

Association for Pathology Informatics

ANNUAL REPORT 2011-12

Report from the President

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University of Pittsburgh

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Emory University

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University of Pittsburgh

PAST PRESIDENTS

2001

Michael J. Becich, MD, PhD
University of Pittsburgh

2002-03

Bruce A. Friedman, MD
University of Michigan

2004

Walter H. Henricks, MD
Cleveland Clinic

2005

J. Mark Tuthill, MD
Henry Ford Hospital

2006

Jules J. Berman, MD, PhD
Freelance Medical Writer

2007

Ulysses G.J. Balis, MD
University of Michigan

2008

Michael McNeely (1944-2009), MD, FRCPC
Consultant, Medical Informatics

2009-10

Myra L. Wilkerson, MD
Geisinger Health System

2010-11

Ronald S. Weinstein, MD
University of Arizona

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*. This 2012 year represents API's second year as a separately chartered professional association, and we have made considerable progress in advancing pathology informatics as an acknowledged and respected subspecialty. A few highlights are worth mentioning; greater details are discussed on subsequent pages of this annual report.

- **Teaching Program Memberships:** Nineteen major teaching programs joined API this past year and made a significant contribution to the success of the Pathology Informatics 2011 meeting, held in Pittsburgh, Pa., in October 2011. Without their support, we could not have achieved the quality of trainee attendance or have attracted as many prominent and active pathology department faculty. We hope to expand our teaching program membership participation next year.
- **API Strategic Summit:** API sponsored a strategic summit June 7 and 8, 2012, in Pittsburgh, Pa., with the banner topic "The Future of Pathology Informatics and the LIS." The meeting was attended by more than 80 thought leaders from the pathology informatics community, laboratory informatics vendors, and LIS consultants. J. Mark Tuthill, API Program Committee chair, moderated the meeting. Four corporate sponsors were gracious enough to provide funding for the meeting: Cerner Corporation; McKesson Corporation; SCC Soft Computer; and Sunquest Information Systems, Inc. Speakers included key members of API and representatives from the LIS companies, with time devoted to active audience interaction.
- **Subspecialty Certification in Informatics:** This is the culmination of a long campaign. In 1992, we worked with the American Board of Pathology to propose such a subspecialty and began writing sample questions for the subspecialty exams. Unfortunately, the field was not quite ready. Recently, the American Board of Preventive Medicine began carrying this work forward; three of our Governing Council members are participating in the test-writing committees.
- **First API Companion Society Meeting at the United States and Canadian Academy of Pathology (USCAP):** API was invited to present a companion society meeting at the annual USCAP meeting, held in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada, on March 17, 2012. API Governing Council members spoke on the topic of "Pathology Informatics: An Evolving Subspecialty with Direct Impact on the Continuum of Patient Care." Preparations are under way for a second meeting in 2013.
- **Technical Staff Membership Category:** API expanded its membership offering this year by creating a technical staff membership category. This recognizes the important collaboration between physicians and technical staff in organizing and delivering the highly technical work conducted in pathology laboratories.

2012 has been an exciting and productive year for API, and I have very much enjoyed the opportunity to serve as president. With everyone's continued enthusiasm, the value of pathology informatics to patient care will be increasingly recognized by our colleagues and patients. Thank you for your support.

Raymond D. Aller, MD
President

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.

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.

JPI is indexed in PubMed and PubMed Central, Caspur, EBSCO Publishing's Electronic Databases, Expanded Academic ASAP, Genamics JournalSeek, Google Scholar, Health & Wellness Research Center, Health Reference Center Academic, Hinari,

Index Copernicus, OpenJGate, PrimoCentral, ProQuest, SCHOLAR, SIIC databases, Summon by Serial Solutions, and Ulrich's International Periodical Directory.

Editors-in-chief are **Anil V. Parwani** and **Liron Pantanowitz**, University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine, Department of Pathology, Pittsburgh, Pa.

The following are the PubMed listed articles from July 1, 2011, through June 30, 2012.

