

INTERNATIONAL ACADEMY OF PATHOLOGY
EXECUTIVE MEETING: BOSTON 7TH MARCH 2009
VICE PRESIDENT FOR AFRICA: MJ HALE

Please accept my apologies for the meeting owing to my recently having taken over the responsibilities for the Academic Department at the University of the Witwatersrand. These have required my full time attention in the current time and immediate past.

Following the Athens meeting in October 2008, it is pleasing to report that most of the activity in Pathology on the African continent has occurred in East Africa.

East African Division

Soon after the Athens meeting, the bi-annual meeting of the Association of Pathologists of East, Central and Southern Africa was held in Mombasa at the White Sands Beach Hotel. This meeting was the largest held to date and was well attended by delegates from all the regional countries in East Africa together with a significant number of international delegates. The latter included Professor Andrew Field from Australia (preconference Cytology workshop programme concentrating on FNA diagnosis), Dr William Geddie from Toronto, Canada (preconference Cytology workshop programme), Professor Neil Shepherd from the United Kingdom (Quality Assurance in Anatomical Pathology and Gastro-intestinal Pathology), Professor Robert Riddell from Canada (Gastro-intestinal Pathology), Professor Hala El-Zimaity from Canada (Gastro-intestinal Pathology), Professor Richard Kirsch from Canada (Gastro-intestinal Pathology), Professor Drucilla Roberts from the USA (Maternal Obstetric Pathology), Professor Rosemary Tambouret from the USA (Gynaecological Pathology), Dr Shabin Nanji from Canada (Gynaecological Pathology), Professor Francis Jaubert from France (Gestational Trophoblastic Disease), Professor Anne Nelson and Mr Dan Butler from the USA (Telepathology), and Professor Fred Silva from the USA who spoke on the future of Anatomical Pathology.

In addition there were a number of delegates from South Africa who made significant contributions to the Scientific Programme.

It was particularly pleasing to note that there were a large number of local presentations resulting in the need for parallel sessions.

The Inaugural Annual General Meeting of the East African Division of the IAP was held during the meeting and it was agreed that an annual meeting of the East African Division would be held, which in the alternate year would be combined with the APECSA meeting.

The British Division has been particularly supportive of the East African Division and is establishing the East African School of Pathology which is modeled on the Arab-British School of Pathology. This will be held from Wednesday the 5th to Friday the 7th of August at the Nairobi Hospital and will be conducted by Professor Neil Shepherd,

Professor Geraint Williams, Dr Ray McMahon and Professor Sebastian Lucas. The three day teaching programme will be based on the pathology of the gastro-intestinal tract.

In addition to the above activities an East African Pathology Safari is to be conducted during April and will be supported by Dr Alec Howat (BDIAP goodwill ambassador), and Dr Josefine Heim-Hall (Friends of Africa - USCAP goodwill ambassador). Dr Shahin Sayed from Kenya will also contribute to the programme. The topics for the seminars are Quality Assurance in Anatomical Pathology and melanocytic lesions, soft tissue neoplasms and renal pathology, and will be given between the end of March and the end of April.

A second fine needle aspirate Cytology workshop under the auspices of the International Academy of Cytology will be conducted by Professor Andrew Field in Kampala (July), Nairobi (October) and Dar es Salaam (October).

These developments are particularly exciting and clearly demonstrate the beneficial effects that the collective initiatives of the IAP are having in the region.

South African Division

A new format for the Annual Meeting of the South African Division is planned for 2009 following a local decision by the Federation of the South African Societies of Pathology to hold the annual meeting in conjunction with the bi-annual Society of Medical Technology Meeting. This decision has been taken with a view to maximizing the funding support that is given to these scientific meetings by the trade exhibitors. The meeting is scheduled to take place between the 6th and 10th of September at the International Convention Center in Durban.

The BDIAP sponsored fellowship of Dr Ahmed Kalebi will be drawing to a close during the middle part of 2009 once Dr Kalebi writes his part II examination of the Fellowship of the College of Pathologists. This has been a particularly successful initiative and is one that should be continued into the future as I believe that this has been pivotal in ramping up Academic Pathology in East Africa, the events of which are outlined above.

International Congress 2012: Cape Town

Details of the progress being made by the local organizing committee are provided in a separate report appended to this document.