Dear ACLPS Members:

Spring has sprung, and that means we are looking forward to meeting in San Diego in June. Our local hosts, David Herold and Robert Fitzgerald have finalized an outstanding scientific and social program, and I hope to see you there.

An unprecedented number of Young Investigator Abstracts were received this year for presentation at the annual meeting. This attests to the vitality of our organization, and signals that scientific investigation and scholarly activity are thriving in our Clinical Pathology training programs.

Looking toward the future, ACLPS and other Pathology organizations are recognizing a changing professional role for the clinical Pathologist. The Clinical Pathologist will be required to function increasingly as a clinical consultant and fully integrated member of the clinical team. In addition, the Clinical Pathologist will play defining roles in translational and clinical research. At last year’s ACLPS meeting in Chicago, the membership engaged in a lively discussion on alternative approaches to pathology residency training to meet these future needs. Proposals ranged from mandatory combined AP and CP training to independent AP and CP tracks with the development of subspecialists.

Furthering this discussion, Brain Smith (Yale University) has coordinated an issue on Laboratory Medicine Education for Clinics in Laboratory Medicine. My coauthors, (Y. Agrawal, Weill Medical College of Cornell University, C. B. Alexander, University of Alabama at Birmingham, E. Bovill, University of Vermont College of Medicine, M. Laposata, Massachusetts General Hospital, Harvard Medical School) and I have contributed a manuscript proposing a number of approaches for formalizing research and scholarly activities in Clinical Pathology training programs. A draft proposal was circulated to the ACLPS membership for comment at the end of last year. I was gratified to have received many insightful comments and opinions on both sides of the issue.

Emanating from this, we will be holding an open forum on the academic enterprise in Clinical Pathology at our annual meeting in
San Diego. The Friday morning breakfast session has been reserved for round-table discussions on the merits of research training and developing a designated Research/Academic Track to certification in Clinical Pathology. Building on models that exist in Internal Medicine, Pediatrics, and Anesthesiology, the latter would integrate specialty training in Clinical Pathology with 12 -18 months of research training. Individuals graduating from such programs would be expected to engage in post-graduate research fellowships and become the future leaders in academic pathology. Please join us at the ACLPS meeting on Friday morning before the Young Investigator Program to share your opinions and perspectives.

On a more immediate topic affecting the practice of Clinical Pathology, ACLPS has been engaged with the American Board of Pathology to consider maintenance of certification (MOC). I am pleased to announce that Peter Jatlow (Department of Pathology, Yale University) was selected by the American Board of Pathology to serve as the ACLPS representative on an ad hoc committee to develop content specifications for MOC in Clinical Pathology. If you have comments regarding MOC, please contact Peter (peter.jatlow@yale.edu) or myself (epeersch@med.cornell.edu).

In addition, ACLPS recently participated with other professional organizations in a meeting lead by the College of American Pathologists to discuss the future of Pathology. Expanding the workforce emerged as a major concern. How do we interest medical students in Clinical Pathology? ACLPS can lead the way by developing and defining a role for Clinical Pathologists that has greater visibility and is more integrated in clinical care and involved with translation and clinical research. One of the ways to accomplish this is to encourage young Clinical Pathologists to join ACLPS to help shape the future of our/their profession.

Recruitment and retention of young investigators continues to be a key initiative for our organization. The Benson Award Program is an important step in this direction. In addition, ACLPS is kicking-off a new initiative at this year’s annual meeting, the Previous Young Investigator Invited Speaker Program. Under this program, Young Investigator awardees with Distinction are invited to give short presentations to highlight their current work. Creating mechanisms for young Pathologists to network and discuss challenges and opportunities in their practice will encourage them to attend the annual meeting and to stay involved in ACLPS. I welcome your suggestions on ways to ensure the future vitality of our organization, and its responsiveness to the future of Clinical Pathology.

I look forward to continuing these important discussions.

See you in San Diego!

With best wishes,

Ellinor I. Peerschke
Young Investigator Invited Speaker Program

This is a new ACLPS initiative to encourage active participation by young faculty in ACLPS. The program will be initiated at the 2007 annual meeting in San Diego.

