

CPRC News

A Cytotechnology Programs Review Committee Publication for Cytotechnology Programs

July 2009

Did you know????

- Planning for the **ASC 57th Annual Scientific Meeting** is in high gear now! The **Registration Brochure** has been mailed to all ASC members and online registration is now available. Although there is no Program Faculty Seminar this year, please give serious consideration to attending the **CPRC Workshop: Accreditation in an Era of Change** on Tuesday, November 17th. Details about the Workshop are below in [Notes from the CPRC Chair](#).

Speaking of the Annual Meeting, there are a few areas you might be interested in, even if you are unable to attend the Meeting. All details for the following areas can be accessed on the ASC Web site at www.cytopathology.org.

- The **Patient Advocacy Grant** consists of one grant in the amount of \$10,000 to the successful applicant. The goal of the Grant is to support ongoing or new projects for advocacy efforts for patients with gynecologic and/or other cancers. You may remember that last year, Allen Rinas, Program Director of the Cytotechnology Program at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, was a recipient of one of the 2008 Patient Advocacy Grants.
 - The **ASC Online Auction** celebrates our global cytology community. It is more than a fundraiser for the ASC Foundation advocacy activities as it allows the ASC to celebrate the humanities in medicine and creativity of our members. You are encouraged to support the ASC advocacy efforts and share something special with our cytology community. It is not all about art any longer, and your donation can be a local specialty such as wines or specialty foods produced in your area, local artwork, or even a vacation home or special place. Creative donations are most welcome!
 - During the Annual Scientific Meeting is a good time to **Make a Star of Your Mentor**. Consider thanking your mentors who have contributed their time and knowledge to benefit you and others. You will receive public recognition at the Annual Meeting as well as in *The ASC Bulletin*.
- **ASC Foundation Scholarships** - Applications are now being accepted by the ASC Foundation on the ASC Web site for the ASC Annual Scientific Meeting Cytotechnologist Scholarship and the Cytotechnology Molecular Training Scholarship.
 - **Cytotechnologist – ASC Annual Scientific Scholarship**: The ASC Foundation will award \$2,000 to five qualified Cytotechnologists, who are ASC members in their first two years of practice, to attend the ASC Annual Scientific Meeting. This scholarship, based on need and merit, will defray registration, travel and hotel costs, and will include funding for one workshop, a panel luncheon,

and per diem allowance. Foreign recipients are awarded \$4,000 to provide additional compensation for travel expenses.

- **Cytotechnology Molecular Training Scholarship:** The ASC Foundation will award \$2,000 each to five qualified cytotechnologists to attend a molecular diagnostic training program. The goal of this scholarship is to create a workforce with a multi-disciplinary skill set for cancer screening, detection, and prognostication, and prepare the next generation of cytotechnologists for the future of cytopathology.

Notes from the CPRC Chair

Maria A. Friedlander, M.P.A., CT(ASCP)

Cytotechnology Representation on CAAHEP Board of Directors (BoD) Continues with New Cytotechnologist Board Member!

Please join me in congratulating our newest CAAHEP Board Member, Kalyani Naik! Last April at the CAAHEP Annual Meeting, Kalyani was elected as CAAHEP's newest Board Member, effective July 1, 2009. Kalyani is clearly well deserving of this appointment as demonstrated by her long-standing support of and commitment to CAAHEP and for high quality standards in cytotechnology education. Her active involvement in CAAHEP includes service as a CPRC member (2001-2005), CPRC Chair (2005-2007) and CAAHEP Standards Committee member. She has given numerous presentations at various CAAHEP meetings, sharing with other Committees on Accreditation (CoAs) the issues and practices that impact educators and our profession. Congratulations Kalyani!

