

Association of Indian Pathologists in North America

A 501(c)(3) non-profit organization

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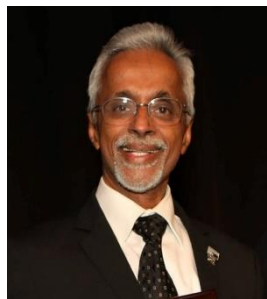
Please click on Zeffy icon above to pay your membership dues (Prospective residents/Residents/Fellows free, Staff \$100, Extended membership -10 years \$600)

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Table of Contents

1. Message from the President
2. From the Editor's Desk
3. Biography of candCAP Governor Election Candidates
 - a. Jonathan Myles MD
 - b. Qihui "Jim" Zhai MD FCAP
 - c. Brad S Karon MD PhD
4. Art Work by Dr. Dhanpat Jain
5. AIPNA at the College of American Pathologists CAP2023 - Breakfast Meeting, Oct 9th, Monday, 2023
6. AIPNA at the International Academy of Pathology – October 2024, Cancun
7. 27th AIPNA – ICP Annual CME, Chandigadh, India
8. We hear from residency candidate
9. Book to be published by Dr. Bakul Dalal
10. A Poem by Dr. Srinivas Mandavilli
11. Art Work by Dr. Dhanpat Jain

President's Message



Dear Bhaartiya Pathologists (both trainees as well as practicing) residing in North America:

One of our short and intermediate term goal is expanding AIPNA's footprint in North America.

To this end, we are organizing Companion Meetings\Educational Sessions with National and International Societies of laboratory medicine professionals. These will feature world renown pathologists of Bhaartiya origin sharing their expertise that you can assimilate while eating Indian food. Details are available later in this newsletter.

One of these is a Companion Meeting/Education Session in association with the October 7-10, 2023 meeting of the College of American Pathologists in Chicago (CAP23) in Chicago.

AIPNA will also have an Educational Session in association with the biannual meeting of the International Academy of Pathology in Cancun, Mexico, in October 2024.

Similar sessions in association with other societies like USCAP, AMP, ASCP, are in being worked on.

Another significant step we have taken to become more inclusive is eliminating the membership dues for the pathologists-in-training, and expand the membership to those applying/desirous of postgraduate training in pathology.

Also posted in this newsletter are the campaign literature of the candidates for various CAP positions. Please review them before voting.

Bakul I Dalal
president@aipna.net

From the Editor's Desk

Happy Summer...



This newsletter will highlight mottos of CAP Governor's election candidates, plans of AIPNA at the upcoming CAP meetings, a summary of the July EC committee meeting, and so on.

AIPNA invites medical students, residents and fellows to submit "Interesting Case Report" and "Path-Art" which will be published in the AIPNA newsletter.

All are encouraged to submit "Interesting Case Report" and "Path-Art" via email at interestingcaseaipna@gmail.com.

July being the month of transition, AIPNA wishes all new residents, fellows, and junior attendings sincere best wishes...

Binny Khandakar
Editor' Desk

CAP Governor Candidate

Jonanathan Myles, MD



Dr. Myles is a national leader in pathology payment policy. He is currently a member of the Board of Governors of the College of American Pathologists (CAP) where he serves as Chair of the Council on Government and Professional Affairs, Vice-Chair of the Council on Scientific Affairs, Board Member of PathPac, and member of the Information Technology Leadership, Compensation, Investment and Finance Committees. Dr. Myles previously served for 11 years as the Pathology Advisor to the AMA-RUC (Relative Value Update Committee) and 7 years as Chair of the Economic Affairs Committee at the CAP. Dr. Myles is a member of the Spokespersons Network and Engaged Leadership Academy of the CAP. Dr. Myles has served on the Board of Directors of the Academy of Medicine of Cleveland and as president of the Ohio Society of Pathologists. Dr. Myles has received the CAP's Outstanding Service Award as well as the Public Service Award, the College's highest honor related to public service. Dr. Myles graduated from the Medical College of Ohio in 1983. After completing combined residencies in anatomic and clinical pathology at the Cleveland Clinic in 1987, Dr. Myles joined the faculty of the Medical College of Ohio before being recruited back to the Cleveland Clinic in 1993. Dr. Myles has served in a variety of roles at Cleveland Clinic, including AP education coordinator, director of the autopsy service, director of histology and the surgical pathology desk, and most recently as the

Quality Institute Officer for the Robert J. Tomsich Pathology and Laboratory Medicine Institute at Cleveland Clinic. Dr. Myles has practiced both anatomic and clinical pathology and currently serves as a subspecialty pathologist in genitourinary and cardiovascular pathology.

