

SPP Newsletter Spring 2005

FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

Margaret Collins

The spring meeting in San Antonio was another memorable gathering. Dinner at Biga's, organized by Victor Saldivar, was a wonderful way to start the weekend, providing another opportunity to visit and network during the course of the meeting. The scientific sessions were worthy of our attention, as always. The banquet was very special because of in-coming President Bev Rogers' musical talent, unbeknownst to many of us until she wowed us with her lovely singing voice, accomplished guitar-playing, and original scores. If she ever cuts a CD, it might become a good source of income for the Society! Enjoy the photos at the end of the newsletter.

Please read the newsletter, especially the Long-Term Planning Committee report (link below) and the report of the By-Laws Committee with proposed by-laws changes (printed below). We will vote at the Spring 2006 on the suggested by-laws changes.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Beverly Rogers

Approaching the year as President makes one ponder what the new president can bring to the Society. The Society for Pediatric Pathology has bylaws, a logo, but it became clear that what the Society lacked was a song. And so, I wrote a song for the Society commemorating a bit of history. It was great fun to sing it at the banquet, but I have to tell you manifold more fun to hear the entire room break out in song. We are, each of us, surrounded by such talent and good will.

This will be a good year. We are going to do something a little different in that there is a draft of the strategic plan for the Society, adopted last fall by Council and waiting for ratification from the membership in 2006. We are going to carry some of the aspects forward prior to formal ratification – it will be fun to see how it plays out. So, please look for this document in this newsletter and read through it. I hope to intermittently communicate with you all through the email database set up through our web site, so we'll keep you informed about what is going on. We've had a great response from the membership wanting to be involved in committees and, because of the huge response, we are going to be able not only to fill committees but have work groups. So, stay in touch. Below – find the Society Song.

Refrain

We're gonna have us a Club
Yes, a mighty fine Club
We're gonna gab and drink
Till the sun comes up
We're gonna have us a Club
Yes, a mighty fine Club and

All are invited.
We're gonna meet twice a year
While the science lasts
We're gonna publish our work
To make the present the past
We're gonna have us a Club
It's a mighty fine Club
You'll see

Verse

It was nineteen sixty-five
When the Club first came alive
Jay and Gene and Arey, too
On March 8 said what shall we do?
We need to meet to share our best
Of science, at the Club's behest
And two years hence
Columbus bound
The Club again met
The voices sound...

Refrain

Verse

Through forty years
We've grown so strong
We've Boards and youth
With talent long
Society is how we're known
Yet still a Club we call our own
Landing, Neustein, Sidney Farber
Vawter, Strauss are Founders honored
The mission of the SPP
To care for children, we decree

Last Refrain

We're gonna have us a Club
Yes, a mighty fine Club
We're gonna gab and drink
Till the sun comes up
And we call ourselves
The Society
For Pediatric
Pathology

BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES

Linda Margraf, Secretary-Treasurer

February 26, 2005 San Antonio, Texas

Dr. Denis Benjamin called the meeting to order at 5:00 pm.

The secretary-treasurer, Dr. Linda Margraf, reviewed the 2004 annual business meeting minutes. The minutes were approved with noted revisions.

Dr. Benjamin gave the President's report: The SPP is in good state, thanks to the committee chairs and members. The SPP has grown from a small club to a large Society. The USCAP management office with Jim Crimmins and Carolyn Lane provide excellent support. The Education committee and especially Dr. Jeffrey Goldstein deserve abundant thanks. The joint symposium with the Binford Dammin Society and the upcoming SPP/PPS meeting are excellent examples of the Education committee successes. Dr. Mark Luquette is thanked for the on-line abstract submission. Special thanks to Lisa Teot for CME. Thank you again to the outgoing committee chairs; Drs. Stephanie Young, Antonio Perez-Atayde, Jeff Goldstein, Carole Vogler, Carlos Galliani.