The value of cytotechnology representation on the CAAHEP Board of Directors (BoD) cannot be underestimated. Nancy Smith's service on the BoD has assisted the CPRC in so many ways. In addition to providing continued guidance for the CPRC in complying with CAAHEP policy and procedure, Nancy continues to assist the CPRC in communicating important issues that face our profession to CAAHEP leadership. Continued cytotechnology representation in CAAHEP leadership is important as we move forward with the challenges that face our profession. It is important that our profession's voice and needs are recognized by the agency that accredits our cytotechnology educational programs. Thank you, Nancy!

CPRC Involvement in CAAHEP Summer Workshop Agenda Planning

The CAAHEP Summer Workshop will take place July 24-25, 2009 in Arlington, Virginia. Many thanks to CPRC member Donald Simpson Ph.D., M.P.H., CT(ASCP)^{CM} for volunteering to chair the planning committee for this meeting. Recognizing the opportunity to share some of the issues facing the cytology profession and learn from other disciplines accredited by CAAHEP, Don worked with the rest of the planning committee to develop an agenda highlighting issues and best practices amongst other CoAs. While our profession has seen its fair share of program closures, it is interesting to note that other allied health disciplines are exploding with the development of new programs. The meeting is anticipated to be a session with lots of free exchange of information and expertise.

Mark Your Calendars!

CPRC Educators Workshop: Tuesday, November 17, 2009 7:30 a.m.-9:30 a.m.

As a result of the Future of Cytopathology Summit, the Program Faculty Seminar has been cancelled this November. However, in an effort to provide some face-to-face forum for educators, the CPRC will host a two-hour workshop on Tuesday, November 17th from 7:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. As the field of cytotechnology is at a critical juncture with regards to education and its future scope, it is imperative for educators to have the

appropriate information and tools necessary to ensure that implemented changes remain compliant with accreditation **Standards**. Restructured education models and curricular changes may be proposed through the **Standards** and Entry-Level Competencies revision process as well as from continued activities from the 2009 Educators Forum and Future of Cytopathology Summit. In this workshop, the CPRC will provide guidance, tools and strategies for adapting to change and enhancing current practice and compliance.

Standards and Guidelines Revision: First Draft Now Available!

The first draft of the 2009 **Standards** revision is ready and will be circulated soon (see article included in this issue). All educators are encouraged to share this initial **Standards** revision draft with your Program's communities of interest for their review and comment. Please forward the survey link to members of your Advisory Committees as well as your Program faculty, administrators, clinical affiliates, pathologists and other stakeholders so that we can solicit feedback from the broadest representation. The survey will be open for three to four weeks. Your comments are important in drafting a document that ensures the quality **Standards** for our cytology educational programs. Upon completion of the **Standards** revision, the CPRC will commence revision of the Entry-Level Competencies compendium document that outlines the curriculum for cytotechnology.

Standards and Guidelines Revision 2009: First Draft Ready for Review and Comment

Donald Schnitzler, B.S., CT(ASCP)

The Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (CAAHEP) and the American Society of Cytopathology (ASC) cooperate to establish, maintain and promote appropriate standards of quality for Cytotechnology educational programs. The Cytotechnology Programs Review Committee (CPRC) is responsible for leading the review and revision process of the **Standards and Guidelines for the Accreditation of Educational Programs in Cytotechnology**. The **Standards** review process includes:

- reviewing current **Standards** and ensuring compliance with language of most current CAAHEP Standards Template
- obtaining input from communities of interest, (i.e. practitioners, educators, employers, related professionals, students, institutional administrators, deans, program directors/faculty, national societies/agencies, public)
- revising draft as needed based on feedback from communities of interest
- conducting a public open hearing and
- obtaining approval from Committee on Accreditation (CPRC), sponsor organization (ASC), CAAHEP Standards Review Committee and CAAHEP Board of Directors.

This rigorous process ensures that **Standards** comply with CAAHEP policy and that the educational preparation of students is aligned with the accepted state of practice in cytotechnology.