Nominee For CAP President-Elect 2023

Qihui "Jim" Zhai, MD, FCAP



**Nominated by the CAP
Nominating Committee
and Members' Petition
Endorsed by the Florida
Society of Pathologists
Board of Directors**

**Your Concerns Are Mine;
Vote for Me, for Yourself!**

I LOVE PATHOLOGY. I LOVE CAP. I LOVE AIPNA.

I am a proud life member of AIPNA. Our organization is made up of esteemed pathologists. Dr. Krishna Unni, a legendary surgical pathologist, is not only my mentor, but also my friend who has had a profound impact on my career. Since graduating from the Mayo Rochester residency program over 20 years ago, I make it a point to call him every Thanksgiving Day at 3:00 PM to express my gratitude. Another legendary pathologist, Dr. Vinay Kumar, who edited *Robbins Pathology*, has significantly enhanced my pathology education and career. With his encouragement, I have led the efforts in adapting this book, and we have sold tens of thousands of copies in Asia. Throughout my career, I have had the pleasure and honor of collaborating and interacting with numerous distinguished members of our organization, including Drs. Mahul Amin, Mitul Amin, Jhaveri Bharati, Rajesh Chandra Dash, Rajan Dewar, Chakshu Gupta, Humayun Islam, Nirag Jhala, Megha Joshi, Sanjay Kakar, Ashraf Khan, Anand Lagoo, Hansini Laharwani, Dina Mody, Vaishali M Pansare, Anil Prasad, Vijaya Reddy, Manimala Roy, Rajal Shah, Gaurav Sharma, Kailash Sharma, Raj Singh, and many more. I have gained a great deal from my association with AIPNA, and I cherish both the professional and personal experiences.

In 1993, I arrived in this country with only two suitcases and \$166.00, driven by dreams of freedom, opportunities, and the pursuit of excellence. Today, I am living the American dream. Like you, I am an international medical graduate (IMG) and I have evolved into an innovative thinker and problem solver. Effective August 1, I will assume the position of Chair and Professor in the Department of Pathology at the Louisiana State University Health Center Shreveport, holding the Albert G and Harriet G Smith Endowed Chair, as well as the role of Pathologist-in-Chief at Ochsner LSU Health System. The CAP has played a pivotal role in transforming my life and career.

My unwavering commitment to pathology and my deep affection for the CAP have shaped my desire to serve as the CAP president-elect. With a well-rounded skill set, a profound understanding of the diverse needs of pathologists from different settings, and an awareness of the challenges our profession face, I am confident in my ability to excel in this role. I am dedicated to tirelessly working for the betterment of the profession, transforming challenges into opportunities, and turning the vision of the CAP into reality. I embody the qualities of a visionary, catalyst, adapter, and servant leader—exactly the type of leader the CAP needs to propel the organization forward.

OUR PROFESSION AND CAP ARE FACING DYNAMIC AND SERIOUS CHALLENGES

Ensuring fair payment for our services will remain a top concern, as it involves navigating the complexities of reimbursement from public and private payers. The continuous reimbursement cuts pose a potential threat to the profession and can have a detrimental impact on patient care and access. Currently, only approximately 50% of practicing pathologists are CAP members, and that number needs to improve. New and emerging technologies are not easily accessible to frontline pathologists, particularly in nonacademic settings. The CAP is also facing growing competition in proficiency testing (PT) programs and laboratory accreditation. The VALID Act of 2022 will remain an important topic going forward. Additionally, an estimated 40 to 50 percent of pathology trainees are IMGs and hold visas, which creates a significant barrier in their career development. Our scope of practice is consistently challenged, and more than 40

percent of our members have experienced burnout. Our pathology workforce pipeline needs constant attention and action.

TOGETHER, WE WILL FORTIFY CAP AS OUR UNITED PROFESSIONAL FAMILY

"Members First" will be the guiding principle in all our decision-making processes. I aim to create a new advocacy system by deepening collaborations with state pathologists' societies, synergizing and synchronizing our resources and efforts, and mobilizing grassroots support to improve advocacy efficacy. Our advocacy initiatives will encompass engaging lawmakers and the public, promoting the value of our work and the scope of our practice, and actively mitigating adverse regulations. We will provide practical and updated education programs that address the evolving needs of pathologists, ensuring we remain adaptive to new technologies. Innovating our laboratory quality solutions, we will conduct inspections in a more tailored fashion without compromising quality while maintaining our competitive PT programs and expanding our international market presence. Expanding CAP membership in academic medical centers, assisting IMGs with visa-related challenges, and fostering proactive communication with other pathology and laboratory organizations are vital to promoting diversity and unlocking the power of inclusion. Prioritizing the well-being of our members, addressing burnout concerns, and nurturing the pathology pipeline will contribute to a happy and healthy workforce in our future.

