

# SRS NEWS

November 2006

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## Introducing George H. Thompson, M.D.

*2006-2007 Scoliosis Research Society President*

It is my honor to introduce to you George H. Thompson, M.D., who became our society's president at the conclusion of the 41st annual meeting in Monterey, California. For those of you who were unable to attend the meeting and George's introduction as president, I would like to share a small, but significant amount of George's background.

George received his M.D. from the University of Oklahoma, completed his orthopedic residency at UCLA and served in the USAF both in active duty and in the reserves, achieving the rank of Major. He received his pediatric orthopedic fellowship in Toronto at the Hospital for Sick Children under the tutelage of Robert Salter.

George located to Cleveland after his fellowship and has worked his way up the academic ladder, achieving Vice-Chairman, Academic Affairs in 1999 at the Department of Orthopaedic Surgery, University Hospitals of Cleveland, Case Western Reserve University. He was just honored last week with the Rainbow Chair for Excellence in Pediatrics at Rainbow Babies and Children's Hospital of Cleveland, of which he is currently their Director of Pediatric Orthopaedics.

George has been a prolific writer and educator and is currently the editor of the Journal of Pediatric Orthopaedics. He brings an extraordinary amount of experience to the plate as president of the SRS, including his past service as president of the Ohio Orthopaedic Society, president of POSNA, member of the SRS Board of Directors from 1999-2001, SRS Vice President 2004-05 and SRS President Elect 2005-06.

I am pleased to have such an experienced leader replacing me as your president of the Scoliosis Research Society. In addition to what I have mentioned, we worked very closely over the past year on SRS issues and I can tell you with confidence that that society is in very capable hands. George and I are tasked with continued challenges as we ask the society members to strive for excellence in research and education around the globe. Therefore, please join me in welcoming George H. Thompson as your new president, a man I am truly honored to call my friend.

Behrooz A. Akbarnia, M.D.  
2005-2006 President, Scoliosis Research Society

### PRESIDENTIAL REPORT — *George H. Thompson, M.D.*



As I prepare my first report as the President of the Scoliosis Research Society (SRS), I would like to thank all the members for their trust and support. This is a wonderful honor, which I take quite seriously and with a pledge to do my very best. I would like to offer a heartfelt thanks to our outgoing president, Behrooz A. Akbarnia, M.D. I have been involved with societal, divisional, and departmental leadership for a long time, and I can honestly state that he is one of the most effective leaders that I have ever had the opportunity of working with. I look

forward to having him work closely with me as our first Past-President this coming year.

I would also like to extend a thank you to our outgoing Board of Directors members, including Keith Bridwell, M.D., third Past-President; and Steve Mardjetco, M.D. and Mark Weidenbaum, M.D., Members-at-Large. Their support and commitment to the SRS has been invaluable. I would also like to extend a congratulations to our new board members, Oheneba Boachie-Adjei, M.D., Vice President; Steve Mardjetko, M.D., Treasurer-Elect; David Polly, Jr., M.D., Secretary-Elect; and

*Presidential Report, continued on page 2*



### SCOLIOSIS RESEARCH SOCIETY Mission Statement

The purpose of Scoliosis Research Society is to foster the optimal care of all patients with spinal deformities

B. Stephens Richards, III, M.D. and Larry Lenke, M.D., Directors-at-Large. Congratulations to Mark Weidenbaum, M.D. for being elected to the Fellowship Committee. This will result in an expanded board for 2007. However, this will be an extremely busy year and one in which additional members will be welcome and helpful.

We all owe a special thank you to the local hosts for the 2006 annual meeting. Jeffery Kanel, M.D., Jeffery Coe, M.D., and John Lonstein, M.D. organized and implemented the largest SRS meeting in history. We had over 1000 registrants. The social program was outstanding and the weather was wonderful. I would like to thank the Program Committee for organizing and implementing an outstanding scientific program.

