

THE ASSOCIATION OF PATHOLOGY CHAIRS

www.apcprods.org

Report to the Intersociety Pathology Council

March 2008

Submitted by Mark E. Sobel, MD, PhD, Managing Officer

Governance: The Association of Pathology Chairs has sections for the Chairs of LCME-accredited institutions, and their residency program directors (PRODS), pathology department administrators (PDAS) and course directors (for curricula for the medical school, newly established in 2005).

Leadership: APC's President is Dr. James Crawford. Dr. Mark Tykocinski is the President-elect and will become President in July 2008. Dr. Robert Reddick is the Secretary-Treasurer. APC is managed in the ASIP office.

Meetings: The APC annual meeting is held each July. The theme varies over a three-year cycle from practice and management (the theme in 2006) to undergraduate medical education (the theme in 2007) to graduate medical education (the theme in 2008). The 2008 meeting will be in Colorado Springs, Colorado from July 16-19. In addition, regional meetings are held each year in the Fall/Winter for the Northeast, Southeast, and West/Mid-West groups.

APCREG: In 2003, APC established the Research and Education Group (APCREG). In 2005, APCREG issued two 18-month awards of \$25,000 each for projects in pathology education. In 2008, as part of a new 5-year strategic plan, APC will re-evaluate how it can best meet the mission of APCREG.

Public Advocacy: In 2006, the APC launched a public advocacy program and established an ad hoc committee, which meets monthly to discuss issues of importance within their departments and among other Pathology societies on whose committees they serve. The APC Advocacy Committee views its role as bridging interests throughout the Pathology community and providing academic expertise and leadership to issues, particularly when it is strategically useful. The issues currently discussed by the committee include: proposed changes in the USMLE by the NBME; best practices for Part A reimbursement; regulatory affairs and payment issues vis-à-vis the College of American Pathologists' Economic Affairs Committee; resolutions and reports affecting Pathology that were covered at the AMA Section on Pathology meeting; the recent SACGHS report on the oversight of genetic testing (an issue of concern to AMP and CAP); and recruiting pathologists to new post-doctoral FDA fellowships. In 2007, members of the APC Advocacy Committee presented Senator Edward Kennedy with its first "Friends of Pathology" award to honor his work in supporting the Armed Forces Institute of Pathology and his commitment to the interests of Pathology.