

Your Vote Matters

Cast Your Vote for ATA's President-elect and Directors

We encourage you to take part in selecting the president-elect, secretary-elect and directors for the ATA Board of Directors by casting your vote. The ATA Nominating Committee, chaired by Donald St. Germain, recommended an excellent slate of candidates, which was then approved by the ATA Board of Directors.

Candidates for president-elect are James A. Fagin and Bryan R. Haugen. The candidates for two director positions are Victor J. Bernet, Gerard M. Doherty, Sissy M. Jhiang, and Alex

Stagnaro-Green. John C. Morris is put forth by the Board to be elected by acclamation for Secretary-elect.

Active ATA members will receive a ballot in August and are asked to return it by Friday, September 3, 2010. Results of the vote will be announced at the ATA membership meeting on Tuesday, September 14, 2010 at 4:45 pm during the 14th International Thyroid Congress in Paris, France. Election results will also be featured in the October member e-news and the *Signal*.

ATA President-elect — Candidate Statements and Biosketches

The president-elect has a one-year term of office (2010–2011), followed by one-year term as president (2011–2012) and one-year term as a past-president (2012–2013); Vote for One (1)



James A. Fagin, MD

Candidate for President-elect

Candidate's Statement

I am honored to be nominated as a candidate for President of the ATA, my academic home for almost two decades.

Our society is thriving in a challenging environment. The core missions of the ATA have expanded in recent years, in part by providing leadership in thyroidology through development of clinical guidelines, and by broadening the scope of our publications. We are intent on seeking new audiences, best exemplified by our outreach to the general public and to patients through dedicated publications and educational activities. In this era of information overload and "Internet Thyroid Diseases", the reasoned voice of the ATA needs to be heard. We must also continue to make our society attractive to young clinicians and researchers. Finally, our Annual Meeting is the jewel in our crown, and we must endeavor to attract the best basic and clinical investigators in ALL areas of thyroidology, which is essential to maintain the vitality of our organization.

Biosketch

James A. Fagin, MD, is Chief of the Endocrine Service and a Member of the Human Oncology and Pathogenesis Program at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, and a Professor of Medicine at Weill Medical College of Cornell University. He was formerly the James Heady Professor of Medicine and Director of the Division of Endocrinology and Metabolism at the University of Cincinnati College of Medicine.

Dr. Fagin obtained his MD degree from the University of Buenos Aires, did his residency in the UK, and endocrinology fellowships at the VA Wadsworth and Cedars-Sinai Medical Center in Los Angeles. He has had a long standing interest in the pathogenesis of thyroid neoplasms, and his laboratory focuses on thyroid cancer genetics, cell signaling, on the development of mouse models to understand the biology of these tumors, and on



Bryan R. Haugen, MD

Candidate for President-elect

Candidate's Statement

I am very proud to be a member of the American Thyroid Association, the leading voice in thyroidology research, patient care, public health and education. I am deeply

honored to be nominated to stand for the position of president-elect of this important organization. I have greatly benefited from the training and mentorship of many leaders within the ATA. My research career began with a grant from the ATA, and many of my trainees have received critical early funding from our organization which is so important to career development. I have been fortunate to attend every ATA annual meeting for nearly 20 years, which has been an invaluable source of cutting-edge clinical information, research collaborations and collegial interactions.

The ATA is my professional home, and I am always willing to serve in any capacity I can to help make our organization strong and a leading advocate for all aspects of thyroidology. We need to continue to attract enthusiastic members from all areas (clinical care, patient advocacy, research, government, industry) who are willing to attend meetings, serve on committees and task forces so the ATA can continue our leadership in understanding thyroid biology and promoting thyroid health. The challenges of a rapidly changing medical and reimbursement landscape, regulatory oversight and limited resources are significant. We have always been an organization with good stewardship of our limited financial resources, and together with our partners in our sister societies, patient advocacy groups, government organizations and industries with an interest in thyroid health and disease, we can navigate through these challenges and find new opportunities to thrive and grow. Our philanthropic efforts should be an ongoing priority so we can support our members and continue to be a strong independent advocate in all aspects of thyroidology. Through the efforts of many leaders since its inception in 1923, the ATA has held a unique position as the authoritative voice in thyroidology.

