



# Paths to Progress

## President's Message

### APC: Back to the Future... Again

As our members know, the APC has a long and rich history, now spanning almost 50 years. For an organization with so much to look back on, it might come as a bit of a surprise to some how much we as an organization, and our members as the leaders of academic Pathology, focus on the future. One need not look any further than the events of the past year, culminating in our annual meeting in July, to see that we truly are all about the future. Academic Pathology is changing; Pathology in general is changing; in fact, all of medicine is changing. As you'll see highlighted in the next few paragraphs, and in much more detail throughout this issue of *Paths to Progress*, the APC, its committees and sections, and its people are all looking for ways to address and embrace the ongoing changes, enhance our profession, and prepare for a brighter future to come.

#### APC 2015 Annual Meeting

This year's event was held in July at the beautiful Rancho Bernardo Inn, near San Diego. The lovely surroundings were surpassed only by the azure blue sky above and the amazing program put on for our attendees. Dr. Tris Parslow, as APC President-Elect, served as this year's

program chair, and Tris and the entire APC Council did a great job organizing sessions that appealed to everyone. The theme for this year's meeting was "The Challenge to Innovate: Preparing for Change in Pathology's Workforce, Technology, and Business Models" and the program certainly lived up to its name. As is the thrust of our organization, the meeting program focused on preparing us all not only for meeting the challenges we face, but on how to turn these challenges into great future opportunities for all of academic Pathology. For more, please see Tris' detailed summary of the annual meeting on pp. 6-7 of *Paths to Progress*.

#### Regional Meetings

The regional Chairs and Administrators groups have once again planned great meetings for the late summer and fall months. As of press time, the Northeast Chairs had already met at their traditional Cambridge Beaches location in Bermuda, and reports are that the program was a great success. The Southeast Chairs and Administrators will be meeting on October 7-9, at the Charleston Harbor Resort and Marina, with a program spanning several interesting topics. The West-Midwest-Canadian Chairs and

Administrators group is set to put on a great program the following week, on October 12-15, at the Squaw Valley Resort in Lake Tahoe, California. With so many great meetings to choose from, it's difficult to decide which to attend!

#### APC Committees and Sections

As usual, our committees and sections have been busy addressing key issues important to academic Pathology, all dealing with the future health of our profession. The Research Committee continued to focus on the recruiting, training, care, and feeding of physician-scientists in Pathology, and on ways to increase support from the NIH and other sources to sustain all of the Pathology research community. Our GME and UME Committees, partnering with their counterpart sections (PRODS and UMEDS, respectively), have worked on several important curricular and regulatory initiatives. Among other critical issues, the Practice and Management Committee and PDAS continued to concentrate on the annual APC survey of academic departments, increasingly refining what has

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## President's Message (continued)

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become an invaluable resource for APC members. The Advocacy Committee monitored several important regulatory issues and helped further the interests of academic Pathology in a variety of ways. An incredibly important example is the proposed FDA oversight of laboratory developed tests (LDT's). Working with many of our fellow Pathology organizations, the APC developed and advocated for an LDT position favorable to academic Pathology. Just before press time, the CAP announced an initiative to introduce LDT-related legislation in Congress. Importantly, the APC Advocacy leadership was shown an advance draft of CAP's legislative proposal and our suggestions were embraced at the highest levels by the CAP.

Our newest standing committee, the Leadership Development and Diversity Committee, has gotten off to a very strong start. Everything about this committee is dedicated to developing a well-prepared and diverse future workforce in academic Pathology. A highlight was the establishment of the Patricia Thomas, MD Lecture on Diversity and Inclusion, a fitting perpetual memorial to our colleague and friend Pat Thomas, who tragically passed away earlier this year. The Committee is now overseeing development of a great new APC program—the Pathology Leadership Academy—to help nurture the next generation of academic Pathology leaders.

Also focusing on the future,

our newly established Senior Fellows Ad Hoc Committee has done an amazing job of organizing our growing ranks of Senior Fellows into a vital and increasingly active group. Rather than simply basking in the glow of their distinguished careers, our Senior Fellows are lending their considerable experience and vast knowledge to help the APC and our members secure a brighter future.

I direct your attention to the detailed reports from each of our committees and sections in this issue of *Paths to Progress*.

### Pathology Workforce

Initiatives related to the future workforce in Pathology continue to move forward. The APC has continued to participate in a multi-organizational task force to survey new-in-practice pathologists and the people who hire them, to discover what works and what doesn't in preparing residents and fellows for success in the ever-changing practice of Pathology. The Pipeline Subcommittee of our Advocacy Committee also continued their work to find ways to attract the "best and brightest" into a career in Pathology. Another important group, the Autopsy Working Group, has completed a detailed analysis of the role of the autopsy in residency training and Pathology practice and is now working on a proposal for presentation to the American Board of Pathology. Please see Greg Davis's article on the Autopsy Working Group on page 9 of *Paths to Progress*.

### The APC Journal – Academic Pathology

The APC's flagship journal, *Academic Pathology*, has now published its first articles, and several more are in the pipeline! The trajectory of our journal's launch has been typical for a new publication. The publisher, SAGE Publications, participated in a meeting of the Editorial Board at the APC meeting in July and gave us a progress report on the development of our journal and discussed ways to help nurture it. Editor-in-Chief Dr. Jim Crawford provides many more details about *Academic Pathology* in his detailed article on page 5.

### In Conclusion

Yes, the APC has much to be proud of in our past. But the past is past! We are a great organization not just because we celebrate what we've already done, but because we're constantly focused on what lies ahead and on ways to address the challenges and realities of Pathology practice and our various academic missions. In doing so, we become agents for positive change in our profession and ensure a prominent place for academic Pathology in the greater medical and scientific communities. My sincere thanks to our members and our great APC staff for keeping us focused on the future . . . again!

Sincerely,



Don Karcher  
APC President

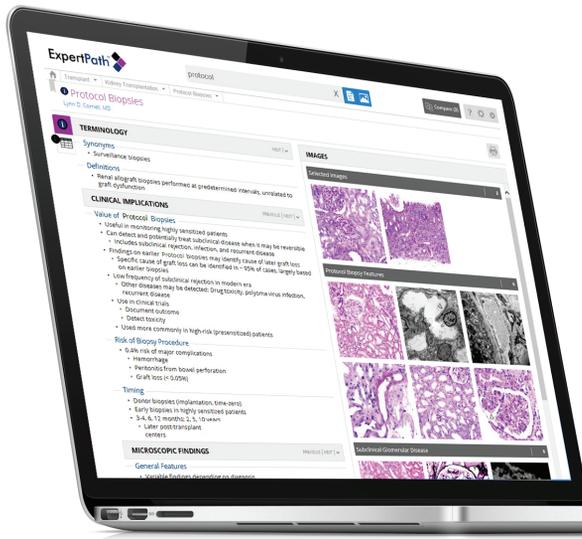


*"We are a great organization not just because we celebrate what we've already done, but because we're constantly focused on what lies ahead and on ways to address the challenges and realities of Pathology practice and our various academic missions."*

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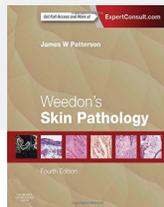
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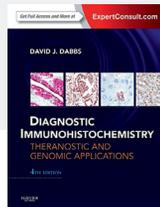
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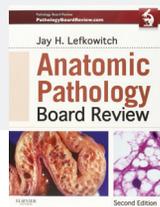
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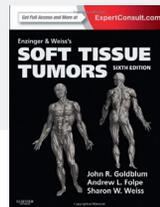
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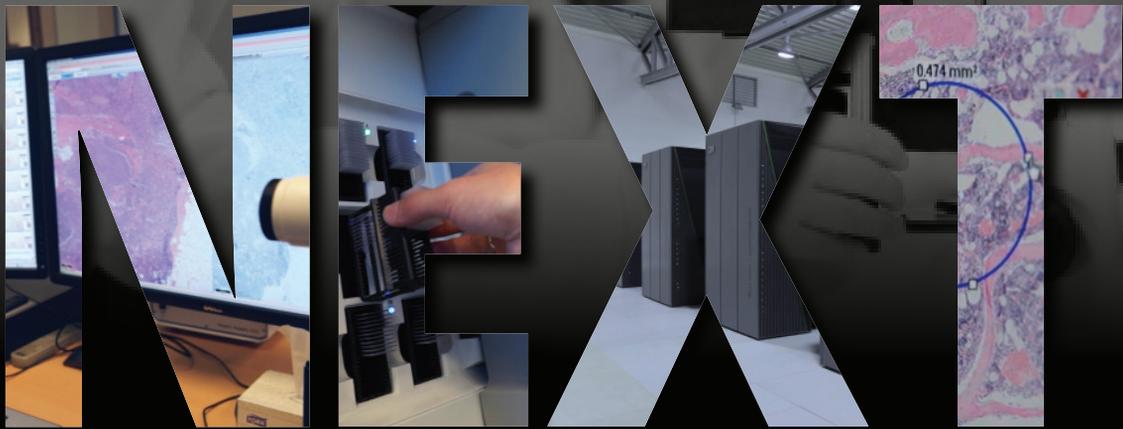
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## Academic Pathology Report

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

The official journal of the Association of Pathology Chairs, *Academic Pathology*, went “live” in November 2015, with publication of the opening editorial and activation of the journal submission website ([mc.manuscriptcentral.com/apc](http://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/apc)). The first manuscript submission was March 12, 2015; it was published in open access form on the journal publication website ([apc.sagepub.com](http://apc.sagepub.com)) on July 8, 2015.