The challenges ahead include implementation of the Strategic plan, which is available on the SPP website. Publications chair, Dr. Steven Qualman, has agreed to extend his tenure for one more year to complete the transition from Springer-Verlag to a new publisher. Dr. Reyes-Mugica does an excellent job as PDP editor and the journal continues to improve. Manuscript transmission is now on-line, as is manuscript review.

Council approved the circulation of a draft of a Code of Ethics to the SPP membership. All members are encouraged to review this document and provide feedback to the executive committee or Council members.

Pediatric pathology is a great field to study and we are all encouraged by presentations as heard today during the meeting. We aim to be an inclusive Society for all who have an interest in pediatric pathology.

Dr. Benjamin suggests that we as a Society look to our core structures, our meetings and our Journal, to stay the same, while we update and modify our committee structure and bylaws. Thank you to Linda Margraf, secretary-treasurer.

Since the last business meeting, Council has taken the following actions:

- Change of secretary-treasurer from Dr. Pinar to Dr. Margraf.

- Approved the Strategic Plan for the Society.

- Approved to pursue other publishing ventures for Pediatric and Developmental Pathology.

- Approved enlisting of publications consultant Morna Conway.

Dr. Margraf noted that there is no Secretary-Treasurer report.

Report of the Standing Committees:

Archives – Dr. Shehata is the new chair and he will be organizing the effort to digitalize the SPP archives.

Awards – Dr. Antonio-Perez. The Vawter, Neustein and Lotte Strauss award winners were announced. The winner of the Lotte Strauss award is Dr. Gail Deutsch. The winner of the Neustein award is Dr. Rene Galindo. The winner of the Vawter award is Dr. Karen Eldin.

Bylaws – Dr. Margraf announced that the bylaws could not be voted on because the proposed changes were not distributed to the membership 30 days prior to the business meeting.

Education – Dr. Goldstein thanked the outgoing committee members – Drs. Luquette, Heller, Hawkins. Dr. Teot will continue to serve in her role as CME chair through the next accreditation. Dr. Reyes will be the new committee chair. The 2006 workshops are being chosen. One workshop will be on head, neck, oral and maxillofacial pathology in pediatrics and the second in developmental neuropathology. The 2006 symposium will be jointly held with the GI society. The co-chairs will be Dr. Wendy Frankel and Dr. Stephen Qualman. The Perinatal course will be held in May 2005 – brochures are available at this meeting. The joint SPP/PPS meeting is in August/September 2005 and will be in Columbus, Ohio in October 2006.

Finance – Dr. Vogler reported that the fiscal 2006 budget was approved. We as a Society are solvent. The SPP investment accounts are growing. The awards funds is approximately \$300,000, with the general fund of \$150,000.

Practice – no report.

Publications – Dr. Collins reported that the next newsletter will be posted on the SPP website soon. Dr. Lowichik wrote an article about her overseas experience. Please submit ideas or articles for the newsletter to Dr. Collins. Dr. Qualman reported that we need assistance with the SPP website for administrative support. This will be pursued with Mr. Crimmins at the USCAP/SPP office and a subcommittee of the Publications committee. A budget and a report is expected by June 2005. The process of determining a new publisher for the PDP is proceeding with consultant Morna Conway and the Publications committee and should be completed by June 2005. Perspectives is doing well. Volumes 24 and 25 are both doing well. The PDP editorial board has two new members, Drs. Russo and Ruchelli.

Research – Dr. Deutsch reported that excellent applications for the Young Investigator and McAdams stipend were received. The Young Investigator award winner is Dr. Maureen O’Sullivan. The McAdams stipend is awarded to Dr. Dave Witte.

Announcements and Received Communications

Dr. Benjamin noted that Dr. Bruce Beckwith will be awarded the Distinguished

Pathologist Award at the USCAP meeting this year.

Dr. Kevin Bove and Dr. Hutchins will receive Presidential awards at the banquet for their roles in promoting the pediatric autopsy.

Old Business – none.