Most-viewed original research article of 2012 published in the *Journal of Pathology Informatics*

Research Article: Isolation and two-step classification of normal white blood cells in peripheral blood smears. Nisha Ramesh (1), Bryan Dangott (2), Mohammed E Salama (2), Tolga Tasdizen (1) *J Pathol Inform* 2012, 3:13 (16 March 2012) DOI:10.4103/2153-3539.93895 (1) Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, University of Utah, (2) Department of Pathology, University of Utah

PUBMED LISTED ARTICLES THROUGH JULY 2011–JUNE 2012

Research Article: A data model and database for high-resolution pathology analytical image informatics. Fusheng Wang, Jun Kong, Lee Cooper, Tony Pan, Tahsin Kurc, Wenjin Chen, Ashish Sharma, Cristobal Niedermayr, Tae W Oh, Daniel Brat, Alton B Farris, David J Foran, Joel Saltz *J Pathol Inform* 2011, 2:32 (26 July 2011) DOI:10.4103/2153-3539.83192 PMID:21845230

Research Article: Computer-aided identification of prostatic adenocarcinoma: Segmentation of glandular structure. Yahui Peng, Yulei Jiang, Laurie Eisengart, Mark A Healy, Francis H Straus, Ximing J Yang *J Pathol Inform* 2011, 2:33 (26 July 2011) DOI:10.4103/2153-3539.83193 PMID:21845231

Original Article: Automated vector selection of SIVQ and parallel computing integration MATLABM: Innovations supporting large-scale and high-throughput image analysis studies. Jerome Cheng, Jason Hipp, James Monaco, David R Lucas, Anant Madabhushi, Ulysses J Balis *J Pathol Inform* 2011, 2:37 (13 August 2011) DOI:10.4103/2153-3539.83752 PMID:21886893

Research Article: The accuracy of dynamic predictive autofocusing for whole slide imaging. Richard R McKay, Vipul A Baxi, Michael C Montalto *J Pathol Inform* 2011, 2:38 (24 August 2011) DOI:10.4103/2153-3539.84231 PMID:21969919

Original Article: Implementation of whole slide imaging in surgical

pathology: A value added approach. Mike Isaacs, Jochen K Lennerz, Stacey Yates, Walter Clermont, Joan Rossi, John D Pfeifer *J Pathol Inform* 2011, 2:39 (24 August 2011) DOI:10.4103/2153-3539.84232 PMID:21969920

Research Article: Using XML to encode TMA DES metadata. Oliver Lyttleton, Alexander Wright, Darren Treanor, Paul Lewis *J Pathol Inform* 2011, 2:40 (24 August 2011) DOI:10.4103/2153-3539.84233 PMID:21969921

Original Article: Use of mobile high-resolution device for remote frozen section evaluation of whole slide images. Joel Ramey, Kar Ming Fung, Lewis A Hassell *J Pathol Inform* 2011, 2:41 (27 August 2011) DOI:10.4103/2153-3539.84276 PMID:21969922

Original Article: High-definition hematoxylin and eosin staining in a transition to digital pathology. Jamie D Martina, Christopher Simmons, Drazen M Jukic *J Pathol Inform* 2011, 2:45 (19 October 2011) DOI:10.4103/2153-3539.86284 PMID:22059146

Original Article: Evaluation and optimization for liquid-based preparation cytology in whole slide imaging. Roy E Lee, David S McClintock, Nora M Laver, Yukako Yagi *J Pathol Inform* 2011, 2:46 (19 October 2011) DOI:10.4103/2153-3539.86285 PMID:22059147

Original Article: Image microarrays (IMA): Digital pathology's missing tool.