2006 was a very productive year for the SRS. Some of the highlights of this year, other than the largest annual meeting ever, included:

- Reorganization of committees. Dr. Akbarnia and I have always recognized the importance of societal committee memory. We, therefore, changed the committee structure to include a chair-elect, chair, and past-chair. We felt that this would be the most important way of maintaining strong leadership in the committees and to maximize their effectiveness.
- Continued implementation of the 2005 Strategic Plan. This undoubtedly will require several more years to fully implement. It will then be evaluated periodically to be certain that the necessary changes are made to respond to the ever-changing needs of the society.
- Industry Relations Task Force. This was developed this past year to deal with industry-related issues. It is our goal to develop clear, transparent relationships with industry that avoid conflicts of interest. Similar goals were desired by Industry. This has led to the establishment of new research grants. Five companies (SYNTHES Spine, DePuy Spine, Stryker Spine, Kyphon, and Medtronic) are providing \$25,000 per year for five years to support research. The Research Committee will be responsible for organization and administration of these grants. Industry has been allowed to set parameters for their grants, but the specific topics and recipients are left to the discretion of the Research Committee.
- 2005 marked the largest group of new members (75). Many of these were international spine surgeons.
- Shands Circle donors. The SRS, now has 80 Shands Circle members. This represents the largest, single societal membership. We intend to expand this even further over the next several years. Nobumasa Suzuki, M.D. became the first international spine surgeon to become a member.
- SICOT. Recently, the SRS was extended an invitation to become the main educational arm for spinal deformity of SICOT. We have accepted. Hopefully, we will begin having a half-day or one-day meeting at the SICOT annual meetings. This will be open to all orthopaedic surgeons in attendance. This will essentially let us offer a third regional course per year.
- American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons (AAOS). Finally, we are partnering with the AAOS to increase our relationship with our parent organization. This past year, we

had simultaneous East Coast and West Coast meetings that were well attended and resulted in a shared profit between the SRS and AAOS. A similar single-site course is planned for this coming year. We were also selected to have a joint radio broadcast with the academy. The topic chosen was school screening for scoliosis. We also plan to further expand our relationship with the AAOS by participating with some of their worldwide regional educational courses. The Board feels that this is in keeping with our goal of being an international spine deformity society.

**My personal goals for the SRS in 2007 are extensive. These include:**

- Implementation of our updated web site. It was the number one goal from the 2005 Strategic Plan. The Board wishes our web site to be the best source of information on spinal deformity for members, other physicians, as well as patients and families. The web sites have been moved inhouse at EDI where the webmaster will be available to Tressa Goulding, Executive Director, on a daily basis. We hope to have it operational by the first part of 2007. All committees will share in the updating and maintenance of the information on the web site.
- The Industry Relations Task Force Committee will continue its work with Industry to establish the clear transparent relationship without conflict of interest. A Conflict of Interest statement has been developed by John Dormans, M.D. for the Society and is awaiting final Board approval. Another policy on how SRS deals with Industry is also being developed. Hopefully, these will prevent any further concerns regarding conflict of interest between Industry and our membership. An Industry Advisory Board has been created that will meet with task force at the IMAST Annual Meeting. This will allow open dialog between Industry members giving at the Diamond Level and the SRS.
- We are entering the era of evidence-based medicine. In order to remain current with this concept, a retreat is planned at the time of the AAOS Annual Meeting in San Diego. This retreat will deal with the evaluation of the 2005 Strategic Plan and the implementation of the evidence-based medicine policies. Facilitators from both areas will be involved with this retreat.
- The Policy and Procedure Manual is being updated. It needs to be an ongoing reference to the operational aspects of the Society. I anticipate that this will facilitate board, committee, and other societal activities in the future. Our bylaws will be revised. Those aspects that are truly policy and procedure will be transferred to this manual. This will facilitate policy and procedural changes in the future without having to change the bylaws.

As you can tell from the accomplishments of 2006 and the goals of 2007, the Scoliosis Research Society is ever expanding and growing. I look forward to working with all of you this coming year. It should be a very exciting and prosperous year.

If you have questions and concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.

