



Association for Pathology Informatics 2018 Report to Intersociety Pathology Council

A. Overview of the Association of Pathology Informatics (API)

- Mission
 - Promote the field of Pathology Informatics as an academic and a clinical subspecialty of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine
- History
 - Founded in 2000 by pathologists interested in defining Pathology Informatics as a clinical subspecialty within the medical discipline of Pathology
 - API was initially supported by the Department of Biomedical Informatics and the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine until API became financially independent, with the University of Colorado
 - The University of Michigan currently helps to provide additional administrative support for API
- Goals
 - Support advances in Pathology Informatics through research, education, scientific meetings, and electronic and printed communications
 - Develop standards for reporting, transferring, storing, and merging confidential and other pathology-related information.
 - Play an active role in legal, ethical, social, regulatory, and governmental issues related to Pathology Informatics
 - Develop relationships with other professional societies and industry partners that share similar interests and goals
- What is Pathology Informatics?
 - Pathology Informatics involves collecting, examining, reporting, and storing large complex sets of data derived from tests performed in clinical laboratories, anatomic pathology laboratories, or research laboratories in order to improve patient care and enhance our understanding of disease-related processes
- What do we do?
 - Informaticians/Informaticists seek to continuously improve laboratory information technology/systems, enhance the value of laboratory test data, and develop computational algorithms and models aimed at deriving clinical value from new data sources
 - We offer a broad array of expertise in the primary informatics pillars of:
 - Information fundamentals
 - Information systems
 - Workflow and process
 - Governance and management
 - Integral to supporting both clinical laboratory operations and academic research

B. Governing Council for 2018

President	David McClintock, MD (University of Michigan)
President-Elect	Monica de Baca, MD (Interpath)
Past President	John Gilbertson, MD (Massachusetts General Hospital)
Secretary	Philip Boyer, MD, PhD (East Carolina University)
Treasurer	Bruce Levy, MD, CPE (Geisinger Health System)
Program Committee Chair	Anil V. Parwani, MD, PhD (The Ohio State University)
Program Committee Chair-Elect	Veronica Klepeis, MD, PhD (Massachusetts General Hospital)
Membership Committee Chair	Mehrvash Haghighi, MD (Columbia University)
Training and Education Committee Co-Chairs	Toby Cornish, MD, PhD (University of Colorado) Victor Brodsky, MD (Cedars Sinai Medical Center)
Publications Committee Chair	Stephen Hewitt, MD, PhD (National Institutes of Health - National Cancer Institute)
Editors-in-Chief, Journal of Pathology Informatics	Anil V. Parwani, MD, PhD (The Ohio State University) Liron Pantanowitz, MD (University of Pittsburgh)
Technical Standards Committee Co-Chairs	Michael Legg, PhD (Consultant Health Informatician, Michael Legg & Associates) James Harrison, MD, PhD (University of Virginia)
Digital Imaging Ad-Hoc Committee Co-Chairs	Stephen Hewitt, MD, PhD (National Institutes of Health - National Cancer Institute) Jeffrey Fine, MD (University of Pittsburgh)
Pathology Informatics Planning Committee Co-Chairs	Ulysses G.J. Balis, MD (University of Michigan) J. Mark Tuthill, MD (Henry Ford Hospital)

C. Membership

- Members
 - 305 active members (to date)
 - Additional 118 inactive members (actively being engaged to continue membership for 2018)
- Teaching Institution Sponsors
 - 25 non-profit programs participated in 2017
- Benefits of Membership
 - Implemented new website for members this year
 - <https://pathologyinformatics.org/>
 - Continually adding content and features
 - Educational content from Web site (member login required)
 - Will start organizing content using PIER this summer 2018
 - GOAL - help training programs without Pathology Informatics expertise
 - GOAL – help current and future Pathology Informatics faculty save time creating educational content by sanctioned reuse of member content
 - Free publication for members in our journal, Journal of Pathology Informatics
 - Reduced registration rate for members at Annual Meeting
 - Access to official API Listserv and broad member expertise, connections

