Introducing Some of the Speakers

15th International Thyroid Cancer Survivors’ Conference
October 19 – 21, 2012
Chicago, Illinois

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Peter Angelos, M.D., Ph.D., Surgeon, is the Linda Kohler Anderson Professor of Surgery; Chief of Endocrine Surgery; and Associate Director of MacLean Center for Clinical Medical Ethics at the University of Chicago Medical Center. He has extensive experience in surgery of the thyroid, parathyroid, and adrenal glands. He is also an expert in treating endocrine cancers. Dr. Angelos has a special interest in minimally invasive endocrine surgery. He has published journal articles and book chapters on his research into improving outcomes of thyroid and parathyroid surgery, minimally invasive endocrine surgery, and best practices for thyroid cancer treatment. He is also a recognized expert in medical ethics, and has written widely on ethical issues in surgical practice and how to best teach medical ethics to surgical residents.

Douglas W. Ball, M.D., Endocrinologist, Johns Hopkins Medical Institutions, Baltimore, Maryland, is a clinician and researcher specializing in Thyroid Cancer, Medullary Thyroid Cancer, and Multiple Endocrine Neoplasia. Dr. Ball is active in developing new therapies for medullary thyroid cancer, and works in this translational research program in collaboration with other researchers and clinicians. Dr. Ball graduated from George Washington University Medical School and completed further training in Internal Medicine and in Endocrinology and Metabolism at the University of Pittsburgh and Johns Hopkins University. He is the author of numerous peer-reviewed medical journal articles and has been a speaker at previous ThyCa educational events. He is a member of ThyCa’s Medical Advisory Council.

Jennifer D. Baralli, A.P.N.-C.N.P., is a Nurse Practitioner in the Nuclear Medicine Department at Northwestern Memorial Hospital in Chicago, Illinois. She has worked in healthcare for more than 20 years and has been in her current role since 2004. She has mentored students and nurses at Northwestern, including a nurse accepted for a hospital Chapman Scholarship focused on improving care of inpatients with thyroid cancer. She recently started and facilitates a new networking group for thyroid cancer patients at Gilda’s Club in Chicago. She earned her Master’s Degree in Nursing from Loyola University in Chicago and is currently a Doctoral student in Nursing at Purdue University.

Andrew J. Bauer, M.D., Endocrinologist, is a specialist in thyroid cancer in children and teens. Dr. Bauer is a Colonel in the Marine Corps of the USA, and is on the staff at Walter Reed Medical Center and the Uniformed Services University, in Bethesda, Maryland, as well as Children’s Hospital in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. He has spoken at previous ThyCa events.
Marcia Brose, M.D., Ph.D., is a Medical Oncologist and Assistant Professor at the Abramson Cancer Center of the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, where she also directs the Cancer Genetics Laboratory and is involved in clinical trials of new treatments for patients with advanced thyroid cancer. Her clinical focus is familial cancer syndromes and cancer risk evaluation, Phase I/II clinical trials, and novel drug target discovery. Her research focuses on genomic characterization of cancers of the head and neck, thyroid, and lung; novel drug target discovery; and the use of genetic testing in the diagnosis, prognostication, and treatment of cancer. Dr. Brose received her bachelor's degree from Amherst College, her medical degree from Cornell University Medical College, and her Ph.D. from The Rockefeller University.

Rebecca Brown, M.D., is an Endocrinologist at the University of Chicago Medical Center, Chicago, Illinois. She graduated from University of Pennsylvania Medical School, with residency and fellowship at the University of Chicago Hospital System. Dr. Brown specializes in thyroid diseases, and diabetes and metabolic disorders, including obesity. She coauthored a study published in Archives of Internal Medicine that investigated the relationship between changes in thyroid function and weight gain.

Monica Fawzy Bryant, Esq., is a Cancer Rights Attorney and Adjunct Law Professor at the John Marshall Law School in Chicago, Illinois. She previously was the Midwest Regional Director of the Cancer Legal Resource Center. Ms. Bryant graduated from the University of California at Santa Barbara in 2003, earning a Bachelor of Arts both in Law and Society and in Psychology. Ms. Bryant earned her law degree in 2006 from The George Washington University Law School.