George H. Thompson, M.D.  
President, Scoliosis Research Society

# 41<sup>st</sup> Annual Meeting – Monterey, California

This year's meeting in Monterey had over 1,000 registrants, making it the best attended SRS meeting in history! Special thanks go to President, Behrooz A. Akbarnia, and the Board of Directors, the local hosts Jeffrey Coe, Jeffrey Kanel, and John Lonstein. The meeting and courses were again outstanding this year thanks to Jim Roach, Program Committee Chair and Steve Glassman, Education Committee Chair.

In addition to the pre-meeting course "Modern Techniques in Spine Deformity Surgery: Is the Evidence as Good as Theory?" which ran with concurrent adults and pediatric sessions, there were two breakout sessions, "Introduction to Global Outreach" and "Introduction to Research Grant Writing". Two lunchtime ICL's were offered, as well as two scientific program lunches, "Outcomes in Spinal Deformity Surgery", and "Casting and Halo Traction".

We would like to thank Dr. Dennis Wenger, this year's Presidential Guest Lecturer, who spoke on Spine Surgery at the Crossroads: Does Economic Growth Threaten our Professionalism? Dr. Alain Dimeglio, the Harrington Lecturer, spoke about the Growing Spine.

Special thanks to all of you who participated in this year's "Monterey Challenge". We received over \$116,000 in donations and pledges!

Congratulations to all of this year's winners. They are:

## Russell Hibbs Clinical Award

*Detection Of Impending Neurologic Injury During Surgery For Adolescent Idiopathic Scoliosis: A Comparison Of Transcranial Motor And Somatosensory Evoked Potential Monitoring In 1121 Consecutive Cases*

Joshua D. Auerbach, MD; Daniel M. Schwartz, PhD, DABNM; Denis S. Drummond, MD; Kristofer J. Jones, BA; John M.

Flynn, MD; Yaser El-Gazzar; Thomas McPartland, MD; J. Andrew Bowe, MD; Samuel Laufer, MD; Peter D. Pizzutillo, MD; J. Richard Bowen, MD; John P. Dormans, MD

## Russell Hibbs Basic Science Award

*An Intradiscal Injection of Osteogenic Protein-1 Restores the Viscoelastic Properties of Degenerated Intervertebral Discs in the Rabbit Annular Puncture Model*

Howard S. An, MD; Kei Miyamoto; Jesse G. Kim, MS; Nozomu Inoue; Koji Akeda; Gunnar Andersson, MD; Koichi Masuda, MD

## Louis A. Goldstein Award

*Degenerative Spondylolisthesis of the Cervical Spine. A Long Term Follow-up Study*

Clayton L. Dean, MD; Josue P. Gabriel, MD; Michael J. Bolesta, MD; Ezequiel Cassinelli, MD; Henry H. Bohlman, MD

## John H. Moe Award

*Familial Idiopathic Scoliosis: Defining Genomic Loci on Chromosomes 9 and 16 Utilizing Custom SNP Panels*

Nancy Hadley Miller, MD; Beth Marosy, MS; Marie Helene Roy-Gagnon, PhD; Kimberly F. Doheny, PhD; Elizabeth W. Pugh, PhD; Alexander F. Wilson, PhD; Cristina M. Justice, PhD

## Evidence Based Medicine Award

*A Large-Scale, Level 1, Clinical And Radiographic Analysis of an Optimized rhBMP-2 Formulation as an Autograft Replacement in Posterolateral Lumbar Spine Fusion*

John R. Dimar II, MD; Steven D. Glassman, MD; J. Kenneth Burkus, MD; Philip W. Pryor, MD; James W. Hardacker, MD; Scott D. Boden, MD

Thank you to all who presented and participated.

