



ANNUAL REPORT February 2017

The ASC, founded in 1951, is a distinguished national professional society of physicians, cytotechnologists and scientists who are dedicated to the cytologic method of screening and diagnosis of pre-invasive lesions and cancer. The ASC's diverse membership of more than 3000 physicians, cytotechnologists and scientists includes representatives from other countries who share a vision of education, research and continuous improvement in the standards and quality of patient care.

ASC Vision Statement:

Saving Lives One Cell at a Time through: • *Education* • *Advocacy* • *Research* • *Teamwork*

ASC Mission Statement:

The ASC promotes education, research advocacy, and ethics by the cytopathology professionals to achieve the best healthcare worldwide.

The **new ASC Officers** were installed on November 6, 2016 during the ASC's 64th Annual Business Meeting as follows, Dr. Edmund Cibas, President, Brigham & Women's Hospital, Boston, Massachusetts, Dr. Barbara Crothers, President-Elect, Walter Reed National Military Medical Center, Dr. Syed Ali, Johns Hopkins Hospital, Baltimore, Maryland and Dr. Daniel Kurtycz, Secretary-Treasurer, Wisconsin State Laboratory, Madison, Wisconsin.

NEW Foundation Young Investigator Grant – Cytology Shark Tank

Dr. Cibas main initiative for the year will be to help young ASC members who are eager to do research in cytology but frustrated for lack of support. The ASC Foundation will be announcing the Young Investigator Grant – Cytology Shark Tank. The Grant consists of \$50,000 and is designed to fund investigators in the discovery of new knowledge related to the advancement of cytopathology.

Grant Objectives

- To stimulate innovative research relevant to the field of cytopathology
- To impact academic and career development of all investigators and to attract them to contribute to the field of cytopathology
- To provide preliminary data for future funds from NIH and other funding sources.



The top three proposals will be asked to present their proposals to three judges during the ASC Annual Scientific Meeting in Phoenix Arizona. Each finalist will present a three minute “pitch” on their research proposal at the end of the pitch the judges will have an opportunity to ask questions. The Researchers who dare to enter the Tank must try to convince the “Sharks” to give them funding for their research.

The Milan System for Reporting Salivary Gland Cytopathology - The American Society of Cytopathology (ASC) and the International Academy of Cytology (IAC) initiated the development of a standardized terminology for reporting salivary gland cytopathology. The goal of this project is to propose an international classification scheme for reporting salivary gland (fine needle aspiration) FNA samples. The new reporting system will be based upon evidence from the literature as well as upon the experience of a multi-disciplinary group of experts involved in the field of salivary gland cytopathology, and importantly, from input by the cytopathology community.

ASC/ASCP Workgroup: *Emerging Roles in Cytopathology* created in 2014 through the ASC/ASCP MOU to identify professional trends and develop concrete goals to support the cytotechnology profession’s longevity has been working tirelessly throughout the year. The ASC/ASCP Workgroup three domains, education, practice and trending data, are looking at expanding the scope and transforming the practice. The Workgroup will be publishing data found through conducting Focus Groups, a Delphi Study, researching existing publications, and ASCP BOC Practice Analysis data.

The Workgroup is also coordinating the Advanced Cytopathology Education (ACE) that will take place May 13-14, 2016 at the Milstein Family Heart Center, New York-Presbyterian Hospital / Columbia University Medical Center in New York.

In addition, the Workgroup is developing an online interactive education module to enhance current cytotechnologists’ skills.

Guideline on Collection and Test Prioritization in Pulmonary Cytology Specimens – The Appropriate Collection and Handling of Thoracic Specimens for Laboratory Testing (Thoracic Handling Guideline) is a project involving eight other collaborating societies: the American College of Chest Physicians, Association for Molecular Pathology, American Society of Cytopathology, American Thoracic Society, Pulmonary Society, Papanicolaou Society of Cytopathology, Society of Interventional Radiology, and the Society for Thoracic Radiology. Each society is providing representatives for the expert and advisory panels.



