RESEARCH – GRANTS, FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

NREF awarded and introduced the following grants and fellowships in 2017:

- 25 Medical Student Summer Research Fellowships, including 5 supported by a generous contribution from Aaron A. Cohen-Gadol, MD, FAANS
- 11 NREF Research Grants and Young Clinician Investigator Awards in spine, tumor, pediatrics, trauma, pain and cerebrovascular subspecialties, each a one year, $40,000-50,000 award
- 6 Post-residency Clinical Fellowships (PRCF) for the 2017-18 academic year, supported by industry partners
- The William P. Van Wagenen Fellowship award of $120,000, plus expenses for travel and neurosurgical study overseas
- A new award for Advance Practice Providers (APPs): Two $500 awards to the best APP abstracts at the 2018 AANS Annual Scientific Meeting
- A new fellowship – the Joint Cerebrovascular Section Traveling Fellowship allows a practicing, CAST-certified neurointerventionalist (of any specialty) to visit a high-volume cerebrovascular center for a one-week observership, with support from Medtronic and MicroVention. The first two traveling fellowships will be awarded at the 2018 AANS/CNS Cerebrovascular Section Annual Meeting in February 2018.

EDUCATION – COURSES AND SPECIAL PROGRAMS

The NREF sponsored 6 Resident Courses in 2017 for neurosurgical residents and fellows to provide advanced educational training. The NREF also continued its complimentary webinar series with Strategic use of BCNU Wafers in Contemporary Care, supported by Arbor Pharmaceuticals.

The NREF will hold the Second International Brain Mapping Course in collaboration with the AANS during the 2018 Annual Scientific Meeting in New Orleans, featuring an international faculty from major brain mapping centers in Europe, North America and Asia.

A Neurocritical Care Symposium is planned for August 2018 for practicing neurosurgeons to fill practice and knowledge gaps they may encounter post-training as the state of neurocritical care changes.

OUTCOMES

The NREF Board of Directors announced support totaling nearly $500,000 from Medtronic and DePuy for Effectiveness of Fusion for Grade I Spondylolisthesis, a NeuroPoint Alliance (NPA) QOD study in 2017. Additional funding is expected in 2018.

PARTNERSHIPS

The NREF extended its partnership with B*CURED, a non-profit organization whose mission is to end brain cancer, through 2020. The second $50,000 B*CURED-NREF Research Grant, funded by B*CURED, was presented to Pablo Valdes Quevedo, MD, PhD, of Harvard/Brigham and Women’s Hospital.

HONOR YOUR MENTOR FUNDS

The Honor Your Mentor (HYM) funds celebrate mentors of neurosurgery. There are now 37 HYM funds, with 5 funds pending. Pledges to HYM funds now total $4,043,718 from 799 donors. Current HYM fund honorees include:

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<tr>
<th>A. Leland Albright</th>
<th>Stewart B. Dunsker</th>
<th>Lyal G. Leibrock</th>
<th>Henry G. Schwartz</th>
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<tr>
<td>Roy A. E. Bakay</td>
<td>Richard G. Fessler</td>
<td>Anthony Marmarou</td>
<td>Volker K. H. Sonntag</td>
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<td>Ulrich Batzdorf</td>
<td>Regis W. Haid Jr.</td>
<td>Karin M. Muraszko</td>
<td>Philip E. Stieg</td>
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<td>Warren C. Boop Jr.</td>
<td>Peter J. Jannetta</td>
<td>John C. Oakley</td>
<td>Martin H. Weiss</td>
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<td>Charles L. Branch Sr.</td>
<td>David L. Kelly, Jr.</td>
<td>Andrew T. Parsa</td>
<td>Charles B. Wilson</td>
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<td>Kim J. Burchiel</td>
<td>David Kline</td>
<td>Donald O. Quest</td>
<td>Military Heroes</td>
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<td>Edward S. Connolly</td>
<td>Charles Kuntz IV</td>
<td>Albert L. Rhoton, Jr.</td>
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<td>Ralph G. Dacey</td>
<td>Sanford J. Larson</td>
<td>Jon H. Robertson</td>
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<td>Charles G. Drake</td>
<td>Edward R. Laws</td>
<td>James T. Rutka</td>
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Disbursement of monies from HYM funds this year included:

- The **Regis W. Haid Fund** supported the administration and launch of the QOD study for NPA: Effectiveness of Fusion for Grade I Spondylolisthesis.

