



Society for Pediatric Pathology

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Deadline for Fall Newsletter - October 1, 2003

Please direct submissions to the Newsletter to Margaret Collins, Editor

From the Editor's Desk

Margaret Collins

The summer edition of our newsletter is fairly brief, but filled with quality. President Derek deSa informs us of several changes in the Society, as well as an honor that will be bestowed on one of our Founding Members, Daria Haust, in the spring. The reports from the Publications and Education Committees bring us up to speed on their activities. Alba Greco shares memories and pictures of the recent Tristate Pediatric Pathology meeting in New York City. Regional meetings are tried and true means to increase awareness of the local wealth of pediatric pathology, and to facilitate networking, collaboration, and bonding among the Society's members. By including pathology residents, local meetings can help to attract young people to our specialty, a need emphasized by President deSa in his message. All of you who do not currently have a regional pediatric pathology meeting should consider contacting your neighbors to establish one. It's well worth the effort, and will help perpetuate our subspecialty.

The interim meeting in Cincinnati October 17-19, 2003 is fast approaching, and my colleagues at Cincinnati Children's and I are very excited about your visit! We're preparing for a large turnout, and sincerely hope that you all will join us—it's your participation that makes the interim meetings so memorable and productive. For those who have professional roots in Cincinnati (and that's a fair number!), the meeting will be both a homecoming, and an opportunity to see what the folks have done with the old place! A few of you have already registered, but there's lots more room on board! Please make your hotel reservations soon, to ensure

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accommodations near the hospital. The program and registration forms, as well as hotel information, are on the SPP website at www.spponline.org. And be sure to check out David Parham's announcement about next year's interim meeting in Little Rock-it looks beautiful!

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President's Message

Derek DeSa

It may just be an indication of creeping old age, but I find that the last few months have disappeared, and while my back was turned everything seems to have changed from winter to summer in Canada! There have been changes in Society matters as well, while some problems persist.

Over the past three months, Hal Pinar has been extremely busy working on the Website and related matters. (He had added this task to his duties as Secretary-Treasurer!). The Society has been fortunate in enlisting Mark Luquette as the new Web Editor, and it is a pleasure to record how willingly Mark agreed to help. This is an extremely important role, for obvious reasons, and we are fortunate in being able to tap into the energy and enthusiasm of our new Web Editor. The reality is that a "good", informative web page is of fundamental importance for the successful operation of any Society, and I look forward to the continued development and improvement of ours.

Mrs. Dottie Landing has very graciously donated the papers of her late husband, Dr Benjamin Landing, to the Society. The Landing Archives will find a home in the USCAP headquarters in Augusta Ga., and currently arrangements are being made to transport this wealth of material across the continent. This is an exciting development in the history of our Society. It is always a fascinating exercise to be able to peep into the thoughts of great men (and women) by perusing their notes and the drafts of their papers. Any one interested in the development of Pediatric Pathology as a specialty, now has the means to study the massive contribution of one of its greatest Founders.

Which reminds me that another of our Founding Members will be honoured by USCAP. It has been announced that Dr Daria Haust will receive a Lifetime Achievement Award from USCAP at the Vancouver (Spring) meeting in 2004. Dr Haust's contributions to Pediatric Pathology have been reported in, appropriately enough, *Perspectives in Pediatric Pathology* (2001;23:1-9). "Perspectives" grew out of the Specialty Conference in Pediatric Pathology she organized for the IAP (US -Canadian Division)-now USCAP, and it is no exaggeration to say that those case conferences had a major, favourable impact on the way Pediatric Pathology was viewed by others.

Dr. Daria Haust is, like me, an immigrant to Canada, and I must record my own personal indebtedness to her. She was on sabbatical at the Dunn School of Pathology in Oxford in 1972, and we met at the house of another Canadian (George Anderson, who was on sabbatical in Dr Robb-Smith's Nuffield Department of Pathology) at a Christmas party held on a Saturday night in mid-December. We were due to leave in two days for Canada where I would take up a position in McMaster University in Hamilton. The house was sold, and we were in the throes of packing up a tiny older house full of the accumulated possessions of a family with three small children etc. The pipes in the bathroom were old fashioned and had the odd ominous bulge-doubtless adding to the charm-but they had been like that for the six years we had lived there. As we were getting

