



# Paths to Progress

## President's Message

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I'm pleased to report that the APC continues to be a vigorous and engaged organization, as we represent the interests of academic departments of Pathology in the US and Canada. The organization and our various committees and sections are involved on a daily basis in addressing the major challenges and issues facing academic Pathology and the greater Pathology, medical, and scientific communities in which we function. Although the APC provides the structure for these efforts, it's really the expertise, energy, and commitment of our members and other constituents that keep us moving forward. I want to express my sincere appreciation to each of you for all you do for our organization, our profession, and the many people we serve.

I'd now like to highlight some of the things going on in the APC.

### APC Committees and Sections

Our committees and sections have continued to tackle their respective missions with gusto and great effect. These groups are increasingly active on a year-round basis, with meetings, conference calls, listserv discussions, and other activities spanning the calendar. Much of what we accomplish as an organization is through the leadership, creativity, and hard work provided by these groups. I encourage you to read the reports from each committee

and section elsewhere in this issue of *Paths to Progress*.

### New APC Standing Committee: Leadership Development and Diversity

In a Bylaws election completed just before press time, our members have voted unanimously to establish our Leadership Development and Diversity (LD&D) Committee as a new standing committee of the APC. My sincere thanks to Ann Thor and the other members of the Ad Hoc LD&D Committee for working diligently since 2011 to make the ad hoc group a potent force in support of leadership development activities in the APC and for helping us all to begin building a more diverse workforce in academic Pathology. Now that formation of the new standing committee has been formally approved, we will need to elect the first committee chair, who will also serve as a voting member of the APC Council. Membership on the new committee will be open to APC chairs, Senior Fellows, and members of all APC Sections. Please see Ann Thor's article in this issue of *Paths to Progress* on recent activities of the Ad Hoc LD&D Committee.

### Regional Meetings

The regional members had another round of successful meetings in the Fall months. The Northeast chairs met in Bermuda in September and had a robust discussion of many issues. A

proposed new model for Pathology residency training was developed by this group and is being vetted by others in the APC, as well as the American Board of Pathology (ABP) and ACGME. The Southeast Chairs and PDAS met in Savannah, GA, in early October and provided a full program for both chair and PDAS members focused on new practice and research models, payment issues, and the ongoing Ebola epidemic. The West-Midwest-Canada Chairs and PDAS assembled in beautiful Kauai, HI, in late October, following in the wake of Hurricane Ana. As the winds died down, the chairs and PDAS members assembled in "paradise" got down to serious discussion of a range of important practice, research, and educational issues. The organizers of these meetings deserve our great thanks: Dani Zander and Dan Knowles for the Northeast, Tris Parslow and Aryn Rojani for the Southeast, and Alan Schiller and Bob Mrak for the West-Midwest-Canada groups. Please see detailed reports on these meetings on pages 23-24 in this issue of *Paths to Progress*.

### Pathology Roundtable

The Pathology Roundtable is well into its third year of work and continues to facilitate discussion among its twelve member organizations of a number of issues important to the greater

*(continued on page 2)*

## President's Message (continued)

(continued from page 1)



Academic Pathology, APC's new Open Access publication, is a venue for original articles, reviews, and commentaries pertaining to the core missions of the APC (details on page 12).

Pathology community. Dan Remick, representing ASIP, serves as Moderator and Mark Sobel, ICPI's executive officer, is Roundtable Secretary. Among the many issues discussed so far this academic year, one of the most important has been the proposed regulatory oversight of laboratory-developed tests (LDTs) by the FDA (see the Advocacy Committee report on page 6 for more details on LDTs and other important advocacy news). Roundtable members had two very effective teleconferences to coordinate and, as much as possible, align the responses of member organizations to FDA's request for comments. This was a very successful joint effort and demonstrated that the Roundtable is working exactly as originally planned. Please see the full Pathology Roundtable report in this issue of *Paths to Progress*.

### **Pathology Workforce**

Workforce issues have continued to dominate the APC calendar this academic year. Follow-up activities from the Pathology Workforce Summit, held in December 2013, resulted in the formation of multiple important groups, three of which have recently been very active. The MD Survey Task Force, with representatives from the APC, CAP, ASCP, USCAP, ABP, and ACGME, designed and fielded a survey of new-in-practice pathologists, done through the auspices of the ABP and its maintenance of certification (MOC) process. This survey will provide much-needed information regarding alignment of Pathology residency training with the perceived training needs among recent residency graduates. The survey was just concluded and

the response rate was very high. Survey data are currently being analyzed and will be used to inform decisions regarding potential changes in Pathology residency training. A second group, the PhD Task Force, has been busy studying the current state of training and supply of PhD clinical laboratorians, to help assess their place in the clinical laboratory of today and tomorrow. Finally, the Pipeline Subcommittee of the APC Advocacy Committee has continued looking at ways to increase the quantity and quality of medical students choosing a career in Pathology. This subcommittee recently helped develop a proposal to petition the ABP for advanced training credit for residents who participate in certain pre-residency activities, including post-sophomore year Pathology fellowships. The work of these and other workforce-related groups will continue to be closely tracked and reported in future issues of *Paths to Progress*.

### **New APC Journal – Academic Pathology**

I'm very happy to report that APC's new flagship journal, *Academic Pathology*, has been successfully launched! Published by SAGE Publications, our open access journal is now soliciting submission of its first round of manuscripts. A paper, jointly sponsored by the APC, CAP, and API, describing the recently developed Pathology Informatics Essentials for Residents (PIER) curriculum is currently in the planning stages for joint publication in *Academic Pathology*, and the CAP and API journals. Please check out the update by Jim Crawford, Editor-in-Chief of *Academic Pathology*, on page 12.

### **Upcoming APC Elections**

Elections to fill four APC posts will be conducted in the coming weeks. The posts up for election are Secretary-Treasurer, Councilor-at-Large, GME Committee Chair, and Chair of the new LD&D Committee. Please watch for announcements regarding nominations for these four posts and the upcoming election.

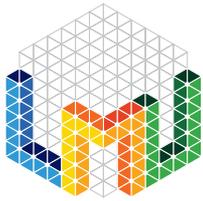
### **Luncheons at USCAP and ASIP Meetings**

As has been our tradition in recent years, we will have luncheons for Chairs and PRODS members at the upcoming USCAP meeting being held in Boston on Monday, March 23, and a Chair luncheon at the ASIP meeting on Monday, March 30. We hope to see many APC members at one or both of these events, to enjoy lunch with colleagues and hear about ongoing activities in the APC and academic Pathology. Members must pre-register for these events. Questions can be directed to Ashley Pitman at [meetings@apcprods.org](mailto:meetings@apcprods.org).

### **2015 APC Annual Meeting**

The 2015 APC annual meeting will take place on July 14-17, at the beautiful Rancho Bernardo Inn, located near San Diego. The theme for this year's meeting is "The Challenge to Innovate: Preparing for Change in Pathology's Workforce, Technology, and Business Models" and the program looks to be both exciting and informative. In addition, the setting for this year's meeting promises to be perfect for relaxing and networking with

(continued on page 5)



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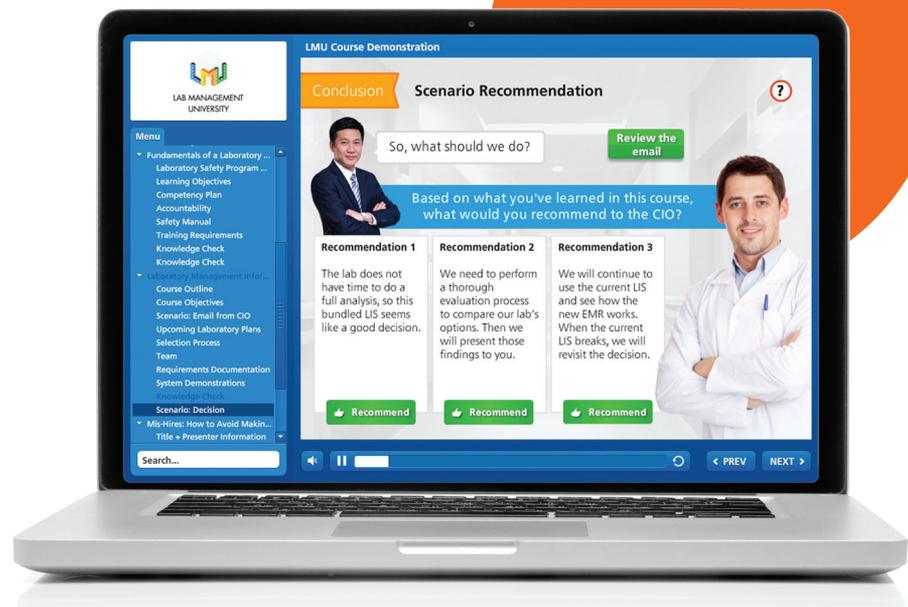
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<b>Multidisciplinary Breast Pathology (MBP)</b> , Chicago	April 18–19, 2015
<b>Prostate</b> , Chicago	April 24–25, 2015

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## President's Message (continued)

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friends and colleagues. Tris Parslow, APC President-Elect, gives many more details about the meeting below.