The initial draft is the first step in the CPRC process of revising the **Standards and Guidelines** for our profession and incorporates language of current CAAHEP Standards template as well as modifications based on discussions at CPRC November 2008 meeting and subsequent conference calls. The prepared draft is ready to be circulated as a web survey for consideration by all communities of interest. It will be shared on the ASC Listserve and the ASC CT Programs Listserve as well as other cytology professional organization societies. The CPRC especially wants to hear from you, the cytotechnology program official, regarding these revised **Standards** that form the basis of program development, evaluation and self-analysis. In addition, the CPRC encourages you to share this survey with members of your Program's Advisory Committee as a means to promote feedback from the broadest range of communities of interest.

Standards are the minimum requirements to which a program is held accountable. **Guidelines** are descriptions, examples, or recommendations that elaborate on the Standards. They are not required, but can assist with the interpretation of the Standards.

As you review this draft of the **Standards and Guidelines**, you will see that most revisions are only minor variations from the language of the 2004 **Standards and Guidelines**. Notable areas of revision in this first draft include the provision of clearer guidelines for program/instructional faculty qualifications in Standard III. Resources: Personnel. Table I highlights these revisions in comparison to 2004 **Standards and Guidelines**. Additionally, please note a new element to Standard V. Fair Practices. Section 4:

4. The sponsor must maintain, and provide upon request, current and consistent information about student/graduate achievement that includes the results of one or more of the outcomes assessments required in these **Standards**.

The sponsor should develop a suitable means of communicating to the communities of interest the achievement of students/graduates.

The web survey will remain active between three and four weeks. Once the survey is closed, the CPRC will incorporate suggestions made by the communities of interest into a proposed draft of the **Standards and Guidelines**. This proposed draft of the **Standards and Guidelines** will be forwarded to the Executive Director of CAAHEP along with a request for formal review by the CAAHEP Standards Committee. The CPRC will also report to CAAHEP any suggestions from the communities of interest that were not incorporated into the proposed **Standards and Guidelines**, and the rationale for their exclusion.

Your feedback in this **Standards** revision is critical to maintain sound educational practices and foster the preparation of competent cytotechnologists. As program officials, it is extremely important that you participate in this process and encourage all valued stakeholders with an interest in cytotechnology to provide feedback as well. Your feedback is critical as the CPRC looks for consensus and clarification on this important document.

TABLE I: Proposed Revisions: Standard III, Resources, B. Personnel

Standards and Guidelines (Current, adopted 2004)	Standards and Guidelines (2009 Proposed Revision)
<p>Section III Resources, B. Personnel</p> <p>1. Program Director</p> <p>b. Qualifications The Program Director must possess, at minimum, the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) ASCP certification as a Cytotechnologist with a Masters degree or ASCP certification as a Specialist in Cytotechnology; (2) Competence in the area of diagnostic cytopathology with 5 years of professional experience after CT(ASCP) certification; and (3) Working knowledge of educational theory or practice; and (4) 2 years teaching experience. 	<p>Section III: Resources, B. Personnel</p> <p>1. Program Director</p> <p>b. Qualifications The Program Director must possess, at minimum, the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) ASCP certification as a Cytotechnologist with a Masters degree or ASCP certification as a Specialist in Cytotechnology; (2) 3 years professional experience within the past 5 years; (3) Competence in the area of diagnostic cytopathology; (4) Competence in the area of educational theory or practice; and (5) 2 years teaching experience.