To date, 20 manuscripts have been submitted:

- 5 have been accepted for publication, with 3 published and 2 in press
- 4 have been rejected as out-of-scope
- 5 have been rejected with opportunity to resubmit
- 6 are under initial review.

For prospective authors, these data can be considered as strongly encouraging for future submissions.

The over-arching vision for *Academic Pathology* is to publish papers which promote

the ability of academic departments of Pathology to meet their three missions of clinical service, teaching, and research, through original scholarship, reviews and editorials, and potentially case studies. At the full Editorial Board meeting during the APC 2015 Summer Meeting, the editorial team was encouraged also to consider original scientific investigative articles as “in scope,” with this journal being part of the family of academic Pathology journals. To date, 5 of the 19 submitted articles fall into the category of investigative Pathology, all of which are recently submitted and currently under review. Collectively, the submitted articles are of high quality and give credence to the premise that this journal “has a place” in the literature.

All published articles are immediately available on-line, free of charge, owing to the open access nature of this journal. Our initial “launch” goal is to reach 20 published articles, so that the process of journal listing for PubMed and

Index Medicus can begin. The listing process is a long one, taking potentially over a year. Once this journal is listed, *all published articles* will be indexed, going back to the beginning. Hence, it is critical that the community of scholars in member departments of the Association of Pathology Chairs help the journal achieve this initial milestone.

Our editorial team will gladly work with any potential author who is considering a submission to this journal, both to confer on scholarship that might fall within the scope of the journal, and to provide guidance in how manuscripts can be prepared. The journal relies on the peer review, so that all manuscripts are held to rigorous standards for determining publication priority. We strongly encourage you to promote submissions to this journal, and help drive the excellence of academic Pathology in the coming years. ♦



*For ALL manuscripts submitted in 2015, Academic Pathology is waiving, in full, the Article Processing Fee.*

*To submit, visit [mc.manuscriptcentral.com/apc](http://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/apc).*

## Undergraduate Medical Education Committee Report

By Jen Norman, MEd, for Michael Prystowsky, MD, PhD – Committee Chair

APC’s Undergraduate Medical Education Committee (UMEC) met at APC’s annual meeting for a robust discussion of ways to address the current challenges facing undergraduate Pathology educators. The UMEC discussed the rise of technology, leading to educators “teaching to empty classrooms;” the opportunity to engage residents in teaching; and ways to attract

exceptional students to Pathology, such as honors programs/projects and post sophomore fellowships. Another topic of discussion was the aversion medical students seem to have toward careers in academia and what perceptions might factor in to this, such as productivity-based compensation and declines in academic funding. The UMEC has planned a conference call for early

October to continue discussing these topics, as well as consider potential UME content for the 2016 annual meeting.

UMEC has also continued its ongoing work on the Pathology Learning Competencies initiative. The three main competency areas are: disease mechanisms,

*(continued on page 8)*

## Annual Meeting Report

By Tristram Parslow, MD – President-Elect

Flawless Southern California weather was just one of the things that made this summer's APC meeting a success. The turnout was excellent, too: In all, **more than 440 participants** attended, including 83 Chairs and a **record-breaking 52 UMEDS** representatives from Pathology departments across the U.S. Add to that the serene, secluded surroundings of the Rancho Bernardo Inn on the outskirts of San Diego, which provided first-rate conference facilities in a relaxed, intimate setting. Best of all, of course, was the chance to spend a few days in mid-July networking, learning, and consulting with friends and colleagues about the meeting's theme, "*The Challenge to Innovate*," as well as other issues and opportunities confronting academic Pathology today.

Activities began on the afternoon of Tuesday, July 14, with a well-attended pre-meeting workshop on "Leadership Skills for Changing Times," featuring

pearls of administrative wisdom from APC Council members Drs. Peter Kragel, Ann Thor, and Barbara Ducatman, along with Robert Challender, the Director of Lab Services at Penn. The plenary sessions then began with Wednesday morning's Advocacy session, featuring thought-provoking presentations by Drs. Deb Powell (APC and Institute of Medicine), Tom Nasca (ACGME), and Rebecca Johnson (ABP) on opportunities to innovate in Pathology education and training, with an ensuing panel discussion with representatives of the CAP, NAME, ASCP, and the APC, ably moderated by Dr. John Tomaszewski. That afternoon, Dr. Deb Leonard convened a joint APC/PDAS session on "Current Challenges in the Business Landscape for Pathology," with presentations by Mr. Marty Lawlor and Drs. Jennifer Hunt, Tom Wheeler, Richard Cote, and Paul Taylor-Smith, enriched by legal commentary from noted attorney Ms. Jane Pine Wood.

Thursday began with an illuminating series of talks on "Practical Applications of Computational Pathology", chaired by Dr. Karen Kaul, that showcased a wide range of real-world uses of informatics in patient care (by Drs. Alexis Carter, Ari Robicsek, and UI Balis) as well as the new PIER informatics curricular guidelines for residents (summarized by Dr. Don Karcher). Later that morning, the Research session, chaired by Dr. Dan Remick, brought us two fascinating lectures and ensuing discussion on "Training the Next Generation of Pathologist-Investigators," with Dr. Juanita Merchant presenting findings of a recent blue-ribbon taskforce, and Dr. Sally Rockey offering her inimitable insights from the NIH perspective, in what she described as her "final act before retiring" after a distinguished governmental career. Dr. Deb Powell riveted the audience again that afternoon with her

*(continued on page 7)*



For 2016 meeting information, stay tuned to [apcprods.org/meetings/2016](http://apcprods.org/meetings/2016)

## Research Committee Report

By Daniel Remick, MD – Committee Chair

The research session at the 2015 APC meeting discussed the future physician scientist workforce. Presentations were made by Sally Rockey, PhD, Deputy Director for Extramural Research at the NIH, and Juanita Merchant, MD, PhD, the H. Marvin Pollard Professor of Gastrointestinal Sciences in Internal Medicine at the University of Michigan. This was Dr. Rockey's last presentation as a member of NIH, since she will become the first Director of the Foundation

for Food and Agriculture Research. Both Drs. Rockey and Merchant discussed the 2014 NIH report on the physician scientist workforce. Some of the key elements from the presentations include:

- There is strong support for MD/PhD programs;
- A physician scientist specific K99/R00 grant should be established;
- The loan repayment program should be expanded;

- The physician scientist pool is aging and has stagnated since 2003;
- There is a lack of diversity in the physician scientist ranks;
- There should be a shift away from institutional training grants to individual grants;
- Pilot programs should be funded to evaluate novel approaches to shorten research training; and
- The number of MSTP slots should be expanded. ◇

## Annual Meeting Report (continued)

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provocative, stirring insights on promoting diversity and inclusion in academic Pathology. Friday morning began with an update on our new journal, *Academic Pathology*, by Editor-in-Chief Dr. Jim Crawford, followed by a frank, informative “Colloquium on FDA Oversight and Pathology Practice,” with Dr. David Litwack outlining the FDA’s perspectives on lab-developed tests, next generation sequencing, and whole-slide imaging, followed by replies from Drs. Charlie Hill (Association for Molecular Pathology), Alexis Carter (Association for Pathology Informatics), and Steve Black-Schaffer (PRODS). The meeting concluded with three short talks that highlighted the many roles of pathologists in infectious disease outbreaks, with presentations by Drs. Charlie Hill (Ebola), Sherif Zaki (transplant recipients), and Jim Musser (flesh-eating bacteria).