New Business

Report of the Membership Committee – Dr. Galliani reported that there are six new junior members: Drs. Steve Dubner, Hua Guo, Nenad Lilic, Simone Sredni, Francois Cady, Rick McEvoy and one new regular member: Dr. Judy Pugh. Two members have requested emeritus status. The overall membership numbers are stable at 624, with 387 regular members.

Report of the Nominating Committee – Dr. Rogers presented the following slate of officers:

President-Elect:	Deborah Perry
Secretary-Treasurer:	Linda Margraf
Councilor at-large:	Cheryl Coffin Raj Kapur

There were no nominations from the floor. The slate of officers was unanimously approved.

Dr. Rogers reported that there are many new committee chairs – thank you to those who have agreed to serve. These include: Dr. Reyes for Education, Dr. Pawel for Membership, Dr. Shehata for Archives, Dr. Savell for Bylaws, Dr. Taylor for Finance and Dr. Popek for Awards. Any members who would like to serve on committees, please let a member of the executive committee know. Fellows are encouraged to sit in on committee meetings, as non-voting members.

Announcement of upcoming meetings:

Fall interim meeting – Tours, France, August 31-Sept 3, 2005 – Dr. Liliane Boccon-Gibod

Annual meeting – New Orleans, LA, February 11-12, 2006

Fall interim meeting – Columbus, Ohio, October 2006 – Dr. Stephen Qualman.
The focus will be on pediatric leukemia.

Fall interim meeting – Phoenix, Arizona, Fall 2007 – Dr. Paul Dickman.

Installation of new officers

Outgoing councilors Cynthia Kaplan and Elizabeth Perlman escorted incoming President Rogers to podium. Dr. Rogers thanked Dr. Benjamin for his service to the Society.

The meeting was adjourned by Dr. Rogers at 6 p.m

COMMITTEE REPORTS

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Jeff Goldstein, Chair

I would like to gratefully acknowledge the contributions of committee members completing their three-year terms. Debra Heller, as chair of the Workshops and Symposium Subcommittee this year coordinated the educational program for the spring meeting in San Antonio, and as the CME monitor for the meeting will be preparing the evaluation summary. Mark Luquette served as chair of the Abstracts Subcommittee this past year and deserves much appreciation for his work over the last several years to design the online abstract submission and review process that should serve the Society for many years to come. Hal Hawkins and Chris Reyes completed terms on the Extramural Education and CME subcommittees respectively. New committee members include Monique DePaepe on the Workshops and Symposium Subcommittee, and David Brink and Heather Prashner on the CME Subcommittee.

Chris Reyes has accepted the chair of the committee for the next three years, for which I am very grateful, and wish her much success.

Abstract Subcommittee

For the spring meeting, 74 abstracts were submitted with 50 accepted (68%). The number of abstracts for this meeting continues to be high, and the schedule was adjusted to accommodate more posters. Overall scores for accepted abstracts ranged from 2.75 – 4.50 (mean 3.66) for platforms, and 2.75 – 3.50 (mean 3.16) for posters. Only a single abstract with a score greater than 2.75 was rejected on grounds of space/time. Trainees eligible for the Vawter award submitted the largest number of abstracts ever (38), of which 27 were accepted for presentation. There was a noticeable improvement in the scores for abstracts by trainees, and the range of scores was distributed similarly to the scores received by abstracts from other authors. Thank you to Laura Finn, who came out of “committee retirement” to serve as the 2005 spring ad hoc reviewer.

Mark Luquette reported that the Web-server based abstract submission process worked quite well this time, and that many of the glitches encountered in its initial use last fall appear resolved. He thanked Carolyn Lane for her assistance with the abstract submission and review process.

Online submission for the joint PPS/SPP fall meeting in Tours will be available on April 1, 2005, with the submission deadline May 31, 2005. Leon Metlay is the new subcommittee chair, and will be coordinating the joint abstract review process with the PPS for the fall meeting.

