President’s Message
Michael S. Grable, MD

I would like to express what an honor it is to represent the Florida Urological Society as your president this year. I am following some extremely talented and committed individuals. Congratulations and appreciation is due to Mike Wehle for an outstanding meeting at the Portofino at Universal Studios this last September. Mike and Vinny Bird put together an amazing meeting that was a benefit to all who attended, and the attendance set a record. I’m sure that anyone who was there will attest that the clinical and scientific information presented gave us all very useful “take-home” messages that will be of value to our patients. The guest speakers and our own FUS members are to be commended for their contributions. We are blessed to have the very active involvement of our academic centers (both professors and residents) and our community urologists. The expanded session for physician assistants and nurse practitioners was well received. While all of that alone would have been well worth the time and money, we were also beneficiaries of some wonderful social and sporting events. I would be remiss if I didn’t mention the contributions of industry in sponsorship and in the presentations they offered. The vendor participation and the information available in the vendor display areas rivaled the larger section and regional meetings.

The Florida Urological Society has a reputation of being one of the most active societies in the country and the meetings are some of the best attended state society meetings in the country. I have heard this from urologists who present throughout the country as well as industry representatives who attend numerous meetings. That fact is a tribute to all of those individuals who have volunteered their time and knowledge to make it a success. In addition, our continued accomplishments are in no small part attributable to Wendy Weiser, Sue O’Sullivan, Donna Kelly, Stephanie Bodanyj, John Hansen, et al. who make this endeavor work like a well-oiled machine. The future of the society will be built on the shoulders of all who have worked so hard in the past. With the risk of leaving out many very important people, I would like to recognize my good friends Tom Stringer and Mike Whel, and my partners (and good friends) Tom Brown and Marty Dineen for giving me the support to try to continue the exceptional reputation of the FUS.

Looking forward to next year, Wade Sexton and I hope to be able to bring you a program that maintains the same level of excellence and value as we have had in the past. I would like to expand on the program for the ARNPs and PAs, as they become a more integral part of the future of urology. We will strive to provide you with the latest scientific information and socioeconomic updates. The venue in Bonita Springs should also offer you and your families an enjoyable time.

Increase the Strength of our Association!
Do you know of a colleague who would like to join the Florida Urological Society?
Just call the FUS office at (847) 517-7249 or visit our website at www.flaurological.org today!
The support of the urologists in our state. All of these things cannot be done without these positions are extremely important. In changing times for healthcare policy, all of ourselves available to meet with members of the Florida legislature to discuss bills that directly affect urology in our state. In these meetings for healthcare policy, all of ourselves available to meet with members of the Florida legislature to discuss bills that directly affect urology in our state. In these changing times for healthcare policy, all of these positions are extremely important.

All of these things cannot be done without the support of the urologists in our state. The more of our fellow urologists who join the FUS, the stronger our voice is. If you are reading this, then you are probably a member and I am speaking to the choir, but I am sure many of you know someone in your community who does not belong to the FUS. So pass this article along to that person. Tell them how important it is to join the FUS. Show them that together, we are stronger. My hope and goal is to have every active urologist in the state of Florida become a member of the FUS. In this way, your organization has a stronger voice in the AUA, in Tallahassee and in Washington, DC.

Nominating Committee Report
Robert C. Newman, MD

As your new secretary/treasurer, it is my pleasure to report that our organization is in good financial health. As of the end of September, we have a total fund balance of $414,488 with a year-to-date operating surplus of $124,123. Such a strong balance sheet was not always the case for the FUS. It was only five years ago that we had operating surpluses of under $6,000. For this improvement, we have to thank our strong leadership and WJ Weiser & Associates, our administrative group, for the changing economic direction.

One may ask why a strong FUS is important. What does this society do? When I first came to Florida in 1992, my first exposure to the FUS was its annual meeting. It quickly became my favorite academic meeting to attend. It was directed towards clinicians. It typically covered all the major urologic topics and gave me state-of-the-art information. Unlike larger meetings, questions were easily asked and answered. It also afforded me the opportunity to learn about the latest surgical techniques being performed at the local universities and allowed for collegial exchange of ideas with my in-state colleagues. And all of this came at a very affordable price, a location that was usually an easy drive and, because meetings usually occur on a holiday weekend, I would miss little work time.

I would soon learn that there was more to the FUS than our annual meeting. We sit the largest delegation to the board of the Southeastern Section of the AUA. This not only gives us great power in that organization, but influences the policies of the AUA itself. We are also one of the few state specialty societies that has a seat on Florida’s Medicare Carrier Advisory Committee, which sets Medicare policy in our state. We have members of the FUS who sit on the board of the AACU and one of our members chairs the AUA Health Policy Committee. Scott Sellinger and I co-chair the FUS Legislative Committee and make ourselves available to meet with members of the Florida legislature to discuss bills that directly affect urology in our state. In these changing times for healthcare policy, all of these positions are extremely important.

All of these things cannot be done without the support of the urologists in our state.
SOUTHEASTERN SECTION REPRESENTATION
We are fortunate to have five delegates to the Southeastern Section of the AUA. The number of members in the state society determines the number of delegates from each state. With over 500 members, Florida has the largest state society in our Section.