### **In Conclusion**

I'd like to sum up with a thought about APC's place in the greater Pathology community. From the many events and activities mentioned briefly above, and described in more detail

throughout the pages of *Paths to Progress*, it's clear that our organization is involved, more or less, in essentially every major issue affecting Pathology. From curriculum reform, to the physician-scientist career track, to emerging new health care delivery models, to payment policy, to regulatory challenges like LDTs and the FDA, the APC is in the thick of the battle, and often leading other Pathology organizations into that battle. As I said in the last issue of *Paths*

*to Progress*, the APC is increasingly viewed as the **indispensable** Pathology organization. My sincere thanks to all of our members and our great APC staff for keeping us in the forefront of the Pathology world.

Sincerely,



Don Karcher  
APC President



## 2015 APC Annual Meeting Preview

By Tristram Parslow, MD – President-Elect

The APC is off to southern California this summer for our 2015 national meeting, which will be held at the beautiful Rancho Bernardo Inn in San Diego. Our meeting begins on Wednesday morning, July 15th, and continues until noon on Friday, July 17th. But you'll want to arrive early to take part in the optional pre-meeting sessions on Tuesday, and stay longer to enjoy this tranquil, relaxing, inland venue with its pools, spa, dining, golf course, and easy access to nearby attractions. Focusing this year on "The Challenge to Innovate," the meeting commences with a distinguished panel discussing the future of GME, sparked by the recent report from the Institute of Medicine. Pathologist and IOM member Dr. Deborah Powell, an author of that report,

will be joined on the panel by Dr. Tom Nasca, Chief Executive of the ACGME, and Dr. Rebecca Johnson, Chief Executive Officer of the ABP, charting their respective visions for future training in our specialty. A joint session for Chairs and PDAS on Wednesday afternoon will highlight challenges and changes in the business landscape of Pathology, with commentary by the noted attorney Jane Pine Wood. Thursday morning will focus on the practical applications of computational Pathology, showcasing informaticists, clinicians, and educators, all moderated by Dr. Karen Kaul. Plans for Friday morning include an expert colloquium on the regulation of laboratory-developed tests, as well as presentations on the vital role of

pathologists in responding to infectious outbreaks, featuring Dr. Sherif Zaki, Chief of Pathology at the CDC. You certainly won't want to miss Wednesday evening's tour and private dinner at the San Diego Zoo's Safari Park, or Thursday evening's tour of the beautiful Birch Aquarium in La Jolla, followed by an outdoor oceanside cocktail reception to watch the sun set over the Pacific and private dinner. Of course, you'll also have plenty of quality time—and an ideal location—to network and relax with all your friends and colleagues at the year's premier meeting of academic Pathology leaders. For details, registration, and travel information, go to [apcprods.org/meetings/2015](http://apcprods.org/meetings/2015). ♦

*The theme for APC's 2015 annual meeting is "The Challenge to Innovate: Preparing for Change in Pathology's Workforce, Technology, and Business Models."*

## Undergraduate Medical Education Committee Report

By Michael Prystowsky, MD, PhD – Committee Chair

The principal project of the UME Committee continues to be the Pathology Competencies for Medical Education. The three main competency areas are disease mechanisms, organ system Pathology, and diagnostic

medicine. The competency editors are Mike Borowitz, Rich Conran and Michael Prystowsky, respectively. Thanks to the significant efforts of Dr. Don Regula, APC and UMEDS members can log in to

[umeds.stanford.edu](http://umeds.stanford.edu) and submit feedback. We strongly encourage all members to submit comments and suggestions. During the past few months, UME has been

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## Advocacy Committee Report

By John Tomaszewski, MD – Committee Chair



*Are you a chair interested in joining an APC Committee?*

Contact the Committee Chair, or the APC Office at [info@apcprods.org](mailto:info@apcprods.org)!

The APC Advocacy Committee (APCAC) has identified the issues listed below as Advocacy Committee priorities for 2015. The committee recognizes that advocacy issues evolve throughout the year and it seeks to quickly adjust to the environment. APCAC especially welcomes input from all APC members on newly evolving advocacy developments.

### Laboratory Developed Tests (LDT's)

The FDA interest in regulating laboratory developed tests continues to be a major focus of the APCAC's activity. On July 31, 2014, the FDA notified the US Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions and the House Committee on Energy and Commerce of its intent to issue a draft guidance entitled *Framework for Regulatory Oversight of Laboratory Developed Tests (LDTs)* (Framework Guidance) and an accompanying draft guidance document entitled *FDA Notification and Medical Device Reporting for Laboratory Developed Tests (LDTs)*. APC members have three critical interests in LDT's:

1. That the technological and clinical innovation that is an intrinsic part of development of LDTs remains unhindered moving forward;
2. That the quality and reliability of LDTs be maintained at the highest levels possible; and
3. That LDTs and other life-saving laboratory diagnostics continue to be made widely available in a timely fashion for patient use.

To these ends, the APCAC has

been in coordinated conversation with APC leadership, the Pathology Roundtable societies, and the FDA to craft commentary on the FDA draft guidance. APC's current recommendations are as follows:

1. To avoid duplication and unnecessary regulatory burden on clinical laboratories, and to prevent any decrease or delay in availability of LDTs for clinical use, the APC recommends that CLIA guidelines currently in place, or that may from time to time be revised by CMS, continue to form the basis of the system that ensures the quality, reproducibility, reliability, and clinical relevance of LDTs.
2. The APC recommends that only the highest risk LDTs be subjected to full regulatory oversight by the FDA as outlined in the Draft Guidance.
3. The APC recommends that determination of which LDTs represent the highest risk be based on the FDA definitions of Class I, II, and III medical devices, which include consideration of BOTH technological characteristics AND risk to the patient if the device should fail. As such, only those LDTs that exhibit BOTH of the following characteristics should be designated as **high risk LDTs**:
  - a. The clinical consequences of an incorrect result or incorrect interpretation could lead to serious morbidity/mortality to a patient or otherwise burden public health.
  - AND
  - b. The LDT uses a methodology that is based on proprietary or otherwise unpublished or non-transparent testing algorithms,

computations, and/or software, such that the test results cannot be tied to the method used and inter-laboratory comparison or other independent verification of the test results is not possible.

On January 9, 2015, APC President Don Karcher gave testimony at an FDA-sponsored LDT public workshop, during which he outlined APC's position on these issues. APCAC will continue to help develop and represent APC's responses to this important matter in 2015.

### Protecting Access to Medicare Act of 2014 (PAMA)

Section 216 of the Protecting Access to Medicare Act of 2014 (PAMA), which adds Section 1834A to the Social Security Act, seeks to reform reimbursement rate setting under Medicare's Clinical Laboratory Fee Schedule (CLFS). There are five areas of this law which will be of concern to the APCAC: (1) reporting of private payor rates and volumes; (2) Medicare payment rate development; (3) coding; (4) coverage; and (5) steps involved in the overall implementation of the new law. The APCAC is starting its PAMA work by facilitating the collection of information from members on their ability to report.

