ENT Medical Academy Taps Taylor as Inaugural Diversity Chair Represents More Than 12,000 Physicians and Health Professionals

(Bethesda, MD—February 19, 2008) The country's largest ear, nose and throat medical association's first diversity committee chair is Duane J. Taylor M.D. Taylor, a fellow of the American Academy of Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery (AAO-HNS), envisions a more formal, organized focus on diversity, health care disparities, health literacy, and cultural sensitivity. He also sees the chance to increase underrepresented minorities within the specialty.

AAO-HNO President James C. Denneny, MD, appointed Taylor, following the Board of Directors approval of the committee. "I look at this as a great opportunity for the specialty," says Denneny. Taylor, whose 20 year involvement in AAO-HNS includes the Academy's Honor Award for exceptional service and its Big on Goals award, the Board of Governors' recognition program, says, "I see this as a very exciting time for the Academy. The leadership is to be commended for affirming the importance of such an effort. We have an opportunity to enhance the way the specialty interacts, embraces and interfaces with both its members and their patients from diverse backgrounds, cultures and perspectives. I am humbled by the opportunity to head such an effort and thank the President, and the Board of Directors for their confidence in me."

Taylor currently serves on the AAO-HNS Board of Governors, the Public Relations Committee and Nominating Platform Committee. He is also a past Chair of the Otolaryngology Section of the National Medical Association, the country's oldest African-American medical association.

AAO-HNS and its Foundation sponsor continuing medical education, professional meetings, new scientific research, and practice management guidance for more than 12,500 ear, nose, and throat specialists in the United States and abroad. The Academy also monitors all federal medical-related legislation and educates legislators and policy makers.

Taylor is the Medical Director of Le Visage ENT & Facial Plastic Surgery, LLC, in Bethesda, Maryland, www.levisageentfps.com, where he sub-specializes in Facial Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery and Care of the Professional Voice.

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