Jason Hipp, Jerome Cheng, Liron Pantanowitz, Stephen Hewitt, Yukako Yagi, James Monaco, Anant Madabhushi, Jaime Rodriguez-Canales, Jeffrey Hanson, Sinchita Roy-Chowdhuri, Armando C Filie, Michael D Feldman, John E Tomaszewski, Natalie NC Shih, Victor Brodsky, Giuseppe Giaccone, Michael R Emmert-Buck, Ulysses J Balis *J Pathol Inform* 2011, 2:47 (29 October 2011) DOI:10.4103/2153-3539.86829

Original Article: Heterogeneity of publicly accessible online critical values for therapeutic drugs. Colt M McClain, Richard Owings, Joshua A Bornhorst *J Pathol Inform* 2011, 2:53 (26 December 2011) DOI:10.4103/2153-3539.91131

Research Article: A pathologist-in-the-loop IHC antibody test selection using the entropy-based probabilistic method. Dmitry Shin, Gerald Arthur, Charles Caldwell, Mihail Popescu, Marius Petruc, Alberto Diaz-Arias, Chi-Ren Shyu *J Pathol Inform* 2012, 3:1 (29 February 2012) DOI:10.4103/2153-3539.93393

Original Article: Virtual microscopy using whole-slide imaging as an enabler for teledermatopathology: A paired consultant validation study. Ayman Al Habeeb, Andrew Evans, Danny Ghazarian *J Pathol Inform* 2012, 3:2 (29 February 2012) DOI:10.4103/2153-3539.93399

Original Article: A novel strategy for evaluating the effects of an electronic test ordering alert message: Optimizing cardiac marker use. Jason

M Baron, Kent B Lewandrowski, Irina K Kamis, Balaji Singh, Sidi M Belkziz, Anand S Dighe *J Pathol Inform* 2012, 3:3 (29 February 2012) DOI:10.4103/2153-3539.93400

Original Article: Full field optical coherence tomography can identify spermatogenesis in a rodent sertoli-cell only model. Ranjith Ramasamy, Joshua Sterling, Maryem Manzoor, Bekheit Salamoon, Manu Jain, Erik Fisher, Phillip S Li, Peter N Schlegel, Sushmita Mukherjee *J Pathol Inform* 2012, 3:4 (29 February 2012) DOI:10.4103/2153-3539.93401

Original Article: How useful are delta checks in the 21st century? A stochastic-dynamic model of specimen mix-up and detection. Katie Ovens, Christopher Naugler *J Pathol Inform* 2012, 3:5 (29 February 2012) DOI:10.4103/2153-3539.93402

Original Article: Referenceless image quality evaluation for whole slide imaging. Noriaki Hashimoto, Pinky A Bautista, Masahiro Yamaguchi, Nagaaki Ohyama, Yukako Yagi *J Pathol Inform* 2012, 3:9 (16 March 2012) DOI:10.4103/2153-3539.93891

Original Article: Integration of digital gross pathology images for enterprise-wide access. Milon Amin, Gaurav Sharma, Anil V Parwani, Ralph Anderson, Brian J Kolowitz, Anthony Piccoli, Rasu B Shrestha, Gonzalo Romero Lauro, Liron Pantanowitz *J Pathol Inform* 2012, 3:10 (16 March 2012) DOI:10.4103/2153-3539.93892

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Charter Teaching Institution Members

First API Companion Society Meeting at the United States and Canadian Academy of Pathology

API had its first ever companion society meeting at the 101st Annual Meeting of the United States and Canadian Academy of Pathology (USCAP) in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada, on March 17, 2012. More than 65 people attended, even though the meeting was from 7 to 10 p.m. on St. Patrick's Day.

The topic chosen by the API Program Committee and the API Training and Education Committee was "Pathology Informatics: An Evolving Subspecialty with Direct Impact on the Continuum of Patient Care," as pathology informatics is the study of information, information systems, and processes in pathology and as such impacts a wide range of activities in pathology diagnostics, operations, teaching, and research. The goal of the symposium was to present a range of pathology informatics subspecialties (automation, imaging, patient safety, and information management) in the context of the clinical practice of anatomic, clinical, and molecular pathology so that attendees could understand and apply these approaches to their practices.