ATA President-elect — Candidate Statements and Biosketches

The president-elect has a one-year term of office (2010–2011), followed by one-year term as president (2011–2012) and one-year term as a past-president (2012–2013); Vote for One (1)



James A. Fagin, continued

the identification of therapies directed at key oncoproteins that drive the disease. He also has an active clinical interest in the care of patients with thyroid cancer.

He has served the ATA in the following capacities: He was the chair of the Annual Meeting Scientific Program Committee in 1996, a member and later the chair of the ATA Research Committee (2002-2006), co-chair of the ATA meeting “Frontiers in Thyroid Cancer” in 2005. He is currently a member of the Board of Directors of the ATA, serves as chair of the Publications Committee, and is the Editor of *Signal*.

He was a member and then chair of the NIH Endocrinology Study Section (1998-2002). In addition to serving on a number of Editorial Boards, he is a former Associate Editor of *Endocrinology*, former Editor (Americas) for *Clinical Endocrinology* (Oxford), and the present Editor-in-Chief of *Endocrine-Related Cancer*. He served as faculty and then the chair of the yearly Molecular and Cellular Research course of the Endocrine Society, and was the co-organizer of the Endocrine Society Genomics and Proteomics Conference. Dr. Fagin is a member of the American Society of Clinical Investigation and the Association of American Physicians. He was the recipient of the Abbott Thyroid Research Clinical Fellowship Mentor Award of the Endocrine Society, the Merck Prize of the European Thyroid Association and the Sidney Ingbar Distinguished Lectureship Award of the ATA.



Bryan R. Haugen, continued

Together, we can continue that honored tradition to advocate for thyroid health, understand thyroid biology and disease and train the next generation of thyroidologists to carry on the important mission of the ATA.

Biosketch

Dr. Bryan Haugen is Professor of Medicine and Pathology at the University of Colorado Denver, and Chief of the Division of Endocrinology, Metabolism & Diabetes.

Dr. Haugen has been a member of the ATA since 1994. He has served on the Program Committee, Clinical Affairs Committee and Nominating Committee. He served as a member of the local organizing committee for the 1998 Annual meeting and Program co-chair for the 2003 Annual Meeting. He has also served on the Board of Directors (2003-2007). He has been a member of the thyroid nodules and cancer task force that developed the 2006 and 2009 guidelines. He has been on the editorial board of *Thyroid* since 1998 and an Associate Editor since 2008.

Dr. Haugen's current clinical interests include thyroid neoplasms, advanced thyroid cancer, thyroid dysfunction and other endocrine tumors (parathyroid, adrenal, carcinoid). Dr. Haugen's research interests include molecular studies of thyroid neoplasm for diagnosis and prognosis as well as the study of novel molecular therapeutic targets in advanced thyroid cancer. His research group is also actively studying novel regulation of the hypothalamic-pituitary-thyroid axis.

Dr. Haugen has served on editorial boards of *Thyroid*, *Journal of Clinical Endocrinology and Metabolism*, and *Endocrinology*. He has been an active member of the National Thyroid Cancer Treatment Cooperative Study Group. He has also served on study sections for the NIH and various cancer organizations. Dr. Haugen has been elected as a Fellow in the American College of Physicians and he has received the Boots Clinical Thyroid Fellowship (1993) as well as the Abbott Thyroid Clinical Research Mentor (2008) Awards from the Endocrine Society.

Dr. Haugen received his undergraduate degree in chemistry from St. Olaf College and medical degree from the Mayo Medical School. He completed internal medicine residency and endocrinology clinical/research fellowship at the University of Colorado under the mentorship of Dr. E. Chester Ridgway.

Secretary-Elect

One year term of office (2010–2011) followed by a four-year term as Secretary/Chief Operating Officer (2011–2015);
Elected by acclamation.



