SHPALL INSTALLED AS PRESIDENT; GIRALT ELECTED VICE PRESIDENT

Elizabeth J. Shpall, MD, has been installed as President of the American Society for Blood and Marrow Transplantation. She is the Ashbel Smith Professor of Medicine at the University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center, the Cell Therapy Laboratory medical director, the Cord Blood Bank director, and deputy chair, Department of Stem Cell Transplantation and Cellular Therapy.

Sergio A. Giralt, MD, chief of Adult Bone Marrow Transplant (BMT) Service at Memorial Hospital for Cancer and Allied Diseases, chief of Adult BMT Service at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center, and professor of medicine at Weill Cornell Medical College is the newly elected and installed Treasurer.

The installation of new officers and directors occurred at the Society’s annual business meeting, the 2012 BMT Tandem Meetings, on Feb. 3 in San Diego. The election was by ballot among members of the Society in December and January.

Newly elected and installed directors are:

Corey S. Cutler, MD, MPH, of the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute in Boston, MA
John F. DiPersio, MD, PhD, of the Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis, MO
Brenda M. Sandmaier, MD, of the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center in Seattle, WA

All took office at the close of the 2012 BMT Tandem Meetings.

C. Fred LeMaistre, MD, was elevated to President-Elect and will assume the Presidency in 2013. He is the Physician in Chief, Hematology and Bone Marrow Transplant, at the Sarah Cannon Cancer Center.

TWO NEW INVESTIGATORS WIN BBMT EDITORIAL AWARDS

Two medical scientists are the recipients of editorial awards for new investigators for their articles published in 2011 in Biology of Blood and Marrow Transplantation.

Both are recipients of a $5,000 prize, supported by grants from STEMCELL Technologies Inc., and STEMSOFT Software Inc. Selection of the winning articles was by the BBMT Editorial Board and the ASBMT Publications Committee.

Brile Chung, PhD, is the winner of the Ernest McCulloch & James Till Award for best basic science article by a new investigator. The award is supported by an education grant from STEMCELL Technologies Inc. His article was “Combined Effects Of IL-7 and SCF Administration On Lymphopoiesis after Murine Bone Marrow Transplantation.”

Joseph A. Pidala, MD, is recipient of the George Santos Award for best clinical science article by a new investigator. The award is supported by an education grant from STEMSOFT Software Inc. His article was “Variation In Management of Immune Suppression after Allogeneic Hematopoietic Cell Transplantation.”

The awards were presented by ASBMT’s President, Daniel Weisdorf, MD, during the 2012 BMT Tandem Meetings in San Diego.

SIX ABSTRACTS CHOSEN AS BEST OF 2012 BMT TANDEM MEETINGS

A total 553 abstracts from 31 countries were accepted for the 2012 BMT Tandem Meetings.

Six of the abstracts were selected for awards by the Abstract Review Committees.

Recipients of the ASBMT Best Abstract Awards for Basic Science Research were:

Leslie Kean, MD, PhD – RHEUS MACAQUE NATURAL CD4 REGULATORY T CELLS EXHIBIT DECREASED PROLIFERATION BUT ENHANCED SUPPRESSION AFTER PULSING WITH SIROLIMUS

Michael Jordan, MD – GENE THERAPY FOR HEMOPHAGOCYTIC LYMPHOHISTIOCYTOSIS: FIXING A CRITICAL ‘CIRCUIT BREAKER’ IN THE IMMUNE SYSTEM

Mark Vander Lugt, MD – PLASMA CONCENTRATION OF SUPPRESSOR OF TUMORIGENICITY 2 (ST2), THE IL33 RECEPTOR, AT INITIATION OF GRAFT VERSUS HOST DISEASE THERAPY PREDICTS DAY 28 RESPONSE AND DAY 180 SURVIVAL POST-TREATMENT

Each received a $1,000 prize. The clinical research awards are supported by a grant from HistoGenetics.

Recipients of the CIBMTR Best Abstract Awards for Clinical Research were:

Colleen Delaney, MD, MSc – INFUSION OF NON-HLA MATCHED, OFF-THE-SHELF EX VIVO EXPANDED CORD BLOOD PROGENITOR CELLS IN PATIENTS UNDERGOING MYELOABLATIVE CORD BLOOD TRANSPLANTATION IS SAFE AND DECREASES THE TIME TO NEUTROPHIL RECOVERY

Francisco Marty, MD – CMX001 FOR PREVENTION AND CONTROL OF CMV INFECTION IN CMV-SEPOSITIVE ALLOGENEIC STEM-CELL TRANSPLANT RECIPIENTS: A PHASE 2 RANDOMIZED, DOUBLE-BLIND, PLACEBO-CONTROLLED, DOSE-ESCALATION TRIAL OF SAFETY, TOLERABILITY AND ANTIVIRAL ACTIVITY

Joseph Pidala, MD, MS – OVERLAP SUBTYPE OF CHRONIC
GVHD IS ASSOCIATED WITH PATIENT REPORTED OUTCOMES: A CHRONIC GVHD CONSORTIUM STUDY

Each also received a $1,000 prize. The clinical research awards are supported by a grant from WellPoint, Inc.