ALLIANCES MANAGEMENT

Each the NAEVR and AEVR Boards Elect New Officers and Directors

During a May 15 call, each the NAEVR and AEVR Boards elected two current Directors as new Officers who join President Dr. Lee and Treasurer Greg Skuta MD (continuing in their respective roles): Linda Hazlett, PhD (Wayne State University School of Medicine) as Vice President and Steven Feldon, MD (University of Rochester) as Secretary. In her role as Vice President, Dr. Hazlett also serves as Chair of the Nominating Committee, while Dr. Feldon will continue to serve as Chair of the Investment Committee.

Additionally, each Board elected three new Directors to serve in the class of 2020-2023—Judy Kim, MD (Medical College of Wisconsin), Kelly K. Nichols, OD, MPH, PhD (University of Alabama at Birmingham), and S. Grace Prakalapakorn, MD, MPH (Duke University). These Directors take the seats of term-limited Directors, including: Steven Fliesler, PhD (SUNY Buffalo/VA Medical Center Buffalo), who served as the Official Representative from ARVO, a founding member of the Alliances; Joan Miller, MD (Harvard Medical School), Thomas Yorio, PhD (University of North Texas Health Science Center), and Karla Zadnik, OD, PhD (Ohio State University College of Optometry). In recognizing these retiring Directors, Dr. Lee stated:

“The Boards of each NAEVR and AEVR thank Dr. Fliesler, Dr. Miller, Dr. Yorio, and Dr. Zadnik for their dedicated service and commitment to the Alliances. Each has a record of significant individual accomplishments in their service to the Alliances, and have played vital roles as Directors during a time of great success in NAEVR advocacy for vision research funding increases and AEVR education about the value of vision research.”

During a July 27 call, each Board elected two new Directors to the class of 2020-2023—Brian Hofland, PhD (Research to Prevent Blindness) and Rajesh Rajpal, MD (Johnson & Johnson Vision)—and Iris Rush, CAE as the Official ARVO Representative. With these recent elections, each Board consists of the bylaws-limited 15 Directors.

Directors on Each the NAEVR and AEVR Boards:

- Paul Lee, MD, JD, Director, Kellogg Eye Center, University of Michigan, NAEVR/AEVR President
- Linda Hazlett, PhD, Chair, Department of Anatomy and Cell Biology, Wayne State University School of Medicine, NAEVR/AEVR Vice President
- Gregory Skuta, MD, President and CEO, Dean McGee Eye Institute, Chair, Department of Ophthalmology, University of Oklahoma College of Medicine, NAEVR/AEVR Treasurer
- Steven Feldon, MD, Professor, Department of Ophthalmology and Director, Biomedical Research Development, University of Rochester School of Medicine and Dentistry, NAEVR/AEVR Secretary
- Mark Gordon, MS, Global Head, Regulatory Affairs, Alcon
- Brian F. Hofland, PhD, President, Research to Prevent Blindness
- Judy Kim, MD, Professor, Ophthalmology, Vitreoretinal Diseases and Surgery and Director, Teleophthalmology and Research, Medical College of Wisconsin
- Peter McDonnell, MD, Director, Wilmer Eye Institute, Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine
- Bartly Mondino, MD, Director, Jules Stein Eye Institute, David Geffen School of Medicine at University of California Los Angeles
- Kelly Nichols, OD, MPH, PhD, Dean and Professor, School of Optometry, The University of Alabama at Birmingham
- S. Grace Prakalapakorn, MD, MPH, Associate Professor, Ophthalmology and Pediatrics and Director, International Outreach, Duke University Eye Center
- Rajesh Rajpal, MD, Chief Medical Officer and Global Head of Clinical and Medical Affairs, Johnson & Johnson Vision
- Michael Robinson, MD, Vice President, Global Therapeutic Area Head, Ophthalmology, Allergan, an AbbVie Company
- Iris Rush, CAE, Executive Director, ARVO
- Earl Smith III, OD, PhD, Interim Health Officer, University of Houston

NAEVR and AEVR Announce Councils, Solicit Members

In a July 30 letter to member organizations, Dr. Lee announced a two-year Membership Council Pilot Program which was approved by the Boards as a new membership benefit. Designed to enhance communication between the Alliances and members, the Councils serve the needs of each of the three membership sectors: Professional Societies, Industry, and Foundation/Patient Service/Research Organizations.

The Councils are scheduled to meet twice yearly during which the Alliances will summarize current and planned activities to inform members and seek their input. This also facilitates members’ understanding of how the Alliances’ messaging and deliverables may be useful to their own programs.

Each member organization can nominate one individual to serve on the Council with appropriate standing/support to report back and engage the organization in Alliances activities. The Boards encourage members to consider diversity in representation, including individuals with less committee experience but want to be engaged in advocacy and education.

The July 30 letter included a fillable form for each member organization to nominate an individual by August 21 to Executive Director James Jorkasky.