I want to earn your support, please contact me for any concerns, questions, and advice at: e-mail: jimzhai8@gmail.com; Twitter @ZhaiJim; Facebook: Qihui "Jim" Zhai; Cell: (904) 707 7688



Website: JimZhai2023.com

Candidate for CAP Board of Governors, 2023

Brad S. Karon MD PhD



Professor of Laboratory
Medicine and Pathology,
Mayo Clinic Rochester,
Chair, Division of Clinical Core
Laboratory Services
Dean, Mayo Clinic School of
Health Sciences

CAP involvement

- Member, Board of Governors and Executive Committee (current)
- Chair, Council on Scientific Affairs (current)
- Member, Council on Accreditation (current)
- Member, Finance committee (current)
- Vice-chair, Council on Education
- 18 years in laboratory accreditation program
 - State commissioner (Nevada and Minnesota), community practice and academic experience
 - Chair, Continuous Compliance Committee
 - Vice chair, Commission on Laboratory Accreditation
- Point of Care Committee

- Clinical Chemistry Committee

Other experience

- Accreditation Council on Graduate Medical Education (ACGME), Pathology review committee member (current)
- Minnesota Society of Pathologists, Board of Directors (current)
- Clinical Laboratory Improvement Advisory Committee (CLIAAC), member
- FDA Advisory Panel on Hematology and Pathology devices, member

Why I am running for CAP board of governors

- Define and improve value of proficiency testing to keep CAP financially strong
- Ensure CAP advocacy efforts, educational programs, and accreditation programs continue to meet member needs
- Engage residents and fellows in CAP activities (e.g. laboratory inspections) and state pathology societies, to secure our future

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Art-Work
By Dhanpat Jain, MD



AIPNA at the College of American Pathologists CAP2023, Chicago

Breakfast Meeting, 630-8am, Monday Oct 9th 2023

Organizer: Dr. Megha Joshi

Enjoy an Indian Breakfast and listen to interesting cases!

THEME: Memorable Cases I have seen

Moderator: Vijaya Reddy, M.D. Rush University, Chicago

1. *Memorable TURBTs: Not your simple urothelial carcinoma*

Avani Pendse, MD

Associate Professor of Pathology

Director, Surgical Pathology fellowship

Clinical services: GI/Liver, GU and Cytopathology

Duke University Health System

Durham, NC 27710

2. *Let's talk about patient safety: Memorable abdominal FNAs I have learnt*

Vijayalakshmi Padmanabhan MBBS, MD, MPH

Staff Pathologist

Quality and Patient Safety Officer

Department of Pathology and Genomic Medicine
Houston Methodist Hospital
Houston, TX

3. *Memorable Liver Cases I have seen*

Romil Saxena, MD, FRCPath

Professor of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine

Director, Liver Pathology Service

Director, Gastrointestinal and Liver Pathology

Fellowship

Medical Director, Histology Laboratory

Emory University, Atlanta, GA

AIPNA at the International Academy of Pathology Biannual Meeting

October 2024, Cancun

AIPNA has been invited by Professor Sánchez Sosa MD, IAP Vice-president of Latin America and President of IAP Cancun 2024 Congress to organize a companion meeting program at the Biannual Meeting of the International Academy of Pathology on 26-31 October, 2024 in Cancun, Mexico. Additional details will be provided as they become available.

For more information, and to participate, please contact Drs Nirag Jhala (nirag.jhala@tuhs.temple.edu), Ashraf Khan, or Bakul Dalal.

28th Annual AIPNA – ICP International CME Conference

PGI, Chandigarh, 9-11 February, 2024

The 28th AIPNA-ICP International CME Conference will be held at Postgraduate Institute of Medical Education and Research (PGI), Chandigarh from February 9th – 11th, 2024. Dr. Nandita Kakkar and Dr. Ritambara will be the organizing secretaries. Dr. Ranganathan is the primary AIPNA coordinator. The program for the meeting is being finalized and Faculty invites will be sent out soon. The meeting will be a hybrid one with posters and presentations, with all presenters being present in-person for the meeting. The details will be announced as soon as they are available.

We hear from Aspirants applying to Pathology Residency Match, 2024!

Rifat Mannan and Megha Joshi provide much needed US-based clinical experience through virtual and in-person observerships!

