

The Bulletin

Volume XLIX | Number 4

JULY 2012

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60th ANNUAL SCIENTIFIC MEETING

LEADING THE FUTURE

LAS VEGAS

NOVEMBER 2-6, 2012 • BALLY'S LAS VEGAS

Las Vegas, Nevada

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Dina R. Mody, MD

What does the Queen of England and the American Society of Cytopathology have in common this year? And, what is the significance of November 2, 2012? Read on for the answers.....

The American Society of Cytopathology and its Scientific Program Committee are looking forward to seeing all of you at its Diamond Jubilee Meeting November 2-6, 2012 in Las Vegas, Nevada at Bally's, which has its own monorail stop on the famous Las Vegas strip.

Based on feedback from past years' attendees and the membership, the Scientific Program Committee and the ASC staff worked diligently to come up with a program that will inform and educate the participants, as well as provide ample opportunities for continuing medical education (CME) credits, continuing medical laboratory education (CMLE) credits and self-assessment modules (SAM) for maintenance of certification (MOC) and networking.

An article in the *Wall Street Journal* on November 2, 1987 discussed abuses in cytology laboratories, with cytotechnologists being compelled to screen more slides with per-slide payments, leading to shoddy screening and high false negative rates, among other equally troubling claims. Twenty-five years

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Leopold Koss Lectureship



Yuan Chang, MD

New Frontiers Lecturer



Scott E. Parazynski, MD

later, with the availability of liquid-based and automated screening devices, we are still discussing these issues. The **Workload Session**, moderated by **Dr. William N. Crabtree** and **Dr. Tarik M. Elsheikh** is a special session at this Meeting and all stakeholders will be present for an in-depth discussion. It will include representatives from the Center for Medicaid and Medicare Services (CMS), Center for Disease Control (CDC), large commercial laboratories, academic and private practice, cytotechnologists, and pathologists. It is included in the basic registration fees, but does require one to indicate if they plan to attend the session. Whether you are a cytotechnologist or a pathologist in a large laboratory or a small operation, this should be of interest to all on Friday, November 2nd, 6:00 pm to 8:30 pm.

The **Koss Lectureship**, now in its third year, will be given by **Dr. Yuan Chang** from the University of Pittsburgh. She is the co-discoverer of the Kaposi's sarcoma-associated herpesvirus and Merkel cell polyomavirus, two of the seven known human cancer causing viruses. She is the recipient of many awards and will be talking to this audience about viruses and cancers. Based on the number of awards she has collected in her young career, we may be looking at a future Nobel Prize winner.

The **New Frontiers Lecture** will be delivered by former NASA Astronaut, **Dr. Scott E. Parazynski**. The topic is "**The Road Less Traveled: Medical Innovation from Outer Space to Inner Space**," and he will discuss his travels to the space station, the summit of Mount Everest, and medical issues specifically related to these environments. Dr. Parazynski was one of the astronauts who successfully sutured the solar umbrella on the International Space Station in 2007 when Marsha Ivins was speaking at the ASC 56th Annual Scientific Meeting in Houston. At that time, we were all hoping for the success of the mission. It will be a fabulous presentation with embedded videos, holding you spellbound. [Check out Dr. Parazynski's web site.](#)

There are many similarities in human and veterinary medicine. **Dr. Leslie Sharkey**, the current president of the **American Society of Veterinary Pathology**, will give a special guest lecture on the topic of veterinary cytopathology, "**Diagnostic Cytology in Veterinary Medicine: What Can Human and Veterinary Cytopathologists Learn from Each Other?**"

HPV-related squamous cell carcinoma of the head and neck is one of the fastest growing malignancies in recent years. This topic will be subject of **Innovations and Trends in Medicine**, and will be moderated by **Dr. Mary Schwartz** on "**HPV Associated Head and Neck Cancers: Evolving Concepts and Issues.**" The panelists will discuss the various aspects of this disease, from biology to diagnosis, to management strategies. The illustrious panel consists of **Dr. William Westra** from Johns Hopkins, **Dr. Jeffrey Krane** from Brigham and Women's Hospital and **Dr. Beth Beadle**, a radiation oncologist from MD Anderson Cancer Center.

Pancreatic cytopathology is an inescapable part of practice for hospital-based pathologists and cytotechnologists. The 2012 **State of the Art Symposium**, moderated by **Dr. Syed Ali**, will cover this topic with an expert group of panelists, which include **Dr. Martha Pitman**, **Dr. Lester Layfield** and **Dr. Joseph Herman**.