Educational Activities

2017 USCAP Companion Meeting

Sunday, March 5, 2017 @ 7:30 PM, San Antonio, Texas

New Frontiers in Cytopathology Practice

Speakers: Rana Hoda, MD (*Moderator*), Alarice Lowe, MD, Jason Stone, MD, Martha Pitman, MD, William Faquin, MD, PhD, and William Travis, MD

2017 ASCP Companion Meeting

Wednesday, September 6, 2017, Chicago, Illinois

The Paris System for Urinary Cytology

Speaker: Eva Wojcik, MD

Advanced Cytopathology Education (ACE)

May 13 -14, 2017

Vivian and Seymour Milstein Family Heart Center

New York-Presbyterian Hospital / Columbia University Medical Center

New York, NY

65th Annual Scientific Meeting

November 10-13, 2017, Phoenix, Arizona

Call for Abstracts is open!

Cyto-econference Series

New Series starts April 25th with *Urine Cytology: Diagnostic Criteria, Correlation with Biopsy and an Emphasis on Ancillary Studies*, by Jordan Reynolds, MD, Cleveland Clinic. More information can be found on the ASC Web site, www.cytopathology.org

eJournal Club

The ASC offers an online pathology journal club. This is a great educational tool that highlights a recent article from a respected peer-reviewed journal. The *eJournal Club* is free educational activity to all ASC members. More information can be found on the ASC Web site, www.cytopathology.org

Case Studies

Case Studies provide an opportunity to make diagnostic decisions and compare them with nationally known experts. More information can be found on the ASC Web site, www.cytopathology.org



Progressive Evaluation of Competency (PEC)

PEC is a highly successful ASC product that tracks the progress of pathology residents and cytopathology fellows and their overall competency as they begin their cytopathology careers. More information can be found on the ASC Web site, www.cytopathology.org

Cytology Education Learning Lab (CELL Web site) (<http://cytologyedlab.org/>)

The Cytology Education Learning Lab (CELL) Web site was originally developed as a “one-stop shop” for Cytotechnology Program Directors looking for ideas, activities, and other resources to help with implementation of the 22 new entry-level competencies (ELCs) into their curricula, the interest in the site has been much wider than anticipated. A significant percentage of CELL registrants are international users. With international education as well as national consortium module building and scope of practice changes in mind, the CELL Resource Committee is considering an expanded vision for the future of the site including more resources for a wider audience, well beyond the original 22 ELCs.

THE ASC Bulletin

Volume LIV | Number 1

JANUARY 2017

THE ASC BULLETIN® IS PUBLISHED BY THE AMERICAN SOCIETY OF CYTOPATHOLOGY



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Message from the ASC President

Edmund S. Cibas, MD
Brigham and Women's Hospital
Boston, Massachusetts



Edmund S. Cibas, MD

Hello, everyone! It is my great pleasure to address you in this issue of the *Bulletin* as your new ASC President.

Let me start by saying that I am lucky, for many reasons: I am following in the footsteps of great ASC Presidents, and the ASC is fiscally sound. Well, we're not swimming in dough, but we're comfortable, and we pay our bills. And rest assured that our Foundation will keep pounding the pavement, because there is so much more we'd like to accomplish in cytology education, cytology research and patient advocacy. We have a wonderful, talented, hard-working National Office staff, a strong and collegial Executive Board, and devoted and engaged Committee members.

So what's my plan? Well, mostly, to keep this ship sailing, steady as she goes. But like any good President, I'd like to rock the boat, just a little. I'll explain what I mean by that shortly.

As you can imagine, I was in awe of Drs. Frable and Johnston, who were giants in the field and Past Presidents of the ASC

A Trip Down Memory Lane

But first, let me take a short trip down memory lane, saying a few words about my journey and, particularly, my initial involvement with cytology and the ASC. My first cytology teacher was Sally Beth Buckner, SCT (ASCP). She is enjoying a lovely retirement now, but when I met Sally Beth she was supervisor of the cytology lab at the Armed Forces Institute of Pathology in Washington, DC. I rotated there for a month during residency.

Sally Beth spent every morning teaching me cytology by reviewing cases from her amazing teaching collection at a double-headed microscope. She was a superb teacher, and I owe her a debt of gratitude because I got my foundational training in cytology from her.

