

Association of Indian Pathologists in North America

August 2015

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◇
A Message from the President

◇
Elections to the American Board of
Pathology

◇
Research Symposium at Boston
University

◇
New Initiative towards Pediatric
Pathology Subspecialty in India

◇
Greetings from Hirschsprung's Team and
St. John's!

◇
Another Message from the
President, Regarding Pediatric
Pathology

◇
Autopsies in the British Era

◇
CAP Elections

A Message from the President

Greetings to all AIPNA members, supporters, and well-wishers!

I am deeply honored to start my term as president of AIPNA, which is entering its 21st year. The seeds sown by Drs. Naglotimath and Vijay Joshi and nurtured by past and present executive committee members, like our treasurer Dr. Rajal Shah and executive director Dr. Megha Joshi, through selfless service to AIPNA in the past twenty years have allowed us to grow into an organization we can all be proud of. I am thankful to my immediate predecessor,



Dr. Lagoo

Dr. Nirag Jhala, for his leadership of the Association for the past two years and to Dr. Vijayalakshmi Padmanabhan for returning to the role as newsletter editor from this issue.

As AIPNA enters the official age of adulthood, we are excited by the recent addition of many young Indian pathologists and residents to our membership. The Annual General Body Meeting held in conjunction with the USCAP annual meeting remains a venue for young and seasoned AIPNA members to meet. The recent GBM in Boston was especially successful in this regard with the attendance of many young members. AIPNA was founded to share with our Indian colleagues the best and newest in pathology practice, education and research that we experience in North America. The initial CME activity conducted by AIPNA in India over two decades ago is now an annual event. The success of this international CME in Surgical Pathology and Cytology was possible because many of our members, highly accomplished pathologists in North America, were willing to share their expertise, expending their own economic resources and time to do so, expecting nothing in return. They saw this as a way to repay our obligation to India for the educational foundation we received in schools, colleges, and medical schools in India. This spirit of service to India still is the primary force driving the activities of AIPNA. As AIPNA members have established themselves as academic leaders in their respective fields, the CME activities of AIPNA have expanded to include national meetings in India (Cytopathology), US (ASCP annual meetings), and internationally (IAP biannual meetings). Past and present CME committee chairs and all participating member Pathologists deserve full credit for these highly successful events. AIPNA members with appropriate expertise are encouraged to contact the CME committee co-chairs for participation in future activities. Many AIPNA members have individually given CME lectures in India. If you visit your alma mater or another Institution in India and give CME lecture or slide seminar, please let the newsletter editor know about it. Realizing the importance of molecular diagnostics in patient care, AIPNA organized a special CME in molecular pathology over 6 years

ago. Through the support of the Association of Molecular Pathology (AMP) in the US, AIPNA became the catalyst for the formation of the Molecular Pathology Association of India (MPAI). AIPNA has collaborated with MPAI to organize annual CME in molecular pathology for last 4 years. This annual event is now a centerpiece of AIPNA activity. Again, if you have expertise in this area, please contact AIPNA's MolPath committee chair or co-chair. AIPNA is fortunate in having the guidance from our patrons, Dr. Vijay Joshi and Dr. Vinay Kumar, who have helped the organization to raise funds to support specific pathology related public health projects in India. AIPNA supported a project in rural south India to detect HPV and cervical cancer, as prevalence rates and fatalities from advanced disease remain stubbornly high in most parts of India, compared to the success of mass screening programs in the US. It was fitting that an international expert on grading systems for Pap smear, Dr. Ritu Nayar, gave a special lecture for our members at the GBM in Boston. The same meeting saw the launch of possibly another important initiative worthy of AIPNA's consideration. Dr. Usha Kini, Professor of Pathology at St John Medical College in Bangalore presented her work in accurately diagnosing Hurshsprung disease on frozen sections, which has saved dozens of infants from unnecessary surgeries. This work has many ramifications which will benefit from our support. AIPNA is a 501(C)3 organization and we welcome your financial contribution to support the work of AIPNA. But more importantly we want every pathologist of Indian origin in North America to become a member of AIPNA. As we grow in strength, our collective voice will be stronger and our ability to support Indian Pathology through exchange of knowledge, expertise and material help will grow. The executive committee of AIPNA has many new faces. We hope that you will get involved in the activities of AIPNA as well.

