

SPACE MEDICINE BRANCH REPORT

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Message from the SMB President

Greetings, Space Medicine people! I wish to express my gratitude to you all for giving me the opportunity to serve as the president of such a fine and distinguished group. The work you have allowed me to do as a member-at-large on your committees, in particular the Young Investigator Award, has been one of the most enjoyable and rewarding things I have experienced in the AsMA. Now, I look forward to serving you in this new capacity and to receiving your input on various topics of concern to you and our organization. I wish to thank Denise Baisden and others before her for leaving excellent footsteps to follow in, as well as the members of our several committees for their outstanding work and continuing support. Below are listed the various committee chairs to contact if you are interested in joining them. Special thanks to Lloyd Tripp and Smith Johnston for taking the lead for me on the awards committee.

Awards Committee

Smith Johnston, M.D., Co-Chair, Strughold Award
Lloyd Tripp, Co-Chair, Young Investigator Award
(Mr. Tripp's address is 60 S. Garland Ave., Dayton OH 45403, ph 513-255-5492, fax 5742)

Corporate Membership

Bradley Beck, M.D., Co-Chair
Paul Humbert, M.D., Co-Chair

Education

Annette Sobel, M.D., Chair

History

G. Wyckliffe Hoffer, M.D., Chair

International

Chrysoula Kourtidou-Papadeli, M.D., Chair

Long Range Planning

Robin Dodge, M.D., Chair

Membership

Roger Bisson, M.D., Chair

Policy

Melchor Antuñano, M.D., Chair

Program

James Collier, M.D.
Smith Johnston, M.D.

Jeffrey Jones, M.D.
K. Jeffrey Myers, M.D.
Annette Sobel, M.D.

It is truly a great time to be a Space Life Scientist! We stand at the dawn of an unprecedented era of cooperative international exploration. This effort will include intense emphasis on the effects of long duration spaceflight, which is sure to stimulate and challenge our intellect. We are currently striving to prepare for this challenge by requesting more dedicated Space Shuttle mission time for Life Sciences experiments prior to the functional stage of the International Space Station. Our thanks to Dr. Mary Anne Frey, Dr. Russ Rayman, and others for their efforts in this regard.

Private groups have plans on the drawing board for "citizen" spaceflights. Your SMB is working with the FAA, NASA, and other organizations to promote the development of appropriate medical standards for these future commercial space travelers. Mel Antuñano is the lead on this project for the Branch.

We cannot plan for the future without educational programs which stimulate and promote the intellectual growth of our potential future scientists (and hopefully, Branch members to be). Anne Sobel is working up the feasibility of an aerospace and space medicine educational program to present and distribute to various school levels across the U.S. (and hopefully, the world). Wyck Hoffer, Chrys Kourtidou-Papadeli, Phil Scarpa, and others are working with Anne on this project.

The contribution of our international space partners cannot be ignored. We will clearly require the focus of worldwide resources and talents to succeed in the future of space exploration. Space Life Sciences is a good discipline to set this example.

Let us begin the year with renewed vigor! I look forward to serving and working with you during this exciting time!

K. Jeffrey Myers, M.D., M.S.
1998-99 President

YOU ASK, WHAT'S IN DETROIT?

Shops, restaurants, and four major theaters in the Westin Renaissance Center (where the entire meeting will be held).

Henry Ford Museum-- Outstanding collection of old cars, trains, and airplanes. Located 15 minutes from the Westin.

Greenfield Village--Next door to the Henry Ford Museum. See the actual historic homes and workplace of famous Americans such as the Wright Brothers, Thomas Edison, Henry Ford, and George Washington Carver.

Yankee Air Museum--Display of aviation history from WWI through Vietnam.

Four museums in one area including the famous Detroit Institute of Arts, the Detroit Historical Museum, and Museum of African American History.

People Mover--This monorail leaves regularly from the Westin making multiple stops in the downtown area.

Greektown--The best Greek restaurants in a 2-block area. A 10-minute walk from the Westin, even less by the People Mover.

Cruises along Detroit River.

Detroit Zoo

Henry Ford Estate

Detroit Symphony Orchestra

The Fox Theatre--Plays, musicals, jazz on stage.

Detroit Tigers at Tiger Stadium.

Windsor, Ontario, Canada is just across the river with its restaurants and casinos.