PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE
JERZY B. GAJEWSKI, MD

Dear Members, Colleagues and Friends:

As the summer months begin, the planning of the Section’s 66th Annual Meeting continues. The beautiful Ritz Carlton hotel situated on the beaches of Amelia Island, FL will be our retreat for this year’s meeting, November 13 - 15, 2014.

Amelia Island has a very rich and compelling history. The eight flags flown over the island included those from: France, Spain (many periods), England (the Patriots of Amelia Island), the Green Cross (raised by a self-proclaimed ruler), Mexico (the Mexican Rebel flag), the Confederate States of America, and the United States. The French visited, the Spanish developed, the English named, the Americans tamed and pirates made it intriguing.

This year’s Scientific Program Chair Dr. Ricardo Rendon has put together a first-rate program that will emphasize practical approaches for managing clinical problems. Some of our guest speakers invited from outside the Section include: Dr. Philip Dahm, this year’s distinguished Slotkin Lecturer who will speak on active surveillance in prostate cancer and Jeffrey Palmer who will speak on congenital problems in patients transitioning to adulthood. Dr. Abraham Morgentaler is this year’s AUA Course of Choice speaker and will discuss the hot topic of testosterone therapy. Dr. Roger Dmochowski will provide his expertise on bladder outlet obstruction and refractory overactive bladder, and Demetrius Bagley will speak on upper tract urothelial cell carcinoma. Many of our own Section members will also be featured on the program in various educational forums and debates.

I have had the pleasure of putting together this year’s social program which will acquaint you with the beautiful seaside location of Amelia Island. Our Friday evening Fun Night event will be a pirate themed bash on the beach – not to be missed! Also, the President’s Banquet on Saturday evening will feature salsa dancing lessons. We will bring back the golf and tennis tournaments this year both of which will be held on the grounds at the Ritz Carlton. Friday morning’s 5K run will be a refreshing way to wake up and take in the sunrise on the beach.

This year’s tour options are quite unique. Salt Custom Blend will provide an interactive experience where you get to create your own unique fragrance. The Honey for Health Workshop will teach you the nutritional and health benefits of honey. Finally, on board the Amelia River Cruise, you will take a scenic tour of the island guided by a local historian who will share interesting history about the island.

This year’s meeting is not to be missed! Registration and housing will open in July. I look forward to welcoming you to Amelia Island this November!
Recently, while waiting to board an airplane homebound, I had the opportunity to observe the pilot perform a walk around of the plane as part of his “pre-flight” checklist just prior to our departure. His practices strive to protect his passengers from danger. We strive with similar practices to try and improve the safety of our patients. Finding ways to incorporate patient safety techniques and theory into everyday practice is the challenge of the active urologist.

One way is to learn from the examples of other professionals. The concept of “see something, say something!” is in widespread use since the post 9/11 era. It can also be applied to the medicine environment. John Nance, pilot and founding board member of the National Patient Safety Foundation, said to his crew before every flight: “You are my eyes and my ears. If you see, hear, feel, or intuit anything is wrong, you must tell me.” The application of this process to the medical team is obvious but not apparent or utilized enough. Utilizing a surgical time out is only the first piece. And feel free to add to your time out. For instance, I add the application of low-dose fluoroscopy to mine. But get everyone involved with the case and ready and comfortable to speak up if they should see anything amiss.

Other concrete examples of what you can do are many. Quote your own results and complication rates for starters. Start gathering your own data and provide patients with your actual outcomes. As you see what you are doing, comparing this information to your peers or to the literature can be very self-motivating to provide safer care. Are you a follower of guidelines? The fear of practicing “cookbook” medicine must be conquered for the greater good of providing quality care. Why do we still order bone scans for patients with low risk prostate cancer or perform shock-wave lithotripsy on patients with complete staghorn kidney stones? Ignorance for the general literature and avoidance of the guidelines is no longer acceptable care.

Involvement of your team can take these principles further. Have meetings with your operating room and clinic staff to discuss patient safety issues. If there is a specific issue, identify the root cause problem, DON’T BLAME THE INDIVIDUAL, and come to the group with a systems fix so it cannot occur again, no matter who is placed in that role. If the entire team is involved and invested with a culture of safety, the likelihood of safety success is much greater.

Incorporating these safety behaviors into your practice is no different from practicing surgical techniques. Start with a few more easily applicable ones as mentioned and start expanding your practice of safety. In the words of Aristotle: “Excellence is not an event, it is a habit.”
HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS - MARCH 2014 MEETING

2013 YEAREND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
The Combined Statement of Financial Position for the 12-month period reflects Total Assets of $2,068,716, with Net Assets (Equity) of $1,992,694. Total revenue of $404,123 and total expenses $451,011 resulted in an operating deficit of ($46,888). Total investment income and gain on investments of $208,223 resulted in a year end increase in Net Assets of $161,335. Members should note that the operating deficit includes $34,500 in research and education grants paid.