Along the way, other high points of the meeting included a dozen spirited group discussions on selected issues facing our profession, as well as the annual meetings of APC’s major Sections and Committees. We were privileged to honor Ms. Pine Wood as the 2015 Friend of Pathology awardee, and to bestow this year’s APC Distinguished Service Award on our distinguished and beloved friend, Dr. J. Allan Tucker. Optional evening events at the San Diego Zoo’s Safari Park and the ocean-side Birch Aquarium were a tremendous hit. It was especially great to see the high enrollment, energy, and engagement of our newest *ad hoc* committee, the Senior Fellows, under the leadership of “the two Freds” – Drs. Gorstein and Sanfilippo. And we were grateful for the support of generous exhibitors and sponsors, including our Diamond Partner corporations Elsevier, Inspirata, and Philips, that helped make this such a

successful, productive, and memorable meeting.

It’s not too early to start thinking about next summer’s meeting, so **mark your calendars now!** Planning is underway for plenary sessions, to be held again at the Rancho Bernardo Inn on July 12-15, 2016. Logistical improvements will include enhanced transportation on and off the meeting site, more robust networking receptions, and free time built into the program. A special volunteer steering group from the LD&D Committee is hard at work planning a pre-meeting Pathology Leadership Academy, under the co-direction of Drs. Dani Zander and Lydia Howell, so **start thinking about future Chairs in your own department who could benefit from this unique career-development opportunity.**

See you next year in San Diego! ♦



*For more information on APC’s Senior Fellows, and to access the online Senior Fellows’ application, to go [apcprods.org/AboutAPC/Fellows.cfm](http://apcprods.org/AboutAPC/Fellows.cfm).*

## Senior Fellows *Ad Hoc* Committee Report

By Fred Sanfilippo, MD PhD – Committee Chair

Following recommendations proposed by the Senior Fellows Group at the 2014 Annual Meeting, and with the active engagement of Don Karcher, Charles Jennette, and Tris Parslow, the APC Council created a Senior Fellows *Ad Hoc* Committee last fall. To encourage recruitment and participation of Senior Fellows, Council also reduced meeting registration fees to match that of residents, and changed membership and renewal criteria. Since then, the

number of Senior Fellows has essentially doubled to approach 40 members, including more than 15 current or past deans, VP’s, and CEO’s.

The major goal of the Senior Fellows is to assist current Chairs and other members of the APC, especially in providing advice, consultation, and mentoring. The Committee has set several priorities for the coming year to implement this goal. An “anonymous

question” process is being developed to allow Chairs to comfortably and confidentially seek help or advice from Senior Fellows in real time. An inventory of the background, skills, and interests of each Senior Fellow is being developed and will be circulated to Chairs who can then connect directly with individual Senior Fellows for advice on specific issues. A list of 8 specific areas of consultation in the inventory include:

*(continued on page 14)*

## Leadership Development & Diversity Committee Report

By Lydia Howell, MD – Committee Chair



*The Pathology Leadership Academy is a new two-day program preceding APC's annual meeting.*

The Leadership Development and Diversity (LD&D) Committee has been approved as a new standing committee of the APC. The committee thanks Ann Thor MD, LD&D's immediate past chair, for her leadership launching the committee and facilitating the transition from *ad hoc* to standing committee status. Lydia Howell, MD, UC Davis, is the newly elected chair of LD&D; and Aryn Rojiani, MD, PhD, Georgia Regents University, is the new vice chair.

Developing the next generation of leaders in academic Pathology is a major focus of the committee. The **Diversity and Inclusion Leadership Program** was launched in 2014-15 with a two-year pilot involving two fellows from West Virginia University and East Carolina University. The fellows presented their progress and feedback to the committee at the annual meeting in San Diego in July. Recruitment of the second cohort of fellows was also launched at the

meeting in July, resulting in our 2015-2017 cohort of fellows: Gissou Azabdaftari, MD, Roswell Park Cancer Institute; Diana M. Cardona, MD, Duke University; and Lysandra Voltaggio, MD, Johns Hopkins. The new fellows will join current fellows in monthly conference calls with their department Chairs. The LD&D committee plans to expand conference call discussants by including other Chairs and senior fellows. Opportunities for career planning and advice will also be provided to the fellows.

LD&D is also participating in the development of a new **Pathology Leadership Academy**, a program conceptualized and led by Dani Zander, MD, Penn State. LD&D Chair Lydia Howell is serving as co-chair. This two day program will precede the APC annual meeting and will be held at a nearby off-site hotel. A steering committee has been established, and topics and speakers have been identified, including guest

speaker Joseph Simone, MD, a well-known consultant and speaker on organizational strategy.

The committee will continue to raise awareness and build skills related to diversity at the annual meeting through the **Patricia Thomas MD Lecture on Diversity and Inclusion**. The 2015 speaker, Deborah Powell, MD, was very well-received. LD&D also encourages APC members to submit proposals for Discussion Groups at the 2016 annual meeting to continue the conversations and grow ideas related to diversity and inclusion in academic Pathology departments.

Developing programs or initiatives to help departments increase diversity among the faculty will be a new focus for LD&D this coming year. As ideas come forward, LD&D will be reaching out to other standing committees and/or other partner Pathology organization regarding potential collaborations. ◇

## UME Committee Report (continued)

*(continued from page 5)*

organ system Pathology, and diagnostic medicine. The competency editors are Drs. 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, cases, and suggestions. UMEC has been working very closely with the UMEDS Council to develop cases to complement the learning objectives. This team effort has defined a format for the

cases and already developed a dozen cases. These cases are available at [apcprods.org/UME/Competencies/Cases](http://apcprods.org/UME/Competencies/Cases). We invite members to review these cases, provide feedback, and submit additional cases. ◇

## Graduate Medical Education Committee Report

By Karen Kaul, MD, PhD – Committee Chair

The Graduate Medical Education Committee (GMEC) met at the July 2015 APC meeting to discuss a number of ongoing and new issues important to residency education.

The group is now chaired by Karen Kaul, MD PhD, NorthShore University, with Vice Chair Cheryl Hanau, MD, Drexel University. Former GMEC Chair Peter Kragel, MD, East Carolina University, remains actively involved.

The APC strategic priorities were reviewed and discussed, with emphasis on the need for Pathology to define and publicize itself as central to patient care. This may be critical in future discussions where GME resources to primary care are considered. As a recommendation to APC Council, the consensus of the Committee was that we must publicize and define the Pathology core that is essential to patient care. Part of the response to the changing healthcare environment should involve redefining Pathology training and recognition of a “general” Pathology qualification inextricably and tightly linked to the care of the patient.

Discussions covered a range of topics, focusing on potential areas in which the APC/GMEC

could facilitate the efforts of PRODS in strengthening our training and workforce. The difficulty of small programs having the expertise or faculty availability to adequately teach certain areas, such as informatics or quality improvement, was mentioned. Past programs, such as TRIG and PIER, have led to the development of common curricula and provided valuable tools for residency programs to teach genomics and informatics, respectively. There may be more such opportunities ahead. Ideas included clinical consultation, quality curriculum, boot camps for incoming residents, and appropriate test utilization. Of note, the latter topic has recently been addressed by a free online offering from CAP, developed in conjunction with APC/PRODS (<http://learn.cap.org/learning>); this course will be valuable in illustrating approaches and the value of test utilization in a realistic case-based format that integrates effectively with the Milestones.

As a recommendation to APC Council, the consensus of the Committee was that APC/PRODS activities related to development of curricular content must include access to content such as webinars to assist smaller programs’ delivery of this content.

Further discussions about the optimal curriculum for Pathology residents ensued, including novel approaches and the need to ensure sign-out experiences for senior residents. These efforts and discussions will be closely integrated with PRODS.

It was also noted that medical school curricula have changed, resulting in compression of basic science time. Opportunities to provide additional Pathology content as part of the expanded clinical time should be pursued, including dedicated time between the basic science and clinical curriculum, and during other clinical rotations. This would enable students to have a better understanding of Pathology.

