

Notes & Announcements

Miles Prize in Neurocritical Care

— Awarded annually to a resident or fellow in a Canadian training program in neurology, pediatric neurology or neurosurgery for the best paper in neurocritical care.

— Provides up to \$2,000 for travel, registration and accommodation expenses for the Canadian Congress of Neurological Sciences Meeting. (Recipients from the same city as the Congress meeting will receive an equivalent educational award).

— Research can be clinical or basic science but should relate to an aspect of neurocritical care (intensive or critical care neurology or neurosurgery).

— Supervisor should be a member of Canadian Neurocritical Care Group.

— Manuscript should follow guidelines for publication in the Canadian Journal of Neurological Sciences.

— Deadline: March 1 yearly.

— Send manuscript or write for further information to Dr. R. Moulton, Secretary, Canadian Neurocritical Care Group, St. Michael's Hospital, 38 Shuter Street, Toronto, Ontario M5B 1A6.

University of Western Ontario, University Hospital, P.O.
Box 5339, London, Ontario N6A 5A5

The First Canadian Examination in Electromyography under the Auspices of the Canadian Society of Clinical Neurophysiologists

This examination was organized by Dr. Charles Bolton, Chairman, and Dr. Gaetan Tardif, Secretary and was held in Winnipeg, Manitoba on June 4, 1992.

The examiners were: Drs. W. Pryse-Phillips, Asa Wilbourn, Mary Anne Lee, Timothy Benstead, Dorothy Carroll, Monique Lefebvre D'Amour, Oleh Maryniak, Michael Newman, Neelan Pillay, Gaetan Tardif and Charles Bolton.

The examination lasted approximately six hours and consisted of a standard multiple-choice exam, multiple-choice exam with slides, videotape waveform recognition and oral examinations by the multiple-station technique. Six candidates from Canada took the examination and four passed. The scoring was done according to a pre-determined method and review afterwards by all examiners confirmed the profile for the candidates was fair and accurate. The examinees were given the results in writing, as well as a brief breakdown of their marks and some feedback on their performance.

The exam was judged to be successful and will be continued in succeeding years. The next year's Chairman will be Dr. Gaetan Tardif, Ottawa, and the Secretary will be Dr. Mary Anne Lee, Calgary.

Fidia Visiting Traineeships in Clinical Neurological Sciences

OBJECTIVE:

To allow highly qualified trainees in neurology, neurosurgery and allied clinical disciplines to spend three to six months electives in the Department of Clinical Neurological Sciences of The University of Western Ontario, a leading multi-discipline Department with a strong clinical tradition and outstanding programs in cerebrovascular disease, epilepsy, multiple sclerosis, neuromuscular disorders, neuro-oncology, and aging of the brain, including Alzheimer's disease, motor neuron disease, Parkinson's disease and behavioral neurology.

SPONSORSHIP:

The Fidia Traineeships in Clinical Neurological Sciences are made possible through a grant from the Fidia Foundation.

AWARDS:

The Traineeships are scholarships of varying value according to length of traineeship and distance from visiting center awarded towards defraying transportation and living expenses.

ELIGIBILITY:

Highly qualified MD, PhD, or equivalent degree holders.

IMPLEMENTATION:

May be made at any time. Dates for commencement of awards will be determined by candidates' needs and availability of training positions.

AVAILABILITY:

Several Traineeships are available annually.

APPLICATIONS:

Applications can be made by sending a letter and current curriculum vitae to: Vladimir C. Hachinski, M.D., D.Sc. (Med), Richard and Beryl Ivey, Professor and Chairman, Department of Clinical Neurological Sciences, The

Neuroscience Certification for Nurses: What Does it Mean?

The Canadian Nurse's Association (CNA) is the national governing professional body for registered nurses across Canada. A nurse graduating from a basic nursing program (with a diploma course or BScN degree) in Canada must write and pass CNA's Registration Exam to enable him/her to practice as a "registered nurse". This education and credential ensures the nurse is competent and knowledgeable to function as a general duty nurse.

It was recognized by the CNA's membership, that there are registered nurses across Canada working exclusively in specialty areas and that there was a need to acknowledge their competence and skills in that specialty in order to obtain the appropriate recognition. These are general registered nurses who have expanded their general knowledge base and expertise to become specialized nurses. In 1986 CNA established its National Certification Program which contains three phases: 1) designation of an area of nursing as a specialty by CNA, 2) development of a certification exam for that specialty, 3) certification and recertification of eligible nurses from the specialty.

In 1988 neuroscience nursing became the first specialty designated for certification by CNA. The Canadian Association of Neuroscience Nurses (CANN) played a key role in providing documentation and consultation to CNA for this landmark decision to take place.

