



INSIDE NSH

2011 ANNUAL REPORT

National Society for Histotechnology
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FROM THE PRESIDENT – KERRY CRABB

As I reflect on the remarkable privilege of leading NSH in 2010 and into 2011, I'm reminded of how quickly time passes. I'm also humbled and grateful for the support of the board, the NSH staff and countless volunteers, who remained focused on our strategic direction to achieve our goals.



This year, the Society has celebrated its 37th year in existence, and change once again was evident in all aspects of our activities. We have been the prime mover behind a number of activities that will change NSH for the better. Our effectiveness is due in large part to the thoughtful and firm direction of the Society Board of Directors and the leadership team that comprises our committees and appointed positions.

It's hard to say much about the nature of change that hasn't already been said by famous writers, philosophers, and scientists — how constant it is, how challenging it is, how necessary it is to the healthy evolution of both natural and human-made systems. Someone recently shared an interesting quote with me on change from L.W. Lynett, a former IBM executive: “The most effective way to cope with change is to help create it.” I am proud to be a proponent of change and just like everyone else can at times resist the processes that change brings along.

The following pages chronicle the Society's many achievements during the 2010-2011 year. While mastering many changes, the Society has remained true to the founding mission and we will continue to do so.

On behalf of the Board of Directors, we thank you for your membership within NSH. Your commitment and investment with the Society is an important one and does not go unnoticed. We hope to see you in 2012!

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kerry Crabb". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Kerry Crabb
President

OFFICERS OF THE BOARD

VICE PRESIDENT – ELIZABETH SHEPPARD

As Vice President I have provided advice and information to the President , Executive Director and Executive board concerning decisions that were in the best interest of NSH throughout the year.



- Participated in BOD teleconferences, e-mails as required.
- Reviewed the minutes from the past President/Regional Director Forums.
- Sent out a call for agenda items as Chairmen of the Presidents Council Meeting.
- Chaired the Appointments and Organizations/Associations task force.
- Chaired the taskforce assigned to develop a career video for NSH
- Acted as a liaison between NSH and state societies.

Presented lectures and promoted NSH at the following meetings:

- CAP HistoQIP committee and grading meetings
- ASCP National Meeting - Represented NSH Promotional Booth
- Indiana State Meeting – Indianapolis, Indiana
- Florida State Meeting – Tampa, Florida
- Texas State Meeting – Dallas, Texas
- NSH IHC Forum- Denver, Colorado
- NSH Summer Symposium- LV, Nevada

Goals:

- To Chair the 2011 State Presidents/Regional Directors Council Meeting
- To serve as facilitator for the 2011 Strategic Planning Meeting
- Facilitate the completion of the NSH Career Video
- To assist with Appointed Positions to Other Organizations/Associations
- Other goals include encouraging NSH members to undertake new challenges such as serving on committees, presenting lectures and running for office. To actively promote public awareness of the histology profession by engaging other professional laboratory organizations and advocating a cooperative agreement.

SECRETARY – JENNIFER HOFHECKER



- Attended the Symposium/Convention in – participated in all activities of the Board of Directors
- Received the 2009 James B. McCormick, MD. award at the S/C.
- Transcribed minutes of all meetings of the BOD at the S/C in Birmingham
- Provided updates of BOD activities for NSH in Action
- Participated in the mid year BOD teleconference
- Transcribed minutes of BOD mid- year teleconference
- Represented NSH at the Health Professions Network
- Attended semi- annual meeting in Washington DC
- Lobbied for allied health on Capitol Hill
- Joined HPN communications committee
 - On- going activities of that committee: continue to get other associations to share important allied health news.
 - Participate in discussions regarding how to best communicate the HPN message.
- Distributed information on Histotechnology Professionals Day to laboratories in Tennessee and Alabama
- Celebrated the inaugural Histotechnology Professionals Day in Memphis, TN and in Birmingham, AL
- Presented Special Stains lecture at the Tennessee Society for Histotechnology symposium in Chattanooga
- Continued to serve as the Tennessee Society for Histotechnology Secretary and Exhibit coordinator for the symposium

Future Goals:

- Perform all tasks related to the position (both at the S/C and throughout the year) to the best of my ability
- Encourage fellow NSH members to try new challenges, such as presenting lectures, serving on committees, authoring journal articles, etc
- Continue to encourage non-member histotechnology professionals to establish NSH membership
- Participate in task force and focus groups for the benefit of NSH.

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES – JANET TUNNICLIFFE

Following the close of the 2010 HOD the functions of the Speaker of the House continued as I reviewed and approved the HOD meeting minutes to be distributed to the HOD delegates. As part of the NSH Board of Directors, I participated in two teleconference calls where I participated in discussion and voting on the business related to the function and operation of the NSH, in addition to ensuring that the meetings were conducted following approved policy and procedure.



I participated on a taskforce that was assigned the duty to develop a fraud policy to protect NSH, its members, employees and any vendors or contractors associated with the society. This was presented to the BOD and approved at the spring BOD teleconference. Along with the policy a procedure was also developed and approved by the BOD on how to implement a fraud investigation and reporting of the findings.

Over the last year I have worked on another taskforce to review and revise the NSH policy and procedures. The goal of this review is to update the procedures to reflect what is actually occurring in the society rather than what is written in the procedure, many changes relate to the change in technology which allows the NSH and members to communicate more efficiently than by using USA postal service. In conjunction with this, a format for the procedures has been developed that clearly defines the policy and then outlines all the related responsibilities for each NSH elected, appointed, or paid position and how to complete the procedure. This new format will be presented to the BOD at the 2011 S/C.

As follow up from the 2010 HOD I have stayed in close contact with the Bylaws chair, passing on some recommendations for changes in the Bylaws provided by the parliamentarian and providing input into the Bylaws changes to be submitted for the 2011 HOD agenda.

In the late spring I provided assistance and direction to the Credentials chair as she contacted region directors and state presidents to recruit qualified delegates to represent the NSH members in the HOD meeting.

As I write this report I have started to prepare for the 2011 HOD in Cincinnati. This includes requesting items from the region directors, committee chairs and state presidents to be included on the agenda. The secretary of the HOD and I will finalize the agenda and ensure it is sent to the HOD delegates and alternates prior to the seating of the HOD. I have also recruited a professional parliamentarian to assist with the running of the HOD meeting

TREASURER- DIANE STERCHI

All records have been kept in accordance with prescribed account practices and an audit of the books has been prepared for 2010 and 2011 to date. The monthly books have been reviewed through August of 2011 and Federal and State Taxes will be filed in November. Financial statements are published in the final pages of this report.



The six essential leadership attributes: set high standards; live your standards and mentor those who follow; create and share a vision; make the hard choices when necessary; be visible and out front; and instill hope in those who follow.”