We also reviewed the current state of progress with the Pathology fellowship matches, with several subspecialties indicating interest in participating with the San Francisco Match. Moving forward, this issue will be addressed by the Fellowship Directors Ad Hoc Committee (FDAHC), chaired by Dr. Peter Kragel. The FDAHC has also reviewed the Interfolio system; see page 20 for a statement on this electronic application platform. ◇



*As a recommendation to APC Council, the consensus of the GMEC was that we must publicize and define the Pathology core that is essential to patient care.*

## Autopsy Working Group Report

By Gregory G. Davis, MD – Co-Chair

The Autopsy Working Group (AWG) formed in 2014 to examine the role of autopsy in Pathology residency training. The Group was asked to assess systems used

to determine the adequacy of Pathology training by collecting data on how programs accomplish autopsy training effectively and by identifying factors that limit

effective autopsy training. The AWG is tasked with using this information to evaluate whether the requirement of

*(continued on page 13)*

## Advocacy Committee Report

By John Tomaszewski, MD – Committee Chair



APC's Advocacy Committee (APCAC) has identified the issues listed below as APCAC 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 on newly evolving advocacy developments from all APC members.

### Pathology Workforce Development:

With anticipated changes in the GME funding for pathologist trainees, there are evolving challenges for Pathology to find new and innovative approaches to training. At APC's July 2015 annual meeting, the Advocacy Session was "Innovation in Pathology Education & Workforce Training." The session had 3 renowned speakers in Pathology education who addressed the innovation challenges in our Pathology training programs. Dr. Deborah E. Powell led off with a view from the perspective of the Institute of Medicine's 2014 report. Dr. Powell was followed by Dr. Tom Nasca, who presented the ACGME perspective. Dr. Rebecca Johnson then offered her thoughts from the view of the American Board of Pathology. There was a spirited panel discussion including representative members from the Pathology Roundtable, with lots of audience commentary. The desire of the community of pathologists to engage in the process of developing our next generation of laboratory diagnosticians was evident.

The "Workforce Pipeline" Subcommittee of the Advocacy Committee, led by

Dr. Wes Naritoku, has been quite busy. That group has conducted a survey on post-sophomore fellowships, worked with ICPI on best practices in medical student interest group development, and is organizing ways to identify best practices for developing medical students who will choose Pathology as a career path. This year the Pipeline Subcommittee will be working on a longitudinal tracking system to gauge the impact of training quality on the quality of practice.

### Laboratory Developed Tests (LDT's):

The FDA interest in regulating LDT's, next generation sequencing, and whole slide imaging continues to be a major focus of the APCAC's activity.

APC's positions regarding LDT's are that: (1) the technological and clinical innovation that is an intrinsic part of development of LDT's should remain unhindered; (2) the quality and reliability of LDT's should be maintained at the highest levels possible; and (3) LDT's and other life-saving laboratory diagnostics should continue to be made widely available in a timely fashion for patient use. The APC recommends that only the highest risk LDT's be subjected to full regulatory oversight by the FDA, and that proficiency testing be considered a significant risk-mitigating factor. A "Colloquium on FDA Oversight and Pathology Practice" was held at the APC meeting in July. Points of view from both the FDA and academic Pathology practices were represented, and the discussion was both informative and vigorous. The conversations around the regulation of LDT's by the FDA are expected to be rapidly

evolving.

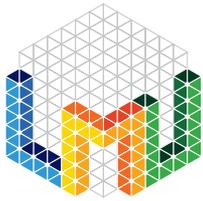
### Protecting Access to Medicare Act of 2014 (PAMA):

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). Beginning on January 1, 2016, and every three years after, most laboratories will report to the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) the payment rates paid by each private payor for the test during the previous twelve months. There are five areas of this law which will be of interest 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 PAMA advisory panel held its first meeting on August 26<sup>th</sup>, with a relatively narrow focus on testing for drugs of abuse, with its scope of activities expected to be broader in future meetings. The panel members include several pathologists, two of whom—Drs. Stanley Hamilton and Kandice Kottke-Marchant—are current department Chairs.

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 coordinate plans to respond or collaborate with other organizations. For information, email APCAC Chair [John Tomaszewski](mailto:john_tomaszewski@buffalo.edu) at [john\\_tomaszewski@buffalo.edu](mailto:john_tomaszewski@buffalo.edu). ◇

*Did you know?*

*The Advocacy Committee represents all five sections of APC. For more information on the committee, email John Tomaszewski at [john\\_tomaszewski@buffalo.edu](mailto:john_tomaszewski@buffalo.edu).*



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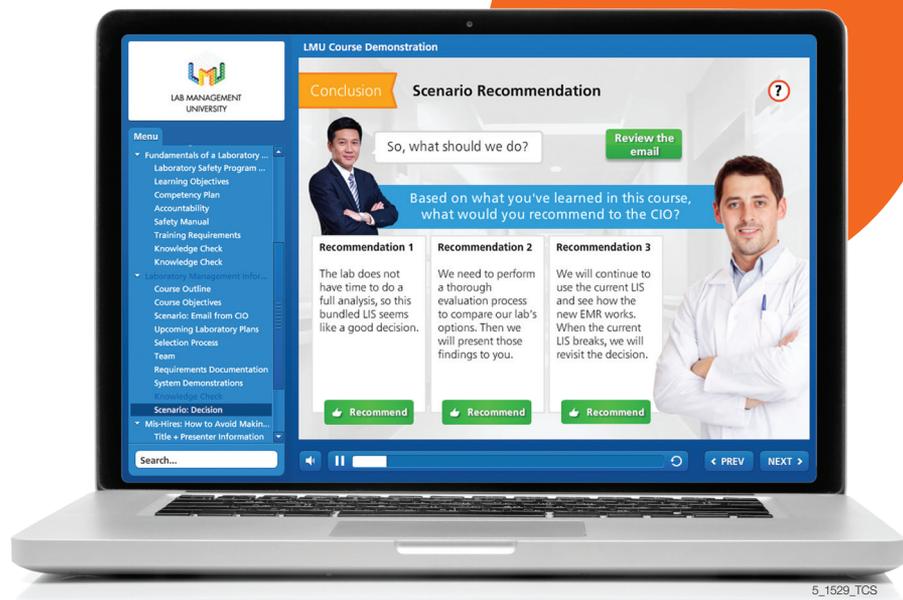
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Residents will review multiple clinical scenarios and use medical knowledge and interpersonal skills to offer advice on test utilization for the health care team. In addition, this course will help residents achieve the following residency training milestones:

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## Autopsy Working Group Report (continued)

*(continued from page 9)*

50 autopsies takes a disproportionate amount of resident training time, and whether programs can continue to comply with the 50 autopsy requirement when autopsy numbers are dropping. The 2014-2015 members of the Autopsy Working Group are co-chairs Gregory G. Davis and Gayle Winters, and Billie Fyfe, Robert Hoffman, Julia Iezzoni, Rebecca Johnson, Priscilla Markwood, Wes Naritoku, Marcus Nashelsky, Barbara Sampson, and J.J. Steinberg.

Since the 2014 APC/PRODS meeting, the Autopsy Working Group has met 7 times, issued a survey through the PRODS listserv in December 2014, compiled information from that survey, and discussed and debated the Group's tasks. It quickly became clear that all the AWG members believe in the unique importance of autopsy in Pathology training and practice, but it is also clear that, even within the Group, opinions vary widely on the proper role of autopsy in Pathology residency training in the future. No one is ambivalent about autopsies.

All members of the Autopsy Working Group agreed on some points. Autopsy is the practice of medicine and has been central to the development of Pathology and Pathology training for the past 150 years. Autopsy is unsurpassed as a method of quality assurance for assessing sensitivity and specificity of clinical diagnoses. Autopsy rates have steadily declined over the past 40 years, however, and no method exists for direct reimbursement by third-party payers for hospital autopsy costs. As a result, an initial survey by the American Board of Pathology indicates that few practicing pathologists perform autopsies at a rate sufficient to maintain their skills in autopsy practice. Meanwhile, Pathology as a discipline has become more complex and more diverse, yet residents have the same 48 months in which to train in a combined AP/CP curriculum that is supposed to make them competent to practice as independent pathologists.

The Autopsy Working Group endorses the practice of autopsy as relevant to the practice of medicine now and in the future, and as an essential component of

Pathology training. Autopsy integrates medical knowledge with clinical history, scientific observation, and pathological test results more thoroughly than any other procedure in Pathology. Therefore, the Autopsy Working Group recommends that autopsy remain an essential component of Pathology residency training. For reasons mentioned above, change in the volume of autopsy training in residency appears likely. Whether change will be an alteration in the absolute number of autopsies, as the Board currently requires, or whether change will be a move to a competency-based model of assessment for each resident's individual skill at performing an autopsy, remains to be determined. A competency-based model is unprecedented, but the ACGME Milestones have already brought this change to all residency training.