Anand Lagoo, MD PhD
President of AIPNA



ELECTIONS TO THE AMERICAN BOARD OF PATHOLOGY

Ritu Nayar, MD, a professor of pathology in Chicago, IL, was recently elected as a trustee of the American Board of Pathology. She is one of three elected trustees, along with Eric Glassy, MD, and Jeffrey Goldstein, MD. Dr. Glassy is the laboratory director of Little Company of Mary Hospital in San Pedro, CA, and the medical director at Pathology Inc. in Torrance, CA. Dr. Goldstein is a former pediatric pathologist from Wolfson Children's Hospital in Jacksonville, FL, and soon to be a senior attending pathologist and clinical chief of pediatric pathology at Mattel Children's Hospital and the Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center. Dr. Nayar is a professor of pathology at Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine and is also the medical director of cytopathology at Northwestern Memorial Hospital and cytopathology fellowship director at the McGaw Medical Center at Northwestern University. Dr. Nayar, Dr. Glassy, and Dr. Goldstein's terms as trustees will begin in 2016. She was featured in the "People" section of the June 2015 edition of CAP Today, from the College of American Pathologists.



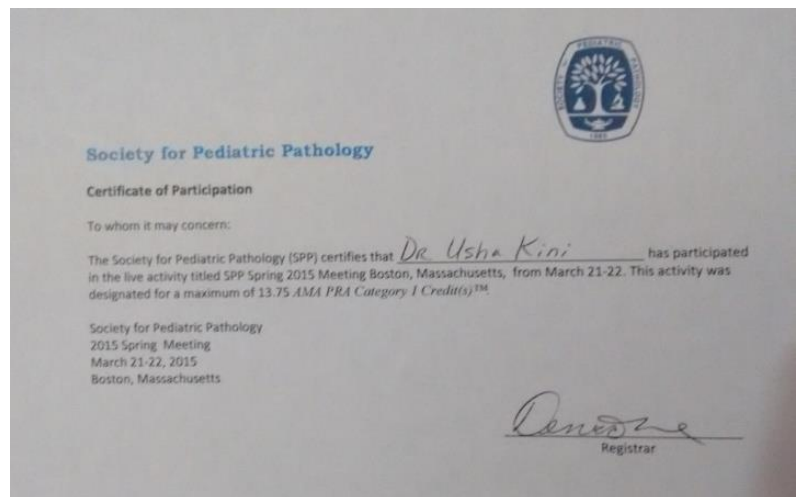
RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM AT BOSTON UNIVERSITY

Jag Bhawan, MD, was felicitated at a symposium at Boston University for his stellar work and career in dermatopathology. Many medical professionals from the Boston area and around the United States (including Dr. Vinay Kumar), spoke at the symposium and paid their respects to Dr. Bhawan, and talked

about their association and friendship with him. Past fellows and students paid glowing tributes to Dr. Bhavan, and spoke at length of his humility and good nature. One of the noted speakers was David J. Elpern, MD, who delivered a truncated version of his essay “My Narrow Road Through Cyber-Medicine.” Cybermedicine is often used by dermatologists, where images of a case would be sent by the patient to be observed and then responded to appropriately by the dermatologist; the patient and physician may never have to meet face-to-face. Other speakers included Klaus Busam, MD, Osamu Yamamoto, MD, and Arash Radfar, MD, among many others. The educational objectives of the symposium were to use novel therapies for skin cancers, develop a differential diagnosis for patients with hairloss, know when to order specific tests on biopsies for patients, and to recognize the various pigmentation disorders that can occur in patients. Dr. Bhavan is a professor of dermatopathology and pathology at Boston University in Boston, MA. Among his other academic ranks at the university are Head of the Dermatopathology section, Vice-chair of the Department of Dermatology, Director of the International Dermatopathology Training Program, and Director of the Skin Pathology Laboratory, all at Boston University. He received his MD from Maulana Azad Medical College in 1968 and his PhD in Pathology from the All India Institute of Medical Sciences in 1972. Dr. Bhavan thanked his wife, parents, friends and family for their support. Drs. Yogeshwar Dayal and Megha Joshi also attended the beautiful function.