AUDIT
The auditing firm of McGladrey & Pullen, LLC audited the Section’s consolidated statements of financial position and the related consolidated statements of activities and cash flows. The auditors found no unusual or significant transactions conducted without proper accounting and guidance, there were no disagreements with management over the application of accounting principles, and all internal controls are in place. McGladrey therefore provided an unqualified opinion that the 2013 financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Northeastern Section and its Foundation.

INVESTMENTS
Ms. Dorothy Boyer, Merrill Lynch Investment Advisor, reported that for the calendar year 2013 the Section and Foundation combined investment return was a positive 11.44%. This compares to a blended passive return from benchmarks: Standard & Poor’s /Corporate Bonds/International/ cash of 11.08%. In September 2012 the Board expanded the threshold for rebalancing the Equity portions of the investment funds (allowing a deviation of up to 10 percent over the 40% allocation until rebalancing is required). This has helped maximize Equity during this time when bonds and CDs are yielding little return.

FROM THE SECRETARY
Dr. Kaufman provided a synopsis of the AUA Section Secretaries Membership Council meeting held in January. AUA’s Allied Membership Category was changed to separate Advanced Practice Nurses and Physicians Assistants (into a new category separate from other Allied Members). While the Section does not have these membership categories, the SSMC has discussed ways to identify these AUA members who reside in the Section and strategies about how education can best be delivered at the Section/State level.

LEADERSHIP
Dr. Gajewski led discussion regarding the candidates. The board recognized the highest scoring applicants for the 2014-2015 AUA Leadership Class and selected Dr. Darren Bieko from Queens University and Dr. Guan Wu from the University of Rochester.

2017 MEETING LOCATION
The Directors approved Savannah, GA as the location for the 2017 Section Annual Meeting. The Section will meet in the Hyatt Savannah. The meeting dates are October 12-14.

HISTORIAN’S REPORT
Dr. Rabinowitz distributed a written report and described this year’s AUA traveling exhibit “Skeletons in the Closet: Indignities and Injustices in Medicine” which was presented at the 2013 Section meeting in Saratoga Springs. Books on this topic/exhibit remain available for a $20 donation. He also reported that a new exhibit, entitled, “Pediatric Urology in America.” opened at the William P. Didusch Center for Urological History at AUA Headquarters.

REPORT FROM AUA BOARD REPRESENTATIVE
Dr. Denstedt reported on AUA’s eminent launch of Urology Practice (a new clinical Journal of the AUA, with Dr. Carl Olsson as Editor), as well as AUA’s initiatives with Guidelines and Data projects. Dr. Denstedt also reported on the new appointment of Dr. Richard Memo as Chair of the Urology Care Foundation, along with the appointment of three lay/public board members to the Foundation.

SCHOLARSHIP RESEARCH COMMITTEE
A report from Dr. Stephen Pautler summarized the work of the committee in 2013 in selecting the Young Investigator nominee and winners of the Resident Prize Essay contest. Dr. Pautler’s report mentioned that there have been submissions in the past from Medical Students which have been disqualified because the rules indicate that the contest is for residents only. The board voted to accept submissions from both residents and medical students in the future. Dr. Rabinowitz suggested that the Research Scholar at the AUA’s Research Forum should be required to present at the Section Meeting as well as the AUA Meeting. Further discussion ensued and it was agreed that the Research Scholar should be given a 15-minute presentation on the Section Plenary. The Board also congratulated Dr. Alp Sener for his selection as Research Scholar at the 2014 AUA Meeting in Orlando. Dr. Averch lead a short discussion about industry submitted abstracts and whether or not they should be permitted for presentation at the Section meeting. The Board agreed that presentation of abstracts must be given by doctors or trainees/students, not industry. If industry is involved with an accepted abstract, it must be sponsored by a Section member.

DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE REPORT
Dr. Greco reported that the Development Committee is actively seeking sponsorships for the 2014 meeting. A number of strategies are being pursued, such as adding industry to the e-mail list to share section news, welcoming support in exchange for face-time with leaders of the section, and planning in advance to meet again with industry at least one year in advance of future fall section meetings. Six doctors representing the Section will meet in Montreal in August with Canadian industry representatives to promote the 2015 meeting in Quebec City.
Thanks to the generous support of the Section, Moira Dwyer, MD traveled to Lusaka, Zambia to participate in an IVUmed surgical training workshop. The team, led by Francis Schneck, MD provided pediatric and reconstructive urology training to 10 doctors and nurses while serving 58 patients.