### Pathology Workforce

The projected decrease in the pathologist workforce coupled with the anticipated reductions

*(continued on page 11)*

## Practice & Management Committee Report

By Barbara Ducatman, MD – Committee Chair

A major priority of the Practice & Management Committee is to generate and analyze reliable, useful benchmarking data on academic Pathology departments. This year we also hope to work with UHC to optimize their academic Pathology benchmarking data. We also plan to use this departmental benchmarking data as a launch-point for scholarship and journal publication. Therefore, we encourage all our members to submit a survey. If you submitted a survey last year, little has changed from last year's. Small changes to this year's survey include the

addition of compensation data. In addition, we are partnering with the Leadership Development & Diversity Committee to include gender in our faculty benchmarking section. If the survey appears daunting, an answer to each and every question is not required. Note that we will happily accept as much as you are prepared to give us. The survey is due February 27, 2015.

Other priorities for the P&M Committee include working with the Advocacy Committee to generate data to inform our advocacy positions for APC

regulatory priorities (e.g. laboratory developed tests, PAMA, SGR, etc.) and facilitating development of clinical business models for academic Pathology departments in the context of emerging value-based and at-risk clinical delivery and payment models. We have a standing phone call at 10 a.m. (Eastern time) the first Friday of every month, and we invite all APC members interested in working on these priorities to join us monthly and in person at our annual yearly meeting in San Diego. ◇



*Questions regarding APC's annual Practice survey can be directed to Dr. Barbara Ducatman, Chair of the Practice & Management Committee, at [bducatman@hsc.wvu.edu](mailto:bducatman@hsc.wvu.edu).*

## Research Committee Report

By Daniel Remick, MD – Committee Chair

After obtaining board approval for a physician scientist pathway, the Research Committee has not rested upon its laurels. One of the new initiatives will be to develop a database to track the progress of Pathology residents engaged in research. As you may be aware, residents can request that they receive board certification with the notation that they trained on the physician scientist pathway, if they meet the board requirements. Over the next few months, the Research

Committee will be drafting a survey to track candidates who may be requesting this pathway. We will work with the American Board of Pediatrics in developing the survey, given their experience. Pediatrics previously developed different survey tools some of which were more successful than others.

The NIH recently released a report on the physician scientist workforce and this will be the topic for the summer 2015 Research Committee

session at the APC meeting. We are working with authors of the report to solicit speakers for our meeting. Watch the website for updates about which national figures have agreed to speak.

Another initiative by the Research Committee will be to develop a database of funding sources available for outcomes-based research. This will follow on the presentation made by Dr. Sanfilippo at the summer 2014 APC meeting. ◇

## UME Committee Report (continued)

*(continued from page 5)*

working very closely with Dr. Jim Williams, UMEDS chair, and the UMEDS council to develop cases to complement

learning objectives. This team effort has defined a format for the cases; we anticipate releasing the first set of cases by the end of the first quarter of 2015. We invite members to

review these cases, provide feedback, and submit additional cases. Cases and feedback can also be emailed to [info@apcprods.org](mailto:info@apcprods.org) for review by the editors. ◇

## Leadership Development & Diversity Ad Hoc Committee Report

By Ann Thor, MD – Committee Co-Chair



*The Leadership Development & Diversity Ad Hoc Committee will transition in to a standing committee of the APC Council, effective July 2015.*

The LDD Committee has continued to have regular conference calls, with two primary areas of discussion. First the committee identified candidates for the LDD Keynote Address for the upcoming annual meeting of the APC in San Diego. Dr. Deborah Powell, former Chair of the Department of Pathology at the University of Kentucky, President of the USCAP, Executive Dean of the School of Medicine at the University of Kansas, and Dean of the University Of Minnesota School Of Medicine, has agreed to present a lecture on leadership development and diversity within the profession of Pathology. Dr. Powell was elected to the Institute of Medicine in 2000, is an elected Trustee of the American Board of Pathology, and was a member of the Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC) Women in Medicine Coordinating Committee. Dr. Powell was honored with APC's Distinguished Service Award in 2007, and is currently a Senior Fellow of the APC.

The LDD Committee is developing a pre-annual APC meeting symposium for 2015 entitled "Leadership Skills for Changing Times." The meeting content will target pathology leadership with less than 5 years of experience, although we hope that many experienced members will attend to enhance the dialogue. Members of other sections, including PDAS, may also attend on a space available basis. The format is

intended to be highly interactive, hence, preregistration is necessary and will be limited to 50 persons. The symposium will be free to APC members, and is scheduled from 1-5:30 PM, Tuesday July 14th. The content is under development, but will include the following areas; (1) Leading and managing your most important and difficult resource, your people, (2) Strategies and paradigms for effective mentoring, (3) Facilitating and managing change, and (4) Shifting financial models and issues in academic medicine. Topic presentations will be followed by open discussion. The symposium will end with a networking session designed to introduce newer leaders to more experienced ones within the APC. Attendees will receive a toolkit, inclusive of links, key references, and handouts. Dr. Dani Zander is leading an effort to have an expanded multiday course on leadership development prior to the 2016 APC annual meeting.

At the APC Council meeting in January of 2015, Ann Thor (Chair of the LDD) presented a proposal for status change of the LDD Committee from Ad Hoc Committee to regular standing Committee of the organization. The proposal was accepted with strong support by Council members, and was put before the full membership of the APC for a vote. The proposal was adopted, and APC membership will nominate and formally elect a new Chair of the LDD Committee. The

elected committee Chair will be a formal member of Council starting in July 2015, and the committee will have regular programming at the annual meeting of the APC.

Dr. Peter Kragel continues to lead the APC Diversity and Inclusion Program Fellows and their Chair mentors in monthly conference calls and projects. Current fellows will attend this summer's meeting and present their project updates to the full APC LDD Committee.

Dr. Lydia Howell is first author of a newly published article, "Sex Differences in Workplace Satisfaction and Engagement of Academic Pathologists: Opportunities to enhance faculty diversity" in *Archives in Pathology and Lab Medicine*, <http://www.archivesofpathology.org/doi/pdf/10.5858/arpa.2014-0312-EP>

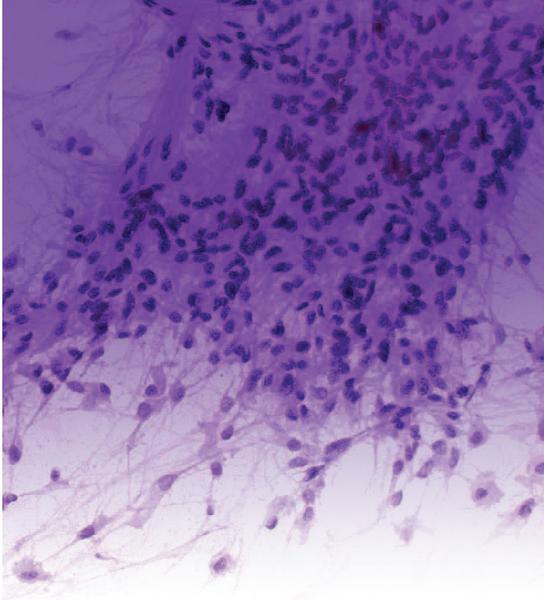
The February issue of *Academic Medicine* has been posted in the published ahead-of-print section of the journal's web site. Of note in the issue are articles on the "Gender Distribution of Medical School Faculty by Academic Track Type" and "Mentoring and the Career Satisfaction of Male and Female Academic Medical Faculty." <http://journals.lww.com/AcademicMedicine/pages/default.aspx>

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### THURSDAY, OCTOBER 8, 2015

**OPENING COMMENTS**, Asma Nusrat

**OPENING KEYNOTE: BALANCING TOLERANCE AND AUTOIMMUNITY: STRATEGIES FOR CONTROLLING HARMFUL IMMUNE RESPONSES**, Abul K. Abbas, University of California, San Francisco  
Chair: Mark E. Sobel

