Annual Report 2019-2020



Annual Report (Fiscal Year July 1, 2019–June 30, 2020)

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Report from the President

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J. Mark Tuthill, MD Henry Ford Health System Dear Members and Colleagues:

On behalf of the Governing Council of the Association for Pathology Informatics (API), I am pleased to provide the president's letter for this year's API Annual Report. The API ws formed in 2000 and is dedicated to the specialty of Pathology Informatics. Its mission is to promote the field of Pathology Informatics as an academic and clinical subspecialty of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine and, through its efforts, further substantiate pathology's relevance into the future as the most critical component for precision patient care.

This year represents our twelfth year as a separately chartered and fully independent professional association. We continue to make considerable progress in advancing Pathology Informatics as a valued and respected subspecialty of Pathology. Some of the highlights of the last year are listed below and are mentioned in greater detail within the pages of this annual report.

- Pathology Informatics Summit 2020: In consideration of the global COVID-19 pandemic, the Governing Council voted to cancel the 2020 Summit, including all travel awards.
- The API Virtual Classroom Series: In order to fill educational gaps due to the pandemic, API provided new ways to facilitate further understanding of informatics with additional livestreamed virtual programs for which CME credit could be claimed. These sessions were also recorded for API members. API launched the first of its Virtual Classroom series on June 24, 2020 with a session entitled "Informatics Impact on the Clinical Diagnostic Laboratory and the Healthcare Enterprise."
- API/Sunquest Educational Webinars: API and Sunquest held highly relevant Webinars that explored how institutions could overcome the operational setup, communication and analytics challenges health systems face with responding to COVID-19 in a series entitled "Responding to COVID-19". These webinars were free of charge to API members and were also available to be downloaded from the members' only area of the API website. We thank Dr. Bruce Friedman for his outstanding efforts and vision in organizing these Webinars.
- Digital Pathology and Al Workshop 3.0: The December 13-19, 2019 Digital Pathology Al Workshop 3.0 held sessions on the evolution of digital pathology, workflow and digital pathology integration, business and strategic factors in selecting systems, and the role of Al in pathology. Each session emphasized the practical considerations for digital pathology and artificial intelligence relevant to home practices. 48 registrants attended 12 academic sessions led by national and international experts, as well as 2 vendor-sponsored events (7 vendor sponsors in total), and 3 lab sessions. Included in the workshop was a virtual tour of the digital pathology labs at University of Pittsburgh Medical Center.
- Journal of Pathology Informatics (JPI: www.jpathinformatics.com): JPI is ten years old and continues to publish important articles in the field of pathology informatics. This vehicle to disseminate our published work has become a major player in shaping our field. We are deeply indebted to the outstanding efforts of founding and current Editors-in-Chief Anil V. Parwani, MD, Ph.D and Liron Pantanowitz, MD for providing us with this peer-reviewed, openaccess, PubMed-indexed resource. In 2019, there were over 310,000 hits, with most viewed article topics on: (1) IT tools for pathology education; (2) Next gen sequencing; (3) Image analysis; (4) PHI in labs; and (5) Deep learning/machine learning. Manuscript submissions were evenly split between authors in the United States (51%) and internationally (49%).





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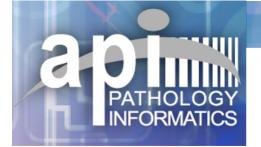
- Teaching Program Memberships: The API Teaching Institutional Members continue to make significant contributions to both the success of API and to the success of the Pathology Informatics Summit. A significant number of institutional trainees attended various workshops along with many prominent and active pathology department faculty. We value our teaching institution program members and are committed to expanding their numbers this year.
- Presence of API in National Initiatives: Official representatives of the API have been involved in numerous national initiatives. The Pathology Informatics Education Resource (PIER) has been jointly developed by the API in collaboration with the College of American Pathologists (CAP), Association of Pathology Chairs (APC) and other organizations. This resource is intended to help pathology programs to train our pathology residents in informatics because of the ever-increasing central nature of informatics to our profession.
- Other API Educational Programs: The API was represented at several national conferences in 2020. Eleven hours of API-branded content was delivered at the annual meetings of the College of American Pathologists and the Association for Molecular Pathology. The API will continue to participate as a Companion Society of the United States and Canadian Academy of Pathology (USCAP) and at the annual USCAP meetings. API-branded content has also been delivered to the Pathology Visions meeting held by the Digital Pathology Association.

