

# Society for Pediatric Pathology 2007 report to IPC

This report to the IPC is an update of the SPP strategic plan.

*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 2006 Business meeting 2006 – a vote to accept the Strategic Plan occurred**
2. Partner with other organizations, each year, particularly pathology-specific groups, in areas of common interest, such as practice and research.
  - **Society and individual members supported the National Children's Study research proposal**
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.
  - **Annual meeting March 24-25, 2007 will host a joint symposium with the Cardiovascular Pathology society.**

### 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.
    - iii. **A new webmaster has been chosen and the website has been updated.**

### 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 and 2006 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.
  - **Annual meeting March 24-25, 2007 will host a joint symposium with the Cardiac Pathology Society**
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.
  - ii. **Resident case presentations given at the fall 2006 meeting.**
- Evaluate manpower needs for pathologists with expertise in pediatric diseases.
- Foster mentoring and networking between pediatric pathology trainees and experienced career professionals.
  - i. **Assignments for pediatric pathology fellows and residents to committees for 2006 by Dr. Perry and by Dr. Pysker for 2007.**
- 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 and the **Cardiac Society in March 2006**
    - iii. **See 1- the nationally offered placental pathology course in 2006.**
  - Liaison with other professional organizations.

### 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. Pysker assigned fellows and residents to committees in 2006**
3. Solicit nominations and volunteers for SPP committees
  - Dr. Rogers and Perry requested this through MemberClicks in 2005 and in 2006.

### 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
  - **Support for repeal of the CMS recommendations on multiple biopsy specimens.**

### 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 by CHILdX published in 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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<http://www.spponline.org/default.htm>