

## Letter from the President



Snow boards instead of surf boards! Downhill skiing instead of water skiing! But expect the same good science and camaraderie. The move of the ARO MidWinter meeting to Denver (Feb 10-15) represents a first for the organization - away from the beach and warm weather and into the winter wonderland of Colorado. Despite the turmoil of the last few years, the ARO MidWinter meeting has

managed to maintain the same level of attendance and the same number of presentations. This is a strong testament to the strength of the organization. Even the last minute change of venue from New Orleans to Baltimore (due to Hurricane Katrina) did not diminish members' enthusiasm for the MidWinter meeting. The community of science and the high quality of the presentations make the ARO MidWinter meeting the highlight of the year for many of us and the venue is clearly a secondary issue. I'd like to express thanks to the previous two ARO presidents, Lloyd Minor and Bill Brownell, for steering the organization through some very difficult times: the move from Daytona to New Orleans, the settlement of legal issues with the Adam's Mark Hotel, and the hurricane-related move to Baltimore. These were difficult issues and required much perseverance (and perspiration) by Bill and Lloyd. We also owe a debt of gratitude to Lisa Astorga and the great team at Talley Management for responding to these crises with professionalism and commitment. Many ARO members may not realize just how hard these people worked behind the scenes to ensure the future of the ARO.

The 2007 ARO MidWinter meeting will be the first meeting not situated on a waterfront. Talley Management will work with tour providers to set up package tours for skiing before and after the meeting - check the website for details. We have an exciting lineup of special sessions and symposia for the 2007 meeting selected by John Middlebrooks and the Program Organizing Committee (see page 7 for titles). The 2007 Presidential Symposium will be "Ear and Brain: Hearing beyond the Cochlea", and will include talks describing the brain's contribution to hearing - getting away from that cochleocentric thinking.

It is time to start thinking about organizing new symposia for the 2008 meeting. Concept plans for 2008 symposia are to be submitted to the Program committee prior to the 2007 meeting (see guidelines on the ARO website). The Program Committee will meet during the 2007 meeting in Denver to select several proposals to be "fleshed out" for consideration for the 2008 meeting.

The times they are a-changin' - at least in terms of finding sites for future ARO meetings. Hotels are booked farther in advance, and are significantly more expensive ( $p < 0.01$ ) than just a few years ago. It is increasingly difficult to find a hotel that is both affordable and large enough to accommodate the 1600 attendees of the MidWinter meeting.

*Continued on page 2*



*Downtown Denver*



*Hyatt Regency Denver at Colorado Convention Center*

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## Letter from the President (continued from page 1)

We are still negotiating for sites for the 2008 meeting, but we have signed a contract for the 2009 meeting (February 14-19), where we will return to the Baltimore Waterfront Marriott. Over the next few years, we plan to move around and sample different venues in different parts of the country. If we find a place that everyone loves, we may settle on a regular venue, or possibly alternate between the two or three locations that people like best. Please fill out the both the pre- and post-meeting questionnaires to give the council feedback. The decisions on location and structure work best when we receive good feedback from the membership.

We are always looking for more people to help with the mechanics of running the organization – i.e., serving on committees and running for elected offices. One of the wonderful aspects of the

ARO is that it is still a small and sociable organization. Rather than being big, bureaucratic and anonymous – ARO is small enough to respond quickly to members' recommendations and concerns. Participate in your organization - volunteer for committees.

Another area in need of member participation and contribution is the ARO reserve fund. We substantially depleted our operating reserves in order to move the meeting away from Daytona Beach (in response to overwhelming member demand), and we currently need to replenish

our reserves so that we may weather any unforeseen problems in the future. So, show your appreciation for the ARO by making a contribution to the ARO reserve; go to the website (<http://www.aro.org>) and make a pledge. If you know any philanthropists, please encourage them to give generously.

The Journal of the ARO is rapidly gaining reputation and improving its impact factor. We all owe a debt of gratitude to Eric Young for getting the new Journal off to such a great start. Now that Eric is stepping down, we welcome incoming JARO editor-in-chief Ruth Anne Eatock, who has taken on this new responsibility at the same time she's moving to a new institution.

