The August 31-September 3 Annual Meeting of the FUS is rapidly approaching. By now you have received the program brochures that outline the education and social aspects of the meeting. This is the one time each year that we gather, as a group, to share our experiences and renew our friendships. I encourage all of our members and their families to take advantage of this opportunity to learn, relax and rejuvenate.

The combined and cooperative effort of our management team, our program planning committee, and the Omni Hotel and Convention staff will certainly provide all attendees an enhanced and memorable education and social experience.

As a Society, we continue to grow our membership, as well as our influence, in political arenas important to all of our practices. Pertinent new issues arise almost daily and old ones seem to never go away. Because we are more than the 500 individuals that comprise the FUS, we can establish a collective presence that gives us the opportunity to purposely navigate an often difficult course.

I want to again express how appreciative I am to have had the opportunity to serve as President of our noble organization. In the process, I hope that I have at least, in part, honored my predecessors as well as facilitated the task of my successors.

As urologists, we are often unique in our ability to not only embrace change in the form of technology, but to also embrace life and its challenges. We are often the most interesting and entertaining physicians that we know. I assure you that our Society will continue the pursuit of educational, political, social and economic benefit and value for its members under the direction and leadership of Ray Leveillee. He will also need your support and want your input. Leah and I look forward to seeing you at a great annual meeting in a truly exciting venue. We will all hope and pray for no named storms over the Labor Day weekend.

Florida and the American Association of Clinical Urologists

B. Thomas Brown, MD, MBA

It is ironic that the state of Florida has such an important role in the growth and development of the American Association of Clinical Urologists. The origins of the organization date back to World War II when the government froze salaries to help in the war effort. Labor unions felt the need to increase compensation to their membership and employer-supplied health insurance was born. Workers in many different jobs enjoyed having their health insurance paid for and it became a defined benefit for the employee. Both Presidents Roosevelt and Truman attempted to enact national health insurance but it was Johnson’s “Great Society” that implemented national health insurance—but only for the elderly—Medicare.

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Increase the Strength of our Association!
Do you know of a colleague who should join the Florida Urological Society? Just call the FUS office at (847) 517-7249 or visit our website at www.flaurological.org!
Two urologists took the lead in opposing the incursion of government into the practice of medicine—Carl Hoffman of my native West Virginia and Russell B. Carson of Florida. Dr. Hoffman became President of the AUA in 1967, and Dr. Carson was his arrangements chairman for the Miami, Florida, meeting. At that meeting, the American Association of Clinical Urologists was born. Dr. Hoffman invited the Section Presidents and other leaders to a meeting that established a 501(c)6 organization whose purpose was to provide information to urologists concerning issues affecting the socioeconomic and political arena. Present at that meeting were Drs. Carson and Goddard of Florida.

The first formal meeting of the AACU took place on Sunday, May 9, 1969 in San Francisco, the day prior to the AUA meeting. Dr. Carson was elected the first Secretary-Treasurer. At that meeting, Dr. David Goddard of Daytona Beach, Florida (and the founding partner of my group) stated, “The AACU is not in a position to do our job in politics, and we must do it for urology.” Thus was born the political action arm of organized urology.

The AACU has continued its role in urological politics and is the organization that each of us have to thank for the many successes and failures we have had on Capitol Hill. As the American Urological Association has evolved into a political organization with two separate corporations, the need for national involvement for the AACU dwindled. The AACU has continued its role in urological politics and is the organization that each of us have to thank for the many successes and failures we have had on Capitol Hill. As the American Urological Association has evolved into a political organization with two separate corporations, the need for national involvement for the AACU dwindled. The AAA was better funded and could have two separate corporations, the need for national involvement for the AACU dwindled. The AAA was better funded and could have

headfirst into the fray with its State Society Network. The state society network is charged with helping to monitor state legislation that concerns urologists and has already had several major victories at the state level. Currently the AACU has helped place Flomax back on the Medicaid formulary in Florida and is working to spearhead an effort to require Florida insurance companies to cover yearly PSA’s for their insured. This single fact dropped the prostate cancer grade for Florida from an A to a B in one well-publicized study. The AACU is working on changing Florida Medicaid guidelines so that urologists in their early years may treat Medicaid patients and not be financially penalized.

That is just some of the things the AACU is doing for Florida urologists. Now, what can you do for the AACU? The first thing is to become a member. Only 272 Florida urologists are members of the AACU, and with more than 500 urologists in the state, it is discouraging that only half are interested in improving our socioeconomic and political arena.

