



President's Corner

Donna Seger, MD

People Behind the Scenes

Greg Gaar, MD, Secretary/Treasurer



Dr. Gaar

Dr. Greg Gaar completed his undergraduate education at Tulane University where he received *cum laude* distinctive honors in biology. He was awarded his medical degree from Louisiana State University in Shreveport, Louisiana (his final semester was completed at the Hospital for Sick Children in Toronto). He then completed a Pediatric Residency at the University of Arizona Health Sciences Center in Tucson and subsequently became the Chief Resident in Pediatrics. He completed his post-medical training with a Pharmacology/Toxicology Fellowship at the University of Arizona College of Medicine and Pharmacy and the Arizona Poison Control Center in Tucson.

Dr. Gaar moved to Tampa in 1986 to become the Associate Medical Director of the Tampa Bay Regional Poison Center; the only Poison Center covering the state at that time (there are now three in Florida). He is now the Medical Director. He is also the Medical Director of the Saunders Pediatric Emergency Care Center at Tampa General Healthcare; the primary teaching hospital for the University of South Florida College of Medicine. This Emergency Center has approximately 360,000 annual patient visits.

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Dr. Seger

Dr. Gaar became involved with AACT as a member of the Research Awards Committee. He completed his Toxicology Fellowship under the direction of Bill Banner who was then President-Elect of AACT. Dr. Banner asked Dr. Gaar to be Secretary/Treasurer of AACT. Greg was subsequently nominated by the Board and was elected to the job of Secretary/Treasurer in 1994. He has held this position since that time.

When interviewed, Dr. Gaar related that the most challenging part of being Secretary/Treasurer has been transitioning the administrative office to the Association Management Services section of the Pennsylvania Medical Society in Harrisburg, PA and in helping to put the AACT on a sound financial footing. He says that parts of the job that are the most fun include NACCT meeting planning, site selection, and execution. The best part of AACT, according to Greg, is the friendships that have been made over the years.

In his personal life, Greg enjoys restoring and renovating his 1923 house (I am sure he is taking all of the appropriate lead prevention precautions!), cooking, good food and wine, and traveling; especially bicycle touring.

Greg has played a critical role in the direction of the Academy over the last years. His energy and enthusiasm have been tireless. Thank you, Greg.

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NACCT Announcement

The American Academy of Clinical Toxicology is pleased to announce that the North American Congress of Clinical Toxicology 2004 will be held in Seattle, Washington, September 9-14, 2004. This annual conference provides an opportunity for physicians, pharmacists, nurses and scientists from around the world to participate in the sharing of information on a wide variety of toxicological issues. In addition to platform and poster sessions, the program will offer a number of symposia, workshops, as well as other traditional and novel special sessions.

Located in the heart of Seattle, the Sheraton Seattle combines modern luxury with first-class service and amenities. Enjoy the full service health club, relax in the indoor heated pool or enjoy jogging along the pristine waters of Puget Sound with breathtaking views of the Olympic and Cascade Mountains. This is the ideal place for the NACCT 2004.

Academy Honors Three with Fellowship Status

Three active and long time members of the AACT were recognized during the 2003 NACCT Annual Meeting for their professional achievements and contributions of exemplary service to the organization with the designation of AACT Fellow. Honored at a reception celebrating the occasion and attended by nearly sixty other Fellows and colleagues were **G. Randall Bond, MD**, Cincinnati, Ohio; **Anthony J. Scalzo, MD**, St. Louis, Missouri; and **Jack W. Snyder, MD, JD, PhD**, Washington, DC.



Dr. Bond

G. Randall Bond, MD, is professor of Pediatrics and Emergency Medicine at the University of Cincinnati and medical director of the Cincinnati Drug and Poison Information Center. A member of AACT since 1987, his contributions to the Academy include more than 20 presentations given at NACCT. He is a member of the Academy's Board of Trustees; chairs the Pediatric SIG; and co-authored the methanol treatment guidelines which were developed for the Academy. His career in clinical toxicology and poison center operations have included leading programs in Phoenix, Charlottesville and Cincinnati. His recommend-

ers mention his skills and abilities as a reviewer of articles submitted for peer evaluation and for his service on editorial boards of the major clinical toxicology and emergency medicine publications.

Anthony "Tony" Scalzo, MD, is professor of Pediatrics in the Division of Emergency Medicine and Toxicology, St. Louis University School of Medicine and medical director of the Missouri Regional Poison Center. A member of AACT since 1988, he has co-chaired the AACT Acute and Intensive Care Symposium presented at the NACCT for six years; he was program chair of the 1997 NACCT Annual Meeting held in St. Louis. His many contributions to the Academy and the field of clinical toxicology include many works in peer reviewed publications, textbook chapters, service on editorial and review boards, and panels. Dr. Scalzo's nominators cite that his contributions and accomplishments "represent the best features looked for in an Academy Fellow and he is (in every thing he pursues professionally) committed to the discipline of clinical toxicology and to actively serve the Academy."



Dr. Scalzo



Dr. Snyder

Jack W. Snyder, MD, JD, PhD, is leading activities related to public health informatics at the National Library of Medicine at the National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, Maryland. He is cited by his nominators for his broad range of expertise and scholarly activities including forensic toxicology and the complex and critical medical legal issues that the discipline of toxicology deal with often. Among Dr. Snyder's major contributions to the Academy is his leadership in carrying out the revision of the governing rules of the Academy with all their legal

ramifications and his service to the Bylaws Committee [1995-1997]. Dr. Snyder has also conducted several well attended and outstanding pre-Annual NACCT meeting symposiums addressing the medical-legal and practice aspects of clinical and forensic toxicology.