I am personally looking forward to the 2007 MidWinter meeting in Denver. The Hyatt Regency is a brand new hotel that just opened in the last year. The facilities are excellent for the meeting and I'm sure Denver will provide many interesting recreational and culinary experiences. And as always, the science and camaraderie are the real attractions. I look forward to seeing you there.

*Robert V. Shannon, Ph.D.*  
ARO President

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## Call for Symposium and Workshop Proposals for ARO 2008 MidWinter Meeting



The ARO Program Committee is presently soliciting proposals for Symposia and Workshops for the 2008 MidWinter Meeting.

**Symposia** are organized as a series of oral presentations on a theme. Preference will be given to proposals that strive for novel syntheses across or within existing disciplines or explorations of new approaches that will expand research in new

directions. Speakers from outside the usual ARO circle are encouraged insofar as they might contribute a novel perspective. Note that the ARO will reimburse travel expenses and will pay a small honorarium for non-ARO-member symposium and workshop speakers.

**Workshops** can be on topics of interest to a focused subgroup of ARO members or might focus on a particular technical innovation. Workshops often are scheduled for late afternoon or early evening.

The Program Committee encourages participation in symposia and workshops by non-U.S. scientists.

The proposals submission involves two steps: submission of a Letter of Intent followed by solicitation of a Formal Proposal. Letters of Intent are requested with a strict due date of Monday, February 12, at 10:00 am. The letter can be emailed or hand-delivered to the Program Committee chairman or hand delivered to the ARO Registration desk at the 2007 MidWinter Meeting. Legible handwritten letters are acceptable. The late due date for proposals is intended to accommodate symposia that might arise from discussions in the first day or two of the MidWinter Meeting – earlier submission is encouraged if at all possible. The Letter of Intent should include:

1. Name of the organizer with contact information, including email.
2. The session title.
3. A brief (<300) description of the theme and target audience.
4. A tentative list of speakers (4 to 7), with descriptive titles of their topics. Indicate whether each speaker has been contacted and agreed to participate. Not all speakers need to have committed at this point, although it is preferred that there have been at least informal contact.

The program committee will meet during the 2007 MidWinter Meeting to select the topics of interest. Then, formal proposals will be solicited. The formal proposals will include agreements to participate from all the speakers, brief preliminary abstracts for each talk, a time schedule, etc. Solicited formal proposals will be due on March 9, 2007. The Program Committee will evaluate the proposals shortly thereafter and will make the final selections. Note that the final abstract for each symposium or workshop talk will be due at the regular abstract submission time in September, 2007.

Send Proposals to:  
John C. Middlebrooks  
Kresge Hearing Research Institute, University of Michigan  
1301 E. Ann St.  
Ann Arbor, MI 48109-0506  
Phone: 734-763-7965  
FAX: 734-764-0091  
Email: [jmidd@umich.edu](mailto:jmidd@umich.edu)

E-mail is the preferred medium.

*John C. Middlebrooks, Ph.D.*  
Chair, ARO Program Committee

## The 2006 ARO MidWinter Meeting



The twenty-ninth annual MidWinter Meeting of the Association for Research in Otolaryngology took place on February 5-9, 2006 in Baltimore. The Waterfront Marriott provided a hospitable environment for our sessions and symposia. A great deal of preparation and effort is always required for the success of these meetings. The complexities were intensified this year because of the tragic effects of Hurricane Katrina on New Orleans.

Our initial plan in the days following August 29, 2005 was to return to New Orleans in February 2006 and hold our MidWinter meeting as it had been scheduled at the Fairmont. The 2005 MidWinter meeting at that hotel had received excellent reviews from the membership, and we were eager to return to a venue that seemed well suited to the needs of the organization. We also wished to return to New Orleans because it would have provided an opportunity for us to show our support for the people of the city who have been through enormous hardship and devastation. It soon became apparent that the extent of the damage to the city's infrastructure made it impossible to have the 2006 MidWinter meeting in New Orleans.