- John Gilbertson, Massachusetts General Hospital, provided the introduction.
- J. Mark Tuthill, Henry Ford Hospital, presented "Automating Anatomic Pathology."
- Ulysses Balis, University of Michigan Health System, presented "Digital Pathology and Patient Care."
- Ray Aller, University of Southern California, PowerPoint slides "Identifying Our Patients Before We Diagnose or Treat Them."
- Alexis Carter, Emory University Hospital, presented "Utility of Synoptic Data Entry for Molecular, Cytogenetics, and FISH Laboratories."
- Ronald Weinstein, Arizona Health Sciences Center, presented "Pathology Informatics Curriculum for Pathology Informatics: The Association for Pathology Informatics Model."

API Research Matching Service

API recognizes that not all pathology training programs have access to pathology informatics faculty. This presents challenges for trainees who want to get involved in pathology informatics research and publications. As a result, API began a new program to match pathology trainees with extramural academic pathology informatics faculty to work on research projects. The goal of these projects was to result in a publishable abstract for the Pathology Informatics 2012 meeting. In the project's first year, seven trainees were matched to established pathology informatics mentors. The initial effort was organized by Alexis Carter from Emory University (chair

of API's Training and Education Committee) and Stephen Hewitt from the National Institutes of Health (chair of API's Research Committee). From these matched pairs, at least three electronic posters and three scientific sessions were submitted as of August 15, 2012, for the Pathology Informatics 2012 meeting. A survey will be sent out after the meeting to get feedback on the service prior to the reiteration of the program beginning in the fall of 2012 in preparation for Pathology Informatics 2013.

PUBMED LISTED ARTICLES (continued from page 2)

Original Article: Clinical fellowship training in pathology informatics: A program description. John R Gilbertson, David S McClintock, Roy E Lee, Maristela Onozato, Frank C Kuo, Bruce A Beckwith, Yukako Yagi, Anand S Dighe, Tom M Gudewicz, Long P Le, David C Wilbur, Ji Yeon Kim, Victor B Brodsky, Stephen Black-Schaffer *J Pathol Inform* 2012, 3:11 (16 March 2012) DOI:10.4103/2153-3539.93893

Research Article: Changes, disruption and innovation: An investigation of the introduction of new health information technology in a microbiology laboratory. George Toouli, Andrew Georgiou, Johanna Westbrook *J Pathol Inform* 2012, 3:16 (18 April 2012) DOI:10.4103/2153-3539.95128

Research Article: Compressing pathology whole-slide images using a human and model observer evaluation. Elizabeth A Krupinski, Jeffrey

P Johnson, Stacey Jaw, Anna R Graham, Ronald S Weinstein *J Pathol Inform* 2012, 3:17 (18 April 2012) DOI:10.4103/2153-3539.95129

Research Article: Estrogen receptor testing and 10-year mortality from breast cancer: A model for determining testing strategy. Christopher Naugler *J Pathol Inform* 2012, 3:19 (28 April 2012) DOI:10.4103/2153-3539.95452

Original Article: Computer-assisted imaging algorithms facilitate histomorphometric quantification of kidney damage in rodent renal failure models. Marcin Klapczynski, Gerard D Gagne, Sherry J Morgan, Kelly J Larson, Bruce E LeRoy, Eric A Blomme, Bryan F Cox, Eugene W Shek *J Pathol Inform* 2012, 3:20 (28 April 2012) DOI:10.4103/2153-3539.95456

Charter Teaching Institution Members

One of the most noteworthy developments for API during the 2011–12 year was the participation of 19 Teaching Institution members. With support from these program chairs and program directors, API was able to reach many more faculty members and pathology trainees than ever before. The generous support of these programs enabled API and the Pathology Informatics 2011 planning committee to provide travel awards to the national meeting and to make available publication of articles in the *Journal of Pathology Informatics* (JPI) at no cost to individual API members. A few statistics reflect the important contribution made by these teaching member programs:

- More than 18 Teaching Institution individual members had more than 21 articles among them published in JPI.
- Twenty-three Teaching Institution mentor-educators attended the Pathology Informatics 2011 national meeting.
- Thirteen Teaching Institution members were faculty members at Pathology Informatics 2011.
- Twenty-one Teaching Institution residents and fellows attended Pathology Informatics 2011, and nine of them made formal presentations at the meeting.