Any change in the number or type of evaluation for residents concerning autopsy practice will require discussion among many stakeholders and Pathology societies. The Autopsy Working Group has been asked to offer its opinion at the 2016 APC meeting on how best to proceed. ◇



*"No one is ambivalent about autopsies."*

### Special Announcement

In recognition of and thanks for his generous contributions of time and wisdom to the Community of Pathology,

**Donald S. Karcher, MD**  
(APC President 2014-2016)

will be the honored recipient of the **2015 Pathologist of the Year Award** from the College of American Pathologists at their Spotlight Event/Reception on Sunday, October 4, 2015 at CAP '15. Congratulations, Don!



*Donald S. Karcher, MD*

## Senior Fellows *Ad Hoc* Committee (continued)

(continued from page 7)

1. “On-boarding” and other issues and opportunities facing a new Chair, and where and why leadership training might be useful (specifically for new Chairs);
2. Strategic issues (e.g. departmental priorities, mission balance);
3. Administrative issues (e.g. financial, operational);
4. Periodic institutional reviews of Chairs/departments;
5. Interaction with other institutional leaders (e.g. Chairs, deans, hospital, corporate);
6. Fund raising (e.g. interacting with development staff, donors, foundations);
7. Managing faculty (e.g. recruitment, retention, evaluations, productivity, dismissal); and
8. Mentoring Chairs on personal issues (e.g. work-life balance, stepping down, retirement).

Several advisory activities are also being planned for the 2016 Annual Meeting. A “sign-up” program is being developed for Chairs, as well as participants in the Pathology Leadership Academy, who wish to receive one-on-one advising from Senior Fellows on-site. An open group discussion “advisory” session is also being planned, as was held at the 2015 APC Annual Meeting, but at a time with fewer conflicts and with a clearer description of the activity. Chairs again will be surveyed beforehand to identify the topics of greatest interest for discussion and advice. For the 2015 meeting

the top issues Chairs wanted Senior Fellows to discuss were: 1) strategic & financial planning; 2) interactions with hospital leadership; 3) interactions with deans and other Chairs; and 4) dealing with difficult faculty. An analogous “advisory” session also is being planned for lunch at the Leadership Academy.

Additional activities planned for the upcoming year include enhancing Senior Fellow engagement in APC committees, assisting in the programming and implementation of the Pathology Leadership Academy, and establishing a Speakers Bureau of Senior Fellows who are available to discuss topics in their areas of expertise. ♦



*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)!*

## Practice & Management Committee Report

By Barbara Ducatman, MD – Committee Chair

The Practice and Management (P&M) Committee reviewed results of last year’s survey at the Summer Meeting in San Diego. The 2014 survey collected data not only on wrvus but also on effort allocation for our four missions (clinical service, education, research, and service), and compensation data and metrics for medical directors. There remain differences between our data and those of other organizations such as UHC and MGMA—and we are increasingly trying to emulate their analyses to complement our own. Our plans for next year are to delve deeper into

benchmarking anatomic and clinical pathologists with continuing to collect productivity and compensation data. We are planning a webinar this fall for Chairs and department administrators to inform our membership of the 2014 survey data results. Later in the fall, we will work on making any changes to the survey for 2015, and we will continue to work with CAP to discuss how to give our membership the best tools to manage their departments. We have approached the UHC consortium to explore how effort allocation data affects productivity with the goal of making better data available

not only to chairs but also to our hospitals and medical schools who use UHC or MGMA data. Another primary goal of the P&M Committee is to help design the program for the summer APC meeting. We will be having several phone calls this fall to 1) discuss options for the program; 2) review last year’s survey data and issues in greater detail; and 3) to design next year’s survey. We invite all members of the APC to participate in these standing calls, which occur on the first Friday of every month. ♦

## 2015–2016 Section Councils

(\* denotes change from 2014–2015)

### PRODS

Chair:

Charles Timmons\*

Immediate Past Chair:

Wesley Naritoku

Vice Chair:

Lisa Dixon\*

Secretary:

Nadeem Zafar\*

Secretary-Elect:

Kristin Fiebelkorn\*

Members-at-Large:

Mary Furlong  
Trevor Macpherson  
Scott Anderson\*  
Diane Kowalski\*

### UMEDS

Chair:

H. James Williams

Immediate Past Chair:

Margret Magid

Chair-Elect:

Moshe Sadofsky

Secretary:

Barbara Knollmann-Ritschel

Secretary-Elect:

Sarah Meyers

Members-at-Large:

Michael Borowitz  
Elizabeth Wiley  
James Atkinson\*  
Robin LeGallo\*

### PDAS

Chair:

Martin Lawlor\*

Immediate Past Chair:

Kelley Suskie\*

Chair-Elect:

Beth Hansell\*

Secretary-Treasurer:

Robert Challender\*

Secretary-Treasurer-Elect:

Gary Brown\*

Regional Representatives:

Kristen Kolb (Northeast)  
Susan Evers\* (Southeast)  
Judy Elleson\* (Midwest)  
Nancy Risenhoover (West)

### GMEAS

Chair:

Betsy McDonald\*

Immediate Past Chair:

Jeanne Lay\*

Chair-Elect:

Amy Motta\*

Secretary:

Henry Flax\*

Secretary-Elect:

Annetta Pierro\*

Members-at-Large:

LeeTanya Marion Murray  
Lisa LaChance  
Gretchen Lussier\*  
Donald Sandlin\*



## PRODS Section News

By Charles Timmons, MD, PhD – Section Chair

The APC PRODS Section has had a busy six months since the last edition of this Newsletter.

The PRODS held our usual gathering in conjunction with the USCAP meeting on March 23, 2015, at the Sheraton Hotel in Boston, with lunch sponsored by the Intersociety Council for Pathology Information (ICPI). Given that the meeting took place on the first Monday after “Match Day,” an update from Dr. Bruce Alexander on preliminary results of the Match was of particular interest. Dr. David Kaminsky, EVP of the USCAP, briefed us on resident-centered activities at the USCAP meeting, and Dr. Rich Haspel brought the latest information from the Training Residents in Genomics (TRIG) Working Group. Dr. Rebecca Johnson, CEO of the American Board of Pathology (ABP), summarized recent Board actions including establishment of a Physician-Scientist Training Pathway,

certification of the first diplomates in the new specialty of Clinical Informatics (jointly sponsored with the American Board of Preventive Medicine), exploration of new item types for the examination, the possibility of utilizing an additional testing site, and consideration of the issues surrounding the autopsy requirement for certification. The session concluded with presentations and a friendly question-and-answer period with Dr. Laura Edgar, Executive Director, and Dr. Julia Iezzoni, Chair, both of the ACGME Pathology Review Committee. They advised us of new ACGME program requirements going into effect on July 1, 2015, including the required entry of case logs into the Accreditation Data System (ADS), and summarized some of the lessons already apparent during our first year with the Next Accreditation System and our initial reporting of Milestones, most especially

the need for accuracy in the submission of data.

On May 5, I was honored to represent PRODS at a meeting of the American Board of Pathology’s Cooperating Societies, which was the occasion for a wide-ranging discussion of what changes might be considered in Pathology training, to maximize the attractiveness of our specialty to prospective trainees, and to most effectively prepare those individuals who choose Pathology to assume their eventual professional roles. It was an exciting beginning to an important and ongoing dialogue.

July 14 through 17, 2015, of course, saw PRODS gather with the other sections of the APC for our annual summer meeting – this year at the lovely Rancho Bernardo Inn in San Diego. As has become something of a tradition, the

*(continued on page 16)*

*The 2015 New PRODS Boot Camp included an overview of program director activities and responsibilities.*

## PRODS Section News (continued)

*(continued from page 15)*



*Past Chair of PRODS, Dr. Stephen Black-Schaffer, received the Graduate Medical Education Distinguished Teaching Award at our annual meeting.*

afternoon of Tuesday, July 14, before the start of the main program, was geared toward new PRODS (the “new PRODS boot camp”). This included an overview of program director activities and responsibilities, and introductory comments from Dr. Mark Sobel representing ICPI, Dr. Rebecca Johnson representing ABP, and Drs. Laura Edgar and James Stubbs representing ACGME and its Pathology Review Committee. The afternoon session concluded with presentations by four resident representatives describing resident opportunities and activities within AAMC, ASCP, CAP, and USCAP.