John Di Frances

AROUND THE REGIONS

REGION I – ANGELA FOGG



- Attended NSH 2010 Symposium. Worked at the Registration Desk. Attended all BOD meetings and chaired the Region 1 meeting, attended the First Timers meeting.
- Contacted all the Region 1 First Timers to say welcome and offer my help should they need it when they came to their first NSH national meeting.
- Attended the New York State meeting in Albany, NY in May 2011. Invited a speaker to the meeting and was a moderator at the meeting. Worked on the Awards Committee for the meeting. Set up NSH information table for the attendees and was in attendance to answer and questions about the benefits of being a member of NSH.
- Attended the Region 1 meeting in Bangor, Maine in May 2011. Assisted at the Registration table and set out NSH information packets for the attendees.
- Took applications for Region 1 Histotechnologist of the Year Award. This years' recipient was Amy Farnan from Albany Memorial Hospital in Albany, NY.
- All state societies are fully functional.
- With the help of Luis Chiriboga, the NY State Society President and Dr. Pamela Colony, Program Director of the Histotechnology Program at SUNY Cobleskill, NY got the Legislative proclamation completed for Histotechnology Professional Day for NY.
- Was present at the BOD teleconference meetings.
- Participated in all online and mail voting.

On-Going Activities:

- Working with the state society presidents to keep their members informed of educational opportunities in the region and nationally.
- Working on the 2012 Region 1 meeting. Working on the Education Committee.
- Working on representing New York State Society of Histotechnological Society meetings with the Eastern NY chapter of CLMA.
- Working on assisting the NSH Quality Control committee. Progress is slow but I am continuing to try to be of assistance.

Goals:

- Continue to learn and grow with NSH and to assist with any NSH or Region 1 projects.
- Continue to assist Region 1 members and to keep them informed about NSH news and upcoming educational opportunities.
- To attend the 2011 NSH Symposium.

REGION II – CAROL BARONE

I. As our region only has a Regional Symposium every two years in order to allow the states to hold a meeting with better attendance on the off year, we did not have a Region II meeting in 2011, nor do we plan one. However, plans have been taking place since early January with the region presidents for a 2012 Region II Symposium.



Maryland has graciously accepted to be the host State... but in order to help our VA members with continuing education opportunities; these Region II presidents have selected Williamsburg, VA as the site for the Region II – 2012 Symposium. Janice Alvarez is the Chair of the 2012 meeting. She has been working with the Maryland Society members and the Presidents of the other active states in the region and has signed a contract (reviewed by Aubrey Wanner) with the Kings Mill Road Marriot, Williamsburg, VA for April 25, 26, 27 – 2012. We know this is somewhat in conflict with the timing of the Region I Symposium, but after talking with vendors, believe the meetings are far enough apart geographically, not to conflict. The vendors actually like the time and site.

I have also touched base with Angela Fogg about a possible joint Region I and Region II meeting for 2013, a year in which we would not normally hold a Region II meeting. She will bring the suggestion to her BOD and thinks it has merit, as do the vendors.

Janice and Sophie Thompson, who made the initial site visit to the Marriot, were impressed with venue. Janice “crunched the numbers” and after checking historical attendance for past 3 Region II events, has said she is comfortable with the numbers. All in all we agreed in it was a good contract and was signed by Janice, as Host State Chair.

After one more phone conferences, Janice, Sophie and I agreed it is time for “bodies” to meet in person and committees to be developed with a concrete educational agenda. I sent the up-dated to the presidents, there have been no negative replies. Janice is arranging a time and place for us all to meet to focus on the fine details of the event. I will also visit the site with Janice after the region players have met and we have discussed any other questions we may have regarding the venue. Region II 2012 Symposium is officially an event.

II. After much effort in trying to assist the State of VA with re-establishing membership in it’s old society over the past two years, and again at the meeting in Seattle, we found no way within their present by-laws to correctly handle the issues which are preventing it from being a functioning society. Since the By-laws made no provisions for an “Acting” President (Sophie Thompson) and/or VP (Roger Rourke), we abandoned this approach.

I forwarded the by-laws to Kerry Crabb for an opinion and after briefly discussing with Kerry, and finding no options in the by –laws, seized upon a suggestion he made to just organize a new Society for Virginia. I opened this discussion with the VA representatives who wanted to see Virginia have an active Society and we came up with the attached resolution for VA, which was sent out as a letter from me, as Region II Director to present VA NSH members, past Histotechnology Society of VA members and associate science facilities in both VA and DC.

The new Society is named the Virginia Histology Society and as of today has 40 active members. The interim committee is checking into state regulation and tax requirements for the organization and new officers have assumed their positions

III. Region II celebrated the 2nd Annual Histotechnology Professionals Day in a variety of ways. As we hope to continue to raise *awareness* of the importance of our field.

- DE – (President Michelle Hart)
 - Held several open houses, had displays at facilities and invited techs from other facilities to a joint luncheon.
 - DE techs are discussing a newspaper article on several facilities, in 2012, to demonstrate the breath of Histology as a Science.
 - Terry Coen, a senior histologist from Christiana Care Health Systems, was selected Delaware's Histotech of the Year for 2011.
 - Delaware also held its annual Joint Dinner (with Speaker and CEU's) in conjunction with the Delaware State Clinical Laboratory Scientists (DSCLS), during Lab week.
 - Histotechs also met with the Lieutenant. Gov., Matt Denn of Delaware, for a proclamation signing and discussions on the shortage of lab scientists, both in clinical and research science.
- MD – President Janice Alvarez,
 - Janice is the new President for the Maryland Society.
 - Janice and her BOD are tackling the Region II, as mentioned. but has still
 - They held a state meeting in May. As we all know Janice's enthusiasm is always infectious.
- NJ –President, Pedro Louro.
 - NJ had a great state meeting, as well.
 - They are now in the process of creating an Education Committee to bring further continuing education to histologists in the Garden State.
 - NJ, who also hosted the Region II Symposium in 2010, has an active and progressive society that always reaches out to serve the region, as well.
- PA – Gloria Limetti, President:
 - Is re-organizing, at present. After the loss of several members of the BOD, for various reasons.
 - I hope to make membership in PA my next target of action, now that VA has found its way back to health. Perhaps using the VA model will help jump start PA.
- VA – Update was noted above in Section II

IV. I have enjoyed my last two years as Region II Director and would like to thank the President's of Region II:

- Michele Hart- DE
- Janice Alvarez – MD/Terri DeCarli (past)
- Pedro Louro- NJ/Diana Goodwin (past)
- Gloria Limetti – PA
- Olga Koch – VA / Sophie Thompson (past interim)

Special note: Sophie Thompson. She is retiring at the end of the year. Though she is a cytologist, none of the activities in Virginia could have happened without her support and interest in seeing VA succeed in developing a functional society. She hopes to stay active in the NSH. I hope so, too.

