

Executive Director's Letter: More on the Inaugural Year of Obesity Week

By this point I think we are probably all back into our routines, busy as always, and likely adding some new things as well. TOS is adding some new programs this year that you will hear about over the coming months. The first is that this newsletter will be appearing in your email box twice a month going forward. We believe this will offer a better chance to share information in a more timely manner.

The most significant new project in 2013 is of course the inaugural year of Obesity Week (OW), our annual meeting which will now be co-located with the American Society for Metabolic and Bariatric Surgery (ASMBS). The OW Board of Managers, comprised of six TOS and six ASMBS members, has been working together for nearly three years to make sure that every aspect of the meeting is consistent with or better than your previous experiences at the annual meeting. And the TOS Program Committee is meeting at the end of this month, as they always have, to begin planning the TOS scientific program.

TOS received a record number of symposia submission this year from our Committees and Sections, individual members and even other societies. This, combined with the breadth of experience on the Program Committee, will certainly garner another exceptional program. The TOS Abstract Submission Site opens on May 1, 2013 and will remain open until June 15, 2013, later than in previous years. And the decision was made to return to a system of hanging posters for the entire three days of the conference with three separate poster presentation times allowing for more viewing opportunities.

While TOS will continue to have our own scientific program as we always have, there will be a few joint aspects of the meeting. Last week Dr. Grill discussed the Keynote Speakers and Jointly Sponsored Symposia in his President's Letter. Additionally, we will hold the Opening Reception together in an exciting off-site location (watch your email for the announcement). We will also participate with ASMBS in a new event for TOS called After Dark – a social event with networking and dancing on the final night of the conference. And the exhibit floor promises to be extremely lively with double the number of exhibitors, TOS and ASMBS posters hanging side-by-side, and lunch and coffee breaks in the Hall.

With just over nine months to go, the OW Board of Managers, ASMBS and TOS leadership will all continue to work diligently to make sure OW is the positive event it promises to be. Read next month to learn more details about another TOS program we are improving.

Sincerely,



Francesca M. Dea
Executive Director