Welcome to the latest issue of the NAME Foundation Newsletter. In this issue, we will be highlighting the NAME Annual Meeting, which was held in Minneapolis, MN. Thanks to all who made the meeting a resounding success. Remember that past issues of the Newsletter are available on the NAME Foundation webpage, which exists on the NAME website (www.thename.org). Thank you for your support, and please continue to support the NAME Foundation.

The NAME Annual Meeting, held in Minneapolis, MN, was one of the largest meetings on record, with more than 500 attendees. The program, organized by Dianne Little from Australia, was outstanding, with numerous superb oral/platform as well as poster presentations. As has been the trend for NAME meetings, there was another sizeable group of international attendees at this year’s meeting. Likewise, many up-and-coming forensic pathologists (students and pathology residents) participated in the meeting, as attendees and presenters. Various optional programs and events were also available throughout the meeting, including an ISO/IEC workshop, the NAME Foundation Fundraising Event featuring Dr. G, the 3rd Annual Organ/Tissue Bring Your Own Slides program, the 21st Annual Cadaver Open Golf Tournament, and the Annual Rigor Run/Walk. Although not an official part of the NAME program, the fact that there was a “Furry” convention taking place at the meeting hotel made for some interesting sites and
conversation. Please see the President’s message below for further details about the meeting. Thanks to all for another outstanding meeting. Looking forward to next year’s meeting in Arizona!

The Hyatt Regency Minneapolis, site of the 2016 Annual Meeting.

NAME President David Fowler speaking to the audience during the Scientific Program at the Annual Meeting.

NAME Executive Vice President Mary Ann Sens speaking to the audience during the scientific program.
The scientific program was well-attended.

Most attendees remained for the entire meeting.

International Attendee Reception

Poster Session at the Annual Meeting.

International Attendee Reception
NAME Executive Director Denise McNally with her new friend.

NAME Vice President-elect Kim Collins with her new furry friends in Minneapolis.

The 3rd Annual Organ/Tissue Bring Your Own Slides program.
Tom Noguchi’s 90th Birthday Celebration

The annual meeting was filled with several special events, one of which was the celebration of Tom Noguchi’s 90th birthday. As a way of expressing his thanks to NAME colleagues, Tom hosted this event on Saturday evening. Randy Hanzlick moderated the event, Tom received a few gifts, “Happy Birthday” was sung, and all attendees had an opportunity to greet Tom and offer him their congratulations.
NAME Foundation Fundraiser
Event Featuring Dr. G

Another highly-successful event which coincided with the NAME Annual Meeting was the first annual NAME Foundation Fundraising Event, which featured an introduction by Dr. Andy Baker, followed by the keynote speaker, Dr. G, our NAME Foundation Advocate. The Saturday-night event was truly impressive and well-received by all of those in attendance, including many high school, college, and medical school/graduate students. As a fundraising event for the Foundation, the event resulted in nearly $7000 of funds raised. Plans are already under way for a similar fundraising event in conjunction with next year’s meeting in Arizona. Thanks to all who participated, especially Andy and Jan.

Dr. G’s presentation was well-received by all of those in attendance, including numerous high school and college students.

NAME Foundation Report on Donations Received

Including donations received for the Dr. G Fundraising event, the 50th Anniversary Challenge Coin fundraiser, the annual silent auction, the 50/50 raffle, and Dr. Amy Martin’s annual yoga sessions, the NAME Foundation raised over $10,000 at this year’s annual meeting. Thanks to all who contributed, and welcome to all the new Foundation members!
NAME Foundation Travel Stipends Awarded to 18 Students and Residents

In addition to supporting the Best Paper/Poster Awards (see below), the NAME Foundation continued to provide financial support to students and residents who participated in the Best Paper/Poster competitions. Grants of $250 each were given to a total of 18 participants who fulfilled the criteria to qualify for the grant (made presentation at meeting, registered for meeting, provided manuscript to awards committee 1 week prior to meeting). Congratulations to all grant recipients!

Best Presentation Awards

One of the more “visible” functions of the NAME Foundation is its annual sponsorship of awards presented for “Best Papers” at the NAME Annual Scientific Meeting, including the John Smialek Best Resident (Platform and Poster) Papers, the John Pless Best Student (Platform and Poster) Papers, and the Mary Fran Ernst Best Affiliate Paper. Winners of the awards are provided with a certificate, along with a financial award. Several outstanding papers were under consideration for these awards. Robert Stoppacher and his committee (Russ Alexander, Nick Batalis, John Fernandes, Jan Gorniak, Diane Peterson, Keith Pinckard, and Mark Super) again did an outstanding job of evaluating and selecting the winners. Please note that the Susan P. Baker Public Health Impact Award is sponsored by the Maryland Medical Legal Foundation.

