deadline for the Annual Meeting Scholarship is February 15, 2007.

Medical Student Summer Research Scholarship—deadline February 15, 2007

The Medical Student Summer Research Scholarship program offers SIGN members a summer stipend of \$3,000 to conduct a project in either an institutional, clinical, or laboratory setting where there are ongoing programs of research, service, or training, or a private practice. Only applicants from schools with established SIGN chapters are eligible to apply. Projects will be judge by a panel of experts.

The AAN will award up to 20 scholarships to first- or second-year medical students who have a supporting preceptor and a project with clearly defined goals. The project is to be conducted through a US or Canadian institution of the student's choice and jointly designed by the student and sponsoring institution. **Application deadline for the Summer Research Scholarship is February 15, 2007.**

For both scholarships, the scholarship application forms are emailed to faculty advisors and chapter presidents. Please distribute these applications to all SIGN members. A tax form--either W-9 or Statement of Citizenship (Canada)--should accompany all applications. Email Gbarnard@aan.com for forms or if you have questions.

Brain Awareness Week March 12-18, 2007

Brain Awareness Week is an international effort organized by the Dana Alliance for Brain Initiatives to advance public awareness about the progress and

benefits of brain research. The Dana Alliance is joined in the campaign by partners in the United States and around the world, including medical and research organizations; patient advocacy groups; the National Institutes of Health, and other government agencies; service groups; hospitals and universities; K-12 schools; and professional organizations.

Be sure to check out the Dana website at <http://www.dana.org/brainweek/> to help you plan your Brain Awareness Week activities. There are games, plans and other resources to download to help you spread the word to grade school students on things like bike helmet safety, etc.

You can download the “Neuroscience in the Classroom” workbook for additional games and exercises at <http://www.thebrainmatters.org/index.cfm?key=1.5.1>

Neurology Moves to the NRMP

The National Resident Matching Program extends a warm welcome to all Neurology training programs, which will move to the NRMP beginning with the 2007 Main Residency Match. Earlier this year, the Consortium of Neurology Program Directors announced that the programs will use both the Electronic Residency Application Service (ERAS®) and the NRMP's Main Match. In addition, Neurology applicants will be able to take full advantage of the NRMP's couples' matching service, which allows two applicants to link their rank order lists so they match into pairs of programs suited to their needs. For information about the Main Residency Match, click Residency Match at the top of this page, or contact our Help Desk specialists at 1-866-617-5838 (applicants) or 1-866-617-5837 (medical schools and teaching hospitals). For information about ERAS, call (202) 828-0413.

...from: <http://www.nrmp.org/>

Neurology Now

Sign up for a free subscription to the new magazine *Neurology Now* at www.neurologynow.com. This is a new quarterly magazine from the AAN for neurology patients, their families, and caregivers, which provides accurate and important new information about advances in the diagnosis and treatment of neurological diseases, such as

migraine, Alzheimer's disease, epilepsy, multiple sclerosis, and other disorders. It is published by Lippincott Williams & Wilkins.

Neurology Now brings expert advice about wellness and disease prevention, new medications and therapies, and strategies for coping with neurological disorders. *Neurology Now* provides balanced coverage of therapies based on the latest developments in laboratory research and clinical trials.

The goals are to improve communication between patients and their physicians, support disease awareness and self-management, and provide public outreach for the AAN.

AAN Awards and Scholarships

A full list of available awards and scholarships can be found at <http://www.aan.com/students/awards/index.cfm>

The SIGN Annual Meeting Scholarship to the Annual Meeting and the SIGN Summer Research Scholarship applications will go out to SIGN faculty advisors and chapter presidents in November so look for them then.

The Medical Student Prize for Excellence in Neurology is awarded to one graduating student per institution, nominated by the clerkship director. Let your clerkship director know you are interested in this award.

Trivia

As of August 15, 2006, there are 608 medical students members of the AAN. In 1998, when SIGN was initiated, there were 119 medical students. This is a rate of growth of 604% since 1998.

AAN Student Loan Program

**Student Loan Consolidation: Spring 2007
Campus Visits**

AAN's partnership with Student Assistance Foundation (SAF) is designed to help members sort through the complex student loan consolidation offerings and select a reputable vendor with competitive benefits and excellent customer service

as they make this important financial decision. Program features include:

- Choice of interest rate reduction or principal reduction
- Designed to help students earn benefits
- Never lose benefit once earned
- One loan, one lender, one payment

The interest rates set by the federal government are currently 6.54% on Stafford loans. By consolidating federal student loans, AAN members and their spouses can lower monthly payments by as much as 60%.

AAN is working with the SAF to arrange visits to select campuses this spring to meet with SIGN members and others interested in neurology. If you would like Student Assistance Foundation staff to come to your campus this spring to discuss the AAN Loan Program, please contact Kelly Lawton klawton@aan.com or (651) 695-2778.

For more information about consolidation, visit www.aanloanprogram.org or call (866) 869-0579 and speak to an expert counselor at Student Assistance Foundation

Advice to Medical Students

The “Advice to Medical Students” document on the medical student webpage at <http://www.aan.com/students/medical/training.cfm> has been revised, and a reference list added. Below is the list the Undergraduate Education Subcommittee has compiled for medical students.

If you have additions to this list, please send them to gbarnard@aan.com.