The Nominating and Awards Committee has selected four individuals who previously received the Paul E. Strandjord Young Investigator Award. Each was invited to present a 30-min talk on their current work.

We look forward to the presentations and hope that this program will promote the involvement of outstanding young faculty in ACLPS.

David Sacks

Clinical Pathology Curriculum Update

Brian Smith

As everyone knows, the ACLPS curriculum for Laboratory Medicine resident training was successfully published, simultaneously in three journals in 2006. (Smith BR, Wells A, Alexander CB, Bovill E, Campbell S, Dasgupta A, Fung M, Haller B, Howe JG, Parvin C, Peershke E, Rinder H, Spitalnik S, Weiss R, Wener M for the Academy of Clinical Laboratory Physicians and Scientists. 2006. Curriculum Content and Evaluation of Resident Competency in Clinical Pathology (Laboratory Medicine): A Proposal. Human Pathol 37: 934-68; Amer J Clin Pathol 125(Suppl 1): S3-S37; Clin Chem 52: 917-949). Since then it has generated much favorable comment and is being used as the basis for a curriculum in a number of training programs. A listserv was also established at that time (one can sign up at: http://mailman.yale.edu/mailman/listinfo/labmeded-list).

The listserv has over 90 members although the traffic is very light. As a direct result of this curriculum effort, Alan Wells in his role as editor for the Clinics in Laboratory Medicine series, has decided to have an issue devoted solely to topics of Clinical Pathology Education. As part of that project, a number of articles have been written to extend the dialogue on curriculum into the realm of subspecialties, the role of research, the MD/PhD pathway, tools of teaching, PhD Laboratorian education, management and point of care training, and teaching medical students. The issue is expected in the summer and the current Table of Contents includes:

The Goals of Resident Training in Laboratory Medicine: An Overview

Alan Wells
Brian Smith

Research Training for Residents in Laboratory Medicine

Ellinor Peerschke
Yashpal Agrawal
Bruce Alexander
Edwin Bovill
Michael Lapasota

Innovative Didactic Methods in Laboratory Medicine Resident Teaching
Henry Rinder
Brian Smith

Assessing Resident Competency in Laboratory Medicine
Bruce Alexander

The ASCP Resident Inservice Examination: Does resident performance provide insight into the effectiveness of Clinical Pathology Education?
Barbara McKenna

Resident and Fellow Training in Transfusion Medicine
Yan Yun Wu
Christopher Tormey
Gary Stack

Resident Training in Clinical Chemistry
Jonathan Genzen
Matthew Krasowski

Resident Training in Laboratory Hematology
Sandeep Gurbuxani
Jonathan Miller

Resident and Fellow Training in Microbiology
Barbara Haller

Training in Laboratory Management and the MD/MBA in Laboratory Medicine
Ronald Weiss

Resident Training in Point-Of-Care Testing
Sheldon Campbell
Peter J Howanitz

Teaching Medical Students Basic Principles of Laboratory Medicine
Yara A. Park
Marisa B. Marques

The MD/PhD Pathway to a Career in Laboratory Medicine
Samuel A. Santoro
Claudio A. Mosse
Pampee P. Young

Education of the PhD in Laboratory Medicine
Mitchell Scott
Wm. Michael Dunne
Ann M. Gronowski

ACLPS has also continued its successful venture with ASCP in writing questions for the RISE examination. Brian Smith’s role as the ACLPS representative will be assumed by Henry Rinder for the 2008 examination. Many thanks for the enthusiastic participation of the membership in this endeavor. For the 2007 examination, 45 members contributed a total of 283 questions. It should be noted that ASCP has also just ventured into a new Hematology FISH examination tool (Fellow In-Service Examination in Hematopathology/Hematology). Again, ACLPS members have made a contribution of about 50% of the materials needed for that endeavor.

Although Laboratory Medicine exists in very different formats around the world, there is a growing interest in better formalization and perhaps even more consolidation of education in the discipline as a whole, in addition to the strong traditions in many countries of individual subdiscipline education. Anyone who has an interest in Laboratory Medicine education outside of the United States is urged to contact Brian Smith (brian.smith@yale.edu). If there is enough interest, we can explore future opportunities to internationalize our activities.

