Call to Order
With proper notice given and a quorum of over 50 members established, J. Gregory Fitz, MD, President, called the 64th Annual Business Meeting to order at 5:15 pm on November 2, 2013. The agenda for the meeting was approved.

President’s Report
Dr. Fitz presented a report of the major accomplishments achieved during the year. Over 10,000 participants (from more than 100 countries and 44 states) were in attendance at The Liver Meeting® 2013. The next Annual Meeting will be held November 7-11, 2014 in Boston, Massachusetts. Dr. Fitz thanked members for their support through abstract submissions and meeting attendance.

Dr. Fitz’s report highlighted the following initiatives related to science, collaboration and technology.

New Strategic Plan
A Strategic Planning Task Force and the Governing Board reviewed the direction of AASLD in response to advances in therapies for treating liver diseases and the changing regulatory environment that govern patient care delivery. A new strategic plan was adopted with an outward focus on liver patient healthcare providers. The strategic plan includes four major goals related to professional development, research innovation, treatment advancement and awareness, and organizational health and resource alignment.

New Mission Statement
The mission statement was revised as follows:

To advance and disseminate the science and practice of hepatology, and promote liver health and quality patient care.

Practice Guidelines
Treatment Recommendations for Hepatitis C
AASLD and the Infectious Diseases Society of America, in collaboration with the International Antiviral Society – USA, are creating an online mechanism to update treatment recommendations for hepatitis C to keep pace with new drug approvals by the Food and Drug Administration over the next three years. The first set of recommendations will be posted online in January 2014.

New Practice Guidelines Published in 2013
Two new practice guidelines were published in 2013 on the long term management of adult and pediatric patients following liver transplantation. In addition, the previously published guideline on ascites was updated.

Training and Mentoring
Emerging Liver Scholar Resident Travel Awards
AASLD’s concern about the future hepatology workforce led to the creation of the Emerging Liver Scholars initiative which is in its second year. The goal of the program is to encourage the study of hepatology in academic medicine among medical, surgical, and pediatric residents. In 2013, 32 Emerging Liver Scholar awards were granted to enable medical students and residents to participate in The Liver Meeting® along with their mentors. Special events have been organized to enhance their experience at the meeting.

AASLD Foundation
The AASLD Foundation was created to support liver research and provide education about liver disease and its treatment to those providing care to patients. The Foundation’s Board of Trustees will be chaired by Bruce R. Bacon, MD. It will support liver disease education to improve patient care and provide research funding for young investigators who are the future of hepatology. Since 2009, AASLD funded 35% of meritorious applications for approximately $9 million in research and career development awards; however, 65% of the meritorious award applicants were not selected due to lack of funding. The Foundation will work to increase the level of funding for these awards.

The initial educational objective of the Foundation will be to educate non-hepatologists and allied health professionals who care for patients with liver diseases.
**Special Interest Groups (SIG)**
A new special interest group for Clinical Practice was approved in 2013, increasing the number of SIGs to 13.

**Mobile Applications**
AASLD has made strides in the development of mobile applications for its Internet-based education offerings and publications. Apps are now available for The Liver Meeting®, LiverLearning®, and the journals HEPATOLOGY, Liver Transplantation, and Clinical Liver Disease.

**REPORT OF THE SECRETARY**

**Approval of Minutes**
The minutes of the Annual Business Meeting of November 10, 2012 were presented for approval by Gary L. Davis, MD, Secretary. The minutes were approved as written.

**Recognition of Deceased Members**
Members stood for a moment of silence in recognition and remembrance of members who died during the past year.

- Cynthia A. Cohen, CRNP
- Kenji Fujiwara, MD, PhD
- Anthony F. McDonagh, PhD
- J. Donald Ostrow, MD
- Caroline A. Riely, MD

**Membership Report**
The number of members has increased to approximately 4,000, compared to 3,700 in October 2012.

**AFFIRMATION OF LEADERSHIP ELECTION RESULTS**

**Revision of the Bylaws**
The membership vote to revise the Bylaws during the election that ran from September 13 - October 4, 2013 was affirmed. The Bylaws were approved by 96% of those voting (42% of eligible voters participated in the election).

AASLD members approved changes to the membership criteria to provide medical professionals who care for patients with liver disease an opportunity to join the Association. A Fellow of AASLD membership category was approved in recognition of the contribution of existing members who joined under the former criteria. In addition, Associate members may join the Association as Regular members. The application process has been streamlined and the membership is expected to increase. The new membership criteria consists of a curriculum vitae, and attendance at one AASLD annual meeting or a recommendation from one AASLD member. Applications can now be approved within 45 days.