THE 19 2011–12 CHARTER TEACHING INSTITUTION MEMBERS:

Cleveland Clinic

*Center for Pathology Informatics
Cleveland, Ohio*

Dalhousie University

*Department of Pathology
Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada*

Emory University School of Medicine

*Department of Pathology and
Laboratory Medicine
Atlanta, Ga.*

Henry Ford Health System

*Department of Pathology
Detroit, Mich.*

Massachusetts General Hospital
*Fellowship in Pathology Informatics
Boston, Mass.*

Montefiore Medical Center, Albert Einstein College of Medicine

*Weiler Division
Department of Pathology
New York, N.Y.*

University of Medicine and Dentistry

*of New Jersey Robert Wood Johnson
Medical School
Department of Pathology
Piscataway, N.J.*

University at Buffalo, State

University of New York
*Department of Pathology
Buffalo, N.Y.*

University of Alabama at Birmingham

*Department of Pathology
Birmingham, Ala.*

University of Arizona College of Medicine

*Department of Pathology
Tucson, Ariz.*

University of California, Davis, Health System

*Department of Medical Pathology
Davis, Calif.*

University of California, San Francisco

*Department of Laboratory Medicine
San Francisco, Calif.*

University of Colorado Denver

*Department of Pathology
Denver, Colo.*

University of Michigan Health System

*Division of Pathology Informatics
Ann Arbor, Mich.*

University of Pennsylvania Perelman School of Medicine

*Department of Pathology and
Laboratory Medicine
Philadelphia, Pa.*

University of Pittsburgh Medical Center

*Department of Pathology
Pittsburgh, Pa.*

University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine

*Department of Biomedical Informatics
Pittsburgh, Pa.*

University of Southern California

*Department of Pathology
Los Angeles, Calif.*

Wake Forest Baptist Health

*Department of Pathology
Winston–Salem, N.C.*

BENEFITS ASSOCIATED WITH TEACHING INSTITUTIONAL MEMBERSHIP INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING:

- Home page recognition on API Web site, www.pathologyinformatics.org
- Two mentor-educator memberships as sustaining members of API and sustaining membership for the department chair
- Four trainee memberships in API
- Discounted registration for the national meeting, Pathology Informatics, including an API presidents' trainees lunch
- No-cost publication of accepted articles in the *Journal of Pathology Informatics* (JPI)



2011 API Lifetime Achievement Award



The 2011 Association for Pathology Informatics (API) Lifetime Achievement Award was presented to Jules J. Berman, PhD, MD, by API's president Ronald S. Weinstein, on October 7, 2011, at the Pathology Informatics 2011 meeting in Pittsburgh, Pa.

Berman's educational trajectory included dual BS degrees in mathematics and in earth and planetary science from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, a PhD in pathology from Temple University, and an MD from the University of Miami. He undertook residency training at George Washington University. He ultimately received American Board of Pathology certifications in anatomic pathology and cytopathology.

After serving as a staff fellow at the National Institutes of Health between 1976 and 1980, he joined the faculty at the University of Maryland in 1984 and served there until 1998. He also was a faculty member at the Veterans Affairs Maryland Health Care system from 1985 to 1998, serving as chief of cytopathology and chief of surgical pathology. He was with the National Cancer Institute between 1998 and 2005, serving as program director for pathology informatics in the resources development branch. During this time he also held the position of visiting assistant professor at Johns Hopkins University.

He is the author or coauthor of 116 academic publications, including pursuits in the general areas of neoplasia including pre-neoplasia; informatics and bioinformatics; and their interface, including taxonomic aspects of classification of neoplasia. He also has authored or coauthored nine books, 12 electronic books, and chapters in four other books. Like his peer-reviewed writing, topics of his books include neoplasia, basic informatics and bioinformatics, and ethics.

Berman has made major contributions to the formation, evolution, and productivity of the Association for Pathology Informatics. He was a charter member of the organization in 2000 and has served as president, chair of the API Standards Committee, and chair of the Research Committee.

