PES Members:

Congress released the FY budget that had some very positive outcomes for us. This includes $32 billion for the NIH, a $2 billion (6.6%) increase over FY2015. The NIDDK, the primary funding agency for diabetes research, will get over $1.8 billion in funding—an increase of over $68 million and the Clinical and Translational Science Awards (CTSA) was budgeted for an increase of over $25 million. Specifically relevant funding is appropriated for the CDC’s Division of Diabetes Translation (DDT) to receive over $170 million—an increase of $30 million and the National Diabetes Prevention Program’s budget to double from last year to $20 million. These programs will undoubtedly have a major positive impact on the health of our patients with diabetes and other endocrine disorders.

I would like to wish you a happy holiday season and celebrate all you have done for our membership and the children you care for. On behalf of myself, the members of the PES Board of Directors and the Degnon management staff, we wish you a very happy, healthy New Year.

At this year’s end, please consider making a donation to one of the many opportunities that help support PES activities.

PES Annual Meeting
Registration and Housing are open for the PAS/PES Annual Meeting, April 29-May 2, 2016, in Baltimore, MD. Visit the PAS website at www.pas-meeting.org for more information.

New Lecture Information and Update
The Honors and Lectures Committee and the Board have recently decided to offer the Blizzard Lecture and the Fisher History Lecture (new in 2015) biannually, alternating at the annual meeting every other year. The Blizzard Lecture will be delivered in 2016 and the Fisher History Lecture in 2017.

In addition to the Blizzard Lecture and the Fisher History lecture, we are happy to announce the new Paul Kaplowitz Lecture. Paul Kaplowitz has made a donation which will be jointly administered by the AAP and PES to establish a lectureship on cost-effective care in pediatric endocrinology. The inaugural presentation will be offered in Baltimore in 2016. As most of you know, Paul has long been interested in finding ways to reducing unnecessary testing and treatment, particularly in the areas of early puberty and subclinical hypothyroidism. He would like PES to recognize at our annual meeting a member of our community who has advocated for cost-effective practice and published in this area. The winner will be announced soon.

Case Solicitation
We are requesting that members help us prepare for a symposium at the 2016 Spring PES Meeting in Baltimore entitled "What's That Spot on My Scan” – case-based discussions of incidentalomas. We ask members to submit a one-page summary of difficult/interesting pediatric cases of lesions found in the pituitary, adrenal, or thyroid gland to the chairs of the symposia, Constantine Stratakis (stratakc@mail.nih.gov) and Vaneeta Bamba (bamba@email.chop.edu), with a copy to Seth Marks, program chair (smarks@exchange.hsc.mb.ca), as soon as possible. Three to four cases
Updates…

- As a service to our members, the PES board of directors approved a template letter (also attached in Word and PDF) that can be given to families of children with adrenal insufficiency (of any etiology) to help expedite care in the emergency room setting.
- PES has recently announced a new GH Guidelines document for membership review. Click on the first link in the Members Only section to review this document and to send your comments before January 18th.
- We encourage you to register now for the new PES Interactive Pediatric Endocrinology Clinical Update and Case Discussion Course! The course will highlight clinical challenges encountered in Pediatric Endocrinology practice and provide an opportunity for extended discussion of patient cases with peers and experts in the field. Register early and save! Click here for details. Note: We understand the course is occurring towards the end of the Passover holiday and we will offer Passover kosher meals on request. While we try to avoid conflicts in choosing the date, the Pediatric Academic Society (PAS) meeting is not set by the Pediatric Endocrine Society and our PES Clinical Update Course always occurs just prior to the PAS meeting. We apologize if this represents a conflict for any of our members.

…and Reminders

- 2016 Member Dues renewal notices have gone out! Please pay by February 28th in order to keep your member status current.
- Applications are open for the Spring Fellows Retreat! Apply by January 11th.
- PES is hosting its fourth annual Ethics Essay Competition. Apply by January 15th.
- PES is accepting applications for the 2016 PES International Scholars Program Award. Apply by February 1st.
- Travel Grant applications are open to fellows attending the PES/PAS Annual Meeting. Apply by February 11th.