**ADAPTIVE IMMUNITY: IMMUNITY IN ATHEROSCLEROSIS AND METABOLISM**

Chairs: F. William Luscinskas, Asma Nusrat

- **Regulating Supply of Myeloid Cells in Cardiovascular Disease**, Matthias Nahrendorf, Massachusetts General Hospital
- **Defective Inflammation Resolution in Atherosclerosis: Mechanisms and Therapeutic Opportunities**, Ira Tabas, Columbia University
- **How Do T Lymphocytes Influence Atherosclerosis?** Andrew Lichtman, Brigham & Women's Hospital

**CELL INJURY AND REPAIR**

Chairs: Richard N. Mitchell, Cary D. Austin

- **Genes and Small Molecules to Delay Diseases in Aging**, David A. Sinclair, Harvard Medical School
- **Abstract-Driven Short Talks**
- **Adult Stem Cells and Biomimetic Scaffolds for Skeletal Tissue Engineering and Regeneration**, Rocky Tuan, University of Pittsburgh
- **The Complex Roles of Autophagy in Cancer**, Jayanta (Jay) Debnath, University of California, San Francisco

**WELCOME WINE & CHEESE RECEPTION/  
VIEW THE POSTERS**

### FRIDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2015

**KEYNOTE: TBD**

**STEM CELLS AND STEM CELL SIGNATURES IN CANCER**

Chairs: Christopher A. Moskaluk, Satdarshan Paul S. Monga

- **Origins, Biology, and Some Translational Implications of the Cancer Epigenome**, Stephen B. Baylin, The Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine
- **Abstract-Driven Short Talk**
- **Clonal Analysis of Experimentally Induced Human Breast Cancers**, Connie J. Eaves, BC Cancer Agency

**INNATE IMMUNITY: RECRUITMENT OF LEUKOCYTES TO SITES OF INFLAMMATION**

Chairs: William A. Muller, F. William Luscinskas

- **Multiple Mechanisms of Leukocyte Recruitment to a Site of Inflammation**, Paul Kubes, University of Calgary Medical Center
- **Abstract-Driven Short Talks**
- **Noiceptor-Mediated Control of Tissue Inflammation**, Ulrich H. von Andrian, Harvard Medical School
- **Leukocyte-Epithelial Interactions and Mucosal Homeostasis**, Charles A. Parkos, University of Michigan

**POSTER DISCUSSIONS**

### SATURDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2015

**CANCER NICHES AND DEVELOPMENTAL PATHWAY SIGNALING IN CANCER**

Chairs: Satdarshan Paul S. Monga, Christopher A. Moskaluk

- **Dissecting Breast Cancer Through the Lens of Development**, Geoffrey Wahl, Salk Institute
- **Abstract-Driven Short Talks**
- **Evolving Dynamic Models of Cancer Stem Cells**, Jeremy N. Rich, Cleveland Clinic Lerner Research Institute
- **Conserved Signaling Pathway Defects in Colon Cancer Pathogenesis - Modeling Colon Cancer Development and Progression in the Mouse**, Eric R. Fearon, University of Michigan

**CLOSING REMARKS: COMMON THEMES AND LESSONS LEARNED**, Asma Nusrat



[www.pisa2015.org](http://www.pisa2015.org)

## Advocacy Committee Report (continued)

(continued from page 6)

in GME funding to train new pathologists forecast a future with fewer board-certified pathologists, both absolutely, and even more so per capita. There is also a concern about dilution of Pathology education in medical school curricula associated with this deficiency of trained pathologists. The workforce issue extends beyond board certified pathologists since there is also a looming shortage of trained technologists. APCAC participated in and supported the intersociety Workforce Summit of 2013 and continues to participate in this intersociety work. The theme of the APCAC session at the annual meeting in July 2015 will be entitled "GME Opportunities in Pathology Workforce Development: The Challenge to Innovate." This will be an exciting program with nationally known

speakers. We look forward to your participation.

### **Stark Law Updates**

The discussion about the misapplication of the in-office ancillary service (IOAS) exception to the physician self-referral law continues. In 2013 the GAO reports on advanced imaging and anatomic pathology focused on the costs and risks of such inappropriate use. APCAC continues to track and inform APC members on these developments and advocates for the rectification of inappropriate self-referral.

### **NIH Funding**

Research funding for biomedical science has been under great pressures. The status of NIH funding has a direct impact on APC members. APCAC tracks the status of national research funding, keeps members informed of

current developments, and takes every opportunity to partner with other societies to advocate for improvement in research funding in medicine. The proposed 2015 budget calls for a 1.2% increase in federal spending for research and development. Included in the request is an additional \$157 million for NIH (0.5% increase). Complete details about the White House proposed budget for research may be found at:

[tinyurl.com/mdm9uza](http://tinyurl.com/mdm9uza)

The Advocacy Committee meets by phone conference on a monthly basis to receive updates on recent activities related to these pressing issues, as well as to coordinate plans to respond to or collaborate with other organizations. For information, email APCAC Chair John Tomaszewski at [johntoma@buffalo.edu](mailto:johntoma@buffalo.edu). ♦



## Pathology Roundtable Report

By Daniel G Remick, MD

In the last newsletter Dr. Zander reported that I would become the new moderator of the Pathology Roundtable, attempting to replicate her leadership. I am serving as the moderator in my capacity as a member of council of the American Society for Investigative Pathology and not as a council member for the Association of Pathology Chairs.

The Roundtable has held two conference calls which were specifically directed towards developing a response to the FDA proposal to regulate laboratory developed tests

(LDT). To briefly review the issue, the FDA has proposed to regulate LDT in response to some concerns raised by patient advocacy groups about poorly performing tests. Within the Roundtable there is a spectrum of opinions about the utility of the enhanced FDA regulation. For example, the Association of Molecular Pathology position maintains that no additional FDA regulation is warranted, while other organizations believe there may be a role for the FDA to play. There are complicated nuances to this issue and the Roundtable produced some consistent

themes concerning the regulation. Despite these themes, a single position was not agreed to by all Roundtable members. Therefore, organizations have submitted their own comments to the FDA.

The Roundtable fulfilled its function as a communication vehicle among the different Pathology organizations, which is hailed as an important goal by the participants, even if we could not agree upon a consistent position. ♦

*Does your department have a new staff member to enroll in an APC Section?*

*Chairs and PDAS members can complete APC's Additional Member Form at [apcprods.org/members/new](http://apcprods.org/members/new).*



**Academic Pathology, APC's new Open Access publication, is a venue for original articles, reviews, and commentaries pertaining to the core missions of the APC.**

## A New Journal: *Academic Pathology Report*

By James Crawford, MD, PhD, Editor-in-Chief

The new journal for the Association of Pathology Chairs is now launched, and ready to receive submitted manuscripts. The leadership of the journal is:

### Editor-in-Chief:

James M. Crawford, MD, PhD  
([jcrawford1@nshs.edu](mailto:jcrawford1@nshs.edu))

### Associate Editors:

Richard Conran, MD, PhD, JD  
([conranr@evms.edu](mailto:conranr@evms.edu));  
Ronald E. Domen, MD  
([rdomen@hmc.psu.edu](mailto:rdomen@hmc.psu.edu));  
Barbara Ducatman, MD  
([bducatman@hsc.wvu.edu](mailto:bducatman@hsc.wvu.edu));  
Karen L. Kaul, MD, PhD  
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James M. Musser, MD, PhD  
([JMMusser@houstonmethodist.org](mailto:JMMusser@houstonmethodist.org))

### Senior Advisors:

Avrum I. Gotlieb, MD;  
James L. Madara, MD;  
Alfred P. (Fred) Sanfilippo, MD, PhD;  
Deborah E. Powell, MD

### Managing Editor:

Jen Norman, MEd  
([jnorman@apcprods.org](mailto:jnorman@apcprods.org))

### Executive Editor:

Priscilla Markwood, CAE  
([pmarkwood@apcprods.org](mailto:pmarkwood@apcprods.org))

This journal is established to

give voice to innovation in leadership and management of academic departments of Pathology. A challenge has been issued to the membership of the APC, to examine and rigorously report on your innovations that can enhance our discipline at large. This challenge is extended to APC Chairs, PRODS, PDAS, UMEDS, and GMEAS alike, since all aspects of department life are fair game. This is an opportunity for scholarship in an entirely new space: the

*(continued on page 14)*

## Graduate Medical Education Committee Report

By Peter Kragel, MD – Committee Chair

The APC has been actively pursuing a number of programs and projects related to graduate medical education. These activities are highly collaborative, and typically involve PRODS Council and committees and work groups incorporating representatives from Pathology professional societies and accrediting and certifying bodies.