Thank you to all Region Presidents for remaining constantly committed to their state societies and Region II. Having this hard working and talented group of people, and their members, is a reminder of the dedication histologists in this region have to continuing education and progressive science in the field.

REGION III – JERRY SANTIAGO



I.

- The societies in Region III have been busy in the planning and presentations of their annual meetings. This year the Mississippi Society for Histotechnology conducted a successful meeting as a newly reactivated society.
- Other society meetings for this year include Florida, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, and Tennessee whom hosted a very successful Region III meeting.
- I attended the Florida Society for Histotechnology Meeting in May, and have been in conversation with histotechs from Alabama in reforming their society.
- I have been in conversations with the President of the Georgia Society for Histotechnology as they have accepted the hosting for the 2012 Region III meeting April 13-15, 2012.
- A meeting for later this year is being planned in San Juan, Puerto Rico with the assistant of the NSH office.
- Participated in Board of Directors Conference calls.
- Sent out an official regional report including financial status to the president of the region.
- As a committee member on the NSH/CAP HistoQIP Program, I have been involved in the selection and grading of the material to be presented for each survey and have written Spotlight articles to accompany the final critique.

II. I had the opportunity to attend the NSH Summer Symposium in Las Vegas, and it was a well organized meeting with informative learning material for the attendees. It met the goals of reaching to a selective group of techs that otherwise could not attend a national S/C meeting.

III. Goals for the coming year

- Continue working with the societies requesting assistant and definitely work in the reactivation of the Alabama Society for Histotechnology.
- Assist the Georgia society with the planning of the 2012 Regional meeting.
- Continue with my involvement with the HistoQip Committee.
- Plan on attending a few of the region state meetings.

REGION IV – RAE STASKIEWICZ

This spring I attended the annual meetings of Indiana, Kentucky, Wisconsin (Tri-State Meeting), and Illinois. I could not attend Michigan's meeting as it ran concurrently with the Illinois meeting. Ohio did not hold a spring meeting, as is customary with the host state of the Annual Symposium/Convention. At each meeting I reported to the membership as to the state of the NSH, answered any questions and made myself available to help the members in any way. I also spoke to the value of joining the Society, and the benefits available to members.

I participated in three conference calls of the Board of Directors and joined in the discussions and cast votes when called upon.

I was available to the Budget and Finance committee as one of their liaisons to the BOD.

I wrote two articles and submitted them to the Presidents of the states of Region IV, along with the newsletter editors and/or their website managers for distribution to the members.



REGION V – SHARON WALSH

Participated in two mid-year Board of Director Teleconference meetings.

Presented educational lectures at the TriState Meeting and the Missouri Symposium

Worked with the MSH Meeting planners in preparation for the Missouri Symposium.

Distibuted written updates on Region V and NSH activities.

Ongoing Activities

Continue to provide information about NSH and Region activities to North Dakota, South Dakota and Kansas Histology professionals (States without active constituent Society status.)

Contacted Kansas Histology professionals to provide continued assistance for reinstating constituent Society status.

Continue to act as a liaison for the CEU Committee.

Goals

Assist Kansas with their interest to reinstate constituent Society status.

Distribute Region V and NSH updates in a timely manner.



REGION VI – JAN GARDNER

Attended the Texas Society State Meeting, Arkansas State Meeting

Served as appointment to CCCLW; attended meetings as necessary.

Continuing to assist New Mexico with educational initiatives.

Participated in all Teleconference Board Meetings.



REGION VII – ANDREA GRANTHAM

During the past year I was able to attend the Region VII/CSH meeting in Loveland, CO and two of the three quarterly workshops presented by the Arizona Society. During these meetings I spoke to the membership, giving updates on region activity and NSH news and events.

I participated in all BOD conference calls and online discussions and as BOD liaison to the VIR Committee I attended the VIR Forum in Raleigh and will help at the VIR table at the S/C in Cincinnati. I also attended the Summer Symposium where the attendance by region VII members was very good.



I am happy to report as a member of the Career Video Task Force that the additional shots that will be used in the video are now complete. We are hoping to be able to edit all the material that we have so to have a draft ready for the BOD to review at the S/C in September.

There were several great celebrations of HPD in Region VII and I was able to support events at two hospitals in Tucson by providing items from NSH. I also spoke to a reporter who wrote an article for my hometown newspaper on Histotechnology. It was published in the newspaper (and on the front page!) on Histotechnology Professional's Day.

I have communicated by email with NSH members in the non-constituent states in the region and have encouraged the Utah histotechs to hold another workshop day sometime later this year or early in 2012.

Goals:

- To help the Utah Society to become active again and to attend their meeting.
- To attend the Region VII meeting in Arizona and the Colorado meeting in 2012.
- To identify a candidate (or candidates) for region director after my third term comes to an end next year.

Challenges:

- Getting the Utah Society back on its feet.
- Identifying and communicating with NSH members in Idaho, Wyoming and Montana.

REGION VIII – KATHY ROHRBACH



Activities:

- Participated in Board of Director conference calls and emails.
- Member of the NSH Anti-Fraud Policy task force. The team, led by Sumiko Sumida, successfully drafted and presented final draft to the BOD for approval on May 11, 2011. As a result, additional documents such as Fraud Training, Document Retention and review of SOP's have also been identified for completion.
- Promoted and organized Histotechnology Professionals Day celebration at our workplace.
- Attended California's State Meeting.
 - Set up and managed NSH booth to promote NSH membership/educational offerings
 - Presented NSH Update at the California General Membership and Awards luncheon.
- Sent out "NSH BOD Updates" for publication in Washington and California's newsletters and websites. Emailed Updates to all NSH members in Region VIII.
- Actively pursued participation from Non-Constituent Societies and Inactive State members to be delegates for the 2011 HOD in Cincinnati, OH.
- Member of the BOD for the Clover Park Histology Program.

Goals:

- Continue to reach out, promote and communicate NSH information to Region VIII members.
- Attend and represent NSH at the AALAS meeting in San Diego to increase our visibility and advance our profession with our affiliate organizations.
- Write an article for NSH in Action.
- Grow and develop the Region VIII website to highlight state events.

I have enjoyed representing, communicating and meeting many of our Region VIII members. Thank you for your support!

REGION IX – ANN LYNDE



Activities:

- May 2011 Region IX hosted a one-day Education event in Montreal, Quebec. Great attendance and the quality of speakers and feedback was encouraging. Future Education events will be one-day format.
- NSH Health and Safety Board Liaison
- Participated in all BOD teleconferences and e-mail discussions.

