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Newsletter

ASMHTP Connections

A quarterly newsletter for those interested in the multicultural perspective in health care and transplantation.

American Society of Multicultural Health and Transplant Professionals

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The President's Corner



As ASMHTP kicks off its fourteenth year, I would like to welcome the 34 new members who joined us in 2005. Many of you have been in the field for some time and some of you are completely new.

Nonetheless; we welcome you and are delighted to have you. I pray that we can learn from each other and that we only strengthen one another to keep pushing and saving lives through transplantation.

Looking ahead, we are planning to have a great year. So far, we have already begun preliminary plans for the 2006 annual meeting. I'm pleased to announce that it will be held in Dearborn, Michigan and hosted by the Gift of Life Michigan, the state's federally designated OPO. The committee chairperson is Remonia Chapman. She is already hard at work with her team/committee. Information is forthcoming regarding the annual conference. Trust me; you don't want to miss it!

I would like to thank our Immediate Past President Salvador Guerrero for all of his hard work this year. With Salvador's leadership, we were able to have a stronger national presence within the field of donation. Salvador is also responsible for getting us heavily involved with the Breakthrough Collaborative and is credited with leading us through our first annual strategic planning session which was held in Houston, TX in May (thanks LifeGift).

Finally, let's all remember why we are here; LIFE. It is through the miracle of transplantation that some of my closest friends are alive and well. And, if you are like me, you too know of someone who has received of the greatest gift-*the gift of life*.

Thank you,

Jeff Thomas

President, ASMHTP

Gracias, Salvador, Para un Año Exitoso!

ASMHTP and it's membership would like to thank Salvador Guerrero for his many accomplishments during the 2004 term. During his term as ASMHTP President, Salvador hit many, if not all of the goals that he had set for ASMHTP, including:

- Increase participation in the national dialogue
- Placement of ASMHTP Display Board at industry conferences
- Presentations at conferences by ASMHTP members
- Recognition of ASMHTP as a national leader in minority issues
- First official Board of Directors Retreat

Salvador will continue serving as Chair of the ASMHTP Nominating Committee. Many thanks for all of your hard work and continued dedication to our organization!



2005 ASMHTP Lifetime Achievement Award Recipient—Dr. Oscar

This year, ASMHTP honored Dr. Oscar Salvatierra for his contributions to the transplant industry by bestowing him with the 2005 ASMHTP Lifetime Achievement Award. Dr. Salvatierra currently is Professor of Surgery and Pediatrics at the Stanford University of Medicine in Stanford, California. Currently he is studying post-transplant treatment methods that would eliminate the use of steroids in children who have undergone a kidney transplant.

Dr. Salvatierra began his career in the transplant industry as a combat surgeon in Vietnam who worked with patients undergoing renal failure. After returning to the U.S., Dr. Salvatierra focused on and became a pioneer in pediatric kidney transplantation. In his over 30 years as a surgeon, both at University of California San Francisco (UCSF) and Stanford University, Dr. Salvatierra has performed more than 2,000 transplants, 700 of them in children.

During his career, Dr. Salvatierra was involved in several integral “steps forward” which led to extraordinary improvements in how children and babies were treated when encountered with renal failure. One such protocol was transplanting one adult kidney in place of two failing kidneys within a child over 20 pounds. In another, he was able to treat a cancer-ridden kidney by removing it, treating it with radiation, and then re-implanting the same organ into the pediatric patient.

Dr. Salvatierra also encouraged donor to recipient blood transfusions at a time when the medical establishment frowned upon such a practice. This eventually led to the development of bone marrow transplantation from donor to recipient in order to foster independence from immunosuppressive medication in transplant patients. Besides his work in the OR, Dr. Salvatierra was also involved in developing the legislation that eventually led to the establishment of the Organ Transplant Act which was signed into law in 1984.

After graduating from Georgetown University in 1957, Dr. Salvatierra completed medical school at USC four years later where he also completed his fellowship in urology and vascular surgery. After returning from Vietnam, he joined the faculty of UCSF from 1974-1991 and then joined Stanford where he now practices.

Congratulations, Dr. Oscar Salvatierra!



Dr. Oscar Salvatierra accepts the ASMHTP Lifetime Achievement Award from 2004-2005 ASMHTP President Salvador Guerrero.

ASAP—HOPE : An International Perspective on Organ Donation

This year, ASMHTP had the pleasure of presenting two speakers from the Philippines who shared their perspective on organ donation and transplantation. The two speakers were Dr. Edwin Gapayao Tan and Eusebio Alvarado. Their presentation centered around the knowledge, beliefs and attitudes of nursing students in the metro Manila area and their perceived effect on the deceased donation program in the Philippines.

Dr. Gapayao shared that a majority of the current transplants being done in the Philippines are living-related kidney transplants. There are thousands of kidney patients in the Philippines, most of whom currently choose to undergo hemodialysis at private clinics. Because the Filipino government subsidizes very little of the medical cost of ESRD patients, many patients are unable to afford dialysis and must opt for a kidney transplant.