Maitreyi Rohit, MBBS (Pondicherry, India), MS Pathology (Case Western Reserve University)

International medical graduates encounter a myriad of formidable challenges as they endeavor to secure coveted positions within US residency programs. The requirement for US-based clinical experience has become a steadfast prerequisite across all programs. However, the acquisition of such experience proves to be a formidable undertaking. Established medical professionals in AIPNA can help by guiding and mentoring students hailing from backgrounds akin to mine. Through the nurturing of such a supportive community, we can aspire success.

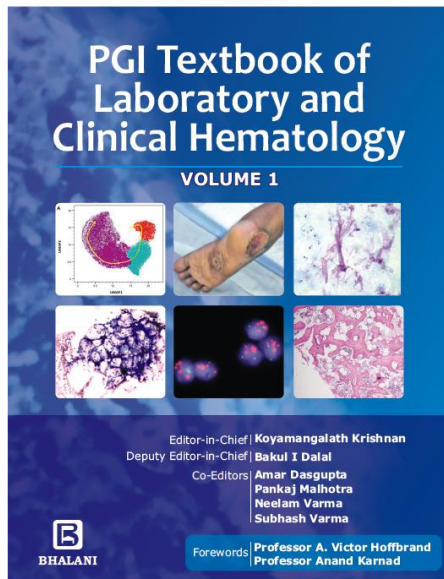
I earned my MBBS at Pondicherry Institute of Medical Sciences, Puducherry, India, and a Master's in Pathology from Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, OH. During this transformative period, I had the privilege of closely collaborating with and learning from globally recognized pathologists at The Cleveland Clinic,

encompassing a diverse spectrum of super-specialties. This exposure provided me with invaluable insights and perspectives, fostering a holistic approach towards my chosen specialization. Amid the pandemic, I had the opportunity to engage in virtual observations with Dr. Rifat Mannan at the City of Hope Comprehensive Cancer Center in Duarte, CA. Now in September and October, 2023, I am an observer in Megha Joshi's Pathology department as I see up-close the life of a practicing community pathologist with large sign-outs in breast, prostate, GI and Gyn. As a mother of two young children (ages 3, and 8), support and guidance from AIPNA senior women pathologists is crucial.

As I eagerly anticipate the prospect of engaging with fellow pathologists, I am humbled by the thought of imbibing from your collective wisdom. This platform, fostered by the Association of Indian Pathologists in North America, holds the promise of mutual growth and exchange that I am eager to embrace. I look forward to the prospect of contributing meaningfully to our shared passion for Pathology.

Maitreyi Rohit ([link to detailed resume](#))
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Ph.: 503-348-7952

Announcing PGI Textbook of Clinical and Laboratory Hematology



Dr. Bakul Dalal, a life member of AIPNA, its current president, and an alumnus of PGI, Chandigarh, is the deputy chief editor of the upcoming first edition of the PGI Textbook of Clinical and Laboratory Hematology.

This 3100+ page compendium is compiled in three volumes and consists of 209 chapters written by 104 authors, all of them alumni of the PGI, Chandigarh. It is written in bullet format for quick and easy reference. The bibliography runs into tens of thousands.

It is published by the Bhalani Publishers of Mumbai, and distributed by Elsevier Inc. It will also be sold on Amazon.com.

For more information, please contact bakuldalal@gmail.com.

...Poem...

By Srinivas Mandavilli, MD

Visiting Golconda Fort

You return to the city in winding lanes,
stop to buy pomegranates from a boy
who stands by a goat with his stick.

You arrive at the ramparts, swayed
by how certain things remain impregnable,
climb stone stairways past bazaars & barracks,

hear bull-elephants smash metal spiked gates.
You marvel at peacock and lotus motifs, your mind drifts
into tunnels. On a high terrace, the air thin and rare.

All history becomes cool in the dimming dusk.
You look down at Hyderabad, it sways in the distance
in blue and orange bands of late summer heat. Tombs

dot the horizon like beasts resting on their haunches.
You descend the hill, past the mosque and Kali temple,
hear first a delicate flutter, scratching, percussive

flapping over the entire ceiling. Such bats must have also watched
the siege of Aurangzeb. The dead arise, walk the battlements
and bastions. When you sleep, you have no name.

A thousand bats fly in your skull, this time they make no sound.
You hold up your hands, there are diamonds in your grasp
as if you have dipped your hands into these granite hills.

This piece of history stops for you, puts its head
in your hands. Then you begin the faithful work
of returning. You find a guide to tell you a story you know.



Art-Work

By Dhanpat Jain, MD