In the "Benefits of Membership" of the AACT Membership Information Web site (www.clintox.org/membership.html) the criteria for AACT Fellowship Status is briefly mentioned. "AACT members who have been active members for at least seven years and have demonstrated significant contributions to the organization (AACT, ABAT) and the discipline of clinical toxicology are eligible for recognition as a Fellow of the AACT. Fellows are selected through a peer review process."

During 2003, the review of nominees' profiles was conducted by a committee appointed by AACT President Donna Seger. This committee included Donald Barceloux, MD, FAACT, Anthony Manoguerra, Pharm.D., FAACT, Frank Walter, MD, FAACT and was chaired by Ted Tong, Pharm.D., FAACT. Only those applications providing a complete and comprehensive profile of the nominee were reviewed.

Applicants for the 2004 AACT Fellowship must submit an application with all sections completed. Applications can be obtained from: Theodore G. Tong, Pharm.D. at the Arizona Poison and Drug Information Center, 1703 East Mabwl Street, #344; Tucson, Arizona 85721; e-mail: tong@pharmacy.arizona.edu. Phone: (520) 626-1587. The ability to download an application form off of the AACT Web site is still in the construction stage.

The deadline for submission of names of nominees and all application materials (refer below) including letters of support is **February 15, 2004** in order to be considered for the induction ceremony at the 2004 NACCT Annual Meeting. Incomplete application materials will not be examined by the review committee and will not be returned to the nominee or nominator.

The application form includes requests for details on [1] AACT service such as committee assignments, Board of Trustee service; dates of attendance and contributions to NACCT; contributions to AACT publications; [2] practice type, location, dates, percentage of time devoted to activity; [3] positions and practice responsibilities related to clinical toxicology in business, governmental or regulatory; [4] dates and duration of board certifications; [5] date, type and location of academic appointments; [6] publications authored used in the teaching of clinical toxicology; [7] research and publication dossier; [8] public service; [9] appointments to centers, committees and organizations. Included in the application must be the name of three AACT members — one serving as the nominator and the others provider of supporting letters — who will verify the nominees' contributions to the field of clinical toxicology and service to AACT.

AACT Fellowship status is a high honor bestowed by peers upon an individual who is a member of the Academy based on the meritorious contributions of his or her work that involve the discipline and for exemplary service to the Academy. The highlight for many so honored with this distinction is the annual gathering at the annual meeting of the Academy where newly recognized Fellows of the Academy are celebrated for their successes and efforts. Please seriously consider and place in nomination those members of the Academy whom you meet the criteria for designation as an AACT Fellow. Self nomination is accepted for review if accompanied by three (3) letters of recommendation, support, and verification.

EAPCCT

European Association of Poisons Centres and Clinical Toxicologists XXIV International Congress

1-4 June, 2004, Strasbourg, France

Co-sponsored by the American Academy of Clinical Toxicology

The EAPCCT XXIV International Congress will be held in Strasbourg, France, a most attractive city near the Rhine River. The Congress will be held at the Strasbourg Convention Centre, which offers excellent meeting facilities.

This will be the fourth Congress organized both academically and administratively by the EAPCCT Scientific and Meetings Committee.

The Congress will be co-sponsored by the American Academy of Clinical Toxicology which will also accredit the Congress for continuing medical education. Selected abstracts from this meeting will be published in future issues of the *Journal of Toxicology—Clinical Toxicology*, the official Journal of the American Academy of Clinical Toxicology and the European

Association of Poisons Centres and Clinical Toxicologists.

On June 1, there will be a pre-Congress day “Continuing Education in Clinical Toxicology”. In order to provide Continuing Education in Clinical Toxicology (CECT), the EAPCCT Scientific and Meetings Committee has arranged a TOXUPDATE. This one-day symposium will include state-of-the-art presentations on Chemical Terrorism.

The Congress main theme is Current Controversies in Clinical Toxicology, including:

- Controversies in the treatment of carbon monoxide poisoning;
- Controversies in antidote use in the pre-hospital situation;
- Controversies in managing chemical injuries;

- Controversies in managing mushroom toxicity.

In addition to oral and poster communications on all aspects of clinical toxicology and poisons centres activities, there will be three state-of-the-art symposia on:

- Intensive care and clinical management of poisoning;
- Poisons Centre activities (innovations, epidemiology of poisonings, toxicosurveillance, chemical terrorism);
- Developments in Clinical Toxicology over the past 40 years and future perspectives (in the framework of the 40th anniversary of the EAPCCT).

The EAPCCT was founded in 1964; therefore, this Congress will celebrate the 40th anniversary and reflect on the

achievements of the Association and the advances in clinical toxicology.

Further information, including a full Congress brochure, Congress registration, and hotel booking forms, is available at www.eapcct.org.

Registrations at the early bird rate should reach us by March 1, 2004.

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NACCT Announcement

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Abstracts

A formal “call for abstracts” will be distributed shortly. Abstract and meeting information will be posted at www.clintox.org. All abstracts must be submitted electronically and will be due by March 31, 2004, at 11:59 p.m. EST. All abstract presenters, for both poster and platform sessions, must register for the NACCT.

Please note the change in abstract due date!

Tentative Congress Agenda

Pre-Congress Activities, Meetings and Symposia

Thursday and Friday, September 9-10

Scientific and Educational Sessions

Saturday - Tuesday, September 11-14

AACTion

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