For each delegate there is an alternate delegate. Both delegate and alternate delegate positions are for three years. Delegates and alternate delegates are asked to attend the annual board meeting of the Southeastern Section. In the event of a vote, Florida (FUS) has five votes – one vote for each delegate slot. Alternate delegates cannot vote unless one of our elected delegates is absent. In most circumstances, when a delegate completes his or her term, an alternate delegate becomes a delegate.

Our current SESAUA delegates and alternate delegates are as follows: (Terms of office begin at the close of a SESAUA annual meeting and expire at the close of this meeting three years hence.)

DELEGATES TERM ENDS
Rafael E. Carrion, MD 2014
Michael J. Erhard, MD 2014
David H. Jablonski, MD 2013
George A. Hill, MD 2012
Steven J. Hulecki, MD 2012

ALTERNATE DELEGATES TERM ENDS
Alan M. Nieder, MD 2014
Sijo J. Parekattil, MD 2014
Joshua T. Green, MD 2013
Vincent G. Bird, MD 2012
Michael A. Binder, MD 2012

We will elect members to the following positions at our fall 2011 meeting:

President
President-Elect
Secretary/Treasurer
Three Executive Committee Members
One Southeastern Section Delegate
One Southeastern Section Alternate Delegate
One Nominating Committee Member-at-Large

The success of our society is based on participation by you, our members. If you would like to nominate a member of our society for a position, or would like to be considered yourself, please contact a member of the Nominating Committee.

FLORIDA MEDICAL ASSOCIATION (FMA) REPRESENTATION
The FUS is entitled to nominate three individuals to serve as delegates to the FMA. In addition, three FUS members will serve as alternate delegates. This year for the first time, over 50% of our FUS members are also FMA members. As a result, we can select one person to serve on the FMA Board. The members elected are as follows:

Neal P. Dunn, MD Delegate & FMA Board Representative
Edward D. King, MD Delegate
Alan K. Miller, MD, FACS Delegate
Donald M. Bergner, MD Alternate Delegate
David S. Meinbach, MD Alternate Delegate
T. Johnson Ross, MD Alternate Delegate

APPOINTED POSITIONS
In addition to these elected positions, the president appoints the annual scientific program chair and several standing committees including Bylaws, Legislative & Government Policy, and Membership. If you would like to serve in one of these positions, please contact our president, Mike Grable, MD.

2011 ELECTIONS
We will elect members to the following positions at our fall 2011 meeting:

President
President-Elect
Secretary/Treasurer
Three Executive Committee Members
One Southeastern Section Delegate
One Southeastern Section Alternate Delegate
One Nominating Committee Member-at-Large

Report from the Immediate Past President
Michael J. Wehle, MD

We had a very strongly-supported and well-attended FUS meeting with a record-setting 183 attendees. My sincere thanks to all the members, board members, residents and industry partners who supported our society’s meeting in Orlando this past Labor Day weekend. Special thanks to Vin Bird for all his hard work in putting together a superb academic program. Mary Mathe also helped arrange a special breakout session for NPPs. Hopefully, the NPP group will increase in number as part of the FUS. As in past meetings, the residents did an excellent job with the debates and pyelogram presentations. I would like to thank the entire faculty from our society who gave their time and effort to the academic and socio-economic portions of the meeting. We are fortunate to have an abundance of expertise and talent within our society. Finally, a special thanks to WJ Weiser & Associates, especially Sue O’Sullivan, Donna Kelly and John Hansen; without their hard work and great organizational skills, the success of our Society’s 2010 Annual Meeting would not have been possible.

I hope we can all give continued support to our new president, Mike Grable, in his efforts to continue a long tradition of great annual FUS meetings. Next year’s meeting will be held from September 1 – 4, 2011 at the Hyatt Regency Coconut Point in Bonita Springs, Florida.

Finally, I want to thank everyone associated with the FUS for allowing me to serve as the president. It was truly a pleasure and an honor. I know the future of our exceptional society has great promise.
Outlook for 2011

A Republican sweep of statewide elected offices and a more conservative legislature implies that the practice of medicine may be looked upon favorably in Tallahassee over the next two years.

Indeed, urologists have friends in the legislature’s two leaders. Senate President Mike Haridopolos’ wife is a family practice physician while House Speaker Dean Cannon’s brother is an ophthalmic surgeon.

Physicians’ relationship with Governor-Elect Rick Scott is more of a wild card. There is a sense that Scott played physician groups against one another when he served as CEO of Columbia/HCA. Still, his positions on medical liability reform and scope of practice earned him a general election endorsement from the Florida Medical Association.

Medicaid and medical liability reform are top priorities of all three leaders. Just days after the election, the designated legislative leaders announced their intention to overhaul the $20 billion Medicaid program. Key provisions of this initiative include expansion of the five-county managed care pilot program, allowing Medicaid funds to be used for any state-regulated private coverage and limiting medical malpractice lawsuits against healthcare providers who treat Medicaid patients.

