International Collaboration

I am delighted to witness emerging collaboration among aerospace medicine associations worldwide. Although such collaboration is not new, it seems to be gaining momentum as our leaders reach out to each other with a unified purpose to further the science in the discipline of aerospace medicine.

In October, I attended the International Congress of Aviation and Space Medicine in Singapore, hosted by the International Academy of Aviation and Space Medicine, held in conjunction with the Asia Pacific Congress of Aerospace Medicine. The Congress was organized in collaboration with the Society of Aviation Medicine, Singapore, whose President is Jarnail Singh, M.D., also Vice President of International Affairs, AsMA, The Congress was opened by Michael A. Berry, M.D., president of the IAASM, and past president of AsMA. Its Executive Council membership includes many past presidents and prominent members of AsMA, including IAASM Secretary-General, Claude Thibeault, M.D., and IAASM Chancellor, Melchor J. Antunano, M.D.

The Congress theme was “A New Era of Relevance for Aerospace Medicine,” underscoring the need for the aerospace medicine discipline to embrace a renewed relevance in the global challenges of air travel which were eloquently addressed in this Congress. The scientific program was rigorous and thought provoking, including topics on aerospace physiology, operational aviation medicine, clinical aviation medicine, infectious diseases and international travel, passenger health, human factors and safety, aircraft accident analysis, aeromedical evacuation, and more.

If it hasn’t crossed your mind, perhaps you might consider attending the next Congress in Bucharest, Romania, in September 2011. Our distinguished AsMA member, Silvio Finkelstein, M.D., is diligently at work assisting Professor Marian Macri in creating the scientific program for the next Congress. They have already confirmed Major General Dumitru Prunariu, the Romanian cosmonaut who flew the Soyuz 30 years ago, to give the Allard lecture.

In November, the European Conference of Aerospace Medicine (ECAM) was held in conjunction with the European Society of Aerospace Medicine (ESAM) in Athens, Greece. ESAM president Roland Vermeiren, M.D., announced the hope that, as this was our first time in attendance, AsMA’s representation at ESAM would become a tradition just as ESAM’s representation during the AsMA annual scientific meeting in the USA will be.

This representation will emphasize mutual commitment to the advancement of aerospace medicine on the global scene. Officially representing AsMA was invited lecturer Andrew Bellenkes, Ph.D., who spoke on “The Use of Advanced Human-Centered Technologies in the Reduction of Aircraft Mishaps: Problems or Panacea.” Also invited as a lecturer was Michael Bagshaw, M.B, B.Ch., past president of AsMA. Dr. Bagshaw spoke on “Communication in Aviation,” which was also the theme of his AsMA presidency. Other topics included aviation human factors, clinical aviation medicine, aviation ophthalmology, aviator selection, pilot stress, advances in clinical technology, human limitations in aviation, extended flight duty and alertness, and more.

“ESAM and ASMA in Cooperation,” presented by Hans Pongratz, M.D., ESAM/AsMA member, in Athens, was actually rooted at the annual scientific meeting held in Phoenix, AZ, in May 2010. Members of the Executive Committee of ESAM, Dr. Roland Vermeiren, President of ESAM, Dr. Hans Pongratz, ESAM’s representative to AsMA, Dr. Kevin Herbert, ESAM information Director, and Dr. Gabor Hardicsay, Chair of the AsMA Committee on International Activities, who attended the AsMA annual meeting in Phoenix met with Dr. Bob Weien, President of AsMA at that time, Jeff Sventek, Executive Director of AsMA, and Dr. Andrew Bellenkes, AsMA’s representative to ESAM and past president of AsMA, to discuss and confirm future activities between the two organizations.

The main goal is to work together in the fields of flight medicine, flight safety, human factors, and many others. Delegates felt that a regular interchange of information in journal publications and an update on developments of issues in Europe and the USA would foster strong links between the two entities. The possibility of a joint conference being held in Europe was supported by delegates from both associations and is being carefully reviewed by a joint ESAM/AsMA working group.

Intellectual challenges in pure and applied science can best be solved by open-minded collaboration among the worldwide scientific community.
All of the recommended 2011 dues rates were approved by Council except the recommended increase for Corporate dues. The Corporate and Sustaining Membership committee will continue to review current Corporate membership rates and provide recommendations to the Council.

The Council decided to separate the student rate from the Resident rate and adjust the rates to attract a larger group of young Aerospace Medicine professionals to our Association. The Council agreed with the recommendations from the Executive Committee to lower the Student rate to $50 per year and offer these members access to the electronic journal only, since many of our young members prefer to read the journal on-line. The Resident rate was raised slightly to help offset the reduced Student dues rate but still offers Residents a substantial membership savings.

The dues rates for One Year and Technician memberships remain unchanged for 2011. The new Three Year membership dues rate represents a savings of $15 per year for a total savings over three years of $45. The increase for Member/Spouse memberships represents two one-year memberships at $255/member ($510) minus the cost to produce one journal subscription ($60). The Life membership rate increase is based on a savings of $20 per year over a 20-year time period for a total savings over that 20 years of $400 (compared to the One Year dues rate of $255). Of course, this savings would likely be much more as the One Year dues rate could increase over that time period.

Finally, a good discussion regarding Emeritus membership resulted in Council approval of significant changes to the Emeritus requirements, including a proposed $50 annual membership fee. Currently, the Association Bylaws states: “At age 62 and fully retired, those individuals who have been members for a minimum of 20 years may be granted Emeritus Membership for life by the Executive Director upon written request. Such Emeritus Members shall retain the rights and privileges of regular members in good standing, except that they shall not be entitled to vote or hold office. They shall receive the official journal of the Association upon subscription at a rate to be determined by the Executive Committee.”

