



CPRC News

A Cytotechnology Programs Review Committee Publication for Cytotechnology Programs

May 2014

Did you know.....?

- **2014 CPRC Annual Reports:**

By the time this newsletter is circulated, all Program Directors have received login information and instructions for completing the Annual Report, which is **due by June 23, 2014**.

In addition to submitting your survey, please remember to take the very short survey, highlighted on the Resources page of the Annual Report as well in the Annual Report email, AND below:

[CPRC Annual Report ELC Survey](#)

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.

[Refer a Student today!](#)

CPRC News – Chair’s Message...

***Any change, even a change for the better,
is always accompanied by drawbacks and discomforts.
Arnold Bennett***



Over the past couple of years, the CPRC capitalized on “opportunities” to bring *The Curriculum in Cytotechnology for Entry-level Competencies* into alignment with current employers’ expectations of our cytotechnology program graduates. That process followed a series of “steps,” from drafting language, to surveying communities of interest (COI), through to CAAHEP Board of Directors approval last October of the **Standards and Guidelines for the Accreditation of Educational Programs in Cytotechnology**, which included as Appendix B, the revised entry-level competencies. That approval brought with it an obligation on the part of all programs to “follow through” with incorporation of these new competencies into each of their program’s curricula.

While these new Standards become effective on July 1, 2014, full implementation, or 100% compliance, with the new entry-level competencies is not expected until January 1, 2015. Even then, if a program going through the reaccreditation process can demonstrate a good-faith effort to incorporate each of the 22 entry-level competencies into their curriculum, they will be in “good-shape” regarding a reaccreditation recommendation.

As the CPRC began the revision process it also began planning to accommodate the implementation process by asking our sponsors to establish another committee to identify and evaluate resources that cytotechnology programs might use to teach the new technologies to their students. That new committee, the CELL Resource Committee, recently unveiled a new Web site, the Cytology Education Learning Lab (C.E.L.L.), which houses educational resources supporting implementation of the revised entry-level competencies. Already, more than 620 individuals have registered to access the Web site and use these materials.

While the current resources provide a good foundation for program use, it is important to emphasize that this site is intended for bi-directional participation, both in and out, by all program officials. To accommodate this exchange, a “Contribute” button is found on the home page. Everyone is encouraged to share their expertise by contributing additional entry-level competency related resources to the CELL Resource Committee through Debby MacIntyre Sheldon.

Equally important to contributing additional materials is providing feedback on the resources already found on the CELL Web site. Are these materials adequate to prepare students to meet the new entry-level competencies? If so, Great! If not though, what additional materials are needed? This year, program officials have an opportunity to provide that feedback as part of their Annual Report by completing a short survey about the CELL Web site content. Everyone’s feedback though is important, so please, if you are not one of the 30 cytology programs completing an Annual Report, forward any suggestions to Debby MacIntyre Sheldon to help with the on-going development and management of the CELL Web site.

Part of this year’s CPRC follow through is conducting not one session, but two, during the upcoming *ASC Strategies in Cytology Education* presentations. The first session will spotlight examples of “best practice,” how

programs successfully implemented the new competencies into their curricula. It will also provide an opportunity for programs to share difficulties they encountered with implementation of the new competencies and solicit suggestions from among peers on possible ways to overcome those difficulties. And lastly, this session will provide a focused discussion on the reaccreditation process and the implications of the new entry-level competencies on that process. This discussion is especially timely as four programs recently began their self-studies using the 2004 Standards and soon another group will begin that process using the 2013 Standards. No doubt, both groups will be eager to learn the expectations of the subsequent site visit.

The second *Strategies in Cytology Education* session will focus on a new initiative given to the CPRC for this year, to “Address issues discussed in the Future of Cytology white paper and move the training programs toward future practice models.” Five years ago, much like today, advancing technologies, changes in market forces and practice dynamics were driving changes in the discipline of cytopathology. This Strategies session revisits these issues by addressing the same strategic question posed during the 2009 Summit, “What skills will be needed to support the practice of cytopathology in the future, and what kinds of professionals will be best suited to address these needs?”

No doubt, once the new entry-level competencies are fully implemented by programs into their curriculum, graduates from those programs will be better prepared for the evolving role of future cytotechnologists. The CPRC and the CELL Resource Committee recognize that “*any change, even a change for the better, is always accompanied by drawbacks and discomforts.*” It is our sincerest hope that any inconveniences implementing the new competencies were minimal.

“Change is inevitable. Growth is intentional.”

Status of Programs (as of May 1, 2014)

30	Accredited Programs
29	Active Programs
1	Inactive Programs
0	Discontinued Programs
1	Developing Program

CONGRATULATIONS!

