

# Editor's Notes

## A Time of Change ...

By Michael Champeau, MD, Editor

Late spring is always a time of change at the CSA. Each year a new President takes over the helm from his or her predecessor, and a new governance team settles in. Officers move up the rungs, and former Presidents slowly but inexorably fade further into the fog of time. Not surprisingly, this issue of the *Bulletin* reflects these changes, with Dr. Pauker reporting to the membership at the conclusion of his eventful term as President and Dr. Pregler giving us a glimpse of his vision of the upcoming twelve months.



This year, though, we have more change afoot than just these annually anticipated transitions. After 14 years as CSA's chief administrative officer, Barbara Baldwin is also passing the baton, to our new Executive Director, Julie Kahlfeldt. Dr. Pauker introduces Julie in his address to our readers, and I'm confident that you'll be hearing from her often in future issues.

In addition, readers who have followed Editor Steve Jackson's erudite essays in this space over the past 15 years will have already noticed another difference. Steve's final column as Editor appeared in the Spring issue of the *Bulletin*, and this issue is the first under my guidance.

Some of you may recall that I served as the Society's President a few years ago. Luckily, my stint in the hot seat ended mere days before Governor Schwarzenegger's surprise opt-out. Since then I've spent three years in Past Presidential nirvana, taking on other challenges and generally adapting well to the role of ignored elder statesman. In my real job, I practice a mixture of pediatric and adult anesthesiology in Palo Alto, where I've also enjoyed the privilege of being associated with Stanford University for 29 years.

I'd like to make one point clear right from the beginning: Steve Jackson will always be *The Editor* in my mind. I'm just the guy who's agreed to try to get the *Bulletin* published on time for the next couple of years. It's impossible to fill Steve's shoes and, being averse to public failure, I'm not going to even try. Neither as widely read as Steve nor as skilled a writer, I'll not persist with attempts to imitate his vision of the *Bulletin*. Instead, we'll do some things differently.

Fortunately, Steve has agreed to stay on as a member of our Editorial Board, and, using the vast powers afforded to me as the guy who gets the *Bulletin*

## Editor's Notes (cont'd)

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produced, I've conferred upon him the honorific of Editor Emeritus. So, you'll still see his thoughtful writing gracing the pages of this publication from time to time.

This issue of the *Bulletin* is transitional — it's neither truly Steve's nor mine. We've surveyed the membership regarding their thoughts about what they'd like to see in an updated *Bulletin*, and we've listened to those comments. But changing the format of the publication will take a few months. So, rather than skip an issue completely, we're putting out this somewhat abbreviated version, with the usual core columns, the presidential addresses delivered at the House of Delegates, and an interesting featured article by Dr. Karen Sibert, whose excellent writing also frequently appears in these pages.

In the future you'll see a new look, with color graphics and photography, a state-of-the-art e-reader for those who follow us online, and the California-focused content you want and have come to expect.

See you in a few months.

### **Online CME: Spinal Cord Stimulation New Module Now Available!**

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