PES Members:

Every month it seems that our Committees and Councils are involved in even more activities than the month before. Thanks to all of our members who are working so hard on behalf of the society! And apologies to those working on activities not highlighted here; your efforts on behalf of PES are appreciated, too.

Important reminders. Read them all--one or more may pertain to you!

1. Online applications are now being accepted for the PES Research Fellowship Awards (RFAs) and the Clinical Scholar Awards (CSAs). The deadline is **December 12, 2014** at noon EST.
2. The PES Ethics Committee is hosting the third annual Ethics Essay Competition for fellows. Deadline for submission is **January 16, 2015**. Please contact ayanna.butler-cephas@chkd.org for further information.
3. PES 2015 Board Review Course will be held on Wednesday, April 22 - Friday, April 24, 2015, San Diego, California. [Click here to register online!](#)
4. PES 2015 Spring Fellows Retreat, Monday, April 27 - Thursday, April 30, 2015, San Diego, California. [Click here for more information and an application!](#)
5. And do not forget the Annual Meeting!! April 24-27, 2015, also in San Diego. Thanks to our generous sponsors, PES is able to offer Travel Grants to Fellows attending the PES/PAS Annual Meeting. [Click here to apply!](#)

International Relations: The International Relations Council has been working hard on two activities that we want to be sure to communicate.

First, as noted in the July Newsletter, an important council focus is on helping improve care for children and adolescents in resource-constrained environments. As part of these outreach activities, a group of PES members recently partnered with pediatric endocrinologists in Costa Rica to provide a symposium to family practitioners, pediatricians, and other health care providers from Central American and Caribbean countries. The symposium, held in San Jose, Costa Rica on August 27, 2014 was attended by nearly 60 participants. The event was a great success and also provided the opportunity to gain a clearer understanding of the gaps and needs in pediatric endocrine care in Central America and the Caribbean, as a basis for further development of PES outreach efforts.

Second, the Council has finalized details of this year’s PES International Scholar Award. The award is designed to allow colleagues in pediatric endocrinology from foreign countries to visit and work in the clinics and laboratories of PES members and to attend the PES annual meeting, with a particular goal of helping younger colleagues and individuals from countries with disadvantaged economies. [Please click here for details and application materials!](#) The deadline for applications is December 31, 2014 for PES 2015 awards for the applicant to be in North America in the spring of 2016.
Surveys: As members, you know that PES sends out occasional e-blasts with announcements and reminders of important activities and opportunities. We also send out occasional surveys, which we try to limit to those that seem of most interest or benefit to our members. It is our hope that many of these surveys will result in publications that enhance care for our patients and families. In that vein, we are happy to communicate that the survey of PES and SAHM (Society for Adolescent Health and Medicine) members regarding care of transgender youth has led to a manuscript (“Health Care Providers’ Comfort with and Barriers to Care of Transgender Youth”) accepted for publication in the Journal of Adolescent Health. We would like to thank the Research Affairs Council for reviewing and, when needed, helping to improve the surveys we distribute. We would also like to thank the members that respond to the surveys for sharing their time and experience. The more responses collected, the better the data!

Public Policy: As part of the Diabetes Advocacy Alliance (DAA), PES has advocated that the forthcoming U.S. Preventive Services Task Force (USPSTF) recommendations regarding screening for abnormal glucose tolerance and type 2 diabetes mellitus include the development of recommendations regarding screening for diabetes and prediabetes in children and adolescents. Let’s hope this suggestion is adopted, and the USPSTF addresses the need for screening in youth (not just adults!).


Finally, the Historical Tidbit of the Month: 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. This month’s tidbit comes from Delbert Fisher: John Eager Howard, Lawson Wilkins, and Walter Fleischmann reported early attempts to stimulate growth in adolescent “pituitary dwarfs” via daily oral or parenteral administration of 25 mg of methyltestosterone for "over one year." They observed increased sexual development, increased growth rate, elevated BMR, and marked creatinuria. A similar effect was observed in two females given testosterone along with 1 mg diethylstilbestrol daily. (“The metabolic and growth effects of various androgens in sexually premature dwarfs” - Transactions of the Association of American Physicians, Volume LVII, 212-215, 1942).

Have a wonderful Thanksgiving!

Sincerely,

Mitchell E. Geffner, MD  
PES President

Mark Palmert, MD, PhD  
PES Board Member