

**International Academy of Pathology**  
**Report of North American Vice-Presidents**  
**March 8, 2009**

The United States and Canadian Division of the IAP currently has 10,622 members, including 1,943 Junior Members.

The 2009 annual meeting in Boston provides an abundance of educational opportunities. A total of 1,780 abstracts will be presented - a record number. There are 58 short courses, including 15 new courses. The Long Course on *Breast Pathology: controversial Topics and the emerging Role of Adjunctive Molecular Studies* is co-directed by Drs. Stuart J. Schnitt and Frances P. O'Malley. The Special Course on *Basic Principles and Practice of Molecular Pathology in Cancer*, directed by Dr. Julia Bridge, is being presented again and already has over 300 registrants. It presents an overview of the basic genetic principles of common oncologic molecular diagnostic testing and provides information on tests available and their application. The Special Course on *Advanced Molecular Pathology* has over 200 current registrants. It focuses on translational issues that link basic discoveries with the practice of pathology. A new two-hour Special Course on *Careers in Investigative Pathology: Roads Less Traveled* will be presented on Monday afternoon. This course is especially for housestaff and is co-directed by Drs. Massimo Loda and David Berman. Additional highlights of this year's program include the Nathan Kaufman Timely Topics Lecture which will be presented by Dr. Todd R. Golub and is entitled *Molecular Classification of Tumors*. Dr. Michael A. Gimbrone, Jr. will deliver the Maude Abbott Lecture - *Vascular Endothelium in the Post-Genomic Era: New Insights into its Pathobiology*.

In addition to the new course mentioned above, other special offerings primarily for housestaff are continued at this 2009 Annual Meeting: 1) The Fellowship Fair provides an opportunity for representatives from institutions to advertise their various fellowships free of charge. 2) The Housestaff Specialty Conference on Sunday night is organized by Drs. John Goldblum and Christina Isacson. This year's topic is Focus on Fellowships. James M. Crawford and Robert D. Hoffman are speakers, and this will be followed by a panel discussion on Training, Jobs, Lifestyle, etc. 3) The Housestaff Hospitality room will be open on Monday and Tuesday and will provide a continental breakfast and a light lunch for housestaff. At breakfast and lunch many renowned pathologists have agreed to be present in the room for 1:1 interactions with the residents and fellows.

Our three smaller courses are doing well. Practical Pathology Seminars was presented April 24-27, 2008 at the Sandpearl Resort in Clearwater Beach, FL and had 68 registrants - the largest number so far. The 2009 course is scheduled for April 30 - May 3, at the Hyatt at Fisherman's Wharf in San Francisco, CA. Diagnostic Cytopathology 2009 was held for the fifth time January 17 - 19, 2009 and was also at the Sandpearl Resort in Clearwater Beach, FL - its registration of 84 was also the highest in its history. Apparently Clearwater Beach is a popular spot!!

The 2008 Diagnostic Pathology Course was on July 12 - 18 at the Hyatt Regency Maui Resort in Lahaina, Maui, Hawaii and had 118 registrants from around the world.. The 2009 Diagnostic Pathology course is scheduled for July 11 - 17 at the Sheraton on the Falls in Niagara Falls, Canada.

All of the three smaller courses qualify for AMA Category 1 CME hours or as American Board of Pathology Self-Assessment Module credit hours. In addition 40 of the short courses presented at the Annual Meeting also may be used as SAMs credits. Each year the new courses are added so that in a couple of years all 60 short courses may be available as SAMs.

The USCAP is conducting a search for the next editor of Modern Pathology who will begin in January 2010. After a previous search, Dr. Gene Siegal was appointed as Editor of Laboratory Investigation, effective in January 2009.

Educational Materials are continually being added to the The Knowledge Hub on the USCAP website ([www.uscap.org](http://www.uscap.org)). All of the teaching materials from the Annual Meetings of 2002-2008, with a table of contents and a search function are on the website. In addition, over 500 virtual slides are now available for study. There are currently 1875 educational modules, with close to 5 million hits per month from 22000 pathologists in 168 countries. Handouts for Companion Society symposia and Specialty Conference slides and case histories are placed on the website prior to the annual meeting. For the 2009 meeting most specialty conferences also have virtual slides available for review, and the complete handout is placed on the website the morning after the conference. These are not available in advance in order not to give away the diagnoses. The aim of a paperless meeting has been achieved with everything from registration to slides to handouts – fortunately, we still prefer to attend in person!

The newest addition to the Hub are the AP elective case series (APECs) under the direction of Dr. John Sinard which allow for an independent study of cases with virtual slides. Pathologists around the world can visit the website and see either virtual slides or high quality jpeg images, a discussion of the differential diagnosis, and references which they can study at their convenience. The USCAP also continues to send surplus educational materials on paper around the world to those IAP divisions with the greatest need.

Respectfully Submitted,

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North American Vice President