Naifa Busaidy, M.D., is an Endocrinologist and Assistant Professor in the Department of Endocrine Neoplasia and Hormonal Disorders at the University of Texas M.D. Anderson Cancer Center in Houston, Texas. She is a graduate of Baylor College of Medicine in Houston. She completed postgraduate training at The Royal Hospital and the Sultan Qaboos University Hospital, Oman; Baylor College of Medicine, Houston; and University of Texas M.D. Anderson Cancer Center. She is the author of numerous research articles and book chapters. Dr. Busaidy is also the recipient of one of ThyCa's thyroid cancer research grants.

Maria E. Cabanillas, M.D., Endocrinologist, is Assistant Professor in the Department of Endocrine Neoplasia and Hormonal Disorders at The University of Texas M.D. Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, Texas. Dr. Cabanillas's clinical focus is metastatic thyroid cancer, and her research interests include targeted therapy for metastatic thyroid cancer, as well as supportive care in cancer. She is a graduate of The University of Puerto Rico Medical School. She completed a Residency in Internal Medicine at the University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston, Houston, Texas, and a Fellowship at Baylor College of Medicine, Houston, Texas. She has authored many peer-reviewed journal articles.
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Mark S. Chambers, D.M.D., M.S., is a professor in the Department of Head and Neck Surgery at the University of Texas M.D. Anderson Cancer Center in Houston, Texas, and also serves in the Department of Radiation Oncology at M.D. Anderson Cancer Center. A graduate of the University of Louisville School of Dentistry, he also has a degree in Biological Sciences from the University of Louisville Medical School, and in Chemical Engineering and Biology from Brescia College. He has longstanding positions as Chief of Oncologic Dentistry, Director of the Clinical Research Program, and Director of Rotating Residents in the Surgery Division of the Department of Head and Neck Surgery, as well as Fellowship Coordinator of the Advanced Education Program in Maxillofacial Prosthetics and Oncologic Dentistry. His extensive work with the American Academy of Maxillofacial Prosthetics since 1994 has led to the advancement of the field as well as the development of the Head and Neck Surgery Department at M.D. Anderson Cancer Center. He is a ThyCa Medical Advisor.

Bart L. Clarke, M.D., is an Endocrinologist at Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota, with clinical and research interests in hypoparathyroidism and bone and mineral metabolism. He is a graduate of the David Geffen School of Medicine, University of California, Los Angeles, and completed further training at the Mayo Graduate School of Medicine. His research program focuses on clinical studies of hypoparathyroidism, as well as steroid-induced osteoporosis, transplant-related osteoporosis, age-related osteoporosis, and metabolic bone disease. He has developed collaborative clinical research protocols in these and other areas. Phase III and phase I clinical trials of the new drug parathyroid hormone 1-84 in patients with hypoparathyroidism have just been completed, along with a low-dose parathyroid hormone 1-84 clinical trial, with an extension study from the phase III clinical trial still ongoing.

Ezra E. W. Cohen, M.D., Oncologist, Section of Hematology/Oncology at the University of Chicago Department of Medicine, is also Associate Professor of Medicine and Director of the Hematology/Oncology Fellowship Program. A graduate of the University of Western Ontario with a psychology major, he earned his M.D. degree at the University of Toronto, followed by residencies at Toronto General Hospital and Long Island Jewish Medical Center and a fellowship at the University of Chicago. Dr. Cohen participates in both clinical and laboratory research with a focus on malignancies of the upper aerodigestive tract, especially head and neck cancers. Dr. Cohen has sought to integrate basic research findings into clinical applications to improve patient treatment. His research has included the use of novel therapeutic agents in head and neck cancer as single agents and in combination with chemotherapy and radiotherapy. His clinical focus is thyroid cancer, head and neck cancer, and salivary gland cancers.