ready to go to the party, they chose this Saturday night, of all nights, to burst. By a complete fluke we were able to find a plumber who was prepared to come round and fix it but he could not be there for at least 3 hours. (Those of you who have lived in England will know just how rapid that response was, and on a Saturday night!). The water had to be turned off, by reaching into a pit in the garden that had all sorts of dirt and fauna in it since it had not been opened for at least the six years we had been there. This had to be done pretty urgently and in the dark (it was about 5 pm in December). The plumber came eventually, and was able to repair the burst pipe, but it was close to 10 pm when we arrived at the party feeling very frazzled and tired, which on the background of an intrinsic apprehension about our move to Canada made us very reluctant to even attend the party. Daria was absolutely charming when we were introduced to her by George-she had heard about our impending move, and she reassured Rosemary about the great things that awaited us in Canada-even pointing out that pipes rarely burst in Canada!! She said that she spoke from experience, and that all would be well. She offered to sponsor my membership in the Pediatric Pathology Club and offered to plead my case for membership in the Paediatric Pathology Society (UK) which at that time was by invitation only. She did too! These were great reassuring acts of kindness, which I will not forget.

In Canada we have had a succession of "plagues" or threats of them. To add to the SARS problem, which has hit Toronto hard, there has been a virtual closure of the cattle industry due to the fear of BSE after a single cow was found to be affected. We are being warned about the approaching West Nile virus, which apparently has had the temerity to threaten the West Coast. Monkey pox is apparently around in North America and we can add this to the ever present summer threat in some parts of Canada and the USA of some insect-borne viral contagion or another. In the gloom, there is however a ray of hope: for the first time there is a discussion about those shadowy backroom types who work in Laboratories and Public Health! The role of Laboratories of all types is receiving some attention at long last. Can we use this to advantage in attracting candidates to Pathology? Should we have Pathology equivalents to the advertisements used by Children's Hospitals to raise funds ("Jane can't get the correct treatment if she can't get a correct diagnosis"). The Society has been trying to attract candidates for a long while, and Antonio Perez-Atayde has been assiduous in advertising the Resident Case Presentation award on the PedPathList-but we all need to push for more participation by junior members.

I am looking forward to Cincinnati in October-I enjoyed the meeting in 1983, and still benefit from the techniques they demonstrated. I even have the memento key ring we were given in the EM department, with the old logo of the Hospital. Cincinnati was, of course where Dr Ben Landing went after Boston (and there is at least one alumnus who swears that he looks forward to the day when Boston becomes as cultured as Cincinnati!). Dr Daria Haust was Dr Landing's Fellow-one of many-in Cincinnati. As Alex Knisely pointed out, there is an opening of another exciting piece of architecture by Zaha Hadid in Cincinnati to add to the Tall Stacks festival.....

Obviously, all the signs are favorable, and Cincinnati is the place to be---see you there! Have a great summer.

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Committee Reports

PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE

Steve Qualman, Chair

(Editor's note: As reported in the spring issue of the newsletter, the American College of Surgeons, which regulates cancer centers, will require beginning in January, 2004 that 90% of pathology tumor reports contain 100% of the mandatory information in College of American Pathologists tumor protocols. Steve Qualman has headed the effort to compose protocols for pediatric tumors.,

We have two CAP protocols accepted for publication (Wilms tumor and rhabdomyosarcoma) and two more going through committee (Ewing sarcoma and neuroblastoma). These will be published first in Archives of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine and then made available on-line at the CAP website. We plan to provide a link, pending discussion with the CAP in July, from the SPP website to the tumor protocols.

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Jeffrey Goldstein, Chair

The Education Committee responsibilities, as outlined in the Society bylaws, include a broad range of duties. The committee's four subcommittees each focus on one or more of these duties. A summary of the Committee's recent activities follows, including actions taken at the spring 2003 meeting.

I would like to thank the committee members who completed their three-year terms at the spring meeting: Drs. DeMello, Faye-Petersen, Padiyar and Witte. I would especially like to recognize David Witte's efforts for the SPP. David not only chaired the Workshop and Symposium subcommittee this year and served as the meeting monitor for both the fall and spring meetings, but also organized the mitochondrial disorders symposium and is hosting our upcoming interim meeting!

CME subcommittee:

The Society's eligibility to grant CME credit rests on maintaining its accreditation with the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME). As a result of the progress report submitted to the ACCME in November 2002, we received full accreditation. Our next ACCME accreditation survey will take place in 2004. The Society is very grateful to Lisa Teot for her ongoing efforts that have enabled us to maintain accreditation for our educational program in the face of increasingly difficult documentation requirements.

