CPRC News – Chair’s Message...

Greetings, everyone! I hope you are enjoying the Spring flowers and looking forward to fun Summer activities. I am personally looking forward to seeing everyone at the ASC Annual Scientific Meeting in New Orleans.

The Strategies in Cytotechnology Education (SCE) session, on Friday, November 4th is not completely set yet, but we would like it to be similar to last year’s SCE, very interactive with Program officials sharing with each other. Since we have a number of fairly new Program Directors, I thought it would be interesting to discuss some of the "tools" in an educator’s "tool kit."

So.....what are your burning questions or greatest challenges?

Is it dealing with difficult students, constructing meaningful student assessments, performing curriculum mapping, or something else? Please email questions or topics you would like to be discussed at the SCE to me at shamilton@cellnetix.com.

Also planned for the SCE or possibly a larger venue are updates from the CPRC Mid-level Pathology Practitioner (MLPP) Subcommittee, based on feedback from the 2015 Hot Topic and CPRC Strategy Session during the ASC Annual Scientific Meeting in Chicago.

Other news, in the CAAHEP world:

- Congratulations to Amber Donnelly, PhD, MPH, SCT (ASCP), who was elected to the CAAHEP Board of Directors during the CAAHEP Annual Meeting in Memphis, Tennessee; her three-year term begins July 1st. It is great having the cytotechnology profession represented on the Board, since Nancy Smith and Kalyani Naik served us well for a long time before rotating off the Board.
• Deb Sheldon has worked with Katie Davis at CAAHEP and Cytotechnology Program Directors to complete the process of Programs publishing their outcomes, specifically, the 3-year average credentialing examination first time pass rate.

• The CPRC has made recommendations for Initial and Continuing Accreditation of Cytotechnology Programs, which will be acted upon at the CAAHEP Board of Directors Meeting in May and July. Please read the rest of the CPRC News for a full description of other CAAHEP activities.

Another congratulations goes to Catherine Smith, Med, CT(ASCP), who is now officially the Program Director at the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences, Cytotechnology Program. Although The University of Vermont Medical Center, Cytotechnology Program requested Voluntary Withdrawal of Accreditation, the facility will still be very involved as a clinical affiliate next year for the students from the Cytotechnology Program at Albany College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences.

CPRC members submitted questions for the pathology fellowship’s “Proficiency in Education Competency” program.

Lastly but importantly, Deb Sheldon and I will be reviewing and revising our Policies and Procedures to include the following topics as recommended by CAAHEP:

• Drafting a policy to address post-site visit evaluations;
• Developing a policy for non-compliance of Programs posting and updating outcome measures;
• Creating a policy regarding adverse reviews of Annual Reports;
• Stating a policy regarding the handling of accreditation-related documents when members no longer serve on the CPRC;
• Developing a process for when a Program is inactive and the Program Director retires; and
• Establishing a procedure for continuity of the CPRC if the Coordinator was no longer with the CoA.

Well, that about sums it up. I look forward to hearing from each of you as we finalize the Strategies session. November will be here before we know it!

**Status of Programs (as of May 1, 2016)**

26 Accredited Programs

24 Active Programs

2 Inactive Programs (University of Kansas Medical Center, University of North Dakota)

0 Discontinued Programs

1 Developing Program (Roswell Park Cancer Center/Daemen College)
CONGRATULATIONS!

Since May 2015, the following Cytotechnology Programs were awarded Continuing Accreditation and granted Accreditation Cycle Extensions

**Continuing Accreditation for Seven (7) Years:**
- Indiana University School of Medicine
- Mayo Clinic, School of Health Sciences
- University of Nebraska Medical Center
- Old Dominion University

**Accreditation Cycle Extensions from Seven (7) to Ten (10) Years:**
- Rutgers University
- CUNY Hunter College/Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center
- University of Tennessee Health Science Center
- Medical Education Training Campus at Brooke Army Medical Center
- University of Utah

Let’s continue with more CAAHEP news, for your information:

Kalyani Naik, MS, SCT(ASCP), CPRC Commissioner
Kerry Weinberg, PhD, RDMS, RDSC, FSDMS, CAAHEP Liaison

- **CAAHEP HAS MOVED**, which may seem to be “for your information” but your Program can be cited for not having correct information available in your Program’s publications. Be sure to update your Program Web site, brochures, and any other materials that reference the contact information for CAAHEP. Standard V.A.2. requires that Programs make known to all applicants and students the name, mailing address and web site address, and the phone number of the accrediting agencies. In addition CAAHEP Policy 302 - Public Use of CAAHEP Accreditation Status by Programs and Institutions states:

B. If a program has CAAHEP accreditation, the sponsor must use the following language when referring to that accreditation:

1. In at least one of its comprehensive publications customarily used to officially convey institutional information, it must state:

