

Society for Pediatric Pathology 2006 report to IPC

This report to the IPC is an abstract of the SPP's strategic plan initiated by President Beverly Rogers in spring of 2005.

Vision:To further the understanding and diagnosis of disorders affecting children by promoting diagnosis, research, education, training, and advocacy in pediatric pathology.

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Advocacy:

Objectives:

1. Develop and monitor a strategic plan for the Society for Pediatric Pathology.
 - **February meeting 2006 – a vote to accept the Strategic Plan will occur at the Business meeting**
2. Partner with other organizations, each year, particularly pathology-specific groups, in areas of common interest, such as practice and research.
3. Serve as the primary resource for advocacy and quality efforts of the SPP.

Annual Meetings

Objectives:

1. Produce an education program that provides a review of how pediatric pathology is practiced today, with rotating topics.
2. Provide a scientific program that offers the latest research in selected areas, with rotating topics.
3. Provide the highest quality oral, poster, and plenary presentations based on abstract submissions and review.
4. Offer educational experiences including special opportunities for trainees.
5. Ensure comprehensive logistic management so as to facilitate an environment conducive to a high quality scientific meeting.
6. Create productive networking environment for meeting attendees by providing opportunities for the exchange of ideas.
7. **Fall meeting will be in Columbus Oct. 5-8 with the last day a perinatal course.**

Communications

Objectives:

1. Enhance communication with the SPP membership.
 - Assure ongoing publication of a newsletter at regular intervals.
 - i. **The Publications Committee is reviewing publication of the newsletter with respect to: how it interfaces with the web site, whether photos should be included in the newsletter or Archives**
 - Work to improve communication with members by enhancing current communication tools, such as the newsletter, e-mail news bulletins, website, and other electronic communication services.
 - i. **In 2005, the web site was moved under the Central Office and updated. Dr. Margraf is working to facilitate a system whereby ongoing updates are automatic. The Publications Committee is reviewing the need for a website editor.**
 - ii. **There has been increasing use of the MemberClicks database for communication, including updates and distribution of Bylaws changes prior to February, 2006 meeting.**
2. Inform other target audiences about pediatric pathology (such as non-member pathologists, pediatricians, and other primary care physicians).
 - Align more closely with pathology organizations and professional societies that represent either subsets of pathology or medical fields that are closely related to pediatric pathology.
 - Increase the visibility of SPP initiatives that have as a key part of their mission to promote clinical research in pediatric pathology.

Education/CME

Objectives:

1. Keep practicing pathologists up to date on advances in the field of pediatric pathology.
 - Develop and implement topical workshops and meetings for CME credit.
 - i. **The perinatal meeting in the spring, 2005 was extremely well-received and financially sound.**

- Evaluate abstracts for annual and interim SPP meetings.
- Recommend and evaluate cosponsorship of CME meetings with other organizations consistent with the mission of the SPP.
 - i. **The meeting in Tours was co-sponsored by both SPP and PPS. The SPP provided the CME support for the meeting.**
 - ii. **The symposium in February, 2006 occurs in conjunction with the GI Pathology Society of the USCAP.**
- **Members have worked closely with IAP to provide symposia in Montreal. Pediatric Pulmonary Pathology Symposium, organized by Claire Langston, Maude Abbott Pediatric Cardiac Pathology Symposium, organized by Glenn Taylor, Embryofetal Pathology Short Course organized by Luc Oligny, Slide Seminar organized by Tony Bourne and Denis Benjamin, Forensic pathology session with Henry Krous and Roger Byard as speakers**
- Continue to produce and maintain the quality of educational programs.
 - i. **The CME program was reaccredited in 2005.**
- Recruit top quality speakers for the meeting programs in order to present the most up to date information.
- Develop programs that will satisfy future reaccreditation requirements.
- 2. Stimulate interest in the field, increasing the number of talented young physicians in the profession.
 - Give resident case presentation awards each year at interim meeting.
 - i. **Dr. Raj Kapur will spearhead this initiative.**
 - Evaluate manpower needs for pathologists with expertise in pediatric diseases.
 - Foster mentoring and networking between pediatric pathology trainees and experienced career professionals.
 - i. **Dr. Perry has assigned pediatric pathology fellows and residents to committees.**
- 3. Promote awareness of the field of pediatric pathology.
 - Offer CME programs to pathologists outside of the discipline of pediatric pathology.
 - i. **See 1 – the perinatal meeting in the spring, 2005**
 - ii. **See 1 – the symposium with the GI society in February, 2006**
 - Liaison with other professional organizations.
- 4. Provide the SPP slide survey program.
 - **This has been reorganized to include**
 - i. **A job description for the chairman**
 - ii. **Inclusion under Education Committee**

Finance and Development

Objectives:

1. Maintain a formal annual process to evaluate and monitor the budget.
2. Build means to support reserve, endowment, and other funds, as needed.
3. Diversify sources of income by managing investments and engaging in development and fundraising efforts.
4. Define financial targets for revenue and reserves commensurate with the needs of the SPP to fund activities and protect against risks.
5. Ensure that the financial state and budgeting process of the SPP is transparent to membership.