SRS would especially like to thank the following companies for their generous support of the Annual Meeting and courses:

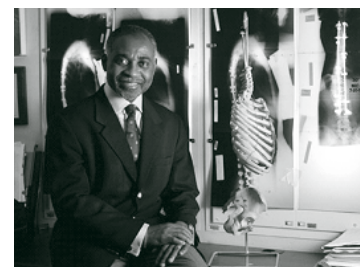
**Platinum Sponsors:** DePuy Spine, Medtronic, Stryker, Synthes Spine

**Bronze Sponsors:** Alphatec Spine, EBI Spine, Globus Medical, Sentinent Medical Systems, Zimmer Spine

## Walter P. Blount Service Award 2006 Winner

*Dr. Oheneba Boachie-Adjei*

This award honors those who act generously out of their sense of service to larger social and professional goals. The SRS Membership was asked to nominate those who volunteer their time to related organizations who offer charity care or reduced fees for poorer patients; or plan and initiate statewide scoliosis screening programs; or put in time on committee work out of the sense of duty to their institution or professional society. Dr. Boachie was chosen for this award due to his outstanding work in establishing the Foundation for Orthopedics & Complex Spine (F.O.C.O.S.) [www.orthofocus.org](http://www.orthofocus.org)



## Regional Meetings

Beijing, China  
April 4 – 5, 2007

InterContinental Hotel, Budapest, Hungary  
June 14 – 16, 2007

## 14<sup>th</sup> IMAST

SRS International Meeting on Advanced Spine Techniques  
Atlantis Paradise Island Hotel, Paradise Island, Bahamas  
July 11 – 14, 2007

## SRS 42<sup>nd</sup> Annual Meeting and Course

In conjunction with the British Scoliosis Research Society  
Edinburgh International Conference Centre  
Edinburgh, Scotland  
September 5 – 8, 2007

## 43<sup>rd</sup> Annual Meeting & Course

Salt Lake City, UT  
September 9 – 13, 2008

## Future Meetings

# The 13<sup>th</sup> Annual IMAST

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The 13<sup>th</sup> Annual IMAST meeting took place on July 13-15, 2006, and was held at the fabulous Hilton Hotel in the center of Athens, Greece with an outstanding view of the Metropolis. By all accounts, it was one of the most successful IMAST meetings ever. We had a record attendance of 625 registrants at the meeting, including the largest number of surgeons, 449, to ever attend the meeting. As a reflection of the international nature of the meeting, approximately one-third of the surgeons were from North America, one-third were from Western Europe, and the other third from other countries around the world. A total of 41 countries were represented at the meeting. Needless to say, the SRS's IMAST meeting is truly an international event!

From an academic perspective, following a record-number of abstracts submitted, 143 scientific papers were presented at the meeting, 50 traditional posters, and 409 e-posters. A new format was initiated, which included lightning rounds of five papers each presented in two minutes which allowed 40% more papers to be presented than in prior years. Although seemingly a daunting task, most attendees agreed that this format did and can work well and will be continued in the future to allow the maximum number of papers reflecting the outstanding research on current spinal surgical techniques to be presented in this forum. In addition, 33 instructional course lectures were presented in either a one-hour or one-and-a-half hour format. These were extremely well-attended, and also included food and beverage service which

really helped keep the rooms full during the lectures. Feedback received from attendees was quite positive regarding the entire academic program.

A wonderful opening reception was held on the top floor of the Hilton Hotel with a spectacular view of the Athens skyline on a perfect summer night. The night was made special with plentiful Greek food as well as authentic dancers and music providing entertainment for all to enjoy. The SRS would like to thank Dr. Theodoros Grivas, the local host and recent SRS International Traveling Fellow, for helping arrange such a successful meeting along with the help of his local organizing committee.

With that highly successful meeting in our past, we are looking forward to another great IMAST program July 11-14, 2007 at the famous Atlantis Hotel in Paradise Island, Bahamas. Also, we continue to finalize details on the 2008 meeting which will be held in Asia for the first time. The specific location and dates should be announced in the next several months.

We appreciate all of the support from those who have helped create IMAST into a truly international event. We invite those of you who have not experienced IMAST to please try to attend a future meeting. I would also like to acknowledge the excellent work by Jeremy Longhurst and his BroadWater meeting organizing group in helping to create such a successful meeting in Athens, as we look forward to the 2007 meeting in the Bahamas.

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## Endowment Committee

—Presented By Chair Jeffery L. Stambough, M.D., M.B.A.