   "The [name of program] is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs ([www.caahep.org](http://www.caahep.org)) upon the recommendation of [name of Committee on Accreditation]."
2016 CAAHEP Annual Meeting:

At the Annual Business Meeting, elections for the open Board of Directors seats were held. CONGRATULATIONS to our own Amber Donnelly, on her election to the Board of Directors!! Amber joins the Board as a Sponsor representative, representing the American Society for Clinical Pathology. Katie Kuntz, representative of the Society of Diagnostic Medical Sonography also joins the Board as a Sponsor representative. Gregory Ferenchak, representing the National Network of Two-Year Colleges, and Betsy Slagle, representing the Accreditation Review Council on Education in Surgical Technology and Surgical Assisting (ARC/STSA), were re-elected to another term on the Board.

CAAHEP FEE INCREASE:
CAAHEP has publicized this impending increase since November 2014, but it could have slipped under your radar screens. The CAAHEP institutional fee, paid by every institution that sponsors one or more CAAHEP-accredited Programs, has been raised from $450 to $550, the first increase in over 15 years. Remember, this is NOT the same fee as the CPRC Annual Accreditation Fee, which will be sent to Program Directors in late June for the upcoming 2016-2017 fiscal year. This annual fee of $1,000 helps defray accreditation-related expenses for the Committee on Accreditation, the CPRC.

TASK FORCE ON SITE VISITOR TRAINING:
The CAAHEP Board of Directors created the Task Force on Site Visitor Training in response to complaints about site visitors and/or the process as reported in the Accreditation Process Assessments. These assessments are sent to Programs by CAAHEP once the Board has taken accreditation action. The purpose of the task force is to review site visitor training process across all the CAAHEP disciplines with a focus on addressing deficiencies and improving the accreditation process. M. LaCheeta McPherson, Sondra Flemming, Kerry Weinberg, Barry Eckert, Jennifer Anderson-Warwick, Keith Orloff, and Cindy Weiland have volunteered to serve on the Task Force on Site Visitor Training.

UPDATE ON CHEA REQUIREMENTS:
PUBLISHING OUTCOMES:
As you may know, CAAHEP is recognized by the Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA). Last year, the Board of Directors approved a change to Standards language in response to CHEA’s mandate to make Program Outcomes readily available to the public. CAAHEP staff has been diligently collecting and verifying links provided by Programs to assure compliance with the CHEA mandate. CAAHEP submitted its progress report to CHEA regarding the status of making Program outcomes available to the public.
We are happy to report that, as of May 2, 2016 all of our Cytotechnology Programs that are currently active have provided their links! If you have any changes in your links going forward, PLEASE notify Deb MacIntyre Sheldon ASAP so that she can notify the CAAHEP office.

CAAHEP has also changed the way it publishes its accreditation actions in response to CHEA’s request. Originally, CAAHEP published a list of programs, by profession, which received Initial or Continuing Accreditation, Probation or Transfer of Sponsorship. In 2015, the list was modified to include the dates of the next comprehensive evaluation and/or expiration date for each action, and to specify whether the action required a progress report or whether it was on the consent agenda (no discussion needed). Beginning in January 2016, CAAHEP revised the list again to include the following actions:

1. Probation actions will include Standards cited with the action as well as the progress report due date.
2. Withhold/Withdraw actions will be added to the NEXT meeting list, to assure the appeal period has passed.

Moving forward, the CPRC will continue to work with CAAHEP to maintain accurate information for this Outcome. To assist you in accomplishing this annual task, a reminder has been inserted in the Annual Report Instructions, under Comments, where you are instructed to confirm that your published outcomes are up-to-date or provide any new information.

Speaking of the Annual Reports.................

2016 CPRC Annual Reports:
It is almost time for Program Directors to begin working on 2016 Annual Reports, and you will receive emails and instructions later this month. Remember, you can go on the Annual Report Management System (ARMS) site at any time throughout the year to enter information and make updates, as well as upload documents in the “Related Documents” section.

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Geraldine Colby Zeiler Award

The Awards for cytotechnology students were established in memory of the late Geraldine Colby Zeiler who trained as a cytotechnologist at the Mayo Clinic. The Awards, made possible through the generosity of Dr. William B. Zeiler, family and friends of Mrs. Zeiler, are funded through the College of American Pathologists Foundation and administered by the American Society of Cytopathology (ASC).

The purpose of the Awards, up to five each year, is to stimulate and reward high achievement by cytotechnology students during their training. Awards are based on academic performance and microscopic diagnostic skills, leadership ability, initiative, acceptance of responsibility, dedication and collegiality.