Brian Smith
The University of California, San Diego will host the 42nd Annual Meeting of the Academy of Clinical Laboratory Physicians and Scientists (ACLPS). On Friday morning, presentations by ACLPS Young Investigators will cover new developments across a wide area of Laboratory Medicine, including Hematology, Chemistry, Immunology, Transfusion Medicine, Microbiology, and Molecular Diagnostics. The Friday afternoon and Saturday morning plenary sessions will feature a series of highly distinguished speakers who will discuss emerging issues in Laboratory Medicine.

After this conference, participants should be able to:

1. Discuss recent developments in Laboratory Medicine related to Hematology, Chemistry, Immunology, Transfusion Medicine, Microbiology, or Molecular Diagnostics.
2. Describe emerging technologies that are being applied to the diagnosis of disease, including mass spectrometry, genomics and proteomics.
3. Understand the basics of mass spectrometry as applied to the clinical laboratory and research.

Please join us for what promises to be a very interesting program!

Course Description and Objectives:

The 42nd Annual Meeting of the Academy of Clinical laboratory Physicians and Scientists is hosted by the University of California, San Diego. The meeting will bring together 100-150 leading directors of clinical laboratory services, laboratory scientists, and 65 young investigators from around the United States to discuss new concepts in clinical laboratory testing and management.

Objectives:

- Provide an update of recent developments in Laboratory Medicine related to hematology, chemistry, immunology, transfusion medicine, microbiology or molecular diagnostics.
- Provide descriptions of emerging technologies that are being applied to the diagnosis of disease, including genomics and proteomics.

PROGRAM

**Thursday, June 7, 2007**

2:00 pm – 5:00 pm
Mass spectrometry tutorial: Clinical Applications of Modern Mass Spectrometry.
This optional tutorial is free for those interested in gaining a better understanding of the fundamentals of mass spectrometry as applied to investigative research and the clinical laboratory.

3:00 pm – 5:00 pm  Executive Council Meeting

3:00 pm – 6:00 pm  Registration

6:00 pm – 8:30 pm  Welcome Reception
Sheraton San Diego Hotel and Marina
Friday, June 8, 2007

6:30 am – 8:00 am   Registration/Continental Breakfast/Research Training in Pathology Discussion

8:00 am – 9:45 am   Young Investigator Presentations (5 simultaneous sessions)

9:45 am – 10:15 am  Break/Poster session

10:15 am – 10:45 am  Previous Young Investigator Presentations (4 simultaneous sessions)

10:45 am – 12:00 pm  Young Investigator Presentations (5 simultaneous sessions)

12:00 pm – 1:00 pm  Lunch

1:00 pm – 2:00 pm   Cotlove Award Lecture
   Don Hunt, Ph.D.
Distinguished University Professor
Departments of Pathology and Chemistry
University of Virginia
“Innovative Mass Spectrometry Technology for the Study of Cell Signaling”

2:00 pm – 2:45 pm   Robert Fitzgerald, Ph.D.
Associate Professor of Pathology, Department of Pathology, VA Medical Center and University of California, San Diego
“Use of 41Ca and Accelerator Mass Spectrometry to Assess Bone Disease”

2:45 pm – 3:15 pm  Break

3:15 pm – 4:00 pm   David Ecker, Ph.D.
ISIS Pharmaceuticals, Carlsbad, CA
“New Technology to Identify and Characterize Pathogens”

4:00 pm – 5:00 pm   Doug Wallace, Ph.D.
Donald Bren Professor of Molecular Genetics
University of California, Irvine
“Mitochondria: The Missing Link in Understanding Diseases, Cancer and Aging: The Next Molecular Diagnostic Frontier”

6:00 pm – 10:30 pm  Awards Banquet (San Diego Harbor Cruise on the Lord Hornblower)

