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27 December 2017

Dear SNIP members and trainees,

As the gates begin to close on 2017, let's take a moment to be thankful for the good times and to be hopeful for the future. With regards to this society, I am thankful for many things including those of you who serve so dutifully on our many committees.

This year we are planning for our first joint meeting with the International Society for Neurovirology (ISNV). Our meetings committee and I have been holding at least monthly discussion with ISNV in getting the meeting organized. The scientific sessions are going to be extremely informative and the venue will be one you should not miss. There will be a pre-meeting satellite symposium on the role of astrocytes in HIV-1 that is being organized by Lena Al-Harhi (Rush) and Jeymohan Joseph (NIMH). It is hard to know what weather will greet us in Chicago between April 10-14, 2018 but whatever it is we will have a great meeting and have a great time. Chicago has much to offer and there will be at least one evening free for you to explore that which interests you.

The deadline for submission of abstracts and travel funding requests is now set for January 12, 2018 and it will NOT be extended any further. This is because we need the time to choose oral presentations, make decisions about travel awards, and to publish the abstract booklet. So please, submit abstracts and register now and encourage others to likewise. We are looking for record attendance at this meeting and I am sure you will benefit from and enjoy the meeting.

Not that I am a tax consultant or an economist, it does sound like 2017 might be a better year to make tax-deductible donations than will be 2018 and beyond. Just a reminder, we would gladly issue you a tax receipt for any donations you might provide. So, if you can donate to SNIP please contact Dr. Sanjay Maggirwar as soon as possible.

Let's all look forward to 2018, optimism is always a good thing! Happy New Year and I look forward to seeing you in Chicago.

Jonathan Geiger
President, SNIP