Accomplishments:

- Region IX held its annual Education event in Montreal, Quebec on May 28th. The number of attendees was encouraging to continue with this format. There will be no Education event in 2012 for Region IX is hosting the Annual NSH Symposium in Vancouver, will continue in 2013 with the event being held in Calgary, Alberta.
- Region IX's Education Chair and committee did a outstanding job,
- The electronic registration and online payment for the Education event was a success again this year, will continue for future Education events.
- Region IX's Membership Chair is recruiting new members and is placing NSH posters in laboratories.
- Region IX's newly appointed Awards Chair and committee have been hard at work this year. A reminder that all Region IX members have the opportunity to apply for the awards electronically. The complete list and criteria can be found on Region IX's website.
- The Cutting Edge Newsletter is distributed electronically to the Region IX 95% of our membership, and a copy is available on Region IX website.
- The support from our vendors for newsletter and awards continues, their commitment is greatly appreciated.

Future Goals:

- Continue with one-day Education events and electronic registration.
- Continue to solicit vendor sponsorship for the awards
- Recruit new members and retain current members.

Professional Development Programing

The following live events were offered through NSH in 2010.

VIR Forum, Bethesda, MD
Summer Symposium, Indianapolis, IN
IHC Forum, Fort Lauderdale, FL
Hard Tissue Forum, Philadelphia, PA
Symposium/Convention, Seattle WA

The following live events were offered through NSH in 2011.

Troubleshooting Stains Forum, Bethesda, MD
VIR Forum, Raleigh, NC
Summer Symposium, Las Vegas, NV
IHC Forum, Denver, CO
Quality Control Forum, Austin, TX
Symposium/Convention, Cincinnati, OH

The Online Learning Center houses over 120 hours of workshops and seminars in the following categories:

Immunohistochemistry
Leadership
Molecular
Regulations
Safety
Specialties
Fundamental
Career Development

STANDING COMMITTEES-APPOINTED

AWARDS COMMITTEE - JEAN MITCHELL

In September 2010 I attended the NSH 36th Annual Symposium/Convention in Seattle, Washington where my duties as awards chairperson were to ensure proper and correct presentations of awards and scholarships at the awards banquet and general membership meeting. Prior to the NSH Awards Banquet I met with each vendor that sponsored an award and introduced myself as the NSH Awards Chair. At the awards banquet and general membership meeting I introduced presenters and announced recipients of awards. I set up and manned the awards table display throughout the week of the symposium. I was credentialed and attended the House of Delegates meeting.

On-Going Awards Committee Activities:

Twice per year the NSH Awards Committee will judge awards/scholarship applications submitted by histotechnology students and by members of NSH. Several times per year I corresponded individually with all of the awards committee members for feedback and input concerning awards judging, awards updates and feedback following the NSH 36th Symposium/Convention. The following input was received:

- Judging of student scholarships earlier in the calendar year and separately from the general membership awards was not an inconvenience.
- On-line judging of awards was well received.
- New look to the Awards plaque received approval.

Throughout the year I have:

- Corresponded with previous NSH award recipients in determining and confirming qualified use of their scholarship funds.
- Answered numerous telephone and email enquires I have received from potential applicants with questions and clarification on specific NSH awards/scholarships and application deadlines.
- Corresponded with the NSH office and NSH president on all award questions and concerns.
- Promoted NSH Awards at state histology society meetings.
- Submitted on time my quarterly awards committee new reports for publication to Janet Dapson, NSH In Action editor.
- Worked with a potential NSH awards sponsor for a new IHC award for 2012.

NSH Awards Goals and Purpose:

I will continue to promote the awards/scholarships offered annually to NSH members, increase awareness of this financial benefit available to our membership and meet the goals that I established for myself when appointed to the Awards Chair position. I will also continue to work with the Awards Committee for input/advise and work with awards/scholarship sponsors to develop new awards, as well as updating current offerings. It is my ultimate goal that through promotion and awareness that the outcome will be a noticeable rise in qualified application submissions and nominations received for the NSH annual award and scholarship offerings.

BUDGET AND FINANCE - MARY ABBUHL

The Budget and Finance Committee works closely with the NSH Board of Directors, NSH Office and Committee Chairs to prepare a fiscally sound budget for the Society each year.

Report of Activity for 2011:

1. The Budget & Finance Committee prepared the proposed 2011 budget and it was approved by the Board of Directors at the Post-Board meeting in Seattle, WA.
2. Each Committee Chair was sent their respective budget for 2011 expenses.
3. The Budget & Finance Committee is currently in the process of working with the Treasurer, Committee Chairs and the NSH Office to close out the 2010 Budget and obtain the year-to-date 2011 expenses in preparation of the 2012 budget.
4. Preliminary 2012 budget will be submitted to the BOD for inclusion in the BOD agenda at the S/C in Cincinnati, OH.

Goals for the Committee:

1. To obtain on-line viewing-only access to the NSH accounting software.
2. To close the previous year's budget in a timely fashion.
3. To keep in touch with all Committee Chairs throughout the year by providing a quarterly e-mail with an updated current budget for their Committee.

CEU COMMITTEE - RICK GRAHAM

The CE Committee strives to provide our membership with varied opportunities to obtain contact hour credits. Members may now receive contact hours for presenting a new or repeat presentation of a workshop or seminar at the NSH annual S/C or other state or regional meetings that have applied for NSH contact hours. For each presentation hour, three hours of credit will be awarded. Members can also receive contact hours for completing the quizzes in the NSH in Action. Additionally, in each Journal of Histotechnology, one article was featured as a continuing education article. By completing a short exam over the content of the article and submitting to NSH, members can obtain one contact hour of credit free of charge.

In 2010, nationwide there were 6,638 unique attendees for CEU units, which is up from 6,251 last year. 519 total workshops/seminars were approved. The Certificate of Completion Program by discipline implemented in 2004 at the NSH S/C continued. There were 361 participants in the Certificate of Completion Program at the annual NSH S/C. Of the participants, 249 qualified for Immunohistochemistry, 94 qualified for management, and 18 for safety certificates. Last year 2,733 people earned teleconference credits. This past year 311 labs participated.

Other ways that people obtained CEU's through the NSH were: 44 participants received credits for presenting a workshop which is up from 28 the prior year, 191 participated received credits for quizzes in the NSH in Action, and finally, 267 participated and completed the quizzes that are given for the featured article in the Journal of Histotechnology.

CONVENTION COMMITTEE – JOANNA BARTON

The Convention Committee worked hard over the past year coordinating educational opportunities for the 2011 NSH Symposium/Convention. Members of the Program Team as well as the Convention Coordinators working in conjunction with the NSH Office have played an integral part in the shaping of the S/C and its activities.