Workshop/Symposium Subcommittee

This year's joint symposium with another USCAP Companion Society was the first in most of our collective memories, and sets the stage for future similar cooperative programs. The Pediatric Infectious Disease Symposium with the Binford-Dammin Society was well received, and we appreciate David Walker who served as moderator and especially Laura Lamps, who along with Deb Heller, planned and coordinated this symposium. The panel of experts they assembled provided updates on pediatric mycobacterial infections, perinatal viral infections, and emerging infectious diseases. We were also treated to an important and fascinating overview of the persistent problems related to global malarial infections.

Next spring, a joint symposium with the Haggitt Gastrointestinal Pathology Society is being planned. This will require shifting the symposium time slot to Sunday afternoon to accommodate the GI Pathology Society's usual meeting time. Our Workshops will be scheduled on Saturday afternoon instead. As the GI Society Education chair, Wendy Frankel from Ohio State University will serve as co-moderator together with Steve Qualman. Preliminary discussions have been started with the Cardiovascular Pathology Society to plan a joint symposium for 2007.

Drs. Kozakewich and North's *Vascular Tumors and Malformations in Children* workshop and Drs. Reddy and Husain's *Pediatric Dermatopathology: A Practical Approach to Diagnosis* workshop were presented for the third and final time. *An Histologic Approach to the Pediatric Liver Biopsy* with Drs Jevon and Dimmick, and *Pediatric Gynecologic Pathology with Clinicopathologic Correlations* by Dr. Debra Heller were presented for the second year, and *Skeletal Anomalies and Lethal Skeletal Dysplasias* by Drs. Enid Gilbert-Barness and Theonia Boyd, and *Recent Developments and Controversies in Pediatric Lung Disease* by Drs. Claire Langston and Tom Stocker were our new offerings at the spring meeting.

A new workshop for 2006 will be *Head, Neck, Oral and Maxillofacial Pathology in Pediatrics* by Drs. Neena Mirani and John Hicks. Jackie Bourgeois, who is the incoming chairperson of the subcommittee, is working to solicit a workshop proposal covering developmental neuropathology.

Many thanks to Hal Hawkins, who was pressed into service as the meeting monitor for both the fall 2004 and Perinatal Section meetings, for preparing the meeting evaluation reports.

CME Subcommittee

Lisa Teot updated the committee regarding our upcoming ACCME reaccreditation. By March 1, she will submit a list of our accredited activities over the last three and a half years to the ACCME. From that list, the ACCME will select those activities that they wish to examine, and assign a date in July for a Reverse Site Visit. A reaccreditation decision would be anticipated in November.

The ACCME has recently revised their Standards for Commercial Support to include disclosure of any possible conflicts of interest by anyone who may have “control of content” of CME activities. These standards apply to any new educational activities beginning in May 2005 and to all activities in 2006. We anticipate this will require members of the Education Committee, Practice Committee, Perinatal Advisory Committee, and Interim meeting hosts to provide the SPP with disclosure statements, and we also shall develop a process for resolution or removal of conflicts once revealed.

In follow-up to previous discussions on the ACCME’s preference for outcomes based assessment (rather than satisfaction surveys) of educational programs, two post-workshop outcomes surveys were conducted and presented by Chris Reyes and David Brink. These surveys are in addition to evaluation forms completed immediately following the workshop, and are intended to gauge whether or not the workshop content was effective and has actually been utilized in the attendee’s practice. If you attended one of our workshops in San Antonio, you may be contacted by e-mail in 4-6 months to participate in one of these outcomes surveys. We would greatly appreciate members and trainees taking the time to reply to these inquiries, as the information is useful to the committee in planning future programs and is also important for our ongoing ACCME accreditation.

Interim meetings

Tours, France Interim Meeting 2005, in conjunction with the Paediatric Pathology Society (PPS). The meeting announcement is available online.

http://www.tours-pathology-meeting.com/tours_s/index.html

Columbus, OH , October 5 to 8, 2006 at the Easton Hilton Hotel. Sue Hammond is serving as the on site coordinator. The topic of the symposium will be Childhood Leukemia, and will probably include discussions on new diagnostic markers, new clinical management, research topics in leukemia and an update on classification. The social program will include a banquet at the Jessing Center at the Pontifical College Josephinum, with a tour of their medieval and renaissance manuscript collection before dinner. Jack Hanna, Emeritus Director of the Columbus Zoo, will be the evening speaker. There will also be a reception at the Children’s Hospital Research Institute, followed by attendance at the once-a-month “Gallery Hop” in the “Short North” art gallery and restaurant district.

