

REPORT ON THE 43RD AMERICAN AUDITORY SOCIETY SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGY MEETING, 3–5 MARCH 2016, SCOTTSDALE, AZ, USA

W. Wiktor Jędrzejczak^{1,2}

¹ Institute of Physiology and Pathology of Hearing, Warsaw, Poland

² World Hearing Center, Kajetany, Poland

Corresponding author: W. Wiktor Jędrzejczak, World Hearing Center, Institute of Physiology and Pathology of Hearing, Mochnackiego 10 Str., 02-042 Warsaw, Poland, e-mail: w.jedrzejczak@ifps.org.pl

The 2016 American Auditory Society (AAS) Scientific and Technology Meeting took place at Scottsdale, Arizona, USA on 3–5 March 2016. The conference was opened by Harvey Abrams (AAS President) and Beth Prieve (President-Elect and Program Chair). The scientific sessions comprised 42 oral presentations and 166 posters. For the first time, posters presentations were divided into two separate sessions. Podium sessions were divided into the following topics: hearing aids in adults and children; physiological measures of the auditory system; audiology/otology and hearing testing technology; cochlear implants; psychoacoustics, speech perception and listening effort; and tinnitus, hearing health, and epidemiology.

The conference had participants from the USA and all over the world. There were three participants from Poland: Mariola Sliwiska-Kowalska (Nofer Institute of Occupational Medicine, Lodz), Krzysztof Morawski (Medical University of Warsaw), and W. Wiktor Jędrzejczak (World Hearing Center, Institute of Physiology and Pathology of Hearing, Kajetany/Warsaw).

One of the most important events of the conference was the Carhart Memorial Lecture which is given in memory of Raymond Carhart, often called by his compatriots a father of audiology. This year it was given by Michael Gorga. He was introduced by Beth Prieve, who began by reminding us of his most important achievements, finally pointing out that his H-index is over 60, as a way of indicating, using current measures, how great his impact has been on audiology. She also asked everyone to stand up who had read one of his papers. At this point the whole audience stood and applauded. The title of Gorga's lecture was "Examples of Translational Research from the Human Sensory Physiology Laboratory at Boys Town National Research Hospital". His talk was divided into sections: auditory brainstem responses (ABRs) in different age groups, ABRs in detecting hearing thresholds, transiently evoked otoacoustic emissions (TEOAEs) and distortion product otoacoustic emissions (DPOAEs) in detecting hearing loss, DPOAE suppression in normal hearing (NH) and the hearing impaired (HI), ABR wave V latencies for tone bursts in NH and HI, and categorical loudness scaling as a method to describe hearing deficits for suprathreshold sounds. At the end of his presentation he thanked all his collaborators, with special thanks to Stephen T Neely with whom he has written many joint publications and very special thanks to his wife Pat Stelmachowicz.



Other main lectures (called "Translational Research") was given by Jonathan Peelle (Aging, Hearing Acuity, and Cascading Effects of Perceptual Effort), Susan Arndt (Treatment of Single-Sided Deafness in Adults and Children), and Karen J. Cruickshanks (Aging, Hearing, and Health: A population-based perspective). There was also a young investigator presentation by Jessica Sullivan entitled Through the Looking Glass: Looking at aural habilitation and academia.

A life achievement award was presented to Fred Linthicum Jr for his research on temporal bone histopathology which has had a major influence on the treatment of hearing loss and balance disorders. In the course of his research he has studied more than 1500 temporal bones. Unfortunately he was unable to personally receive the award.

The conference concluded with a special session on "Tinnitus Therapies" with presentations on Rational Drug Treatments for Tinnitus – Theory and practice (Carol A. Bauer), Evidence-Based Behavioral Methods of Tinnitus Intervention (James A. Henry), Striatal Gating of Auditory Phantoms (Steven W. Cheung), and Tinnitus Treatment with Acoustic and Electric Stimulation (Fan-Gang Zeng).