The new 90 minute option was well received last year and more abstracts for this length workshop were submitted this year. Due to the increase in these 90 minute abstract submissions we were able to increase

the total number of offerings at the S/C this year. In addition, we were able to increase the number of 90 minute blocks from two last year to four blocks this year. Another change to the schedule is the timing of the Culling Memorial Lecture and the Keynote Lecture on Monday.

During the Program Team meeting we discussed changing the workshop level designations from I, II, and III to Basic, Intermediate, and Advanced to aid attendees in making their workshop choices. We used feedback from the electronic survey to help us in determining the types of topics that were added to the program. We continued to categorize workshops with the VIR and/or Clinical designation which was implemented last year as well as the topic area to better label each workshop.

In the future we hope to continue to improve upon different aspects of the S/C, i.e. program, survey, registration, etc. We anticipate bringing an increased element of technology to the S/C. We will continue to listen to feedback from S/C attendees and the membership to shape the S/C to current and future needs.

EDUCATION COMMITTEE - CHRISTA L. HLADIK

The committee continues to make incremental progress towards its goals to develop educational material for the NSH membership and students. Several of the Self Assessment booklets are currently under revision by NSH leaders and experts in their field, authors include; Robert Lott, Freida Carson, Diane Sterchi, Monty Hyten, Sue Lewis, Lori Schmidt, Gayle Callis, Christa Hladik and others. Freida Carson has completed an assessment in the topic of muscle and nerve enzyme histochemistry. This assessment will be available along with the carbohydrate booklet by the end of the year 2011.

The goal and vision of developing a photo bank for student readiness and instructor teaching is in the beginning stages. Rashmil Saxena has assumed the responsibility of leading this project under the direction of the committee chair and NSH office. H&E images have been collected and submitted to Carrie Diamond to begin uploading and creating a site link. Glenda Hood also provided an extensive image resource for the committee to use in building the site. This project should begin moving quickly by the beginning of 2012.

The committee will begin annual review of current textbooks and making recommendations to update the educational material listing for the NSH web page.

Last year's goal to translate the "basic" set of self assessment booklets into foreign languages has been put on hold and will be revisited following further evaluation.

This committee membership laid a great foundation for success in the last year and will continue to grow with its membership. The focus will continue to be on updating the self assessments and creating an image bank for students and instructors.

TELECONFERENCES COORDINATOR – PEGGY WENK

2010 - 12 Teleconferences; 2,733 attendees participated; 311 labs

2011 - 12 Teleconferences; 2,039 attendees have participated to date; 268 labs have participated to date

2012 - 12 Teleconferences; Schedule Completed and available for S/C Attendees and Online.

HARD TISSUE COMMITTEE – JACK RATLIFF

Activities Completed:

- Conducted Hard Tissue Committee (HTC) meeting September 27th, 2010 at the 36th Annual NSH S/C in Seattle, Washington. It followed a published agenda with discussion and projection for 2011. The meeting minutes can be found on the HTC page of the NSH website (www.nsh.org).
- HTC representation at the 36th Annual NSH S/C with an informative display table that featured a couple of new committee resources (see below).
- HTC representation at the 36th Annual NSH S/C with the presentation of several informative workshops and posters by its committee members. One notable and unique presentation this year was “Resin Talk – Q&A for the Hard Tissue Histologist”. Workshop featured a brief introduction to resin histology and focused primarily on a Q&A format with a panel discussion from three recognized HTC members (Helen Wimer, Sue Ryan, & Jack Ratliff). All HTC related presentations provided a wealth of educational knowledge and continued exposure for both the committee and the preclinical research histology objectives of the NSH.
- Release of “Hard Tissue Resources” booklet – collated works of hard tissue related publications from the JOH over the last two decades. Arranged by the NSH & HTC.
- Release of “Introductory Techniques for Processing Mineralized Bone and Implants: Methods, Supplies and Equipment” – authored by Cathy A. Mayton, edited by a few HTC members, and published by the NSH.
- Presenter and attendee (March 2011) at the Georgia Society for Histotechnology, “When Paraffin Won’t Cut It – A Hands on Approach to Working with Resin in Hard Tissue Applications”.
- Provided an informative resource for inquiries via Histonet (www.histonet.org) and the Hard Tissue Blog (<http://tech.groups.yahoo.com/group/hardtissue/>), promoting the educational objectives of both the NSH and HTC.
- Provided HTC updates throughout the year via “NSH in Action” newsletter.

Ongoing Activities:

- Promotion of the HTC and the NSH via Histonet, Hard Tissue Blog, and workshop presentations at state, region, national, and international levels. (in progress)
- Working to improve member involvement at all levels of participation within the committee (i.e. goals; educational presentations, workshops, and posters; JOH manuscripts; etc.) both domestic and international.
- Preparation of workshop #103 – “Resin Talk for the Hard Tissue Histologist” at the 37th Annual NSH S/C in Cincinnati, Ohio. (in progress)
- Preparation of HTC display table and HTC meeting agenda (Sept. 18th, 2011) for the 37th Annual NSH S/C in Cincinnati, Ohio. (in progress)
- Continued representation of the HTC via “NSH in Action” newsletter. (in progress)
- Co-moderator of the Hard Tissue Blog and assistance with migration to the NSH website. (in progress)
- Organization and planning for 2012 Hard Tissue Forum.

Goals:

- Continued promotion of an NSH/HTC Mini-Symposium (Hard Tissue Forum) to provide additional “hard tissue” educational opportunities. It is designed for those who cannot attend the annual NSH S/C due to regional travel, date, and/or budget restrictions and to promote the NSH and HTC.
- Increase vendor support of both the NSH and HTC in support of both “hard tissue” educational scholarship opportunities and current and future HTC activities.
- Encourage and support HTC related presentations, manuscripts, workshops, posters, etc.
- Update “Hard Tissue Resources” booklet to as related to “hard tissue” publications of the JOH.
- Create a hard tissue/resin manual for committee activities and scholarships.
- Re-establish commitment to “Hard Times” newsletter as informative source of information to committee members.

HEALTH AND SAFETY COMMITTEE - MAUREEN DORAN

First timer reception- I will attend and will need at least 2 other committee members to volunteer. Please contact me if you are interested. We submitted questions last year for the first timers to answer. In a game format, the participants will visit the committee tables to get answers and win prizes. I also submitted our 1pg, 3-fold H&S informational flyer for distribution to the attendees.

H&S Booth- The Committee will man the booth from Saturday-Tuesday. NSH is asking that 2 people be present during breaks & lunches and 1 person during convention hours. This is a great way to meet the membership and have them recognize you as a committee member..

We will again try the “raffle” since an incentive is helpful to draw people to the booth. The gift certificate worked well and is easy to mail if not picked up at the meeting. The booth theme this year is Indoor Air quality.