Geraldine Colby Zeiler Award Online Application

Applications and Referral Submissions DUE June 1, 2016
The Cytology Education Learning Lab (CELL) went “live” two years ago, with the expectations of serving Cytotechnology Programs to provide resources that may be useful to Program Directors as they integrated the 22 new Entry-level Competencies (ELC) into their curricula. Since its inception, CELL Resource Committee members have reached out to their relevant sponsoring organization (ASC, ASCP, ASCT, and CAP) for resources, which have been donated and uploaded on to the site. With original focus on the needs of the 30+ Cytotechnology Programs, weren’t we surprised when we had over 100 registrants during the first 60 days! Fast forward to May 2016, we have over 1,445 registrants with over 30% international registrants!!

Make sure you check out all areas, especially “Supplemental Resources,” which has become a robust category. As a result, the future of the CELL Web site may be in for a “face lift” and potential new direction focused on more resources for a wider audience. In the next month, please look for a short survey that will help the CELL Resource Committee provide resources that better serve your needs.

In the meantime, all Program Directors are encouraged to submit resources they feel represent their best practices. Please send any resources or questions to Deb MacIntyre Sheldon.

Cell Resource Committee Members

Kara Hansing, MEd, SCT(ASCP), Chair
Leonard Bloom, MS, SCT(ASCP)
Keisha Brooks, MS, CT, MB(ASCP)
Amy Clayton, MD
Robert Goulart, MD
Rhonda Metzler, SCT(ASCP)CM
Lois Rockson, MA, SCT(ASCP)IAC
Donald Schnitzler, CT(ASCP)

****News from CPRC Sponsoring Organizations***

American Society of Cytopathology

The ASC 64th Annual Scientific Meeting planning is in high gear, with the Meeting Program almost complete. For the Schedule at a Glance, Meeting Highlights, Travel and Hotel Information, and much more, please visit the Meeting site to register.
The **Strategies in Cytotechnology Education** sessions will continue on Friday, November 4th, as detailed in the CPRC Chair’s Message. All Program Directors are encouraged to attend these sessions and participate; more news on that in the next couple months!

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As many of you know, the ASC offers a  

**Travel Scholarship to the ASC Annual Scientific Meeting**  
for Cytotechnologists, Residents and Fellows.  
You are encouraged to share this information with your recent graduates.  

*Submission deadline is August 15, 2016*

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**American Society for Clinical Pathology**

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Don’t miss this opportunity to engage in an education program designed with input from the region and with progressive topics to assist cytotechnologists as they transition into the future as a vital member of the laboratory and clinical care team. **REGISTER NOW!**

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This is the largest global gathering of the Pathology and Lab Medicine Team. Join your colleagues and leaders to gain knowledge that will empower you to improve patient care today while you shape tomorrow. **REGISTER NOW!**
The ASCP Board of Certification (BOC) has created the following news briefs to communicate information to BOC credential holders and partner organizations as well as the profession at large.

No Regrets! - Maintain Your Credential in Medical Laboratory Science
Demonstrate your commitment to your profession as a laboratorian by participating in the ASCP BOC Credential Maintenance Program (CMP). To maintain certification, individuals US certified in 2004 and later are required to complete and document continuing education every three years to maintain their certification. Don’t let your certification expire and potentially deny yourself opportunities in the future. If your BOC certification has expired for 10 or more years, you’ll be required to retake and pass the certification exam. Don’t let this happen to you!

BOC Credential Maintenance Program (CMP) - Voluntary CMP is designed for:
- a. ASCP members who are educators
- b. Laboratory professionals US certified before 2004
- c. Military personnel serving overseas after 2001
- d. Pathologists and nurse practitioners

The answer is B. Individuals US credentialed prior to 2004 can voluntarily participate in the Credential Maintenance Program (CMP). Participating in the CMP shows your commitment to maintaining continued competency in your profession. The CMP is mandatory for Individuals awarded US certification beginning 2004 and International certification beginning 2012.

CMP - CMP is an acronym for:
- a. Certification Membership Program
- b. Clinical Medical Proficiency
- c. Credential Maintenance Program
- d. Continued Medical Proficiency

The answer is C. CMP is an acronym for Credential Maintenance Program. The CMP has nothing to do with membership in any professional organization. The CMP is mandatory for Individuals awarded US certification beginning 2004 and International certification beginning 2012. This program requires the completion of continuing education credits through a wide variety of activities to maintain certification every three years. Participating in CMP demonstrates your commitment to continued competency in your profession.

A Decade Lapsed is a Decade Lost: My BOC certification expired a few years ago and I would like to reenter the workforce. Can I reinstate my expired certification?