Locations and dates for meetings of an organization the size of the ARO are typically set at least 1 – 2 years before the event. We found ourselves in September of 2005 without a location for our meeting and with only 5 months before the time window in which the meeting is typically held. Lisa Astorga and Darla Dobson from the Talley Management Group worked tirelessly to identify sites and dates that would be available for our meeting. The ARO Council selected the Waterfront Marriott in Baltimore based upon the facilities, room rates, and proximity of the hotel to major international airports.

By all indications at the time of the meeting and in the sentiments expressed in the post-meeting questionnaire, the 2006 MidWinter Meeting was a success. The meeting was attended by 1534 people. Robin Davis and colleagues on the Long-Range Planning Committee conducted a detailed analysis of responses on the post-meeting questionnaire. The meeting place was identified as excellent or outstanding by 64% of 453 respondents which was slightly better than the 2005 rating of New Orleans (58%). There were a number of comments on the superior and friendly service at the Waterfront Marriott, the ample space at the poster sessions, and the availability of local restaurants.

There were 836 poster presentations and 123 oral presentations at the 2006 MidWinter Meeting. The overall meeting scientific content was ranked in the outstanding and excellent categories by 74% of the membership. The scientific content of the Poster Sessions received by far the most laudatory assessment with 75% of the respondents ranking these sessions as outstanding or excellent.

The Program Committee with the leadership of John Middlebrooks and with astute advice from Bob Shannon (former chair of the Program Committee) did outstanding work in grouping the abstracts into thematically related sessions. The scientific program began on Sunday, February 5 with the Presidential Symposium devoted to vestibular mechanisms. Topics ranging from sensory transduction in hair cells of the vestibular endorgans to central processing of signals in the vestibular nuclei to clinical manifestations of vestibular disorders were discussed.

There were 5 symposia with topics that ranged from "Imaging Protein-Protein Interactions" to "Efferent Innervation of Hair Cell Systems". The work of the organizers in integrating scientific disciplines and questions was evident in all of the symposia. This format remains an

effective mechanism for providing comprehensive updates in specific disciplines and topics that transcend a single discipline.

Robert Fettiplace, the recipient of the 2006 Award of Merit, delivered a remarkably elegant talk entitled "Ion Channel Properties and the Second Filter". His work in this area has provided so much new insight. Our recognition of an outstanding scientist each year with the Award of Merit provides wonderful evidence of the exciting work that is taking place in disciplines that are a part of our organization.

As we consider the venue and structure for future meetings, I hope that we will remember the key features that I believe distinguish the ARO MidWinter Meeting and that provide the best support for its continued success. It is a meeting that brings together people of diverse backgrounds and at different stages of training and experience. All participants share a common desire to build a comprehensive understanding of scientific topics that are a part of the organization. In order for this to continue, the location and venue should first and foremost provide opportunities for affordable housing in an environment that maximizes the opportunity for discussions and interactions among all participants.

*Lloyd B. Minor, M.D.  
2005-2006 ARO President*

*Photos by D. Lim*



*Pictured are: (L to R): L. Minor, A. Moller. Aage Moller was recognized for his excellent leadership as editor-in-chief of Hearing Research.*



*Pictured are: (L to R): L. Minor, E. Young. Eric Young was awarded a Presidential Citation in recognition on his service as editor-in-chief of JARO. Under Dr. Young's leadership, JARO has become a successful and highly respected journal.*



*Pictured are: (L to R): R. Fettiplace, L. Minor. Robert Fettiplace received the 2006 Award of Merit from ARO President Lloyd Minor.*



*ARO 2006 – 2007 President, Robert Shannon addresses the membership during the annual Business Meeting.*

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## 'Perfect Storm' Creates Challenges for NIDCD and the Research Community