NEW INITIATIVE TOWARDS PEDIATRIC PATHOLOGY SUBSPECIALTY IN INDIA

There is an estimated 446.96 million children living in India, yet there is no access to pediatric-specific pathology. There is also a lack of any children’s hospitals in India, compared to the United States where there is at least one children’s hospital in each major city for a population estimated at about 74.2 million children. Following the presentation from Professor Usha Kini at the AIPNA General Body Meeting in March 2015 in Boston, MA, the AIPNA Leadership is keen to collaborate with her to develop a center for pediatric pathology in her department at St. John’s Hospital and Medical College in Bangalore. Dr. Vijay Joshi and Professor Kini have discussed the best approach towards this goal, which is to make the initial step through a series of lectures or a short course in pediatric pathology. Sarangarajan Ranganathan, MD, of Children’s Hospital of Pittsburgh in Pittsburgh, PA, has consented to take the lead in delivering this course and lecture series in Bangalore. Though the dates have not yet been set in stone, it is projected to take place around late 2016 or early 2017. The long-term goal is to train the future pediatric pathology staff in Bangalore, who will then train other potential staffs in several other cities, and this new group will also train staffs in other cities. This web of training will allow for the quick spread of knowledge and training across India, and there would be an adequate number of pediatric pathologists throughout the nation in a reasonable amount of time.



Dr. Kini's Certificate of Participation from the Society for Pediatric Pathology

Dr. Kini's Certificate of Participation from the Society for Pediatric Pathology

GREETINGS FROM HIRSCHSPRUNG’S TEAM AND ST. JOHN’S!

“It is with great pleasure that I get back to you with the report on my US visit where I could meet you all, attend USCAP meeting at Boston and the various ways in which I have been benefited personally in my areas of interest. Most importantly, the many ways by which I have learnt and experienced with visits to Children’s Hospitals at Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, and Johns Hopkins, my experience and knowledge has grown and will be of great help and is being used to develop: (1) A division of Paediatric pathology at St. John’s apart from Strengthening the already established Centre for Hirschsprung’s disease, (2) Expand the research activity of Hirschsprung’s group with collaborative activity, (3) Improve the work culture at the Department of Pathology, and (4) Expose the faculty, residents, and fellows to the newer improvised techniques. This has been the greatest experience in my life and I look forward to continue our efforts with the

Association of Indian Pathologists in North America (AIPNA) to nurture our strong ties so as to further advance the profession of Pathology and contribute to the advancement and technology transfer to the knowledge of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine to Indian hospitals. I look up to being its ambassador. Thank you very much for this opportunity given. I will keep you updated with the progress we make in a six monthly progress report. Thanks again for everything from me and from all of us here.

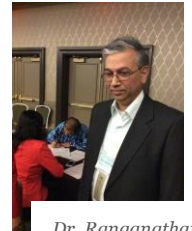
Warm regards,
Usha”

Dr. Usha Kini, MD DNB FICP FAMS
Professor and Former Head
Department of Pathology
St. John’s Medical College and Hospital
Bangalore, India

ANOTHER MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT, REGARDING PEDIATRIC PATHOLOGY

“Dear AIPNA Patrons and EC Members,

Following up on Dr. Usha Kini’s successful academic visit to the US and presentation to the AIPNA GBM in this past spring, Dr. Vijay Joshi has spearheaded the idea of establishing a center of excellence in pediatric pathology at St. John’s Hospital in Bangalore. As suggested by Dr. Kini, and approved by the AIPNA EC, the first step in this process is to conduct a subspecialty CME in pediatric pathology at St. John’s.



Dr. Ranganathan

We are fortunate that a preeminent pediatric pathologist, Sarangarajan Ranganathan, MD, Director, Anatomic Pathology, Professor of Pediatric Pathology from Children’s Hospital of Pittsburgh of the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center, has graciously agreed to conduct the first CME in early winter of 2016. He is also very much interested in the idea of establishing this center of excellence and wants to help in future activities as well.

I want to thank Dr. Joshi and all those who helped to move this project forward. Please stay tuned as this center develops in Bangalore. We hope that AIPNA will provide impetus to develop several such centers of excellence in other areas of pathology in India.

Anand”.