I want to recognize the efforts of the staff at API who have helped to move this organization in a positive direction. Nova Smith has truly been the cornerstone of API operations, serving as the API Executive Director, Senior Course Manager, and JPI's Managing Editor. She provides a wide variety of functions for the organization and ensures that the leadership of API addresses salient issues. She is joined by Beth Gibson of the University of Michigan who serves as Conference Manager, with additional roles in the CME process and other organizational responsibilities. We also appreciate the expertise of Rebecca Boes of the University of Pittsburgh, our Webmaster. Without the collective efforts of these important individuals, the API would not be as successful as it is today.

A special set of thanks is due to our active API members and Teaching Institutional and Non-Profit members, including but not limited to members of the API Governing Council, who have dedicated so much time and effort to the advancement of this organization. I have greatly enjoyed my term as President of this wonderful organization and its members. Pathology Informatics is critically important for accurate, efficient, and improved patient care, and, as such, it is the key to the future success of the discipline of Pathology and all of its subspecialties.

Sincerely,

Mary E. Edgerton, MD, Ph.D. API President 2020



History and Mission

History: API was founded in 2000 by pathologists interested in defining Pathology Informatics (PI) as a clinical subspecialty within the medical discipline of Pathology. API was initially supported by the Department of Biomedical Informatics and the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine until API became financially independent. The University of Michigan currently provides additional administrative support for API.

Mission: Promote the field of Pathology Informatics as an academic and a clinical subspecialty of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine and further substantiate pathology's relevance into the future as the most critical component for precision patient care.

What is Pathology Informatics? Pathology Informatics recognizes the disruptive role of new technologies and strives to facilitate adoption of information-driven diagnostic tools that deliver better patient care and enhance our understanding of disease-related processes. Such new diagnostic technologies include whole slide imaging (WSI), next-generation sequencing (NGS), and emerging technologies like methylation assays and proteomics. Such technologies have resulted in what is commonly termed "big data" and require specialized techniques for implementation, management, and analytics. In addition, PI works to refine the data generated by diagnostic technologies currently used in clinical laboratories and from reporting performed from anatomic pathology laboratories. Through these efforts, PI positions itself as the data stewards for pathology, and having stewardship over critical diagnostic pathology data substantiates pathology's relevance for enhancing patient care.

Goals:

- Advance Pathology Informatics through research, scientific meetings, and electronic and printed communications
- Provide educational activities that disseminate knowledge to a broad audience and support the practice of Pathology Informatics
- Support "democratization" of diagnostic pathology data by eliminating or integrating data silos that hinder multi-institutional sharing of data and impede better public health, patient care, and research
- Develop standards for the storage and exchange of data and mechanisms for reporting, transferring, and merging diagnostic data while maintaining the needed level of confidentiality and appropriate stewardship of the data
- Play an active role in legal, ethical, social, regulatory, and governmental issues related to Pathology Informatics
- Prepare Pathology for upcoming paradigm shifts in practice like primary digital sign-out and incorporation of artificial intelligence
- Define the technological barriers that current technologies have in accommodating the upcoming technological paradigm practice changes, using a systems-based approach
- Develop relationships with other professional societies and industry partners that share similar interests and goals and synergize efforts to achieving the above listed goals
- Continue our efforts to recruit women and minorities from the international pathology informatics community as API members, to serve on API committees and the JPI editorial board, and as invited speakers for our national meeting and educational workshops

Activities: Informaticians seek to continuously improve laboratory information technology/systems, enhance the value of laboratory test data, and develop computational algorithms and models aimed at deriving clinical value from new data sources. We offer a broad array of expertise in the primary informatics pillars of:

- Information fundamentals
- Information systems
- Workflow and process
- Governance and management
- We support clinical laboratory operations, enterprise informatics and IT initiatives, academic research, and education



Education

The API Virtual Classroom Series: For nearly five years, laboratory leaders have consistently broken new ground in exploring ways in which the clinical laboratory can extend its value proposition to the greater healthcare delivery system. This is commonly referred by moniker of Lab 2.0.