D. Annual Meeting: Pathology Informatics Summit 2018

- May 21 - May 24, 2018 - Pathology Informatics Summit 2018
 - Historical: Merger of prior AP/III Conference and Lab Info Tech Summit in 2010
- Diverse informatics topics along 2 major tracks:
 - Applied Clinical Informatics: AP, CP, and Molecular/Genomics
 - Research Informatics
- Focus this year:
 - Pathology Informatics Boot Camp sessions:
 - General and specialized LIS functions
 - Extracting data from the LIS for use in data warehouses, analytics, machine learning, and computational pathology
 - Application of machine learning and advanced analytics in Computational Pathology and Clinical Laboratory Medicine
 - New and novel technologies in Pathology (keynote speakers):
 - Anil Parwani, MD, PhD, MBA: Houston: We Have Liftoff – The Initial Experiences with US-based WSI Primary Diagnosis
 - Jonathan T. C. Liu, PhD: Open-top light-sheet microscopy for nondestructive slide-free 3D pathology
 - Sandra Camelo-Piragua, MD: Raman Backscatter Microscopy: a new tool for practicing surgical pathologists
 - Digital Pathology Association Companion Meeting
- Great conference for residents, fellows, and anyone else with an interest in informatics
 - Boot camp session (PI Review) on first day
 - Many specialized sessions, not just for directors of Pathology Informatics
 - Pathology Informatics retreat for fellows immediately prior to the conference
 - Includes Clinical Informatics fellows based in Pathology
 - Abstracts always welcome – high acceptance rate to encourage interest
- Travel Awards for Trainees: 21 in 2017
 - Thanks to ASCP and CAP for funding past awards
 - Always looking for more sponsors for travel award for this year's meeting!!
 - Trainees submit abstracts and present projects in conjunction with Travel Award

E. Clinical Informatics Subspecialty

- Pathology programs currently hosting 6 of the 31 programs in Clinical Informatics
 - Additional programs being planned (e.g. University of Michigan)
- Summary for 2017 Examination (Fall 2017)
 - Fifth cohort of examinees, pathology again had a strong showing!
 - Examination Administration
 - American Board of Pathology
 - American Board of Preventive Medicine
 - 207 New Diplomats for Clinical Informatics Board Examination
 - 16 are Pathologists = 7.7%
 - Pathologists among Physicians: ~2%

F. Leadership and Guidance – National and International Level

- Continued participation by API members in multiple standards organizations:
 - E.g. HL7, DICOM (Michael Legg, UI Balis)
- Continued guidance on important national topics
 - E.g. FDA certification of Whole Slide Imaging, Computational Pathology

G. Participation in Other Meetings: Basic and Applied Pathology Informatics Education

- USCAP Annual Meeting
 - Companion Society Session: Saturday, March 17, 2018, 7-10PM
- ASCP Annual Meeting
 - 20 hours of informatics programming annually
 - Digital Pathology Association
 - Annual Session
- HIMSS International Meetings
 - Pathology Informatics sessions at international meetings
- AACC Annual Meeting
 - Informatics special session
- AMIA (American Medical Informatics Association)
 - Currently discussing options for Pathology-specific content at the AMIA national meeting or education-specific meeting
- WE WANT TO HELP OTHER SOCIETIES EXPAND THEIR INFORMATICS CONTENT!!
 - Contact Nova Smith (nms67@pitt.edu) or David McClintock (dsmcclin@med.umich.edu) to discuss opportunities

G. Journal of Pathology Informatics - <http://www.jpathinformatics.org>

- Submission of any informatics-themed manuscripts are GREATLY ENCOURAGED!
- Established in 2010
 - Open access, prompt review process (strive for 3-week decision period)
 - Editors: Liron Pantanowitz - Univ. of Pittsburgh / Anil Parwani - Ohio State
 - Editorial board continually growing, international in scope
- Publication in journal is free for API members: Unlimited free submissions
- Over 290,000 hits on the journal in 2016 – continuing to gain presence in the Informatics and Pathology communities
- Most viewed article topics include: (1) IT tools for pathology education (2) Next gen sequencing, (3) Image analysis, (4) PHI in labs, and (5) Deep learning/machine learning
- Manuscript submissions evenly split between US (51%) and international (49%)

H. Webinars

- API/Sunquest Current topics in Pathology Informatics Series
 - Sponsored by Sunquest but free from commercial interests/promotion in talks
 - Monthly frequency (approximately)
 - Covers a range of topics throughout the year
- Members provide informatics content to many other webinar series
- Recordings available to API members