<p>Persons approved as Program Director under previous Standards will continue to be approved in that position at that institution.</p> <p><i>Ongoing competence in the area of diagnostic cytopathology may be demonstrated by participation in or presentation of cytopathology diagnostic workshops, or authorship/co-authorship on papers published in medical journals or other professional journals. Working knowledge of educational theory or practice may be demonstrated by completion of courses or seminars in the principles of education and management or attendance at such courses at the ASC Program Faculty Seminar. Teaching experience should be within the past 5 years and may be demonstrated by preparation and/or presentation of cytopathology workshops, scientific sessions or teleconferences; faculty rank at a university; teaching of residents; preparation and presentation of lectures or in-service seminars; instruction at the microscope; authorship of exams, computer-aided instruction, course objectives or other educational materials.</i></p>	<p>Persons approved as Program Director under previous Standards will continue to be approved in that position at that institution provided on-going competence is demonstrated.</p> <p><i>Professional experience includes functioning as staff/supervisory cytotechnologist and/or cytotechnology educator.</i></p> <p><i>Ongoing competence in the area of diagnostic cytopathology may be demonstrated by participation in the ASCP Board of Registry Certification Maintenance Program or by documenting completion of 36-credit hours of continuing education (CE) every three years. Recommended areas for CE include diagnostic cytopathology, molecular pathology, lab safety, principles of management, principles of education or other related laboratory areas of interest. Presentation of cytopathology diagnostic workshops or authorship/co-authorship on papers published in medical journals or other professional journals also demonstrate ongoing competence.</i></p> <p><i>Ongoing competence in the area of education theory or practice may be demonstrated by documenting completion of 9 credit hours of continuing education (CE) in management or the principles of education every three years, attendance at the ASC Program Faculty Seminar and cytology educator society meetings or completion of CPRC Educational Handbook.</i></p> <p><i>Teaching experience should be within the past 5 years and may be demonstrated by preparation and/or presentation of cytopathology workshops, scientific sessions or teleconferences; faculty rank at a university; teaching of residents; preparation and presentation of lectures or in-service seminars; instruction at the microscope; authorship of exams, computer-aided instruction, course objectives or other educational materials.</i></p>
<p>Section III: Resources, B. Personnel</p> <p>2. Medical Director(s) or Medical Advisor(s)</p> <p>b. Qualifications The Medical Director(s) or Medical Advisor(s) must possess, at minimum, the following:</p>	<p>Section III: Resources, B. Personnel</p> <p>2. Medical Director(s) or Medical Advisor(s)</p> <p>b. Qualifications The Medical Director(s) or Medical Advisor(s) must possess, at minimum, the following:</p>

<p>(1) License as a physician (2) Board certification as an anatomic pathologist; (3) Competence in the area of diagnostic cytopathology with 3 years professional experience; and (4) Competence in the area of education.</p> <p>Persons approved as Medical Director or Medical Advisor under previous Standards will continue to be approved in that position at that institution.</p> <p>Active participation in the program includes preparation and delivery of lectures and microscopic review of cases with students. Under the supervision of the medical director(s), teaching responsibilities may be assigned to other personnel.</p> <p><i>Ongoing competency in cytopathology may be demonstrated by added qualification in cytopathology (highly desirable); participation in or presentation of diagnostic cytopathology workshops, or authorship/co-authorship on papers published in medical journals or other professional publications. Competency in education may be demonstrated by development of instructional modules; completion of courses or seminars in education and management or attendance at such courses at the ASC Program Faculty Seminar; faculty rank at a university and teaching of residents and/or fellows; authorship or co-authorship on papers published in medical journals.</i></p>	<p>(1) License as a physician; (2) Board certification as an anatomic pathologist; (3) 3 years professional experience within the past 5 years; (4) Competence in the area of diagnostic cytopathology; and (5) Competence in the area of education.</p> <p>Persons approved as Medical Director or Medical Advisor under previous Standards will continue to be approved in that position at that institution provided on-going competence is demonstrated.</p> <p>Active participation in the program includes preparation and delivery of lectures and microscopic review of cases with students. Under the supervision of the medical director(s), teaching responsibilities may be assigned to other personnel.</p> <p><i>Ongoing competency in cytopathology may be demonstrated by added qualification in cytopathology (highly desirable); by participation in the American Board of Pathology, Maintenance of Certification Program; or by documenting completion of 36-credit hours of continuing education (CE) every three years. Recommended areas for CE include diagnostic cytopathology, molecular pathology, principles of management, principles of education or other related laboratory areas of interest. Presentation of cytopathology diagnostic workshops or authorship/co-authorship on papers published in medical journals or other professional journals also demonstrate ongoing competence.</i></p> <p><i>Ongoing competence in the area of education theory or practice may be demonstrated by documenting completion of 9 credit hours of continuing education (CE) in management or the principles of education every three years, attendance at the ASC Program Faculty Seminar and cytology educator society meetings or completion of CPRC Educational Handbook.</i></p>
<p>Section III: Resources, B. Personnel</p> <p>3. Education Coordinator</p> <p>b. Qualifications</p>	<p>Section III: Resources, B. Personnel</p> <p>3. Education Coordinator</p> <p>b. Qualifications</p>

