WHAT A YEAR!

DEAR DRS MEMBERS AND FRIENDS,

As we started the 2022-2023 term in April of 2022, our goals were to:
1. continue the excellent work of the 2021-2022 term under Dr. Allen's leadership,
2. increase our international & inter-professional engagement,
3. enhance our DEI efforts and improve the sense of belonging in our Society,
4. continue our fundraising activities to maintain the Society’s financial health, &
5. improve our communications and outreach.

However, two more major objectives were added to our agenda: a) transitioning to a new management company, and b) planning - for the first time - the 3rd WDS (World Dysphagia Summit).

To achieve the ambitious goals of this term, I asked all DRS chairs and committee members to join me in “flight” like a flock of migratory birds that fly together while supporting, embracing, and encouraging each other. And they did!

In this Newsletter, you will get the opportunity to see “at a glance” the impressive work completed this past term by all committees and all our new and improved programs. It is because of the tireless efforts of our 2022-2023 Executive Committee, Board of Directors, Chairs, Committee Members, and our talented new management company that this work was successfully completed! Please join me in thanking this outstanding group of leaders and volunteers.

It has been an absolute honor to serve as the 2022-2023 President of DRS. Thank you for your trust and for the opportunity to lead our incredible DRS family. Finally, I want to extend my heartfelt congratulations and very best wishes to the 2023-2024 President, Dr. Mark Nicosia, and 2023-2024 BOD for the next term!

Let’s continue in this path of openness and inclusiveness we fostered, and let’s keep learning, innovating, and motivating TOGETHER for years to come!

With my deepest gratitude,

Georgia A. Malandraki, PhD, CCC-SLP, BCS-S, ASHA Fellow
2022-2023 DRS President
SUMMARY OF 2022–2023
PRESIDENT'S REPORT

2022-2023 OPERATIONS / ORGANIZATION IMPROVEMENTS

- Established official orientation process
- Completed highly successful management transition
- Implemented the use of a platform (Basecamp) for storage and communications which has improved transparency, continuity, & communications
- Streamlined finances
- Established President office hrs for chairs and committee members
- Updated membership profiles to obtain more information about our members
- Increased membership

2022-2023 CONTINUED SUCCESSES

- Obtained successful grants through DRSIE
- Completed highly successful DRSIE Fall conference
- Completed 8 excellent webinars
- Increased international engagement - World Swallowing Day
- Completed successful 2nd Rally for Research
- Completed 2nd year of elections for new leadership
- Planned a highly successful 31st Annual DRS Meeting
SUMMARY OF 2022–2023
PRESIDENT'S REPORT

2022-2023
NEW INITIATIVES

• Established new Early Research Career Development Program
• Shared monthly e-blasts - President’s messages
• Implemented thematic coffee chats with the President for all members
• Developed DEI educational webinar
• Planned and executed successfully the 3rd WDS - World Dysphagia Summit

2022-2023
OPTIMIZED PROCESSES

• Improved and updated the DRS website
• Increased social media presence substantially
• Improved graphics development and started to streamline marketing processes

IN THE NEXT PAGES, TAKE A LOOK AT SUMMARIES OF ALL 2022-2023 DRS COMMITTEES’ EXCELLENT WORK!
MISSION

To coordinate conference bursaries, named/sponsored awards, and awards for abstracts and/or scientific presentations at the DRS Annual Meeting.

Thank you to all of this year's sponsors!

SUMMARY OF 2022-2023 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Helped to streamline abstract submission process
- Further streamlined awards' processes
- Helped with publicizing and ensuring all awards information was communicated on time
- Ensured fair and transparent judging processes before & during 31st Annual DRS Meeting

2022-23 GOVERNANCE

Chair:
- Samantha Shune

Committee Members:
- Jacqui Allen
- Angela Dietsch
- Donna Edwards
- Marlis Gonzalez-Fernandez
- Lisa LaGorio
- Rachel Mulheren
- Jessica Pisegna
- Michael Pulia
- Derrick Randall

MISSION

To conduct an annual review of the bylaws and recommend proposed changes to the Board of Directors. The Committee's work helps advance the Society's mission by ensuring the By Laws represent practices that reinforce the missions of the DRS.

SUMMARY OF 2022-2023 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Suggested important edits and updates to the website
- Continued to ensure the BOD abides by all our rules and regulations
- Reviewed Bylaws and recommended edits for next term's review

2022-23 GOVERNANCE

Chair:
- Julie Barkmeier-Kraemer

Committee Members:
- Maggie Kuhn
- Anna Miles
- Ashwini Namasivayam-MacDonald
- Michelle Troche
DIVERSITY, EQUITY, & INCLUSION COMMITTEE ACCOMPLISHMENTS

MISSION
To incorporate inclusion, equity, and diversity into DRS objectives & merge new processes within our core values to improve operations at all levels. The Committee also helps guide DRS efforts to enhance and encourage research in the areas of normal and disordered swallowing that is inclusive and equitable and strives to reduce health inequities globally; and to include diverse voices and perspectives.