Now, in the setting of unprecedented demands on laboratory medicine resources, as created by the global COVID-19 pandemic, Lab 2.0 is now more germane than ever. The API was pleased to offer a mini-symposium on Lab 2.0, as presented by key laboratory leaders driving this movement. This two-hour national teleconference presented targeted material outlining the numerous ways in which clinical laboratories can significantly impact the local delivery of healthcare in directly impact the quality and efficacy of clinical care. This virtual educational session consisted of several lecture segment by the presenters interspersed with audience engaging Q&A breaks.

June 24, 2020: "Informatics Impact on the Clinical Diagnostic Laboratory and the Healthcare Enterprise." Attendees earned 2 CME credits.

Maximizing the Value of an Integrated Laboratory Network: What has COVID-19 taught us?	The Digital Assistant in 21st Century Diagnostics	Practical Applications of Informatics in Pathology and Lab Medicine
James M Crawford, MD, PhD	John Tomaczewksi, MD, MASCP	Karen Kaul, MD, PhD
Northwell Health	University at Buffalo	Northshore University Healthsystem

Other meetings are scheduled as follows:

July 16-17, 2020	"Introduction to R Workshop Interactive Webinar"
August 26, 2020	"Digital Pathology Realized: Real-World Advice from the Experts"
September 23-24, 2020	"Foundational Topics in Pathology Informatics
December 9, 2020	"Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning in Pathology."

Special Thanks: API was able to provide scholarships for trainees for the webinars thanks to educational grants from:

Dr. Edward Klatt	Dr. S. Joseph Sirintrapun
Mercer University	Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center

API/Sunquest Educational Webinars: Responding to the COVID-19 pandemic has been overwhelming and disruptive to most, if not all healthcare organizations across the globe. Collaboration and communication are key to building best practices and responsiveness. API hosted multiple virtual discussions with leading healthcare leaders to learn how to overcome the operational setup, communication and analytics challenges health systems face – today – with responding to COVID-19. These sessions were recorded and accessible to API members:

April 1, 2020	"RESPONDING TO COVID-19: Informatics Virtual Conference"
April 15, 2020	"Part 1: RESPONDING TO COVID-19: Riding the Surge - Informatics Virtual Conference"
April 29, 2020	"Part 2: RESPONDING TO COVID-19: Informatics Virtual Conference"
May 13, 2020	"Part 3: RESPONDING TO COVID-19: Informatics Virtual Conference"
July 29, 2020	"Part 4: RESPONDING TO COVID-19: Organizational and Strategic Insights for Clinical Lab Part 1"
September 22, 2020	"Part 5: RESPONDING TO COVID-19: Organizational and Strategic Insights for Clinical Lab Part 2"



Education

Digital Pathology Workshop 3.0: Sessions emphasized the practical considerations for digital pathology and artificial intelligence relevant to home practices. Learning objectives for registrants sought to improve understanding of the directions for digital pathology and AI from a domestic U.S. and international perspective (given the advances in technology advances, market shifts, regulatory changes, and transformation in pathology culture), the deployment of digital pathology with operational considerations for remote signout, optimization of surgical pathology workflows, and information system integration, and AI basics and future possibilities for AI.

The third workshop was held December 13-19, 2019 at the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center, Pittsburgh, PA. Sessions were as follows:

"A Strategic View of the Evolution of	"Non-Clinical Uses of a Digital Pathology	"Whole Slide Imaging Meets Deep
Digital Pathology on a Five-Year Horizon"	System in an Academic Training Program"	Learning: A Preview of the Future"
Liron Pantanowitz, MD	Douglas Hartman, MD	Michael Feldman, MD
"The Pursuit of an Optimized Surgical	"Integrating a Digital Pathology System	"Artificial Intelligence and Digital
Pathology Workflow with Digital	into an Existing AP-LIS: Technical and	Pathology: What Pathologists Need to
Pathology Integration"	Workflow Considerations"	Know"
Mark Tuthill, MD	Matthew Hanna, MD	Toby Cornish, MD
The Evolving Business and Strategic Case for the Adoption of Digital Pathology Anil Parwani, MD	Transitioning to a Fully Digital Pathology Department in Two Years: The Why and the How of the Process Filippo Fragetta, MD	Introduction to Digital Pathology Hospital Tour and Organization of Tour Groups Liron Pantanowitz, MD
"Selecting the Optimal Digital System for Your Department Based on Case Volume and Projected Uses" Ulysses Balis, MD	"Artificial Intelligence Tools Under Development at UPMC" Keith Callenberg, PhD	 "Eliminating the Challenge of Al: Authoring your own Al APPs using Visiopharm's New Deep Learning Tool Box" T. Regan Baird, PhD Platinum Sponsor - VISIOPHARM "Clinical grade Al-Powered Diagnostic System for Cancer Detection" Stuart Shand, CCO Platinum Sponsor - IBEX