On behalf of the Endowment Committee of the Scoliosis Research Society (SRS) I want to thank the members who have donated their generosity and support of the SRS's mission and research projects. The future of the SRS depends on its members support. T met by continued support of all our members. Currently we have a total of 412 donors to the campaign. Total contributions to the SRS endowment campaign is now at \$6,698,700.00. We also have 80 members who have joined the Schand's Circle. I would also like to especially thank Gene Wurth CEO of the Orthopaedic Research and Education Foundation (OREF) for his continued management and financial skills in assisting the SRS for its growth and contribution goals. Ed Hoover will be working directly with our committee as the OREF representative to the SRS Endowment Committee and we hope to have several local fund-raisers in the ensuing months.

I am sure that every member of the Scoliosis Research Society garners considerable value from this association. One way you can give back is becoming an SRS Endowment donor and earmark your money and/or estate for the Scoliosis Research Society. Currently the mechanism to do this is through the um-

rella of the Orthopaedic Education and Research Foundation. We have tried to make this process as easy as possible for you to donate either cash or through estate planning. This can be accomplished by adding an addendum or a codicil to your existing Will designating how the money is to be distributed through the OREF to the SRS Endowment Fund. If you would like to learn more about this, log on the website ([www.oref.org](http://www.oref.org)) and click on the *planned giving* tab to learn more about the value and mechanisms of estate planning as your first goal then secondly, how charitable giving can be an integral part of this process.

I would be remiss if I did not recognize the efforts of Dr. Howard King as the Chairman of the OREF Liaison Committee for the SRS. Dr. King envisioned the 10 by 10 program and has worked diligently to realize the goal of \$10 million by 2010. As you know his positions as well as all the committee positions in our organization are voluntary. Our members are dedicated surgeons, clinicians and leaders. Dr. King and others have worked diligently to further the future funding and financial base of our society and if you get a chance, you should thank them personally for their efforts.

Endowment Committee, *continued on page 5*

# Research Committee

— Brian Snyder, MD, PhD, Chair, Research Grant Committee

The charge of the research committee is to facilitate cutting edge research to better understand the pathophysiology and treatment of spinal deformity from “cradle to grave”. The current members of the research committee: Peter Newton, William Donaldson, III, Munish Gupta, Matthew Dobbs, Kenneth Cheung, Howard An, Jeffrey Wang, Nathan Lebowhl, Marc Moreau, Kit Song, Benjamin Alman, Nancy Hadley Miller, and Cathleen Raggio are committed to making the SRS the premier sponsor of spine related research by helping the membership be successful in pursuing studies that will change our understanding of the etiology of spinal deformity and the methods we use to evaluate and treat spinal deformity in children and adults. To this end the Research Committee sponsored a grant-writing workshop during a break out session at the annual meeting in Monterey. Thanks to the generosity of contributions from the SRS membership to OREF, designated giving and our corporate partners we are now in a position to sponsor a number of meritorious research proposals to investigate outcomes and formulate guidelines using evidence based medicine; understand the genetics and biology contributing the etiology and development of spinal deformity; evaluate the utility of scoliosis screening and the efficacy of non-surgical treatment of spinal deformity; conduct biomechanical analysis of the deformed spine before and after treatment of spinal deformity; develop and evaluate the efficacy of innovative surgical techniques and instrumentation for correcting spinal deformity in growing children and adults. As announced at the annual meeting, Shane Burch received the Stryker New Innovation Grant to

study “The role of hypoxic stress on the vertebral growth plates of the developing spine and its potential role in pathogenesis of scoliosis”; Carol Wise received the Synthes Young Investigator Grant to study “Identification of genetic susceptibility in idiopathic scoliosis”, and Vedat Deviren received the Kyphon Adult Deformity Grant to study the “Minimally clinically important differences for spinal deformity: finding the threshold for clinically significant change”. In the coming year both Medtronic and DePuy will also be sponsoring additional grant awards.

