

President's Welcome

Welcome to the inaugural issue of the AACA newsletter. The goal of the newsletter is to facilitate communication between AACA members and to disseminate important information about opportunities and resources available for advancing members' interest. We hope the AACA newsletter will help you to stay engaged with our association. The Council would also be interested to hear from you! Please send your suggestions for items that you would like to see included in the newsletter to Dr. Mohammed Khalil, DVM, MSED, PhD the newsletter editor, at khalilmk@greenvillemed.sc.edu.

Robert J. Spinner
AACA President



2019 AACA Meeting Highlights

This year our 36th Annual AACA Conference was held in Tulsa, Oklahoma from June 11th to June 15th. We had around 300 attendees that were able to participate and learn in poster sessions, platform sessions, committee breakfasts, and more. There were 16 exhibitors who showcased their products throughout the conference to all those interested. In total, we had 94 poster presentations and 20 platform presentations given at the conference. The 2019 Presidential Speaker was Robert G. Louis, MD, FAANS whose talk was entitled, "From Formalin to Fighter Jets: Anatomical Considerations." Dr. Louis focused on his work with virtual reality and augmented reality systems with the goal of using these tools for a better understanding of anatomy, specifically before surgery. He believes it not only allows patients to gain a better understanding of the process, but also allows surgeons to increase their understanding by rehearsing for difficult operations prior to surgery time. Our other two invited speakers were Robert J. Spinner, MD, FAANS, FACS who spoke on "Neural Highways and Peripheral Nerves" and Marios Loukas, MD, PhD who spoke on "The Impact of Clinical Anatomy on Translational and Reverse Translational Research." In the future we hope to continue to offer the most up to date and relevant research presentations to attendees.

One of the highlights of the conference was the Evening Social at the Gilcrease Museum. During dinner the Executive Director of the museum, Susan Neal, shared some of the history, background, and exhibit information with those there. Attendees were able to enjoy private access to all of the unique exhibitions and history that the museum had to offer. This year at the conference the AACA continued with the second annual Silent Auction. With all of the generous donations and bid winners, we were able to raise just under \$1,000 for future student scholarships and travel to the conference. A big thank you to all the exhibitors and attendees for making this conference a success. We look forward to seeing you next year June 15 – 20, 2020 in New York, New York!



Best Wishes,
Marios Loukas, MD, PhD

2019 AACA Awards

Honored Member Award



Robert H. Anderson, MD, received his medical degree from University of Manchester in 1966. He was offered the chance to continue his researches on cardiac innervation, which led to the award of a Doctorate in Medicine, but more importantly to the chance to collaborate with surgical colleagues in Liverpool, and with electrophysiologists and pathologists in Amsterdam. Dr. Anderson was appointed as clinical anatomist at the Royal Brompton Hospital in London. This appointment was supported by the Joseph Levy Foundation, in collaboration with the British Heart Foundation. This was undertaken from 1974 until 1999 at the Royal Brompton, and subsequently, until 2007, at Great Ormond Street Children's Hospital.

On his retirement in 2007, he was made Emeritus Professor at University College, London. He has also received Professorial Fellowships at the Institute of Genetic Medicine, Newcastle University; and at St George's Medical University in London. He was particularly thrilled, in 2017, to be elected an honorary fellow of the European Congenital Heart Surgeon's Association, and in 2018 to be granted an Honorary Doctorate of Philosophy by the Nova University of Lisbon, Portugal.

Distinguished Service Award



Brian R. MacPherson, PhD, is the James and Barbara Holsinger Endowed Professor of Anatomy and Vice-Chair for Educational Programs in the Department of Neuroscience at the University of Kentucky (UK) College of Medicine in Lexington, Kentucky. He has been on faculty at UK since 1991. Brian was educated at the University of Prince Edward Island (1968-71, BS in Biology); and Memorial University of Newfoundland (1971-74; M.Sc.- Biology; 1974-78; Ph.D. - Gastrointestinal Pathophysiology).

Dr. MacPherson has been a member of the AACA since 1992. He became Program Secretary in 1999, and served in this position until 2005. In 2005 he became Association Secretary, and served in this position until 2011. In 2011 he became President-elect of the Association. He served as President and past president until 2017. He has served on the Council for over 19 years in these various positions and chaired many AACA committees including: Financial Affairs, Program Committee, Nominating, Membership, and the Journal Committee. Over this extended period on Council he worked closely with, among many others, Benton Adkins.