Ronald N. Cohen, M.D., Endocrinologist, is Associate Professor of Medicine at the University of Chicago. He specializes in the diagnosis and management of thyroid diseases, with a particular focus on thyroid cancer. Dr. Cohen has authored several book chapters on the management of thyroid diseases, and has presented his work at many conferences. An educator and mentor, Dr. Cohen is co-director of the University of Chicago’s Endocrinology Research Seminar Series. He was awarded the University of Chicago Quantrell Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Education. Dr. Cohen also serves on the editorial boards of the Journal of Biological Chemistry and Frontiers in Pituitary Endocrinology. He is a graduate of Cornell University Medical College, New York, and completed a residency and fellowship at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, Boston, Massachusetts.
Gilbert J. Cote, Ph.D., is Professor in the Department of Professor, Department of Endocrine Neoplasia and Hormonal Disorders at The University of Texas M.D. Anderson Cancer Center. Dr. Cote received his Ph.D. degree in biochemistry from the University of Vermont in 1987 and completed a postdoctoral fellowship in molecular endocrinology at Baylor College of Medicine. He then joined the faculty of Baylor College of Medicine and the Michael E. DeBakey VA Medical Center, before coming to M.D. Anderson Cancer Center in 1992. While at M.D. Anderson, Dr. Cote has been principal investigator, co-investigator, or faculty mentor for many research projects, as well as reviewer for many medical journals and author of numerous articles, editorials, and book chapters.

Jose C. Dutra, M.D., is an Otolaryngologist at Northwestern Memorial Hospital in Chicago, Illinois. His areas of focus are thyroid surgery, cancer, disorders, and nodules; parathyroid surgery, and disorders; and head and neck surgical oncology.

Dina M. Elaraj, M.D., is an Endocrine Surgeon at Northwestern Memorial Hospital in Chicago, Illinois. She is also Assistant Professor in the Section of Endocrine Surgery in the Department of Surgery at Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine. Her clinical interests include thyroid nodules, thyroid cancer, fine needle aspiration/thyroid, and thyroid surgery, including minimally invasive surgery techniques. Dr. Elaraj received her medical degree from the University of Maryland and completed residency training at the University of Rochester Medical Center. She is involved in multiple clinical research projects focusing on improving treatment of endocrine surgical problems.

Douglas B. Evans, M.D., Surgeon, is Professor and Chairman of the Department of Surgery at the University of Wisconsin in Milwaukee. He received his medical training at Boston University School of Medicine, did a fellowship in surgical oncology at the University of Texas M.D. Anderson Cancer Center in Houston, and completed his internship and residency in surgery at Dartmouth Hitchcock Affiliated Hospitals in Hanover, NH. He has been voted one of the Best Doctors in America in surgical oncology.

Gilbert Fareau, M.D., Endocrinologist, is Assistant Professor in the Division of Endocrinology, Metabolism, and Clinical Nutrition at the Medical College of Wisconsin/Froedtert Hospital. His areas of clinical focus include thyroid cancer, multiple endocrine neoplasia, and thyroid and parathyroid disorders. Dr. Fareau received his M.D. degree from Trinity College, University of Dublin, Ireland, and completed his residency through Dartmouth Medical School, followed by a Clinical and Research Fellowship in Endocrinology at Baylor College of Medicine and University of Texas, M.D. Anderson Cancer Center joint program.

Sherrie Flores, R.N.C., W.H.C.N.P.-B.C., is Nurse Practitioner for Dr. Naifa Busaidy and the Thyroid Cancer Survivorship Clinic in the Department of Endocrine Neoplasia and Hormone Disorders at the University of Texas M.D. Anderson Cancer Center in Houston, Texas.
Aime T. Franco, Ph.D., is a Research Scholar and Assistant Professor in the Department of Physiology and Biophysics at the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences (UAMS), Little Rock, Arkansas. She is also a past chairperson of the Associate Member Council of the American Association for Cancer Research. She is the recipient of one of ThyCa’s 2012 thyroid cancer research grants. Dr. Franco’s research focuses on the pathways involved in the initiation and progression of thyroid cancer. She works with physicians to translate laboratory discoveries into clinical care and to determine the challenges in treating thyroid cancer patients. She received her Ph.D. in cancer biology from Vanderbilt University. She has also written about her perspective as a thyroid cancer survivor.

