



Western Neurosurgical Society Newsletter

Fall/Winter 2022

MEET THE PRESIDENT

Jay K. Morgan was born April 23, 1958 in Columbus, Ohio. His father, James, was a family practice physician, and his mother Vesta, was an educator and vocalist. Jay attended the Columbus Academy from the 5th to 12th grades, and subsequently attended The Ohio State University attaining both a BA in chemistry and his MD from the Medical School, graduating in 1980.

In the first two years of medical school, Jay was awarded a Roessler Research fellowship and worked in the Neuroanatomy lab of Dr. James King and Georgia Bishop. Many late nights were spent during the first summer in the neurophysiology lab. He also worked nights and weekends at the Franklin County Morgue. More importantly, during this time, Jay and Sherry started their 40-year friendship, and were married during Jay's junior year. They were blessed with their first son Jayson Allen in June 1983.

In 1984, Jay started an internship at the University Hospitals in Cleveland. He spent 4 of his 12 months in a neurosurgery rotation at the Cleveland Metro Health Medical Center with Dr. Robert White. The rotation was every other night with either the Chief Resident, Robert Fenstermaker, or Junior Resident, Scott Erwood. Hooked on neurosurgery, Jay applied and matched at Henry Ford Hospital in Detroit Michigan. In February 1985, Jay and Sherry welcomed their second son, Justin James Scott.

The Neurosurgical Service at Henry Ford Hospital in Downtown Detroit was exceptionally busy. James Ausman, MD ran a tight ship, but the residents had phenomenal surgeons to learn from including Ghaus Malik, MD and Fernando Diaz, MD Robert Tiel, MD, and Jack Rock, MD the current chairman. Jay's training was augmented by time spent with Ed Oldfield, MD at the National Institutes of Health as a clinical fellow. He worked in Rob Plunkett's lab concentrating on implant properties of fetal tissue. After a final chief year, Jay stayed on at HFH as junior faculty with an interest in cerebrovascular surgery. The day after Jay graduated, Jay and Sherry's third son, Austin Martyn, was born in December 1990.

In 1993, a former co-resident, Dante Vacca, made Jay an offer he couldn't refuse. Dante, as well as Western Neurosurgical Society members Bill Dawson and Joe Walker, welcomed the Morgans' to Reno, Nevada. Sierra Neurosurgery Group was the only group in the region at that time and offered excellent growth opportunities. Jay did

NEXT PAGE



TABLE OF CONTENTS

Meet the President:
Dr. Morgan • pp. 1 - 2

68th Annual Meeting Recap pp. 2-3

Take the Survey p. 3

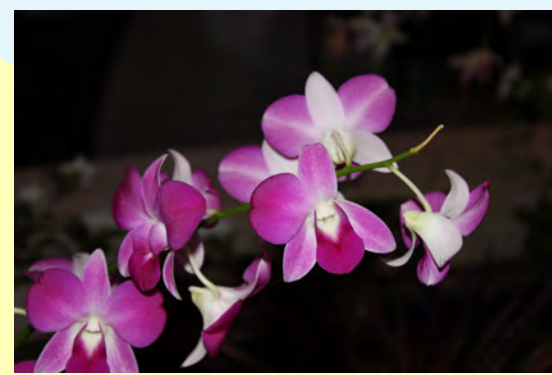
Meet the New Members p. 4

Meet the New Secretary-Treasurer p.4

Committees 2022-23 p. 5

Sun Valley Conference p. 6

69th Annual Western Neurosurgical Meeting • p. 7



MEET THE PRESIDENT CONTINUED

extend his training in spine with a mini fellowship with Rick Sasso, MD in the mid 1990's and changed the way spine surgery was practiced in Reno. He has been Managing Partner at SNG several times and has been Chief of Neurosurgery both at Washoe Medical Center (now Renown Regional Medical Center) and Saint Mary's Regional Medical Center. He has been Chief of Surgery at Northern Nevada Sierra Medical Center. He is currently Chief of the Spine Section at Renown Regional Medical Center.

Jay has been involved in organized medicine at the county, state, and regional levels. He is currently past President of the Washoe County Medical Society and Treasurer of the Nevada State Medical Society. He has been a member of the Western Neurosurgical Society since 1988, serving as Vice President in 2019.

Jay and Sherry found Reno to be a great place to raise their three sons and launch them on individual career paths. Jayson is Director of the Cardiovascular Service Line at the Renown Institute for Heart and Vascular Health in Reno. Justin is a partner in Wood and Morgan law firm working with dentists and physicians in setting up their practices in Los Angeles. Austin is a Senior Associate at Graham Street Realty in San Francisco with property interest in the Bay Area, Phoenix, and Denver.

Jay enjoys scuba diving, photography, and spending time with his granddaughters Emerie and Aereilyn.

Changing of the Guard:

*Dr. Jay Morgan
and
Dr. David Pitkethly*



Winner Basic Science Award

Jacob Young

University of California, San Francisco

Reprogramming the glioblastoma immune microenvironment with convection enhanced gene therapy reveals intratumor IL6 drives glioblastoma immunosuppression and growth



Winner Clinical Science Award

Joshua Catapano

Barrow Neurological Institute

Middle Meningeal Artery Embolization Associated with Reduction in Chronic Subdural Hematoma Volume and Midline Shift in the Acute Postoperative Period and an Institutional Review



Cloward Award Lecture

Dr Gary K. Steinberg,

Professor of Neurosurgery

Stanford University:

"A lifelong odyssey to

understand and treat

cerebrovascular disease,

with a few detours"



**WNS 15-Second *Survey* for the
CNS Members**

Click the word "Survey" above
or copy and past this link:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/6Y6D77R>

(Survey open for first 40 responders)

MEET THE NEW MEMBERS!