We have received twelve small exploratory and new investigator grants for the October 1 grant cycle. The next grant cycle deadline for all grant submissions is April 1, 2007. Information and grant applications are available on the SRS website. The number of grants to be awarded depends on the quality of the grant proposals and the total money available to fund meritorious proposals. In addition to unsolicited, investigator driven grant proposal topics, we will also be instituting a new category of grant proposals where you the membership and the SRS board can request grant proposals that address a specific topic. We will be soliciting ideas for these “Request for Proposals” (RFP) where investigators will submit competitive proposals that examine a specific topic. Send your research ideas to us for consideration care of Amy Miller via email at [amiller@execinc.com](mailto:amiller@execinc.com). Furthermore, feel free to contact me if you want to discuss any issues relevant to the research committee at [Brian.Snyder@childrens.harvard.edu](mailto:Brian.Snyder@childrens.harvard.edu).

## Endowment Committee — *continued from page 4*

Asking for money is always somewhat awkward. As my orthopaedic chairman use to say “The profession gives you a lot so don’t forget to remember the profession in terms of your time and money”. We are all blessed with the ability to do spine and deformity surgery. As you reflect on your gifts and blessings remember the Scoliosis Research Society needs your money and time to continue to offer the courses, research, education forums, patient information and meetings, which parallel the society’s missions and goals. Please consider the SRS in your financial planning. It is never too early or too late to be a donor.

## SRS Endowment Fund Drive

The Board of Directors is asking for 100% participation from all members of the SRS. We need every member’s support in order to provide continued funding for spinal deformity research projects. If you haven’t already donated or pledged to the SRS Endowment Drive, please do so now. Donations should be sent to:

SRS Endowment Fund  
C/O OREF  
6300 N. River Rd, Ste 700  
Rosemount, IL 60018

You may contact Gene Wurth or Megan Wilson at OREF (1-847-698-9980) if you have questions or want more information on donation options.

If you would like to submit an article to the SRS Newsletter, please e-mail the article to [kszpara@execinc.com](mailto:kszpara@execinc.com) or [vkalen@email.arizona.com](mailto:vkalen@email.arizona.com)

# 2006 Corporate Sponsors

The SRS is pleased to acknowledge those companies who have provided financial support throughout the past year. This support has come in the form of gifts and grants to the Annual Meeting, IMAST, Global Outreach Scholarships for the Annual Meeting, the Edgar Dawson Scholarship Fund, SRS Traveling Fellowships, and the Research Endowment Fund. We sincerely appreciate each of these companies, who are helping the SRS fulfill its goals of providing education and fostering research.

## ■ *Diamond Level*



## ■ *Platinum Level*



## ■ *Gold Level*



## ■ *Silver Level*

EBI Spine, Kyphon

## ■ *Bronze Level*

Abbott Spine, Globus Medical, Sentinent Medical Systems, Zimmer Spine

## ■ *Donor Level*

Alphatec, Paradigm Bio Surgi Craft, Paradigm Spine, SpineVision, Transl

# Online Abstract Submission Site

Online Abstract Submission Site is now open for the SRS 42<sup>nd</sup> Annual Meeting and the 14<sup>th</sup> IMAST meeting.

To submit an abstract for the 42<sup>nd</sup> Annual meeting and/or to the SRS 14<sup>th</sup> IMAST meeting visit the SRS Web site ([www.srs.org](http://www.srs.org)). Full instructions for submission are available online.

## Meeting Location

The SRS 42<sup>nd</sup> Annual Meeting will take in place in Edinburgh, Scotland, perfect for the SRS meeting which is recognized as one of the leading world forums for information on all aspects of spinal deformity.

## Tentative Meeting Schedule\*

\* Subject to change

*Wednesday, September 5, 2007*

Full Day Scientific Session

Opening Ceremonies & Welcome Reception

*Thursday, September 6, 2007*

Morning Scientific Sessions

Sports & Tours in the Afternoon

*Friday, September 7, 2007*

Full Day Scientific Session

Reception at Hopetoun House

*Saturday, September 8, 2007*

Morning Scientific Sessions

## Scientific Content

The 42<sup>nd</sup> Annual Meeting will be comprised of the latest science in the field, presented as paper (oral) presentations, poster exhibits, and e-poster exhibits. Presenters will represent the best of the SRS and BSS membership, as well as non-members, from an increasingly international group of physicians and researchers. The Scientific Program, Poster and E-poster Exhibits will be selected by the Program Committee based on a blinding scoring of submissions.