Melanie Goldfarb, M.D., Surgeon, is Assistant Professor at the University of Southern California Norris Cancer Hospital, where she specializes in Surgical Oncology. Her subspecialties and clinical interests are minimally invasive thyroid, parathyroid, adrenal surgery; Pediatric Endocrine Surgery, non-pancreatic neuroendocrine tumors, and ultrasound. She received her education at University of Illinois College of Medicine, Chicago and Brown University, with residency at Beth Israel Deaconess/Harvard Medical School in Boston, Massachusetts, and Clinical Fellowship in endocrine surgery at Jackson Memorial Hospital University of Miami Health System. She recently co-edited The Pocket Surgery Notebook, due to be published later this year.

Ann W. Gramza, M.D., Oncologist, is a Staff Clinician at the National Cancer Institute’s Center for Cancer Research at the National Institutes of Health (NIH) in Bethesda, Maryland. She focuses on translational clinical research studies of new treatments for patients with thyroid cancer. Dr. Gramza received her M.D. from The Ohio State University, completed clinical training in internal medicine and palliative care at the University of New Mexico, and fellowships in hematology and oncology at Oregon Health and Sciences University (OHSU). She held faculty positions at OHSU and Portland Veterans Affairs Medical Center prior to joining the NIH staff.

Raymon Grogan, M.D., Surgeon at the University of Chicago, specializes in the surgical management of thyroid, parathyroid, and adrenal gland diseases as well as benign endocrine gland disorders. He is also involved in clinical, translational, and basic science research, focusing on identifying genetic and proteomic biomarkers in thyroid and adrenal tumors. He graduated from the Miller School of Medicine, University of Miami, and completed residency at Stanford Hospitals and Clinics and the University of California San Francisco.

Bryan R. Haugen, M.D., Endocrinologist, University of Colorado School of Medicine, is Professor of Medicine and Pathology, as well as Head, Division of Endocrinology, Metabolism & Diabetes, and Chair of Endocrine Neoplasms Research. Dr. Haugen’s clinical and research interests focus on thyroid cancer, including molecular therapeutic targets. Specific areas of research include nuclear hormone receptors (RXR, TR, PPAR) and kinase signaling pathways as therapeutic targets in thyroid cancer, as well as proteomic approaches to molecular markers in thyroid neoplasms. He presented a ThyCa Webinar on Thyrogen in September 2012, available on ThyCa's web site. Dr. Haugen is President of the American Thyroid Association. He is a member of ThyCa’s Medical Advisory Council.
Mimi I. Hu, M.D., Endocrinologist, is Assistant Professor, and Director of the Bone Healthcare Program in the Department of Endocrine Neoplasia and Hormonal Disorders at the University of Texas M.D. Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, Texas. She is also Clinical Assistant Professor at Texas A&M Health Science Center College of Medicine in Houston. Her clinical interests include thyroid cancer, multiple endocrine neoplasia Types 1 and 2, bone and mineral metabolism disorders, parathyroid disorders, pituitary tumors, and endocrine sequelae of cancer and its therapies. She graduated from University of Texas-Houston Health Science Center, with postgraduate training at University of Texas-Houston Medical School and Baylor College of Medicine.

Julie Hunsaker has been associated with the Hypoparathyroidism Association for many years and is participating in the hypoparathyroidism session at this year's conference.