International Members and Outreach

Objectives: Represent the interests of international members.

1. Encourage and facilitate international representation in the SPP.
2. Provide outreach for countries outside of North America.
3. Distribute educational materials.
4. Identify opportunities for providing short-term training for pathologists in pediatric pathology.
 - Foster collaborations between established or emerging global pediatric pathology networks.
 - Participate in international CME programs.

Leadership Development

Objectives:

1. Solicit nominations for SPP officers from the SPP membership, including all committee members.
2. Ensure a generation of candidates for committees and leadership and make recommendations to the SPP council.
 - **Dr. Perry assigned fellows and residents to committees in 2006**
3. Solicit nominations and volunteers for SPP committees

- **Dr. Rogers requested this through MemberClicks in 2005**

Membership

Objectives:

1. To recruit and evaluate applicants for membership in the SPP.
2. Identify opportunities to recruit non-members who should be part of the SPP and encourage them to join.
3. Identify major segments of our membership and determine the most effective way to make the SPP and its benefits and services more valuable to them.
4. Continuously improve and to reinforce through communication the value of SPP membership.
5. Maintain permanent records of the SPP through the Archives Committee and USCAP/SPP Office.

Practice

Objectives:

1. Determine and rank the primary challenges facing practicing pediatric pathologists in all clinical settings. Assess and address the needs of SPP members who practice pediatric pathology.
2. Establish guidelines for practice including quality assurance and proficiency testing, in collaboration with other pathology organizations.
3. Make recommendations to the Liaison Committee concerning establishment and maintenance of relationships between the SPP and other pathology organizations.
4. Make recommendations for the annual and interim meetings to serve the educational and practical needs of practicing pediatric pathologists.
5. Increase the public visibility of the SPP and the specialty of pediatric pathology in general.
6. **Help to craft position statements on matters germane to pediatric pathology.**
 - **February, 2006 – positions on billing and CAP autopsy requirements discussed**

Publishing

Objectives:

1. Continue to improve the manuscript submission and peer-review system.
2. Support a strong role of peer-review as it serves to maintain the quality and excellence of SPP publications.
3. Stay abreast of advances in on-line and print publishing and implement those that will further strengthen Pediatric and Developmental Pathology in its role as the pre-eminent pediatric pathology journal.
 - **The journal moved to a new publisher, Alliance, division of Allen Press, in 2006**
4. Assist in marketing and advertising Perspectives in Pediatric Pathology.

Research, Scholarship, and Awards

Objectives:

1. Identify and facilitate research by the SPP as an organization.
2. Provide a funding mechanism to support research in pediatric pathology by trainees, junior members, and members throughout their careers.
3. Sustain a distinction and awards program designed to improve the field of pediatric pathology.
4. Educate program directors about scholarship opportunities that exist through the SPP and focus these efforts on medical schools within the United States and Canada.
5. Ensure that a review process is in place that will result in awards being evaluated for the highest quality applications and applicants, with consideration of scientific merit and programmatic balance.
6. Collaborative investigative relationships with other organizations.
7. Make recommendations to the Education Committee for programs or presentations concerned with research methodology or other information.
8. Recognize individuals who have made outstanding contributions to the field of pediatric pathology.

Training

Objectives:

1. Increase involvement of trainees in the SPP.
2. Maintain a database of pediatric pathology trainees and pediatric pathology training program directors.
3. Develop and periodically update a core pediatric pathology curriculum.
 - **Manuscript on clinical pathology training submitted by CHILdX to AJCP.**
4. Promote trainees' understanding of the breadth of careers in pediatric pathology.
5. Foster success of pediatric pathology fellowships and other initiatives aimed at those responsible for delivery of pediatric pathology care.
6. Survey pathologists and pediatric pathology training directors concerning how pediatric pathology is being taught and who is practicing pediatric pathology

7. Provide professional development opportunities for training program directors.
8. Develop assessment tools for pediatric pathology fellowship training directors to assist them in implementing core competencies.
9. Develop additional programs and resources that provide mentorship and networking opportunities for fellows and junior pediatric pathologists.
10. Establish a repository of teaching and testing materials for use and development of expertise in pediatric pathology.

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