Fellow’s Match Results—Many Open Slots

The 2016 Match results are out and show an increase in the number of unfilled slots. In 2014, there were 84 slots and 74% filled, and last year (the “2015 match”), there were 85 slots of which 77% filled. However this year, 65% of 83 slots were filled. Some positions are filled outside of the match, so we do not yet have data as to the number of new fellow filled slots. Overall, there are 25 programs and 29 positions still to be filled. We will be learning more about the filling of the positions and how this compares to other specialties and will share this with you. Visit our web page, where we have listed open 2016 Fellowship Positions that are currently available.

Craig’s Holiday True or False (You be the Judge)

1) In 1948, Hanukah never occurred over a Saturday.
2) The Grinch had an Endocrine Condition.
3) This is the month of the winter solstice (the longest night).

Welcome New Members!


Remembering Drs. Stuart Handwerger and Lyndon Key

Dr. Stuart Handwerger passed away on November 22, 2015. He was a major figure in Endocrinology at Duke University and at the University of Cincinnati. He was Professor of Medicine at the College of Medicine at U.C. and longtime director of Endocrinology at Cincinnati Children’s Hospital. He
led the development of a superb division of pediatric endocrinology that includes about 18 of our colleagues. Stuart received many honors for his work including Phi Beta Kappa (Hopkins), Alpha Omega Alpha (Maryland), Guggenheim Fellowship at the Weizmann Institute of Science (1979-1980), Member Human Embryology Development Study Section at the NIH (1978-1982, 1992, 1995, 2002), MERIT Award from the NIH (1987-1997), Member Pregnancy and Neonatology Study Section at the NIH (2005-2009, chair 2007-2009), and a member of the Scientific Advisory Panel of the Environmental Protection Agency (2003-2008). Stuart served on many editorial boards including *Endocrinology, Journal of Clinical Endocrinology and Metabolism, Placenta, and Nature Clinical Practice, Endocrinology*. He will be missed by many of us that knew him as well as many families in Ohio.

Dr. L. Lyndon Key, Jr. died November 29, 2015 after a long, dignified, and courageous battle with Alzheimer's disease. He attended the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and an MD (Alpha Omega Alpha) in 1977. He completed his pediatric residency at Duke University and his endocrinology fellowship at Harvard Boston Children's Hospital. Lyndon joined the faculty at the Medical University of South Carolina (MUSC) in 1991 as the Division Director of Pediatric Endocrinology and as the Director of the MUSC General Clinical Research Center. He was honored to serve as the Chairman of Pediatrics from 2001-2009 and was named a Distinguished Professor in 2010. Lyndon was a gifted clinician, researcher, and teacher. His research focused on pediatric bone disease and vitamin D, and over the course of his career he authored 85 journal articles regarding these subjects. His many professional honors include being named to Best Doctors of America, the William Weston Award, the SC Academy of Pediatrics Career Achievement Award and special recognition by the Paget Society and the Osteopetrosis Society. Lyndon was a man of so many interests and talents and was a friend and teacher to so many of our PES members.

### Historical Tidbit of the Month

2015 is the 100th anniversary of the discovery of the lowly bacteriophage, the semi-living viral entities that infect bacteria (FW Twort, Lancet 186:1241-1243, 1915). Phage studies yielded the principles of genetic recombination, DNA and RNA polymerases, restriction endonucleases, ligases and other enzymes, providing the ‘toolbox’ for the 20th century molecular genetics that revolutionized medicine and endocrinology. All contemporary molecular genetic diagnostics derive directly from studies of bacteriophages. 2015 is also the 100th anniversary of the General Theory of Relativity, which is related to endocrinology only in that both are beautiful.

If you have an interesting brief historical tidbit to share, please send it to Arlan Rosenbloom (Chairman of the History Committee) at rosenal@peds.ufl.edu.

Sincerely,

Sally Radovick, MD
PES President

Craig Alter, MD
PES Board Member

**True or False Answers:**
1) Technically true, as Hanukah occurred so late that the Saturday was 1/1/1949; 2) Actually, he had microcardia, that is, his heart was 2 sizes too small. However, at the end (spoiler alert), his heart grew 3 sizes; 3) True and false. In the Northern Hemisphere this is true, but it is in June in the Southern Hemisphere.