Digital Pathology Workshop 4.0 will be held at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center in October 2020 as a virtual event.

Clinical Informatics Medical Subspecialty: Clinical Informatics (CI) is a board-certifiable subspecialty primarily housed in the American Board of Preventive Medicine and co-sponsored by the American Board of Pathology. Pathologists are the only candidates outside of Preventive Medicine who are allowed to register for the exam through their own specialty board. Currently, candidates can qualify for the exam by either completing an ACGME-accredited fellowship or through the Practice Pathway. Since the first exam administered in October 2013, 2,035 physicians from 24 specialties have become boarded, with pathologists comprising 141 (6.9%) of total CI diplomates. The year 2019 featured Cohort 7, consisting of 165 diplomates, 18 of whom were pathologists (representing 10.9% of 2019's diplomates). Of note, 2022 will be the last year one can apply for the CI board exam through the Practice Pathway, barring an extension by the American Board of Medical Specialties.



The Journal of Pathology Informatics (JPI) is an open access, peer-reviewed journal dedicated to the advancement of pathology informatics. This is the official journal of the Association of Pathology Informatics (API). The first issue was published in March 2010. The Journal of Pathology Informatics (JPI) is now in its tenth year and JPI continues to grow. We continue to have high-quality pathology informatics articles being submitted. Dr. Liron Pantanowitz and Dr. Anil V. Parwani wish to thank the editorial board and the API for their continued support.

JPI aims to publish broadly about pathology informatics and freely disseminate all articles worldwide. All types of papers related to pathology informatics are published, including original research articles, technical notes, reviews, viewpoints, commentaries, editorials, book reviews, and correspondence to the editors. All submissions are subject to peer review by the editorial board and expert referees in appropriate specialties.

The journal is registered with the following abstracting partners: Baidu Scholar, CNKI (China National Knowledge Infrastructure), EBSCO Publishing's Electronic Databases, Ex Libris – Primo Central, Google Scholar, Hinari, Infotrieve, National Science Library, ProQuest, TDNet, Wanfang Data. The journal is indexed with, or included in, the following: DOAJ, PubMed Central, SCOPUS.

Wolters Kluwer and Journal/Association are committed to meeting and upholding standards of ethical behavior at all stages of the publication process. We follow closely the industry associations, such as the Committee on Publication Ethics (COPE), International Committee of Medical Journal Editors (ICMJE) and World Association of Medical Editors (WAME), that set standards and provide guidelines for best practices in order to meet these requirements. For a summary of our specific policies regarding duplicate publication, conflicts of interest, patient consent, etc., please visit http://www.medknow.com/EthicalGuidelines.asp.

PUBMED Listed Articles: https://www.jpathinformatics.org/browse.asp?date=0-0.

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Anil V. Parwani, MD, PhD, MBA The Ohio State University Columbus, Ohio, USA