Health & Safety Information packet-NSH will be making the hard copies that will be available from the booth. Last year’s updates included satellite accumulation area checklist, revision of carcinogen information and formaldehyde compliance. The packet is now available to members from the NSH web site.

Safety certificate program through NSH-Please review the types of safety workshops offered this year and suggest safety topics that may be important to the membership for 2012. Consider doing a safety workshop or present at the H&S forum 2012.

H&S Safety forum 2011-The H&S forum will be on Sunday, Sept. 18 from 12:30-4:00pm. The format is (3) 50-minute lectures followed by 10 minutes for Q&A. The topics being presented are as follows:

Industrial hygiene (IH) monitoring of indoor air quality-Jason Burrill

Emergency preparedness-Marcia Fisher

Satellite accumulation areas-Maureen Doran

We ask that each committee member submit at least 2 questions from the topics presented. The questions will be submitted to the presenters so that answers can be printed and included in the hand out material.

OSHA's ergonomic guidelines-Discuss the idea of defining ergonomic practices for our profession on a Federal level (OSHA) Pro's & Con's http://www.osha.gov/dcsp/partnerships/what_is.html

NSH safety self assessment guide-review and needed updates of safety material

I look forward to seeing everyone bright and early at this year's national convention. Remember that if you are unable to attend the convention &/or committee meeting you still have a voice. Contact me with any suggestions or comments.

IHC RESOURCE GROUP COMMITTEE – JOE MYERS

Overall Goals

1. Create a culture in which the members of this group become resources themselves – i.e. consider creating various 'task forces' representing the 'specialty' areas in which IHC is employed, including human-clinical diagnostics, animal-medical research, etc.
2. Consider expanding the group's focus to formally include *in situ hybridization*, since it is a very closely related 'technology'
3. Develop additional educational resources, including a web-based, self-paced 'tutorial', and an IHC/ISH-specific 'guidebook' – Note: the existing document, Self-Assessment 5: IHC, Enzyme Histochemistry, Flow Cytometry, ISH, and Electron Microscopy 'out-of-date' and contains only a small amount of information on IHC/ISH)
4. Consider increasing/improving the content of the IHC Forum, and announce the 'details' of this event much earlier in the year (i.e. through website 'postings', e-mail messages to entire NSH membership, and flyer 'mailings')
5. Encourage greater attendance at the group's one formal meeting each year– at the Annual Symposium/Convention

*Other Objectives and Activities

1. Develop a summary of the existing IHC/ISH 'standards' promulgated by various regulatory and accreditation agencies – for distribution to RG members only
2. Develop a set of 'best practices' in IHC/ISH – for distribution to RG members only – including:
 - a. Histologic and cytologic specimen fixation/processing, pretreatments (e.g. enzyme and heat-induced 'retrieval' and endogenous-enzyme, biotin, and protein 'blocking');
 - b. Reagent preparation (e.g. rinse buffers, diluents, antibodies, probes, detection 'systems', chromogens, and enhancers), and;
 - c. Staining procedures (e.g. incubation conditions, automated systems, etc.)
3. Develop additional content for download from NSH and/or RG websites – i.e. the material described immediately above.

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE – COLLEEN FORSTER

This year the Legislative committee continues to work on the goals set last year and build on new ones. We continue to work with states inquiring about or in the process of state licensure. We continue to recruit interested people to join the committee and assist with watching what is happening with legislation within their Regions.

As part of the goals set last year the committee has utilized the NSH office for more assistance enabling us to serve the membership better. We have been working hard to come up with more creative ideas for the Legislative table at the symposium and opened up the idea of designing a NSH flag.

As part of the Licensure task Force I have been working on ideas to be included in a first draft idea to be submitted to the Task Force before the symposium takes place in September. This committee would like to see this project completed within this next calendar year.

We have submitted our goals and objectives for the next. It is our intent to continue working with the necessary people to accomplish these and better serve the membership.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE - BARBARA A. BUJAK

The purpose and role of the committee is to act as a conduit for membership needs and to keep records and statistics on the members. In addition we exhibit at trade shows and meetings we use this opportunity to share the benefits of membership and the resources available through NSH. We also use it as a way to educate other health professions about histology and our organization. I continue to work closely with the NSH office to identify and incorporate new member benefits.

The following tasks/items have been addressed during 2011:

- Mentoring program has been developed and implemented it is headed up by Brenda Royce, Barbara Bujak and Paul Billings it consists of the following:
 - Brenda, Paul and myself setup guidelines for becoming a mentor
 - Approx. 18 mentors
 - Each mentor works with 10 new members
 - They explain what NSH is about and help them utilize available resources as well as answer any questions i.e.
 - is the mentee attending NSH, arrange to meet them act as the liaison/guide
 - Establish ongoing communication with them by checking in with them periodically
 - Brenda has set up a Google Group it is only for the mentors at this time its purpose is to serve as a way for everyone to communicate
 - Established a Mentor list on the NSH website
 - 2012 Membership form will have an area for people to select if they are interested in becoming a mentor
- NSH exhibitor at the ASCP meeting
 - Promoted NSH and the value of being a member
 - Provided attendees with a membership packet.

Goals:

- Continue to grow the mentor committee
- Extend the services of the mentor committee to include other areas such working with individuals returning to the field
- Continue to work on the increasing our membership as of August 2011 there are 3440 members.
- Exhibit at ASCP, Cytology and other affiliated organizations in order to promote NSH

PUBLIC RELATIONS - PAUL BILLINGS

PR Committee summary of completed activities and successes:

- A- In September 2010, I attended the S/C in Seattle Washington as PR Chair to include the First Timers Reception, Manning the PR booth with set up, attending all required meetings, as well as sitting on the board of delegates. I also recruited one new member to PR.
- B- This year I taught a workshop for the California State Society on Laboratory Management. This meeting was a huge success and I have been asked to do another workshop for the society next year.
- C- I attended the ISBER meeting in Washington DC. At this meeting, I sought out new NSH members as well as toured the Vendor show that included many new pieces of equipment used in histology.
- D- It remains a privilege to submit reports each quarter to Janet Dapson for NSH in Action.