Remarkable progress has been made in our understanding of inner ear function, central auditory processing, and chemosensation over the last few years, due in large part to the creativity of the

scientific community served by the National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders (NIDCD), a component of the National Institutes of Health (NIH). Despite these advances and great opportunity for discovery, all the Institutes at NIH, including NIDCD, are facing a very challenging next few years. The success rate for NIDCD (defined as the number of grant applications funded divided by the number of grant applications received) declined from 35 % in 2004 to 27% in 2005. Although the budget for the next few years has not yet been determined, predictions indicate that this downward trend will continue in 2007. This decline is due to a confluence of factors which include: (1) a slight decline in the FY2006 budget when compared to FY2005, due in part to the fierce competition for discretionary Federal budget driven by competing national priorities, including the war in Iraq, Hurricane Katrina relief, and unprecedented Federal budget deficits; and (2) an increase in the number of research grant applications received, which is driven by the ever increasing opportunity for discovery in biomedical research.

NIH and NIDCD have taken several steps to assist laboratories seeking NIDCD support to weather this storm. These steps include reducing the budget of non-competing awards by several percentage points and negotiating larger reductions in

the size of new and competing awards. These steps will allow more new and competing grant applications to be supported. We are very concerned about the long-term effect this hopefully transient period of budget malaise may have on the research community NIDCD serves. It is absolutely essential that we maintain a steady stream of new investigators supported by NIDCD, to assure progress towards our research mission over the long term, and preserve a culture of superb training for new investigators, both today and when the budget situation improves.

One particularly difficult career transition for developing principal investigators is the transition to independence. Recently, NIH and NIDCD initiated a new award called the Pathways to Independence (K99/R00) Award in an effort to help with this transition. This dual-phase award provides up to five years of support for a developing principal investigator to work in a mentored environment as an advanced postdoctoral fellow and to transition to an independent tenure-track position to which the individual has been recruited. During the independent phase of the award (two to three years), the developing principal investigator crafts his/her New Investigator R01 grant application.

NIDCD will continue its policy of expedited review by our Advisory Council (National Deafness and Other Communication Disorders Advisory Council) of R01 grant applications from individuals who have never before had an R01 or equivalent level of funding from a source other than NIH. If such an applicant is within ten years of receiving his or her last advanced degree and their first R01 grant application is scored but does not fall within the automatic pay line,

that individual may write a five-page letter of response addressing the concerns raised by the study section during initial review. The letter of response is reviewed by NIDCD program staff and members of our Advisory Council. If the letter is judged to address the major concerns raised by the study section, the grant application is considered for the high program priority budget allocation set aside at each Council meeting and has an excellent chance to be funded using dollars available at that Council round. This expedited review mechanism circumvents the need to revise and resubmit the grant application, saving as much as eight months' time during the perilous period when a new PI is often supported by a limited pool of laboratory start-up funds.

We at NIDCD will continue our policy of reserving the entire budget dedicated to our R03 small grant program for investigators who have never received an R01 grant award or equivalent level of funding. We are delighted with the robust response of the research community to our individual pre-doctoral (F31) and post-doctoral (F32) fellowship awards, both of which support the training of up-and-coming investigators in a way that enhances the success of their careers while competing within the peer-review system. All these steps are taken with the goal of maintaining support for new Principal Investigators entering the research community. NIDCD is grateful to everyone in the research community we serve for their perseverance during this "perfect storm" budget challenge.

*James F. Battey, M.D., Ph.D.*  
*NIDCD Director*

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Photo by D. Lim



Pictured are: (L to R): Lloyd Minor, Congressman Cardin

## Congressman Cardin Receives Distinguished Public Service Award

The Honorable Benjamin L. Cardin, US Congressman from the State of Maryland, was our most recent guest of honor at our annual congressional reception held during the 2006 MidWinter Meeting. He received the ARO Presidential Citation from Dr. Lloyd Minor for his support of the health care community.

Congressman Cardin is a leader in the House on health care reform. He authored legislation to fund graduate medical education, guarantee coverage for emergency services and improve the Medicare drug benefit for seniors. He also introduced legislation in the 109<sup>th</sup> Congress to fix the Medicare Physician Payment Fix by eliminating the Sustainable Growth Rate.