Nick Isenberg, Documentary Film Producer, has been a news reporter/photographer for 34 years, with credits in television, radio, and print media. He is a thyroid cancer survivor. He developed his documentary, “Thyroid Cancer’s Magic Bullet,” in cooperation with specialist physicians and other professionals and numerous thyroid cancer survivors. The 62-minute film is designed to help patients and caregivers see, hear, and understand what to expect before, during, and after receiving radioactive iodine, and includes experts’ answers to dozens of questions. The documentary had its premiere showing at the 2010 conference. Nick has also initiated the ThyCa Western Slopes Support Group in Glenwood Springs, Colorado. His experience in photography and writing includes travel to Mount Everest.

Adam Kabaker, M.D., Surgeon at Loyola University Medical Center in Chicago, Illinois, is also Assistant Professor of Surgery. His areas of interest include thyroid and parathyroid disease and disorders, thyroid cancer, thyroid disorders, and thyroid surgery. He received his medical degree from Rush Medical College of Rush University, followed by residency at Loyola University Medical Center in Chicago and a fellowship in Endocrine Surgery at the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center in Pennsylvania.

Edwin L. Kaplan, M.D., Endocrine Surgeon, University of Chicago Medical Center, is also Professor of Surgery. He is an expert in surgical management of thyroid, parathyroid, endocrine, pancreatic, and adrenal diseases. He is editor of two books about the thyroid and also has authored many book chapters, research articles, and other publications. He serves as a governor of the American College of Surgeons and is past president of the American Association of Endocrine Surgeons. He has been a visiting professor at medical schools in Europe, Asia and Australia. A graduate of the University of Pennsylvania Medical School, he completed his internship at Mt. Sinai Hospital in New York and residency at Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania.
Peter A Kopp, M.D., Endocrinologist, is Associate Professor of Medicine at Northwestern University’s Feinberg School of Medicine, as well as Interim Director of the Center for Genetic Medicine. Dr. Kopp earned his M.D. at the University of Berne, Switzerland, where he was an attending physician and researcher until moving to the United States in 1993. He completed a fellowship at Northwestern McGaw/Northwestern Memorial Hospital. His clinical activities focus mainly on thyroid dysfunction and thyroid cancer, and his research interests focus mainly on the genetic basis of endocrine disorders, in particular inborn errors of thyroid development and thyroid hormone synthesis.

Mario E. Lacoutoure, M.D., is a board-certified Dermatologist at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center in New York, NY. He has a special interest in dermatologic conditions that result from cancer treatments, including the recognition and management of side effects affecting the skin, hair, and nails of cancer patients and survivors. Dr. Lacoutoure received his medical degree from Javeriana University in Colombia, with residencies at Cleveland Clinic Foundation and University of Chicago Hospital, and a fellowship at Brigham and Women’s Hospital, and service on the attending staff at Northwestern University’s Feinberg School of Medicine.

Cheri Lindle, M.Ed., of Tulsa, Oklahoma, is a Trainer, Educator, and CEO of C3 Consulting. She has a Bachelor’s Degree in Sociology from Oklahoma State University and Master’s Degree in Experiential Education from Minnesota State University at Mankato. She has worked in the field of experiential training and development for 25 years. Her experience includes challenge course facilitator with high-risk youth, challenge course director at an acute care adolescent psychiatric hospital, HR Director, Senior Management Trainer, and Corporate Consultant. Cheri has also taught Sociology/Psychology at Tulsa Community College since 1999. Cheri founded and co-moderates the Anaplastic Thyroid Cancer E-Mail Support Group.

Bryan McIver, M.B., Ph.D., F.R.C.P., Endocrinologist, is with the Thyroid Group in the Division of Endocrinology at Mayo Clinic, Rochester, Minnesota. He has extensive experience treating patients with thyroid diseases, specifically those faced with aggressive thyroid cancers. He also runs a research lab, working on thyroid cancer genetics and new treatments for patients with thyroid cancer. He has received numerous awards and honors. He graduated Summa Cum Laude in Medical Sciences from the University of Edinburgh in Scotland, received his Ph.D. in Physiology and Biophysics from the University of Vermont; and his M.B. Ch.B. Faculty of Medicine at the University of Edinburgh. He is a member of the American Thyroid Association’s Thyroid Cancer Guidelines Development Group. He is a member of ThyCa’s Medical Advisory Council.

