Editorial Comment

The ASC Cytopathology Program Directors Committee (CPDC) would like to take this opportunity to welcome our membership back to the Program Directors (PD) Communicator.

In this issue, we summarize the Strategies in Cytopathology Education (SCE) session provided by the CPDC during the ASC 63rd Annual Scientific Meeting in Chicago, November 13-16. Also included are updates on the development of Cell Talks, a new educational product of the CPDC and the result of the winners of the first round. Committee Annual Report Summary highlights what we have accomplished this year and our plans for the coming year. Finally, there are many useful handouts and links are listed at the ASC PD Committee website and some are also highlighted here.

Marilyn M. Bui, MD, PhD

Strategies in Cytopathology Education

The Strategies in Cytopathology Education session was held on Friday, November 13, 2015 at the ASC Annual Scientific Meeting in Chicago. With the cytopathology fellowship milestones due to be reported to the ACGME in January 2016, the focus of the first half of the program was on final preparations for the Next Accreditation System (NAS). Dr. Laura Edgar, Executive Director of the Pathology Review Committee for the ACGME, highlighted draft changes to the residency program requirements, and led a discussion of how to organize and run an effective Clinical Competency Committee (CCC). Dr. Paul Staats, Cytopathology Fellowship Program Director at University of Maryland Medical Center, discussed revising curriculum and evaluations to reflect the Milestones, with a particular focus on the six milestones regarded as most difficult in the survey sent to Program Directors in May – SBP1, SBP3, SBP5, PBLI2, PROF3, and ICS2. Dr. Christine Booth, Cytopathology Fellowship Program Director at the Cleveland Clinic, and Dr. Deborah Chute, Chair of the ASC Cytopathology Program Directors Committee and Chair of the AP/CP Residency Program CCC at the Cleveland Clinic, joined Drs. Edgar and Staats for a prolonged question and answer session.

The second half of the program was entitled “Learner-Centered Feedback: Fostering Milestone Achievement Using Self-Determination Theory.” The session was led by Dr. John Frohna, Residency Program Director and Vice Chair for Medical Education, and Dr. Daniel Sklansky, Associate Program Director, both in the Department of Pediatrics at the University of Wisconsin. This session presented the theoretical background of Self-Determination Theory and featured interactive practice in providing motivating feedback to learners using these methods.

The handouts from this session, including example Milestone-based evaluation forms, as well as last year’s session on the NAS, are available on the ASC Program Directors Web site: http://www.cytopathology.org/cytopathology-fellowship-programs.

Paul Staats, MD
Cell Talks Unveiled

Responding to requests for help with assessing the ACGME Cytopathology Milestones, the CPDC developed the Cell Talks program as a way to encourage trainee involvement and peer learning. The Cell Talks are 10 to 15-minute, online, didactic modules that cover a topic related to cytopathology laboratory management, professionalism, communication, or other non-medical knowledge areas. In the submission process, trainees work with a faculty mentor to create a PowerPoint presentation with corresponding 3 to 5 assessment questions. Suggested topics and sample Cell Talks are available on the submission web site: www.cytopathology.org/cell-talks.

The CPDC judges evaluate each submission for educational content, effective incorporation of the Milestones, organization, and creativity. The winning submissions are provided with feedback and production support, resulting in a recorded narrative supplied by the trainee. Thanks to support from the ASC Foundation, the trainee is also awarded $125 upon completion of the Cell Talk. The finished Cell Talks will be posted on the ASC Web site for Cytopathology Program Directors and members to use and distribute. Trainees will have the opportunity to respond to accompanying questions and to obtain a certificate of completion. Not only will ASC members and cytopathology trainees have access to a new, “Milestones-friendly” educational resource, but cytopathology trainees will also have an opportunity to engage in scholarly activity and self-directed learning.

The CPDC is proud to announce that four trainees were selected as the winner of the first-ever Cell Talks submission cycle: see names and details below.

We hope readers will encourage all of our residents and fellows to use the Cell Talks and to submit during our next cycle in 2016. Stay tuned for the upcoming release of additional Cell Talks!

Roseann Wu, MD, MPH

Cell Talks Winners:

Choosing an HPV Assay
Azadeh Aghel, MD, Cytopathology Fellow
Stanford University, Stanford, CA
Christina S. Kong, MD, Professor, Department of Pathology, Director of Cytopathology

FNA Biopsy and Role of the Cytopathology Fellow in the Clinical Practice
Oana C. Rafael, MD, Cytopathology Fellow
North Shore LIJ Health System-Hofstra School of Medicine, Lake Success, NY
Cecilia Gimenez, MD, Attending Pathologist

FNA Complications – Rare Events: What do we expect and how do we best guide patients through complications?
Marcos Lepe, MD., PGY-2
Rhode Island Hospital, Providence, RI
Cherie Paquette, MD, Cytopathologist
Woman & Infants Hospital, Providence, RI

Cervical Cancer Screening: Rules and Regulations
Sadia Sayeed, M.D., Cytopathology Fellow
Virginia Commonwealth University Health System
Richmond, Virginia
Adele Kraft, MD, Director of Cytopathology
Dear Colleagues,

It has been my pleasure to lead the Cytopathology Program Directors Committee for the 2014-2015 year, and I am happy to continue in this role for the 2015-2016 year.

Over the past year, we have developed the Cell Talks program and are proud to announce the first round of winners this fall, 2015 (see section above). Our focus for the upcoming year is twofold:

1. To plan engaging and useful Strategies in Cytopathology Education seminars for the ASC Annual Scientific Meeting in New Orleans, November 4-7, 2016.
2. To finalize development and publish a series of Cell Talks to assist Program Directors in evaluating their fellows on some of the more difficult Cytopathology Milestones, and continue to solicit high quality Cell Talks submissions from fellows in training.

In early 2016, we hope to publish the winning presentations, along with 6 additional Cell Talks created by committee members. These will be available in an online format that your fellows can review, answer self-assessment questions, and receive a certificate of completion. Providing the Program Director of their fellowship the certificate of completion of a Cell Talk can supplement other evaluations, and help fellows achieve higher levels on some Milestones by the end of their training.

We hope you will find this a valuable resource for your Program. Please feel free to contact me if there is anything the CPDC can do to help you in the upcoming academic year.

Deborah Chute, MD
Chair, Cytopathology Program Directors Committee

Committee Members

Deborah Chute, MD, Cleveland Clinic
Scott Anderson, MD, University of Vermont Medical Center
Marilyn M. Bui, MD, PhD, Moffitt Cancer Center
Christina Kong, MD, Stanford University
Anne Mills, MD, University of Virginia
Jennifer L. Sauter, MD, Mayo Clinic
Rulong Shen, MD, FCAP, Ohio State University Medical Center
Paul Staats, MD, University of Maryland
Roseann Wu, MD, MPH, Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania
Shannon Butler-Williams, MD, Junior Member, The Methodist Hospital
Deborah MacIntyre Sheldon, ASC Staff Liaison