IVUmed has long shared a vision with its partners in Africa: building centers of excellence where doctors and nurses throughout the continent can receive world-class training. This vision is becoming a reality through the tireless efforts of pioneering providers in Africa, the dedication of IVUmed’s volunteer experts, and the support of generous partners like the Northeastern Section.

Of the workshop, Dr. Dwyer stated: “The experience was eye-opening for me. Although we were working in a University hospital with a familiar educational construct, the influence of Zambian culture on the medical teaching environment seemed to de-emphasize order and formality, traits that I had always thought facilitated surgical training. While I might have been inclined to maintain rigid expectations, Dr. Schneck taught me the importance of flexibility as an educator and medical missionary who is trying to enact the ‘Teach One, Reach Many’ philosophy - a lesson that I think will serve me well as I move to continue service with IVUmed and various cultures throughout my career.”
Fun Night
Pirate Event
Friday, November 14, 2014
7-10 p.m.

Somewhere along the uncharted waters of Amelia Island is an unknown hideaway of unsurpassed treasure. Enter the realm of a pirate’s fortress and beware of alligators and surly, peg-legged buccaneers!

One complimentary ticket is included with meeting registration. Additional tickets can be purchased for $100 for adults and $50 for children between the ages of 3-18. Children 2 years and under are free. Please be sure to list the total number of tickets you will need, including yourself, on the registration form.
Join us for the final banquet and take a stab at a group salsa lesson where you will learn the basic fundamentals and introductory techniques of salsa! Salsa is a fun and exciting social dance filled with playfulness and sensuality. End the weekend celebrations with a salsa-licious bang. Dancing with the Stars has nothing on the Northeastern Section!

Attire: Resort Casual

Cost: One complimentary ticket is included with meeting registration (Residents receive two tickets). Additional tickets are $75 and can be purchased at the Registration Desk.
Dr. Alp Sener Wins 2nd Place in AUA Research Forum

Congratulations to Dr. Alp Sener for winning second place in the AUA Research Forum in Orlando at the AUA Annual Meeting. The Forum is a competitive program showcasing top young investigators engaged in innovative, relevant and impactful research of high interest to the research community. Dr. Sener was one of 9 finalists chosen by the AUA Research Council and presented his research on Hydrogen Sulphide Supplementation in Renal Transplantation. A panel of senior investigators judged the presentations on content, delivery, relevance, innovation and potential impact. Way to go Dr. Sener!
SCIENTIFIC PROGRAM

Dr. Ricardo Rendon (Dalhousie University) has been hard at work planning this year’s scientific program which will focus on practical approaches for the management of common clinical problems. This year’s program will include expert speakers from inside and outside the section, participating in lectures, educational forums and debates.

Topics to be covered include:
• Prostate Cancer
• Upper Tract Urothelial Cell Carcinoma
• Detrusor Overactivity
• Kidney, Bladder, Testicular Cancers
• Testosterone Replacement
• Urethral Trauma
• Bladder Outlet Obstruction

This year’s Distinguished Slotkin Lecturer is Philip Dahm, MD from the University of Florida. Dr. Dahm will speak on Follow-up Schemes for Active Surveillance in Prostate Cancer on Thursday morning, November 13.

This year’s AUA Course of Choice speaker is Abraham Morgentaler from Men’s Health Boston. Dr. Morgentaler will be speaking on the hot topic of Testosterone Therapy on Friday morning, November 14.

Stay tuned for full program details set to mail in July.
SOCIAL PROGRAM
This year’s social program is packed with fun activities that take advantage of the meeting’s sea-side location.

• Exhibit Hall Grand Opening Reception
• Fun Night – A Pirate Themed Event on the Beach
• President’s Banquet – featuring salsa dancing
• 5K Fun Run/Walk on the beach
• Golf and Tennis Tournaments
• Tour Options Include: Salt Custom Blend, Honey for Health Workshop, and Amelia River Cruise

For detailed descriptions about each event, go to www.NSAUA.org

HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS
Immerse yourself in southern charm at The Ritz-Carlton, Amelia Island located on a grand stretch of the island’s 13 miles of coastline. With miles of pristine beaches to explore, you’ll find yourself basking in the glow of the sun as you swim, relax or walk along the sandy shore. The scientific sessions, exhibit hall and social events will take place on the grounds of the Ritz-Carlton hotel.