- The **Charles Kuntz Fund** supported resident travel to the AANS/CNS Section on Disorders of the Spine and Peripheral Nerves Annual Meeting.

- The first tumor research project funded by the **Andrew T. Parsa Fund** was awarded by the AANS/CNS Section on Tumors to Darryl Lau, MD, University of California-San Francisco. Proceeds from the **2016 Columbia University Charity Softball Tourney ($75,000)** were directed to the Parsa HYM Fund.

- The **Warren C. Boop, Jr. Fund** supported a resident from the University of Arkansas in a presentation to the Southern Neurosurgical Society.

**CUSHING CIRCLE OF GIVING**

Welcome to the newest members of the **Cushing Circle of Giving**, a cumulative lifetime giving society for donors committed to advancing neurosurgery with a contribution or pledge of $25,000 or more.

### Individuals

- Michael A. Chabraja, Esq.
- Ali Chahlavi, MD, FAANS
- Mrs. Elise Connolly
- H. Gordon Deen, Jr., MD, FAANS
- Jeremy L. Fogelson, MD, FAANS
- Drs. Kevin T. and Lynn M. Foley
- Allan H. Friedman, MD, FAANS
- Kai-Ming Fu, MD, PhD, FAANS
- Ricardo Alexandre Hanel, MD, PhD
- A. Bernhard Kliefoth III, MD, FAANS(L)
- Eric W. Nottmeier, MD, FAANS
- D. Ryan Ormond, MD
- Rob G. Parrish, MD, PhD, FAANS
- Stephen M. Pirris, MS, FAANS
- Ashutosh Ashok Pradhan, MD, FAANS
- Eric Loren Rhoton, MD, FAANS
- James Thomas Robertson, MD, FAANS(L)
- J. Marc Simard, MD, PhD, FAANS
- Martin H. Weiss, MD, FAANS(L)

### Institutions

- American Academy of Neurological Surgery
- American Brain Tumor Association
- American College of Surgeons
- California Association of Neurological Surgeons
- Congress of Neurological Surgeons
- Haas Trust
- Henry Ford Hospital
- Keller Foundation / Mrs. Ruby C. Keller
- Massachusetts General Hospital Department of Neurosurgery
- Mayo Clinic-Florida Department of Neurosurgery
- Rocky Mountain Neurosurgical Society
- Rush University Medical Center Department of Neurosurgery
- SUNY Syracuse Neurosurgical Residency
- University of Alabama Neurosurgical Residency
- University of California-San Francisco Neurosurgical Residency
- The University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center – Dept of Neurological Surgery
- University of Virginia Department of Neurosurgery
- UPMC-Department of Neurological Surgery

**NEWS AND NOTES**

- There have been 23 QOD publications and an additional 22 NREF-sponsored talks. Three additional QOD manuscripts have been accepted for publication and 16 others are in process this year.

- Other notable donors include: Ricardo Alexandre Hanel, MD, PhD, welcomed into the Cushing Circle of Giving at the Silver level and Robert F. Heary, MD, FAANS, elevated to the Gold level. Frederick G. Barker II, MD, FAANS, Drs. Robert E. and Kimberly S. Harbaugh, Praveen V. Mummaneni, MD, FAANS, and Seth M. Weingarten, MD, FAANS(L), promoted to the Silver Level.

- The **Young Neurosurgeons Circle of Giving**, a giving society for residents, includes: Nitin Agarwal, MD, Stephen T. Magill, MD, PhD, Lisa Anne Feldman, MD, Allen H. Ho, MD, and Steven Tenny, MD.

- **Pinnacle Partners in Neurosurgery**: The NREF gratefully acknowledges corporate supporters Brainlab, Globus, Johnson & Johnson Medical Device Companies, Medtronic, Paradigm Spine, Synaptive and Varian Medical Systems for their commitment to advance neurosurgery.