

NOSEnews

JANUARY 2022



President's Report

Rodney J. Schlosser
MD, FARS

We had a great Fall Meeting Program

in Los Angeles and the highpoint was getting to see friends and colleagues in person! The highlight of the meeting was our TWO David W. Kennedy Lecturers. Lou Shipley kicked off our meeting with a stimulating and thought provoking discussion on *“Leveraging disruptive technology in a post-pandemic world”*. Our meeting was concluded by David W. Kennedy, MD, FARS himself, reflecting upon more than 3 decades of experience in his career in rhinology. In honor of David’s retirement from operating and his lifelong service to the American Rhinologic Society (ARS), the Board of Directors is awarding David the inaugural ARS Lifetime Achievement Award.

Our panels were outstanding and included an ARS/AAOA panel on the burden of rising healthcare costs, the role of the rhinologist in sleep disorders (an upcoming ICAR), and a couple of ARS initiatives exploring rhinology worldwide/humanitarian efforts and building a successful rhinology practice with insights from private practice rhinologists.

We also heard updates on all the fantastic activities being conducted behind the scenes at the ARS. This includes, but is not limited to awarding the most research funding dollars in our history, a significant expansion and reorganization of our educational

[continued on pg 2]



Don't miss the ARS Summer Sinus Symposium in Miami Beach, Florida on July 29-31, 2022! *See details inside.*

IN THIS ISSUE:

PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS

EXECUTIVE VP REPORT

SKULL BASE & ORBITAL SURGERY

COSM 2022 PREVIEW

EDUCATION REPORT

IFAR HIGHLIGHTS

WOMEN IN RHINOLOGY

MENTORSHIP UPDATE

CORPORATE PARTNERS NEWS

FRIENDS IN RESEARCH

SUMMER SINUS SYMPOSIUM DETAILS

DIVERSITY & INCLUSION REPORT



Executive Vice President's Report

Michael G. Stewart MD, MPH, FARS, Executive Vice President, American Rhinologic Society

Happy 2022 to American Rhinologic Society (ARS) members and fellows! I am pleased to report that the ARS continues to prosper, despite the many challenges we have faced in the last two years. Our Annual Meeting in Los Angeles was a great success, with good attendance, a great scientific program, a rewarding social program, and no Covid-related issues. Of course, that followed our successful Summer Sinus Symposium in Austin.

Back in January 2020 – right before the world changed – we initiated a five-year Strategic Plan addressing all aspects of the Society. Despite the challenges we have faced, we are making excellent progress toward our strategic goals. Our financial status is solid, and our investment strategy gives us stability and the ability to support some of our research initiatives from stable investment income, in addition to our successful Friends in Research program. Our research program has expanded as well. Our membership is stable and we have plans for expanding that. Following the success of the Women in Rhinology Section, we have two new Sections for members

with subspecialty interest: Allergy in Rhinology, and Skull Base and Orbital Surgery. Our international activities have necessarily been limited because of meeting and travel issues, however several ARS members and officers did participate in the European Rhinologic Society meeting in Thessaloniki, Greece, and we look forward to re-kindling our many international relationships very soon. Our inaugural Vice President for Development and Strategic Initiatives, Dr. Brent Senior, has done a terrific job of maintaining our crucial relationships with our supportive industry partners. We have revamped and expanded the membership and governance of our Education Committee, which

is now led by Dr. Raj Sindwani, so you can look forward to continued enhancements to our educational offerings.

Our elected leadership – Drs. Rod Schlosser, Joe Han, Sarah Wise, Pete Batra, Kevin Welch, Rick Chandra, and Jivianne Lee – as well as our Board of Directors, do wonderful work supporting the Society. I would also like to recognize our first Diversity Officer, Dr. Troy Woodard, and our Diversity and Inclusion Committee for the great work they have done in the past 18 months.

Thank you again for your support of the ARS, and I look forward to seeing you at future meetings!

Healthcare Committee and Coding Update

R. Peter Manes, MD, FARS – Chair, American Rhinologic Society Patient Advocacy Committee (PAC)



Physician Payment

The American Rhinologic Society (ARS), aside the American Medical Association (AMA) and the house of medicine, worked to avert the almost

9.75% Medicare payment cuts scheduled to go into effect January 1, 2022. President Biden signed into law the Protecting Medicare and American Farmers from Sequester Cuts Act, which was enacted on December 9, 2021. The law included provisions that “patched” 3% of the 3.75% conversion factor cut that was scheduled to go into effect January 1, 2022. The law also implemented a delay in resuming the 2% Medicare sequester for three months (1/1/22 – 3/31/22), followed by a reduction to 1% for three months (4/1/22 – 6/30/22). Finally, the legislation erased the 4% Medicare PAY-GO cut and prevented any additional PAY-GO cuts through 2022.

