

# FOUNDATION UPDATE



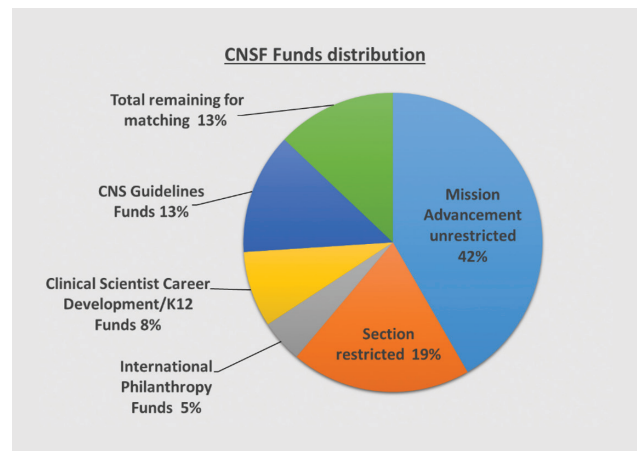
**CNS**  
Foundation

**Dear friends,**

Philanthropy is personal. We take great interest in understanding how you want to make the world better. That is why, in 2019, we gave you the control of directing the \$1 million CNS Leadership gift. Each time you make a donation, whether it be to support the mission, or to specifically support one of the three initiatives, your match is attached to your donation and grows the fund that you elected to support. To date, we have raised more than \$3.2 million. Approximately \$400,000 remains for you to have your gift matched.

As leaders of the CNS Foundation, when Alex and I give, we choose to support the overall mission. President Brian Hoh served as Chair to the CNS Guidelines Committee. When he and his wife Melissa give, they often direct their gift to the CNS Guidelines Fund. As a past recipient of National Institute of Health (NIH) awards, Past President Ganesh Rao chooses to donate to the Clinical Scientist Career Development Fund. Clemens Schirmer, one of the Co-Chairs of the CNS International Division has given many times to the International Philanthropy Fund. All these personal reasons for giving are important and we thank you for trusting the CNS Foundation to help achieve your philanthropic goals.

We wish to thank the visionary leader who recently established the Future Women Leaders in Neurosurgery Scholarship. Donations to this scholarship will reside in a sub-fund within the Clinical Scientist Career Development Fund. Please read CNS Foundation Board Member, Martina Stippler's article that explains the importance of this new way you can help advance young female neurosurgeon careers.



Data as of November 20, 2020

The Mission Advancement Fund serves all initiatives and allows for the CNS Foundation Board to direct donations to the highest need. In our upcoming Annual Report, we will detail the Board's work to respond to your needs during the COVID-19 pandemic. It is an honor for us to serve you and your patients in philanthropy.

**With Sincerest regards,**



**Elad I. Levy, MD, MBA**  
Chair, CNS Foundation



**Alex Khalessi, MD, MBA**  
Vice Chair, CNS Foundation

# CNS Foundation announces Future Women Leaders in Neurosurgery Scholarship During WINS 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary



Martina Stippler, MD

This year, not only have I served as the Editor of the *Congress Quarterly* and on the CNS Foundation Board, but I have also had the honor of chairing the Section for Women in Neurosurgery (WINS). I want to share with you an exciting announcement made during the WINS 30th anniversary virtual celebration on Wednesday evening, October 28, 2020.

Our virtual celebration was well attended, and we had much to celebrate. WINS Chair-elect Ellen Air and I made the announcement: an anonymous donor recently made a generous donation to the **CNS Foundation to create the Future Women Leaders in Neurosurgery Scholarship**.

We had begun the lovely evening listening to our indomitable first chair, Deborah Benzil, share her memories as the lone woman in her residency program, recounting that joyful day she first met other female neurosurgeons at a conference. Fast forward thirty years and we are celebrating an anonymous champion who will annually launch multiple *women leaders* in neurosurgery. What a celebration!

The CNS Foundation and WINS will collaborate in structuring this scholarship and open the application in early spring 2021. A committee will select between two and four recipients. Each will receive a stipend to attend a leadership course of their choice.

Although I serve on the CNS Foundation Board, I do not know who this generous soul is; I can only thank them from afar. I am told that the person has been inspired by female neurosurgeons over the years. The donor hopes that this gift will spur more people's generosity to grow the fund in perpetuity. Ellen Air, I, and many other WINS members immediately added our own generous gifts to the CNS Foundation **Future Women Leaders in Neurosurgery Scholarship**. To date, the fund has reached \$30,000.

Our goal is to raise \$50,000 immediately to maximize the generous matching from the CNS Leadership gift. With every



donation doubled, you can partner with the CNS help this fund reach \$100,000 to support women in neurosurgery.

There has never been a better time to give to the CNS Foundation. Please help WINS celebrate the 30th anniversary by supporting the Future Women Leaders in Neurosurgery Scholarship, today!

To learn more and donate, please visit [Foundation@CNS.org](mailto:Foundation@CNS.org), or contact Courtney Johnson, Manager of CNS Foundation and Giving at [CJohnson@CNS.org](mailto:CJohnson@CNS.org). 📧