Berman is now retired and is devoting his time to what he characterized at the Pathology Informatics 2011 awards ceremony as "two of my great intellectual loves, reading and writing."

Travel Awards at Pathology Informatics 2011



Seventeen Travel Awards were given for trainee attendance at the **Pathology Informatics 2011** national meeting, held in Pittsburgh, Pa., October 4–7, 2011. Awards were presented at the Travel Awards Trainee Luncheon by API President Ronald S. Weinstein, API Training and Education Committee Chair Alexis Carter, and Pathology Informatics 2011 Codirector Bruce Friedman. Awardees were as follows:

Sara Cuaddra Acree, MD
LAC + USC Medical Center
Los Angeles, Calif.

Luca Molinaro, MD
University of Turin
Turin, Italy

Riley Alexander, MD, MBA
Indiana University
School of Medicine
Indianapolis, Ind.

Nemanja Rodic, MD, PhD
Johns Hopkins University
School of Medicine
Baltimore, Md.

Assif Ali, MBBS
University of Glasgow Institute
of Cancer Sciences
Glasgow, Scotland

Evita Sadimin, MD
Robert Wood Johnson
Medical School
New Brunswick, N.J.

Christina Appin, MD
Emory University
School of Medicine
Atlanta, Ga.

Neil Shah, MD
University of Texas
Southwestern Medical Center
Dallas, Texas

Feriyl Bhajee, MBChB
University of Mississippi
Medical Center
Jackson, Miss.

Brian Shirts, MD, PhD
University of Utah Health
Sciences Center
Salt Lake City, Utah

Sue Chang, MD
University of California,
Los Angeles
Los Angeles, Calif.

Radhika Srinivasan, PhD
University of California, Davis
Sacramento, Calif.

Ioan Curcoranu, MD
University of South Alabama
Mobile, Ala.

Farnoosh Tayyari, MD, PhD
University of Toronto
Toronto, Ontario, Canada

Rob Hackney, MD
University of Alabama
at Birmingham
Birmingham, Ala.

Lu Yang, PhD
University of Louisville
Louisville, Ky.

Mehrvash Haghighi, MD
Henry Ford Health System
Detroit, Mich.

Brief History of the Association for Pathology Informatics (API)

The Association for Pathology Informatics (API) was organized in 2000 as part of Universities Associated for Research and Education in Pathology, a 501(c)(3) organization that subsequently dissolved in 2002. At that time, the American Society for Investigative Pathology, another 501(c)(3) organization, agreed to take over the management of API, and a formal agreement between these organizations was signed in February 2003. This relationship was dissolved in December 2008 after the API membership voted to establish a separate, self-

governing 501(c)(3) organization. The Department of Biomedical Informatics and the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine agreed to provide office space and support staff until API could become financially independent. The University of Colorado has assisted in providing and hosting API's communication LISTSERV. API was incorporated in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in September 2009 and received approval of its status as a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization.

API Budget <small>(FINAL 7/9/2012)</small>		6/30/2012	
REVENUE		EXPENSES	
Membership Fees		Accounting	
Individual Regular FY12	\$6,210	Web Services	\$11,261
Individual Regular FY13	\$3,105	Other Professional Services	\$26,655
Sustaining FY12	\$675	Advertising	\$5,016
Sustaining FY13	\$225	Credit Card and Bank Fees	\$1,727
Teaching Institutional FY12	\$18,000	<i>Journal of Pathology Informatics</i>	\$835
Teaching Institutional FY13	\$15,000	Member Awards and Acknowledgments	\$1,867
Institutional/Organizations FY12	\$500	Travel Reimbursement	\$1,315
Corporate FY12	\$6,500	Trainee Travel Awards	\$1,169
Technical Staff Paid FY12	\$550	Other (supplies, printing, postage, etc.)	\$6,885
Technical Staff Paid FY13	\$50		
Total Membership Revenue	\$50,815	TOTAL EXPENSES	\$66,258
Other Revenue	\$42,775	Net Operating Gain/Loss	\$33,332
TOTAL REVENUE	\$93,590	Fiscal Year Starting Fund Balance	\$66,131
		Fiscal Year Ending Fund Balance*	\$99,463