**New Fiscal Year**
The Bylaw revisions included a change in the fiscal year from the calendar year to July (July 1 – June 30) beginning in 2014.

**Affirmation of New Governing Board Members**
In accordance with the Bylaws, the Governing Board, upon recommendation of the Nominating Committee, unanimously elected the next Councilor and Treasurer.

- Ronald J. Sokol, MD, Councilor, University of Colorado School of Medicine, for the term January 1, 2014 - December 31, 2016, and as President-Elect in 2017, President in 2018, and Past President in 2019
- W. Ray Kim, MD, MBA, Treasurer, Stanford University School of Medicine, for the term January 1, 2014 - December 31, 2016

The election of the next Councilor-at-Large by the membership was affirmed as follows:

K. Rajender Reddy, MD, Councilor-at-Large, University of Pennsylvania Medical Center, for the term January 1, 2014 - December 31, 2016

**Affirmation of the 2014 Nominating Committee**
The election of three members of the 2014 Nominating Committee by the membership was affirmed as follows:

Elected
- Meena B. Bansal, MD, Mt. Sinai School of Medicine
- Kimberly Ann Brown, MD, Henry Ford Hospital
- Marc G. Ghany, MD, NIH/NIDDK

In accordance with the Bylaws, four members of the 2014 Nominating Committee were appointed by the President and President-Elect. The following were appointed from the slate of finalists selected by the 2013 Nominating Committee.
They were affirmed as follows:

- Julie Heimbach, MD, Mayo Clinic
- Mario Strazzabosco, MD, PhD, Yale University
- Sammy Saab, MD, MPH, UCLA
- Norman L. Sussman, MD Baylor College of Medicine

Dr. Fitz, as immediate Past-President, will chair the 2014 Nominating Committee.

**Affirmation of the Chair of the Ethics Committee**

The election of the next Chair of the Ethics Committee by the membership was affirmed as follows:

Hugo E. Vargas, MD, Ethics Committee Chair, Mayo Clinic Arizona, for the term January 1, 2014 - December 31, 2016

**Affirmation of Officers**

In accordance with the Bylaws the officers of the Association were approved for January 1 – December 31, 2014 as follows:

- Adrian M. Di Bisceglie, MD, FACP, President Saint Louis University School of Medicine
- Gyongyi Szabo, MD, PhD, President-Elect University of Massachusetts Medical School
- Gary L. Davis, MD, Secretary Ponte Vedra Beach, FL
- W. Ray Kim, MD, MBA, Treasurer, Stanford University School of Medicine

**Nominations for 2015 Positions**

Members were notified that the Call for Nominations for candidates for 2015 Governing Board positions of Councilor, Councilor-at-Large, 2015 Nominating Committee, and the 2014 Distinguished Achievement, Distinguished Service, and Distinguished Clinician Educator/Mentor Awards will open from January 2-31, 2014.

The Call for Nominations for candidates for committee appointments for 2015 will open from January 1 - February 28, 2014.

**REPORT OF THE TREASURER**

The Finance Committee oversees the financial and investment activities of AASLD. Dr. Jensen reported that the Finance Committee had discussed the 2012 Financial Statements and the independent auditor’s report, including the auditors’ memorandum of advisory comments from the accounting firm of Gelman, Rosenberg and Freedman.

The Governing Board reviewed the audit report and approved it at the May 16-17, 2013 meeting.

The auditors reported that AASLD’s financial position, with total assets of $46.9M as of December 31, 2012, compared to $43.6M in 2011, remains strong. The auditors rendered a clean opinion regarding the Association’s finances and internal control procedures.

AASLD ended 2012 with an operating surplus of $1.6M which is a key indicator of the success of the Association. Program support for 2012 and 2011 totaled 84% and 86% respectively, compared to an industry average of 77%. Primary use of funds includes the Annual Meeting and other educational programs, followed by Research and Fellowship awards and AASLD publications.


Dr. Jensen noted with appreciation that the Finance Committee plays an important role and provides valuable input to the Treasurer and to AASLD, resulting in the present financial health of the Association.

Dr. Jensen expressed gratitude for the privilege of serving as Treasurer during his term that will come to an end on December 31, 2013.

**2014 COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS**

Dr. Di Bisceglie noted that committees comprise the engine that drives the Association. In 2014, standing committees will include 221 positions of which about a third will complete their three-year terms and new members will be appointed. The membership nominated 195 individuals to fill 85 open positions for 2014 service and 70% of those appointed were nominated by the membership.

