



Society for Pediatric Pathology

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SPP President's Newsletter, February 6, 2017

Dear Colleagues,

This year has brought many changes for our Society and through the commitment of you, its Members, and the team of leadership I have been fortunate to have, we have wrought a stronger and more lasting foundation for the Society. I am proud to have been a part of the process and, while I know there is still work to be done, I am confident the Society has forged a structure that will secure further growth and development of the SPP's mission and aims. I have provided a copy of my summation for the Intersociety Pathology Council, at the end of this Newsletter, which may help put the full year in perspective. However, there are few topics that merit more detailed update, for you, as Members, since the issue of the December 7, 2016 Newsletter.

- **New SPP Officers:** In an electronic meeting conducted December 9-14, 2016, the BOD discussed and approved a slate of nominees from the Nomination Committee (Chaired by the Past-President, Cheryl Coffin) for the offices of President- Elect, Secretary, and Treasurer-Elect. The BOD then voted anonymously, and approved the appointment of Sara Vargas, MD as President-Elect (2017); Fusun Gundogan MD, Secretary, and Linda Ernst MD, MHS, Treasurer-Elect. These results were announced to the Membership on December 21, 2016. Again, please join me in congratulating these individuals and in thanking them for their willingness to serve.
- **New Board of Directors Members 2017- 2021:** Membership only very recently voted to elect Rebecca Baergen, MD and Megan Dishop, MD to the Board to fill two retiring Members' positions. Their terms will commence after the Spring 2017 Meeting.
- **SPP Committee reorganization:** This process was largely completed with dissolution of Membership, and Bylaws Committees and re-appointment of Members and Fellows from these Committees and who had remaining terms of service, to other Committees, of their choice. Practice Committee was merged with Education (Cristina Pacheco, MD, Chair) with most Members appointed to Education and others, including the Chair, John Ozolek, MD to the Fellowship Committee, as Assistant Chair to work with the Chair Raja Rabah-Hammad, MD, in anticipation of formation of a new Professional Development Committee, during 2017. Additional Committee and Subcommittee Chair-Elects were appointed to the Education Committee. The new Research and Awards Committee is chaired by Gino Somers, MBBS, PhD. Upon the merge with Archives Committee, the new Website Committee is now chaired by Chandra Krishnan, MD. Several Fellows were appointed to continue on as full voting members on various Committees, effective July 1, 2017. Members will be appointed by the current President-Elect, Miguel Reyes-

Múgica, MD, to fill impending 2017 Committee vacancies. Newly assigned Committee members terms will be lengthened to four (4) years. The current list of Committees and Members are now posted on the Website.