2007 - Phoenix, AZ - Paul Dickman is the host coordinator. Dates and a venue will be finalized in the coming months, and an update given to the Committee in the fall.

Extramural Subcommittee

The SPP’s first ever free standing course on Perinatal and Placental pathology organized by Ona Marie Faye-Petersen is at the Omni Parker House Hotel in Boston, May 20-22, 2005. The meeting announcement is posted online

http://www.sponline.org/Preinatal_Info.pdf

There were approximately 35 registrants at the time of the spring meeting. The course promises to be excellent; there's still time and room to attend!

Slide Survey Program

Hector Monforte-Munoz reported for the Practice Committee on the 2004 Slide Survey Program and presented Robert Novak's evaluation report. Hector will be reworking the case submission process to increase participation by non-committee members and enhance case diversity. Use of digital images to supplement the current glass slide format is also under consideration, as is online submission of answers to case survey questions with immediate feedback of answers and access to discussions with digital photographs on SPPONLINE.

Finally, I would like to reiterate my personal thanks to everyone, whether named somewhere above or not, who have contributed to the Committee's efforts over the last year. It is nearly impossible to acknowledge everyone individually. As is evident, the Education Committee is large with a number of ongoing programs and projects designed to meet the various needs of our membership. These programs could not take place without the vast amount of time and energy dedicated by Society members who serve on the committee and volunteer to prepare, host, and support our. As I am also completing my term, I would also like to thank the SPP for the opportunity to serve the Society over the last three years. It's been a great experience working with everyone in this capacity.

PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE

Steve Qualman, chair

The Publications Committee is actively pursuing a new publications contract for 2006, as the current contract with Springer expires at the end of 2005. The Publications Committee is currently considering multiple publication proposals for 2006 including: a new proposal from Springer, a proposal from the Alliance Publishing Group, a proposal from Duke University Press, and consideration of a self-publishing mechanism. The Publications Committee hopes to complete its deliberations in April, 2005 and send its recommendation(s) on to Council by the end of the month, with a final decision as to publisher expected before the end of June. The SPP will be able to retain its Journal title, even if our publisher has been changed. We are also working with our PPS European colleagues to be inclusive in this decision-making process.

PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE

Gareth Jevon, chair

The Committee was asked to present to Council feedback received from the membership with respect to a request for the Society's endorsement of the definition of Sudden Infant Death Syndrome outlined in the recent article

(http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/entrez/query.fcgi?cmd=Retrieve&db=pubmed&dopt=Abstract&list_uids=15231934)

Krous HF, et al. Sudden infant death syndrome and unclassified sudden infant deaths: a definitional and diagnostic approach. Pediatrics. 2004 Jul;114(1):234-8. Letters and input received were discussed. The members acknowledged considerable benefits of the

proposal, but they also recognized several concerns. It was decided that the committee would not make a recommendation of support at this stage. The committee would support further discussion of this matter within the Society, perhaps through a panel of representatives.

RESEARCH COMMITTEE

Gail H. Deutsch, Chair

Please congratulate this year's recipient for the Young Investigator Research Grant. The awardee is Maureen O'Sullivan, M.D, from British Columbia Children's Hospital, for her proposal titled "Role of MLL4 in Sarcomagenesis".

Dr. David Witte of Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center received the A. James McAdams Short-Term Study Stipend for the "Application of Scanning Electron Microscopy to Developmental Pathology and Biology Studies".