John C. Morris, MD

Secretary-elect

Candidate's Statement

“I am honored to be considered for the position as Secretary of the ATA. It is both an exciting and challenging time for the ATA and for Thyroidologists in general. Excitement comes, for example, in the opening and completion of clinical trials of new agents offering novel therapies for our patients with advanced thyroid cancer and the incorporation of new guidelines and technologies into our practices and research laboratories. Challenge comes from the ever tightening research budget and increased competition for the limited resources available to support education, research, and patient care and from the changing relationship between physicians and their societies and the pharmaceutical industry. The role of the ATA in my view is to provide leadership and scientific and clinical expertise towards the advancement of clinical thyroidology and thyroid research, and to disseminate knowledge and advocate for these topics within its membership, to social and political leaders, and, most importantly, for the patient with thyroid disease. I believe the ATA does this better than any other organization, and must continue to meet these challenges in future years.”

Biosketch

Dr. John C. Morris, is Professor of Medicine and Chair of the Division of Endocrinology, Diabetes, Metabolism, and Nutrition at Mayo Clinic, Rochester, Minnesota. He is a native of Tennessee and graduate of King College in Bristol, TN and the University of Tennessee Medical School in Memphis. He completed Internal Medicine residency at UT where he also served as Chief Resident and then came to Mayo Clinic to complete an Endocrinology Fellowship and additional post-doctoral training under the mentorship of Dr. Robert J. Ryan. He joined the Mayo staff in the Division of Endocrinology, Department of Medicine in 1989. During the subsequent years Dr. Morris has served the Division of Endocrinology as Education Chair, Practice Chair, Vice Chair and currently serves as Division Chair (since 2002). His clinical practice, which currently accounts for 35% of his effort, is focused mostly on thyroid disease and thyroid cancer.

Dr. Morris' research focus is the thyroidal iodide transporter and its role as a marker and therapeutic gene in cancer gene therapy. Current work in that arena involves gene transfer of the iodide transporter gene into human prostate and breast cancer models followed by radioiodine therapy of these non-thyroidal cancers. His research funding has come from several sources including the Mayo Foundation, NIH, NCI (Mayo Prostate Cancer SPORE Grant), industry (Knoll pharmaceuticals Center-of-Excellence Award), and foundations (Prospect Creek Foundation and Prostate Cancer Foundation). He is currently Associate Editor of *Endocrine Practice* and also serves on the editorial boards of *JCEM*, and *Clinical Endocrinology*.

As a member of the ATA since 1989, Dr. Morris has been pleased to serve the organization as a member and Chair of the Scientific Program Committee, member of the Public Health committee and chair of the Laboratory Services Committee. He also served as a member of the ATA Board of Directors during 2001-2005. He was co-director of the program for the first ATA Spring Symposium on Potassium Iodide Protection for Nuclear Accident in 2003.

ATA Board of Directors — Candidate Statements and Biosketches

Four-year term of office (2010–2014); Vote for Two (2) of the four (4) candidates



Victor J. Bernet, MD

Candidate for Director

Candidate's Statement

I consider the ATA and its members my scientific family. Regular involvement in ATA activities has rewarded me with much kind mentorship, collegial support and opportunity for professional growth. As we strive for new membership, it is imperative that we facilitate young investigators' exposure to this nurturing atmosphere, as I believe they will be drawn to involvement in the ATA as was I. Additionally, serving on the Public Health Committee has reinforced my understanding of the critical role the ATA must play with respect to advocating for thyroid health related issues. A strong presence in the areas of public education and patient advocacy, increased research funding for the study of thyroid disease and focused, effective guidance to legislators and government organizations such as the FDA and NRC are vital roles for the ATA. It would be privilege and honor to serve the ATA as a council member.

Biosketch

COL. Victor J. Bernet, MD, is an Associate Professor of Medicine at the F. Edward Hébert School of Medicine of the Uniformed Services University of Health Sciences in Bethesda, Maryland. He is Director of the U.S. Army-Navy Endocrinology

Fellowship Training Program, and Thyroid Section Leader for the U.S. Military Cancer Institute. He also serves as Endocrinology Consultant to the Army Surgeon General.

Dr. Bernet is an active clinician, educator and researcher. Clinical and research interests center on thyroid disease, particularly thyroid nodules and cancer.