<p>The Education Coordinator must, at minimum, possess:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Board certification as a cytotechnologist with a baccalaureate degree; (2) Competence in the area of diagnostic cytopathology with 3 years of professional experience after certification; (3) Working knowledge of educational theory or practice; and (4) One year teaching experience. <p>Persons approved as Education Coordinator under previous Standards will continue to be approved in that position at that institution.</p> <p><i>The Program Director may also serve as Education Coordinator. The position of Education Coordinator may be shared by more than one person, each meeting the above qualifications.</i></p> <p>Ongoing competence in the area of diagnostic cytopathology may be demonstrated by SCT(ASCP) certification (highly desirable); participation in or presentation of diagnostic cytopathology workshops; or authorship or co-authorship on papers published in medical journals or other professional publications. Working knowledge of educational theory or practice may be demonstrated by completion of courses or seminars in the principles of education and management or attendance at such courses at the ASC Program Faculty Seminar. Teaching experience should be within the past 5 years and may be demonstrated by preparation and/or presentation of cytopathology workshops, scientific sessions or teleconferences; faculty rank at a university; teaching of residents; preparation and presentation of lectures or in-service seminars; instruction at the microscope; authorship of exams, computer-aided instruction, course objectives or other educational materials.</p>	<p>The Education Coordinator must, at minimum, possess:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Board certification as a cytotechnologist with a baccalaureate degree; (2) 3 years professional experience within the past 5 years; (3) Competence in the area of diagnostic cytopathology; (4) Competence in educational theory or practice; and (5) One year teaching experience. <p>Persons approved as Education Coordinator under previous Standards will continue to be approved in that position at that institution provided on-going competence is demonstrated.</p> <p><i>The Program Director may also serve as Education Coordinator. The position of Education Coordinator may be shared by more than one person, each meeting the above qualifications.</i></p> <p>Ongoing competence in the area of diagnostic cytopathology may be demonstrated by SCT(ASCP) certification (highly desirable); by participation in the ASCP Board of Registry Certification Maintenance Program or by documenting completion of 36-credit hours of continuing education (CE) every three years. Recommended areas for CE include diagnostic cytopathology, molecular pathology, lab safety, principles of management, principles of education or other related laboratory areas of interest. Presentation of cytopathology diagnostic workshops or authorship/co-authorship on papers published in medical journals or other professional journals also demonstrate ongoing competence.</p> <p><i>Ongoing competence in the area of education theory or practice may be demonstrated by documenting completion of 9 credit hours of continuing education (CE) in management or the principles of education every three years, attendance at the ASC Program Faculty Seminar and cytology educator society meetings or completion of CPCR Educational Handbook.</i></p> <p>Teaching experience should be within the past 5 years and may be demonstrated by preparation and/or presentation of cytopathology workshops, scientific sessions or teleconferences; faculty rank</p>
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	at a university; teaching of residents; preparation and presentation of lectures or in-service seminars; instruction at the microscope; authorship of exams, computer-aided instruction, course objectives or other educational materials.
<p>Section III: Resources, B. Personnel</p> <p>4. Faculty and/or Instructional Staff</p> <p>b. Qualifications The instructors must be knowledgeable in course content and effective in teaching their assigned subjects. For the clinical component of the program, instructors must be certified cytotechnologists or pathologists.</p>	<p>Section III: Resources, B. Personnel</p> <p>4. Faculty and/or Instructional Staff</p> <p>b. Qualifications The instructors must be knowledgeable in course content and effective in teaching their assigned subjects. For the clinical component of the program, instructors must be certified cytotechnologists, pathologists, or appropriately qualified for their respective teaching responsibilities.</p>