Selected CANN members, in conjunction with the CNA Testing Services, then developed the Neuroscience Certification Exam. The first sitting of the exam took place in January 1991 and is now offered annually.

Upon successful completion of a CNA certification exam, the individual nurse is certified in that specialty for 5 years. The nurse is allowed to use a designated credential (for the period during which the certification is valid) of their chosen specialty. For neuroscience nursing this credential is "CNN(c)" which signifies Certified in Neuroscience Nursing (Canada).

A registered nurse wishing to write a CNA certification examination must first apply to CNA and meet the eligibility criteria. Once the criteria are met and Certification fee is paid (\$294.25) he or she may take the examination.

To date there are 70 nurses across Canada who have successfully obtained Neuroscience Certification status with CNA. The certified Neuroscience Nurse with the expanded knowledge base and expertise is becoming an increasingly valuable and essential asset in these times of health care cost containment and fiscal restraint. The specialized nurse can provide high quality care to patients in a more cost effective manner because of his/her commitment and competence in the neuroscience field.

Diane Treppel

WORLD FEDERATION OF NEUROSURGICAL SOCIETIES NEWSLETTER

The WFNS is proving a very effective vehicle, not only for communication between neurosurgeons worldwide but also for the development of educational programs. A number of initiatives have been discussed at various meetings of the Administrative Council including Moscow and San Francisco and are now nearing fruition.

1. Permanent Headquarters

Since 1992, a WFNS liaison programme office has been set up within the Division of Mental Health at the Headquarters of the World Health Organization, Geneva. The Secretary responsible for this program is Mrs. Jan Joseph, who can be contacted in the mornings at the telephone and fax numbers given below:

Mrs. Jan Joseph, Secretary, WFNS Liaison Programme (Office L309), c/o Division of Mental Health, World Health Organization, CH-1211 Geneva 27, Switzerland. Tel: (022) 791.36.04, Fax: (41) (22) 788.29.86. This office opened formally in July 1992. It is intended that it should act as the focal point for communication between the WFNS and its membership and will also provide a repository for the archives which have been carefully protected by Alphons Walder, Willem Luyendijk and A. Earl Walker.

2. 10th International Congress of Neurological Surgery – Acapulco, Mexico – 16-21 October 1993

The very considerable and meticulous organization required for this event is proceeding smoothly and already there has been an extensive mailshot of the programme details worldwide. The deadline for submission of abstracts for free papers is 31 December 1992 — please note that any abstracts submitted for consideration must be accompanied by the Registration fee of the first author. All correspondence relating to the 10th International Congress of Neurological Surgery 1993 should be

addressed to: Fernando Rueda-Franco, MD, Congress Secretariat Office, P.O. Box 101-88, Department of Neurosurgery, Instituto Nac. de Pediatría, Insurgentes sur No. 3700-C, 04530 Mexico, D F MEXICO. Tel. and Fax.: (525) 264-2563.

3. Educational Activities

Successful postgraduate courses in general Neurosurgery have been held in Buenos Aires (course directors: Armando Basso and the President) attended by over 600 neurosurgeons from Argentina and associated areas of South America, and in Rabat (course directors: Dr. Khamlichi and the Vice-President, Dr. Phanor Perot) attended by neurosurgeons from the Maghreb. Considerable efforts have been made to expand educational programmes and major courses covering general topics in Neurosurgery was held in Recife, Brazil (12-15 October, 1992), and will be held in Delhi, India (14-18 December 1992) and Lahore, Pakistan (7-13 February, 1993), and the immensely successful skull base courses organized by Professor M. Samii in Hannover will continue in June and December 1992.

WFNS Societies interested in having such WFNS sponsored courses should contact the President or the Secretary, Dr. Sean Mullan.

Neuro-oncology Committee

An international symposium on posterior fossa tumours was held in Rio de Janeiro on 23-25 February, 1992 (course directors: G.J. Dohrmann, Chicago, D.G.T. Thomas, London, T. Niemeyer II, Rio de Janeiro) and was the first of the "outreach courses" on brain tumours. The participants came mainly from South America (including Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador and Paraguay). If WFNS members are interested in having a similar neuro-oncology course presented in their part of the world, they should contact the course directors, as above, with their suggestions. The Committee proposes to organize a teaching course on the Biology of Cerebral Gliomas to be held in India in January 1993.

Neurotraumatology Committee

The goals of prevention and disaster assistance have been added to the longstanding goal of education in neurotrauma, including publishing texts on neurotraumatology and sponsoring the biennial International Conference on recent Advances in Neurotraumatology (ICRAN). The next meeting of the Committee will be in Tokyo on 22 September, 1992 to be followed by ICRAN '92 in Kariuzawa, Japan (23-26 September, 1992) which will pay particular attention to chronic subdural haematomas in adults, neuro imaging and cell damage and repair. The Committee has been very successful in attracting financial support to facilitate attendance and further information is available from: Professor Norio Nakamura, President of ICRAN '92 Organizing Committee, c/o International Communications Inc., Kashio Building, 2-14-9 Nihombashi, Chuo-ku, Tokyo 103, Japan.