Dr. Bernet first came to the 1993 ATA annual meeting by means of the sponsored Fellows' Workshop. He has regularly attended meetings since then, becoming a member in 1998. He has been active on the Public Health Committee since 1999 first as a member, next as Acting Chair 2002-2003, then as Chair from 2003-2005 followed by continued service as a committee member. During his time as committee chair, Dr. Bernet was involved with several initiatives including the ATA's response to Congressional KI legislation, formulation of the ATA Maternal-Fetal Thyroid Health Statement, as well as ATA statements on perchlorate exposure related thyroid health concerns. In 2004, his committee leadership efforts were recognized with the ATA's Outstanding Committee Chair Award. Dr. Bernet presently serves as Chair of the ATA Internet and Communications Committee. Additionally, he has been very active in the ATA Fellows' Task Force to include development of the ATA Fellows' Corner webpage as well as the Calcitonin/CEA and thyroid nodule volume calculators on the main ATA website.



Gerard M. Doherty, MD

Candidate for Director

Candidate's Statement

The ATA is the ideal intellectually diverse and stimulating professional group for our field, forming a critical intersection for physicians and surgeons of different training histories to meet and exchange scientifically sound experience with thyroid disease. As the one group that brings together all practitioners and researchers who focus on thyroid function and diseases, the ATA owns a pivotal position to guide clinician and patient education, and can fill an increasingly important advocacy role in this time of healthcare payment reform and limited research resources. My goals as a director would be (1) to promote and further develop the ATA as the preeminent society for thyroid care by recruiting specialists from all training backgrounds to membership, and (2) to promote the advocacy role of the ATA for our patients by disseminating information about ideal clinical care, informing healthcare reform efforts to ensure access to best care, and expanding the research resources committed to our ATA members.

Biosketch

Dr. Gerard Doherty is the Norman W. Thompson Professor of Surgery at the University of Michigan. A graduate of College of the Holy Cross and Yale School of Medicine, he went on to train at UCSF and the National Cancer Institute before he joined Washington University School of Medicine in 1993. He became

Professor of Surgery in 2001. In 2002 he moved to Ann Arbor to become the Chief of Endocrine Surgery and General Surgery, as well as Surgery Training Program Director at Michigan.

Dr. Doherty's active participation in the ATA includes current service as the Co-Chair of the Surgical Affairs Committee, and past terms on the Guidelines Taskforce for Differentiated Thyroid Cancer (2006 and 2009 versions), the Program Committee and the Standards of Care Committee. He has promoted the ATA guidelines, and the pivotal role of the ATA in thyroid cancer management, in presentations around the world. He has actively brought together surgeons of disparate training backgrounds to work within the ATA on areas of common interest, including co-authoring a consensus statement regarding central neck dissection, helping to guide the current activities of the Surgical Affairs Committee, and promoting annual meeting program items to attract surgeons to the ATA meeting and membership.

Dr. Doherty's clinical and research interests focus on endocrine surgical diseases including active basic laboratory research on regeneration of parathyroid cells from endogenous precursors. His bibliography includes over 250 publications and twelve edited textbooks. His current national service includes roles that can help to promote the ATA within partner surgical groups, such as Vice President of the American Association of Endocrine Surgeons and Council Coordinator of the International Association of Endocrine Surgeons. He is also Associate Editor of the *World Journal of Surgery* and a member of several editorial boards.

ATA Board of Directors — Candidate Statements and Biosketches, continued

Four-year term of office (2010–2014); Vote for Two (2) of the four (4) candidates