SUMMARY OF 2022-2023 ACCOMPLISHMENTS
- Helped with membership profile changes
- Planned and executed successfully the inaugural invited DEI session at the 31st Annual DRS Meeting
- Helped prepare upcoming DEI educational webinar in coordination with Uplifting Impact and DRS EC
- Prepared comprehensive DEI action plan for all Societies' functions

2022-23 GOVERNANCE
Chair:
- Luis F. Riquelme
Committee Members:
- Nadine Connor
- Marie Jardine
- Cagla Kantarcigil
- Georgia A. Malandraki
- Mark Nicosia
- Mershen Pillay
- Allison Schaser
- Rebecca Smith
- Michelle Troche
- Theresa Yao

FINANCE COMMITTEE ACCOMPLISHMENTS

MISSION
The mission of the Finance Committee is to create and ratify the annual budget, review all expenses and income of the Society, apportion appropriate funds to committees and activities in accordance with the Board of Directors directives and the 5-year Strategic Plan, and manage investment funding, the Research and Education Fund and returns for the Society. The Committee's work helps advance the Society's mission by overseeing and securing the financial health of the Society.

SUMMARY OF 2022-2023 ACCOMPLISHMENTS
- Regularly reviewed finances of the Society with AS team
- Provided regular detailed financial reports to EC and BOD
- Planned and executed successfully 2022 Rally for Research
- Reviewed investment fund
- Started planning for 2023 Rally for Research

2022-23 GOVERNANCE
Chairs:
- Mark Nicosia
- Catriona Steele
Committee Members:
- Martin Brodsky
- Nicole Rogus-Pulia
- Georgia A. Malandraki
MISSION
DRSIE serves as a catalyst to advance the Society’s Research and Educational mission, as well as its long-term goals, synergistically with the work of the other committees. DRSIE mission also includes to provide new ideas and initiatives to "incubate within DRS" that will enhance the society’s growth.

SUMMARY OF 2022-2023 ACCOMPLISHMENTS
- Applied and awarded educational grants for DRS: from Abbott Nutrition for webinars and from Reckitt/Mead Johnson Nutrition for the Fall conference
- Planned and executed a highly successful 2nd Fall DRSIE conference
- Planned and executed 8 excellent webinars

2022-2023 DRSIE HIGHLIGHTS

2022 FALL CONFERENCE
- 100 participants attended (36 in-person scholars, 44 virtual attendees, 20 faculty)
- Faculty represented a wide range of disciplines: pediatric and adult GI, pediatric and adult otolaryngology, neonatology, neurology, nutrition science, speech language pathology, and basic science. Attendees also represented wide variety of disciplines (25% were MDs).
- NEW this year: Dr. Jadcherla led a very special mindfulness session

2022 WEBINARS
- The 8 webinars organized in 2022 included multidisciplinary speakers and were attended by >800 attendees from 20 countries!

2022-23 GOVERNANCE

Advisory Council
Chair:  
Sudarshan Jadcherla

Committee Members:
- Doug Van Daele
- Stephanie K. Daniels
- Caryn S. Easterling
- Rebecca German
- Georgia A. Malandraki
- Mark A. Nicosia
- Heather Shaw Bonilha
- Reza Shaker

Webinar Sub-Committee
Chair:  
Martin B. Brodsky
Maggie Kuhn

Committee Members:
- Lee Akst
- Caryn S. Easterling, (Advisor)
- Donna Scarborough

Fall Conference Sub-Committee
Chairs:  
Sudarshan Jadcherla
Caryn Easterling
Heather Shaw Bonilha

Committee Members:
- Lee Akst
- Marty Brodsky
- Kulwinder Dua
- Francis Edeani
- Maggie Ann Kuhn
- Maureen Lefton-Greif
- Nicole Rogus-Pulia
### INTERNATIONAL INTER-PROFESSIONAL COMMITTEE

**Mission**
The mission of this committee is to strengthen the relationships of DRS with other Dysphagia Societies across the world and with other professional organizations.