ARS continues to work with medical specialty society colleagues to mitigate the negative impact on physician payments in freestanding centers as a direct result of CMS’ recent updates to clinical labor inputs in the practice expense methodology. The coalition of specialties, who met with the White House and the Office of Management and Budget (OMG) on these issues at the end of last year, hope to get relief from the disproportionate cuts to freestanding centers this year.

Payer Relations

ARS continues to advocate for fair and appropriate coverage of rhinologic procedures. ARS, along with the Academy of Otolaryngology – Head and Neck Surgery, met with United Health Care to discuss their Functional Endoscopic Sinus Surgery (FESS) policy and the CT scoring requirements. ARS and the Academy established a workgroup to develop updated recommendations to United in the hopes of overturning their existing policy.

ARS also submitted a letter to AmeriHealth recommending changes to their computer-assisted sinus surgery policy. The policy states that stereotactic navigation is considered standard of care when added to general endoscopic sinus surgery, therefore is not separately reimbursable as an add-on to procedures.

President's Report, cont'd.

efforts and the initiation of the ARS International Rhinology Award kindly endowed by Alan Shikhani, MD, FARS.

Our society is thriving and growing and it is exciting to see such energy and enthusiasm when we gather in person. We look forward to seeing everyone in Dallas for the 2022 ARS Spring Meeting.



ARS Spring Meeting at COSM - A Preview

Sarah K. Wise, MD, MSCR, President Elect and Program Chair

We are now learning to live with the ups and downs of COVID. With excellent planning and appropriate safety precautions, the American Rhinologic Society (ARS) had two fantastic in-person meetings in the latter half of 2021 – the Summer Sinus Symposium in Austin, and the Annual Meeting in Los Angeles, CA. Building upon the success of these meetings, we are excited about the 2022 ARS Spring Meeting at COSM.

The ARS Spring Meeting will take place April 28-29 at the Hyatt Regency in Dallas, TX. Known for excellent scientific presentations, the 2022 ARS Spring Meeting will not disappoint! We have over 55 scientific oral presentations and over 100 posters planned for the meeting. The abstract review committee deserves significant recognition – these individuals worked diligently to grade numerous submitted abstracts in a timely fashion, ensuring a high-quality scientific program for our attendees. Scientific oral presentations will cover COVID-19 Olfactory Disturbance, Rhinologic Procedures and Sinus Surgery, Skull Base, Systemic Conditions with Rhinologic Manifestations, CRS Pathophysiology, Symptom Burden and Social Determinants of Health, as well as the Top Clinical and Top Basic Science Abstract presentations.

As part of the ARS Spring Meeting, we are excited for a Thursday afternoon keynote lecture by Dr. Wayne Sotile on the topic of “Resilience” which will be co-sponsored and simultaneously broadcast by the ALA and AHNS. We look forward to learning from expert panels on Cystic Fibrosis, Ergonomics in Sinus and Skull Base Surgery, Allergic Fungal Rhinosinusitis, and Skull Base Surgery Considerations Across the Lifespan. Short, high-yield sessions titled “Targeted Conversations on Important Topics” will also be presented. These sessions will feature discussions between early-mid career rhinologists and several ARS past presidents on pertinent areas of rhinology – Biologics for Nasal Polyposis, Social Media, Humanitarian Efforts, Managing the Orbit in Invasive Fungal Sinusitis, Frontal Sinus Osteoplastic Flap vs. Draf III, and more.

Thursday’s scientific session will be capped off with the ARS Welcome Reception. Friday morning will get started with a breakfast session on “The Medical Family” presented by guest speaker Wayne Sotile, PhD – co-sponsored by the Women in Rhinology and the Diversity and Inclusion Committee. Many thanks in advance to our speakers, planners, and attendees. We look forward to seeing you in Dallas!