DISTINCTION AND AWARDS COMMITTEE

Antonio R. Perez-Atayde, Chair

At the spring meeting in San Antonio, TX, 2005, 26 abstracts were considered for the Gordon Vawter Pathologist in Training Award and 8 for the Harry Neustein Novel Technology Award. Five individuals were candidates for the Lotte Strauss Award.

The **Vawter Award** was presented to Dr. Karen Eldin from the Department of Pathology, Baylor College of Medicine, Houston, TX. His abstract was entitled: "**Polyomavirus Simian Virus 40 Positive Lymphomas in Children**". Co-authors were Drs. RA Vilchez, DE Killen, JS Butel, and D Lopez-Terrada.

The **Neustein Award** was presented to Dr. RL Galindo from the Departments of Pathology and Molecular Biology, Children's Medical Center at Dallas, University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center, Dallas, TX. His abstract was entitled: "**Genetic Dissection of Alveolar Rhabdomyosarcoma Pathogenesis in Drosophila Melanogaster**". Co-author was Dr. EN Olson.

The **Lotte Strauss Award** was presented to Dr. Gail Deutsch from the Department of Pathology, Children's Hospital Medical Center, Cincinnati, OH. Her paper entitled: "**Different thresholds of Fibroblast Growth Factors Pattern the Ventral Foregut into Liver and Lung**" is in press in the journal *Development*.

The complete text of the 2 awarded abstracts follows:

Polyomavirus Simian Virus 40 Positive Lymphomas in Children

Karen Eldin, Regis A. Vilchez, Deanna E. Killen, Janet S. Butel, Dolores Lopez-Terrada. *Departments of Medicine, Molecular Virology and Microbiology and Pathology, Baylor College of Medicine, Houston, Texas*

Background: Reports indicate that SV40 is linked to some human lymphomas. However, studies of the association of SV40 and lymphomas have been limited to adults, many of whom may have been exposed to SV40-contaminated vaccines. We examined the relationship of this DNA tumor virus with lymphomas in children as it has been suggested that SV40 is transmitted among humans.

Design: A masked case-control study of children diagnosed with lymphomas between 1997 and 2001 at a large pediatric center in the Southwest United States was performed. Specimens were examined in duplicate by polymerase chain reaction using primers specific for the amino- and carboxy-terminal regions of the SV40 large tumor antigen (T-ag) gene and for Epstein-Barr virus (EBV) Latent Membrane Protein 2a gene. SV40 sequences were confirmed by DNA sequence analysis. These samples were then assessed for the expression of SV40 T-ag by immunohistochemistry (IHC).

Results: Twenty-four lymphomas (non-Hodgkin's [NHL; n=15] and Hodgkin's lymphomas [HL; n=9]) and 22 nonmalignant lymphoid control cases (tonsils and reactive lymph nodes) were examined. SV40 T-ag sequences were detected significantly more often in lymphomas than in control samples (4/24, 17% vs. 0/22, 0%; p=0.04). T-ag sequences were identified in 27% of NHL and 0% of HL cases. EBV DNA was detected in 12% and 9% of lymphomas and control specimens, respectively. None of the lymphomas were positive for both SV40 and EBV sequences. All lymphomas containing T-ag DNA sequences by PCR showed IHC expression of SV40 T-ag in up to 70% of the malignant cells. Samples negative for viral DNA sequences did not demonstrate IHC expression of SV40 T-ag.

Conclusion: These results indicate that SV40 infection is linked to some lymphoid neoplasms in children today.

Genetic Dissection of Alveolar Rhabdomyosarcoma Pathogenesis in *Drosophila melanogaster*

RL Galindo, EN Olson. *Department of Pathology, Children's Medical Center at Dallas; Department of Molecular Biology, University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas*

Background: Alveolar rhabdomyosarcoma (ARMS) accounts for ~30% of all rhabdomyosarcomas and, by comparison, portends an unfavorable outcome. Unlike other rhabdomyosarcoma sub-types, ARMS is a translocation-based tumor, exhibiting the characteristic t(2;13)(q35;q14) or t(1;13)(p36;q14) translocation. Both translocations are similar, generating PAX3-FKHR [t(2;13)] or PAX7-FKHR [t(1;13)] fusion proteins. Since both PAX3 and PAX7 regulate various aspects of skeletal muscle development, the PAX motifs are presumed to influence the skeletal muscle features seen in ARMS. Little is known, however, regarding downstream target genes of PAX-FKHR or of possible cofactors required for its activity.

