

**International Academy of Pathology
Executive Meeting: San Antonio 27th February 2011
Vice President for Anglophone Africa: M J Hale**

It is now 10 years since I wrote my first report for the IAP Executive Meeting that at the time was held in conjunction with the USCAP meeting on the 4th March 2001 and given this timeframe provides an opportune time for reflection. An extract from that report reads as follows:

“The International Academy of Pathology can play a major role in developing pathology in the continent by supporting and enhancing the existing structures that are in place. It is my belief that this support can be divided into several defined areas. The first and most important of these is the extension of education.”

Further on in that report reference is made to the myriad of failed donor funded aid programmes in various African countries that had been tied to political agendas and the contrary view that that in order to succeed an African solution had to be found. Review of the activities over this period shows that this is being achieved. Not only is there increased attendance of pathologists from the African continent at international meetings, but pathologists from the continent are playing an increasing role in international activities in their own right, all of which can only be of sustained benefit into the future.

East African Division

Dr Ahmed Kalebi had intended to be at this meeting in San Antonio, but has had to withdraw at the last minute as his visa was not ready at the time of his intended departure from Kenya.

From his attached report, It is particularly pleasing to see that educational activities in the region are going from strength to strength. Not only does this reflect the educational mandate of the IAP, but more importantly the benefit of joint international collaboration that is unlikely to have materialized had one of the Divisions attempted this initiative on their own. I don't believe that any of us could have predicted the extent of the success of this intervention 10 years ago.

Highlights of future academic activities for this year include the following:
Two Pathology Safari's, the first comprising lectures, slide seminars and case reviews on Ovarian Tumours by Prof Oluwole Fadare (USCAP – Friends of Africa from 4th – 8th April 2011 at Makerere University, Kampala, University of Nairobi, Nairobi and Muhimbili College of Health and Allied Sciences, Dar es Salaam. The second Safari conducted by Prof Michael Wells (BDIAP) on Gestational Trophoblastic Disease takes place at the same venues between 27th April and 2nd May 2011.

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The 3rd East African British School of Pathology course on Head and Neck pathology will be conducted by Dr Roderick Simpson & Dr Ann Sandison (BDIAP) from 14th – 16 September 2011.

A BDIAP sponsored training workshop on basic histology and introduction to immunohistochemistry for laboratory scientists & pathologists is planned for Nairobi in September, the dates remaining to be finalized.

South African Division

There have been no further educational activities arranged by the South African Division subsequent to those recorded in the report tabled at the Executive Meeting held in Sao Paulo in October 2010.

The first of future activities includes Bushpath 2011, a symposium on Gastrointestinal / Soft Tissue / Bone and Gynaecologic Pathology which is to be held at Kwa Maritane in the Pilanesberg Game Reserve, a short 2hour drive from Johannesburg and Pretoria. This is a didactic symposium which is to be presented by a number of international speakers including Drs. Gregory Y. Lauwers, Robert D. Odze, Esther Oliva and Andrew E. Rosenberg from the Department of Pathology, Harvard Medical School & Massachusetts General / Brigham and Women's Hospitals, Boston and Dr. Joel K. Greenson from the Department of Pathology, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor. A number of local speakers will also be contributing to the course material. The initiation of this meeting has been made possible by the kind generosity of a number of sponsors, including the speakers themselves and our thanks are extended to them.

The next meeting of the South African Division is to be held in September 2011 in Johannesburg at the Sandton Convention Center from the 31st August to the 4th September 2011. This meeting is to be held in conjunction with that of the Medical Technologists, following the success of the first meeting held in this format 2 years ago. International speakers for this meeting include Prof Runjan Chetty and Prof Sarah Pinder

Two Travelling Seminars are scheduled for 2011, the first on Forensic Pathology to be given by Dr Johan Dempers from the 9th -15th May and the second on Oral Pathology to be delivered by Prof Jos Hille during September / October, the dates remaining to be finalized.

Many members of the Division are involved in the preparations for the International Congress of the IAP scheduled for Cape Town in October 2012, the preparations for which are reported separately.