

APRIL 2015 Newsletter

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear ultrastructural pathologists and friends,

Much has happened since our last newsletter. This version contains information on the recent USCAP meeting, including the Ghadially/Tucker award winner, information on UltraPath XVIII in Lisbon, mention of the diagnostic program at M&M, an update on UltraPath 101, change of executive position, and unfortunately, 2 obituaries. I hope that the new year has gotten off to a good start for all of you and that spring is peaking through the door. After an icy winter in Durham, we're warm and covered with pollen from the gorgeous trees and flowers.

With best wishes,

Sara Miller, President SUP

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SUP at USCAP

The SUP companion meeting on Diagnosis of Disease in Cardiac and Skeletal Muscle: A Multidisciplinary Approach was held on Sunday, March 22, 2015 at the Sheraton Hotel adjacent to the convention center. It was a big success, averaging ~35-40 people, including attendees from Australia and Europe. Drs. Anne Buckley and David Howell planned the program, with a large part of the success due to Anne's terrific organizing and arm-twisting skills. THANKS ANNE!!! Speakers included Drs. Karen Weidenheim (Morphology to Molecular Genetics: Role of the Pathologist in Diagnosis of Muscle Disorders), Steven Moore (The Role of Muscle Biopsy Pathology in Diagnosing Genetic Myopathies), Marta Margeta (Diagnosis of Autophagic Vacuolar Myopathies: The role of Immunohistochemistry and Electron Microscopy), Lou DiBernardo (Electron Microscopic Correlates of Myocardial Disease), and Anne Buckley and Ed Bossen (Electron Microscopic Findings in Skeletal Muscle Biopsies).

The Ghadially/Tucker Award was presented to Dr. Mingyu Cheng for a poster entitled "Dendritic Cells in Renal Biopsies of Patients With Acute Tubulointerstitial Nephritis". Mingyu's mentor was Dr. Guillermo Herrera. The prize is a certificate and a check for \$500. Congratulations to Dr. Cheng and thanks to Dr. John Hicks for judging the competition.

UltraPath XVIII

Dr. Antonio Pedro Alves de Matos, and his organizing committee Catarina Bernardes (Ph. D.), José Martins dos Santos (M.D., Ph. D.), and Peter Ingram (Ph. D.) are planning the next international SUP meeting. It will be held July 11-16, 2016 in Lisbon, Portugal at the Gulbenkian Foundation. A contract has been prepared and signed between SUP and Egas Moniz to manage the conference.

Dr. Josep Lloreta-Trull has agreed to organize a pre-congress training course on basic ultrastructural pathology. The preparation for the scientific program for UltraPath is in progress and is being handled by a Congress Scientific Advisor Committee composed of Henrique Almeida (M.D., Ph. D.), A.P. Alves de Matos (Ph. D.), Ann LeFurgey (Ph. D.) , Sara Miller (Ph. D.), Victor Roggli (M.D.), José Martins dos Santos (M.D., Ph. D.), Marco Santucci (M.D., Ph. D.), Joseph Schroeder (M.D., Ph. D.), John D. Shelburne (M.D., Ph. D.), Josep Lloreta Trull (M.D., Ph. D.). A web site, while still under construction, gives many of the details on venue and location and will be updated as plans unfold. It can be found at <http://congress.ultrapathxviii.org/>

M&M

The Microscopy & Microanalysis meeting will be held August 2-6 in Portland, OR. The Focused Interest Group of “Diagnostic Microscopy” has organized a symposium, and a descriptive paragraph taken from the Microscopy Society of America’s webpage (microscopy.org) follows:

Utilizing Microscopy for Research and Diagnosis of Diseases in Humans, Plants, and Animals (*Organizers: W. Gray Jerome, Jon Charlesworth, Gang Ning, Betty Johns*)

Microscopy is not only useful but critically important in the ongoing research, detection, diagnosis and treatment of disease. Advances that improve rapid and accurate detection and treatment often involve the use of various microscopic techniques. These varied techniques provide us with an improved ability to diagnose and research the origins, development and response of diseases in human, plant and animal specimens. This is an opportunity to share information on the investigation of pathogenic cells, tissues and entire organisms in clinical, diagnostic and research laboratories. Emphasis will be placed on using latest microscopy in both clinical and research laboratories.

UltraPath 101

The basic ultrastructural pathology training course (hence “101”) organized by Dr. Gary Mierau and ably assisted by Eric Wartchow, had a great response and is FULL with people on a waiting list. It was so successful in filling that the executive committee is considering hosting it again. The strong interest in the course is a testament to the need for training.

The minimal registration of \$295, which includes lodging and meals, is possible due to funding by the society, and the heavy subsidization is due in large part to Gary’s ability to solicit additional funds from the Children’s Hospital and microscopy vendors.

THANKS GARY!!!

I was sad to learn recently that the MATC (Madison Area Technical College) EM course is being discontinued due to funding issues. This program has been a stellar training course for electron microscopy technicians for many years. It is a 2-year associate’s degree program that taught all the basics of TEM and SEM. Having hired one of their graduates, I can vouch for the fact that it was top notch. This closure and the rapid filling of UltraPath 101 emphasize the need for courses of this nature.

New Treasurer

Dr. Allan Tucker, who held the reins of the treasury for many years, has resigned due to health reasons. **MANY THANKS** to him for shepherding our funds and keeping our investments strong!!! Dr. Guillermo Herrera has graciously agreed to take over. His appointment was made official by a vote of council at the business meeting at USCAP, and the treasury has been transferred to him at LSU. He has previously served in this position, as well as president, so that there will be no learning curve, and we are **VERY GRATEFUL** for his willingness to assume this important position again.

Journal of Ultrastructural Pathology

Dr. Jahn Nesland, the editor of this journal has announced his retirement, and is looking for a replacement. If you have an interest, please let me or Dr. Herrera know.

Obituaries

Unfortunately, we lost 2 of our long time members and supporters over the last year. Dr. Yvonne Cossart, who first identified parvovirus by EM, passed away in Australia on December 16, 2014; our hearts go out to her husband Dr. Ted Wills, who is also a very fine electron microscopist, lecturer, and pathologist. Additionally, Dr. Feroze Ghadially passed away on December 28, 2014. He was well known for his skill in ultrastructural identification and had written many books and articles. His wife followed him in death a few weeks afterward. I have already sent details on Yvonne and her contributions and am collecting pictures and information on Feroze for a more extensive write-up to be sent soon.