Sissy M. Jhiang, MD

Candidate for Director

Candidate's Statement

As a long-time member of the ATA, I have benefited tremendously from friendship, support, and guidance for my career development. I embrace the ATA values in scientific inquiry, clinical excellence, public service, education, collaboration, and collegiality. I applaud the long tradition of the ATA in leveraging our limited financial resources to expand our impact on promoting thyroid health and understanding thyroid biology. I recognize the challenge ahead in this difficult financial time, yet I am eager to join others taking the necessary steps to sustain and further expand our position as the authoritative voice in clinical thyroid disease and thyroid research. Among all tasks, I would be particularly interested in seeking multiple avenues to increase public awareness of the importance of thyroid research; to establish platforms where pertinent unresolved questions are enlisted to inspire vigorous discussion among investigators from different disciplines to create innovative approaches; and to increase and broaden our membership base by attracting/nurturing/mentoring young trainees and by recruiting investigators/clinicians from disciplines related or unrelated to our traditional domains as long as they have a special interest in thyroid biology. Lastly, I am committed to work with other members of the ATA to ensure opportunities and necessary resources be available for every ATA member to further his/her career development, and together, we will be able to fulfill our mission to promote thyroid health in the broader community.

Biosketch

Dr. Sissy M. Jhiang is a Professor of Physiology and Cell

Biology as well as Internal Medicine at the Ohio State University. Dr. Jhiang received her PhD degree from the University of Texas at Austin in 1987, and she was introduced into thyroid cancer research by Dr. Ernest Mazzaferri in 1989. Her current research interests include identifying molecular targets to impede thyroid cancer progression and developing strategies to maximize radioiodine therapeutic efficacy without unwanted side effects.

Dr. Jhiang is an active training faculty member for several graduate programs as well as several Predoctoral and Postdoctoral Training Programs funded by NIH at the Ohio State University. She served as the co-Director for MD/PhD Training Program at The Ohio State University in 1999-2001. She received the Research Award (2003) and the Mentor Award (2007) from the Physiology and Cell Biology Department, and the Excellence in Research/Teaching Award from the School of Biomedical Science (2006). In 2005, she was elected as an American Association for the Advancement of Science Fellow in Medicine.

Dr. Jhiang has been an ATA member since 1993, and she was the recipient of the Van Meter Award in 2002. Dr. Jhiang has served on the Membership Committee (2001), Program Committee (1999-2010), Research Committee (2009-2012), and she served as the basic science co-chair for the 79th Annual Meeting in 2008. Dr. Jhiang has been frequently solicited to review grant applications locally, nationally, and internationally. She has served on Endocrinology (2001-2004), Cancer Molecular Pathology (2004-2005), and Integrated Clinical Endocrinology and Reproduction (2009-2012) NIH study sections. She has served on the Editorial Board of *Endocrinology* (2001-2004) and *Thyroid* (1998-present). In addition, she is a faculty member for F1000 Medicine, an innovative literature awareness service that provides expert opinion on key papers in Medicine.



Alex Stagnaro-Green, MD, MHPE

Candidate for Director

Candidate's Statement

I have had the pleasure of being a member of the American Thyroid Association for the last 25 years. Over that time I have been mentored and supported by the Association and have been fortunate to develop colleagues and friends throughout the world. The ATA has also encouraged me to assume leadership roles in an area of thyroid research that I have passionately pursued throughout my career, the interplay between pregnancy and the thyroid. In essence, the ATA has been an integral component of my personal and professional development. As a member of the Board it would be an honor to serve the Association to maintain and enhance the collegiality, excellence and mentorship that are hallmarks of the ATA.

Biosketch

Dr. Stagnaro-Green is Professor of Medicine, Professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology and Senior Associate Dean

for Education at the George Washington University School of Medicine and Health Sciences. He is an active clinician, educator, researcher and administrator. His research activities center on the interplay between the thyroid and pregnancy/postpartum. Specifically, he has focused on the impact of thyroid antibodies and miscarriage, thyroid hormone abnormalities and preterm delivery, and the incidence, etiology and impact of postpartum thyroiditis.

Dr. Stagnaro-Green has been an active member of the ATA for more than 20 years. He has served on the Publications Committee and on the search committee for the editor-in-chief of *Thyroid*. He was co-chair of the 2009 ATA Spring Symposium on Thyroid and Pregnancy and has delivered invited lectures at many regional, national and international meetings. Dr. Stagnaro-Green is presently Chair of the ATA Task Force on Thyroid Disease in Pregnancy and the ATA Task Force on Clinical Guidelines for Thyroid and Pregnancy.