Since UROPAC was established in 1992, 219 urologists in Florida have contributed $108,312.50. In 2006, 63 Florida urologists have already given $18,320. The suggested donation to UROPAC is $535 or one dollar for each member of the US House and Senate. If we assume there are 500 urologists in Florida and we all know there are more, we should be giving $267,500 per year to UROPAC, not a total of $108,312.50 in 14 years. We should paraphrase JFK and state, “Ask not what organized urology is doing for me, ask what it can do if I support it.” Just think about the power we would have on Capitol Hill if each urologist in the USA gave $535!

Think about it, join and contribute.
Southeastern Section of the AUA
Thomas F. Stringer, MD

The Board of Directors of the SES-AUA met in conjunction with the Southeastern Section annual scientific meeting earlier this year in Puerto Rico. FUS participants included Tom Stringer as Treasurer of the Southeast Section, Health Policy Chairman; Mary Dineen and SES Florida delegates and alternate delegates, Scott Selliger, Mike Wehle, Austin Hill, Steve Hulecki, Mike Jenkins and Mike Grable.

The Board of Directors and Executive Committee appointed several FUS members to Section and AUA Committees. They include Scott Selliger, SES-AUA Bylaws Committee, Tom Stringer, AUA Investment Committee, Bob Newman, AUA Research Council and Nicole Eisenbrown, AUA Young Urologists Committee.

SES-AUA Secretary Dennis Venable reported on the successful partnering with the AUA Office of Education sponsored lead-in program on prostate cancer prior to the SES scientific meeting. A total of 309 abstracts were submitted, of which 61% were accepted. Similar to the AUA, concurrent poster sessions were conducted.

The fiscal performance of the SES-AUA was reviewed and presented by the SES Treasurer, Tom Stringer. Of note was a positive net year-end income of $102,740. Sources of income include operating (primarily dues), meeting (primarily grant and aids) and investment income, totaling $925,115. Expenses are also allocated to operating, meeting and investments and totaled $822,376. Investment expense rose, in part, as the result of a one time charitable donation of $18,000 directed to Hurricane Katrina displaced residents in our section.

The investment portfolio had total value of $2,346,617 at fiscal year-end. Assets were divided between bond funds at 30% and equity and real estate funds at 69%. The reserve fund maintains a 3 to 1 ratio to expense as mandated by the Finance Committee and Board of Directors. Year-end assets stood at $2,619,633.

SES membership totals 2,266 with 74 new applications reviewed this year. As the largest section of the AUA, the SES now has three representatives on the AUA Bylaws Committee, and representatives on the Health Policy Council, Judicial and Ethics Council and Journal of Urology Editorial Board.

SES-AUA representative to the AUA Board of Directors, Tony Bueschen, updated the SES Board of Directors on AUA finances and activities. When the AFUD became part of the AUA in May of 2005, the name was changed to AUA Foundation (AUAF). The AUA Office of Research has been transferred to the Foundation. Four councils have been formed to encompass the key programs of Research, Patient/Public Education, Patient Advocacy and Resource Development. Seven new research scholars were funded in 2006.

Dr. Bueschen emphasized the AUA focus on Member Services. The major programs provided include (1) education through the annual meeting, the Office of Education and the Journal of Urology; (2) government affairs through the Health Policy Council and excellent staff in the Office of Government Affairs; and (3) practice management assistance through the Practice Management Network.

At the Annual Business Meeting, Mike Wehle was elected to a two-year term as a member at large to the Nominating Committee of the SES, and Tom Brown was elected to succeed Dr. Bueschen as the SES AUA representative to the AUA Board of Directors.

The Executive Committee of the SES will be meeting in Orlando this summer in preparation for the March 2007 SES Annual Meeting. The meeting will be held at the Disney Dolphin and Swan Hotels. Enthusiastic member support is anticipated, not only because of the venue, but also because of the opportunity to select the AUA President-Elect for 2008. Members may send written nominations to the SES President, Ed Janosko and Executive Secretary Wendy Weiser until December 31, 2006. The list of nominees will then be mailed to the Membership in January of 2007. The election will occur at the Annual Business Meeting in Orlando. As an active and vibrant state society partnered with the largest AUA section, our members will have a unique opportunity to be involved in this important process.

Appointment to MedPAC and Looking Ahead
Ronald Castellanos, MD

I want to thank Tom Stringer, the executive committee and the members of the Florida Urologic Society for their support and encouragement. I was recently appointed to the MedPAC (Medicare Payment Advisory Commission), an independent federal body that advises U.S. Congress on issues effecting Medicare. There are 17 members, of which six are physicians. I am the first urologist that was ever appointed and one of the first surgeons to be recently appointed.