Neurology Medical Student Resources

If you have additions to this list, please send them to gbarnard@aan.com.

| Introductory texts that may be useful during your Neurology Clerkship: | |
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| Title/Author: | Summary (from preface): |
| Fundamentals of Neurologic Disease, Demos, 2005. <i>Davis LE, King MK,</i> | Inexpensive paperback book written for medical students with emphasis on most important neurologic |

| <i>Schultz, J</i> | diseases. |
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| Clinical Neurology 6 th ed. Lange. 2005. <i>Simon RP, Aminoff MJ, Greenberg DA.</i> | An approach to neurology based on the presenting symptoms or signs, developed while teaching in the clinics and wards of the University of California, San Francisco. |
| Blueprints in Neurology. Blackwell Science, Inc. 2002. <i>Drislane FW et al.</i> | Provides medical students with a reasonable compact review of neurology for practical use, attempting to clarify without oversimplifying. |
| Introduction to Clinical Neurology, Third Ed, Butterworth Heineman 2005. <i>Gelb DJ.</i> | Was rated 3.86/5.0 on clerkship evaluations at U. Iowa. Some students commented that “text lacks organization” while others “appreciated the clinical scenarios in each chapter”. Some students said they would “prefer a text that is more concise, highlighting the main points”. |
| Neurology for the Non-neurologist. Fifth Ed. Lippincott, Williams & Wilkins, 2004. <i>Weiner WJ, Goetz CG.</i> | |
| Pocket reference books that may be useful during your Neurology Clerkship: | |
| Title/Author: | Summary: |
| Massachusetts General Hospital Handbook of Neurology. Lippincott, Williams & Wilkins, 2000. <i>Flaherty AW.</i> | Excellent and comprehensive overview of hospital-based, inpatient Neurology |
| Neurology (House Officer Series), Seventh Ed. Lippincott, Williams & Wilkins, 2004. <i>Weiner HL, Levitt LP, Rae-Grant A.</i> | |
| Manual of Neurologic Therapeutics. Seventh Ed. Lippincott Williams and Wilkins, 2004. <i>Samuels MA.</i> | Comprehensive and up-to-date spiral pocket guide with the latest in treatment options and concise discussion on diagnosis. |
| The Resident’s Neurology Book. FA Davis, 1997. <i>Devinsky O, et al.</i> | An inexpensive paperback that is quite readable. |
| On Call Neurology. WB Saunders, Second Ed, 2001. <i>Marshall RS and Mayer SA.</i> | |

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| Neurology Secrets, Fourth Ed. Hanley & Belfus, Inc., Philadelphia, 2004. <i>Loren A. Rolak.</i> | |
| Neurology Pearls. Hanley & Belfus, Inc., Philadelphia, 2000. <i>Waclawik, AJ and Sutula, TP</i> | |
| Reference texts that may be useful during your Neurology Clerkship: | |
| Title/Author: | |
| Victor and Adams Textbook of Neurology, Eighth Ed. McGraw Hill, 2006. <i>Ropper AH, Brown R.</i> | |
| Merritt 's Textbook of Neurology, Lippincott, Williams & Wilkins, 1994. <i>Rowland LP.</i> | |
| Neurology in Clinical Practice. Fourth Ed. Butterworth-Heinemann. 2003. <i>Bradley, W.G. et al.</i> | |
| Cecil's Essentials of Medicine - Sections on Neurologic Disease and chapter on Infections of the Nervous System, Sixth Ed, Saunders, 2003. <i>Andreoli, TE, et al.</i> | |
| The Practice of Neural Science, McGraw Hill, 1999 <i>Brust JCM. (currently out of print)</i> | |
| Office Practice of Neurology, Second Ed, Churchill Livingstone, 2003. <i>Samuels, MA and Feske, SK</i> | |
| Harrison's Principles of Internal Medicine. Neurology chapters, Sixteenth Ed., McGraw-Hill Professional, 2004. <i>Kasper, DL et al</i> | |
| Review and/or question books for preparation for your board or shelf exams: | |
| Title/Author: | |
| Underground Clinical Vignettes: Neurology, Classic Clinical Cases for USMLE Step 2 and Clerkship, 2nd edition, Blackwell Publishers, 2001. <i>Bhushan, V, et al</i> | |
| NMS Review book, Lippincott Williams & Wilkins; Bk&CD-Rom edition, 2002. <i>Rosner, MH and Lazar, AE</i> | |
| First Aid for the Neurology Clerkship, McGraw-Hill, 2002. <i>Stead, L</i> | |
| On-line resources that may be helpful for your Neurology Clerkship: | |
| Washington University School of Medicine Links: http://thalamus.wustl.edu/course/ http://www.strokecenter.org/images/ http://www.neuro.wustl.edu/education/clerkship.htm | |
| E-medicine Neurology: http://www.emedicine.com/neuro/index.shtml | |
| American Academy of Neurology http://www.aan.com | |

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| Whole Brain Atlas: http://www.med.harvard.edu/AANLIB/home.html | |
| Up To Date http://www.uptodate.com | |
| Personal accounts of neurologic disease: | |
| Title/Author: | Description: |
| Tuesdays with Morrie. <i>M. Albom.</i> | An ALS patient is interviewed throughout the course of his illness |
| Brainstorms: Epilepsy in Our Words – Personal Accounts of Living with Seizures. Raven Press, 1993. <i>Schacter SC.</i> | |
| Still Me. <i>Christopher Reeve.</i> | Autobiography of actor paralyzed by C1-C2 injury (see particularly pp 1-53 and 94-145 for his description of his disability and daily routine, and his emotional response). |
| Waist High in the World – A Life Among the Nondisabled. Beacon Press, Boston. 1996. <i>Nancy Mairs.</i> | A young woman wheelchair bound by Multiple Sclerosis. |
| The man who mistook his wife for a hat: And other clinical tales. <i>Oliver Sacks.</i> | |
| The Diving Bell and the Butterfly. <i>Jean-Dominique Bauby.</i> | French journalist with “locked-in syndrome”. |

Next Newsletter

The next newsletter will arrive in March. If you would like to contribute to the newsletter, send news or articles to gbarnard@aan.com.