

AMERICAN SOCIETY OF
Cytopathology
FOUNDATION

The ASC Foundation President's Report

Dorothy L. Rosenthal, M.D., Foundation President
Baltimore, Maryland



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With an action plan in hand (see *The ASC Bulletin*, Volume XLVII, Number 1, January 2010), the ASC Foundation had been in lift-off mode since the 57th Annual Scientific Meeting last November. The Haitian earthquake and the human disaster interrupted all of our thoughts, and organizations immediately responded. Rather than join the CAP or donate to other philanthropic groups, the ASC Foundation, at the request of ASC President, Dr. Hormoz Ehya, began exploring ways in which our organization as a whole could directly affect the victims in Haiti. In response to my initial email to the Foundation Board (FB), Dr. Ron Luff relayed the following story on January 17, 2010:

"My associate, Marise McNeeley, was born, raised, and educated in Haiti. She met her husband, a medical missionary, in the mid-80's and lived there until the late 90's when she was sponsored to do research at Cornell. She had been trained as a pathologist in Haiti but decided to do a full US residency at Westchester, finishing up with a hematopathology fellowship at Temple in 2003. She joined the staff (at Quest) in Teterboro, NJ thereafter, and in 2008 joined me full time in clinical trials. Her husband who now works for a J&J subsidiary recently had a drug he worked on for MDR TB approved by FDA (reported in NEJM with a significantly supportive editorial last year). He is also an ordained Episcopal minister. He ministers part-time out of St. Thomas' Church on Fifth Avenue in New York City, and they have asked him to take supplies representing the church down to Haiti. My associate plans to go there in a month or so. They have a home in Port-au-Prince that apparently was not damaged. She has two sisters in the country and both of them survived. However, the music school and church where they worshipped are gone along with an orphanage that Roman Catholic nuns ran. Needless to say, she has many friends killed, injured or missing.

*"I am very concerned about things in Haiti in six months, two years and a decade from now as the intensity of news coverage fades. That country seems to need everything. If security can be established, I would like to be part of their future turnaround if possible, perhaps in helping to rebuild the medical infrastructure. I am sure Marise will keep me informed. I am just about finished with a book she gave me that in light of the earthquake takes on even greater meaning. *Mountains Beyond Mountains* by Traci Kidder is the story of Paul Farmer, an ID doctor from Harvard who established against huge odds a medical clinic in the high plains of Haiti.*

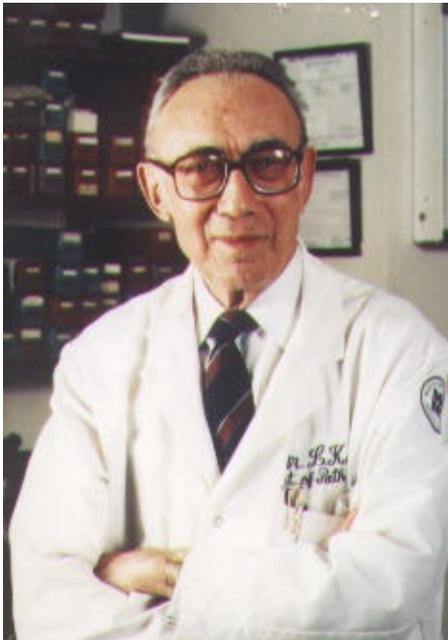
"Let us all work toward improving the human condition everywhere."

Dr. McNeeley is in Port-au-Prince already and promises to submit an application with budget for the ASC Advocacy Award to the Foundation Board. The ASC Foundation Board encourages ASC members to continue to financially support the organizations of your choosing to aid the recovery of Haiti. We also need to remember that our citizens impacted by Hurricane Katrina still need our support. If any of our members are working or have worked with recovery efforts in the US Gulf Coast, I would like to know what we can do as an organization to help.

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A planned new activity of the Foundation Board is the Koss Lectureship as part of the ASC Foundation Legacy Initiative. We are well on our way to raising the funds necessary to perpetuate this lectureship from earnings on the principle. Please decide how much you would like to contribute to honor this remarkable man. Please contact the ASC National Office for details about outlining the levels of funding and the bonuses for each category. The first Koss Lecturer will soon be announced along with the plans for the 58th Annual Scientific Meeting in Boston in November 2010. Please plan on being a part of the audience to inaugurate what we hope will become a highlight of each Annual Scientific Meeting. ■



Leopold G. Koss, M.D.
Founding Contributor, ASC Legacy Fund

Support the ASC Legacy Fund

The American Society of Cytopathology Foundation is pleased to introduce the ASC Legacy Fund, a new lectureship in honor of Dr. Leopold Koss. This lectureship recognizes the significant contributions Dr. Koss has made to cytopathology research, teaching and patient care.

The Leopold Koss, M.D. lectureship will be presented annually at the ASC Annual Scientific Meeting by a prominent scientist who shares a dedication and commitment to furthering excellence in the practice of cytopathology. The ASC Foundation is currently seeking contributions to insure a permanent endowment for the Leopold Koss, M.D. lectureship.

Donate now to the Leopold Koss, M.D., Lectureship Fund

Call the ASC National Office at (302) 543-6583 for more information.

All donors will be recognized for their contributions.