- **SPP Slide Survey Program:** The 2017 program is online only and now available for enrollment through April 3, 2017 via the SPP Website address <http://www.spponline.org/SSO>. A description of the technical parameters necessary to access the Program is posted, as well. The first 6 digitized slides and digital booklets will be accessible in April 2017. Anita Sengupta, MD, and her Subcommittee have worked very hard to ensure the quality, quantity, and ACCME Compliance of the slides and the discussions and questions used for the cases.
- **Society Journal- *Pediatric and Developmental Pathology (PDP)* and specialty volumes *Perspectives in Pediatric Pathology:*** Pierre Russo, MD from Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, Philadelphia, PA, began his term as the newly appointed Editor-in-Chief, on January 1, 2017, and appointed Linda Ernst MD, MHS as an Associate Editor, in addition to the continuing Associate Editor, Sara Vargas, MD. Jennifer Black MD was appointed to the Editorial Board. Congratulations to all of these individuals. SAGE also fully transitioned to role of Publisher on January 1, 2017. The hard cover version of the full current volume of *Perspectives* on testicular pathology was prepared for purchase and will be available, for a reduced cost to meeting attendees, along with other volumes, at the 2017 SPP Spring Meeting.
- **SPP Publication:** In October 2016, the Archives of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine released the electronic publication (ahead of publication 2017 Feb;141(2):209-214. doi: 10.5858/arpa.2015-0531-OA) of the SPP Practice Committee's article, "Pathologist Effort in the Performance of Fetal, Perinatal, and Pediatric Autopsies: A Survey of Practice". Congratulations to M. Cristina Pacheco, MD, and Robyn C Reed MD, PhD, for providing our colleagues in adult Pathology a valid perspective and evaluation of such an important aspect of our profession.
- **SPP Budget for 2017:** The revised budget with the requisite clarifications was reviewed by Jon Rowland, Chair, Finance Committee and his Committee in a teleconference on December 8, 2016 and the final draft was sent to the BOD on Friday December 9, 2016, for discussion and review, during a specified electronic meeting date window. The BOD then voted to approve the Budget with announcement to the Membership on December 21, 2016. The financial status of the Society is secure.
- **SPP audit by American Board of Pathology:** Thanks to Cristina Pacheco, MD, and members of the Education Committee, volunteers from the Perinatal Committee, and Kismet Saglam and Patricia Ferchland-Bingham of SPP Administration for completing the strong work required to meet the ABP audit standards and deadline of January 15, 2017. Members will be notified of the ABP's decision when it is received.
- **Awards:** The 2016 recipient of The Young Investigator Research Grant (which provides up to \$15,000 to establish scientific research in pediatric pathology) was Elena Repnikova B.S., M.S., Ph.D., from the University of Missouri Kansas City Medical School for her project "Characterization of Copy Number Variations in Genomic Regions Containing Long Non-Coding RNA Using DNA Microarray". The A. James McAdams Short-Term Study Stipend provides up to \$5000 for expenses related to receiving extramural training in pediatric pathology. The 2016 recipient was Julianna Weiel M.D., a second year pathology resident at Stanford's Lucille Packard Children's Hospital, who focused on pediatric renal and gastrointestinal pathology during a 4-week rotation, working with David Witte, M.D., at Cincinnati's Children's Hospital, Cincinnati, OH.
- **2017 Spring Meeting in San Antonio, TX:** All is proceeding on schedule, registration numbers are strong, and the room shortage seems to have resolved following negotiations by Chris Viglione of SPP Administration. Miguel Reyes-Múgica, MD will become the next President. The

main symposium will be “Personalized Medicine in the Practice of Pediatric Tumor Pathology”. The online system accessed via the Website has successfully enabled Spring 2017 registration and is on schedule for the SAMs and Evaluation/CME processes. For the first time for the SPP, the entire Meeting program agenda, Committee meetings, all abstracts, and other pertinent information, in addition to the ability to contact other registrants, will be via a dedicated Application (“App”). An e-blast to the registrants will be issued by SPP Administration that will explain how to download and use the App. I wish to thank the SPP Administrative Executive Director Martha Jones, and Kismet Saglam and James Brannigan for this accomplishment. As always, I remind you to submit your photos from the Meeting. Photos can be uploaded from the SPP homepage, by logging in and following the steps outlined in the Yogile FAQ, or by e-mailing images to the site at dqu8peol@yogile.com. In addition, there may be ongoing and/or changing issues for foreign travelers attending the Spring Meeting (as well as subsequent Meetings.) Please check the US Customs & Border Protection Website for updates in travel restrictions.

- **Reminder: SPP Fall Meeting is in Denver, CO, September 7-10 2017:** See the previous Newsletter for an overview of the scientific program, but the Pediatric Symposium will be “Down Syndrome in the 21st Century”, the Perinatal Symposium program “Noninvasive Prenatal Diagnosis and Treatment”, and a special clinical pathology symposium “Precision Medicine in the Clinical Laboratory: Applications and Consequences” will be offered.

In closing, there are many individuals who have been named in this Newsletter and some who have not, such as Cheryl M Coffin, MD, Sharon M. Geaghan, MD, Charles Timmons MD, PhD, and Raj Kapur MD, PhD, who collectively deserve great thanks for their dedication and professionalism in helping to lead our Society through its challenging changes this past year. I have appreciated their help and wisdom. Mostly I have appreciated the incredible opportunity and honor to serve as 2016 President of the SPP. It has been an amazing experience to represent a Society of such a high caliber, inspiring, and talented colleagues. Thank you, most sincerely.

Wishing you and our Society all the best,

Ona M. Faye-Petersen, MD
2016 President, Society for Pediatric Pathology