Saturday, June 9, 2007

6:30 am – 8:00 am   Registration/Continental Breakfast

8:00 am – 8:45 am   Jennifer West, Ph.D.
Isabel C. Cameron Professor of Bioengineering
Rice University
“Diagnostic and Therapeutic Applications of Nanotechnology”

8:45 am – 9:45 am   Ellis Benson Award Lecture
Sandy Chang, M.D., Ph.D.
The University of Texas
MD Anderson Cancer Center
“Telomere End protection, Senescence and Cancer”

9:45 am – 10:15 am  Break

10:15 am – 11:00 am  Adam Bagg, M.D.
Director of Hematology and Minimal Residual Disease Core Lab
Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania
“Contemporary Approaches to the Diagnosis and Classification of Hematologic Malignancies”

11:00 am – 12:00 pm  Jennifer Van Eyk, Ph.D.
Director, The Hopkins NHLBI Proteomics Center
Director, Bayview Proteomics Group
Associate Professor Medicine, Division of Cardiology
Biological Chemistry and Biomedical Engineering
“Biomarker Discovery: Lessons from Myocardial Ischemia and Heart Disease”

12:00 pm – 1:30 pm   Business Meeting (Lunch Provided)

1:30 pm – 4:00 pm   Executive Council Meeting
Registration

Participation in the ACLPS 42nd Annual Meeting is limited to registered participants. Meeting attendance is open to non-members as well as to members of ACLPS. Full meeting registration includes admission to all sessions, group meal functions and social events as well as meeting materials. Registration for academic attendees is $300, and registration for industry based attendees is $500. Guests of full meeting registrants may attend the Thursday evening Welcome Reception and Friday evening event for an additional fee of $50 and $125 per person, respectively.

A partial registration option is available for Friday afternoon (1pm – 5pm) and Saturday morning (8:30am – 12noon) at $75.00 per session and includes lecture materials and breaks.

ACLPS Young Investigator Award Winners: Please complete the registration form. Registration fees will be waived.

As space is limited, early registration is suggested.
To cancel your registration, you must submit notice in writing. A $50 cancellation fee will be applied to cancellations received on or before May 25. No fees will be refunded for cancellations received after May 25. The deadline for registration is May 8 – late registration incurs an additional $50 charge.

Transportation from San Diego Airport to Sheraton

There is a free shuttle service from the Airport to the Sheraton which is located very close to the airport.

Accreditation Statement and Credit Designation

This activity has been planned and implemented in accordance with the Essential Areas and policies of the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education through the joint sponsorship of the University of California, San Diego School of Medicine and the California Academy of Physician Assistants. The University of California, San Diego School of Medicine is accredited by the ACCME to provide continuing medical education for physicians.

The University of California, San Diego School of Medicine designated this educational activity for a maximum of 10.5 AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™. Physicians should only claim credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

Target Audience

This course is designed for physicians and scientists in clinical laboratory medicine.

Cultural and Linguistic Competency

This activity is in compliance with California Assembly Bill 1195 which requires continuing medical education activities with patient care components to include curriculum in the subjects of cultural and linguistic competency. Cultural competency is defined as a set of integrated attitudes, knowledge, and skills that enables health care professionals or organizations to care effectively for patients from diverse cultures, groups and communities. Linguistic competency is defined as the ability of a physician or surgeon to provide patients who do not speak English or who have limited ability to speak English, direct communication in the patient’s primary language. Cultural and linguistic competency was incorporated into the planning of this activity. Additional resources on cultural and linguistic competency and information about AB1195 can be found on the UCSD CME website at http://cme.ucsd.edu

Faculty Disclosure

It is the policy of the University of California, San Diego School of Medicine to ensure balance, independence, objectivity and scientific rigor. All faculty participating are required to disclose any real or apparent conflict of interest related to the content of their presentation. All faculty are also required to disclose any discussions of off label/unapproved uses of drugs or devices.

Needs Assessment

The content of this educational program was determined through inquiries and request for information from physicians and scientists. Information regarding recent developments in laboratory medicine and emerging technologies that are being applied to the diagnosis of disease, as well as understanding the basics of mass spectrometry need to be disseminated to physicians and scientists.