Sigfrido Miracle-Lopez, M.D., FACE, FACP, Endocrinologist, is Chief of Endocrinology at the Hospital Angeles de las Lomas in Mexico and has held this position since 2002. He is also the Teaching Program Director at the Hospital Star Medica Lomas Verdes; Principal Investigator, Diabetes and Metabolism division of the Clinistile Mexico, and Director of the Clinica de Endocrinologia Integral. Born in Mexico City, Mexico, he received the European Baccalaureate in France in 1990, earned his M.D. from Universidad Anahuac, School of Medicine in 1995, followed by residency and fellowship at Centro Medico Nacional Siglo XXI (Mexican Institute of the Social Security). He is currently studying in a M.Sc. program in Family Sciences at Instituto Superior de Estudios de la Familia. He is the author of more than 20 articles, abstracts, and book chapters on Thyrogen, fine needle aspiration of the thyroid, and other topics.
Poornima Nayakanti, Meditation Teacher, has been a student of Raja Yoga Meditation since 2007. She enjoys finding new ways of bringing this spiritual knowledge into practicality. She also teaches Raja Yoga Foundation courses for beginners and facilitates values classes for children. She has a B.S. in Electronics Engineering from Bangalore University, India. Her professional life involves helping to manage administrative operations of an IT consulting company.

Daniel A. Pryma, M.D., Nuclear Medicine Physician, is Chief of Nuclear Medicine/Molecular Imaging Modality Chief in the Department of Radiology for the University of Pennsylvania Health System, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. He is also Assistant Professor of Radiology as well as Program Director, Nuclear Medicine Residency, at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania. He earned his M.D. degree at Loyola University Chicago Stritch School of Medicine and completed postgraduate training at Loyola University Medical Center and Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center.

Matthew D. Ringel, M.D., Endocrinologist, is a thyroid cancer specialist and professor at The Ohio State University Hospital and Research Institute. His research focuses on the molecular mechanisms involved in thyroid cancer invasion and new drug testing for thyroid cancer treatment. The focus of his group has been on clarifying the role of the PI3 kinase/Akt pathway in cancer invasion and metastasis, and on identification of novel endogenous metastasis inhibitor pathways in thyroid cancer. He earned his M.D. degree at Pennsylvania State University, followed by internship and residency at Georgetown University, and a fellowship at Johns Hopkins University. Dr. Ringel is a ThyCa Medical Advisor.

Carol Sanders, Idaho Falls, Idaho, is a volunteer and board member of the Hypoparathyroidism Association, a nonprofit organization providing support and education for people affected by hypoparathyroidism. The Links section of ThyCa’s web site has a link to the web site of the Hypoparathyroidism Association. The Hypoparathyroidism Association, Inc. is a voluntary, non-profit organization that provides education and support for people with all forms of Hypoparathyroidism, which can result from the removal of or damage to the parathyroid glands during thyroid surgery, as well as from other causes. ThyCa and the Hypoparathyroidism Association are working collaboratively together to try to reduce the incidence of postsurgical hypoparathyroidism.

Peter Setabutr, M.D., Ophthalmologist, is Assistant Professor of Ophthalmology and Director, Oculoplastic & Reconstructive Surgery Service Director of the Oculoplastics and Reconstructive Surgery at the University of Illinois College of Medicine. His clinical and research interests include diseases related to the eyelids and orbit. He is a member of the American Society of Oculoplastic and Reconstructive Surgery (ASOPRS) and has authored numerous research publications in the field of Oculoplastics. He earned his M.D. at the University of Texas-Houston Medical School, followed by residency in Ophthalmology at University of Texas-Houston Medical School, and fellowship in Oculoplastic and Reconstructive Surgery at the Illinois Eye and Ear Infirmary.
Manisha H. Shah, M.D., Oncologist, is Associate Professor at the Ohio State University College of Medicine. Her clinical research interests include thyroid cancer, neuroendocrine cancers, and adrenal cancers. Her group focuses on discovering new targeted therapies and conducts phase II-III clinical trials, leading many national studies. The group also conducts pre-clinical studies to learn types of drugs and combination of drugs and apply that knowledge to design clinical trials. Dr. Shah is the author of numerous articles. She is a ThyCa Medical Advisor.