## ARO Long Range Planning Committee Report: Summary of the 2006 Post-ARO MWM Questionnaire



Location was still a hot topic for the membership this year based upon the 2006 post- ARO MidWinter Meeting questionnaire. It was gratifying to see that many ARO

members greatly appreciated the efforts that were made to 'rescue' the meeting after the hurricane-related devastation to New Orleans. Many in our membership expressed that they were pleasantly surprised with Baltimore as a venue and congratulated the ARO leadership and administration for putting together such a good meeting despite all of the issues that had to be resolved. There were a number of comments on the success of the meeting, the superior and friendly service at the hotel, the ample space at the poster sessions, the beautiful harbor location, and the excellent local restaurants. This year 64% of the 453 respondents rated the meeting place in the outstanding and excellent categories, slightly better than the 2005 rating of New Orleans (58%), and clearly an improvement from the 2004 ranking of Daytona Beach (20%). Nevertheless, there is still a fairly vocal contingency in the membership that expressed a strong interest in a beach location and/or warmer climate in a family-friendly environment. In addition to a renewed interest in Florida locations, some members suggested a west coast location, along with some expressing interest in New Mexico and Arizona. A specific suggestion made by one member was the Gaylord Palms Conference Center in Orlando. A recurring argument for a warm climate venue is that it fosters a casual atmosphere for impromptu scientific interactions outside the formal conference format.

Despite the high approval rating of the meeting location, our membership did, however, identify a number of areas that could be substantially improved. In addition to the cold weather, the biggest concern was the extremely poor acoustics in the seminar rooms. In some cases members noted that the captioning service helped both hearing and hearing-impaired attendees alike to understand the lecture content. Nevertheless, the interactions between speaker and audience were hampered by the inability to communicate

due to the poor acoustics. This is obviously an important concern that must be assessed before each ARO meeting held in a new venue. Toward this end, some members suggested smaller rooms for the Podium Sessions.

This year the membership ranked the overall meeting scientific content in the outstanding and excellent categories as 74%. The scientific content in the Poster Sessions received by far the highest ranking at 75% (outstanding / excellent categories) and this session, in particular, received many laudatory comments. This is obviously where the meeting is at its best as judged by the membership. The scientific content in Symposia was ranked by 54% of the respondents in the outstanding/excellent categories, while the Podium Session and Presidential Lecture was ranked 48% and 38%, respectively, in these same categories. There were a number of issues brought up in the comments with regard to these events. Some people suggested that the talks in Podium Sessions should emphasize new findings over published data. Increasing participation from young investigators, students, and post docs was also suggested. Some respondents also wanted Symposia on the 'latest and greatest' in a particular area, rather than what was perceived as an overview. A few comments addressed the issue of encouraging increased participation in Symposia from speakers in areas outside of the auditory field, a topic that was discussed and supported by Council in its ARO 2006 meeting.

With regard to the special forums, there seems to be less overall interest from our respondents: the NIH Workshop, Congressman Reception, and Panel on Research Funding, all received high numbers of N/A responses (81-83%). Of these events the Awards and Honors Ceremony received 30% responses in the outstanding and excellent categories, with 53% checking the N/A category. The Long Range Planning Committee will discuss at their next meeting in Denver whether specific issues should be addressed to improve the visibility or format of the special forums.

There were a number of interesting comments made by our membership with regards to improving future meetings.

Some that were mentioned more than once are listed below.

- One issue that was raised a number of times was the low number of vendors at the meeting and the fact that the vendors left the meeting early. Here are some suggestions for additional vendors to invite: Applied Biosystems, VWR, Affimetrix, Sigma, Chemicon, Stressgen, Invitrogen/Life Technologies, Clonetech, Promega, BioRad, New England BioLabs, Cell Signaling Technologies.
- A list of local area restaurants was requested by a number of respondents.
- Many enjoyed the Silly Session and requested more social events for students and postdocs to introduce themselves to established investigators.
- Many members were concerned about overlapping sessions, this year the genetics and developmental sessions overlapped leaving members without relevant sessions on subsequent days.
- Many suggested ending the meeting earlier because the Thursday morning Podium and Poster Sessions are so poorly attended.

