President's Message

Welcome to 2017! In preparation for the year ahead, our association has set a series of resolutions – perhaps better termed as priority areas – to advance our mission and serve our members.

Before and during the 2016 conference, as illustrated in the photos below, we engaged in outreach, analysis and discussions that led us to identify these key areas. I am pleased to report that work is already under way to ensure that these are much more than aspirational and have practical action steps in place.

These include: growing our membership in this growing field of integrative oncology; planning for the 2017 conference (read more below), as well as future conferences; increasing our communications to you and to others and taking advantage of the ever-evolving technological and social media vehicles; expanding resources for your use, from webinars, to guidelines, to educational competencies and more; and increasing opportunities for member involvement, such as our committees and the launching of our new special interest groups.

We will be updating you on these actions as the year progresses. Of course, our most important resource is the multi-disciplinary expertise of our association members. I welcome hearing about your areas of interest and ideas.

As always, stay in touch.
Jun J. Mao, MD, MSCE
President

Give to SIO and the Future of Integrative Oncology

Your support of the Society for Integrative Oncology helps advance our mission by developing public and professional resources.

14th International Conference

2017 conference: Mark your calendar for SIO’s 2017 conference

News: Integrative Oncology

MATCH Study: Cancer Knowledge Network is partnering with SIO Vice
to be held **November 12-14** at The Drake hotel in Chicago, Illinois.

The theme will be "Person-Centered Care in Integrative Oncology: Innovations, Impact and Implementation." The conference will be held jointly with Northwestern Medicine Osher Center for Integrative Medicine and the Robert H. Lurie Comprehensive Cancer Center of Northwestern University. Watch for updates.

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**Best of SIO**

Research chosen for the “Best of SIO” for presentation at our [2016 international conference](#) are described in an [ASCO Post](#) article published on December 25.

As the article notes, the abstracts “represent a diverse group of integrative therapies and interventions in the care of patients with cancer, including an oncology massage program integrated into chemotherapy infusion suites; a fatigue-reduction diet for breast cancer survivors; movement therapy to help with pain control in children with neuroblastoma; software to identify medication interactions; and clinical practice guidelines on the use of integrative therapies for breast cancer.” [Read the article](#).

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President Linda Carlson, PhD, RPpsych, and her research team at the University of Calgary and the Princess Margaret Cancer Centre in the [MATCH Study](#), measuring the effects of Mindfulness Meditation and Tai Chi/Qigong on quality of life for cancer survivors.

**Integrative Therapies:** SIO members Alejandro Chaoul, PhD, Lorenzo Cohen, PhD, and Peiying Yang, PhD, were among authors of research on “[A Comprehensive Lifestyle Randomized Clinical Trial: Design and Initial Patient Experience](#)” in the November 30, 2016 *Integrative Cancer Therapies*. SIO members Marie Polley, PhD, member Catherine Zollman, MD, and colleagues authored “[Using a Whole Person Approach to Support People With Cancer: A Longitudinal, Mixed-Methods Service Evaluation](#)” in the December issue.

**Credentialing:** SIO members Wendy Miner, LMT, and Susan Yaguda, MSN, RN, were among colleagues interviewed for the development of a new resource of the Academic Collaborative for Integrative Health on “[Credentialing Licensed Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine Professionals for Practice in Healthcare Organizations: An Overview and Guidance for Hospital Administrators, Acupuncturists and Educators](#).”
Herb of the Month: Cranberry

We chose cranberry for this month’s focus because it is widely used to prevent urinary infections. Read more about cranberry.

The Herb of the Month column is provided, with SIO's thanks, by the Integrative Medicine Service at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, which has developed and maintains a free web site, “About Herbs.”

Yoga - Sleep Disturbance: SIO Founding President Barrie Cassileth, PhD, MS, and colleagues wrote on “Sleep Disruption in Cancer Survivors: Yoga Offers a Low-Risk Intervention With High Potential for Benefit” in the November 25 ASCO Post. The article includes reference to a study by Karen Mustian, PhD, MPH, luncheon speaker at the 2016 SIO conference.

If you have integrative oncology news or studies from your neck of woods that you would like to share with our members, send to: info@integrativeonc.org with “NewsWire” in the subject line.

Events

American Psychosocial Oncology Society Annual Conference - February 15-18, 2017

Society for Acupuncture Research Conference – April 27-29, 2017, San Francisco, California

SIO 14th International Conference - November 12-14, 2017