Current Issues in Cytopathology will bring us up-to-date on the two most consequential conferences held in the last nine months. This session is titled "**Screen Better, Interpret Better, Manage Better: Insights from PICSM and LAST.**" If you are curious about what this alphabet soup represents, then all the more reason to attend. This session will be moderated by **Dr. Ritu Nayer**, and expert panelists include **Dr. J. Thomas Cox**, **Dr. Teresa M. Darragh**, **Dr. Michael R. Henry**, **Dr. Ann T. Moriarty**, **Dr. Mark H. Stoler**, and **Dr. David C. Wilbur**.

This year, **Challenges in Diagnostic Cytomorphology**, which I am moderating, is back by popular demand for its second year as a full-day session. The morning session will concentrate on fine needle aspiration of the thyroid, lung, biliary/pancreas, and salivary glands. The afternoon session will focus on exfoliative cytology, to include body fluids, as well as both cervicovaginal and urinary. I cannot think of another format in which a seven-hour course offers a combination of such internationally

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A tribute to Dr. George Papanicolaou will also be the subject of the Panel Luncheon with the Presidents on Monday, November 5th. Participants will have lunch with the current President, Past Presidents and the President-Elect.

renowned, high-powered speakers, like **Dr. Syed Ali, Dr. Kristen Atkins, Dr. Richard M. DeMay, Dr. Mary Schwartz, Dr. David C. Wilbur, and Dr. Eva Wojick.**

For the educators and the training program directors, the **Strategies in Cytology Education** sessions will again be offered on Friday morning, with **Dr. Patricia Wasserman** and **Ms. Shirley Greening** co-chairing the sessions. A variety of topics and scenarios will be discussed.

The Saturday morning general session commences with the **State of the Society** presented by the Executive Board, which includes the President, President-Elect, Senior Cytotechnologist Board Member, and the President of the Foundation. This will be followed by a short history of the Society and tribute to the founding fathers by **Dr. R. Marshall Austin**, also a Past President. A tribute to **Dr. George Papanicolaou** will also be the subject of the **Panel Luncheon with the Presidents** on Monday, November 5th. Participants will have lunch with the current President, Past Presidents and the President-Elect.

The ever-popular **Panel Luncheons** have a variety of topics. Saturday, **Dr. Amy Clayton** and **Dr. Kevin Halling** from the Mayo Clinic will present “**Detection of Biliary Tract Malignancy: A Novel Method Using FISH, Cytomorphology and Statistical Programming.**” Sunday will be “**Cytopathology Beyond Borders 2012,**” where presenters from other national or international societies share their experiences. This year will focus on the European experiences by **Dr. Phillipe Vielh** from France and **Dr. Fernando Schmidt** from Portugal, moderated by **Dr. Syed Ali**. A special panel luncheon on molecular techniques, “**Practical Guidelines for Integrating Emerging Molecular Methods into Your Cytology Practice,**” will also be presented on Monday, November 5th by **Dr. Anna Berry, Dr. Joel S. Bentz** and **Dr. Brian T. Collins.**

The **Diagnostic Cytology Seminar** is a highlight of the Annual Scientific Meeting and will be moderated by **Dr. Paul Wakely**. It is a wonderful blend of humor and serious cytopathology. These panelists include **Dr. Gladwyn Lehman** from Fletcher Allen Health Care in Burlington, Vermont, **Dr. Amy Clayton** from the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota, **Dr. Joseph D. Jakowski** from Virginia Commonwealth University in Richmond, Virginia, and **Ms. Melissa Randolph, CT(ASCP)** from Indiana University in Indianapolis. Cases will be available for review online, and audience responses will be presented along with those of the panelists before the final diagnosis is discussed by **Dr. Wakely**. The Diagnostic Cytology Seminar will be held on Monday, November 5th from 2:00 pm to 6:00 pm, to be followed by the Diamond Jubilee celebrations.

Platform Presentations and Posters are the mainstay of any Annual Scientific Meeting. We had a record number of submissions this year, with 14 platform presentations on a variety of topics and 231 posters, which will be available for review for three days in the Poster Hall. Additionally, all abstracts for platform presentations and posters will be published in the new *Journal of the American Society of Cytopathology*.

Besides these main sessions, which are covered in the general meeting registration, there are **22 Roundtables, 27 Video Microscopy Tutorials, 16 Non-microscopic Workshops, and 4 Panel Luncheon Seminars.** These are small sessions and cover various topics, ranging from diagnosis to management, to billing, and to cutting-edge technologies. The main advantage of these offerings is that participants are in a small roundtable or classroom setting, close to the speaker, and can ask questions.