Room Rate: $249 USD Single/Double per night
Registration and Housing open July 14, 2014.
Register before October 10 to save $100!

DATES TO REMEMBER

July 14 – Registration & Housing Open
  – Deadline to Enter Resident Prize Essay Contest
August 18 – Deadline for Young Investigator Grant
October 10 – Discounted Registration Deadline
  – Last Day to Book Hotel Rooms
November 13 – 15 – Annual Meeting Dates

MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR FUTURE ANNUAL MEETINGS

Amelia Island
FLORIDA
66TH NSAUA ANNUAL MEETING
NOVEMBER 13-15, 2014

Quebec, QC
CANADA
67TH NSAUA ANNUAL MEETING
OCTOBER 29-31, 2015

68TH ANNUAL MEETING
SEPTEMBER 29 – OCTOBER 1, 2016
BUFFALO, NY

69TH ANNUAL MEETING
OCTOBER 12 – 14, 2017
SAVANNAH, GA
The AUA National Residents Bowl once again this year was the not to miss event at the annual meeting. The bowl matches the 8 sections against each other to test resident’s knowledge in different urological subspecialties, the history of urology and important new research finding.

This year’s Northeastern Section residents bowl, nicknamed Fournier’s Gang, made it past the first round beating out the North Central Section on Saturday, May 17th. Unfortunately, the New York Section defeated Northeastern in the semi-final round. In the end, the 2014 Residents Bowl trophy went home with the New England Section.

New this year, an international resident had the opportunity to participate in the bowl. Dr. Haibo Shen from China served as a valuable part of this year’s Northeastern Section team. Congratulations to this year’s team members: Himanshu Aggarwal (Albany), Stephen Blakely (SUNY Upstate), Peter Z. Wang (Western University), Eric Cole (McMaster), Annes Fazili (University of Rochester), Haibo Shen (China).
NATIONAL CHIEF RESIDENT DEBATE
Also competing for the section this year were our chief resident debaters. Gillian Stearns from SUNY Upstate competed against a chief resident from the New England Section on the topic of sperm retrieval and cryopreservation for a patient undergoing brain cancer treatment. Mike Fuoco from Queen’s University took on a chief resident from the New York Section and debated the topic of urodynamics. Both Drs. Stearns and Fuoco gave excellent presentations. Congratulations to Dr. Stearns for winning her debate!

ATTENTION RESIDENTS – IN-SERVICE EXAM TO BE ADMINISTERED IN AMELIA ISLAND
Don’t miss this year’s Annual Meeting because it’s the same time as the AUA In-Service Exam. The Section has arranged for the In-Service Exam to be proctored on Saturday, November 15 at the meeting 12:45 - 5:15 p.m., just bring your laptop. After the exam - hit the beach or golf course!

CASH PRIZES AVAILABLE FOR RESIDENTS!
Enter the Resident Prize Essay Contest Deadline is July 14, 2014 Submit your best manuscript for a chance to win cash! First Prize: $750 Cash Award Second Prize: $500 Cash Award Third Prize: $250 Cash Award Prize winners are also given 7 minutes to present research during the plenary in Amelia Island.
Submit your manuscript to NSAUA@AUAnet.org by July 14, 2014. Go to www.NSAUA.org for full guidelines.
2015 UROLOGY CARE FOUNDATION RESEARCH SCHOLARS PROGRAM

The competition is now open for the 2015 Urology Care Foundation Research Scholars Program! There will be at least ten funding opportunities available for one and two year awards with specific awards for research in neurotoxins and neurouropathological conditions of the bladder, urologic oncology, endourology and stone management, and AUA section specific awards. The application deadline is Thursday, September 4, 2014. A letter of intent is encouraged, but not required, and is due on July 18, 2014.

HAVE YOU PARTICIPATED IN THE AUA CENSUS?

The Annual AUA Census seeks to explore the profession of urology from multiple angles in one systematically-designed survey by collecting data from practicing urologists and other providers throughout the world. Comprised of both fundamental and specialized questions, this comprehensively designed and content integrated annual census, intends to cover all areas of the urology workforce, urology care, patients encounters and prescriptions written at national and state levels, just to name a few.

Data Collection – The Census will be introduced during the AUA 2014 Annual Meeting in Orlando, FL and will be available to participants until September.

Data Analysis – Data will be analyzed between October and November.

Data Reporting – A publication entitled, “The State of Urological Practice and Profession in the United States” will be released at the end of 2014.

AUA members who complete the Census will receive a free copy of this publication and will also be entered into a prize drawing to win a Kindle.

Take the AUA Annual Census!
WE’RE COUNTING ON YOU TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE.