

LWPES PROGRAM COMMITTEE
Report of Activities for 2009-2010, Vancouver meeting

The Program Committee (M Lee [Chair], T Wilson [incoming Chair], M Palmert, N White, N Mauras, L Katz, J Wolfsdorf, C Demeric) and R Lustig (PAS representative) met at the 2009 Baltimore meetings to start 2010 Vancouver program planning. We compiled a preliminary list of program ideas for both PAS and LWPES-specific programming which was further developed and finalized by the committee through the spring and summer. To facilitate meeting planning and avoid overlap, we requested 2009 Joint LWPES-ESPE meeting program information and requested input from the membership at large. D Becker (LWPES President), D Allen (President-elect), and A Rogol (LWPES Secretary) actively participated in Program committee discussions and their advice was invaluable in finalizing the Program.

New initiatives and issues that arose this year included:

1. A request to add programming of specific interest to Pediatric endocrinologists in private practice and to trainees in order to encourage wider attendance. This was addressed by:
 - a) developing a workshop on the economics of Pediatric endocrine practice,
 - b) having 4 MTP sessions, two on faculty development and two on clinical practice,
 - c) identifying PAS programs related to development and implementation of clinical research and faculty development and including these in the LWPES program guide
 - d.) adding an "Endocrine Highlights of the Year" session similar to the Yearbook sessions at the Joint NY meeting. In addition, Dr. Paul Saenger helped solicit funding for this session which will be entitled, "The Ross G. Clark Memorial Symposium"
2. Discussions with the Awards Committee re presentations by LWPES grant and fellowship award recipients:
 - a) the clinical scholar award was invited to give a presentation
 - b) Eight fellowship awardees from 2008 and 2009 were asked to submit abstracts. All 5 who submitted were selected for oral sessions and are noted in the program as award recipients.
3. Obesity was identified as a "theme" for PAS under R. Lustig, thus many of the obesity-related abstracts submitted to LWPES were pulled into Obesity sessions, thereby increasing the number of sessions that are of interest to the membership.

Programming for the 2010 meeting:

1. The LWPES scientific program and sponsored events were scheduled over 3 days.
2. Two LWPES plenary sessions, one workshop, 4 MTP breakfasts, two platform sessions, 6 topic symposium (3 co-sponsored by Alliance organizations), one State of the Art Plenary, and 3 poster sessions (Presidential and two PAS sessions).
3. 153 abstracts (125 Clinical and 28 Basic Research) were reviewed by the members of the two Abstract Review Panels (Clinical and Basic Research). This compares to 199 in 2008 and 112 in 2009, however, an additional 166 abstracts were considered under the "Obesity theme", some of which were designated as Endocrine.

Recommendations:

1. Early selection of the incoming Program Chair so that he/she can participate in programming decisions, attend the January PAS program meeting, and become familiar with the process during the year prior to assuming the Chair position.
2. The outgoing Chair should remain an active member of the Program Committee to help with continuity of programming and assist the new Chair.