Cytotechnology Programs granted Continuing Accreditation Extensions from 7 years to 10 years!

**Albany College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences
METC Interservice Cytotechnology Program**

“Kudos” CELL Resource Committee!

Wikipedia defines “Kudos” as acclaim or praise for exceptional achievement. The recent launching of the CELL Web site is an example of such an achievement, accomplished by an equally exceptional collaborative effort of the entire cytology community. The CELL Resource Committee’s effort of discovering, vetting, proofing, preparing and making available these resources to meet the needs of programs as they implement the new entry-level competencies into their curricula is certainly deserving of Kudos. Thank you to all Cell Resource Committee members for your AWESOME accomplishment! Thanks also to all those who so kindly contributed entry-level competency related resource materials for the CELL Web site:



Cell Resource Committee Members

Co-Chairs:

- Liron Pantanowitz, MD,
- Marilee Means, PhD, SCT(ASCP)

ASC Members

- Shirley Greening, MS, JD, CFIAC
- Marilee Means, PhD, SCT(ASCP)

ASCP Members

- Sue Zaleski, MS, SCT(ASCP)
- Keisha Brooks, MS, CT, MB(ASCP)

ASCT Members

- Lois Rockson, MA, S CT(ASCP)IAC
- Sandra Giroux, MS, SCT(ASCP) CFIAC

CAP Members

- Amy Clayton, MD
- Leonard Bloom, MS, SCT(ASCP)

**Have you visited the CELL Web site? Did you participate in the CELL Web site Webinar?
Click below to find out all you need to know about the CELL Web site!**

[CELL Web site Webinar May 6, 2014 - ARCHIVED](#)

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

American Society for Cytopathology

Nancy J. Smith, MS, SCT(ASCP), ASC Commissioner to CAAHEP

Plan to attend the ASC Annual Scientific Meeting in Dallas, Texas!

The ASC 62nd Annual Scientific Meeting site is up and running full of lots of information and new offerings. Check it out by clicking on the Meeting graphic above.



The **Strategies in Cytotechnology Education** sessions will continue on Friday, November 14th, as detailed in the CPRC Chair's Message on page 2 of the **CPRC News**. All Program Directors are encouraged to attend these sessions as well as other pertinent sessions throughout the Meeting, such as the **Future in Cytotechnology** session on Saturday evening, November 15th, after the ASC President's Welcome Reception with Exhibitors.

Career Planning and Growth: Valuable for Today, Tomorrow and Beyond will be offered gratis to all attendees on Sunday, November 16th at 7:00 am this year. The format has been revised to address future changes in the profession for all cytology professionals.....look for more information about this session in the next couple months.



Finally, and not a professional session but one that helps you get your day off to a good start on Saturday, November 15th.....join many of your colleagues and friends for the **ASC 5K RUN/WALK**.

For the Schedule at a Glance, Meeting Highlights, Travel and Hotel Information, and much more about the **62nd Annual Scientific Meeting**, please visit the Meeting web site [ASC Meeting Web site](#).

Some additional words from the CPRC Chair, the CPRC Bids Farewell to Longtime ASC Commissioner to CAAHEP.....

On behalf of the CPRC, I would like to personally thank and acknowledge Nancy Smith for her years of dedicated service to the CPRC and the cytopathology community. Ms. Smith, who has served as the ASC Commissioner to CAAHEP since November 2000, will complete that role on June 30, 2014.



Nancy is an exceptional leader in the cytotechnology profession and has been an instrumental promoter of recent CPRC activities. Although retired from her position as a cytotechnology educator, she has continued to promote the professional identity of cytotechnologists and advocate for their evolving roles in pathology.

Nancy's contributions throughout her career as a cytotechnologist, an educator and an advocate for the profession are unmatched. She will be missed by the CPRC and always be held in high regard.

American Society for Clinical Pathology

*Amber Donnelly, PhD, MPH, SCT(ASCP) and Karen Nauschuetz, MD
CPRC-ASCP Sponsor Representatives*



ASCP Annual Meeting in Tampa, October 8-10, focuses on preparing laboratory professions for the future. Highlights of this Annual Meeting are sessions designed to support cytotechnologists as they develop new skills in this changing environment.

To register for ASCP 2014, visit www.ascp.org.