I attended the ACCME's Accreditation Workshop in Chicago last December to learn the intricacies of the accreditation process. On the horizon, the ACCME would like for accredited CME providers to move toward outcomes based rather than program satisfaction evaluation criteria. While this is admittedly difficult for a specialty society where observations and data on practice patterns are difficult to derive, there are mechanisms to try to do outcomes based assessment. We will be piloting post-meeting e-mail surveys of workshop attendees to try to evaluate how workshop information may have altered their practices. We will also try to work with the Children's Oncology Group to develop a way to assess the effect of pathology protocol submissions of the upcoming COG update at the fall 2003 meeting.

The CME Subcommittee also works closely with the host sponsors of the Interim fall meetings. Plans are already underway for the next three years.

- Cincinnati 2003: The meeting will be held on Friday, October 17 and on Saturday, October 18, 2003, concurrently with the Tall Stacks Music, Arts and Heritage Festival. The 2003 Perinatal Section Symposium will be held on Sunday, October 19th. More detailed information for both of these programs is available at www.spponline.org. Two new offerings deserve special mention here:
our first COG Update for early risers, Dr. Hiro Shimada discussing neuroblastoma, and
Timely Topics Lecture given by Dr. Uma Kotagal: *Pursuing Perfection in Pediatric Health Care*.
- Little Rock 2004: October 28 to 30, 2004. David Parham is coordinating this meeting which will feature the symposium, *Modern Pediatric Forensic Pathology* (see announcement below).
- Paris 2005: Liliane Boccon-Gibod is coordinating our first transatlantic meeting in many years, which will be held jointly with the Paediatric Pathology Society (PSS) on Thursday, September 1, 2005 to Saturday, September 3, 2005. The European Congress of Pathology meeting will follow, and for those interested in both meetings, pediatric presentations will be on September 4 - 6. Liliane is leaning toward Tours, a beautiful old town southwest of Paris near the Loire valley, as the venue. Tours provides accessibility, meeting facilities, opportunities for collegial interchange and sightseeing, and is more economical than Paris itself. Further information will be posted as it develops, but mark your calendars now.

Abstract subcommittee:

The abstract subcommittee includes 3 full committee members and at least 3 additional ad hoc members for abstract review. Abstract Subcommittee chair, Laura Finn, and her committee have done a great job coordinating and selecting papers for our meetings. Special thanks to 2002/2003 Ad hoc reviewers: Ajit Alles, Kevin Bove, John Buchino, Ron Jaffe and Deborah Schofield.

Seventy-eight abstracts were submitted for the spring meeting, higher than for any previous meeting. Overall scores for accepted abstracts ranged from 2.8 to 4.4. Nine abstracts with acceptable scores (>2.5 , but <2.8) were rejected due to limitation of space/time. Laura was able to make some adjustments to the meeting program schedule to accommodate more abstract presentations. If submission rates continue to increase, further modifications to the schedule may be considered.

All abstracts for the Cincinnati fall meeting will require digital projection format. Dr. Witte will arrange coordination of digital projection logistics with the abstract subcommittee for the meeting, and has offered to convert transparencies to digital format for any presenters who do not have digital capabilities. USCAP will convert to digital projection of abstracts in 2004; the Committee reaffirmed its prior decision to have the spring meeting format change coincide with that of the USCAP.

Dr. Mark Luquette volunteered to develop a basic Web-based abstract submission process to run through our website with little additional expense to the SPP. A prototype will be unveiled at the fall 2003 meeting. Because the abstract deadline for the spring 2004 meeting is before the Cincinnati meeting, online submission will not be available until the fall 2004 meeting. Meanwhile, the

current abstract submission form can be downloaded from www.spponline.org and a process for e-mail submission of abstracts will be tried for fall 2003.

Workshop/Symposium subcommittee:

Dr. David Carpentieri is the incoming subcommittee chair who will be coordinating the 2004 meeting programs. Two new workshops will be offered beginning in 2004:

- Pediatric Gynecologic Pathology with Clinical Correlations, presented by Dr. Debra Heller.
- An Histologic Approach to the Pediatric Liver Biopsy, offered by Drs. Gareth Jevon and James Dimmick.