COSM 2022 | April 28-29, 2022 Hyatt Regency Dallas, Dallas, TX

Meeting Highlights:

- Keynote speaker, Wayne Sotile, PhD, Combined Session - ARS, ALA, AHNS
- Expert panels Cutting edge research
- Poster presentations



COSM Registration Open: <https://www.american-rhinologic.org/2022-cosm-meeting>

International Forum of Allergy & Rhinology Update



The *IFAR* Editorial Leadership is excited to share some exciting news and new features. First, our **Impact Factor** continues to rise, now **3.858** ranking *IFAR* #2 in Otorhinolaryngology and #1 in Rhinology. Our submission numbers also soared to a new record nearly 20% over last year. Despite this growth in submissions, we are proud that our **time to first decision** has continued to decrease and is **now under 10 days** –the most expeditious journal in the field! We look forward to working with you to make *IFAR* the informational centerpiece for cutting edge discovery and innovation, best practices, and commentary and debate, for clinicians and researchers worldwide with interest in the fields of rhinology, allergy, cranial base and associated disorders.

We have some other exciting things we want to share with you:

- International Consensus Statements (ICAR) documents can be found at our website for your review including the NEW ICAR: Rhinosinusitis 2021 <https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/journal/20426984>
- We have continued to gather COVID-19 resources for you, and have housed them all on our website for easy access: <https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/journal/20426984/covid19>
- Our PODCAST series continues to be downloaded in record numbers. Check our podcast homepage for updates: <https://www.scopeitoutpodcast.com>
- CME for reviewers! Details at <https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/page/journal/20426984/homepage/cmeforreviewers>
- Follow us on Twitter @IFAR_Journal
- *IFAR* has added new manuscript categories for submission! Please see Author Guidelines for complete details: <https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/journal/20426984>

Wishing you the best in all of your endeavors!

Timothy L Smith, MD, MPH, *Editor-in-Chief*

Associate Editors: Ben Bleier, MD; Stacey Gray, MD; Robert Kern, MD; Sandra Lin, MD; Amber Luong, MD, PhD; Rod Schlosser, MD; Zach Soler, MD, MS; Justin Turner MD, PhD; Kevin Welch, MD; Sarah Wise, MD

Allergy and Immunology in Rhinology (AIR) Report

Joshua Levy, MD, MPH, FARS, Chair; Jean Kim, MD, PhD, FARS, Chair Elect; Lauren Roland, MD, MSCI, FARS, Information Officer

The Allergy and Immunology in Rhinology Section (AIR) recently voted in general council members at the AIR section meeting in Los Angeles.

Elected officers include: Chair – Joshua Levy, MD, MPH, FARS, Chair-elect – Jean Kim, MD, PhD, FARS, Financial officer – Kent Lam, MD, FARS, and Information officer – Lauren Roland, MD, MSCI, FARS.

We continue to promote an increased awareness of allergy and immunology in sinus disease, and have recently published two Viewpoints in *IFAR* entitled “Biologics for chronic

rhinosinusitis with nasal polyps: Economics and ethics” and “*What is Allergic Fungal Sinusitis: A Call to Action.*” We are hoping to use both viewpoints as springboards for discussion and additional work on these important topics. To that end, we are excited to promote the recently approved panel on AFRS that will take place at this spring’s COSM meeting. This work will then culminate in a multidisciplinary workgroup to better define, diagnose, study and treat this unique endotype of chronic rhinosinusitis with nasal polyps.

Additionally, we are in the planning stages of a third area of research highly relevant to our section. With the recent worsening of climate change around the world, we are interested in the relationship of severe weather events to allergic rhinitis, chronic sinusitis, and asthma.

We are proud of the AIR section and our exciting work! We invite anyone interested to join us. All ARS members in good standing are eligible to participate in AIR leadership and activities.

Visit <https://www.american-rhinologic.org/allergy-immunology-in-rhinology-section> to learn more and complete a membership form.

Summer Sinus Symposium Update

Course Directors: Greg Davis, MD, FARS; Marc Dubin, MD, FARS; Doug Reh, MD, FARS

The Austin Summer Sinus Symposium 2021 was a huge success with nearly 400 colleagues and 200 exhibitors attending this event in person. After nearly two years of Zoom meetings, we were finally able to see each other in person, interact with engaging panels, and socialize with our friends.

What's next? Summer Sinus Symposium in Miami, July 29-31, 2022. This is going to be our final meeting as chairs of

this event, and we are going to wrap up our tenure in style! Expect to have a full program with additional new panels on allergy and skull base surgery. South Beach Miami is an incredible venue with world-class dining and entertainment.