MANAGING EDITOR

Nova Marie Smith Association for Pathology Informatics Pittsburgh, PA

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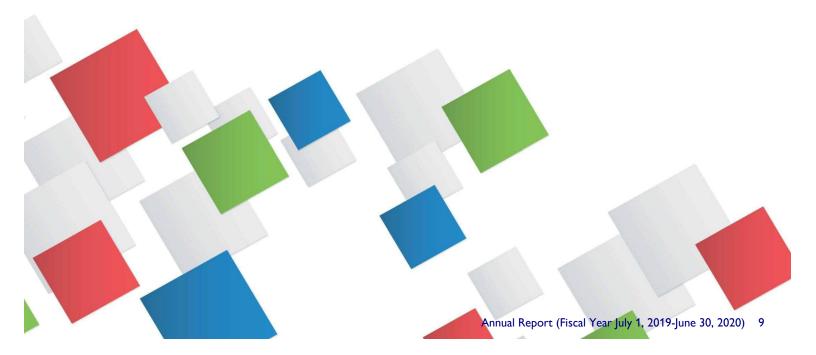
Brief report, Case report, Images, Book reviews, Technical note: US \$300 Original Article, Research article: US \$400 Symposiums and Conference Proceedings - \$40 per page Invited Book Reviews: Free Publication fees are for current members of the Association for Pathology Informatics (API): \$100 US (unlimited per membership year) JOIN API - Become a member today



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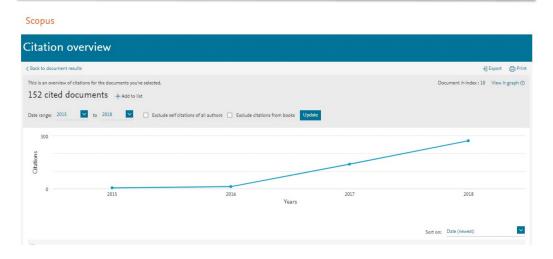




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- JPI is starting it's 11th year (since March 2010)
- Our editorial board continues to grow
 - Both USA & international members
 - Visit http://www.jpathinformatics.org/editorialboard.asp
- JPI is publishing many symposia
 E.g. Pathology Visions (DPA), Nordic & ECDP
- Scopus citation overview for a set of 152 documents gives an *h*-index as 10.
- Indexed with DOAJ, Index Copernicus, PubMed Central, SCOPUS

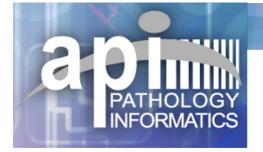
Citations Chart



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Outreach

Presence of API in National Initiatives: The Association for Pathology Informatics believes that pathology informatics is an integral part of the practice of Pathology in the 21st Century and therefore strongly supports informatics education for all pathology residents. This led us into a partnership with the Association of Pathology Chairs and the College of American Pathologists to create Pathology Informatics Essentials for Residents, or PIER. PIER "is a research-based instructional resource that presents training topics, implementation strategies and resource options for program directors and faculty to effectively provide informatics training to their residents and meet ACGME informatics milestone requirements. PIER is also an effective resource for aspiring specialists to develop prerequisite pathology informatics knowledge and skills prior to advanced training or fellowships." ("Pathology Informatics Essentials for Residents (PIER)." Association of Pathology Chairs, Web. 21 June 2018.) Please visit the PIER website for more information.

In further support for pathology informatics education, API has long provided pathology informatics "boot camps" on the first day of the Pathology Informatics Summit. Recordings of the presentations and the presentation slides have been reviewed and mapped to the PIER Essentials to assist pathology residency faculty in the delivery of pathology informatics knowledge to our residents.



Much has been accomplished since the last PIER update. After the initial launch in late 2014, we transitioned leadership from a working group of informatics experts to the PIER Leadership Committee made up of pathology residency program directors (representing the Association of Pathology Chairs) in addition to two informatics experts (representing the Association for Pathology Informatics and the College of American Pathologists). The committee is supported by staff from each association. The CAP also provides project management and instructional design resources to support the work of the committee. The PIER Leadership Committee is charged with carrying the curriculum forward and supporting its further adoption. We've spent the last several years growing the PIER Leadership Committee to include residents, collecting data from stakeholders to understand their needs, using feedback to make curriculum improvements resulting in 3 releases, researching and submitting for grant funding, collaborating with ASCP to 1) pilot test informatics questions for the RISE exam, 2) collect data from residents about their informatics training experiences, and 3) create a separate category for informatics on exam reports so that program directors can monitor resident performance. The committee also provided program director representation to the ACGME Milestones 2 Informatics Work Group.

As a reminder, PIER is a free curriculum and it can be found on the APC website at: www.apcprods.org/pier.