Paediatric Neurosurgery

A comprehensive programme of meetings has continued with the European Society of Paediatric Neurosurgery in Berlin (Professor Mario Brock, June 1-3, 1992), International Society of Paediatric Neurosurgery in Prague (Dr. Vladimir Benes, 4-7 June, 1992), the first meeting of the International Society for Paediatric Skull Base in Hanover, (Dr. Anthony Raimondi, 13-15 June). The joint WFNS/ISPN course will be held in Bombay,

India (Professor Sanat Bhagwati 8-14 November, 1992). The America Society for Paediatric Neurosurgery will sponsor a symposium on Paediatric Neurosurgery at the Hospital for Sick Children, Toronto, 20-23 May, 1993, to coincide with the opening of the new Neurosurgery Unit at that institution (Dr. Harold J. Hoffman).

Stereotactic and Functional Neurosurgery

The XI meeting of the World Society for Stereotactic and Functional Neurosurgery was held at the Westin Ixtapa Hotel, Ixtapa, Mexico from 11-15 October, 1993, immediately preceding the 10th International Congress on Neurosurgery in Acapulco. Awards for young neurosurgeons will be considered. Chairman of the Organizing Committee is Philip Gildenberg, MD, PhD, 6560 Fannin 1530, Houston, Texas 77030 U.S.A.

4. Opportunities for Young Neurosurgeons

The President of the WFNS paid a fact-finding visit to Russia in an endeavour to find young neurosurgeons who might be interested in coming for fully supported training in the West. Centres in the West who are interested in supporting such an endeavour should communicate directly with the President — at least six clinics have already expressed their willingness to fund trainees from the former Soviet Union and this effort would appear to be very important at a time of such stress. This type of initiative has been extended in collaboration with the Federation of International Education in Neurosurgery (President: Dr. Ed Laws — also Assistant Secretary of the WFNS) in order to assist in the development of Neurosurgery in Third World countries. Arrangements for visiting fellowships for younger neurosurgeons from the Commonwealth of Independent States are proceeding and hopefully several visits will take place before the end of 1992.

A number of awards are now available for competition:

- WFNS Award to a Young Neurosurgeon

The last date for submission is November 30, 1992.

The WFNS will give five awards to young neurosurgeons for the best paper submitted for presentation at the 10th International Congress of Neurological Surgery to be held in Acapulco, Mexico on 17-22 October, 1993. This will be open to

all neurosurgeons born after 31 December, 1957. Each award will consist of an honorarium of US \$1,500, a certificate and complete waiver of registration fees along with accommodation for the Congress. The papers will be judged by the Committee and must contain original, unpublished work on basic research or clinical studies related to neurosurgery. In addition, special awards may be made to young neurosurgeons in neuro-oncology and neurotraumatology.

Young neurosurgeons should submit 8 copies of the manuscript (not more than 10 double spaced, typewritten pages exclusive of figures and tables) to: Albert L. Rhoton, Jr., MD, Chairman, WFNS Young Neurosurgeons Committee, Department of Neurological Surgery, University of Florida College of Medicine, P.O. Box 100265, JHM Health Center, Gainesville, Florida 32610-0265 U.S.A.

If there is more than one author, the senior author's name and address (including country) must be mentioned.

- Codman Paediatric Neurosurgical Prize

The Scientific Committee on Paediatric Neurosurgery of the WFNS is soliciting papers for the Codman Prize (US \$2,000) which will be given to the best paper on a paediatric neurosurgical topic presented by a young neurosurgeon under the age of 35 at the time of the Acapulco meeting.

5. Medal of Honour and the William B. Scoville Award

The Executive Committee has approved presentation of the Medal of Honour to Valentine Logue (London, UK), Bernard Pertuiset (Paris, France), Kurt Schürmann (Mainz, Germany), and Thoralf Sundt (Rochester, MN, U.S.A.), at the opening ceremony in Acapulco, 1993. Mrs. Helène Scoville will present the W.B. Scoville Award to Professor Dr. Henk Verbiest (Utrecht, Netherlands) at the opening ceremony in Acapulco.

6. The Honourary Presidents

Dr. Raymond K. Thompson has been instrumental in gathering together the Honourary Presidents of the WFNS so that a collective understanding of the traditions and origins of the WFNS may be made available to succeeding generations. The first meeting was held in Moscow and will be followed by one in Acapulco.