I settled on cytology as a specialty and moved to New York (NYC) in 1985 for a cytology fellowship at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center. It just so happened that the ASC Annual Scientific Meeting was in NYC that November, at the NY Hilton on the Avenue of the Americas, and as a cytology fellow, being cheap labor, I was asked to volunteer as a monitor at a microscopic workshop on pulmonary cytology by Drs. Jack Frable and Bill Johnston. As you can imagine, I was in awe of Drs. Frable and Johnston, who were giants in the field and Past Presidents of the ASC.

That was over 30 years ago, and here we are today. Back then, I never dreamed I'd be addressing you now as your President. Yes, the ASC has been my Society for all those years. I've come to virtually every Meeting since 1985, and I presented my first poster and platform presentation at an ASC Annual Scientific Meeting. So here's my simple message: for those of you who attended your first Meeting in New Orleans in November or presented your first platform or poster there, if you love what you do, and if you come to love your professional Society as I have, this wonderful American Society of Cytopathology, someday one or more of you will likely be our Society's next President.

Plans for the Coming Year

So what are my plans as your next President, and how can I rock the boat just a little?

My first order of business has been to create a new committee, the Social Media Committee. The ASC already has a pretty robust social media presence: we are on Facebook, and we have Twitter and Instagram accounts. The time has come, however, to leverage these tools to promote our mission, and to do that we need a dedicated group of ASC members. Here are the new Social Media Committee members, and my heartfelt thanks go out to all of them for agreeing to serve:

Nicholas Hoover, CT(ASCP), *Chair*

Mutaz Ali, DSc, FIBMS

Vanessa Benkovich, CT(ASCP)

Maren Fuller, MD

Xiaoyin Jiang, MD

Marcos Lepe, MD

Emilio Madrigal, DO

Liza Quintana, MD

Sinchita Roy Chowdhuri, MD, PhD

Jen Wallace, *Staff Liaison*

Our relationships with other societies are essential to our mission. For this reason we have ASC representatives to the AMA, CAAHEP, CAP, ASCP, IAC, and other societies. I have created a new representative position to the Association for Molecular Pathology, and our first representative is Dr. Sinchita Roy Chowdhuri.

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My most ambitious goal is to help those young ASC members who are eager to do research in cytology but frustrated for lack of support. It is crucial that we invest in our ambitious younger members; they are the ones who will lead our profession forward, finding new applications for the cytologic method. This will be a team effort. I am enlisting the ASC Foundation, the Research and Current Concepts Committee, the Scientific Program Committee, and the Social Media Committee to raise awareness of and solicit proposals for a Young Investigator Award. The details have yet to be worked out, but my vision is to establish a showcase for research proposals and grant funding at our Annual Scientific Meeting, starting next year in Phoenix, modeled after competitions like Shark Tank, the Voice, and others, with eager finalists presenting their proposals to a panel of judges. Stay tuned...you'll be hearing more about Cytology Shark Tank in the coming months!

Defining Our Value

Finally, I'd like to ask the question "What is Cytology?" A silly question, right? But how often do we see people struggle to answer it. One might hear the answer "It's the study of cells," and yes, that's true, but it's a bit broad and doesn't define our value. If we ask the question again, we might get the following (slightly annoyed) response: "You know, it's Paps, urine, sputum, fluids, FNAs..." Yes again, but what do these things have in common? Aha – that brings us to the value answer, the answer we can give on our Web site, in our tweets, and in our fundraising case statement: *Cytology is the diagnosis and study of disease through the examination of tissue samples obtained by minimally invasive methods.* Cytology is anything that can be brushed, scraped, washed, aspirated, coughed up, and peed into a cup. And maybe even obtained by venipuncture, if we consider circulating tumor cells under the umbrella of Cytology.

"Minimally Invasive Tissue Diagnosis": This is our strength, this is what defines us, this is the key to our future. I am honored to be President of the American Society of Cytopathology, dedicated to minimally invasive tissue diagnosis.

ASCP/ASC
Advanced Cytopathology
Education
Personalized for your future

ASCP STRONGERTOGETHER

ASCP
AMERICAN SOCIETY OF
Cytopathology
Saving Lives One Cell at a Time™

May 13 –14, 2017

Vivian and Seymour Milstein Family Heart Center
New York-Presbyterian Hospital /
Columbia University Medical Center
New York, NY