Put on your flip flops and block out your schedule to attend "*The Best Sinus Course in The World*".

See you there!



11TH Annual
**SUMMER
SINUS
SYMPOSIUM**
American Rhinologic Society



*Best Sinus Course in the World:
Improving Rhinology from Office to OR*

July 29-31, 2022
Loews Miami Beach, Miami Beach, FL

Registration & Housing opens: February 7, 2022
Registration: <https://www.american-rhinologic.org/upcoming-ars-meetings>



ARS Diversity and Inclusion Committee Report

Troy D. Woodard MD, FACS, FARS; Diversity and Inclusion Committee Chair

The Diversity and Inclusion Committee (DE&I) of the American Rhinologic Society (ARS)

has been actively working on its mission, which includes striving to improve the inclusion and participation of diverse members at all levels including in committees and leadership and in educational offerings and research support.

During the fall 2021 ARS board meeting, the DE&I Committee presented demographic data of 8 of the 17 ARS committees (the remaining data will be presented at winter 2022 board meeting). These demographic data were compared to that of the ARS membership. It was noted that compared to the ARS membership, there was a lack of

diversity on many of the committees. The DE&I committee will continue to promote awareness of the problem and encourage more ARS members to apply for membership to the various committees. This will allow for a larger more diverse pool of applicants to choose from when selecting the next slate of committee members.

Additional areas of focus for the DE&I committee are to provide diverse educational offerings and quality CME programming on pertinent topics that will further enlighten physicians and enhance patient care. We will be Co-sponsoring a breakfast symposium with Women in Rhinology at COSM. Wayne Sotile, PhD, with respect to cultural diversity, will discuss how to maintain balance, resilience, and thrive in your medical family. Additionally, the DE&I committee

will sponsor a panel presentation at the Summer Sinus Symposium on July 30th 8:00-8:45 am entitled: *Multifaceted Approach to Increase Access, Care, and Research For A More Diverse and Inclusive Patient Population.*

Finally, the DE&I committee will continue to work with the Development Committee to fundraise for a named lectureship, travel grants for URiM medical students and residents to attend ARS meetings, and research grants for health disparities research and/or underrepresented minority physicians. We look forward to another exciting and engaging year. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us at Diversity@american-rhinologic.org!

Skull Base and Orbital Surgery - New Section

The Board of the American Rhinologic Society (ARS) recently approved the creation of the Skull Base and Orbital Surgery Section. The Section is proud to have a vibrant membership of individuals interested in advancing the care of patients with skull base and complex orbital pathology.

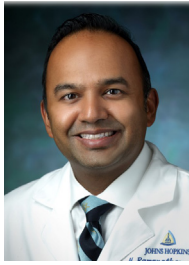
Through a collaborative approach and active membership, the Section actively contributes to the ARS in numerous capacities. Most notably, there has been an increased emphasis on Society content as it pertains to skull base and complex orbital pathology with plans for thoughtful panels at the upcoming national meetings augmented by Viewpoint Articles, Expert Practice Statements, and

International Consensus Statements within the *International Forum of Allergy and Rhinology*.

It is the purposeful intent of the Section to serve as a platform for members of the Society to impact and enhance the Society through educational efforts, multi-institutional research collaboration, and best evidence-based practices. As such,

the Section welcomes all members of the ARS to join. There is significant opportunity for individuals at all levels to become rapidly involved in an array of on-going efforts. Moreover, the collaborative spirit of the Section fosters meaningful interactions that have already impacted current and future thought-leaders in the field.





Mentorship Committee Update

Murray Ramanathan, MD, FACS, FARS, Chair, American Rhinologic Society Mentorship Program

The Mentorship Committee is excited to announce 2 new programs for 2022.

The Early Career mentorship program, created in partnership with Josh Levy and the Residents/Fellows Committee will allow practicing rhinologists to mentor Otolaryngology residents and rhinology fellows. The mid-career mentorship program will focus on rhinologists in practice for greater than 6 years and will have the great fortune of mentorship from the former Presidents of the American Rhinologic Society (ARS). Thank you to Joe Han and the Leadership of the ARS for

creating this wonderful opportunity. We have had a tremendous level of interest in the general mentorship program and hope to announce pairings in the new year.