Steven I. Sherman, M.D., Endocrinologist, is Chair of the Department of Endocrine Neoplasia and Hormonal Disorders at the University of Texas, M.D. Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, Texas, where he is also a Professor. He is also Adjunct Associate Professor of Medicine at Baylor College of Medicine. A Magna Cum Laude graduate of Harvard College, he received his M.D. from Johns Hopkins School of Medicine, followed by internship, residency, and fellowship at Johns Hopkins Hospital, Baltimore, Maryland, and 3 years as a Clinical Associate Physician, National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, Maryland. His research interests include novel therapies for thyroid carcinoma and recombinant human TSH. He is coauthor of the American Thyroid Association Guidelines on Differentiated Thyroid Cancer and a Board Member of the American Thyroid Association. He is also a member of ThyCa’s Medical Advisory Council.

Jennifer A. Sipos, M.D., Endocrinologist, is a thyroid cancer clinician at The Ohio State University College of Medicine in Columbus, Ohio. Dr. Sipos has authored numerous journal articles and serves as a member of the National Cancer Institute’s Physician Data Query Cancer Genetics Editorial Board. Following her graduation from medical school, Dr. Sipos completed a residency at Wake Forest University Baptist Medical Center and a fellowship at the University of North Carolina Hospitals. She formerly served as a member of the staff at the University of Florida, where she worked closely with ThyCa Medical Advisor and Endocrinologist, Ernest L. Mazzaferri, M.D.

Robert C. Smallridge, M.D., Endocrinologist, is Chair of Endocrinology at the Mayo Clinic, Jacksonville, Florida, where he focuses on thyroid cancer and other thyroid diseases as well as pituitary tumors. He is also Professor of Medicine. He chairs the Anaplastic Thyroid Cancer Guidelines Task Force of the American Thyroid Association. A graduate of the Medical College of Virginia in Richmond, Dr. Smallridge completed further training at Grady Memorial Hospital, Atlanta, Georgia, and Walter Reed Army Medical Center, Washington, D.C.

Julie Ann Sosa, M.D., M.A., is an Endocrine and Oncologic Surgeon and Associate Professor of Surgery at Yale University School of Medicine, New Haven, Connecticut. She is principal investigator or co-principal investigator of studies of new drug treatments for differentiated thyroid cancer (papillary/follicular), medullary thyroid cancer, and anaplastic thyroid cancer. Following undergraduate education at Princeton University, she received a master’s degree in Human Sciences at the University of Oxford in the United Kingdom and her medical degree from Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, Baltimore, Maryland. She received postgraduate training at Johns Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore, Maryland, as well as John Radcliffe and Churchill Hospitals, Oxford, England. She is a frequent invited lecturer and course leader/instructor for professional audiences. She is a member of ThyCa’s Medical Advisory Council.
Cord Sturgeon, M.D., Surgeon, is Associate Professor in Surgery at Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine in Chicago, Illinois. He focuses on thyroid cancer, endocrine surgery, fine needle aspiration of the thyroid, and thyroid and endocrine disorders. He earned his M.D. degree at the University of Illinois - Chicago, followed by residency at the University of Illinois Hospital and fellowship at the University of California Medical Center in Mount Zion. He is the author of numerous articles.

Beatriz Tendler, M.D., is an Endocrinologist and Assistant Professor of Medicine at the University of Connecticut Health Center, Farmington, Connecticut, where her special focus is endocrine tumors. A graduate of Central University, Venezuela, she did her residency at Michael Reese Hospital and Medical Center, Chicago, Illinois, plus fellowship training at the University of Illinois College of Medicine and University of Connecticut School of Medicine. She speaks fluent English and Spanish.

