PES Members:

This is our last Newsletter as President and as a member of the Board of Directors of PES.

It has been an honor (and a lot of fun) to serve you and our ever-growing and ever-evolving society. PES is involved in many remarkable activities and initiatives, with the unifying ultimate goal of providing optimal care to our patients and their families. **April is National Volunteer Month**, but, even if it were not, we would still like to give one last THANKS to the members who devote so much effort and expertise to PES.

We have a lot to tell you about this month. So please read to the very end!

**Annual Meeting**: To start, the Annual Meeting will take place in San Diego toward the end of this month (Friday, April 24 through Monday, April 27). Please join us! An exciting and interactive program has been planned (click [here](#) for full schedule). In addition to the scientific sessions, please also plan to attend the **Maintenance of Certification in Endocrinology (MOCE) Part 2** activity on Saturday, April 25, from 5:00 PM–7:30 PM at the Hilton San Diego Bayfront Hotel in the Indigo Ballroom C (RSVP to [info@pedsendo.org](mailto:info@pedsendo.org)) and the information session related to our new Society-wide quality improvement/quality assurance program [Standardized Clinical Assessment and Management Plans (SCAMPs®)] on Sunday, April 26, at 7:00 AM in Room 33ABC at the San Diego Convention Center. **We strongly encourage you to attend the SCAMPs® session and to participate in this important collaborative quality improvement program, which, with your help and involvement, is bound to strengthen our Society and lead to improvements in patient care.**

There are four other late-breaking events at the meeting to tell you about. First, a PES **Transgender Special Interest Group (SIG)** is being considered. To this end, PES will convene a SIG at the meeting in San Diego focused on care for gender non-conforming/transgender youth. The meeting will take place on Friday, April 24 from 1:00 PM–5:00 PM at the Hilton San Diego Bayfront Hotel in Room Aqua 307. Space is available for 40 attendees. The meeting will have two parts: A1) Overview of clinical programs, with summaries provided by those in academic or private practice settings and A2) Opportunity to present and discuss challenging cases; and B) Discussion regarding the purpose/vision/goals for this SIG. Jerry Olshan will lead Part A and Steve Rosenthal will lead part B. Please contact Toni Eimicke ([eimict@mmc.org](mailto:eimict@mmc.org)) or Jerry Olshan ([olsha@mmc.org](mailto:olsha@mmc.org)) if you plan to attend.

Second, we are planning to have a **Spring Retreat Alumni Meet-and-Greet Reunion** at this year’s PES meeting. Past Spring Retreat participants should plan to come and visit with your Retreat class during the PES Presidential Poster Session Friday, April 24 from 7:00 PM–9:00 PM at the Hilton Bayfront Hotel in Aqua Salon ABC. You will also have a chance to meet the 2015 group of fellows who are preparing for this year’s Retreat. This informal reunion will gather at a reserved area of tables during the poster session reception at 8:30 PM.
Third, the Research Affairs Council (RAC) will host a **Mentorship Forum** during the PES meeting on Friday, April 24 from 5:00 PM–6:00 PM at the Hilton Bayfront Hotel in the Indigo Ballroom D. The Program will include speakers from the Mentoring Subcommittee and will include small group discussions about the value of a mentor/mentee relationship, mentoring challenges, and tips to maximize the benefits of this professional relationship. Please help us plan for your participation, and RSVP to this invitation to: **Maureen@pedsendo.org**.

Fourth, during the Mentorship Forum, the RAC has also organized for a representative from the **NIH to be present to answer questions about government funding opportunities**. Thanks to the RAC for organizing this important opportunity!

Finally, a **meeting app** is available to assist with your planning related to the Annual Meeting again this year. The app can be downloaded [here](#) (Password: PASMEETING). An event Web Link is also available. Please also watch your e-mail in-boxes for updates from PES and/or PAS about logistics and any last-minute schedule changes related to this year’s meeting. If you’d like to hold an informal meeting or simply take a break or check e-mails, feel free to drop by the PES Member Lounge, which will be held in the Convention Center in Show Office G on the Mezzanine Level.

If you are unable to attend the meeting this year (and even if you are coming to San Diego), please plan for:

--The **PES meeting next year in Baltimore** (April 30–May 3, 2016) and

--The **10th International Meeting of Pediatric Endocrinology in Washington, DC** (September 14–17, 2017).

If you have **ideas for topics related to next year's meeting** in Baltimore, please send them to Seth Marks, Chair of the Program Committee ([smarks@hsc.mb.ca](mailto:smarks@hsc.mb.ca)).

**Welcome New Members!** Eric Bomberg, Jason Buckner, Sara Moassesfar, Senta Georgia, and Trina Brown. Please plan to visit the PES Member Poster during the Presidential Poster Session Friday, April 24, at the Hilton Bayfront Hotel in the Aqua Salon ABC. The PES Membership Committee will be there distributing Member/New Member ribbons and welcoming you to the Society. The Member Poster will also display the names of all those who joined in 2014.

**Public Policy:** We have two policy-related initiatives to report. First, **SoluCortef and EMS:** Representing PES, Mitch Geffner met with United States Congressman Tony Cárdenas (29th District, San Fernando Valley) with the goal to pass legislation in California mandating teaching paramedics how to treat adrenal insufficiency (AI) in the field and stocking all emergency rigs with SoluCortef for treatment of AI. Currently, only 8 states have policies in place while 4 others have official programs where paramedics can administer patient medication. If successful in California, this experience could be replicated at a national level. Special thanks to Mimi Kim at CHLA and CARES Foundation for their tremendous contributions to this effort.

Second, please remember to support the **Do your part to Stop Diabetes®** initiative. Tell Congress to stand up to diabetes by signing this petition. Then, spread the word for others to join us: e-mail this petition to your friends and family, and post it on your Facebook and Twitter pages. It is easy to be involved; simply click [here](#) to petition Congress to support funding for NIH, CDC, the Special Diabetes Program (SDP), and the National Diabetes Prevention Program (NDPP).

**Funding Opportunities:** In addition to the **Q & A session with NIH personnel at the Annual Meeting**, please remember that our website includes a comprehensive listing of **funding opportunities**. In addition, young investigators should know that The Howard Hughes Medical Institute, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, and the Simons Foundation recently announced a new program entitled **Faculty Scholar competition**, which is specifically designed for new investigators. Worth reading about!
Finally, the **Historical Tidbit of the Month**. This tidbit was selected by Arlan Rosenbloom and the History Committee in anticipation of this year's Annual Meeting and the occasion of the first Del and Beverly Fisher Pediatric Endocrinology History Lecture, which will be presented by Samuel Refetoff. The Tidbit comes from Del himself: 2015 marks the 60th anniversary of the paper by Grumbach, Van Wyk, and Wilkins characterizing male chromosomal sex patterns in 20 patients with ovarian agenesis (Turner syndrome) using Barr body analysis of skin biopsies. They likened the syndrome to the castrated fetus in animal models and proposed a classification of ambisexual development in chromosomal males based on varying degrees of fetal testicular insufficiency. Barr body analysis subsequently became a routine approach to diagnosis (Grumbach MM, Van Wyk JJ, Wilkins L. Chromosomal sex in gonadal dysgenesis (ovarian agenesis): relationship to male pseudohermaphroditism and theories of human sex differentiation. *J Clin Endocrinol Metab* 1955; 15:1161-1193).

Sincerely,

Mitchell E. Geffner, MD
PES President

Mark Palmert, MD, PhD
PES Board Member