Our Committee has taken over the ARS Mentored Pilot Research Award supported by corporate support from GSK working closely with Corinna Levine. The purpose of this special award is to provide \$10,000 pilot funding and carefully selected mentorship to promising applicants who applied for ARS sponsored faculty research grants but did not receive funding. This award is currently supporting 3 Principal

Investigators for 2020-2021: Jivianne Lee, Nyssa Farrell, and Tran Locke. Congratulations to these promising investigators and we look forward to following their progress and new grant submissions.

Lastly, our committee co-sponsored a well-attended mentorship Rhinocast along with Women in Rhinology which featured a panel of distinguished rhinologists imparting their wisdom on the mentor-mentee relationship and how to increase sponsorship. We hope to continue to sponsor similar panels in the future highlighting how to effectively mentor and receive mentorship.

save the date



ARS FELLOWS COURSE: Advanced Sinus and Skull Base Surgery Course

Dates: May 12-14, 2022

Location: Evanston, IL

Registration: https://www.american-rhinologic.org/2022_fellows_course

ARS Fellows Course Directors

Joseph Han, MD
Eastern Virginia Medical School

Seth Brown, MD
University of Connecticut

Joey Raviv, MD
University of Chicago

Dear Rhinology Fellow,

We would like to invite you to our 2022 Advanced Sinus and Skull Base Course. The course is designed with interactive and practical lectures, a full day of hands-on cadaveric dissection, and networking opportunities with the faculty and your peers. The program has been specifically designed with your needs in mind.

This educational event is sponsored by the American Rhinologic Society, KARL STORZ Endoscopy-America, Inc. and Medtronic.

Masks and proof of full COVID vaccination required.

Hope to see you there!
Joseph Han, MD
HanJK@EVMS.edu



Friends in Research Campaign

We want to express our sincere thanks for the generous donations to the **2021 ARS Friends in Research Campaign**. We again launch our quest to raise money for research with the 2022 ARS Friends in Research Campaign. With your support, we can continue to fund the studies that provide clinical insights valuable to the care of our patients.

In the past, these efforts have helped to establish the ARS and its members as the leaders in rhinologic research. This work not only advances the care of our patients through scientific innovation, but also generates important data establishing the efficacy and cost effectiveness of our care.

In the current financial landscape, this is equally important to ensure that our patients have access to the treatment necessary to address their complaints. We thank you again for your help in this worthy endeavor.

2021 Friends in Research Fund Supporters

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Carol Yan, MD

(As of 12/31/21)

ARS Corporate Partners Group

The American Rhinologic Society would like to express our deepest thanks and appreciation to the participants of our Corporate Partners Program. Our corporate partnerships have been invaluable in their support of ARS initiatives to promote excellence in rhinology and skull base surgery. Through our ongoing collaborative relationships, we hope to continue to mutually develop exciting and lasting opportunities for our members to enhance education, investigation, clinical care, and patient advocacy in the future.



The American Rhinologic Society would like to thank our 2021 Corporate Partners Group for their support:

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Benefits of ARS Membership

Membership in the American Rhinologic Society provides critical support that strengthens its ability to speak out on behalf of you, and all those practicing rhinology. The ARS promotes excellence in clinical care, investigation and education in Rhinology.

The ARS is dedicated to providing communication and fellowship to its members through ongoing continuing medical education, economic and social programs.

Your membership in the ARS places you in a highly respected professional organization that has a significant and far-reaching impact on the subspecialty of Rhinology. The ARS is dedicated to promoting excellence in clinical care, investigation, education, and patient advocacy in the field of rhinology.

Membership benefits include:

- Complimentary subscription to the Society's prestigious peer-reviewed journal, International Forum of Allergy and Rhinology
- Opportunity to join leadership and participate in standing committees of the Society to develop and implement programs to advance the interests of the specialty
- Networking in the largest group of Rhinologists worldwide
- Discounted meeting registration for the Society's annual meeting
- Information and opportunities for action on legislative and regulatory issues affecting rhinology and sinus surgery
- Member listing on the ARS Membership Directory
- Online services and personal web page on the ARS network
- "Find a Specialist" listing on the ARS web page making you contact information available to patients and referring physicians
- Access to members only section of webpage which includes advocacy, coding strategies, position statements, education and research and much more
- Patient Education Handouts
- Patient and Caregivers section of website
- Webinars and how to videos for members only
- ARS Endoscopic Surgical Dissection Video Series
- Complimentary subscription the Society's newsletter, Nose News
- Discounted rates for educational products and services offered by the Society
- Early access to third-party symposia associated with ARS meetings
- Discounted services and early access to other services and products provided by the Society
- Advocacy and representation on issues that influence the field of rhinology including those that establish physician reimbursement