John Smialek Best Resident Papers:

Platform Presentation: Leah Schuppener, University of Wisconsin Hospital and Clinics, Madison, WI. Serratia marcescens: Hospital Infection Outbreak Following Pain Medication Diversion.

Poster Presentation: Tiffany Caza, SUNY Upstate Medical University, Syracuse, NY. A Complex Case of Loeys-Dietz Syndrome: An Autopsy Report and Review of the Literature.
John Pless Best Student Papers:
Platform Presentation: Danielle Pelletier, OCME, Concord, NH. Common Findings and Predictive measures of Opioid Overdoses.
Poster Presentation: Amy Fuhs, Indiana University School of Medicine, South Bend, IN. Death Resulting from Pneumocephalus Complicating Endoscopic Food Bolus Retrieval in a Patient with Eosinophilic Esophagitis.

Mary Fran Ernst Best Affiliate Paper:
Brian Ehret, Onondaga County Medical Examiner’s Office, Syracuse, NY. Using Case-Type Specific Data to Improve Medicolegal Death Investigation.

Susan P. Baker Public Health Impact Award:
Katrina Thompson, University of Wisconsin Hospital and Clinics, Madison, WI. Blastomycosis in Wisconsin: Beyond the Outbreaks.
Katrina Thompson, winner of the Susan P. Baker Public Health Impact Award.

Danielle Pelletier receiving her award from Rob Stoppacher, chair of the EPP-Scientific Presentations Awards Committee.

Leah Schuppener receiving the John Smialek Best Resident Platform Presentation Award from Rob Stoppacher at the Annual Awards Luncheon.

Other NAME Meeting Highlights

Bylaws Changes:
- Added category of membership specifically for medical students.
- Amended bylaws so that Board Maintenance of Certification is no longer required to maintain NAME “Fellow” status

Outstanding Service Award: James Gill

Thomas Noguchi Loyalty Award:
Tom Noguchi

AOPO’s Professional Leadership Award:
Michelle Jorden
New NAME Board Members:

Joyce deJong (Kalamazoo, MI)
Kent Harshbarger (Dayton, OH)
Judy Melinek (San Francisco, CA)
Owen Middleton (Minneapolis, MN)
Reade Quinton (Dallas, TX)
Rob Stoppacher (Syracuse, NY)
Barbara Wolf (Leesburg, FL).

Election of NAME Officers & Executive Committee Members:

President – Brian Peterson (Milwaukee, WI)
Vice-President – Kim Collins (Wadmalaw Island, SC)
Secretary-Treasurer – J. Scott Denton (Bloomington, IL)

Executive Committee Members:

Sally Aiken (Spokane, WA), Chris Milroy (Ottawa, ON), Kathy Pinneri (Conroe, TX)

NAME President Fowler presenting Tom Noguchi with the first “Thomas Noguchi Loyalty Award,” presented by the NAME President in recognition of Unfailing Collegiality and Generosity; for Inspiring Generations of Forensic Pathologists; and for Many Decades of Tireless Effort, Dedication and Enthusiasm Serving the National Association of Medical Examiners.

Michelle Jorden received the AOPO’s Professional Leadership Award, presented by Elling Eidbo of the Association of Organ Procurement Organizations.

NAME President David Fowler and President-elect Brian Peterson.
News from the NAME President

We are all back, hard at work, after a very successful annual meeting. There were over 500 registered attendees, an all-time high, with multiple new vendors and an excellent scientific program. There was an increase in international attendees, so many thanks to the international committee for making them feel so welcome and continuing to encourage growth in international membership. Mixed in with this scientific program was time to do some socializing, see old friends, make new friends, and get to meet residents and medical students who are our future. Behind this there were multiple committee meetings and a very short and productive business meeting keeping our organization functioning and ready to take on new challenges as they arise.

Not only did we have the traditional scientific meeting but there was an additional opportunity for the two days prior to the scientific meeting where over 40 individuals attended workshops for accreditation and ISO. These educational sessions were fully covered by CME credits and I believe provided an additional benefit for members.

