



## **THE ASSOCIATION OF PATHOLOGY CHAIRS**

***www.apcprods.org***

Report to the Intersociety Pathology Council

February 21, 2014

Submitted by Ann Thor, MD, President

**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 undergraduate medical educators (UMEDS). In addition, chairs and program directors of hospital departments with ACGME accreditation may join and participate as affiliate members of APC. In 2011, a new subsection of PRODS was formed to support the professional networking of program coordinators, called the Graduate Medical Education Administrators Section (GMEAS).

**Leadership:** APC's current President is Ann Thor, MD of the University of Colorado, Denver. Tristram Parslow, MD, PhD of Emory University is Secretary-Treasurer. Don Karcher, MD of The George Washington is President-Elect, and Peter Jensen, MD of the University of Utah is Past-President.

**Meetings:** The APC annual meeting is held each July. In addition, regional meetings are held each year in the Fall/Winter for the Northeast, Southeast, and West/Mid-West groups. The next annual meeting will be in Boston, MA on July 8-11, 2014. The major theme of the upcoming meeting is **Academic Pathology by 2020 – Where Are We Headed and How Do We Get There Together?** APC's annual meetings are structured to allow simultaneous and separate programming for all professional sections (PRODS, UMEDS, PDAS and GMEAS) and all thematic areas – practice and management, graduate and undergraduate medical education, research, and advocacy. APC Council embraces its responsibility to lead the field of academic pathology into the future. APC Council and the Section Chairs cooperate to make the annual meeting the principle place for leaders in academic pathology to keep pace with significant and rapid changes in healthcare delivery, research, and thus medical education.

At the last three APC annual meetings, we examined in detail the impact of genomics and personalized medicine (in 2011), health information technology and clinical informatics (in 2012), and health care reform (in 2013) on pathology practice and the academic pathology community. We also discussed workforce issues in pathology and laboratory medicine. The time is now right to discuss how technological innovations and changes in health care delivery can be effectively operationalized in pathology over the next few years and what role academic pathology should play in this process. Accurate projections of the future are difficult to do and probably not realistic beyond a horizon of about 5-7 years. Thus, 6 years (i.e. 2020) may be an appropriate timeframe in which to try to project and plan for the future of pathology. Presentations and discussions will be focused on attempting to realistically project what pathology practice, education, and research will look like by 2020 and what concrete steps the academic pathology community should take now to ensure the best possible outcomes in each of the three areas.

**Communications:** In addition to the professional listservs maintained for each of APC Sections to communicate throughout the year, our main vehicle for period communication to the membership and general public, about Section and Committee activities (including advocacy, major projects and new initiatives) is our newsletter - *Paths to Progress*. Issues are archived on the APC website at <http://www.apcprods.org/News/>. The latest issue (February 2014) is appended.

APC encourages engagement from all sources on issues of importance to the academic pathology community. For more information about APC's mission and plans, please visit the website at [www.apcprods.org](http://www.apcprods.org) and consider attending our annual meeting in July 2014.