Design: Since both PAX and FKHR are strikingly conserved between invertebrates and mammals, we are utilizing the fruit fly *Drosophila melanogaster* to genetically dissect PAX-FKHR activity. We have generated stable *Drosophila* transgenic lines containing

the human PAX-FKHR gene, but in a silenced state. Conditional activation of the PAX-FKHR transgene then allows for controlled, regulated expression of PAX-FKHR.

Results: Expression of PAX-FKHR within various developing fly tissues, including skeletal muscle, causes lethality. Expression of PAX-FKHR in the developing eye, however, which is dispensable for animal viability, results in a striking reduction in eye size. Furthermore, a subset of these animals (~10%) exhibits lesions grossly suggestive of tumor-formation. Histologic examination shows that these lesions are overgrowths, but does not confirm a soft-tissue origin. We next performed a genetic screen to ask whether modifiers of the PAX-FKHR eye phenotype could be isolated. At present, we have identified 15 separate chromosomal segments (or “hot-spots”) that, when individually absent in one copy, strongly suppress the PAX-FKHR eye phenotype. Likewise, we have identified 10 hot-spots that strongly enhance the severity of the phenotype.

Conclusion: PAX-FKHR causes phenotypes in *Drosophila*, including lesions in the eye that possibly reflect PAX-FKHR overgrowth-promoting potential. We have conducted a genetic screen and demonstrated that modifiers of PAX-FKHR activity can be isolated. We are currently identifying the individual genes within these hot-spots that are modifying PAX-FKHR. This information will provide needed insight into which types of genes are involved in PAX-FKHR-mediated tumorigenesis.

LONG RANGE PLANNING COMMITTEE

Cheryl Coffin, Chair

Please read the Strategic Plan.

<http://www.spponline.org/splan1.html>

BYLAWS COMMITTEE

Linda Margraf, Secretary-Treasurer, for
Maureen Sander, Chair

Please read the proposed by-laws changes.

PROPOSED BYLAWS CHANGE

At the meetings of the Society's Executive committee and Council in Little Rock, the duties of several Standing committees were discussed. Since there is overlap in the functions of the Liaison and Long Term Planning committees, a proposal is made to create a Strategic Planning committee to carry out these activities. The Strategic Planning committee will be chaired by the President -elect of the Society and will be charged with reviewing and helping to carry forth the Strategic Plan for the Society. Below are the proposed changes to the Society's Bylaws and Articles of Incorporation that will be voted on at the SPP Business meeting in San Antonio. The deletions show a ~~striketrough~~ and the addition are in *blue italics*. If you have any questions or comments about the proposed changes, please address them to Linda Margraf, SPP Secretary-Treasurer, in advance of the Spring meeting.

ARTICLE V

Section 4. Duties of the Secretary. The Secretary shall be responsible.....~~The Secretary will be Chairperson of the Liaison Committee.~~

Section 6. President-Elect. The President-Elect shallThe President-Elect shall be Chairperson of the Nominating Committee *and the Strategic Planning committee.*

ARTICLE VI

COMMITTEES

Section 2. Standing Committees. The following shall be Standing Committees.... the Long Term *Strategic* Planning Committee;~~the Liaison Committee;.....~~

The President shall appoint the Chairperson of each Standing Committee (except the Nominating Committee which will be chaired by the President-Elect, ~~and the Liaison Committee which will be chaired by the Secretary~~ *Strategic Planning committee which will be chaired by the President-elect*) and appoint the members of each committee in consultation with the Chairperson thereof..

Section 6. Long Term *Strategic* Planning Committee.

