



ASCP Prepares for Global Annual Meeting in 2011

WASPaLM, worldwide call for proposals streamline Society's international push

CHICAGO – June 4, 2010 – The American Society for Clinical Pathology's (ASCP) Annual Meeting is changing. Not subtle change, but a radical transformation into an exciting, multi-day event for education and collegial exchange worldwide among the entire laboratory team.

The new approach to building the 2011 meeting includes ASCP's first-ever Call for Proposals and Topics, now open to the world. This call, which opens today, solicits contributions for 2011 Annual Meeting/World Congress educational sessions by teams of pathologists as well as laboratory professionals. There are two ways to contribute: 1) suggest a topic for an educational program, with no proposal required or 2) submit a complete proposal for a specific program topic, format and faculty. The call for full proposals closes Aug. 2; however, topic ideas may be submitted after this date. Industry supporters are also encouraged to contribute to the call. Visit www.ascp.org/2011AnnualMeeting to submit ideas and proposals. Separate calls will be issued by ASCP for submission of scientific poster abstracts and other educational opportunities after October 2010.

Most elements of the "new" Annual Meeting debut in 2011 as ASCP hosts the XXVI World Association of Societies of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine (WASPaLM) World Congress. WASPaLM is an organization active in international affairs, representing the field of pathology at the World Health Organization, serving on the Council of International Organizations in the Medical Sciences, and establishing relations with other international bodies. A truly international experience, the 2011 Annual Meeting/World Congress will bring together attendees from ASCP's membership of 130,000 professionals, as well as global attendees from WASPaLM's 44 constituent societies. The 2011 meeting will be Oct. 19-23 in Las Vegas.

"Hosting WASPaLM and incorporating new tools to engage attendees, ASCP looks forward to a truly global experience," said ASCP President, Mark H. Stoler, MD, FASCP. "Both physical and virtual meeting participants will experience the Society's value as a collaborative policy builder, influential thought leader and promoter of safe and effective patient care throughout the world."

Enhanced social and networking opportunities will create a distinct "meeting within a meeting" for pathologists, pathology residents and lab professionals, yet also result in an overall integrated annual event that mirrors the practice of pathology for all.

The new ASCP meeting format will use the latest technological tools and equipment to streamline events and better engage attendees. For example, the meeting will feature the use of novel presentation formats for scientific abstracts, including electronic versions of posters (ePosters). Interactive components will encourage active learning in educational sessions. Archiving significant portions of educational content will also create a meeting to extend to virtual attendees. Other not so subtle changes to the Annual Meeting include opening a channel with multiple opportunities for industry-sponsored education and embracing a new role for cosponsored and companion society sessions.

Revitalized educational programming, fueled by a restructured planning process, will greet meeting participants by offering new and distilled information balanced with core knowledge to encourage the rapid translation of scientific research into the practice of pathology and laboratory medicine.

[The 2010 ASCP Annual Meeting](#) will serve as a bridge to this new meeting with sessions that address the educational and social and networking needs of all members of the laboratory team in one setting. The keynote speaker, Harald zur Hausen, MD, DSc, winner of the 2008 Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine, will present "The Search for Infectious Agents in Human Cancers."

[Leadership Exchange](#), formerly a separate annual session for laboratory professionals, will be held during special tracks during the 2010 Annual Meeting. These sessions will help laboratory leaders strengthen skills in managing change, resolving conflict and encourage innovation.

The ASCP 2010 Annual Meeting will be Oct. 27-31 in San Francisco. To register, visit www.ascp.org/2010AnnualMeeting/.

Founded in 1922, ASCP is a professional society with 130,000 member pathologists, pathologists' assistants, residents, laboratory professionals and students. Based in Chicago, the ASCP provides excellence in education, certification, and advocacy on behalf of patients, pathologists, and laboratory professionals. Visit ASCP's Website at www.ascp.org.