During this appointment, I hope to bring in a perspective from the practicing physician’s point of view. This year, MedPAC will be studying many issues relating to the physician fee schedule, ASC payment reform, pay-for-performance, cost of care measurements and drug payments—all issues that are important to the practicing physician. MedPAC also deals with hospital in-patient and out-patient services, skilled nursing facilities, home-health services and in-patient rehabilitation services as part of their tasks.

Without all of your help and support, especially Tom Stringer’s, this appointment would not have been possible. I am very grateful and thankful for this opportunity and I will do my best to represent all of you.

International Volunteers in Urology, Inc.

Are you a resident or fellow looking to gain urology experience internationally? The International Volunteers in Urology (IVU) Traveling Resident Scholarship Program provides opportunities for residents and fellows to spend from one to four weeks in a developing country with an IVU mentor urologist. Since 1999, IVU has sent their Traveling Resident Scholarship recipients to numerous countries, including Haiti, Vietnam, India, Tanzania, Cameroon, Honduras, Mexico and Peru. The residents perform surgery under supervision, learn about limitations in surgical and medical options, and sometimes teach didactic sessions on topics that they have studied in the United States. Depending on the site that the resident rotates to, he or she may participate in open stone surgery, benign prostate surgery, hypospadias repairs, and incontinence procedures.

If you are interested in being a part of this program, please visit International Volunteers in Urology, Inc., online at www.ivumed.org, where applications and scholarship information are available.
ARTICLE III: MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. The membership of this society shall be composed of Active, Associate, Honorary, Resident and Senior members, Allied Health Personnel and physicians in military and government service.

Section 5. Resident Members

(a) Receipt of an M.D. or D.O. degree at least one year before resident membership, that is not subject to any restrictions, conditions or limitations.

(b) The member shall be an active resident in good standing at one of the five recognized urology residency programs within the state of Florida and Puerto Rico.

(c) Endorsement of the applicant shall be by the chairman of his/her program who is an active member of the society. The chairman shall forward confidential letter concerning the applicant(s) to either the Secretary or Chairman of the Membership Committee.

(d) Resident members shall be dues exempt and registration fee exempt, but will be responsible for housing, meals and activities at society meetings.

(e) Resident members will have all privileges of active membership but cannot hold office or vote.

(f) Each resident is encouraged to attend at least one meeting during his residency and to participate in resident presentations and Pyelogram Hour.

(g) Society members will be encouraged to join Florida Medical Association.

(h) Urology residents who complete residency training in good standing and who have been resident members in good standing may have their resident membership converted to active status upon completion or their residency and approval of the membership committee and endorsement of the executive committee.

The rationale for the creation of an alternate member-at-large position is to provide the nominating committee with a defined option if the elected at-large member is unavailable or ineligible to serve in that role. (Revision in italics.)

Section 8. The Nominating Committee shall consist of three (3) members and one alternate. The three members will include the two most recent living presidents and one member at-large who is an active member in good standing of the Society. The at-large member is elected for a term of two (2) years by the FUS membership at the annual business meeting. The at-large position is limited to one two-year term. The alternate shall be a member-at-large who is an active member in good standing of the society, also elected at the annual business meeting to serve a concurrent term with the member-at-large. The alternate member is eligible to be elected to the committee as a member-at-large with a 2 year term limitation. If at any time there are less than three (3) members on the committee and an alternate is unable to serve, the President may appoint the third member from the membership at-large. The Chair of the Nominating Committee shall be the past president with the most seniority. The Committee shall present to the membership at its annual business meeting a slate of nominees of active members of the Society. The nominees shall include a single candidate for officers of the Florida Urological Society including: President, President-elect, Secretary-Treasurer and Executive Committee members as vacancies occur. Additional nominees shall include members and alternate members of the Board of Directors of the SES-AUA Florida Representatives, as vacancies occur. In addition, the Nominating Committee shall present to the Executive Committee nominees for FUS standing committee appointments as well as nominees for specialty representation in the Florida Medical Association, or similar organized medical liaison positions as they occur.

Annual Meeting Preview

Vincent Bird, MD

This year’s annual meeting of the Florida Urologic Society promises updates on a large spectrum of urologic areas of interest. This meeting will address some of the most highly prevalent conditions that many urologists see in their everyday practice, including: prostate cancer, urinary incontinence/overactive bladder, urinary lithiasis, and erectile dysfunction.

The opening scientific session will focus on state-of-the-art diagnosis and treatment of prostate cancer. This session is particularly pertinent at the present time when a variety of new technologies and surgical techniques are being employed in the treatment of this highly prevalent condition. Our nationally and internationally recognized speakers will provide a concise and thorough overview of this subject matter.