A major focus continues to be support of the Fellowship Directors Ad Hoc Committee (FDAHC) through quarterly phone meetings and a dedicated listserv. The committee will again meet in person at the APC 2015 annual meeting. Important FDAHC activities have included:

- Correspondence to the ACGME expressing concern in regard to the sharing of individualized resident milestone data;
- Discussion of fellowship milestones;

- Consideration of a fellowship match;
- Development of a position statement on the current fellowship application process; and
- Discussion of CLER site visits, especially in the context of stand alone fellowship programs.

Through the FDAHC, the APC continues to pursue the goal of a fellowship match for Pathology. The group presently considers the pursuit of a match through the SF Match residency and fellowship matching services. Members of the committee are bringing this discussion to their subspecialty societies for consideration (*see opposite page for more information*).

Other GME activities include:

- A laboratory utilization education program for Pathology residents, collaborating with the CAP

- and pathologist content experts;
- A survey on appropriateness of residency training time and content for newly practicing pathologists, collaborating with Pathology educators, the American Board of Pathology, and the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education;
- A "pipeline taskforce" that seeks to enhance the recruitment of the "best and the brightest" medical students to Pathology;
- Advocacy to address the importance of continued support of Pathology residency training positions by funding agencies; and
- Participation on a PhD task force to explore the role of PhD laboratorians in the evolving health care system, including subspecialty mix, availability, and demand. ◇

## Fellowship Directors Ad Hoc Committee: SF Match Executive Summary



- Website: <https://www.sfmatch.org/>
- SF Match has provided residency and fellowship matching services to specialties and subspecialties for 40 years.
- Residency specialties using the SF Match include ophthalmology, neurotology, and plastic surgery.
- Fellowship specialties using the SF match include orthopedic trauma, pediatric dermatology, pediatric neurosurgery, pediatric orthopedic, pediatric otolaryngology, procedural dermatology, orthopedic sports medicine, orthopedic trauma, rhinology, spine surgery, Adult Cardiothoracic Anesthesiology, Adult Hip & Knee/Tumor, Craniofacial Surgery, Critical Care Anesthesiology, Facial Plastic, Microsurgery, Movement Disorders, Neurocritical Care, Ophthalmic Plastic & Reconstructive Surgery, Ophthalmology, and Orthopaedic Foot & Ankle.
- The SF Match requires approximately 25 participating programs to run a match. Programs can be from multiple specialties (for example, not 25 in Pediatric Path and 25 in Molecular, but 25 combined Pediatric Path and Molecular). There is no requirement that a specific percentage of programs participate.
- Programs can hold positions out of the match to accommodate residents in their own program or to make multi-year commitments.
- An "umbrella" society or individual specialty society may serve as the sponsor. The sponsoring society establishes a code of conduct and enforces that code. Some sponsoring societies require programs that pull positions out after residents have interviewed to reimburse the applicants' interview costs and pay a penalty.
- The SF Match requires a match liaison from the sponsoring society. The liaison responds to questions from programs and assists with interpretation of rules for programs.
- While the SF Match provides flexibility to accommodate extended timelines and variation in timelines between programs, the APC's goal would be to eventually have all programs on the same timeline, and eventually migrate the interview date closer to the matriculation date.
- Programs and resident applicants pay to participate. The program cost is \$325 for year 1 and \$125 for subsequent years, regardless of the number of spots. The participant cost is \$100 to register and \$60 to rank 10 programs, and \$15 for each additional program.
- Resident applicants can list more than one specialty on their rank list (e.g. Molecular and Pediatric Pathology).
- Resident applicants would use a common application. Programs may require supplemental material in addition to the information in the common application.
- The SF Match maintains the match data so that trends may be examined.

*The FDAHC currently considers the pursuit of a Pathology fellowship match through the SF Match.*

## A New Journal: *Academic Pathology Report*

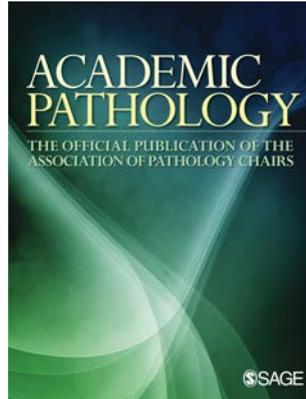
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(continued from page 12)

leadership and transformation of academic Pathology in the coming era of healthcare and research. We are specifically soliciting articles addressing the operational and leadership challenges faced by academic departments of Pathology in meeting – and excelling in – their three missions of clinical care, education, and research. Priority will be given to articles that address any of the following:

- 1) Methods or infrastructure that advance pathology and clinical laboratory practice quality and improve patient care, including clinical informatics, genomic testing and data management, laboratory automation, electronic health record (EHR) integration, and annotated biorepositories;
- 2) Best practices in cost-effective multidisciplinary and/or inter-professional clinical partnerships that add demonstrated value to patient care;
- 3) New and effective pedagogical approaches to undergraduate and graduate medical education in Pathology, including curricula and practice settings designed to enhance resident and fellowship training;
- 4) Evaluative methods for reaching objective teaching goals, such as competencies, milestones, and core entrustable professional activities (EPAs);
- 5) Models for training and sustaining academic pathologists, including clinician scientists in Pathology;
- 6) Methods for enhancing



- extramural support for basic, translational, and/or clinical outcomes research in Pathology;
- 7) Administrative and organizational models that best promote academic Pathology's clinical, educational, and research missions;
  - 8) Business Practices that advance the ability of academic Pathology to serve its three missions, including access to regional or national markets, effective service to home institutions, and best-practices in business and operational performance;
  - 9) Leadership development in academic Pathology, including the leadership role of academic Pathology in academic medical centers and health systems.

This is an open access journal, and the intended audience reaches beyond academic Pathology, into the realms of policy, healthcare management, and pan-disciplinary research. We also hope to appeal to an international readership, including potential submitting authors. For the

first year (calendar year 2015), the Article Processing Fee (APF) will be \$625 for APC members (defined at the department level). Starting in 2016, the APF for APC members will be \$1250. The APF will be paid only upon acceptance of a manuscript for publication.

This journal will be indexed by PubMed once a threshold number of peer-reviewed articles are published. Our goal is to have manuscript submissions by the end of the 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter of 2015, and published articles by the end of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter 2015. For all those reading this APC newsletter, most likely these will be altogether new manuscripts for you, in an area of scholarship that you have not published in before. I will issue the challenge again: if each academic department of Pathology that is a member of APC submits at least one competitive manuscript for peer review, *Academic Pathology* will have a very successful launch. You will be writing about innovations and leadership that you are already engaged in. Now is the time for rigorous assessment of your outcomes, and dissemination of the new knowledge that you have gained.

