

International Academy of Pathology
Report of North American Vice-Presidents
January 11, 2008

The United States and Canadian Division of the IAP currently has 10,600 members, including 2,400 Junior Members.

The 2007 annual meeting provides an abundance of educational opportunities. A total of 1,707 abstracts will be presented. There are 60 short courses, including 9 new courses. The Long Course on *Neoplasia of the Kidneys and Urinary Bladder* will be co-directed by Drs. John Eble and David Grignon. The two Special Courses on molecular pathology are continued. *Introductory Molecular Oncology* provides attendees with the basic genetic principles for understanding the applications of molecular methodologies in oncology, and *Advanced Molecular Pathology* focuses on translational issues that link basic discoveries with the practice of pathology. Additional highlights of this year's program include the Nathan Kaufman Timely Topics Lecture which will be presented by Dr. Frank McKeon and is entitled *p63 Through the Ages*. Dr. Christopher Fletcher will deliver the Maude Abbott Lecture, *The Future of Academic Anatomic Pathology: Challenges and Opportunities*.

The USCAP Strategic Planning Subcommittee is moving forward with the implementation phase. On recommendation from this committee several new initiatives for housestaff were instituted at the 2005 meeting. The Fellowship Fair, the Housestaff Specialty Conference and the Housestaff Hospitality room have all been popular additions to the annual meeting. The hospitality room is open on Monday and Tuesday and many renowned pathologists have agreed to be present in the room for specific time periods during which they are available for 1:1 interaction with housestaff. The Fellowship Fair has representatives from institutions present to advertise their various fellowships free of charge. The Housestaff Specialty Conference on Sunday evening is organized by Drs. John Goldblum and Christina Isacson and they have chosen creative subjects of great interest to housestaff. This year the topic is "*The Practice of Pathology - Community and Academics*". Another popular feature of the conference is the panel discussion where housestaff attendees have the opportunity to ask questions.

In keeping with one of the goals of the Strategic Planning Initiative, the Academy instituted another course (in its third year), Practical Pathology Seminars, which was offered in Cancun, Mexico, May 3 - 6, 2007. The Diagnostic Cytopathology course, directed by Dr. Celeste Powers, was presented for the fourth time January 19-21, 2008 in Carefree, AZ.

The 2007 Diagnostic Pathology Course was held July 14 - 20 in Banff, Alberta, Canada and had 147 registrants from around the world. The post-test, evaluation and CME claim form were all done online. It allowed for a more complete evaluation of each speaker, and we received the lengthiest and most useful report of any course, ever. This format will be gradually incorporated for all USCAP offerings. The 2008 Diagnostic Pathology course

will be presented July 12 - 18 in Maui, Hawaii. Finally, the USCAP was especially honored to host the highly successful Centennial Congress of the IAP in Montreal Sept 16-21, 2006, attended by 2,268 pathologists.

The Knowledge Hub on the USCAP website (www.uscap.org) continues to add materials. All of the teaching materials from the meetings of 2002-2007, with a table of contents and a search function are available on the website. Course materials from the 2006 IAP Centennial Congress in Montreal are also posted on the USCAP website. For the 2008 Annual Meeting, handouts for Companion Society symposia were placed on the USCAP website at least two weeks before the annual meeting. Specialty Conference slides and case histories are also available on the website at least a month prior to the annual meeting. For the second time, the 2008 conferences were offered the option of having virtual slides posted on the website, which many of them did. The complete handout is placed on the website the morning after the conference. These are not available in advance in order not to give away the diagnoses. Pathologists around the world can visit the website and see either virtual slides or high quality jpeg images, a discussion of the differential diagnosis, and references which they can study even if they cannot come to the meeting - learning at a distance. The Knowledge Hub is receiving 2-5 million+ "hits"/month from up to 22,000 different pathologists in 85 different countries with 600,000 page views/month. Also, the free Virtual Slide Box with hundreds of slides are also available for free.

The USCAP continues to send its surplus educational materials around the world to those IAP divisions with the greatest need as well as others, with 24 boxes of materials mailed in 2006. We have received responses from some, and the following statement from the Secretary of the Uruguayan Division is typical: *"We are very grateful for your donation. We are planning a continuing medical education course in November and we are going to use this material for slide seminars. This division feels this educational material is very useful for our members"*.

Respectfully Submitted,

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