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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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NASS Participates in “Brain Mapping Day at the California State Assembly” on August 7, 2018

California State Lawmakers to Get Overview of Innovations, Obstacles, and Opportunities in Brain and Spine Mapping Technologies

Burr Ridge, IL—The North American Spine Society’s (NASS) First Vice President, Jeffrey C. Wang, MD, will participate in a panel discussion at [“Brain Mapping Day at the California State Assembly”](#) on August 7, 2018 in Sacramento, which is organized by the State Assembly, Brain Mapping Foundation and the Society for Brain Mapping and Therapeutics (SBMT). He will join NASS’ Director of Government Relations, Jordan Abushawish, MPP, who will discuss public policy hurdles to spine research and innovation.

Dr. Wang, an orthopedic surgeon and the current president of the SBMT, will offer California lawmakers a brief presentation on the opportunities for downstream growth in spine research and innovation.

“I look forward to discussing the vast potential of brain and spine mapping for improving the diagnosis, treatment, and rehabilitation of patients afflicted with neurological conditions such as ALS, Alzheimer’s disease, epilepsy, spine disorders, and brain and spinal cord cancer,” said Jeffrey Wang, MD, Professor of Orthopedic Surgery and Neurosurgery and Co-Director of the USC Spine Center. “California should take the lead in fast-tracking the introduction of new diagnostics and therapeutics through investing in neurotechnology development by embracing SBMT’s Brain Technology and Innovation Park (BTIP) legislation; this will not only save lives but also contribute to the California economy and create biotech jobs in our state.”

“Brain mapping” is the study of the anatomy and function of the brain and spinal cord through the use of imaging, immunohistochemistry, molecular and optogenetics, stem cell and cellular biology, engineering, neurophysiology and nanotechnology.

California Assemblyman Ken Cooley (Rancho Cordova) and the SBMT are the co-hosts of “Brain Mapping Day at the California State Assembly.” For more information about this event, contact Nestor Lopez at (916) 319-2008 or Nestor.Lopez@asm.ca.gov.

(more)

**NASS Participation at
“Brain Mapping Day at
California State Assembly”**

August 7, 2018

**Room 447,
California State Capitol**

2:50-2:55 p.m.

Jordan Abushawish, MPP

“The Biggest Hurdles Impacting Spine Research and Innovation”

2:55-3:00 p.m.

Jeffrey C. Wang, MD

“Opportunities for Downstream Growth in Spine Research and Innovation”

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The Society for Brain Mapping and Therapeutics is a non-profit society organized for the purpose of encouraging basic and clinical scientists who are interested in areas of Brain Mapping, engineering, stem cell, nanotechnology, imaging and medical device to improve the diagnosis, treatment and rehabilitation of patients afflicted with neurological disorders. This society promotes the public welfare and improves patient care through the translation of new technologies/therapies into lifesaving diagnostic and therapeutic procedures. The society is committed to excellence in education, and scientific discovery. The society achieves its mission through multi-disciplinary collaborations with government agencies, patient advocacy groups, educational institutes and industry as well as philanthropic organizations. For more information, visit www.WorldBrainMapping.Org.

NASS is a global multidisciplinary medical society that utilizes education, research and advocacy to foster the highest quality, ethical, value- and evidence-based spine care for patients. NASS is comprised of more than 8,000 members from several disciplines, including orthopedic surgery, neurosurgery, physiatry, neurology, radiology, anesthesiology, research and physical therapy. For more information, visit www.spine.org and find NASS on: [NASS Facebook](#) and [NASS Twitter](#).

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