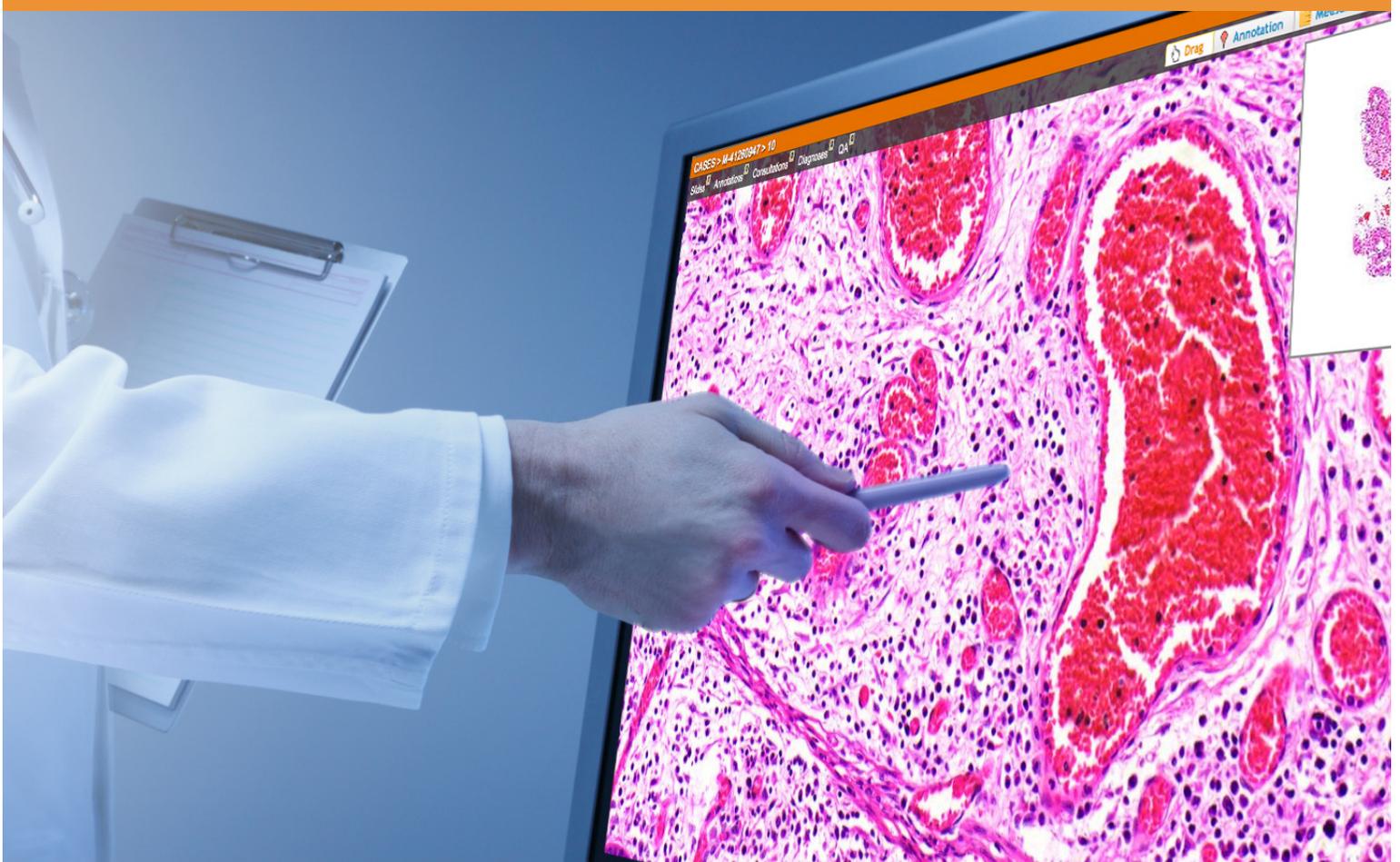
*Academic Pathology* is available at [apc.sagepub.com](http://apc.sagepub.com).

Manuscripts can be submitted at [mc.manuscriptcentral.com/apc](http://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/apc). ♦

*If each APC member submits at least one competitive manuscript for peer review, Academic Pathology will have a very successful launch!*

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## GMEAS Section News

By Jeanne Lay – Section Chair

Greetings to everyone! The GMEAS Council is busy preparing for the summer meeting program in San Diego, in coordination with PRODS. We will be sharing a number of valuable sessions with PRODS. The GMEAS specific program will include sessions for new coordinators, as well as for more experienced coordinators. For new coordinators, we will have sessions on our role as a liaison with the various organizations we encounter throughout the year (e.g. AAMC, USCAP, ACGME, ABP, etc.). A New Coordinator Session to discuss the “Role of the Coordinator” will again be offered to start off the meeting. Last year’s sessions on “Ask the Experts” for the three evaluation systems, E-Value, Med-Hub, and New Innovations, were popular for both new and seasoned users. In addition we will repeat these sessions, and we will add a discussion on the recently implemented Milestones in evaluating the residents completed for two cycles by the time we arrive in San Diego. We are sure to have

meaningful discussions about the ease of using each evaluation system to complete the task. The ERAS® (Electronic Residency Application Service) recently went to a Web-based Program Director’s Workstation (PDWS) and experienced some difficulties during the first few weeks that kept our listserv busy with questions about where to go and what to do in the system to start reviewing applicants. A presentation on ERAS® is planned for coordinators to discuss these difficulties and to ask questions about utilizing the various functions. We will continue the Open Discussion of Best Practices and Personal Development, including Laughter Therapy, with short sessions and a Q&A to follow.

We are excited to have Ms. Erin Berryhill, Accreditation Administrator for all of the Pathology Programs for ACGME, speak at the summer meeting about the most common issues that coordinators call about, common errors that are made and how most can be avoided.

Many of you have probably spoken to Erin, as she reports having had numerous conversations with members of our group. It will be really nice to put a face with a name. We have a question and answer period planned to follow her presentation.

In 2015, we hope to continue the GMEAS poster session and we have a few coordinators who have already agreed to submit a poster. The Call for Posters will be sent to the GMEAS listserv subscribers, and our members-at-large will be contacting members to encourage them to present a poster. Please contribute to making our poster session a success! To submit a poster, contact Jeanne Lay or Katie Warfield.

The GMEAS Council is always seeking talented leaders among our members to serve in elected offices. If you are interested in serving GMEAS, please contact Jeanne Lay (Chair), Raymond Anderson (Chair-Elect), or Katie Warfield (Immediate Past Chair). ♦



### GMEAS Contacts

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## UMEDS Section News

By H. James Williams, MD – Section Chair

Plans are underway for another exciting program at the APC 2015 Annual Meeting this July in sunny San Diego at the Rancho Bernardo Inn! We will again have the Course Directors Workshop on Tuesday afternoon (July 14th) (covered by the general registration fee) which will feature an Introduction by Dr. Reid Heffner, Team Based Learning (TBL) Basics by Dr.

Melina Flanagan, Dealing with Millennials by Dr. Peter Anderson, and Academic Remediation by Dr. Barbara Knollman-Ritschel. New UMEDS attendees are invited to have breakfast with the UMEDS Council members Wednesday morning; breakfast will be followed by the Advocacy Session focusing on innovation in pathology GME and workforce issues. Later

that morning UMEDS will participate in joint Discussion Groups with the other sections, addressing diverse topics of interest. Following the Awards Lunch, UMEDS will attend an interactive session on Professionalism Remediation moderated by Dr. Suzanne Powell. Thursday morning will begin with a joint

*(continued on page 18)*

## UMEDS Section News (continued)

*(continued from page 17)*

session on Practical Applications of Computational Pathology moderated by Dr. Karen Kaul, including an overview, updates, and selected topics. UMEDS Plenary I Session will feature presenters on “Innovations in Promoting Pathology as a Career Choice” selected from the posters on display at the meeting the day before. Following the UMEDS business meeting lunch, the UMEDS Plenary II Session on Thursday afternoon will highlight UME Pathology Competencies

(“Pathology for the Undifferentiated Medical Student”) including invited speakers Dr. Brian Smith, Yale School of Medicine, and Dr. Alan Wells, University of Pittsburgh Medical Center, on topics related to clinical pathology/laboratory diagnostics. Dr. H. James Williams will lead a lively discussion on just how much histopathology the general medical student needs to know. Friday morning we will conclude with the UMEDS Plenary III Session on “What’s New in Pathology Education?” which allows the UMEDS

membership the opportunity to showcase their innovations and advancements in education at a national meeting. Of course, Priscilla Markwood et. al. will be making arrangements for the attendees to socialize in the setting of local attractions in the San Diego area!

Much work has been done in establishing national standards for expected pathology competencies of undergraduate medical students which can be found on the APC website. This is an ongoing dynamic process

*(continued on page 22)*



*Case examples for the Pathology learning competencies can be submitted at [umeds.stanford.edu](http://umeds.stanford.edu).*

## PDAS Section News

By Kelley Suskie – Section Chair

The PDAS Council is creating an informative 2015 agenda for the PDAS session held during the APC annual conference. Based upon feedback from previous attendees and current events, the 2015 PDAS agenda is sure to entice you to join us in San Diego this July.

