

IN CONVERSATION WITH

Dieter Manstein, MD, PhD

We spoke with **Dr Dieter Manstein**, 2019-2020 President of the American Society for Laser Medicine & Surgery (ASLMS), to find out what delegates can expect from this year's annual meeting.



The ASLMS Annual Meeting will take place in Phoenix, Arizona in Spring 2020; can you tell us a bit more about the speakers and what the meeting will focus on?

2020 marks 40 years for the ASLMS and we have a fantastic meeting planned. ASLMS 2020 will be both a celebration of the past 40 years of ASLMS, where history was made and a preview of the future, where innovations will happen.

The Friday Plenary session will feature 40 years in 40 minutes, to commemorate the Society's history and highlight key innovations and luminaries in laser and energy-based medicine. Speakers include J Stuart Nelson who will discuss the history of ASLMS, John Parrish on photomedicine, David H Sliney on laser treatments for the eyes, and R Rox Anderson on the history of selective photothermolysis.

Throughout the programme, a diverse selection of speakers will highlight new technologies and approaches to patient care. This vibrant exchange of knowledge, through multiple specialties and disciplines, is why ASLMS remains the best conference to gain practical knowledge while exploring the future of energy-based medicine.

What are your aims for the 2020 meeting?

With so many exciting new approaches emerging, a strong society like ASLMS can do a lot to advance the field. We strive to work across disciplines and specialties to bring the best ideas and discoveries forth and translate them into significant breakthroughs in energy-based patient care. History has shown that many new concepts were first presented at the ASLMS Annual Conference. We want to celebrate these achievements but also explore what is next. A new shift is happening, from Laser 1.0 – destruction of tissue – to LASER 2.0 – remodelling of tissue. We will explore how this will impact the future of energy-based medicine.

What do you think will be the main highlights that delegates can look forward to?

- Learning the latest developments in laser treatment of the skin from internationally recognised experts in a hands-on teaching environment.
- Cutting-edge research at the abstract sessions.
- Stimulating research that may change perspectives and guide new treatments.
- Opportunities for cross-fertilisation with multidisciplinary courses, workshops, and special sessions, including dermatology, plastic surgery, oncology, genitourinary health, ophthalmology, paediatrics and neurology.
- Strong focus on basic science and translational courses and workshops.
- Additional learning opportunities for photobiomodulation, a field that is gaining significance as we step forward through clinical research and see significant efficacy through scientific data.
- Expanded collaborations with other societies to enhance exchange of knowledge and take advantage of synergies and shared interests.
- 'Laser Learning Lab' sessions provide hands-on / demonstration opportunities

with the addition of a non-CME industry laser demonstration.

- Exhibitors will display the newest devices and technological advances.

What makes this conference stand out against other similar meetings in this field?

There is a lot of history in the ASLMS. One thing that is very special about the Annual Conference is that this is a place where most of the important concepts and treatments were first presented. They came from discussions happening at the meeting, which is a very fertile environment of exchange for physicians who are working in this area. We bring different specialties together, which is also unique. The conference encourages the broad, open exchange of information. This is the place where history is made. So, if you like to participate in the development of what is next; the innovations, the new treatments, this is the place to be.

And finally, what are you personally most looking forward about the conference?

To meet with a very special group of people, who are really driven and passionate. They are not just here for another conference. They want to see what they can do with the devices, actively share the experience, teach others, and listen to what their colleagues are doing with lasers and energy-based devices. It is like a family, a community. And this helps to put new treatments forward. Through discussions with my colleagues, we gain a lot of ideas that we cannot stop talking about. It is very inspiring. That is what I most look forward to.

SAVE THE DATE

ASLMS ANNUAL MEETING

29 APRIL – 3 MAY 2020
PHOENIX, ARIZONA, USA



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