The 2015 CNS Annual Meeting will offer participants an exceptional opportunity to earn CME credits while also networking with best-in-class global neurosurgical leaders. We again will be offering multiple live surgery sessions and point-counterpoint debates, highlighting the latest evidence-based guidelines for clinical practice treatment decisions in tumor, vascular, spine, pediatric, pain, and functional neurosurgery. We will also focus on innovative technology and new clinical trials with a direct comparison to current standards of care. Finally, in keeping with the central mission of the CNS—education—we will feature several sessions on how best to maintain the highest quality in residency training given the enormous financial constraints in our changing health care environment. The 2015 CNS Annual Meeting provides educational, professional, and social offerings for everyone, including teaching sessions for advanced practice providers, simulation-based training for residents and young neurosurgeons, board and MOC preparation courses, and other research-based best practice sessions. We have welcomed an unprecedented level of collaboration among the various Joint Sections and our CNS Scientific Program Committee this year to ensure broad input and participation in both the early morning section sessions and the entire scientific program in general, featuring debates on the most hotly contested clinical practice and socio-economic topics for both academic and private practice neurosurgeons from the United States and around the world.
CNS President Nate Selden and Honored Guest Kim Burchiel

CNS President Dr. Nathan Selden has selected his mentor, Dr. Kim Burchiel, to serve as this year’s Honored Guest. Dr. Burchiel is the John Raaf Professor and Chairman of the Department of Neurological Surgery at Oregon Health & Science University. A recent past president of the Society of Neurological Surgeons, Dr. Burchiel is a world-renowned expert and leading pioneer in functional and stereotactic neurosurgery, pain surgery, and epilepsy neurosurgery. Dr. Burchiel will enlighten us with his Honored Guest lectures on the progress over the last two decades in deep brain stimulation as well as the latest indications and surgical treatment options for trigeminal neuralgia. He will also discuss new paradigms for curriculum, core, and subspecialty training in our current neurosurgical training environment.

Featured Speakers

In addition to Drs. Selden and Burchiel, we have assembled a thought-provoking and engaging lineup of featured speakers for this year’s meeting. There perhaps can be no more captivating of an opening to an event in New Orleans than a talk and performance by the American pianist, composer, and jazz legend Herbie Hancock, and we are looking forward to hearing him welcome all of us to the Big Easy during our opening plenary session. During our general scientific sessions, we will also feature orations by former New York City mayor Rudy Giuliani and FOX News correspondent Juan Williams. In addition, one of the most cited and renowned neuroscientists in the world, Professor Trevor Robbins, director of the Behavioral and Clinical Neuroscience Institute and chair of psychology at the University of Cambridge in England, will speak on the latest advances in Parkinson’s, Huntington’s, and Alzheimer’s diseases and traumatic brain injury. Finally, Dr. Atul Grover, chief public policy officer at the Association of American Medical Colleges, will discuss the state of federal training funds, manpower, and the future of specialty medicine.

International Partner

Our esteemed 2015 international partner is the Turkish Neurosurgical Society (TNS). We are thrilled to welcome a very large delegation of Turkish neurosurgeons to our CNS Annual Meeting in New Orleans. Their influence and participation will be evident throughout the meeting, as leaders of the TNS will be moderating our Choice Abstracts and International Neurosurgical Forum sessions, and they will also host a very special 3-D Neurosurgery Session as a tribute to Dr. Gazi Yaşargil on Tuesday, September 29. Dr. Selden will welcome Professor Zeki Sekerci, TNS president, and Professor Talat Kiris, TNS vice president, during our plenary sessions. We also look forward to a special presentation on “Troy, the Cradle of Western Civilization,” by Professor Yücel Yılmaz, president emeritus of Kadir Has University in Istanbul.

Please join us for the International Reception on Saturday, September 26, at the stunning Contemporary Arts Center of New Orleans. The 2015 CNS Annual Meeting is the perfect occasion to meet global experts, network, and share ideas and approaches with colleagues from around the world.