Four continuing workshops will be offered at the spring 2004 meeting:

- *Update on Problems and Controversies in Placental Pathology*, Rebecca Baergen, MD, and Ona Faye-Petersen, MD (third and final year offered).
- *Pediatric Soft Tissue Pathology: Diagnostic Principles, Challenges, and New Concepts*, Cheryl Coffin, MD (third and final year offered).
- *Vascular Tumors and Anomalies in Children*, Harry Kozakewich, MD, and Paula North, MD (second year offered).
- *Pediatric Dermatopathology: A Practical Approach to Diagnosis*, Vijaya B. Reddy, MD, and Aliya N. Husain, MD (second year offered).

Dr. Daphne DeMello has agreed to organize and moderate the 2004 annual meeting symposium on pulmonary developmental biology and pathology. Daphne is currently finalizing topic and speaker selection for what promises to be a stimulating program, which will be announced following the fall meeting.

Dr. Debra Heller, who will serve as subcommittee chair for 2004-2005, is already at work on the symposium for 2005. The SPP, possibly for the first time, will be jointly sponsoring a pediatric infectious disease symposium with Binford Dammin Infectious Disease Society. Dr. David Walker has agreed to serve as moderator for this symposium, and is working closely with both Deb and the Binford Dammin program committee to develop the program and speakers. Dr. Heller has already polled members on the PedPath list for suggested topics; if you're not on the routing, its not too late to contact Deb with your suggestions.

Extramural subcommittee:

The role of the extramural subcommittee is to focus attention on the SPP's educational interactions with other scientific groups and societies. Rebecca Baergen is the incoming subcommittee chair. The subcommittee is seeking opportunities where we might be able to increase the SPP's visibility among pediatricians, perinatologists and other pathologists, as well as, to potentially expand the audience for our educational programs.

Dr. Ona Faye-Petersen is developing a freestanding placenta and perinatal pathology course. She presented a detailed course outline that she has prepared with the assistance of other members of the perinatal section. The course will be primarily for general pathologists and trainees. Discussions regarding locale are ongoing with the assistance of Mr. Crimmins, and we hope to be able to offer the course in the fall of 2004 or more likely spring 2005.

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Comings and Goings

Alba Greco

The Tristate group of Pediatric Pathologists meets twice a year in New York City. The last meeting took place on May 14, 2003 at New York University-Bellevue Hospital Medical Center. The participants presented several interesting cases. Among the topics discussed were neoplasms such as acinar cell carcinoma of pancreas, hepatoblastoma, juvenile granulosa cell tumor of the infantile testes, pleuropulmonary blastoma and malignant ectomesenchymoma. Placental pathology was well represented with cases of metastatic breast carcinoma and Beckwith Syndrome. A case of pulmonary lymphangiectasia was also discussed. (See photos below.)

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Positions Available

Please see our [Positions Page](#) for the most current list of available positions.

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Upcoming Meetings

The most current list and details concerning [future pediatric pathology meetings](#) is available on this SPP website.

You read about it first in the SPP Newsletter! Mark your calendars for the interim meeting in 2004 in Little Rock, Arkansas!

The members of the Department of Pathology at Arkansas Children's Hospital and University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences invite you to join us for the Fall 2004 interim meeting of the Society for Pediatric Pathology, to be held in downtown Little Rock on October 28-31, 2004. The meeting will be held at the DoubleTree hotel, conveniently located within walking distance of shops, restaurants, and downtown attractions. We have organized an exciting symposium that will focus on modern forensic diagnosis of pediatric lesions and will include discussions and counterpoint by experts in this field. The meeting will also highlight the charms of our city, which meld urban sophistication with rustic Ozark charm and Southern gentility. On Saturday we will offer an outing to Hot Springs so that you can enjoy the fall beauty of our state and the bodily comforts of our Hot Springs. We expect this to be a highly memorable, enjoyable, and educational meeting. (See photo below.)

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PHOTOS

TRISTATE MEETING IN NEW YORK CITY



Harsh Thaker (Columbia University) at the microscope discusses a case with Morris Edelman (Winthrop University) and Kristen Landi (NYU).



Kristen, Morris and Harsh attentively listen to Miguel Reyes-Mugica (Yale University).



Some of the participants pose for the camera at the end of the meeting. From left to right: Miguel, Alba Greco (NYU), Kristen, Harsh, Morris.

SNEAK PREVIEW OF INTERIM MEETING 2004



Fall fishing, Oauchita Mountains, Arkansas

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