JOIN AT: <https://www.american-rhinologic.org/NewMember.cfm>

Fellow of the American Rhinologic Society (FARS)

For this issue of Nose News, we would like to encourage all members to explore the possibility of becoming a Fellow of the American Rhinologic Society (FARS). This special membership category is an exceptional way to show your expertise in the field of Rhinology, your dedication to rhinologic practice, and your support of the American Rhinologic Society. Please visit the website, <http://www.american-rhinologic.org/fars> to learn more about the application process and the necessary qualifications. We encourage every ARS member to investigate this option and apply if they are interested. Current ARS members seeking FARS designation can submit a letter of intent, an updated curriculum vitae, a rhinologic case log and sponsorship letters from two FARS members to membership@amrhso.org. Currently there are over 200 FARS members in our society, and we would like our entire membership to be aware of this special distinction. Please inquire about this membership category, especially if you are interested in becoming more involved in the ARS. We look forward to your application!

Forgot to pay your dues? Renew now! Call 973-545-2735, x2 or renew online at <https://www.american-rhinologic.org/NewMember.cfm>



ARS Rhinology Training Council Update

David Poetker, MD, MA, FARS, Past Chair, ARS Rhinology Training Council

I am pleased to announce the new Chair of the Rhinology Training Council (RTC). Dr. Dana Crosby from Southern Illinois University has taken over Chair responsibilities. She brings a wealth of experience and energy to the committee. She will oversee the 10-member committee charged with oversight of the 31 approved NeuroRhinology and Advanced Sinus Surgery fellowships. The chair serves a 5-year term, while the members serve 3-year terms. Five of the members are fellowship affiliated, nominated and voted on by the Program Directors, and five members are not fellowship affiliated, nominated by the BOD.



Dana Crosby, MD

Under Dr. Crosby's leadership, the RTC continues to develop the tools and criteria required to monitor programs and renew their terms as American Rhinologic Society (ARS) approved fellowships. Submitted materials from programs will be reviewed and guidelines developed

for program review, paying special attention to clinical/ surgical volume and research productivity. The pandemic has changed many things for us all, so that will factor into deliberations.

Congratulations Dana!

New fellowship programs may apply yearly. Applications are due by July 1 of each year. See the ARS website for more details.

About the ARS Rhinology Training Council

The Rhinology Training Council (RTC) was created to advise the ARS Board on a set of criteria that a program would need to meet to provide high quality training in Advanced Rhinology and NeuroRhinology. Such criteria would ensure uniform and comprehensive training across those programs that offer training in advanced rhinologic and neurorhinologic surgeries. The RTC does not provide oversight of programs offering fellowship training in "routine" rhinologic surgery. To learn more about the RTC visit american-rhinologic.org/rtc

Women in Rhinology Update

The American Rhinologic Society (ARS) meeting in Los Angeles was a great success and it was wonderful to see everyone after so much time apart!

At this meeting, the Women in Rhinology (WiR), Resident & Fellows, Diversity, and Mentorship Committees hosted a luncheon where guest speaker Dr. Nina Shapiro discussed "Medical Communication to the Non-Medical Audience". Our next event will be held at COSM in Dallas, TX where Wayne Sotile, PhD will discuss the "medical family." It is guaranteed to be another great lecture and we hope to see you there!

Congratulations to Mindy Rabinowitz, MD from Thomas Jefferson University for being voted the next Member-at-Large in the WiR! She will be a wonderful addition to our leadership.

Another reminder that if you have any colleagues interested in joining the WiR general membership, they can sign up here: <https://www.american-rhinologic.org/WiR-Application>. (ARS username and password required).



As always, to keep up-to-date on WiR events and initiatives, please follow us on Twitter (@women_rhinology) and on Instagram at (women_in_rhinology).

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Raewyn Campbell, MD, FARS – Mentorship Chair:
raewyn.campbell@gmail.com



PO Box 269, Oak Ridge, NJ 07438

ARS 68th Annual Meeting

September 9-10, 2022

Philadelphia, PA



Contact: Wendi Perez, ARS Executive Administrator
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