We thank the membership for their individual responses to the questionnaire and for their thoughtful comments. We encourage all members to become more active in ARO and to contact me or any of the members of the Long Range Planning Committee with additional suggestions.

*Robin L. Davis, Ph.D.*  
*Chair, ARO Long Range Planning Committee*

### **Association for Research in Otolaryngology**

**30<sup>th</sup> Annual  
MidWinter Meeting  
February 10-15, 2007**

The Hyatt Regency at Colorado  
Convention Center  
Denver, CO, USA

Travel Awards are available. Please  
visit the MWM section of the ARO  
website for details.

## Jörgen Fex, M.D., Ph.D. - Obituary



Jörgen Fex, M.D., Ph.D., former Laboratory Chief and Acting Scientific Director of the National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders (NIDCD) at the National Institutes of Health (NIH), in Bethesda, Maryland, died Tuesday, August 15, 2006. He was 82 and had recently lived in Bethesda, Maryland with Harriet, his wife of forty-nine years.

Dr. Jörgen Fex was born in Stockholm, Sweden, attended undergraduate studies at the Universities of Uppsala and Stockholm, and received his medical degree at the University of Lund in 1952. For the first four years of his professional career, Jörgen practiced as a doctor in the field of neurology and electromyography in Lund. But frustrated by the limitations of medical therapy of those times and deeply saddened by the plight of many patients who suffered from incurable diseases, he chose to enter the field of research in order to contribute to the underpinnings of the medical field.

His new passion took him first to the Nobel Institute for Neurophysiology at the Karolinska Institute in Stockholm where, from 1956 to 1962, under the mentorship of Ragnar Granit, Nobel Laureate, Jörgen obtained his Ph.D. in neurophysiology. From 1962 to 1964 he researched as a Docent Professor at the Karolinska Institute and then, at the request of Sir John Eccles, Nobel Prize Laureate, in 1964, he and his family moved from Stockholm and traveled to Canberra, Australia, to take up a Senior Research Fellow position at the John Curtin School of Medical Research. In 1966, he was pleased to receive an offer to join NIH as Visiting Scientist under the stewardship of Dr. Ichiji Tasaki, Chief of the Laboratory of Neurobiology.

In 1969, Jörgen transitioned to Indiana University where he was a Professor of Anatomy and Physiology from 1969 to 1973. In 1973 he returned to NIH where he formed and led a team of international

colleagues as Chief of the Laboratory of Otolaryngology at the National Institute of Neurological Disease and Stroke. Later, he served as the acting Scientific Director of the NIDCD during the Institute's formative years.

Jörgen played a pioneering role in the studies of hearing and deafness. He was among the leaders in the field in studying the underlying biochemical processes in the neurotransmission systems of the inner ear. He also foresaw the great promise of molecular genetics in human deafness and was instrumental in developing many of the NIDCD program initiatives in that area. As a mentor he fostered creativity and excellence among his junior colleagues. Several of his former research fellows continue studies of neurotransmission and the biology of the inner ear and are leaders in the hearing research community.

Jörgen will be remembered fondly for many other reasons besides his scientific contributions. He had a great understanding and knowledge of many areas of science and medicine and was an avid reader of history, philosophy, and literature in several languages including Swedish, Italian, French, and German. While pure research was his passion, his focus was always on the state of the human condition itself. One of his proudest and strongest memories from his long career was when, while still in the clinical field, he liberated patients who had been incorrectly diagnosed and long-institutionalized for mental illnesses which they did not possess. Jörgen retired from NIH at age seventy-six and for a few years thereafter stayed busy by enjoying literature, music, tennis, and assisting colleagues with editing scientific papers. Later, he developed dementia which he battled as best he could. While he lost much of his memory, to the day he died, he retained his wonderful humor and much of his marvelous, sharp wit.

Dr. Jörgen Fex is survived by his wife, Harriet Fex, by their three children, Anders Fex, MD, Cecilia Fex, and Hans Fex, all living in the United States, and by his younger brother, Sören Fex, MD, who resides in Lerhamn, Sweden.