During the last few years, there has also been significant evolution in the treatment of female urinary incontinence and overactive bladder. Our expert speaker panel will discuss evaluation and management of this condition, including interpretation of urodynamic studies, and discuss in detail a variety of new and exciting treatment modalities that may be available to this patient population.

Engineering improvements for fiberoptic flexible ureteroscopes, along with the introduction of new and updated ancillary devices, have also greatly facilitated the practical performance of ureteroscopy for the diagnosis and treatment of upper urinary tract stones and tumors. Presentation will include reviews and recent clinical studies from a panel of endourologic experts.

Many of those in community practice still see pediatric patients for urologic concerns.

Discussion this year will include an overview of the evaluation and management of pediatric patients, an update on current options, and advice on which types of cases may be considered for referral.

Almost all urologists now treat large numbers of patients with erectile dysfunction, a disease primarily treated with oral medical therapy. Our annual meeting will include a review of treatment for erectile dysfunction that will include available therapies, treatment expectations, and alternative treatments for refractory cases. The meeting, as always, will also feature our very lively resident debate topics in point-counterpoint format, and the annual pyelogram program. Each of the five training programs in Florida and Puerto Rico will participate for bragging rights and cash awards. FUS members in attendance will also be eligible to win a prize.

The Florida Urologic Society recognizes the importance of keeping urologists updated in regard to the ever-changing environment in which we all practice. Discussion will include the current physician-hospital relationships, ancillary services the urologist may provide within the office, updates on laboratory testing/regulations and physician asset protection.

This year our meeting promises both important and exciting updates for all. On behalf of Tom Stringer MD, our president, and myself, Vincent Bird MD, Scientific Director, we hope to see many of our colleagues in Orlando!
Florida Urological Society Annual Meeting

FUS ANNUAL MEETING PROGRAM COMMITTEE
Vincent Bird, MD
University of Miami

Thomas Stringer, MD
Citrus Urology Associates

FUS ANNUAL MEETING FACULTY
Vincent Bird, MD
University of Miami

Joel Blau
Medicus Asset Advisors

Gregory Broderick, MD
Mayo Clinic Jacksonville

Anton Bueschen, MD
University of Alabama at Birmingham

John Burns, MD
University of Alabama at Birmingham

Jeffrey Dann, MD
Atlanta Urological Associates

Martin Dineen, MD
Atlantic Urological Associates

Michael Erhard, MD
The Nemours Children’s Clinic

William F. Gee, MD
AUA Treasurer

Angelo Gousse, MD
University of Miami

Mike Grable, MD
Atlantic Urological Associates

Ed Janosko, MD
Eastern Urological Associates

Raymond Leveillee, MD
University of Miami

Raul Ordorica, MD
Tampa General Hospital

Roman Perez, MD

Louis Pister, MD
Anderson Cancer Center

Julio Pow-Sang, MD
H. Lee Moffitt Cancer Center

Eric Rovner, MD
Medical University of South Carolina

Mark Soloway, MD
University of Miami

Joseph Smith, MD
Vanderbilt University

Thomas Stringer, MD
Citrus Urology Associates

Michael Zelefsky, MD
Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center

EXHIBIT HOURS
Friday, September 1, 2006   6:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.
Saturday, September 2, 2006   7:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

SESSION HOURS
Friday, September 1, 2006   7:30 a.m. – 5:40 p.m.
Saturday, September 2, 2006   7:45 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Sunday, September 3, 2006   7:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

REGISTRATION HOURS
Thursday, August 31   5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.
Friday, September 1   6:30 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.
Saturday, September 2   7:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
Sunday, September 3   7:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

For the complete agenda please visit our website at www.flaurolological.org
Be sure to attend the 2006 Annual Business Meeting!

Sunday, September 3, 2006
8 a.m.
Omni Orlando Resort at ChampionsGate
Orlando, Florida

If you haven’t already registered for the 2006 Annual Meeting, make sure to register online at www.flaurological.org by the pre-registration deadline of August 18, 2006.

You can look forward to a great program schedule and faculty!

Mark Your Calendars!

FUS 2006 Annual Meeting
August 31 – September 3, 2006
Omni Orlando Resort at Championsgate
Orlando, Florida

FUS 2007 Annual Meeting
August 30 – September 2, 2007
Loews Miami Beach Hotel
Miami Beach, Florida

Address Corrections Requested
Please notify the FUS of any changes in your contact information, including change of address, phone or fax numbers, and e-mail address. This information is only disseminated to the membership and is used for networking, one of our primary missions. Thank you!

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