The Council believes our Emeritus members should be entitled to vote and hold office in our Association. Therefore, the Council approved the recommendation to amend the Bylaws as follows: “At age 65, those individuals who have been members for a minimum of 25 years are eligible to apply. Such Emeritus Members shall be entitled to vote and hold office and shall retain all rights and privileges of regular members in good standing. Membership entitles Emeritus Members to the electronic version of the official journal of the Association via the Aerospace Medical Association website. The print version of the official journal of the Association will be available to Emeritus Members via a subscription at a rate to be determined by the Executive Committee.”

The proposed changes to the Bylaws language for Emeritus membership must be approved during the May 2011 Business Meeting before the approved dues fee can be implemented.

The AsMA leadership has a very difficult task of balancing membership fees with operating expenses. They understand that membership is the life-blood of any professional association and they work diligently to contain membership fees. Our recent membership survey reported that 80% of the respondents were satisfied or very satisfied with their AsMA membership. Only 3.4% were dissatisfied (16.7% neutral) with their membership. The approved changes to the membership dues rates for 2011 are the result of careful examination of these survey data compared to the operating costs of a large professional association.

The aerospace medical association council met in Alexandria, VA, on November 17. One of the agenda items was focused on membership dues. Membership issues are always a top priority for the Council and they work extremely hard to ensure all members receive good value for the dues they pay. The Council was very interested in finding ways to increase the number of new members while at the same time retaining a high percentage of current members.

The Executive Committee recommended the following dues structure for Council approval:

### Membership News

#### Changes to the Membership Dues

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The Executive Committee recommended the following dues structure for Council approval:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Membership Type</th>
<th>2011 Dues</th>
<th>2010 Dues</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>One Year</td>
<td>$255</td>
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<tr>
<td>Three Year</td>
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<tr>
<td>Resident</td>
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<tr>
<td>Emeritus</td>
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<td>$0 *</td>
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<tr>
<td>(electronic journal only)</td>
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<td>(electronic journal only)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Corporate</td>
<td>$500 (disapproved)</td>
<td>$400</td>
</tr>
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</table>

*Cannot be implemented until changes to Bylaws approved (May 2011)
The Civil Aviation Safety Authority takes the lead in delivering world class air safety for all Australians. CASA sets air safety standards, ensures compliance and offers safety education and training.
New Members

Almand, Nathan, M.D., M.P.H., Cantonment, FL
Cappelletti, Chantal, Morlupo, Rome, Italy
Elliott, Sharon J., M.S., Ithaca, NY
Francis, Steven R., M.D., Redondo Beach, CA
Gruber, James H., Maj, MC, ARNG, St. Meinrad, IN
Handley, Peter, M.D., Gaylord, MI
Heller, Ross A., M.D., Saint Louis, MO
Herbert, Jenefer S., D.D.S., Daventry, Northants., UK
Herbert, Kevin C., M.B., Ch.B., D.A.V.Med., Daventry, Northants., UK
Kenny, Garner T., M.D., Carbondale, IL
Mantoni, Teit, M.D., Copenhagen, Vesterbro, Denmark
McAinn, Terry W., Rowville, Australia
Pasternak IV, Andrew V., Dr., Reno, NV
Schindler, Barbara A., M.D., Dr.Med., Munich, Germany
Seth, Romy, Toronto, Ont., Canada
Slento, Nathalie, Capt., CF, LaSalle, MB, Canada
Tabatzky, Chris, M.D., M.P.H., El Paso, TX
Tang, Chui Wa, Dr., Sorrento, Hong Kong

In Memoriam:
Walter L. Goldenrath

Captain Walter L. Goldenrath (MSC) USN, a long time resident of Palo Alto, CA, died in October 2010. A native of Tacoma, WA, CAPT Goldenrath graduated from the University of California at Berkeley first with an A.B., then an M.A. in Physiology. During World War II, he served in the Pacific and Southern Atlantic theaters. After the war, he returned to UC Berkeley to complete predoctoral graduate studies and later completed a graduate degree from the University of Southern California. He was recalled to active duty during the Korean War and assigned to the U.S. Naval Medical Institute as an instructor in high altitude physiology, where he trained flight surgeons and conducted research on G-protection and explosive decompression. Following his service in the Korean War he returned to UC Berkeley to continue his work on hypertension and to serve as a lecturer/instructor of Physiology. He taught basic Physiology at the School of Medicine and the School of Pharmacy, and also taught anatomy of the head and neck in the Dental School.

In 1955 CAPT Goldenrath returned to active duty as Officer in Charge of the Navy’s research program to develop a high altitude protective pressure suit. The first two NASA astronauts, Alan Shepard and John Glenn, later wore this suit in Project Mercury. In 1970 CAPT Goldenrath was appointed Director of the Aero Medical Research Division at the Naval Air Development Center in Warminster, PA. His final military assignment was to the NASA-Ames Research Center as a Special Assistant to the Director of Life Sciences and as Assistant Division Chief of the Ames Biomedical Research Division.

CAPT Goldenrath retired from the U.S. Navy in 1975 and was awarded the Legion of Merit and the Meritorious Service Award from the Surgeon General of the Navy. Following his retirement, CAPT Goldenrath continued as a consultant to NASA, helping to transfer NASA biomedical technology to the civilian medical community. He was a Life Member of the Safety and Flight Equipment Association. He was also a Fellow and Vice President of the Aerospace Medical Association, and left a bequest to the AsMA Foundation. Additionally, he was one of the oldest members and the bibliographer for the Aerospace Physiology Society. In 2004 he was inducted into the Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum Hall of Fame, where his name is inscribed on the Wall of Honor.

ASSOCIATE FELLOWS, from p. 76.