American Society for Cytotechnology

*Stephanie Hamilton EdD, MB, SCT(ASCP) and Maria Friedlander, MPA, CT(ASCP)
CPRC-ASCT Sponsor Representatives*



The American Society for Cytotechnology (ASCT) Annual Meeting held April 25-27, 2014, was full of timely presentations, held in fun, charming Charleston, South Carolina. Dr. Richard DeMay gave three lectures, as part of the Bob Gay Lecture series, on pancreatic and thyroid fine needle aspirations, which included classic "DeMayisms" such as there are three lies: "The check is in the mail"; "Your call is important to us"; and "The needle was in the lesion." He also addressed the now FDA-approved HPV primary screening test versus the Pap smear in his lecture "The Pap Test-What's New."

Even with impending changes, the atmosphere was hopeful, particularly with lectures like "Potential Next Steps for Cytotechnologists," outlining the Duke model, given by Dr. Kathy Grant, CT(ASCP) and "Molecular 101: Don't Be Afraid" presented by Michele Smith, MS, SCT(ASCP).

As always, the student presentations were inspiring, highlighting some of the very interesting cases

cytotechnologists get to see, such as an adenoneuroendocrine carcinoma of the gallbladder, an endometrial carcinoma metastatic to the joint of the large toe, and the winning presentation on a case of GIST given by Sarah Zack of the Cytotechnology Program at Detroit Medical Center. It was a great meeting due to all of the hard work by Michele Smith, Program Coordinator; Dr. Vivian Pijuan-Thompson, President; Beth Denny and Mirjam Zanon of the ASCT; Beverly Haigler-Daly of the ASCT Services, and all of the other speakers and vendors who supported the Meeting.

In addition to their Annual Meeting, the ASCT offers webinars and on-line courses that are especially helpful to cytology supervisors. Currently, offerings include modules on cytopreparation; FNA procurement and processing; and LEAN management.

The ASCT Services received the contract from the CMS to conduct the survey for establishing appropriate workload limits for cytotechnologists. Both organizations are doing great things and need great volunteers to help.

2014 ASCT Warren R. Lang Student Awards

The ASCT sponsored its annual Student Interesting Case Competition under the leadership of ASCT Education Committee Chair, Catherine Smith, CT(ASCP)^{CM}. This year, there were **31 student case submissions from the following eight cytotechnology programs:**

1. **Albany College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences**
2. **University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences**
3. **UCLA School of Cytotechnology**
4. **Detroit Medical Center, University Laboratories Cytotechnology Program**
5. **MD Anderson Cancer Center**
6. **METC, Interservice Cytotechnology Program**
7. **Rutgers University**
8. **University of Tennessee Health Science Center**

For the second time, voice-over case presentations were represented, which allows more participation from cytotechnology programs and students who could not attend the Meeting to present in person. An exciting and continuing trend focused on more and more presentations using group diagnosis involving FISH, IHC, and other newly incorporated technologies.

The ASCT/Warren R. Lang Student Awards are presented to the students with the best interesting case based on content and presentation. The Award was established in 1989 in memory of Dr. Warren R. Lang, a professor of Cytotechnology and Medical Director of the School of Cytotechnology in the College of Allied Health Sciences of the Thomas Jefferson University in the 1970's. Dr. Lang was an advocate for cytotechnologists and supportive of the ASCT. The Warren Lang Awards are funded by the ASCT Foundation - \$150 for first place, \$100 for second place and \$50 for third place). The ASCT Foundation also funds student contest participants' registration fees at the Annual Meeting. All student participants receive a "Certificate of Recognition" and acknowledgement in the *ASCT Voice* publication and ASCT Web site.

Congratulations ASCT/Warren R. Lang Student Awards/Winners!

- 1st place:** **Sarah Zack**, Detroit Medical Center, Detroit, Michigan
Gastrointestinal stromal tumor in an 82-year old male with an esophageal mass
- 2nd place:** **Alexandra Ferrara**, Rutgers University, Scotch Plains, New Jersey
Primary Mixed Adenoneuroendocrine Carcinoma of the Gallbladder
- 3rd place:** **Jianhua Zhang**, UCLA School of Cytotechnology, Los Angeles, California
Lymphoepithelioma-Like Carcinoma of the Lung: A Rare Case with Unusual Cytopathologic Features



ASCT Student Presentation Winners Jianhua Zhang, Alexandra Ferrara and Sarah Zack with Education Committee Chair, Catherine Smith, CT(ASCP)

The College of American Pathologists

David C. Wilbur, MD, CPRC-CAP Sponsor Representative



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 (CAP '14), which will be held at the Hyatt Regency Chicago from September 7 – 10, 2014. 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 CAP '14 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 [CAP '14 Website](#).