Anand S. Lagoo, MD, PhD
Professor of Pathology
Duke University Medical Center
Durham, North Carolina



Dr. Kini (left) with Dr. Joshi (right) and Dr. Selwyn Baptist (center)

AUTOPSIES IN THE BRITISH ERA

Professor Lanjewar gave a talk on July 22nd regarding autopsies in pre- and immediate post-independence in Mumbai, with an analysis of over 19,000 cases in the department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine at Temple University. The Professor has served as the president of AIPNA and currently serves as the Vice Dean for the Indian College of Pathology (akin to CAP). The talk enlightened audiences on forgotten facts such as Robert Koch’s laboratory while he worked at JJ Hospital Mumbai, the plague vaccine developed by Haffkine who worked in Mumbai, and Dr. Gadgil’s discovery of schistosomiasis and identification of the immediate host to complete transmission. Professor Lanjewar also highlighted the fact that the first autopsy in Mumbai was performed in 1882 and how officials were able to recover original autopsy records from 1884 to 1966 and preserved them with the help of archaeologists. He further highlighted some of the works by Professors Gharpure, Salaskar, HI Jhala, Nagalottimath, CI Jhala, and Wagholikar, along with remembrances from

Dr. Patil, a member of this group. All in all, those in attendance reported that they learned a plethora of facts that they were not aware of, especially about the heritage of pathology in India.

CAP ELECTIONS

Ned Fody, MD, a colleague and friend of many AIPNA members, is running for election to the CAP Board of Governors. He is asking for support from any and all in his run for the Board. If you have any questions for Dr. Fody or wish to support him, please call him at (616) 405-1891 or send an email to fodypathology1@gmail.com.

George F Kwass, MD FCAP, is running for election to become the Secretary-Treasurer for CAP. He has worked in the advocacy effort of the College continuously since 1983. After having served two terms as chair of the Economic Affairs Committee, he was elected to the Board of Governors close to six years ago. In that role, he chaired the Council on Government and Professional Affairs for the past two years. He has also been serving on the Finance, Investment, Compensation, and Executive Committees during his Board tenure, so that he has solid knowledge of the breadth of CAP activities and their financial needs and priorities. In his professional life, Dr. Kwass practices general community pathology in a small group in Haverhill, MA, where he has been since 1966. In that role, he has had an intimate and vested interest in how our profession fares in the marketplace. Pathologists have been facing declining payments, increasing competition, limited employment opportunities, and increased scrutiny of our professional judgements. The College as an organization is also facing difficult competition in the proficiency testing and accreditation markets, with the potential for reduction of the revenue margin which funds member benefits including advocacy. So, at the time when we need the College most to protect our professional environment, its resources to do so are increasingly challenged. In this difficult period, we need officers at the helm of the College with an appropriate and balanced view of our professional needs, so that limited resources can be most effectively allocated. Dr. Kwass firmly believes he brings that perspective to the role of Secretary-Treasurer. He earnestly asks each of AIPNA's members and supporters for their vote to enable him to continue to serve the interests of our noble but embattled profession. If you have any questions for Dr. Kwass, please call him at (978) 521-8679, or visit his website at georgekwassmd.com.

Richard R Gomez, MD FCAP, is running for the position of Secretary-Treasurer and is asking AIPNA members and supporters to support his candidacy and for their votes. Dr. Gomez has had the opportunity to be involved in several areas of the College, and this has prepared him well for the office and differentiates him from the other candidates. Our future ability to advocate for our specialty and continue to offer our members excellent educational opportunities is dependent on the preservation of our revenue from PT and LAP and the responsible management of our budget. The future may require us to make some difficult decisions. Dr. Gomez invites AIPNA members and supporters to visit his website, www.richardrgomezmd.com and to visit the CAP website for further information. If you have any questions for Dr. Gomez, please call him at (785) 295-8472.

AIPNA GBM A HUGE SUCCESS

Many AIPNA members attended the AIPNA General Body meeting during USCAP and enjoyed a superb Indian meal with friends and colleagues. Highlight of the function was Dr. Yogeshwar Dayal's speech in beautiful, chaste Hindi, which took us all back to India. Dr. Ritu Nayar was felicitated for her accomplishments, and gave a talk on the Bethesda Classification. Dr. Srinivas Mandavili was honored for his contributions to AIPNA and to the CME program. The torch was passed from Nirag Jhala (Past President) to Dr. Anand Lagoo (New President). There was enthusiastic support from the new younger residents and fellows to the cause of AIPNA, and many have joined AIPNA executive committees. Dr. Rajal Shah was tireless in his dues collection mission as Treasurer of AIPNA. CAP President, and CAP Board Member, Bharti Jhaveri attended and spoke at the GBM.

FUTURE AIPNA MEETINGS IN INDIA

The AIPNA Molecular Pathology meeting will be held in Chandigarh in March 2016, whereas the Surgical Pathology Meeting will be held in