Anatomical Services Award

Howard Mark Brooks

Collaboration with Non-Profit to Increase Anatomical Donation within Korean-American Community

Clinical Anatomy Awards

Education Research Award

Platform: **Adam Wilson**

Is there a Shortage of Anatomy Educators? An International Study

Poster: **Danielle Royer**

SOARing to New Heights: Evaluation of a New Interactive Supplement to a Medical Anatomy Course

Junior Faculty Award

Platform: **Eileen Kalmar**

Longitudinal Integration of Anatomy: Advanced Anatomy Competencies in Medical Education

Poster: **Joanne Peterson**

The Effect of an Anatomy Prep Course on OMS-1 Student's Performance During the Fall Semester

Membership Award

Platform: **Diana Pettit**

Getting the Most Out of Limited Anatomy Time in an Integrated Curriculum

Poster: **Santosh Sangari**

Quantitative Measurements of Cadaveric Atlas and Axis Vertebrae as Guidelines for Screw Fixation

Senior Faculty Award

Platform: **Quentin Fogg**

Comprehensive Visualisation and Quantification of the Radiocarpal and Intercarpal Ligaments

Poster: **Peter Ward**

Interactive Digital Histology Sessions - A Method to Improve Student Engagement

Translational Research Award

Platform: **Tatsuo Sato**

Photographic Demonstration of Actual Dissection of Lymphatic Relationships: Esophagus and Stomach

Poster: **Koichi Watanabe**

Anatomical Findings of Retaining Ligaments and Septum in the Deep Fat Compartment of the Cheek

Sandy Marks Poster Awards

Basic Science: Trenton Jackman

Are Soft-Embalmed Cadavers Better for Histopathological Study?

Educational Research: Christopher Johnson

Etiology of Pseudoconclusion: Phenomenon of Pseudoreplication in Anatomical Research

Clinical Anatomy: Mai-Lan Johnston

Intramuscular Aponeuroses and Fibre Bundle Morphology of Flexor Digitorum Superficialis: A 3D Study

The Ralph Ger Student Platform Presentation Award

John Tran

Augmented Reality for Regional Anesthesia (AR4RA): A 3D Education Tool for Image-Guided Procedures

Early Career Awards

Basic Science: Meghan Flannery

Identification of Tissue Factor as a Potential Biomarker for Early Detection of Ovarian Cancer

Basic Science: Mikaela Stiver

Trapezius Architecture in Infancy and Adulthood: Preliminary Developmental Insights

Clinical Anatomy: Cameron Beck

Novel Investigation of the Deep Band of the Lateral Plantar Aponeurosis and Lateral Plantar Nerve

Clinical Anatomy: Valera Castanov

Do Functional Pairs of Extraocular Muscles Have Similar Excursion and Force Generating Capabilities?

Educational Research: Anthony D'Antoni

Triangular Fibrocartilage Complex: An Anatomical, Radiological and Medical Illustration Study

Educational Research: Sarah Greene

Sharing Personal Information About Anatomical Body Donors: What Do the Students Think?

Educational Research: Edgar Meyer

Perception versus Performance: Discrepancies in Students' Perceived and Actual Retention of Anatomy

Educational Research: Danielle Royer

SOARing to New Heights: Evaluation of a New Interactive Supplement to a Medical Anatomy Course



2019 AACA Meeting Survey Results – Summary

Each year the AACA sends out a post-conference survey to all attendees and exhibitors. This year we had a lower attendance than what is typical for the Annual Conference but we are looking forward to a great turnout in New York next year. Below is a brief summary of the attendee survey results.

- More than 80% of attendees agreed that the conference met their professional needs.
- Almost 90% said they would attend this meeting again in the future and recommend attending to students and other colleagues.
- Only 28% of attendees downloaded the mobile app guide for the conference, however 78% believe we should continue using one as a future meeting tool.
- The timing of the conference is still split – 34% said the meeting should be held in Mid-June, 15% said the meeting should be held in Mid-July, and 39% said both options worked fine.
- Regarding platform presentations, 60% said each platform was just the right length of time, 66% said that 16 platforms was just about right or we could use more, and 26% said there should be more variety in the topics presented.
- Regarding the poster sessions, 80% said they professionally benefitted from attending and 95% said the poster size was acceptable.
- 90% of attendees believe that the Silent Auction should continue, but that there should be more participation in bringing items from attendees as well vendors.

When asked why you maintain involvement with the AACA, you answered:

“I have maintained involvement because of the colleagues, mentors, and mentees I’ve met at the meetings. I have developed enduring and supportive professional relationships that have been career-changing for me.”

“I found a professional home at AACA.”

“Culture of mentorship and focus on clinical anatomy is a rare find amongst professional societies.”

The Annual Conference continues to be a great place for networking opportunities not only with exhibitors but with colleagues in varying fields and studies. The AACA will continue to strive to improve each aspect of the Annual Conference. Please continue letting us know if there is anything we can improve upon for upcoming meetings and membership services!



Members' News

Congratulations Dr. Lachman!

Dr. **Nirusha Lachman**, Ph.D., has been appointed as the new Chair of the Department of Anatomy, overseeing Rochester, Arizona and Florida Campuses. Dr Lachman was also elected as a Legacy member of the Academy of Educational Excellence, Mayo Clinic.



Congratulations Dr. Ward!

Dr. **Peter J. Ward**, Ph.D., has been promoted to full professor at the West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine.



Stay Engaged!

We are interested in promoting communications between all AACA members, and we believe our

newsletter would help in this effort. Therefore, if you would like to share your news, remind people of a conference, announce an award or a call for papers, or you are looking for a research collaborator, please send a 75 word (maximum) to our newsletter editor, Dr. Mohammed Khalil, DVM, MEd, PhD KHALILMK@greenvillemed.sc.edu. Make sure your message is clear, appropriate, and includes your contact information.

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