Cytotechnology Educators Forum

Amber Donnelly, Ph.D., SCT(ASCP) and William Crabtree, Ph.D., SCT(ASCP)

On April 19, 2009, the ASC Student Recruitment and Resources Committee conducted the Cytotechnology Educators Forum. The meeting was held on the last day of the ASCT Annual Meeting in St. Petersburg, Florida. The meeting specifically focused on discussions regarding the immediate needs and future direction for all Cytotechnology Education Programs in the U.S. and Puerto Rico.

The Forum was a great success. There were a total of 33 participants at this important gathering, with 24 individual programs being represented. With only 36 active programs, this means that 67% of all programs in the U.S. and Puerto Rico were represented.

The participants of the Forum identified "Five Key Issues" that are listed below. Each of these issues was discussed in a small group setting. The findings and action plans were discussed with all participants at the Forum and "workgroup" leaders have been identified for each of the issues.

- Identify Cytotechnology Programs Communities of Interest and Survey their Needs - Barbara McGahey Frain, M.S., SCT(ASCP)
- Develop a Core Molecular Pathology Curriculum - Marilee Means, Ph.D., SCT(ASCP)
- Develop a Career Ladder for Cytotechnology and Identify Areas of Growth for the Cytotechnology Profession - Judy Modery, SCT(ASCP)
- Develop a Cytotechnology Education Mission and Scope of Practice - Don Simpson, Ph.D., CT(ASCP)
- Investigate Public Relations Initiatives that would Present Cytotechnology in a Positive Manner. - ASC Recruitment and Resources Committee

Several of these Key Issues are relevant to the upcoming Future of Cytopathology Summit in November 2009.

On behalf of the ASC Recruitment and Resources Committee, we would like to thank the participants for their time and efforts at this meeting. I would also like to thank the ASC, ASC Foundation and the ASCT for their wonderful support. Without their support, this meeting would not have been successful.

We would appreciate any comments or questions you may have about the outcomes of this meeting or the next steps we will take.

Please watch for an in-depth summary of the Forum in the September issue of *The ASC Bulletin*.

***Petitioning the Feds to Allow Society Assistance in
Allocation of Dollars for Cytotechnology:
A Growing Coalition of Support***

Robert A. Goulart, M.D.

As you know, the federal government has allocated a portion of its huge financial stimulus package for job training through the Department of Labor's (DOL) Community-Based Job Training Grants programs. In fact, funds of this type have been successfully petitioned for by schools of cytotechnology and those of other allied health professions, albeit through relatively complex state-based and/or multi-institutional group programs.

Thus, the good news is that funds are now "on the federal books" and available. The bad news is that the bureaucracy involved for any single program, particularly if not university-based, appears at a minimum to be daunting and at its worst, impossible on a practical level. This is further complicated by the fact that programs of the DOL are usually distributed on the basis of geographic communities. Cytology education, on the other hand, is largely formed by a tightly knit group of professionals at the *national* level, which are often not regionally clustered but rather geographically dispersed throughout the country.

To this end, the needs of struggling cytotechnology programs have not gone unheard. What is clear is that your daily education responsibilities, often performed without significant administrative support, make this required and complex process of grant writing burdensome.

"Well then, how can others help?" An important factor and one to the credit of cytotechnology education is the detailed standards which exist in cytotechnologist training and school accreditation. This degree of standardization and the relatively similar program educational and infrastructure needs aid in allowing national organizations to facilitate this funding process.

"What's specifically being done?" Dr. Moriarty, ASC President, working with the Student Recruitment and Resources Committee, the CPRC, and the leadership of the ASCP is spearheading the process of petitioning the Department of Labor to:

- 1) Earmark a portion of the \$250 million health care stimulus funding to be specifically designated for ***cytotechnologist*** professional job training.
- 2) Allow professional societies such as the ASC to serve as ***intermediaries*** in the allocation of dollars and as ***liaisons in the grant submission process***.