We also had the opportunity to meet and have Rear ADM. Anne Schuchat, MD speak at our annual awards luncheon. Dr. Schuchat is the primary deputy director of the CDC. She is a career public health official and will continue to serve at the CDC after the election. Her comments at the luncheon, as well as to some of us who had an opportunity to meet her privately before the luncheon, indicate the CDC is showing renewed interest in the death investigation systems in the United States and the impact these have on public health data. I see this as a very positive sign and hope that this will translate into tangible benefits for us and the CDC.

Since the report by the National Academy of Sciences there has been significant interest at the federal level but mostly within the Department of Justice. As death investigators we have a responsibility to both public health and public safety. Now having the CDC take an additional interest in death investigation bodes well for the future. The initiatives taken by the Department of Justice obviously have significant importance to the well-being of the death investigation system. I think the one significant difference between any potential CDC relationship and that of the Department of Justice, would be that the CDC would be largely focused on death investigation
whereas the Department of Justice needs to focus on all of the forensic sciences.

Thanks to Dr. Tom Gilson for organizing a great Sunday evening discussion on the opioid crisis and the stress it places on our limited resources. It was extremely well attended, far exceeding anyone’s expectations. The discussion was lively and informative and while there were no solutions to the crisis we are facing, we at least had the opportunity to share our experiences and strategies as it is unlikely that this issue will disappear anytime soon, and in fact may well be the new norm.

There were two great sessions on toxicology which echoes what we are seeing on a daily basis and this also dovetailed very well with the Sunday evening discussion.

The Foundation organized a fundraiser on the Saturday evening which raised over $7000 for the Foundation. Jan did a great job as the speaker and I hope the Foundation will be able to repeat this activity in future years. Jan will be a hard act to follow.

Behind all of the activities we have to remember that Dee and Tara put in a phenomenal amount of work to make this all happen so smoothly. Thanks also to the Foundation for supporting most of the awards. The Foundation also provided some travel awards to residents and students who were presenting at the meeting. The money you donate to the Foundation goes to support all of these activities and more. Encouraging young pathologists to join our ranks is critical and the Foundation is taking an active part in bringing them to our meetings. I believe this initiative will bear fruit in the future.

NAME Foundation Board of Trustees and Membership Meetings

The NAME Foundation BoT met on Friday morning, September 9, in Minneapolis, MN, in conjunction with the NAME Annual Meeting. Items of interest which were discussed included all of the special events at the meeting, as well as various ongoing projects. The BoT unanimously elected the current officers to another year in the same positions. The Annual NAME Foundation Membership Meeting took place later on Friday. As there are no BoT members moving off of the Board, there were no elections that occurred; however, as of January 1, 2017, our ex officio members from the NAME leadership will change slightly. After many years of dedicated outstanding service to both NAME and the Foundation, current NAME Chair of the Board Marcus Nashelsky will be “graduating.” Thanks for your excellent service Marcus! Current NAME President David Fowler will continue on the BoT as NAME Chair of the Board. Brian Peterson will be on the BoT as NAME President. Finally, Kim Collins will serve on the BoT as NAME Vice President.

In Memoriam

Death is an everyday reality for those of us involved in forensic pathology and death investigation. Despite this fact, the death of a friend and/or colleague tends to strike hard, whether it is sudden or expected. This past year, the NAME community was hit particularly hard with the deaths of numerous friends and colleagues. Our condolences to all of the families and friends of our departed colleagues.

Sincerely

David Fowler
NAME President 2016

Charles “Buddy” L. Garrett, Jr., MD
May 7, 1940 – November 10, 2015
Thomas P. Wood, MD
October 1, 1929 – February 15, 2016

Walter I. Hofman, MD
September 23, 1936 – February 19, 2016

Charles J. Stahl, III, MD
August 5, 1930 – March 1, 2016

Charles S. Hirsch, MD
March 30, 1937 – April 8, 2016

Bruce A. Hyma, MD
January 1, 1956 – April 17, 2016

James (Jack) L. Frost, MD
December 19, 1930 – June 27, 2016
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS

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Joel Sexton
Ex-Officio: Steve Cina, David Fowler, Marcus Nashelsky

NAME Foundation Membership Criteria
The NAME Foundation is proud to offer membership to any member of the National Association of Medical Examiners who makes an annual contribution to the NAME Foundation. The following minimal annual contribution qualifies membership in the NAME Foundation:

NAME Members: $50.00
NAME Affiliates: $20.00