There are approximately 14 transplant centers in the Philippines with most of them concentrated in the metro-Manila area. Approximately 200 transplants are done each year at these facilities, 65% of which come from living-related donors. The graft survival rate for first year post-transplant is around 90%.

The California Transplant Donor Network created ASAP-HOPE (Adopt-a-Special-Agency in the Philippines-Human Organ Preservation Effort) as part of the Adopt-a-Barangay Coalition (ABC) to facilitate the material and financial contribution to certified non-profit organizations in the Philippines. H.O.P.E. is the only organ procurement organization in the Philippines. For over 15 years, H.O.P.E. has been attached to a government-run transplant center, the National Kidney and Transplant Institute. In previous years, H.O.P.E. had ten deceased organ donors. Unfortunately, an underdeveloped economy, lack of medical equipment (e.g. ventilators) and supplies (e.g. medicines and fluids) greatly hinders an increase in deceased donors and its ability to offer organ transplantation as a viable medical treatment for end-stage organ failure. However, there is a bright future for organ transplantation from deceased donors as the country continues to develop its liver and thoracic organ transplant programs.

For two consecutive years, the Transplant Network has sponsored transplant coordinators from H.O.P.E. and has provided training for deceased donor management and system development. The Transplant Network has pledged continued collaborative partnership and support to H.O.P.E in hopes of saving lives in the Philippines as well as using this partnership to increase consent rates amongst the Filipino community here in the U.S.



Welcome Reception



ASMHTP 2005 Annual Meeting



Breakthrough
Collaborative Workshop



Networking Lunches



Morning Walk



Presentations/Speakers



Past, Present and Future
ASMHTP Presidents

San Francisco, CA



Expanding our
Multicultural Perspective

Media Interview



Closing Ceremony

ASMHTP Committees - 2005-2006 Presidential Charges

Below you will find the 2005-2006 ASMHTP committee charges as set forth by President Jeff Thomas. After each committee title, you will also find the name of the Chairperson for each committee. An organization cannot reach it's goals without the hard work of each of their committees. If you are interested in becoming a part of making ASMHTP a success, please consider becoming part of one (or more) of these committees. For more information, please contact the main office at the information listed on the last page of this newsletter.

Membership Committee (Chair: Marisa Perez)

Increase membership by 40%, develop welcome packet for new members,

Finance Committee (Chair: Rudy Morgan)

Maintain accurate financial records, monthly report for Board of Directors, recruit the next treasurer, submit financials at annual meeting.

Fundraising Committee (Chair: Monica James)

Raise funds for the operation of ASMHTP and for the annual meeting with a goal of \$50,000.00.

Public Relations Committee (Chair: Sandy Andrada)

Publish quarterly newsletter "ASMHTP Connections", create and distribute press releases as needed, PR Chair may act as spokesperson for organization

Planning Committee (Chair: Remonia Chapman)

Responsible for planning all aspects of the annual meeting, as well as working with UNOS Travel and the Fundraising Committee. Develop and distribute "Save the Date" cards, meeting brochures and agendas.

Strategic Planning Committee (Chair: ASMHTP BOD)

The Board of Directors will make up the Strategic Planning Committee and will convene once a year to analyze and develop a strategic plan for the organization. Committee's main objective is to ensure the life of the organization from both a financial and socially prudent standpoint

Multicultural Education Task Force (Co-Chairs: Kate Andrews and Tina Evans-Caines)

Work in conjunction with APOPO Multicultural Affairs Committee to eliminate duplication of efforts. Develop and maintain list of current and non-current members that represent the Hospital Development and Community Education disciplines for best practices questions from a multicultural standpoint. Keep board of directors informed of issues that may arise as a result of the Breakthrough Collaborative.

Bylaws Committee (Chair: Yoli Montemayor)

Maintain a current copy of the bylaws at all times, submit calls for amendments, review proposed amendments, secure and consult a Parliamentarian both for bylaw changes and for the annual business meeting.

Research Committee (Chair: Victoria Dent)

Annually secure abstracts to be presented at the annual conference based on scientific research, data collection and papers of position. Ensure posters are made and displayed at the annual conference

Nominating Committee (Chair: Cliff McClenney)

Request and submit nominations to the board of directors based on outgoing officers. Send out request for nominations and ballots in a timely manner. Make recommendation to the board of directors to fill vacancies should there become a vacancy.





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The American Society of Multicultural Health and Transplant Professionals is a multicultural organization who serves health and transplant professionals by providing leadership in a national capacity on matters of diversity facing the transplant industry.

ASMHTP Connections is a newsletter provided quarterly by ASMHTP to its members and friends. We welcome articles for consideration in future issues of ASMHTP Connections or suggestions for articles. Please submit these to the ASMHTP offices.

Thank you for your continued support of our mission in the transplant and healthcare community!