Yes! Individuals whose BOC certification has expired may reinstate their certification by completing the Credential Maintenance Program (CMP) as long as they complete the program within 10 years of the date their certification expired. After 10 years, individuals are required to retake the certification examination. Individuals whose previous NCA certification has expired may reinstate their certification at any time by successfully completing the CMP process. Once they become BOC certified however, they will also be subject to the 10 year expiration policy. Individuals who hold the MT(ASCP) credential awarded prior to 2004 may use the MLS(ASCP)CM credential without passing another examination by completing the CMP process on a voluntary basis.
American Society for Cytotechnology

The American Society for Cytotechnology (ASCT) Annual Meeting held April 22-24, 2016 was excellent – great speakers and beautiful Florida weather! Twenty-two (of 90) ASCT Student Members were able to participate in the conference (see photo to left) and ten gave case presentations. Warren R. Lang, Student Award winners are listed below.

Foundation Awards

The ASCT formed the ASCT Foundation in 1998 to support the educational goals of our membership, and to recognize individuals who have made significant contributions to field of cytotechnology and the ASCT. Made possible by tax-deductible donations, the Foundation has been proud to fund awards such as the Marion and Nelson Holmquist Cytotechnologist Achievement Award, the Allen Achievement in Writing Award, and the Warren R. Lang Memorial Student Presentation Awards.

Congratulations to the 2016 Award Recipients!

- The Marion and Nelson Holmquist Cytotechnologist Achievement Award: Donald Schnitzler, CT(ASCP)

- The ASC President’s Award: Michele A. Smith, SCT(ASCP)

- Allen in Achievement in Writing Awards: CAP Foundation for the Voice newsletter contribution, "See, Test & Treat: Creating a Bridge to Women's Healthcare"

- Bob Gay Student Scholarship Winner
  Sargent Mari Lynn Short, METC Cytotechnology Program, Fort Sam Houston, Texas
Warren R. Long Student Awards/Winners

1st Place:  "Carcinosarcoma of the Ovary"
Kathryn Kiely
University Health Center of Pittsburgh, Anisa I. Kanbour School of Cytotechnology

2nd Place:  "A Wolf in Sheep's Clothing: Follicular Variant of Papillary Thyroid Cancer"
Jennifer Paul
University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences, Cytotechnology Program

3rd Place:  "But it's Not What you think..."
Chowdhury Tabassum
University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center, Cytotechnology Program

Congratulations to Cristina Duluc
For her winning
National Cytotechnology Day T-Shirt Design and Slogan:
“Let’s Take a Cellfie”

The College of American Pathologists
The College of American Pathologists is an organization of physician pathologists, but its broader interests also include the health and well-being of the allied health professions particularly as they relate to the practice of pathology and laboratory medicine.

To that end, the CAP would like to invite all allied health professionals to attend the CAP Annual Meeting, CAP16 – The Pathologists’ Meeting, which will be held at the Wynn/Encore, Las Vegas from September 25-28, 2016.
The Meeting is specifically geared toward the educational needs of pathologists, but within this curriculum are numerous offerings that would be of significant benefit to laboratory technologists in all fields of the pathology sciences. This year’s program centers on leadership in the field of pathology, but numerous topics related to anatomic pathology, cytopathology, molecular pathology, the many fields of laboratory medicine, and quality assurance and laboratory operations will be addressed. Those interested in government affairs and regulatory issues will be particularly interested in CAP16 offerings as the CAP maintains a strong Washington presence and will have offerings related to a variety of relevant and timely updates on the political landscape.

The CAP hopes to see many of its allied health colleagues at the Meeting. For further information, please review materials on the CAP16 Website.

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<tr>
<th>Members of the 2016 Cytotechnology Programs Review Committee</th>
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<tr>
<td>Stephanie Hamilton, EdD, MB, SCT(ASCP), Chair</td>
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<td>Jennifer A. Brainard, MD, Vice Chair</td>
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<td>Karen Atkison, MPA, CT(ASCP)IAC</td>
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<td>Robert L. Hutton, Sr., MD</td>
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<td>Larry W. List, PA, CT(ASCP)</td>
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<td>R. Marshall Austin, MD, PhD</td>
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<td>Amber Donnelly, PhD, SCT(ASCP), ASCP Commissioner to CAAHEP</td>
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<td>David C. Wilbur, MD, CAP Commissioner to CAAHEP</td>
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<td>Maria Friedlander, MPA, CT(ASCP), ASCT Commissioner to CAAHEP</td>
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<td>Deborah MacIntyre Sheldon, CPRC Cytology Education Coordinator</td>
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shamilton@cellnetix.com
brainaj@ccf.org
Karen_atkison@bd.com
robert.hutton@us.army.mil
listlw@slu.edu
raustin@mail.magee.edu
addonnelly@unmc.edu
dwilbur@mgh.harvard.edu
angelesm@mskcc.org
Robert.Goulart@sphs.com
Knaik@med.umich.edu
schnitzler.donald@gmail.com
Kerry.Weinberg@liu.edu
dmacintyre@cytopathology.org