Submitted abstracts for the 42<sup>nd</sup> Annual Meeting must fit into one of the following categories to be considered for presentation:

Adolescent Idiopathic Scoliosis

Adult Spinal Deformity

Aging Spine

Basic Science

Bone Grafting

Cervical Reconstruction

Complications

Congenital Scoliosis

Diagnostic Methods

Etiology/Natural History

Evoked Potentials

Genetics

Infection

Innovative Methods

Kyphosis



## Abstract Categories — *continued*

Lumbar Degenerative

Miscellaneous

Motion Preservation

Neuromuscular Scoliosis

Other

Spinal Biomechanics

Spinal Osteoporosis and Metabolic Bone Disease

Spondylolisthesis

Surgical Complications

Trauma

Tumors

## Submission Deadline

All abstracts (paper, poster, e-poster) must be submitted by February 1, 2007.

## Abstract Submission Length

Oral Abstract 300 word maximum

Précis of Abstract 1-2 sentence summary of the

Poster/E-Poster Abstract 150 word maximum

## Abstract Review

All abstracts submitted will be reviewed and graded blind by the SRS/BSS Program Committee.

## Disclosure and Licensing

Abstract submitters will be required to submit a Financial Disclosure Statement, an FDA Disclosure Form, and a Non-Exclusive Licensing Agreement. These forms are all available online during abstract submission at [www.srs.org](http://www.srs.org).

## Special Notes

*All authors will be required to complete a financial disclosure form in order for the abstract to be considered.*

The SRS Board of Directors has determined that the term “hardware” should not be used in written abstract submissions, oral presentations, poster presentations, and e-poster presentations. The terms “instrumentation,” “implants,” “constructs,” or “montage” should be used instead.

Brand names such as “Isola, TSRH, CD, etc.,” should not be used in your abstract, but should be replaced by a generic description of the instrumentation.

There is a strict limit of one graph, figure or table to each submitted abstract. NO EXCEPTIONS WILL BE MADE.

For Annual Meeting presentations, A MINIMUM (not average) two-year follow-up is required for all papers except those dealing with innovative methods. No patients with less than a two-year follow-up should be included in your data. Two-year follow-up is not required for papers submitted to IMAST.

The SRS “Biomechanical and Nomenclature Terms” glossary for use in abstract submissions is available online at [www.srs.org](http://www.srs.org) in the Medical Professionals section.

**Vision Statement** The SRS will increase its recognition domestically and internationally as the leading source of information and knowledge on spinal disorders affecting all patients, regardless of age.

## Strategic Plan

- Goal 1. Funding:** The Scoliosis Research Society will have a funding base large and diversified enough to ensure financial independence in funding research and sound fiscal operating policies.
- Goal 2. Research:** The Scoliosis Research Society will be the global source of research on spinal deformities
- Goal 3. Education:** The Scoliosis Research Society will be the global source of education on spinal deformities
- Goal 4. Globalism:** Through its members and programs, the Scoliosis Research Society will improve spinal deformity care globally
- Goal 5. Advocacy:** The Scoliosis Research Society will be recognized as the leading resource for information and public policy on spinal deformities.
- Goal 6. Society Leadership:** The Scoliosis Research Society will operate in a manner consistent with its stature as the pre-eminent spinal deformity society.

## 2006-2007 Board of Directors & Committee Chairs

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George H. Thompson, MD

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David W. Polly, Jr., MD

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Richard E. McCarthy, MD

### Treasurer Elect

Steven M. Mardjetko, MD,  
FAAP

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John P. Dormans, MD

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### *Finance*

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### *Global Outreach*

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### *Growing Spine*

John (Jack) Flynn M. Flynn, MD

### *Historical*

Nathan H. Lebowhl, MD, *Historian*

### *IMAST*

Lawrence Lenke, MD

### *Industry Relations*

George H. Thompson, MD

Behrooz Akbarnia, MD, *Co-Chair*

### *Instrumentation*

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