INTRODUCTION
Welcome to the seventh issue of CSU (CORNEA SOCIETY UNIVERSITY). This month’s CSU VideoEd will focus on Iris Suturing. We will also feature an article on “Making it to the Podium” and the latest news on CSU events at ASCRS 2017.

MAKING IT TO THE PODIUM
Public speaking, especially in the medical field, is very similar to classical piano performance. You prepare, practice, and then perform. (read more)

IRIS SUTURING
Iris defects can occur for a variety of reasons including trauma, post-surgical, ischemic mydriasis, congenital abnormalities (i.e. aniridia, iris coloboma) and acquired conditions (i.e. ICE syndrome). (read more)

CSU AT ASCRS IN MAY
Be sure to visit the CSU Booth at Cornea Day 2017 on Friday May 5th. (read more)

MAKING IT TO THE PODIUM
Growing up, I trained as a classical pianist. I loved competing and performing. My competitive nature really blossomed in those early years. I was lucky to have very supportive parents who didn’t put undue pressure on me to succeed. In those days, I didn’t get stage fright or worry about my performance, I just enjoyed the music and the opportunity to play. Perhaps I was too young to know better. I distinctly remember, though, my first major concert. I was in junior high and getting ready to play with the symphony. My turn was quickly approaching and I was starting to get nervous. I peeked out from behind the curtain to catch a glimpse of the audience, and there were so many people out there. Now, I was really nervous. I turned to my mom, and told her that I didn’t think I could do it. She smiled, said I’d be fine, and pushed me
out on stage. Somehow, I made it through that first concert and at some point about halfway through, I think I even started to enjoy it.

Public speaking, especially in the medical field, is very similar to classical piano performance. You prepare, practice, and then perform. With piano, I loved performing because I had the opportunity to share my music with the audience. With ophthalmology, I enjoy public speaking because I have the opportunity to share knowledge and teach others. Not everyone enjoys public speaking or aspires to be on the podium, but if you do, here are some pointers.

1. Develop a niche
2. Publish
3. Present locally

In order to make it to the podium, you often have to be invited by the program planning committee. When a conference is planned, topics are chosen, and people are invited based on their expertise. Thus, you need to find a topic on which to focus. This can be difficult when you are first starting out as you are often interested in everything. Start by picking a topic that interests you and is accessible to both you and the audience. If you pick an esoteric topic, you may not see enough patients to gain true expertise, and even if you do, audiences may not want to learn about something extremely rare. To find your niche, you can draw from your own patient population, get involved with multi-center clinical trials, or gain experience as an early adopter of new technology.

Once you pick an area of focus, perform research, either basic, translational, or clinical. Next, publish your results and start speaking about your findings. Often, you need to start speaking at smaller local meetings before you get invited to larger meetings. You should submit abstracts to local and national meetings and try to present your research through poster and paper presentations.

If you make a name for yourself and associate it with a niche, your podium invites will start rolling in.

CSU is meant to be an interactive platform where your questions and concerns are addressed. If you have a specific area or question you want us to concentrate on in future issues, please send an email to: jessciralsky@gmail.com with the subject: CSU. Additionally, CSU is designed for all young cornea and anterior segment ophthalmologists, so if friends or colleagues want to be added to the listserv, please send an email to: info@corneasociety.org

IRIS SUTURING

Iris defects can occur for a variety of reasons including trauma, post-surgical, ischemic mydriasis, congenital abnormalities (i.e. aniridia, iris coloboma) and acquired conditions (i.e. ICE syndrome). When you approach a patient with an iris abnormality, the first thing to decide is if the iris defect needs to be surgically repaired. If surgery is indicated, then you
have to select the best surgical technique for the given defect. In this video, you will hear Dr. Gregory Ogawa discuss Iris Suturing with demonstrations of iridodialysis repair, iris coloboma repair, and pupillary cerclage for traumatic mydriasis.

CSU at ASCRS in May ~ See you there!
Be sure to visit the CSU Booth at Cornea Day 2017 on Friday May 5th. You can learn more about the upcoming programs and networking opportunities at ASCRS and walk away with a $10 gift card from Starbucks.

Be sure to follow us on Facebook and Twitter as we will be highlighting programming geared towards the CSU community during the ASCRS meeting.

CSU Dinner Series May 5th ~ Last Call
We are excited to announce a new dinner meeting developed by the Cornea Society Young Physician Task Force and sponsored by CSU (Cornea Society University). This educational program will be geared towards young physicians. The inaugural dinner Getting to the Podium And What Do I Do Once I Get There will be held on Friday May 5th from 5:30pm-7:30pm, immediately following the Cornea Day program. This new dinner series concept will provide young physicians with an opportunity to interact and network with colleagues as well as learn more about professional development and practice building. If you would like to attend the dinner, please RSVP by Friday April 24th to Gail Albert galbert@corneasociety.org. We hope to see you there!

CSU Committee News:
The Cornea Society would like to thank the following CSU Committee members for all their hard work over the past few months on this new interactive educational platform ~ Thank You!

C. Andres Benatti, MD
Maya Bitar, MD
Christopher Estopinal, MD
Garret Frank, MD
Allister Gibbons, MD
Jeff Golen, MD
Sunali Goyal, MD
Mike Greenwood, MD
Jennifer Hung, MD
Ben Kunz, MD
Adam Moss, MD, MBA
Sotiria Palioura, MD
Christina Prescott, MD, MPH