A wave of consensus, commitment, and sponsorship is forming in support of this request. In a manner akin to the coalition addressing proficiency testing legislature, a multi-society letter will soon be forwarded to Jane Oates, Assistant Secretary of the Employment and Training Administration in the DOL, with the above formal request.

We hope to open a dialogue between the professional societies and the government agencies controlling the stimulus funds, with the ultimate goal of getting fiscal support to cytotechnology schools in need – *in a timely, practical and just fashion.*

Stay tuned!



CCCLW and the ASC

Gary W. Gill, CT(ASCP)

CCCLW is the Coordinating Council on the Clinical Laboratory Workforce. Dr. Dina Mody, ASC President, brought CCCLW to the attention of the ASC Executive Board during its 2008 Spring Meeting in Wilmington, Delaware. It was decided that ASC should begin attending CCCLW quarterly meetings because CCCLW's mission and vision were consistent with ASC's concern with recent closures of cytotechnology programs. Dr. Mody appointed cytotechnologists Bill Crabtree, Barbara Frain and Gary Gill as initial representatives. We attended our first CCCLW meeting on June 9, 2008.

From its January 19, 2009 press release: *The Coordinating Council on the Clinical Laboratory Workforce is a coalition of clinical laboratory organizations, government and regulatory agencies, and industry partners that have been working together since 2000 to address the clinical laboratory workforce shortage.* The members of the CCCLW believe that clinical laboratory stakeholders will have a broader and greater impact in addressing the clinical laboratory workforce shortage when working collectively. The mission of the Coordinating Council is to represent a united voice of clinical laboratory organizations and stakeholders focusing their collective efforts to increase the number of qualified clinical laboratory professionals, increase public awareness of laboratorians' value in achieving positive patient outcomes, and enhancing the image of clinical laboratory professionals.

Today 16 major laboratory professional organizations comprise its membership, representing over a quarter-of-a-million laboratory scientist and physician members. The ASC is the third smallest organization in terms of member numbers, which justifies its need to be part of the much larger CCCLW. Two more organizations are likely to join soon: American Society for Histocompatibility and Immunogenetics (ASHI) and Health Professionals Network. The CCCLW Web site <http://ccclw.org/default.aspx> provides additional details about the organization, its mission and values. If you visit the web site and would like to see additional information about the ASC and cytotechnologist workforce shortage, let me know (garywgill@msn.com, [317] 823-3802). I am the ASC Web site representative. CCCLW is a valuable networking resource for ASC.

The organizational representatives are an illustrious group. They include individuals such as Dianne Cearlock, NAACLS CEO, Elissa Passiment, ASCLS Executive Vice President and CLIAC Chair, Rick Panning, ASCLS immediate Past President, Rich Flaherty, AACC Executive Vice President, Andrea Bennett, ASCP Senior Program Manager, Nancy Noie Thompson, ASCP Vice President Membership & Communication, and Katharine Ayres, CLMA

Directory of Legislative and Regulatory Affairs. Cytotechnologists Lynnette Savaloja and Michele Smith, and Nancy Smith represent ASCT and CAAHEP, respectively. Gary Gill was elected last December as one of 2 at-large members of the seven-person CCCLW Steering Committee.

Among some of the things we have learned, which I often post to ctprograms@lists.cytopathology.org:

- There is an active Clinical Laboratory Sciences Educators Listserv that is open to the public. To join, send a message to Listserv@list.apsu.edu. Leave the subject line *blank* and type the following in the body of the message: Subscribe clseduc (your email address here). Two recent, familiar-sounding topics were “What should we be called” and “The can of worms – scope of practice.”
- A resource of likely interest to cytotechnology program education coordinators is the Health Workforce Information Center: <http://www.healthworkforceinfo.org/>. This is where I learned about ScanGrants (<http://www.scangrants.com/>), which is a public service listing of grants and other funding types to support health research, programs and scholarship. Unfortunately, searching on the terms cytology and cytotechnology yield zero hits, though there may be funding opportunities under other related listings.
- ASCLS has a Career Recruitment Tool Kit that may include ideas of interest to education coordinators: <http://www.ascls.org/career/toolkit.asp>
- NAACLS’s 1999 Program Revitalization: Strategies for Survival (http://www.naaccls.org/PDFviewer.asp?mainUrl=/docs/Program_Revitalization_Manual.doc) is undergoing revision, which should be complete before summer’s end.
- A Life Saved: Laboratory Professionals Make a Difference is a downloadable award-winning video that may inspire some ideas among education coordinators: <http://www.ascls.org/leadership/ppc/lifesavedvideo.asp>
- Similarly, Silent Treatment is available for download at: <http://labsarevital.com/html/main.isx?sitesec=9.6.0.0>
- Labs Are Vital is a key web site: <http://www.labsarevital.com/html/main.isx>

Today, Bill Crabtree and I represent ASC at CCCLW quarterly meetings. We depart from my house in northeast Indianapolis at 1:00 p.m. on the Sunday before each quarterly Monday meeting, drive 200 miles north to the Westin O’Hare Hotel meeting site, attend the day-long meeting, depart, and arrive back home by 10 p.m.

What’s Up with CAAHEP these days?

Although a little late, the following information has been shared with the CPRC from CAAAHEP.

Message from CAAHEP (May 27, 2009)

We have gotten several questions about an email that went out on May 12, 2009 from NAACLS/AMA/ASCP-BOR/NCA. In addition to going to all NAACLS-accredited programs, the decision was made (without our knowledge) to send it to CAAHEP-accredited Cytotechnology and Specialist in Blood Banking Technology programs.

So, what's it all about?

In previous years, NAACLS accredited programs have been required to complete three surveys, one from the AMA, one from ASCP-BOR and one from NAACLS. So, these groups got together and combined the essential elements of the three different surveys into one.

Because CAAHEP-accredited programs have had to fill out surveys for the AMA and ASCP-BOR, it was decided to send this combined survey to you so that you will have one rather than two surveys to complete.

If we had known about the project we would have been happy to participate and we believe that filling out one survey certainly is preferable to two, so we are hopeful that you responded to the mailing and completed the new survey. This is especially important if you want your program's information to be correct in the next edition of the Health Care Careers Directory.

Many thanks and feel free to contact me if you have additional questions.

Why do we have to pay \$450 to CAAHEP when we also pay fees to the CPRC?

The CPRC is a Committee on Accreditation within CAAHEP. While they do all of the profession-specific work of reviewing programs, and the fees you pay support those efforts, the Committee's recommendations are sent to CAAHEP for final action. CAAHEP is the legal accreditor. It is CAAHEP that takes on the legal liability and assures every program of their due process rights. When necessary, CAAHEP will convene an appeal panel.

CAAHEP is recognized by the Council for Higher Education Accreditation and extends that recognition to all of its participating Committees on Accreditation. The CAAHEP system provides a wealth of experience and expertise to its Committees on Accreditation including training sessions and online support tools. CAAHEP is always working to improve the quality and efficiency of the accreditation process across all disciplines. As an active player on the national scene, CAAHEP helps all of its Committees keep abreast of significant developments and national trends in the field of accreditation.

CAAHEP's major sources of revenue are the dues from its sponsoring organizations and the fees from institutions with accredited programs. Without this revenue, the support and services that CAAHEP provides to its Committees on Accreditation would disappear. CAAHEP and the CPRC are a team that, together, makes up the system for assuring the quality of Cytotechnology educational programs.

Kathy Megivern, Executive Director

CAAHEP

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Do you have questions, comments or information you would like to share with others? The CPRC News is the perfect venue! Please contact Debby MacIntyre for assistance. The next issue of the CPRC News will be in October 2009.

Enjoy a safe and relaxing summer!



Cytotechnology Programs Review Committee

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