**Summary of 2022-2023 Accomplishments**
- Established relationships / formal agreements between DRS and other non-profit organizations
- Planned and executed excellent 3rd WDS Grand Rounds sessions with international focus
- Planned and executed successfully World Swallowing Day in collaboration with ESSD, SLAD and JSDR

**2022-23 Governance**
- **Chair:** Mark Nicosia
- **Committee Members:**
  - Joan Arvedson
  - Gokul Balasubramanian
  - Rosemary Martino
  - Anna Miles
  - Julie Regan

### MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

**Mission**
To identify, propose, and implement recruitment strategies of diverse membership categories and review applicant credentials for Emeritus membership and present its recommendations for membership to the Board of Directors for consideration.

**Summary of 2022-2023 Accomplishments**
- Led critical membership profiles changes
- Helped with developing flyers for marketing the conferences
- Helped with translation and dissemination of flyers in several international and interprofessional Societies’ meetings
- Reviewed Emeritus members applications

**2022-23 Governance**
- **Chair:** Sonja Molfenter
- **Committee Members:**
  - Gokul Balasubramanian
  - Kendrea Garand
  - Karen Hegland
  - Mari Nakao
  - Yael Shapira-Galitz
  - Samantha Shune
  - Heather Starmer
  - Akila Rajappa
MENTORSHIP & RESEARCH CAREER DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

MISSION
To support the scientific and professional growth of a diverse group of dysphagia scientists through provision of educational and mentorship resources and by facilitating connections with mentors. This work is targeted for early career researchers with the goal of becoming independent dysphagia investigators and will advance the Society’s mission by providing educational and mentorship resources for our emerging and new dysphagia researchers.

SUMMARY OF 2022-2023 ACCOMPLISHMENTS
- Planned and executed successfully Early Investigators Breakout Session at 31st Annual DRS Meeting
- Participated in 2nd Fall DRSIE Fall Conference
- Developed and implemented exceptional NEW initiative - Early Research Career Development Program

2022-23 GOVERNANCE
Chairs:
- Michelle Troche
- Kate Hutcheson
Committee Members:
- Nadine Connor
- Ashwini Namasivayam-MacDonald
- Ashli O’Rourke
- Anais Rameau
- Nicole Rogus-Pulia
- Elizabeth Ward

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

MISSION
To provide a slate of candidates for DRS executive positions, considering all aspects of DEI alongside service & experience and to ensure successful succession of DRS leadership.

SUMMARY OF 2022-2023 ACCOMPLISHMENTS
- Nominated candidates for the vacant DRS executive and BOD positions
- Planned and executed successfully a fair, transparent, and open election process
- Nominated Gold Medal recipient

2022-23 GOVERNANCE
Chair:
- Jacqui Allen
Committee Members:
- Nadine Connor
- Sudarshan Jadcherla
- Susan Langmore
- Gary McCulloch
- Georgia A. Malandraki (ex officio)
MISSION

To develop and promote educational offerings, research, advocacy, and clinical guidelines focused on feeding, swallowing, and aerodigestive disorders with pediatric origins.

SUMMARY OF 2022-2023 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Planned and executed successfully Pediatric SIG Breakout Session at 31st Annual DRS Meeting
- Planned and executed excellent 3rd WDS Grand Rounds sessions with pediatric and international focus
- Planned and prepared items for next term’s DRS Newsletter

2022-23 GOVERNANCE

Chairs:
- Maureen Lefton-Greif
- Sree Viswanathann

Committee Members:
- Miranda Cullins
- Deborah Levy
- Claire Miller
- Vivienne Norman
- Nikhila Raol
- Seckin Ulualp

MISSION

To provide guidance, direction and evaluation of DRS mission goals, implementation of goals via the strategic plan and overall Society direction.

Review 5-year DRS Strategic Plan (SP)

SUMMARY OF 2022-2023 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Prepared semi-annual and annual report templates for all Committees
- Compiled mid-year strategic plan appraisal/report
- Compiled comprehensive end-of-year strategic plan appraisal/report

2022-23 GOVERNANCE

Chair:
- Jacqui Allen

Committee Members:
- Kulwinder Dua
- Yoko Inamoto
- Cathy Lazarus
- Georgia A. Malandraki
- Mark Nicosia
- Catriona Steele
TRAINED ADVISORY COUNCIL

MISSION
To attract and encourage new investigators to the field and foster their development in a collegial and supportive environment.

SUMMARY OF 2022-2023 ACCOMPLISHMENTS
- Participated in thematic Coffee chat with the President
- Offered great insights on social activities for the 31st Annual DRS Meeting
- Planned and executed successfully TAC Social Event at the 31st Annual DRS Meeting
- Proposed new trainee observation mechanism for next term

2022-23 GOVERNANCE
Chair:
- Linda M. Rowe

Committee Members:
- Ankita Bhutada
- James Borders
- Rachel Hahn Arkenberg
- Renata Mancopes
- Rodolfo Peña-Chávez
- Alicia Vose

WEBSITE, COMMUNICATIONS, & PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE

MISSION
The mission of the WCPRC is to promote dysphagia awareness and the Society’s mission through public relations, the Society’s website, and social media.