The joint sessions of this summer’s meeting were especially compelling, and PRODS participated along with Chairs and other APC sections in many of them. In line with the conference theme of “The Challenge to Innovate,” Wednesday morning featured a keynote address by Dr. Deborah Powell, who shared her vast experience and insight into the financial and political aspects of graduate medical education through a discussion of the Institute of Medicine’s recent report on GME. The perspectives of the ACGME and the ABP were then supplied in talks by Drs. Thomas Nasca and Rebecca Johnson, respectively. Chairs, PRODS, UMEDS, and PDAS then broke into twelve discussion groups, where participants could explore issues of particular interest with like-minded colleagues from their own and other sections. The Awards Luncheon on Wednesday honored five individuals for outstanding service to

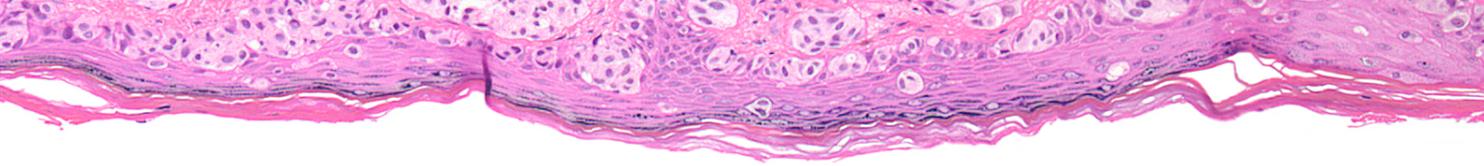
Pathology, among them a past-Chair of PRODS, Dr. Stephen Black-Schaffer, who received the Graduate Medical Education Distinguished Teaching Award. Following the banquet in the afternoon, there was a PRODS/UMEDS joint session on professionalism, structured around case studies in questionable behavior, with audience discussion and questions fielded by a distinguished panel composed of Drs. Ron Domen, Richard Conran, Robert Hoffman, Miriam Post, Suzanne Powell, and J. J. Steinberg. Thought-provoking would be an understatement for this session!

PRODS once again joined the Chairs and UMEDS on Thursday morning for a session on the practical applications of Computational Pathology. While most of the sessions focused on how this technology can be used to improve laboratory functionality and clinical care, the final presentation by Dr. Don Karcher, giving an overview and discussion of the Pathology Informatics Essentials for Residents (PIER) curriculum, certainly targeted a point of weakness in many of our training programs and had us looking forward to the end of the alpha-testing period for the PIER initiative (this coming October). Drs. Rebecca Johnson of the ABP, and Laura Edgar and James Stubbs of the ACGME Review Committee for Pathology, rounded out the morning sessions with their formal updates for the general PRODS audience.

The PRODS Business Meeting coincided with lunch on Thursday. The officers of the PRODS Council were

introduced, with special recognition of Dr. Scott Anderson of the University of Vermont, elected to a second term as PRODS Councilor-at-large, and Dr. Diane Kowalski of Yale University, as a newly elected PRODS Councilor-at-large. The membership was reminded to vote on proposed changes to the PRODS Operating Procedures in the balloting that was still open during the meeting. The membership heard updates from ICPI, of which the APC is a member society, and from PRODS’ TRIG and Informatics Working Groups. After a session during which the PRODS joined the Chairs again, this time to hear Dr. Deborah Powell speak on diversity and inclusion in academic Pathology, the updates for the PRODS membership resumed, with Dr. Karen Frank representing the ASCP RISE Committee. The PRODS were understandably anxious to hear any feedback on the RISE-First examination; however, there is as yet not enough trending data for a meaningful assessment, and we will have to wait a little longer to see how those results will fit into the bigger picture of our residents’ entry-level and expanding medical knowledge. Dr. Bruce Alexander gave an update on the statistics from the National Residency Matching Program, and Dr. Wesley Naritoku presented an overview of the results of a survey on post-sophomore fellowships conducted by the APC’s Pipeline Subcommittee, which had previously been presented at the ABP’s Cooperating Societies meeting in May. The final update of the day was from Dr. Peter Kragel, Chair of

*(continued on page 22)*



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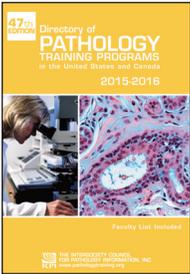
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# INTERSOCIETY COUNCIL FOR PATHOLOGY INFORMATION (ICPI)



The Intersociety Council for Pathology Information (ICPI) is a nonprofit educational organization sponsored by five national pathology societies to serve as a central source of information about pathology in the practice of medicine, in medical research, and to provide literature about pathology as a career.



## ▶ Visit the Pathology Training Programs Online Directory (Print-On-Demand Also Available)

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## Medical Student Interest Groups

Because Medical Student Interest Groups are a great mechanism to encourage outstanding medical students to consider a career in pathology, ICPI's support can be used to enhance an existing program or develop a new one! ICPI will fund (up to \$750) a limited number of programs each year. The goal is to develop a "best practices" for medical student interest groups.



## ICPI Trainee Travel Award Program

ICPI supports trainee participation in scientific meetings organized by its participating societies. A limited number of ICPI Trainee Travel Awards are available.

There are two types of Travel Awards:

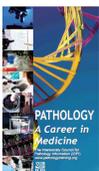
- **Travel Award:** \$500.00 for trainees who do not submit an abstract
- **Travel Award with Abstract:** \$750.00 for trainees who submit an abstract to the meeting they are attending

The stipend is intended to offset the travel costs for attending one of ICPI's member societies' meetings. Awardees must currently be a trainee (medical student, graduate student, resident, fellow) member of one of the participating societies of ICPI.



## Pathology Student Honor Society Co-Sponsored with APC

Recognize outstanding medical students in the discipline of Pathology at your institution! To find out how to participate, visit: [www.pathologytraining.org/PSHS](http://www.pathologytraining.org/PSHS)



## Career Development Resources

Resources covering a variety of career paths are available on the ICPI website at [www.pathologytraining.org/trainees/](http://www.pathologytraining.org/trainees/)



## Pathology Roundtable

Discussions of issues of concern to the discipline of pathology.

## Participating Societies of ICPI

### CHARTER MEMBERS

- American Society for Clinical Pathology
- American Society for Investigative Pathology
- Association of Pathology Chairs
- College of American Pathologists
- United States and Canadian Academy of Pathology

### ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

- Academy of Clinical Laboratory Physicians and Scientists
- American Academy of Oral and Maxillofacial Pathology
- American Association of Neuropathologists
- American Board of Oral and Maxillofacial Pathology
- American Board of Pathology
- American College of Veterinary Pathologists
- American Osteopathic College of Pathologists
- American Society of Cytopathology
- Arthur Purdy Stout Society of Surgical Pathologists
- Association for Molecular Pathology
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- National Association of Medical Examiners
- Papanicolaou Society of Cytopathology
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## UMEDS Section News

By H. James Williams, MD – Section Chair

The APC Annual Meeting in San Diego this past July was a great success, with a record 52 UMEDS members in attendance including 6 first-time attendees! The Course Director Workshop was packed with several of the attendees describing the experience as “therapeutic.” Topics covered included “Introduction for New Course Directors,” “Dealing with Millennials,” “Individual Academic Remediation with Ongoing Curriculum,” and “Team Based Learning (TBL) 101 & 102.”

The winner of the First Annual CAP Award for Best Medical Education Poster went to Ms. Katie Warfield, University of Maryland, for her poster entitled “Pathology Student Interest Group: A Success Story.” The award, which included a cash prize, was presented by Dr. Richard Friedberg, incoming President of CAP. Each of the accepted posters was also presented at the UMEDS Plenary Session, “Innovations in Promoting Pathology as a Career Choice.” Dr. Barbara Knollmann-Ritschel has been instrumental in bringing about the poster session, which is planned to be continued next

July.

Regina Gandour-Edwards, MD, University of California, Davis, was the recipient of this year’s Michele Raible Distinguished Teaching Award. Two new Members-at-Large joined the UMEDS Council: Dr. James Atkinson and Dr. Robin LeGallo. Departing UMEDS Council members Dr. Reid Heffner and Dr. Mara Rendt were thanked for their service. UMEDS Plenary Session II “UME Competencies/Pathology for the Undifferentiated Medical Student” engendered lively discussions as we continue efforts to maintain Pathology’s position within the ever constricting confines of the integrated curriculum. UMEDS’ Plenary Session III, “What’s New in Pathology Education,” was a platform for members to share exciting and innovative approaches to teaching Pathology at the medical student level. In total, sixteen UMEDS members were given the opportunity to present at a national meeting during the APC 2015 meeting. All the presentations were outstanding, and are available online for meeting attendees.