## Members in the News

Two prominent ARO members are assuming leadership roles in two prestigious otological societies. John Niparko is serving as president of the American Otological Society (AOS) and Debara Tucci is serving as president of the American Neurotology Society this year. In previous years, Richard Chole (2002), Horst Conrad (2003), and Jeffrey Harris (2004) also served as president of AOS. In addition, Richard Chole was the Guest of Honor at the AOS annual meeting.

Photos were taken during their respective annual meeting during the COSM (Combined Otolaryngological Society Meeting) in Chicago.



John K. Niparko, M.D.



Debara L. Tucci, M.D.



Richard A. Chole, M.D., Ph.D.

## The Bionic Ear Institute Announces New Director – Rob Shepherd



Prof. Rob Shepherd has been appointed as Director to Australia's Bionic Ear Institute, following in the footsteps of Professor Graeme Clark, the Foundation Director of the Institute. This appointment brings with it the honorary role of Professor of Medical Bionics within the Department of Otolaryngology, University of Melbourne.

For further information visit <http://www.bionicear.org>.

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For information on submitting a contribution, please visit the ARO website. <http://www.aro.org>.

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## ARO 2007 MWM Symposia, Workshops and Special Events

### Symposia

- Neurobiology of Vocal Communication: Beyond Acoustic Features
- Specification of the Auditory and Vestibular Hindbrain
- Wnt Signaling Pathways and Inner Ear Development
- Spatial and Binaural Hearing: Perception and Physiology
- Beyond Cochlear Implants: Functional Stimulation and Recording in the Auditory Nervous System
- Ion Transport in the Stria Vascularis: Modeling and Experiment
- Presidential Symposium – Ear and Brain: Hearing Beyond the Cochlea

### Workshop

- 3-D Imaging, Modeling, Reconstruction, and Analysis of the Temporal Bone and Brain

### ARO Committee and Patient Advocacy Events

- International Meniere Foundation: Meniere's Disease – In Search of Answers
- Animal Research: New Perspectives on Distress on Laboratory Animals
- Media Relations: Science and the Media

### Short Course

- Translational Research in Otolaryngology

## ARO Call for Abstracts

The Association for Research in Otolaryngology invites you to electronically submit an abstract for the 30<sup>th</sup> MidWinter Meeting. The ARO abstract site will open September 1, 2006. The deadline to submit is October 1, 2006. Abstracts may be submitted on any of 20 categories on the ARO website by clicking on the abstract submission link. Please visit the ARO website for category details. <http://www.aro.org>.

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The Research Forum, under joint sponsorship by the American Academy of Otolaryngology – Head and Neck Surgery Foundation and the Association for Research in Otolaryngology will be held in conjunction with the 2007 AAO-HNSF Annual Meeting, September 16-19, 2007, in Washington, DC, U.S.A.

Only online abstract submissions will be accepted. Submissions for Research Oral and Poster Presentations will open January 22, 2007 with a deadline to submit of April 2, 2007. For full details on submission criteria and instructions, please refer to the Academy's website. <http://www.entnet.org>.

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*Photo by D. Lim*



*Pictured are: (top row, L to R): D. Lim, W. Brownell, S. Rauch, J. Middlebrooks; (bottom row, L to R): P. Santi, K. Steel, D. Cotanche, R. Shannon, L. Minor*

### Association for Research in Otolaryngology

19 Mantua Road  
Mt. Royal, NJ 08061 USA  
Phone: (856) 423-0041  
Fax: (856) 423-3420  
Website: <http://www.aro.org>

### Headquarters

Darla Dobson, ARO Executive Director  
E-mail: [headquarters@aro.org](mailto:headquarters@aro.org)

### Meetings Department

Lisa Astorga, ARO Meeting Manager  
E-mail: [meetings@aro.org](mailto:meetings@aro.org)

### Exhibits Department

Tina Mercardo, ARO Exhibit Manager  
E-mail: [tmercardo@talley.com](mailto:tmercardo@talley.com)

### ARO Newsletter Staff

Peter Santi, Ph.D., Editor  
E-mail: [psanti@umn.edu](mailto:psanti@umn.edu)

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