**RECOGNITION OF LEADERS WITH ENDING TERMS**

Dr. Fitz recognized members who will be completing their terms on December 31, 2013 for their service and commitment to AASLD as follows:

**Governing Board**

- Guadalupe Garcia-Tsao, MD, Past-President
- Donald M. Jensen, MD, Treasurer
- Norah Terrault, MD, MPH Councilor-at-Large
Committees Chairs
• Linda Greenbaum, MD
  AASLD/ALF Research Awards Committee
• Adrian Reuben, MBBS
  Ethics Committee
• Joy A. Peter, RN
  Hepatology Associates Committee
• Mary E. Rinella, MD
  Program Evaluation Committee
• Jayant A. Talwalkar, MD, MPH
  Practice Guidelines Committee
• Bruce A. Luxon, MD, PhD
  Training and Workforce Committee
• Simona Rossi, MD
  Women’s Health Representative

Special Interest Group (SIG) Chairs
• Morris Sherman, MD, PhD
  Hepatobiliary Neoplasia SIG
• Michael B. Fallon, MD
  Portal Hypertension SIG

INSTALLATION OF THE NEXT PRESIDENT
Dr. Fitz expressed gratitude for the privilege of leading the Association, noting that the opportunity has been rewarding. He noted his enjoyment of working closely with AASLD members and staff. Dr. Fitz presented the AASLD gavel to Dr. Adrian Di Bisceglie as the 65th President of the Association.

INCOMING PRESIDENT’S ADDRESS
Dr. Di Bisceglie presented a plaque to Dr. Fitz in appreciation and recognition of his years of service to AASLD. He noted that Dr. Fitz has been a great leader, especially during his presidential year. Dr. Di Bisceglie accepted the responsibility to serve the Association as the incoming President with enthusiasm, noting that he looked forward to working with the Governing Board, Committees, Special Interest Groups and staff during his presidential year.

ADJOURNMENT
The meeting was adjourned at 6:15 pm.
AASLD Committee Chairs for 2014 are as follows:

- AASLD/ALF Research Awards - Steven Lidofsky, MD
  Co-chair, Cara Mack, MD
- Annual Meeting Education - Rebecca T. Wells, MD
- Basic Research - Mark Czaja, MD
- Clinical Research - Marc G. Ghany, MD
- Development - W. Ray Kim, MD
- Education Oversight - Gary L. Davis, MD
- Ethics - Hugo Vargas, MD
- Federal Agencies Liaison - Laurie D. DeLeve, MD, PhD
- Finance - Lynt B. Johnson, MD, MBA
- Hepatology Associates - HoChong Giles, FNP
- Journals Publications - Theo Heller, MD
- Membership and Mentorship - Steve K. Herrine, MD
- Nominating - J. Gregory Fitz, MD
- Practice Guidelines - Raphael B. Merriman, MD
- Program Evaluation - Carla W. Brady, MD, MHS
- Public and Clinical Policy - Nancy Reau, MD
- Scientific Program - Adrian M. Di Bisceglie, MD, Co-chair, Gary L. Davis, MD
- Surgery and Liver Transplantation - Kenneth D. Chavin, MD, PhD
- Training and Workforce — Oren K. Fix, MD, MSc
- Women’s Health Representative - Claudia O. Zein, MD, MSc

The list of committee members is available at https://www.aasld.org/aboutus/leadership/membercommittees/Pages/default.aspx

AASLD Special Interest Group Chairs for 2014 are as follows:

- Acute on Chronic Liver Failure - Jasmohan Bajaj, MD
- Cholestatic Liver Disorders - Saul Karpen, MD, PhD
- Hepatitis B - Brian J. McMahon, MD
- Hepatitis C - Michael W. Fried, MD
- Hepatobiliary Neoplasia - Gregory J. Gores, MD
- Hepatotoxicity - Robert J. Fontana, MD
- Liver Cell Biology in Hepatic Disease - Mark McNiven, PhD
- Liver Fibrosis - Natalie Torok, MD
- LT and Surgery - David C. Mulligan, MD, FACS
- Pediatric Liver Disorders- Regino P. Gonzalez-Peralta, MD
- Portal Hypertension - Guadalupe Garcia-Tsao, MD
- Steatosis and Steatohepatitis - Naga P. Chalasani, MD
- Clinical Practice - TBD

The list of SIG Steering committee members is available at http://sig.aasld.org/SIG/Pages/default.aspx