Farrokh Farrokhi
(Seattle, WA)



Arjun Pendharkar
(Stanford – Fellow)



Juan Fernandez Miranda (Stanford)



Laura Prolo (Stanford)



Matthew MacDougall (San Francisco, CA)



Meet the New Secretary-Treasurer: Justin Dye

Justin completed his neurosurgical residency and endovascular fellowship at the University of California Los Angeles. It was during his time at UCLA that he first learned about the Western thanks to the influence of past WNS presidents Linda Liau and Marvin Bergsneider. Justin's first WNS meeting was in 2010 in Sante Fe where he attended as a resident abstract award winner, and he became an active member in 2017.

More importantly, while at UCLA Justin married his best friend Richelin. Thanks to a strong will and her own career in neuropsychology, she endured residency training and they celebrated 14 years of marriage this past June. Their first child, Olivia (8), was born during Justin's fellowship and their son, Shane (6), was born in San Diego.

After completing his medical training, Justin entered active-duty service and was stationed at the Naval Medical Center in San Diego. While in the military he spent time overseas in Vietnam and Afghanistan. After completing his military service, he joined the neurosurgery faculty at Loma Linda University where he recently became the residency program director. His academic interests include resident education, stroke treatment and neurotrauma.

Justin is keenly aware that he has big shoes to fill (thanks Marco) and his aim as Secretary-Treasurer is to 'run a tight ship' and maintain the financial stability of the Western established by his predecessor.

Western Neurosurgical Society Board Members 2022-23 (as off 11/25/22)

Executive Committee

President: Jay Morgan *jmorgan@sierraneurosurgery.com*

President Elect: Marco Lee *marcolee@stanford.edu*

Vice President:

Richard Chua *Richard.Chua@bannerhealth.com*

Secretary-Treasurer:

Justin Dye *justindye16@gmail.com*

Program Committee

Chair-Jason Hauptman *Jason.hauptman@seattlechildrens.org*

Laura Prolo

Phil Taussky

Andrew Little

Mark Sedrak

CME Committee

Chair – Odette Harris *odette@stanford.edu*

Local Arrangements

Chair – Ciara Harraher *harraher@stanford.edu*

Larry Shuer

Audit Committee

Chair – John McVicker *acns.hms@gmail.com*

Nominating Committee

Chair - David Pitkethly *dpit@uw.edu*

Moustapha Abou-Samra

Marvin Bergsneider

Linda Liao

Site Selection Committee

Chair – Austin Colohan *acolohan@yahoo.com*

Charlie Nussbaum

Ciara Harraher

David Pitkethly

Marco Lee

Richard Chua

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Gerras

Mark Belza

David Westra

Isaac Yang

Jason Hauptman

Website/Newsletter Committee

Chair – Debbie Henry *dchenry.md@gmail.com*

Moustapha Abou-Samra

Adair Prall

Isaac Yang

Marco Lee

Bylaws Committee

Chair – Mark Linskey

Awards

Marco Lee *marcolee@stanford.edu*

Marvin Bergsneider

Sam Cheshire

Tom Scully

Laura Snyder

Martin Weinand

Ad Hoc – Randall Smith Lecture

Christine Smith

David Pitkethly

Marvin Bergsneider

Moustapha Abou-Samra

Ad Hoc – Secretary-Treasurer Job

Chair-Justin Dye *justindye16@gmail.com*

Debbie Henry

Moustapha Abou-Samra

Charlie Nussbaum

Marco Lee

AD HOC EXIBITOR COMMITTEE

Chair- Richard Chua *Richard.Chua@bannerhealth.com*





You're invited to the Sun Valley Cerebrovascular Conference!

The UC San Diego Department of Neurological Surgery, St. Luke's Neurosciences and the University of Tennessee Health Science Center invite you to join them at the [Sun Valley Cerebrovascular Conference](#), held January 19-21 in Sun Valley, Idaho, for exceptional cerebrovascular education and networking in a stunning, family friendly location.

The three-day event features national and international thought leaders discussing the latest treatments and research for cerebrovascular disease. A dynamic program includes short lectures punctuated by round-table discussions, case presentations and hot topics—and midday breaks to allow attendees to ski, snowboard or explore the beautiful town of Sun Valley.

New this year: Abstracts may be submitted for presentation (Deadline: December 1). Abstracts will be peer reviewed and scored on originality, scientific merit and relevancy to the field of stroke treatment.

Of note, direct flights to Sun Valley are offered from San Francisco, Los Angeles, Seattle, Denver and Salt Lake City airports.

[Register Today](#)

[Submit an Abstract](#)

Western Neurosurgical Society

69th Annual Meeting

September 29-October 2, 2023

Portola Hotel and Spa

Monterey, California

**SAVE
THE
DATE**



Photo from Portola Website

THANK YOU TO OUR WESTERN 2022 SILVER SPONSORS!



Editor: Deborah Henry-Chair, Communications

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Hawaii Meeting Photography: Charles Nussbaum, Historian