PES Members:

Your Board of Directors is pleased to keep you informed of the following developments and opportunities for our membership:

**Taking or Re-Taking the peds endo boards in November?** PES is pleased to provide the materials from the PES board review course given in May 2013 in Washington DC to members-only free of charge! These materials are available in the members-only section of our new and improved website until November 30!

**HIGHLIGHTS from the 9th Joint Meeting of Pediatric Endocrinology** held in September in Milan, Italy will be featured in this newsletter for the next few months. Here are a few items of interest from the meeting:

1. Early results from the Safety and Appropriateness of Growth hormone treatments in Europe (SAGhE) study included data related to quality of life (QoL). The investigators defined a clinically meaningful difference in QoL as being an effect greater than or equal to 0.5 SDS on the QoL score. Using that definition, scores in domains related to general health and mental health did not show meaningful relationships between QoL and height SDS. The only domain that showed a meaningful relationship between height and QoL was physical functioning, and this domain was not affected until height SDS reached -4 SDS.

2. An abstract (M. Rachmiel et al. from Israel) reported results comparing bone ages of 150 4 to 17 year-old children (total of 450 measurements) determined by both SonicBone ultrasound device and left hand X-ray read by 3 pediatric endocrinologists using the Greulich & Pyle method. The study showed high correlation ($R^2 = 0.87$ between the two methods and $R^2 = 0.93$ in the validation phase).

3. A new genetic cause of central precocious puberty was presented by Ana Claudia Latronico from Sao Paulo. Using whole exomic sequencing, they identified loss-of-function mutations in MKRN3 in 5 out of 15 families with familial CPP and in patients with apparently sporadic CPP. This gene is located on chromosome 15q11.2 in the Prader-Willi syndrome critical region and is imprinted with expression only from the paternally inherited allele. These findings indicate that MKRN3 deficiency may be frequent genetic cause of familial CPP in humans.

4. The key note presentation by Jeff Baron on “New insights into the genetic regulation of growth” explored the molecular mechanisms driving differences between the growth of an elephant and that of a mouse. Using microarray studies, he identified a decrease in the expression of the E2F transcription factor E2F3 which drives the decline of IGF2 expression with age, and thus the slowing of organ and somatic growth. Supporting a role of these factors in growth was the observation that E2F3 overexpression in human cancers induces IGF2 overexpression.

**SUBMIT YOUR ABSTRACT for the May 2014 Annual Meeting of PES in Vancouver Canada!** Deadline for abstract submissions is November 14, 12 midnight CST. Here is a link to the meeting abstract page: http://www.pas-meeting.org/abstracts/information.asp

**WELCOME to our New PES Members** At the most recent Board of Directors meeting, the Board approved the membership of the following individuals: Melissa Bauters, Alison Boyce, Amy Clark, Loyal Coshway, Alicia Diaz-Thomas, Andrea Estrada, Ruth Faircloth, Lisal Folsom, Evangelia Kalaitzoglou,

**CALL for review articles for the International Journal of Pediatric Endocrinology:** Associate Editor David Allen invites proposals for “PES Reviews”, a section of IJPE dedicated to publication of concise, state-of-the-art reviews of important and timely topics in pediatric endocrinology. The section is specifically designed to provide a high-visibility venue for publication of contributions by fellows and junior faculty. Please send a one-page letters-of-intent describing topic scope, importance, and authorship qualifications to David Allen at dballen@wisc.edu. Proposals will be reviewed, ranked, and if selected, assigned a timeline for manuscript preparation, submission, and prompt review and revision to allow publication of PES Reviews every three months.

**Have a very Happy Halloween!!!**

Sincerely,

Morey W. Haymond, MD, PES President
Charlotte M. Boney, MD, PES Board Member

**Contact information for PES Management (Degnon Associates): Katie Moore.** Katie’s email is Katie@degnon.org and her direct dial phone is 703-556-9225 ext 118.