Dr. Michael Prystowsky, Chair of the UME Committee, is

pleased with the close cooperative relationship with the UMEDS Council this past year as we have worked together on the UME Pathology Competencies/Learning Objectives, and the associated representative cases, which are available at [apcprods.org/UME/Competencies/](http://apcprods.org/UME/Competencies/). The cases have been indexed on the APC website, and all Pathology educators are encouraged to contribute cases to the collection. A mechanism for academic credit for accepted cases is being developed. UMEDS members are also encouraged to consider APC’s new journal, *Academic Pathology*, when seeking to publish education-related papers.

Much excitement and enthusiasm is already in play for the early planning stages of next July’s APC meeting. UMEDS members are welcome to send their ideas for potential topics to me at [hjwilliams@hsc.wvu.edu](mailto:hjwilliams@hsc.wvu.edu). And remember, if God made anything more fun than Pathology, He kept it to Himself! ♦



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

*Contact Jen Norman, Member Services Manager, at [jnorman@apcprods.org](mailto:jnorman@apcprods.org).*

## PDAS Section News

By Martin Lawlor – Section Chair

This was a very exciting year for the PDAS group at the Annual APC meeting at the Rancho Bernardo Inn. We had the opportunity to award the second annual PDAS Distinguished Service Award. This year’s award went to Martha Miers from Vanderbilt. Martha Miers currently serves as vice chair for finance & administration for the

department of Pathology, Microbiology and Immunology at Vanderbilt University Medical Center and as executive director of Vanderbilt Pathology Laboratory Services (VPLS), the department’s outreach program. In her tenure at Vanderbilt, Martha has worked as assistant hospital director for laboratories, executive

director of the diagnostic laboratories, and assistant director of the hematology laboratories.

Martha received her undergraduate education from Virginia Tech, and her M.S. in Medical Technology from Virginia Commonwealth

*(continued on page 20)*

## PDAS Section News (continued)

*(continued from page 19)*

University (Medical College of Virginia). She also earned an MBA from Vanderbilt University. She is a registered medical technologist with the American Society for Clinical Pathology. Martha just finished her term as Immediate Past Chair of PDAS Council, and she has been a great contributor to the APC.

We also had the opportunity to see some old friends at this year's conference. Two distinguished PDAS alumni were able to join us. Joe Rondinelli, the former administrator of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine at the New Jersey Medical School in Newark, was able to attend as a representative of PathConsulting, where he is a senior consultant and COO. Joe is the Past President of the Pathology Management Assembly of the MGMA and is a board member of the American Pathology

Foundation. Harry Pukay Martin, who is the former Pathology Administrator of THE Ohio State University and the inaugural awardee of the PDAS Distinguished Service Award, was also able to join us. Harry led a panel discussion for faculty and staff discussing planning for retirement. Harry is currently enjoying retirement and writes his own blog.

We also had 2 members of the PDAS present to the combined APC Chairs and PDAS group. Martin Lawlor presented the success of hospital labs joining together for contracting purposes in the state of Michigan to compete with commercial labs; Robert Challenger, who serves as the COO and Corporate Director of Laboratory Services at Penn Medicine, gave an excellent presentation that detailed the funds flow model at University of Pennsylvania.

At the PDAS business

meeting, our group decided to change the focus of the monthly PDAS conference call. The PDAS group had presentations on the hot topics that are facing Academic Pathology Departments, and we will assign a lead to research a topic every month and do a deep dive monthly into a new issue.

We also welcomed our new 2015-2016 PDAS Council. See page 15 to view this year's Council.

Finally, we had the opportunity to thank Kelley Suskie for 2 years of exceptional service as Chair of the PDAS group. Kelley worked extremely hard and was a tremendous leader for our Section. Her reward for those 2 years of hard work is 2 more years of service as Immediate Past Chair.

Thanks again, Kelley! ◇



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[www.interfolio.com/services/recommendations](http://www.interfolio.com/services/recommendations).

## FDAHC Statement on Interfolio

By Peter Kragel, MD – Committee Chair

On Friday, July 17, 2015, APC Council endorsed a Fellowship Director's Ad Hoc Committee recommendation for the use of Interfolio as part of the pathology fellowship application process.

Interfolio offers an electronic platform that organizes application materials, facilitates delivery of applications to fellowship opportunities, and allows for easy submission of confidential letters of recommendation. This is an established service which has helped more than 600,000 scholars manage their

credentials, secured over 1 million confidential letters of recommendation, and has delivered more than 7 million documents. Interfolio works with hundreds of institutions and thousands of schools, including Stanford University, Johns Hopkins University, Emory University, Rutgers University, and The University of Virginia. They provide letter of recommendation services for the American Medical College Application service (AMCAS).

The request to use Interfolio for fellowship application was made through the CAP

Residents Forum, chaired by Lauren Stuart, MD, MBA. For applicants, there is a nominal yearly fee of \$19.00 and a small additional fee for delivery. In one central location, the applicant can collect confidential letters of recommendation, CV, cover letters and transcripts, substantially decreasing application costs compared to the traditional application process. There is no cost to the institution. The Interfolio application materials arrive in one package, and traditional application materials can still be accepted. ◇

## GMEAS Section News

By Betsy McDonald – Section Chair

To say that our July 2015 GMEAS section meeting was successful is an understatement! Previous GMEAS Chairs Katie Warfield (University of Maryland) and Jeanne Lay (University of New Mexico) created an outstanding program for our seasoned and first time Program Coordinators in attendance, with special presentations from ACGME (thank you Erin Berryhill!) and AAMC/ERAS (D.K. Sujlana was so patient with our long list of concerns!). ICPI (James Douglas & Mark Sobel MD PhD) helped us through the transition from one platform to another and the pitfalls of the process. All three organizations have agreed to a return engagement next year! During our GMEAS Council meeting, there was a hardy discussion about creating a “clearinghouse” where individuals new to the job of a Program Coordinator could view established written policies & procedures, curriculum, goals and objectives, evaluation documents, etc., willingly

donated by established coordinators in an effort to not have to recreate the wheel. We all agreed we start and end in the same place regarding residency education; we just take different routes to get there. Jen Norman has established a Dropbox file to help facilitate this endeavor.

Another GMEAS Council initiative is to create our history. Many of the members of GMEAS started out together in 2003 at a gathering in New Orleans. We have so much to share with one another and the Council felt it was important to remember where we started. This year’s poster session was a huge success—congratulations to Katie Warfield for presenting the winning poster at this year’s meeting! Katie received a certificate of recognition and a \$500 check from CAP. Way to go Katie! Calling out to all GMEAS members: the poster session will return in July 2016, so get thinking about what you could present, or buddy up with a few other

coordinators to present as a team.

Some of the topics presented by GMEAS members this year included presentations by LeeTanya Marion-Murray, Annetta Pierro, Amy Motta, Betsy McDonald, Katie Warfield and Donald Sandlin. Much information was shared by these folks and spurred on group discussions. Thank you for your hard work and dedication to our craft!

Looking towards next year, we hope to continue with the spirit of sharing our time and talents. We encourage everyone to begin thinking now about what topics you would like to see on next year’s program. Many thanks for the work done by our Council officers leaving us this year, and a warm hearty welcome to all of our new Council members and coordinators! Have a successful recruitment season and we hope to see you all next July! ◇



*Meeting presentations can be viewed from within the APC Annual Meeting app, available at [event.crowdcompass.com/apc2015](http://event.crowdcompass.com/apc2015).*

## Executive Office Report

By Jen Noman, MEd – APC Member Services Manager

This year APC unveiled our **first ever mobile event app!** From their phones or tablets, meeting attendees were able to view all the contents found in the printed meeting program, plus additional mobile-only features, such as an interactive map of the Rancho Bernardo property, and an in-app networking/communications platform. After the meeting, the

PowerPoint presentations were made available through the app as well. We will be using an event app for the 2016 meeting too. Meeting registrants will receive email alerts about the app as the meeting date approaches.