*June Strategic Summit hotel costs of \$24,118 paid in FY13

API Membership Summary (2011–12)	FY11	FY12	FY12 (paid FY13)		
Year-to-Date: June 2011	Paid Members	YTD Members	Renewed Members	New Members	Total Members
Regular	31	54	8	19	104
Sustaining	6	3		1	10
Sustaining <i>(through organizational membership)</i>	13	40			53
Associate <i>(Becich Fund)</i>	10	29	1	10	49
Associate <i>(through teaching membership)</i>	16	34			50
Technical Staff		1		11	12
Total Individual Members <i>(excludes organizations and corporate memberships)</i>					277
Institutional/organization		1			1
Teaching institutional	7	12	10	10	19
Corporate <i>(complimentary Pathology Informatics 2010)</i>		5			5
Corporate		2		3	5

API Strategic Summit

The first API Strategic Summit was held June 7 and 8, 2012, at the Wyndham Grand hotel in Pittsburgh, Pa. It was an invitation-only event with corporate underwriting from Cerner Corporation, McKesson Corp., Sunquest Information Systems, and SCC Soft Computer. Approximately 70 people were in attendance in addition to staff members. The idea for this summit was stimulated by an increasingly prevalent trend among hospitals in the United States to deploy single-vendor, enterprise-wide solutions with embedded laboratory information systems (LISs) and move away from “best-of-breed” LISs. Such a change redirects decision making relating to computer system purchase and deployment away from pathologists and toward hospital executives. It is the belief of API leadership that this new hospital computing model may lead to significant functionality gaps in lab operations with resulting threats to patient safety and quality of care.

Prompted by this trend, the goals of the Strategic Summit were the following:

- (1) identify the broad array of challenges and problems currently facing pathology informatics and the LIS industry;
- (2) develop solutions and reactions that can help to solve or ameliorate them; and
- (3) knit all of these solutions and reactions into a comprehensive white paper following the summit, including an action agenda that could be used as a guide in the near future by pathology informaticians and vendors of LISs and LIS support software.

The chair of the Strategic Summit was J. Mark Tuthill. Representing API was the 2012 president, Raymond D. Aller. The eight participating faculty members were Michael J. Becich, Bruce A. Friedman, Dennis Winsten, Myra Wilkerson, Alexis Carter, John Sinard, John R. Gilbertson, and Ulysses J. Balis. The speakers representing the four corporate underwriters of the summit were Parwan

Singh and Megan Schmidt, Sunquest; Michael Tarwater, John Muir Health System, nominated by McKesson; J.D. Nolen, Cerner; and Gilbert Hakim, SCC Soft Computer.

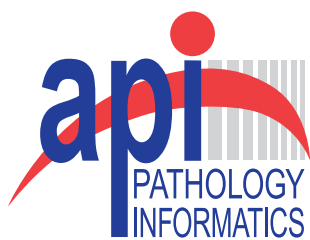


Ray Aller, API President 2012, and Larry Wimberly, LIS Consultant

The Strategic Summit was viewed as a success by all who attended. More important, however, were the follow-up actions that took place after the summit. All of the faculty PowerPoint presentations were posted on the API Web site. Three of the summit participants—Friedman, Balis, and Tuthill—are developing a white paper summarizing and analyzing the findings developed during the summit. Two LIS consultants, Larry Wimberly and Andy Splitz, have been engaged to develop two documents: a report detailing the history and the future of the LIS accompanied by a description of key LIS functionalities, which will provide a narrative that can be used by pathologists to make a compelling case to hospital executive officers for seeking maximum functionality when deploying information technology in pathology and clinical labs, and a detailed checklist of the myriad functions served by both a classic LIS and lab middleware that can be used as a tool when purchasing such systems in the pathology informatics market. All of this postsummit activity will be summarized at a half-day strategic workshop that will be presented on October 9, 2012, on the first day of Pathology Informatics 2012 in Chicago, Ill.



J. Mark Tuthill, API Program Chair



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