Outreach

Other API Educational Programs: The API was represented at a number of national conferences. API-branded content was delivered at the annual meetings of the College of American Pathologists (CAP) and the Association for Molecular Pathology (AMP). The API continued to participate as a Companion Society of the United States and Canadian Academy of Pathology (USCAP) at their annual meeting in February 29-March 5, 2020 in Los Angeles, CA. API-branded content has also been delivered to the Pathology Visions meeting held by the Digital Pathology Association. API presented 11 hours of material at the ASCP Annual Meeting 2019.

Official representatives of the API have also been involved in a number of national initiatives, including, but not limited to the American Society for Clinical Pathology (ASCP), USCAP, and AMP. Select members also participate in multiple standards organizations such as Health Level 7 International (HL7) and Digital Imaging and Communications in Medicine (DICOM) as well as provide guidance on important national topics like the Food and Drug Administration certification of whole slide imaging, computational pathology and algorithm use. Many of our members also provide informatics talks at local, regional, national, and international specialty meetings such as the Companion Society Session, the ASCP Annual Meeting, Digital Pathology Association Annual Session, the American Association for Clinical Chemistry (AACC) Annual Meeting and AACC University Pathology Informatics Boot Camp, Healthcare Information and Management Systems Society, Inc. (HIMSS), and Society for Imaging Informatics in Medicine (SIIM).



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Membership

Teaching Institutional Members

Since its inception in 2011, API's Teaching Institutional Membership program has been very successful in attracting the 'best-in-class' academic institutions that have collectively demonstrated leadership in adopting and teaching information technology in the medical (and specifically pathology) specialties. API offers unlimited, free publication of all accepted articles in the Journal of Pathology Informatics to any faculty, resident, or fellow employed at an API Teaching Institution.

In FY2020, API offered 2 new levels of Teaching Institutional Membership in addition to the Basic Membership, Expanded and Premium memberships are now also available. Basic Teaching Membership includes membership for the department chair, 2 faculty/senior staff, and 4 interns, residents, or fellows (your current level of membership). Expanded Teaching Membership includes membership for the department chair, 5 faculty/senior staff, and 8 interns, residents, or fellows. Premium Teaching Membership includes membership for the department chair, 8 faculty/senior staff, and 12 interns, residents, or fellows:

PREMIUM TEACHING INSTITUTIONS:

Cleveland Clinic Pathology and Laboratory Medicine Institute Columbia University Medical Center

EXPANDED TEACHING INSTITUTIONS:

Geisinger Icahn School of Medicine at Mt. Sinai Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center The University of California - Irvine School of Medicine The University of California - Los Angeles David Geffen School of Medicine

BASIC TEACHING INSTITUTIONS:

East Carolina University in conjunction with Vidant Medical Center Duke University School of Medicine Henry Ford Health System Houston Methodist Montefiore Medical Center Northshore University Health System The University of Buffalo The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center The University of Calgary School of Medicine University of California at San Francisco University of Illinois at Chicago The University of Kentucky College of Medicine Michigan Medicine at the University of Michigan University of Minnesota Medical School, School of Medicine at Penn The University of Pittsburgh Washington University School of Medicine Yale University School of Medicine

Membership Benefits

- Access to official API Listserv, materials, and broad member expertise
- Access to continually updated educational content and features for those without Pathology Informatics expertise and to help current and future Pathology Informatics faculty save time creating educational content by sanctioned reuse of member content. There are currently over 100 recorded lectures and PowerPoint slideshows available from past API meetings (PI Summit, Digital Pathology and AI workshop, etc.) on the API website for members to access and review for educational purposes.
- Access to training webinars, programs, and PIER content
- Discounted publication fees for the API's Journal of Pathology Informatics
- Reduced registration rate for members at the Annual API Summit Meeting
- Networking connections



Financial Report

	API FY20 Revenue		API FY20 Expenses		API FY20 Net Revenue/(Loss)
	API Membership	\$74,281.75	API Membership Meeting Expenses	\$224,817.61	
	Pathology Informatics Summit	\$49,100	Staff Includes Taxes and Benefits (includes 1099 staff)	\$106,557.33	
	Digital Pathology Workshop	\$95,645.48	Journal of Pathology Informatics	\$20,300	
	Journal of Pathology Informatics	\$1,500	Other Expenses	\$30,034.73	
	Other Revenue	\$5,258.23			
Subtotal		\$225,785.46		\$381,709.67	-\$155,924.21

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