(a) Composition. ~~This committee shall consist of a Chairperson, whose term shall be three (3) years; the three (3) most recent Past Presidents; and three (3) members with staggered terms of three (3) years each, one of whom shall be replaced each year by a member appointed by the President.~~ *This committee shall consist of the President-Elect who will be the Chairperson, the most recent Past-President and the six (6) at-large Councilors who shall each serve for the duration of their appointed term.*

(b) Duties. ~~This committee shall study topics of general and special interest and concern to pediatric pathologists, particularly those relating to the present and future long-term goals and policies of the Society. It shall deliberate and recommend means and explore avenues whereby these goals and aims could be implemented and broadened.~~ *This committee shall review the Society's Strategic Plan annually and modify the document as necessary.* It will also be within the scope of this committee to overview the relationship of the Society to other scientific bodies and to suggest changes in overall direction of the Society. ~~The committee will be responsible for the development of long range plans (5 and 10 years) for the Society and for periodic review of those plans. The Committee shall report to the Council.~~

Section 7. Education Committee.

(a) Composition. This committee shall.... The Chairperson shall be ~~a member of the Liaison Committee~~ and an ex-officio member of the Distinctions and Awards

Committee.

(b) Duties. The duties of the Education Committee shall be as follows.... (3) Make recommendations to the ~~Liaison~~ *Strategic Planning* Committee concerning the establishment and maintenance of liaison with other scientific societies whose aims are similar to those of the Society. (4) Evaluate and make recommendations to the ~~Liaison~~ *Strategic Planning* Committee for co-sponsorship by the Society with other organizations of educational activities consistent with the aims and purposes of the Society.

Section 11. Practice Committee.

(b) Duties..... (3) Make recommendations to the ~~Liaison~~ *Strategic Planning* Committee concerning the establishment and maintenance of relationships between the Society and other pathology organizations concerned with the practice of pathology.

Section 13. Research Committee.

(a) Composition. This Committee shall consist....~~The Chairperson shall be a member of the Liaison Committee.~~ (b) Duties.... (3) Make recommendations to the ~~Liaison~~ *Strategic Planning* Committee for the establishment of collaborative investigative relationships with other organizations. ~~Section 14. Liaison Committee. (a) Composition. The Secretary shall be Chairperson and members shall be the Chairs of the Education, Research, and Practice Committees and three (3) additional members with staggered terms of three (3) years each. Members shall be appointed by the President as necessary. (b) Duties. Formal relationships between the Society and other organizations will be developed, reviewed and maintained through the Liaison Committee. (1) Explore and establish relationships with other organizations that will enhance the Society. (2) Review these relationships periodically and take necessary steps to maintain or terminate them. (3) Establish guidelines for relationships with other organizations.~~



UPCOMING MEETINGS

Society for Pediatric Pathology 2006 Interim Meeting in Columbus, Ohio

The members of the Department of Laboratory Medicine at Children's Hospital, Columbus, Ohio invite you to the 2006 Interim meeting which will be held from October 5 to 8, 2006. Our venue is the Hilton at Easton Town Center where a vast array of restaurants, shops and entertainment possibilities exist.

The Symposium will take place on Friday, October 6 and the topic is Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia and related Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma. Our speakers will be Michael Caligiuri on CALGB clinical approach to ALL, Bill Carroll for childhood ALL and Tom Gross for NHL discussing clinical approaches in COG, Nyla Heerema on the cytogenetics of ALL, Julie Gastier-Foster on molecular genetic assays, and Mary Beth Ross discussing gene expression profiling.

October in Columbus features crisp weather, blue sky and fall colors. We are planning social activities to showcase some of the unique, but little known facets of our city – a Pontifical College, world famous zoo, Short North Arts District, and of course, our own new clinical laboratories.

We are planning a great meeting and hope to see many of you there.

POSITIONS AVAILABLE

<http://spponline.org/positions.htm>

PHOTOS FROM THE SPRING MEETING IN SAN ANTONIO, TX

<http://www.buildabyte.com/v-web/gallery>