Since cytology and small biopsies have morphed into one service in many practice settings, we have multiple educational offerings that cover both. These will be specifically designated in the registration brochure. Additionally, we are introducing a new workshop, “**Bridging the Gap between Basic Histology and Cytopathology**” on Tuesday, November 6th. Cytotechnologists are involved in various aspects of small biopsy and FNA adequacy interpretation, and this session should provide a good basic background of commonly encountered surgical pathology issues for cytotechnologists.

The highly in-demand ultrasound course, “**Optimizing FNA Technique with an Introduction to US Guidance – A Practical Hands-on Workshop,**” has been expanded to a half-day session under the guidance of **Dr. Britt Marie Ljung** and **Dr. Patricia Wasserman** and associates. We anticipate

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Whether you are a cytotechnologist, cytopathologist, surgical pathologist who does some cytopathology, or a resident, fellow, or student in a school of cytotechnology – there is something for everyone at this Annual Scientific Meeting.

having multiple ultrasound vendors and hands-on practice sessions with Blue Phantoms, bovine liver and/or chicken legs with embedded olives. This session should be particularly valuable to residents and fellows, as well as those considering doing ultrasound-guided FNAs.

The **Career Planning and Growth Session** was a big hit last year and will be offered again for **residents, fellows and cytotechnology students**. This session will provide tips and guidance on how to prepare for the future and achieve success in their careers.

Of course, one can't go to Vegas and not participate in the food and fun. The **President's Welcome Reception on Saturday, November 3rd at 6:00 pm** will be the official opening of the American Society of Cytopathology exhibits. Besides food, it provides a good networking opportunity and many vendors. The **60th Anniversary Celebrations** will be held on **Monday, November 5th from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm**, and everyone is welcome. The Diamond Jubilee milestone of our Society will be celebrated, and the award winners can be congratulated.

Whether you are a cytotechnologist, cytopathologist, surgical pathologist who does some cytopathology, or a resident, fellow, or student in a school of cytotechnology – there is something for everyone at this Annual Scientific Meeting. The **basic registration** is one heck of a deal, providing **26.25 hours of CME/CMLE credits and 8.5 SAMs**. The entire Meeting provides a **maximum of 52 hours of CME/CMLE credits and 36.75 SAMs**. You can supplement the general registration with additional sessions on the subject, topic, or speaker of your choice in the smaller sessions. For the early birds, we have early sessions beginning at 7:30 am and, for the night owls, we have evening sessions.

NEW this year! Individual sessions will be recorded and available as a package for purchase when registering, onsite and post-meeting. Use live Annual Scientific Meeting sessions as education and gain credit for it back home! Also, Meeting registrants get reduced rates too!

So, while the Queen of England has a parade on the River Thames to celebrate her Diamond Jubilee, the ASC will do it in Vegas with fun, food, and lots of education. The significance of November 2, 1987 cannot be lost. Ironically, our 60th Anniversary Meeting starts on November 2nd, the 25th anniversary of the landmark article in the *Wall Street Journal* by Walt Bogdanovich, which was a game changer for cytology. In the aftermath, Congress passed The *CLIA' 88* regulations that still govern cytology practice, and cytopathology subspecialty boards were begun by the American Board of Pathology. So be there and experience history!



William N. Crabtree,
PhD, SCT(ASCP)



Tarik M. Elsheikh, MD

ASC Workload Recommendations for Automated Pap Test Screening: What's Next?

Join us during the ASC 60th Annual Scientific Meeting on Friday, November 2nd at 6:00 pm.

The recently proposed recommendations by ASC represent an important milestone in regulating the cytotechnologist's workload in automated Pap test screening. These recommendations were also presented to CLIAC in February 2012. The fact that ASCP, ASCT, PSC, and ASC executive boards have unanimously approved those recommendations further emphasize our professional societies' critical recognition of our need to address this issue in a timely fashion. But where do we go from here?

William N. Crabtree, PhD, SCT(ASCP) and Tarik M. Elsheikh, MD will serve as moderators and provide a summary of the ASC Workload Recommendations for Automated Pap test screening and update the cytology community about ongoing efforts to address this issue in women's health, in cooperation with the federal agencies, including the newly formed Tri-Agency (CDC/FDA/CMS) workgroup. Panelists include Mark E. Brecher, MD, MariBeth Gagnon, MS, CT(ASCP) HTL, Cheryl Wiseman, MPH, CT(ASCP), and Tremel A. Faison, MS, RAC, SCT(ASCP).