Daniel J. Toft, M.D., Ph.D., is an Endocrinologist at Northwestern Memorial Hospital in Chicago, Illinois. His clinical interests are thyroid cancer, thyroid disorders, fine needle aspiration of the thyroid, and adrenal disorders. He earned his M.D. at Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine, followed by residency and fellowship at Northwestern McGaw/Northwestern Memorial Hospital.

Mark L. Urken, M.D., Otolaryngologist, is Chief, Division of Head and Neck Surgical Oncology, Department of Otolaryngology, at Beth Israel Medical Center in New York City, New York, as well as Co-Director of Beth Israel's Institute for Head and Neck and Thyroid Cancer. He is also Director of Head and Neck Surgical Oncology of Continuum Cancer Centers of New York. He has authored two books and numerous articles on surgery and has lectured in over 20 countries on head and neck cancer, surgery, and thyroid and parathyroid diseases. He also serves as president and medical director of the THANC Foundation (Thyroid, Head and Neck Cancer).

Lynn Waldmann, L.C.S.W., has been Senior Social Work Counselor at the University of Texas M.D. Anderson Cancer Center in Houston since 2000. She conducts clinical counseling with individuals and families to promote positive adjustment to cancer diagnosis and treatment and facilitate adherence to treatment, self-determination, and exploring choices. Previously she has served as a clinical social worker with children, adolescents, adults, and families in hospital and community-based settings. She is a graduate of Good Counsel College and Hunter College Graduate School of Social Work.

Tracy S. Wang, M.D., M.P.H., Endocrine Surgeon, is Assistant Professor at the Medical College of Wisconsin, as well as Program Director of the Endocrine Surgery Fellowship. She is Co-Chair of the Fellowship Committee of the American Association of Endocrine Surgeons and is a reviewer for many medical journals. She earned her M.D. at Albert Einstein College of Medicine of Yeshiva University in Bronx, New York, and her Master’s in Public Health at the Mailman School of Public Health at Columbia University, New York, New York. She completed her residency at Long Island Jewish Medical Center, New Hyde Park, New York and a fellowship at Yale University, Yale-New Haven Hospital, New Haven, Connecticut.
Samuel A. Wells, M.D., Surgeon, is Senior Clinician and Director of the Thyroid Clinical Research Program in the Medical Oncology Branch at the Center for Cancer Research at the National Cancer Institute (NCI), National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, Maryland. His career has focused on research and treatment for medullary thyroid cancer, including Multiple Endocrine Neoplasia syndromes. His primary focus is the study of molecular targeted therapeutics. Dr. Wells received his M.D. from Emory University, followed by a residency at Duke University. From 1981 to 1998 he was Chair of the Department of Surgery at Washington University School of Medicine. He was a Clinical Associate, and later a Senior Investigator, in the Surgery Branch of the NCI. He was also a Guest Investigator at the Karolinska Institute in Stockholm, Sweden.

Laura S. Wood, R.N., M.S.N., O.C.N., is a Renal Cancer Research Coordinator at the Cleveland Clinic Taussig Cancer Center in Cleveland, Ohio. She has presented multiple times at local, national, and international levels on a wide variety of oncology-related topics, including biotherapy and newer targeted therapies. She works collaboratively with her fellow team members in the hematology and oncology department. She is a past recipient of the Excellence in Biotherapy Nursing Award of the Oncology Nursing Society. She also has been published in the Oncology Nursing Forum, Journal of Clinical Oncology, Clinical Journal of Oncology Nursing, American Journal of Nursing, and Biotherapy, and others. As part of her work as a faculty member for Cleveland State University, she has also helped to mentor other nurses for the specialty of oncology and the role of biotherapy. Her article titled “Managing the Side Effects of Sorafenib and Sunitinib,” published in Community Oncology, is available in the Links section of ThyCa’s web site.