SUMMARY OF 2022-2023 ACCOMPLISHMENTS
- Improved website functionality and content significantly
- Significantly increased social media presence (on average 3-4 posts per week)
- Increased Facebook followers by 9%, Twitter followers by 10%, Instagram followers by 39%, and LinkEdIn by ~400%!
- Did an outstanding job marketing before and during the conferences

2022-23 GOVERNANCE
Chair:
- Mario Landera
- Nogah Nativ

Committee Members:
- Raquel Garcia
- Corinne Jones
- Alexis Myres
- Ashli O’Rourke
- Rachel Scheidler
- Rebecca (Brown) Smith
The Annual Conference Committee plans the program for the scientific portion of the Annual Meeting, and for other scientific meetings and conferences, and determines the maximum number of papers to be presented at each Meeting.

31st Annual DRS Meeting
488 registrants!
28 countries!
18 disciplines!

SUMMARY OF 2022-2023 ACCOMPLISHMENTS
- Successfully completed revisions for abstract submissions
- Timely opened abstract submission and completed abstract reviews with help from Abstract Review Subcommittee
- Revised scoring criteria to improve spread of scores and consistency
- Invited speakers from different disciplines and geographic locations
- Developed several unique program aspects for 31st Annual DRS Meeting
- Organized and sessioned 49 oral and 159 posters
- Helped with marketing and conference platform development
- Organized professional photography and videography

2022-23 GOVERNANCE
Chairs:
- Georgia A. Malandraki
- Laura Baijens
- Deb Suiter
Committee Members:
- Jacqui Allen
- Gokul Balasubramanian
- Michelle Ciucci
- Jim Coyle
- Pamela Dodrill
- Sebastian Doeltgen
- Lucia Mourao
- Mark Nicosia
- Ashli O’Rourke
- Emily Plowman
- Jo Puntil
- Heather Shaw
- Bonilha Catriona Steele
- Sree Viswanathan
- Liz Ward

3rd WDS (WORLD DYSPHAGIA SUMMIT) COMMITTEE ACCOMPLISHMENTS

MISSION
The 3rd WDS Committee was an ad-hoc Committee that planned the program for the 3rd WDS which was organized by DRS for the first time this year.

3rd WDS - World Dysphagia Summit
375 registrants!
28 countries!
>13 disciplines!

SUMMARY OF ACCOMPLISHMENTS
- Invited >60 speakers representing >10 disciplines & >15 countries
- Developed several unique sessions (knowledge panels, debate sessions, grand rounds, patient and caregiver panel)
- Organized additional special events: mindfulness session, WDS reception
- Helped with marketing and conference platform development
- Organized professional photography

GOVERNANCE
Chairs:
- Georgia A. Malandraki
- Bonnie Martin-Harris
Committee Members:
- Joan Arvedson
- Nadine Connor
- Stephanie Daniels
- Kulwinder Dua
- Sudarshan Jadcherla
- Susan Langmore
- Maureen Lefton-Greif
- Rosemary Martino
- Tim McCulloch
- Gary H. McCullough
- Reza Shaker
THANK YOU TO OUR 2022–2023 BOARD

2022-2023 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE & ELECTED BOARD DIRECTORS

JACQUI ALLEN
IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT

GEORGIA A. MALANDRAKI
PRESIDENT

MARK NICOSIA
PRESIDENT-ELECT

CATRIONA STEELE
SECRETARY/TREASURER

2022-2023 ELECTED COUNCILORS

JULIE BARKMEIER-KRAEMER

ANNA MILES

ASHWINI NAMASIVAYAM-MACDONALD

ASHLI O’ROURKE

MICHELLE TROCHE

LINDA ROWE
COUNCILOR-IN-TRAINING

DONATE

WWW.DYSPHAGIARESEARCH.ORG
THANK YOU TO OUR MANAGEMENT COMPANY AND PARTNERS

WE ARE ALSO THANKFUL TO OUR NEW MANAGEMENT COMPANY, AFFINITY STRATEGIES, THESE EXCEPTIONAL STAFF, AND THEIR ENTIRE TEAM!

ALLISON DECICCO
DRS EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

BECKY CIRA
MEETINGS & EVENTS

ROSALEEN TULLY
INDUSTRY RELATIONS

AND TO ALL OUR PARTNERS AND SPONSORS!