

THE ASSOCIATION FOR MOLECULAR PATHOLOGY

www.amp.org

Report to the Intersociety Pathology Council
March 2008

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Leadership: AMP's current President is Dr. Gregory Tsongalis and its President-Elect is Dr. Jan Nowak. Dr. Mark Sobel is the Executive Officer.

Membership: AMP's membership increased again in 2007 and now exceeds 1,500.

Annual Meeting: The 2007 Annual Meeting was held in Los Angeles, California and had a record attendance of over 1,000 scientific registrants. In addition, 67 companies exhibited in 92 booth spaces. AMP again held a Pathology Outreach Program the day before the annual meeting. This year, the meeting will be held in Grapevine, Texas, October 30 - November 2 and the Pathology Outreach Program will be held October 29.

Awards: Dr. Janet Rowley was the keynote speaker at the 2007 annual meeting and the recipient of the AMP Award for Excellence in Molecular Diagnostics. Previous recipients include Francis Collins, Edwin Southern, Henry Erlich, Bert Vogelstein, Craig Venter, Sir Alec Jeffreys, Leroy Hood, and Mary-Clare King. The AMP Leadership Award, which honors a member who has contributed significant leadership to benefit the mission and goals of the society, was presented to Dr. Dan Farkas in 2007. Previous recipients include Jeffrey Kant and Mark Sobel. AMP also provides Young Investigator Awards and Technologist Awards based on abstract submissions and poster presentations at the annual meeting. AMP will present a new award in 2008, the Trainee Platform Presentation Award, which will recognize the best platform presentations of abstracts by Trainees at the Annual Meeting.

Journals: AMP's official journal, *The Journal of Molecular Diagnostics*, is now in its 10th year. It is co-published with ASIP and publishes six issues per year. In the past year, AMP published four manuscripts: Mutation Nomenclature (Ogino, *et al.*), Guidance for FISH Testing (Wolff, *et al.*), CML MRD Monitoring (Zhang, *et al.*), and fragile X Reference Materials (Amos Wilson, *et al.*). The CME program, in which readers can earn 50 credit hours in category 1 credit towards the AMA Physician's Recognition Award, is growing. *JMDexpress* is the journal's online prepublication vehicle.

Professional Relations: AMP's active Professional Relations Committee continues to work on reimbursement, licensing, and regulatory issues for molecular tests. AMP is a member of the CAP Pathology Coding Caucus. In early 2008, AMP added a CPT subcommittee to address reimbursement issues in depth.

Clinical Practice: AMP's active Clinical Practice Committee continues to work on clinical practice issues. In 2007, the committee began publishing guidance documents.

AMP Test Directory (www.amptestdirectory.org): The online Directory is organized into sections for Hematopathology, Solid Tumors, and Infectious Diseases. Only Laboratory Directors who are AMP members can list tests; however, the Directory is available to the public without restriction. New features in the final phases of design include the addition of a specimen source field, a streamlined list of infectious agents, and a Google-style search function.

Molecular Genetic Pathology MGP Review Course: AMP held a 2½-day review course June 8-10, 2007 to assist those seeking MGP certification. The course was very well attended, with 62 attendees. This course was not endorsed by the American Board of Pathology or the American Board of Medical Genetics.

Molecular Pathology Essentials: Principles and Practice Course: This 2½-day course will focus on the essential knowledge and current practice of clinical molecular pathology, with an emphasis on case-based examples and technologies. Topics to be presented include molecular diagnostic testing for genetic disorders, cancer, infectious diseases, pharmacogenetics, identity testing, and laboratory regulations and management. It will be held May 12-14, 2008 and is intended for laboratory directors, scientists, industry professionals, supervisors, technologists, trainees, and others who seek a better understanding of molecular methods and their clinical applications. It is jointly presented by AMP and The American Association for Clinical Chemistry (AACC).