Symposia and Practical Courses

We have designed this year’s meeting to be as customizable as possible, giving you the chance to learn and participate in a myriad of sessions in your subspecialty or area of interest. Kicking off the Annual Meeting are two exciting symposia and your choice of 29 practical courses. On Saturday, September 26, we will offer a symposium on cutting-edge and future technology in ischemic and hemorrhagic stroke, which will address the latest medical, interventional, and surgical therapies for intracranial aneurysms as well as patient selection and advanced imaging for acute stroke intervention. Sunday’s symposium, back by popular demand, will guide you through Neurovation, the future of spine and brain tumor neurosurgery as well as cerebrovascular and endovascular advances. Hear directly from industry experts who are driving these technologies. Practical courses span the gamut from endoscopic procedures to hands-on skull base, spine, and peripheral nerve cadaver courses; board review; application of clinical practice guidelines; and so much more.

General Scientific Sessions

In addition to our Honored Guest, Dr. Kim Burchiel, and our featured speakers mentioned above, our General Scientific Sessions will highlight top quality science and state-of-the-art breakthroughs in our field, as well as a series of point-counterpoint debates on hotly contested
clinical treatment scenarios, in front of what will likely be the largest neurosurgical audience to date. The results of a Phase II study on DBS for Alzheimer’s disease will be released for the first time to a neurosurgical audience during our general scientific session, and we will feature lectures on advanced “molecular tumor boards” and new approaches in immunotherapy for brain tumors, as well as minimally invasive surgery for spine deformity and the development of the first-ever spine outcomes collaborative. Our four debates will focus on laser ablation vs. open surgery for deep seated tumors; maximally vs. minimally invasive surgery for degenerative scoliosis; neuro-endovascular surgery vs. conventional treatment for acute stroke; and, finally, endoscopic third ventriculostomy vs. shunting as the first treatment in infants with hydrocephalus.

Be sure to hear Dr. Selden, Campagna Chair of Pediatric Neurosurgery and residency program director at OHSU, deliver his keynote presidential address on the value of mentorship in neurological surgery at the General Scientific Session on Monday, September 28.

Luncheon and Dinner Seminars
Twenty-eight luncheon seminars will provide attendees with the opportunity to lunch, learn, and debate colleagues in a relaxed setting, on a wide variety of topics. Choose the session that interests you the most! We will also offer four dinner seminars on a range of clinical and neuroscience program-building topics—and controversial debates—at the most popular and award-winning culinary establishments in New Orleans. Join your friends and colleagues for stimulating conversation and a wonderful Creole dining experience.

What’s New?
• Captivating Live Surgery sessions daily via Telemedicine Technology in a revamped viewing amphitheater in the exhibit hall, featuring cranial, endoscopic, endovascular, and spinal neurosurgery cases, live, from around the country.
• A new “flipped classroom” learning concept for several of our luncheon seminars, whereby participants will complete an online webinar experience prior to attending the luncheon seminar, which then will focus on case-based practical applications.
• New Hot Topics and Controversy Sessions, and a 3-D neurosurgery tribute to Dr. Yasargil.
• Late-breaking abstracts and hot-off-the-press science, featured in a special morning session.

The CNS received an incredible 1,500+ abstract submissions earlier this year, breaking a five-year record. Once again, from June 17 to August 3, we will open a category of late-breaking science and accept select abstracts featuring projects that were not yet far enough along in terms of reportable data to be submitted in March. Please visit the CNS website for details.

Register Today
What are you waiting for? Register today at www.cns.org, if you haven’t already done so. The advance registration deadline is August 27. Our main convention hotel, the Hilton New Orleans Riverside, commands spectacular views of the Mississippi River, the French Quarter, and central New Orleans. The Hilton, which has just undergone major updates and improvements, is located only steps away from our meeting space and exhibits in the New Orleans Convention Center. You don’t want to miss this chance to attend what we anticipate to be the largest CNS Annual Meeting yet! Bring your family with you to New Orleans and take advantage of the many historical, musical, cultural, and culinary attractions in this great city. Have fun, learn, earn CME, network, and help further advance our profession through Mentorship: Service, Education, Progress. See you in New Orleans!