2014 CAAHEP Leadership Workshop and Annual Meeting



CAAHEP Leadership Workshop, January 17-18, 2014

CPRC Chair, Don Schnitzler, CPRC Coordinator, Debby MacIntyre Sheldon attended the CAAHEP Leadership Workshop in Palm Beach Gardens, Florida, as CPRC representatives, participating in presentations: *Re-imaging CAAHEP*, how sponsors contribute to their CoA's mission and to CAAHEP's mission; *Balancing the Desire to "Speed Up" the Process with the Need to Assure Quality*; and *Making Recommendations: What Does Substantial Compliance Mean to Your CoA*, presented by Kalyani Naik, the CPRC Commissioner to CAAHEP as well as a CAAHEP Board of Directors member. Prior to the Leadership Workshop, the Board of Directors met with all CoA Liaisons, which has become a valuable opportunity for the Board to get input from Liaisons and hear about the great work being done by CoAs. The CPRC Liaison, Kerry Weinberg and Nancy Smith, ASC Commissioner to CAAHEP and Liaison to the Medical Assisting CoA attended the full meeting as well.

CAAHEP Annual Meeting, April 27-28, 2014 – Celebrating 20 Years of Excellence

CPRC representatives for the CAAHEP Annual Meeting, held in San Antonio, Texas, included CPRC Chair Don Schnitzler, Coordinator Deb MacIntyre Sheldon, and sponsoring Commissioners Kalyani Naik (CPRC), Nancy Smith (ASC), and Karen Nauschuetz (ASCP).

With the focus on CAAHEP's 20th anniversary, early CAAHEP leaders reviewed how and why CAAHEP was created, its history and progress. A highlight of the Meeting was Keynote Speaker Rear Admiral William Roberts, Commandant of the Medical Education Training Campus (METC), whose comments supplemented the tour of the campus. CPRC representatives diverged off the main tour, meeting with the Interservice Cytotechnology Program Director, Jorge Franco, for an up-close tour of their state-of-the-art facilities.

CAAHEP in Focus

Kalyani Naik, MS, SCT(ASCP), CAAHEP Board of Directors Member
Kerry Weinberg, MPA, RT(R), RDMS, RDCS, FSDMS, CAAHEP Liaison

During the Board of Directors meeting, the CAAHEP Board approved a few **Standards** template changes that might be of interest to Programs. The changes will be in the next round of revisions, but for now, the wording may help to clarify **Standards**:

II.B. Program Goals – Appropriateness of Goals

Guideline language added:

The annual advisory committee meeting need not be face-to-face, but can include participation by synchronous electronic means.

IV.B.1. Student and Graduate Evaluation/Assessment – Outcomes – Outcomes Assessment

Guideline language added:

(Note to CoAs: Add a description to the guideline as to what “positive placement” and “related fields” are. For example, in medical assisting: A related field is defined as a setting in which the individual is performing psychomotor and affective competencies acquired as part of completion of a medical assisting program.)

V.C. Fair Practices – Safeguards

Standards language added:

The health and safety of patients, students, faculty, and other participants associated with the educational activities of the students must be adequately safeguarded.

During the Commissioners Annual Meeting, the CAAHEP Commissioner elected two new board members, Kate Feinstein, MD, the American College of Radiology Commissioner, and Doug York, the Commissioner from Emergency Medical Technician-Paramedic. Barry Eckhart who represents Educational Programs, 4-year Institutions, was elected for a second term.

The Commissioners accepted the CAAHEP 2015 budget. In addition, two new Committees on Accredited were approved to join CAAHEP:

- Committee on Accreditation for Medical Scribe Specialist Education (CoA-MSSE)
- Committee on Accreditation of Academic Programs in Clinical Research (CAAPCR)

Next year, the CAAHEP Annual Meeting will be April 19-20, 2015 at the Intercontinental Kansas City at the Plaza, Kansas City, Missouri.

Members of the 2014 Cytotechnology Programs Review Committee

Donald Schnitzler, CT(ASCP), *Chair*

Stephanie Hamilton, EdD, MB, SCT(ASCP), *Vice Chair*

Karen Atkison, MPA, CT(ASCP)IAC

Jennifer A. Brainard, MD

Nadeem Zafar, MD

Karen K. Nauschuetz, MD

Amber Donnelly, PhD, SCT(ASCP), *ASCP Commissioner to CAAHEP*

Maria Friedlander, MPA, CT(ASCP), *ASCT Commissioner to CAAHEP*

David C. Wilbur, MD, *CAP Commissioner to CAAHEP*

Nancy J. Smith, MS, SCT(ASCP), *ASC Commissioner to CAAHEP*

Kalyani Naik, MS, SCT(ASCP), *CPRC Commissioner to CAAHEP*

Robert A. Goulart, MD, *Alternate Commissioner to CAAHEP*

Kerry Weinberg, MA, MPA, RT(R), RDMS, *CAAHEP Liaison*

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