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The 33rd Sun Valley Hard Tissue Workshop

Introduction

In this issue we are fortunate to have speakers from the Thirty-third International Sun Valley Hard Tissue Workshop, August 3-7, 2003, Sun Valley, Idaho, USA, allow us to publish the expanded summaries of their talks. They contain the fundamentals of the material presented, with references. They are invaluable in that they serve to prepare one for inter-disciplinary discussion as well as to point investigators in other disciplines to key references and collaborators.

This year's Workshop featured fewer speakers that allowed more time for dynamic discussions. [The Sun Valley Workshop is one of the few conferences where honest exchange still occurs.] Summaries from each Chairperson are published here after each session.

The Thirty-third Workshop covered six topics, a plenary lecture by Dr. Russell Turner followed by a poster session with a wine and cheese socializer.

Plenary lecture - Russell Turner- "The Secret Life of Bone Cells".

Session Topics and Speakers:

- "Control of Bone Resorption", organized and chaired by G. David Roodman (articles by Roodman, Lorenzo, Chirgwin, Ross, Goldring, Rittweger, and summary by Roodman).

- "Mechanisms of Fracture Healing and Pharmacologic Control", organized and chaired by David Thompson (articles by Gerstenfeld, Filvaroff, Puzas, Thompson, Mori, Seeherman, and summary by Thompson).

- "Tendon Biology", organized and chaired by Gayle Lester (articles by Frost, Vogel, Archambault, Boyer and a summary by Lester).

- "Exercise in Children", organized and chaired by Diane Cullen (articles by Bailey, Specker, McKay, Bass, Karlsson, Bauer, and a summary by Cullen).

- "Estrogen Receptors", organized and chaired by Russell Turner (articles by Spelsberg, Oursler, Maran, Westerlind, Järvinen, and a summary by Turner).

- "TMJ Biology", organized by David Burr and chaired by Stephan Milam (articles by Milam, Herring, Puzas, Kapila, and a summary by Milam).

- "Bone Turnover and Fracture Risk", organized and chaired by David Burr (articles by Burr, Turner, Recker, Loveridge, and a summary by Burr).

Also printed are the abstracts from 28 posters that were displayed at the Workshop.

Most important, I want to thank all the Chairpersons for their tremendous contribution to making this one of the more exciting and productive Workshops. A special thanks to David Burr who made it all happen. Nevertheless, remember the Workshop motto — "There's always room for improvement."

Lastly, a reminder that the Thirty-fourth Workshop is on August 1-4, 2004, and should be an exciting one. Please mark your calendars.

The topics for the Thirty-fourth Workshop are:

- Plenary Lecture — R. Bruce Martin, Ph.D.
- Bone Metastases
- Calcium Receptors: Potential for Novel Therapeutic Treatments for Osteoporosis
- Novel Ways to Optimize Implant Fixation using Molecular Biology of the Implant Interface
- What Constitutes a Cure for Osteoporosis?

Information on how to join in can be found at the Sun Valley Workshop web site: www.sunvalleyworkshop.org. Contrary to some opinions, the Workshop is not a closed meeting, nor is it by invitation only. Please join in this learning experience for young and old!! There are Travel Awards available for the young!

Webster S.S. Jee, Ph.D.
Professor of Anatomy
Founder & Director 1965-2003
of Sun Valley Hard Tissue Workshops
Co-Editor-in-Chief of JMNI

Addendum added by David Burr:

Dr. Jee indicated his desire to step down after this year from organizing the Sun Valley Hard Tissue Workshops. He began this Workshop in 1965, and it has grown into one of the premier Workshops on Skeletal Tissue. Historically, these Workshops have had a significant impact on the study of skeletal physiology and disorders. They formed the genesis of such concepts and techniques as dynamic histomorphometry, quantum concept of bone turnover, the BMU as the functional unit in bone, strain-feedback mechanisms, and cyclic treatments for osteoporosis, to name only a few. Relationships and concepts first presented and critiqued at these Workshops were subsequently incorporated into nearly every discipline that currently works on skeletal problems. Web's insight and vision for the Workshop will be sorely missed, and we only hope that future Workshops can live up to the high standard that he has developed. Web deserves our high praise for this contribution to skeletal science (among his many others) and I hope that you will join me in sending him our sincere thanks.

David B. Burr