Medical liability reform may finally gain traction in the 2011 session. Incoming Speaker Cannon understands organized medicine’s position on this issue, asserting in an FMA interview that, “My brother considered practicing in Florida, but the liability costs were far too high.”

Executive agencies and the legislature will confront issues related to federal health reform next year, as well. In an October 19 letter to Gov. Crist, Speaker-designate Cannon wrote, “[The Legislature] intend[s] to develop a clear and statutorily-defined framework for Florida agencies’ activities in regard to the federal health law.” This will take place even as Attorney General-Elect Pam Bondi (R) continues the multi-state lawsuit challenging the law initiated by outgoing AG Bill McCollum.

As consideration of these issues and more gets underway in Tallahassee and throughout Florida, the Florida Urological Society, in partnership with the American Association of Clinical Urologists, will promote the interests of urologists in the legislature and before executive agencies. To actively participate in this effort, consider becoming an AACU State Society Network representative. Visit the State Society Network at www.aacuweb.org to learn more.
FUS Would Like to Recognize Our 2010 Industry Partners

We Invite Your Continued Support!

Diamond
Ferring Pharmaceuticals
Pfizer

Ruby
American Medical Systems
Coloplast
DMR

Educational Grant Supporters
Amgen
Ethicon
Medtronic
Watson Pharmaceuticals

FUS INDUSTRY OPPORTUNITIES
Industry Partnerships are a vital part of our success. The FUS is currently seeking industry partners who share our commitment to growth and excellence in the field of urology in the state of Florida.

The partnership packages we offer include additional marketing opportunities and enhanced exposure throughout the meeting. Through this program, we hope to work in tandem with our industry colleagues to identify ways to enhance our current member programs and implement new projects that will lead to improved patient care through better physician education and mentoring. Please invite your industry contacts to become FUS industry partners. Partnerships packages are promotional opportunities and, unlike educational grants, are appropriate to discuss with your sales representatives. Please ask them to contact Donna Kelly at Donna@wjweiser.com for more information.

If you have vendors you do regular business with, please ask them to become more involved with FUS. Thank you for your help!

PAST PRESIDENTS
Florida Urological Society

1949  * Milton M. Coplan, MD
1950  * Arthur F. Turner Jr., MD
1951  Alvin Mills, MD
1952  Lee Sharp, MD
1953  George H. Putnam, MD
1953  Lee Sharp, MD
1954  * Frank M. Woods, MD
1955  * Linus W. Hewit, MD
1956  * David W. Goddard, MD
1957  Frank J. Pyle, MD
1958  W. Dotson Wells, MD
1959  Melvin M. Simmons, MD
1960  Edwin W. Brown, MD
1961  * Henry L. Smith, Jr., MD
1962  * William A. Van Nortwick, MD
1963  * Henry C. Hardin, Jr., MD
1964  Trueht H. Frazier, MD
1965  * John T. Karaphillis, MD
1966  Robert J. Brown, MD
1967  Robert J. Webster, MD
1968  Carey M. Barry, MD
1969  * Miles W. Thomley, MD
1970  * Victor A. Politano, MD
1971  Horace D. Atkinson, MD
1972  Curtis W. Bowman, MD
1973  * Clark A. Whitehorn, MD
1974  * John I. Williams, MD
1975  * John R. Browning, MD
1976  R. Benjamin Moore, MD
1977  Raymond J. Fitzpatrick, MD
1978  Alvie C. McCully, MD
1979  Woody N. York, MD
1980  H.A.P. Leninger, MD
1981  John M. Harper, MD
1982  Thomas C. McLaughlin, MD
1983  * Charles W. Lewis, Jr., MD
1984  * David M. Drylie, MD
1985  Michael P. Small, MD
1986  John D. Welch, MD
1987  William R. Jones, MD
1988  Manuel J. Coto, MD
1989  L. W. DeHaven, Jr., MD
1990  R. Dixon Walker, II, MD
1991  * John P. Scheuren, MD
1992  Raleigh W. Rollins, MD
1993  James E. Kaelin, MD
1994  Hernan M. Carrion, MD
1995  James M. Porterfield, Jr., MD
1996  William P. Sawyer, MD
1997  Thomas J. Mawn, MD
1998  * Byron H. McCormick, MD
1999  Edward Ackerman, MD
2000  B. Thomas Brown, MD, MBA
2001  Zev Wajszman, MD
2002  Ruskin W. Brown, MD
2003  Martin K. Dineen, MD
2004  Ronald D. Castellanos, MD
2005  Scott B. Sellinger, MD
2006  Thomas F. Stringer, MD
2007  Raymond J. Leveillee, MD, FRCS-G
2008  Robert C. Newman, MD
2009  T. Johnson Ross, Jr, MD
2010  Michael J. Wehle, MD

(* indicates deceased)
Mark Your Calendars

2011 FUS Annual Meeting
September 1 – 4, 2011
Hyatt Regency Coconut Point
Bonita Springs, Florida

Visit us at www.flaurological.org today!
- Obtain current meeting information
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