PDAS is the only venue solely dedicated to academic Pathology administrative matters. The annual conference is an exceptional complement to the new monthly PDAS discussion group conference calls and the regional meetings.

This year PDAS Council is excited to repeat the offer of an orientation for our new members and first-time attendees. Join your seasoned colleagues for this special workshop to ensure a successful conference and career in academic Pathology administration. The PDAS Summer Meeting program will offer an energetic session with the chairs at the

APC Advocacy Committee with a roundtable discussion that includes national leaders from ACGME, ABP, and the GME. The following session with the Chairs will highlight the challenges in the business of academic Pathology. Participants will hear from leaders on the topics of molecular Pathology, Pathology legal, and reimbursement issues. Immediately following the invigorating discussion group sessions, we will honor the 2015 PDAS Distinguished Service Award during the APC Awards Lunch. And, that is just the FIRST day.

The networking and learning continues through the next day and a half. You will hear from pathologists and leaders in the managed care arena. We will gain insight into the new funds flow models affecting the medical schools across the nation. The program will wrap with an RVW, regulatory and legal update presented by Mick Raich and Jane Pine Wood.

In addition to the annual conference, your involvement is encouraged and appreciated in the 2015 APC survey. This year’s survey will establish benchmarks for productivity and salaries. Your participation will help us all gain the momentum we need to demonstrate the validity of the data. More details can be found in the P&M Committee update on page 7.

During 2014, PDAS introduced a monthly discussion call open to all, which provides a regular and recurring dialogue and avenue to dive into important academic Pathology business topics and challenges.

The new APC journal, *Academic Pathology*, offers PDAS an opportunity to publish; see page 12 for more information.

You owe it to yourself, your organization, your department, and your career to be involved and be in attendance in July at the PDAS Annual Meeting. ♦

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## PRODS Section News

By Charles Timmons, MD, PhD – Section Chair

The thoughts and best wishes of everyone in the PRODS section are currently with Dr. Gayle Winters, who has stepped down as Chair of PRODS for health reasons. We all wish her a speedy and complete recovery. The reconfiguration of PRODS officers after the special election held in November consists of Charles Timmons, Chair (moving up from Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect); Lisa Dixon, Vice-Chair (moving up from Secretary); Nadeem Zafar, Secretary (moving up from Secretary-Elect); and Kristin Fiebelkorn, Secretary-Elect (moving up from Councilor-at-Large). Replacing Dr. Fiebelkorn as Councilor-at-Large is Scott Anderson, residency director at the University of Vermont. Rounding out your Council are Wes Naritoku, Immediate Past Chair, and Trevor MacPherson, Mary Furlong, and Güliz Barkan, Councilors-at-Large.

Planning for the Spring and Summer PRODS sessions is proceeding apace. As has been our tradition, there will be a Spring session on Monday, March 23, to be held in the Republic B Room of the Sheraton Hotel in Boston, timed to coincide with the beginning of the annual meeting of the U.S. and Canadian Academy of Pathology. This Spring session, which had expanded to 4 hours last year as a last opportunity to prepare program directors, particularly new program directors, for the implementation by the ACGME of the Next Accreditation System and the milestones in training to competency, will be shorter this year. Nevertheless,

the key components of the session will again include an orientation for new program directors, an update from Dr. Rebecca Johnson, CEO of the ABP, and updates from and an opportunity to engage in questions and answers with Dr. Laura Edgar, Executive Director of the Pathology Review Committee of the ACGME, and Dr. Julia Iezzoni, Chair of the ACGME's Review Committee for Pathology. Last year's discussion was spirited, to say the least, and we expect that the first nine months of experience with the Next Accreditation System, including the implementation of clinical competency committees and the initial reporting of resident milestones to the ACGME, will generate another useful exchange of information, both from the program directors effecting the implementation and from the representatives of the ACGME, as they have their first look at the data that will henceforth be used to assess the quality of residency training programs.

The 2015 annual meeting of the APC will be held at Rancho Bernardo Inn in the San Diego vicinity of California, July 14-17. Back by popular demand will be our "Boot Camp" for new program directors on Tuesday afternoon, July 14. This includes orientation sessions by the Chair of PRODS, by Dr. Rebecca Johnson, ABP, and by Drs. Laura Edgar and Julia Iezzoni, ACGME. Last year's addition of reports from the resident representatives of the ASCP Resident Council, the CAP Residents Forum, the AAMC, and the USCAP, followed by a

question and answer session, was especially well received by new program directors interested in how to engage their trainees in these professional organizations, and this activity will be repeated again this year. While the Tuesday Boot Camp is designed for "new" PRODS, it consistently attracts "old" PRODS as well, who find the presentations informative and always contribute substantially to the discussion. All are welcome! There will also be a breakfast for "new" PRODS to interact with PRODS Council on Friday morning, July 17, to provide another opportunity to air questions and concerns that might have been raised during the meeting.

During the main portion of the summer meeting, Wednesday through Friday, July 15-17, the PRODS will benefit from several sessions organized by the APC. The joint Advocacy/GME/UME session will focus on innovation and challenges in Pathology education, including presentations and discussion of the Institute of Medicine's recent report on Graduate Medical Education. PRODS will also participate in an APC joint session on computational Pathology, including a presentation on the PIER curriculum (Pathology Informatics Essentials for Residents). In collaboration with the UMEDS Section, Drs. Suzanne Powell and Robert Hoffman are helping to put together a joint session on the thorny topic of Professionalism and Remediation. I'm sure

*(continued on page 22)*



*Meeting programs are now online at [apcprods.org/meetings/2015](http://apcprods.org/meetings/2015).*

## PRODS Section News (continued)

*(continued from page 21)*

that we can all use help in that area.

In addition to a brief business meeting, the PRODS sessions will include a variety of updates, including those from the ABP and the ACGME. Those updates will complement an update from the Autopsy Working Group, which has been looking at the role of the Autopsy in Pathology training and practice for the 21st Century. Also of note, the Research Pathway for Pathology Training, which was discussed at previous PRODS meetings, has now been approved by the Board, and our discussion can turn toward its implementation and utility. Dr. Karen Frank, Chair of the ASCP RISE Committee, will present the latest data from the RISE examination, including that obtained from the initial offering of the RISE-First for entering Pathology residents, which will be of interest as we consider Level 1 milestones and the transition from medical school into Pathology residency. Dr. Bruce Alexander will update us on how Pathology fared in the National Residency

Match for 2015. On a related topic, Dr. Wesley Naritoku will brief us on the activities of the Advocacy Committee's Pipeline Subcommittee, which will kick off a discussion of several of the current "hot topics" for Pathology education, including current proposals that highlight the issues of whether there could or should be advanced credit toward certification given for pre-residency activities such as post-sophomore fellowships, whether the content and length of the residency curriculum can be tailored to the competency level and subspecialty interest of individual trainees, and whether the current requirements for training address the current needs of the employers of our graduates. Of particular interest will be the results of a recent survey of participants in the ABP's Maintenance of Certification program that grew out of a recommendation of the Pathology Workforce Summit of December 2013. This survey queried these relatively new graduates on their readiness for practice at graduation. The results are now being analyzed and we await their presentation with

eager interest. Dr. Peter Kragel, Chair of the APC's GME Committee, also leads an ad hoc committee composed of representatives of subspecialty fellowship programs in Pathology, and he will be updating us on the activities of that committee, including the latest information regarding the possibility of a fellowship match in Pathology. Finally, on a very practical note, we want to build upon last summer's census of programs using the four most common software management systems (E\*Value, MedHub, My Evaluations, and New Innovations) by setting aside an hour of user group breakout sessions in which problems and solutions can be shared among those using the same management software.

All in all, it promises to be a full and interesting meeting, hopefully replete with both practical information and thoughtful discussion on the future of Pathology education. I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible in San Diego on July 14-17! ♦

## UMEDS Section News (continued)

*(continued from page 18)*

and suggestions for improvement are always welcomed. UMEDS members are encouraged to prepare case examples for the objectives (cases can be submitted at [umeds.stanford.edu](http://umeds.stanford.edu)). A template is being developed to expedite the process of submitting case examples and will be

forthcoming.