Our mobile app isn’t the only way in which we are leveraging technology to better serve APC’s members: we are currently in the

process of **upgrading our membership portal, MemberClicks.** After the upgrade, all the content on our member portal will also automatically format itself to work best with your screen, whether you are viewing the portal from a computer, tablet, or mobile phone. You can expect to see easier-to-use forms, elimination of the

*(continued on page 22)*

## PRODS Section News (continued)

*(continued from page 16)*

the ABP's GME Committee and of the APC's Fellowship Director's Ad Hoc Committee. Dr. Kragel briefed us on ongoing discussions with the San Francisco Match for a possible fellowship match. He also mentioned a new initiative to employ Interfolio as a communication tool for fellowship applications, which has the support of the ad hoc committee.

Friday morning at the PRODS meeting began with a daybreak breakfast for new PRODS and PRODS Council members. PRODS and GMEAS then gathered for our final plenary session, which featured another presentation by Dr. Rebecca Johnson of the ABP, this time giving a preliminary look at data emerging from a survey of new-in-practice pathologists, conducted as a voluntary adjunct to their maintenance of certification reports. This survey promises to provide key information about the needs of the Pathology

workforce and those entering it. It is designed to answer some of the questions raised by the Pathology Workforce Summit of December 2013. Following on Dr. Johnson's comments relating to the transition from residency into the workforce, Dr. Nadeem Zafar presented survey data in which PRODS described their procedures for transitioning medical students into residency. The spectrum of ideas presented in his survey illustrated one of the strengths of PRODS, namely the sharing of innovations that permits us to benefit from successful initiatives at other programs. PRODS and GMEAS then broke up into four groups corresponding to the four major residency management software programs—New Innovations, MedHub, E\*Value, and MyEvaluations—for further sharing of ideas and opinions on the nitty-gritty of utilizing our respective software programs to maximum benefit. The subsequent reports of these four groups generated the suggestion that some sort of

on-line user groups for the PRODS be implemented, one for each of the four; and this suggestion was taken to APC Council, where it was favorably received. A box lunch was available at the conclusion of this session, which marked the adjournment of another information-packed APC PRODS summer meeting.

The vote on the revision of the PRODS Operating Procedures to replace the standing committee structure of PRODS with *ad hoc* committees directed at particular initiatives (already de facto in place as our current working group model) was closed later in July, and approval of the proposed changes was announced on August 5<sup>th</sup>.

We greatly appreciate the participation of PRODS in the spring and summer meetings, and review of feedback and comments is already underway as we seek to make the 2016 meetings even better. ◇



*Changes to PRODS Operating Procedures were approved, to support an ad hoc committee structure.*

## Executive Office Report (continued)

*(continued from page 21)*

"multiple profiles" password reset error, and a streamlined method to update your department's member listings whenever there are staff changes. In the new system, invoices can be paid without logging in at all—this allows us to process payments online 24/7, from members' administrative assistants or Accounts Payable reps, without having to request credit card information over

the phone.

The final round of **CME certificates** is scheduled to be distributed on September 30<sup>th</sup>. All meeting attendees who paid the \$100 CME fee and completed the online CME Evaluation Form should receive their certificates no later than October 1<sup>st</sup>.

The **2015 APC Membership Directory** (PDF) will be available soon. For information on how to use the

interactive search feature in our member portal, and later a link to the PDF directory, visit [apcprods.org/members](http://apcprods.org/members).

As always, any concerns regarding member services such as our member portal and listservs, as well as any membership updates, can be directed to [jnorman@apcprods.org](mailto:jnorman@apcprods.org). ◇

## Northeast Regional Meeting Preview

By Dani Zander, MD – Meeting Co-Organizer

The Northeast Pathology Chairs' Meeting was held in its usual location at Cambridge Beaches, Bermuda, on September 17-20, 2015. The meeting offered a well-balanced combination of formal presentations and creative, inspired discussion by the Chairs. The program outline is listed to the right. Discussions about the morning's topics were

continued in the afternoons at the beach, at sea, and in the attractive restaurants located on the property. Attendees and guests also took advantage of nearby snorkeling, sailing, tennis, golf, and motorbiking opportunities, as well as visiting Kings Wharf and Hamilton for browsing and shopping. Any questions can be directed to the meeting co-organizers:

Daniel Knowles  
([dknowles@med.cornell.edu](mailto:dknowles@med.cornell.edu))  
and Dani Zander  
([dzander@hmc.psu.edu](mailto:dzander@hmc.psu.edu)). ◇



## West-Midwest Regional Meeting Report

By Steven Gonias, MD PhD – Meeting Co-Organizer

The West and Midwest Chairs and Administrators Conference will be held at the Squaw Creek Resort in Lake Tahoe, CA, October 12-15, 2015. The topic of the meeting will be "Defining the Scope of Practice of Academic Pathology in the Future." We have outstanding speakers and a program that promises lively and informative discussions. The co-chairs of the meeting are Drs. Steve Gonias of UCSD and Ed Monuki of UC Irvine. The meeting website

is available at  
[pathology.ucsd.edu/apc/](http://pathology.ucsd.edu/apc/).

Book your hotel reservations using our special "group code" by following the link on our regional meeting website. Lake Tahoe is beautiful in early October: high temperatures should be in the high 60's, and the evenings will be brisk. A nearly complete schedule of presentations is available on our website. You don't need to be from the west or the mid-west to join us!

Everyone is invited, so please consider Lake Tahoe in October.

Make plane reservations to arrive in Sacramento, CA or Reno, NV. The drive to Lake Tahoe is approximately 90 minutes by rental car. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Dr. Steve Gonias  
([sgonias@ucsd.edu](mailto:sgonias@ucsd.edu)) or Maddie Wichman  
([goniasoffice@ucsd.edu](mailto:goniasoffice@ucsd.edu) or 858-534-0455). ◇

## Southeast Regional Meeting

By Steven L. Carroll, MD PhD, and Gene Siegal, MD PhD – Meeting Co-Organizers

Registration is now open online for the Southeast Regional Meeting of Administrators and Pathology Chairs. This year's SEAPC meeting will be held on October 7-9, 2015, at the beautiful Charleston Harbor Marina & Resort in Charleston, SC.

Sessions will focus on a range of topics in

Computational Pathology, Molecular Pathology, and Telepathology. There will also be plenty of time each day for networking, discussion, and exploring Charleston, one of America's historic cities.

Leaders of academic Pathology departments from across the country are warmly invited. Details and

registration are at  
[www.musc.edu/pathology/SEAPC/index.html](http://www.musc.edu/pathology/SEAPC/index.html).

Any questions can be directed to Ms. Teresa Kennedy  
([kenntere@musc.edu](mailto:kenntere@musc.edu)).

We look forward to seeing you in Charleston! ◇

### Northeast Pathology Chairs Meeting Program

**Thursday**  
Ad Hoc Session  
Reception

**Friday**  
Mergers, Acquisitions,  
Physician Networks and  
System Integration  
George Michalopoulos,  
University of Pittsburgh  
Jon Morrow, Yale University  
Debra Leonard, University of Vermont  
Dani Zander, Pennsylvania State University

**Saturday**  
Global Issues Around  
Genomics  
Intra-institutional Challenges  
and Commercial Lab  
Challenges  
Jon Morrow, Yale  
University  
Reimbursement Challenges  
Jim Musser, Houston  
Methodist  
Small Budget vs. Big Budget  
David Roth, U. Penn.  
NCI Match Panel  
Jeff Sklar, Yale University  
Advocacy Priorities  
Richard Friedberg, CAP  
Mark Sobel, ASIP

**Sunday**  
Business Meeting



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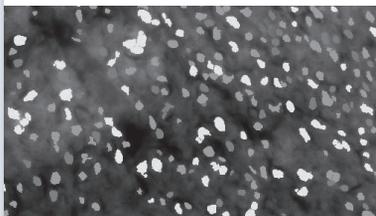


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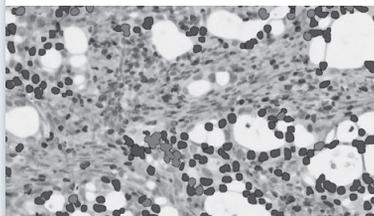
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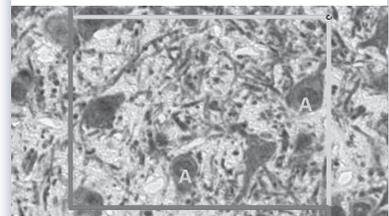
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