*Academic Pathology*, a new journal put forth by the APC with Dr. James Crawford as the Editor-in-Chief, is in place and accepting submissions for publication. This is a wonderful opportunity for UMEDS members to publish and communicate scholarly activities.

The UMEDS Section belongs to its members – always feel free to let me know ways to make it better and topics that you would like to see presented at future meetings at [hjwilliams@hsc.wvu.edu](mailto:hjwilliams@hsc.wvu.edu). I look forward to seeing you all in San Diego this July! ♦



*Does your department have a new staff member to enroll in an APC Section?*

*Chairs and PDAs members can complete APC's Additional Member Form at [apcprods.org/members/new](http://apcprods.org/members/new).*

## Southeast Regional Meeting

By Tris Parslow, MD PhD, and Amyn Rojiani, MD PhD – Meeting Co-Organizers

The picturesque riverside town of Savannah proved a spectacular setting for last year's annual Southeast Regional Meeting. Gathering October 1-3 at the Westin Savannah Harbor Resort, a short ferry ride directly across the Savannah River from the historic downtown, attendees were treated to brilliant autumn weather and a constant parade of giant container vessels and smaller craft navigating to and from the city's busy commercial port. The program was spectacular, too. With the largest Ebola outbreak in history unfolding in western Africa, that virus was a major theme, as Drs. Sherif Zaki (CDC) and Colleen Kraft (Emory) shared expertise and

personal insights gained from combatting it in the U.S. and abroad. Dr. Paul Wallach recounted his first two years as Academic Vice Dean at Georgia Regents University, and Dean of Business Marc Miller (GRU) presented "Big Data in Medicine," jointly setting the stage for Dr. Alexis Carter (Emory), President of the API, to introduce the proposed new curriculum on Pathology Informatics Essentials for Residents (PIER). PDAS luminaries Cindy Bevis (Florida) and Martha Miers (Vanderbilt) recounted harrowing experiences of productivity management and health-system downsizing, set against the background of Dr. Barbara Ducatman's (WVU) analysis of faculty productivity

benchmarks derived from the latest APC survey. Back-to-back presentations by Dr. Elaine Jeter, the pathologist Medical Director of Palmetto GBA, and Dr. Steven Kroft, President of the ASCP, sparked a lively discussion of the challenges of utilization management and related aspects of U.S. healthcare policy. On a lighter note, oncologist Dr. Fadlo Khuri (Emory) shared his thoughts on how to publish in top-tier journals, from his perspective as Editor-in-Chief of Cancer. The meeting ended strong, with Dr. Steve Carroll (MUSC) bravely volunteering to host SEAPC 2015. We'll see y'all in Charleston next year! ♦



## Northeast Regional Meeting Report

By Dani Zander, MD – Meeting Co-Organizer

The NEAPC returned to its traditional location at Cambridge Beaches, Bermuda, on September 11-14, 2014, for an energized and future-oriented program. Beginning with the ad hoc session on Thursday, led by Jon Morrow, the meeting got off to a spirited start with sessions including Computational Pathology – What, When, and How?; Reporting NGS results – How much and how to report – Vignettes of institutional experience (or not) and data pipelines; The "new" ACGME approved Physician-Scientist track in Pathology; and Ebola Preparedness. Our roster of speakers for these sessions

included Jon Morrow, Steve Peiper, John Sinard, Liron Pantanowitz, David Roth, James Musser, Debra Leonard, and Michael Prystowsky. After a few hours to enjoy the beachfront resort, the group convened for the beginning of the regular program, which was kicked off by a welcome reception on the patio with a beautiful view of the sunset. Led by Daniel Knowles and Dani Zander, topics included Genomics; Update from the American Board of Pathology; Value-Based Initiatives in Pathology and Laboratory Medicine; and Designing the Ideal Residency Program, presented by speakers Neal

Lindemann, Mark Rubin, David Roth, Debra Leonard, Rebecca Johnson, James Musser, John Sinard, Daniel Knowles, Steve Peiper, Dani Zander, Michael Prystowsky, and Jon Morrow. A recreational highlight of the meeting was a very successful fishing trip off the Bermudan coast, which yielded a delicious dinner of fresh fish prepared in Bermudan style, shared by the group in the beachside restaurant. Please save the date for our next meeting, September 17-20, 2015 – Chairs from all regions are invited to attend! ♦



## West–Midwest–Canada Regional Meeting Report

By Bob Mrak, MD PhD, and Alan Schiller, MD – Meeting Co–Organizers



The 2014 West-Midwest-Canada regional meeting of Pathology Chairs and Administrators took place at the Grand Hyatt Kauai Resort and Spa in Kauai, Hawaii, October 21-24, 2014. Hurricane Ana threatened the islands, but veered south at the last minute to just miss Kauai. The sessions were attended by approximately 50 Chairs and PDAs, who mixed three days of scientific sessions with a luau at the hotel, catamaran sailing trips, snorkeling, visits to the "Grand Canyon of the Pacific," and general relaxing on the beach.

The speakers and topics of the meeting were:

- A report from the CAP. This session, presented by Drs. Jonathan Myles, Richard Freidberg, Donald Karcher, and John Scott, focused on changes in CMMS and other federal rules and procedures relevant to Pathology, new CAP guidelines for Pathology practice, pathologist practice and training surveys,

accountable care organizations and Pathology, and CAP initiatives in the areas of test utilization and laboratory-developed tests.

- A description of the new PIER curriculum (Pathology Informatics Essential for Residents) by Dr. Karcher.
- A case study of cost repositioning efforts at the Cleveland Clinic by Dr. Kandice Kottke-Marchant.
- Presentations on Pathology commercial revenue enhancement and effective hospital Part A negotiations by Robert Tessier, Senior Reimbursement Consultant at HBP Services.
- The clinical laboratory's role in patient care and cost transformation by Dr. Karen Kaul.
- Pathology in Canada by Dr. Richard Hegele.
- National standards in Pathology education by Dr. Barbara Knollman-Ritschel.
- Mentoring in Pathology by John Baci, Pathology Director, Boston Children's Hospital.

- A report on the American Pathology Foundation by Dr. Karen Thompson and John Baci.
- Finally, a "surprise" guest was Dr. Thomas Giambelluca, an expert on global warming from the University of Hawaii, who gave a scholarly and well received talk entitled "Global warming: the prognosis for planet Earth," which was both fascinating and disturbing.

Powerpoints of the scientific sessions are available for download at <http://www.utoledo.edu/med/depts/path/2014%20APC-PDAS.html>

We look forward to the 2015 regional meeting, October 12-15, which will take place at the fabulous Sierra Nevada resort of Squaw Valley, near Lake Tahoe in California. This is being organized by Dr. Steven Gonias at the University of California at San Diego. ◇

## From the Executive Office...

*Questions or concerns about any part of the Executive Office statement can be directed to Jen Norman at [jnorman@apcprods.org](mailto:jnorman@apcprods.org) or 301-634-7881.*

We hope you will all join us this summer at the Rancho Bernardo Inn in sunny San Diego! Draft programs, registration, and hotel information can be found at [apcprods.org/meetings/2015](http://apcprods.org/meetings/2015). Room rates at the Rancho Bernardo Inn range from \$245-295; those on a budget can take advantage of APC's room block at the San Diego Rancho Bernardo Radisson Hotel, where the room rates are \$199.

APC has an array of "Pathology: The Science in

Medicine" products available for purchase. Help promote Pathology wherever you go, or get some great gifts for your department! To place an order, visit [tinyurl.com/path-merch](http://tinyurl.com/path-merch).

Our online member portal provider, MemberClicks, has recently updated its security settings. This makes the user experience more secure, but also makes certain tasks trickier, such as retrieving lost login credentials (for reference, every user's default username is his or her email address). When completing any of our

online forms, it is best to use a modern browser such as Firefox, Chrome, or Safari; there are known issues with Internet Explorer.

One of the great features of our online system is that members can search our live membership database! Details on the live search and the 2014 PDF directory are available at [apcprods.org/Members](http://apcprods.org/Members). ◇