Goals:

- A- Once again upon return from last year's S/C I sent a mass e-mailing to all first timers. I received wonderful response from many of them thanking us for all we do making them feel important. This year I had 10 people assure me they would be renewing their memberships for 2011.
- B- At this year's S/C, I will be working closely with my volunteers asking for positive ideas for change for the committee. The existing volunteers have always and remain a close group with great ideas for change to improve the overall aspect of PR.
- C- The PR Committee will again reach out to other committees, finding ways to incorporate exciting new venues. The PR Committee feels working together with other groups is the key for a successful NSH.
- D- Two years ago, I was asked to be on the subcommittee for the new mentoring program. Even though this committee started out slowly, I feel in recent weeks it is now doing very well and it proves to be a great addition to the S/C. The Mentees are now responding in a positive light and Barbara, Benda and myself are very pleased. We are now looking at new ways to promote this program to include: adding to membership kits, listing mentor's on web site, and now a Google group to reach all mentors with questions and concerns that may arise. At this year's S/C we will have ways of identifying new members, first timers and all interested parties wanting guidance and related questions answered. I feel we are now off to a wonderful start with many dedicated mentors in place.

In Summary:

I have submitted all reports and submissions in a timely manner. I remain open for new and exciting ideas for change after all, without change our great society and profession could not grow.

VIR COMMITTEE - JUDI STASKO

In 1983 the Veterinary, Industry and Research Committee (VIR) committee was established to:

- Develop academic curricula for continuing education at seminars, symposia, and workshops.
- Promote histotechnology in veterinary, marine biology, botanical, and other non-clinical laboratories and to inspire technologists in these areas to actively participate in continuing education programs.
- Maintain and provide current information concerning laboratory requirements as established by government regulatory agencies, such as OSHA, FDA, EPA and the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.
- Interact and exchange expertise between other groups involved in continuing education related to the committee's responsibility.

Completed Activities:

- Corresponded with VIR committee members
- Answered telephone and e-mail inquiries related to VIR issues by either giving, getting or referring answers to the inquiries.
- Corresponded with the NSH office and NSH president on all VIR topics.
- Wrote news reports for NSH in Action
- A One-day Forum on VIR was presented on March 26, 2011 in Raleigh, NC.
- VIR teleconferences held June, July & August, 2011

Ongoing Activities:

- Promote VIR committee to NSH members
- Solicit input from VIR members
- Annual VIR meeting during the NSH symposium where many of the members provide a resource for the membership throughout the year and also provide workshops, lectures and teleconferences.

Goals:

- Increase number of VIR related workshops for the symposium.
- Work with the office to plan the third VIR Forum meeting.
- Work with the office to plan the second set of VIR teleconferences for summer 2012.
- Increase accessibility of VIR information from NSH website
- Explore needs of VIR members
- Work on a VIR IHC handbook.
- Increase awareness of the VIR benefit available to NSH member

QUALITY CONTROL – BILL DESALVO

The committee is static and way too small, mostly due to my inability to convince members to take action and become involved. We have made significant strides with the Tissue Control Bank, thanks to Melinda Hamilton; and we have developed a one day Quality Management Seminar for 2011 ; but I have not been successful in getting the quality documents process moving. *We need you.*

As I have stated and requested previously, the committee needs to expand to four additional sub-committees: Quality Assurance; Validation; Workflow/Workload; Defect Error Reduction. Each sub-committee needs a strong leader and several dedicated contributors. These sub-committees will develop template procedure documents to assist in properly controlling all histology tasks, create documents and forms, and provide resource links to help develop the committee section for the NSH website. All members of the committee and the sub-committee leads will work together to find ways to improve histotechnology and assist our members. I know there are several of you just dying to get involved and make a difference. Now is the time to take the plunge and become a Quality Activist! We also need members to become involved with the Tissue Bank and work with Melinda to continue to develop the Request and Exchange process. It is in all of our interests to help create this important and necessary service. We have all run into the issue of not having a good control block and suffering through the difficulty of searching, only to find the material found unusable. Contact Melinda (m.sokol37@gmail.com) or the NSH office (histo@nsh.org) when you have blocks that you can share.

A positive development has been an increase in questions for the committee, concerning many different aspects of quality. These are requested through the NSH office, then forwarded to me. I have gladly tried to provide answers to the best of my ability, but it would be helpful to have more resources to direct the requestor to. I whole-heartedly encourage you to keep asking and requesting information, and I thank you for thinking of NSH first.

The committee can be so many more things, but not without your help. Think it over and if you want to be a Quality Activist, have some fun and help a fellow Histotechnician, contact me at wdesalvo.cac@hotmail.com. I know I can find a place to use your talents. As I have stated before, it is time we put our collective experiences together to develop resources that can be used as a guide in starting, documenting and completing a standardized quality process for any task in histology.

STANDING COMMITTEES –ELECTED(HOUSE)

BYLAWS COMMITTEE - MARK ELLIOTT

This past year we have had representation from just about all Regions on the committee-missing only Regions 2 and 5. Last year in Seattle the committee was to present 3 motions, however only two were presented as the third was withdrawn after consultation with the Judicial committee the evening before the HOD. It was felt that this motion regarding the wording/meaning of “under suspension” required input from the Society’s lawyer to ensure that we were not submitting a motion which contradicted other sections of our bylaws, or other laws (State/Federal) under which the Society is governed.

Of the two motions that were presented to the HOD in Seattle, the one concerning Temporary Replacement of a Region Director elicited lively discussion, however it was defeated due to vague wording. The third motion clarifying 2/3 vote in Article XII – Disciplinary Action was approved with little discussion.

The Society lawyer was consulted with regards to the mechanism/definition etc. of “under suspension”. We had hoped that it would only take a few months to hear back from the lawyer, however, we did not receive a reply until July 11, 2011- after the June 23rd deadline for submitting motions to the Bylaws Committee for review prior to submitting to the HOD. What we received from the lawyer was a complete “Restatement of the Bylaws”. The lawyers rationale for this restatement were due to the following:

1. The number of amendments over time has resulted in inconsistencies and lack of clarity.
2. Addressing violations of code of ethics should be reasonable, fair, clear, supportable with a legitimate basis, have a review procedure (due process) and not be open to charges of discriminations or arbitrariness.
3. Changes to the IRS Form 990 (tax return)
4. The increasing responsibilities of volunteer officers and directors to the members.

It was not possible for the Bylaws Committee to review the entire document prior to the deadline for HOD submissions, even with the Speaker of the House giving us an extension. It was decided that we would review only certain Articles and submit these to the HOD this year and complete the review of these “Restated Bylaws” over the next year and present them to the HOD in Vancouver in 2012.

The Committee has also asked the Board of Directors to review the Conflict of Interest policy and Complaint Procedures which the lawyer has provided and together we plan on presenting these to the HOD next year in Vancouver.

The Committee will be presenting 6 motions to the HOD this year-three following up on items that came out of the HOD in Seattle and three that deal with issues from lawyer in his Restatement of the Bylaws.

The Committee will be reviewing the remaining portions of the Restated Bylaws as suggested by the lawyer over the following year and will present these to the HOD in Vancouver in 2012.

I would like to thank everyone on the committee for their participation in the Committee, it is greatly appreciated.

CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE –MONTY HYTEN

Sent out call for delegates to all constituent society presidents and representatives of all non constituent societies and in active societies.

Verified membership status for all submitted potential delegates.

Submitted final roster to office and HOD secretary.

Prepared necessary paperwork for 2012 House of Delegates.

JUDICIAL COMMITTEE - LENA T. SPENCER

Committee Members: Dot Kuebler, Vinnie Della Speranza, Sheri Blair, Jim Burchette

Goals

To serve the membership of the NSH and HOD on issues deemed appropriate for judicial consideration and to be a resource for other NSH committees.

Activities

The Judicial Committee is currently reviewing the draft of the revised “Code of Ethics of the National Society for Histotechnology” at the request of the By-Laws Committee. It is recommended that the society’s legal documents be periodically reviewed.

Submitted Committee Member names to the HOD Credentials Committee Chair as possible alternate delegates for the 2011 HOD.

NOMINATIONS – ELECTION COMMITTEE – CINDY HIGGERSON

No report received

APPOINTMENTS WITHIN NSH

HISTOLOGY QUALITY IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (HistoQIP)

Submitted on behalf of the HistoQIP committee by Janet Tunnicliffe

NSH In ACTION NEWSLETTER –JANET DAPSON

The Winter 2011 edition was the first to be disseminated almost exclusively via e-mail to NSH members. Those members without e-mail, or who prefer regular mail, still receive hard copies. This accomplishment was in keeping with a goal set by the NSH President, the NSH Executive Director, and myself.

Throughout the year, the newsletter includes promotion of, and reports on, NSH events such as Histotechnology Professionals Day, the annual Symposium/Convention, and special topic forums. The Summer issue featured local content on Cincinnati as the location of the 2011 S/C. Continuing education opportunities, such as the Teleconference schedule, JOH Continuing Education test form and the NSH Quick Quiz, remain an important portion of the newsletter. Region Directors, Committee Chairs and Appointees have been submitting articles that describe their activities.

Quarterly reminders of the submission date for each edition of the newsletter are distributed to NSH Officers, Chairs, Appointees and Region Directors. In addition to assembling the newsletter and

interfacing with the printing company, I convert every issue of *NSH In Action* to portable document format (pdf) for electronic mailings to the members and for placement on the NSH website.

Electronic communications with State Newsletter Editors occurs as needed throughout the year to address questions and problems. Being unable to attend the State Newsletter Editors meeting at the 2010 NSH Annual Symposium/Convention, I was fortunate to have Mark Elliott (Region IX newsletter co-editor) moderate the meeting in my absence. I provided Mark with information to present to the newsletter editors at the meeting.

Publication of the newsletter entails regular contact with the NSH President, NSH Office, Board of Directors, BOD Appointees, Committee Chairs and committee members to obtain and discuss articles. As a result of such communications, items may be added or removed as regular features.

Specific goals for the coming year include:

- define a set schedule of regular articles as well as special feature articles
- update Policies and Procedures for the *NSH In Action* Editor position
- provide updated information about state newsletter resources and the *NSH In Action* Editor position for the NSH website
- work more closely with Region Directors, Committee Chairs and Appointees to encourage contribution of at least one article per year
- increase communications with state newsletter editors to provide ideas and assistance for creating quality publications

As Editor of *NSH In Action*, my constant goal is to furnish the best communication possible from the Board of Directors, NSH Office, Committee Chairs and Appointees, to the NSH members. To this end, I will continue to strive to provide the members with a relevant, timely source of information on Society affairs and topics relating to the field of histology.

REPRESENTATIVES TO AFFILIATE ORGANIZATIONS

ASCP BOARD OF CERTIFICATION (BOC) - MARILYN GAMBLE

The spring Board of Certification, Board of Governors meeting was held April 2-3, 2011 in Phoenix, AZ. The BOC is a separate certifying body within the organizational structure of the ASCP. To date, over 450,000 individuals have been certified by the BOC, which is recognized as the preeminent certifying agency for clinical laboratory personnel. The BOC offers certifications in 21 different categories and qualifications in three categories. Over the last several years, the BOC has expanded certification worldwide with five international certifications and one international qualification. A complete listing of all the certifications and qualifications offered by the Board of Certification is available on the ASCP website (<http://www.ascp.org>).

I am pleased to report the following:

1. The Board of Certification (BOC) is pleased to announce that the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) has awarded accreditation to the ASCP BOC for the following certification categories:

- Histotechnician (HT) and Histotechnologist (HTL)
- Technologist in Molecular Biology (MB)
- Cytotechnologist (CT) and Specialist in Cytotechnology (SCT)
- Pathologists' Assistant (PA)

It is anticipated that the remaining certification categories will be accredited once the programs implement the new job analyses.

2. Certification Maintenance Program (CMP) Booklet Revisions (July 2011, U.S. only) will be revised including the following updates:

- Clarification of the one point safety requirement that may be in laboratory safety or patient safety.

- Additional point for serving on an examination committee – increased from two points per year to three points per year.

- Additional point for role of on-site inspector/paper reviewer for laboratory accreditation, or training program accreditation – increased from one point per year to two points per year.

3. ASCP Vacancy Survey reveals pay, education, and retirement as laboratory staffing challenges:

According to the ASCP 2011 Vacancy Survey of the U.S. Clinical Laboratories, blood banking and transfusion medicine laboratories are experiencing the highest overall vacancy rate at more than 11 percent. Histology departments also struggle with staffing, with a reported vacancy rate of almost 10 percent. Published in the April issue of *LabMedicine*, the study estimated the rate of shortage for individual laboratory departments. Responses were received from more than 1,719 laboratory staff and supervisors. Read the entire vacancy survey: <http://www.ascp.org/Vacancy2011>

4. Wage Survey finds certified medical laboratory professionals earn more:

Laboratory medical scientists can raise their income by up to 14% if they become certified, according to ASCP's 2010 Wage Survey of U.S. Clinical Laboratories. Published in the March 2011 issue of *LabMedicine*, the ASCP Wage survey provides current wage data for the U.S.-based laboratory scientists. The survey highlights pay levels broken down by title, geography, certification, and other variables using results of an online survey that requested data from more than 10,000 laboratory managers, directors, and supervisors across the United States. Read the entire Wage Survey results: <http://ascp.org/Wage2010>

5. BOC to take a leadership role in the future of laboratory medicine:

As reported by Patricia A. Tanabe, MPA, MLS(ASCP)CM, Executive Director, the BOC has also taken a leadership role in the future of laboratory medicine. Its work will focus on promoting public awareness and assuming a proactive role in legislation that impacts the certification or practice of laboratory professionals. The BOC will strive to ensure an adequate and competent workforce to protect public health and advocate for increased communication with program directors regarding certification and its maintenance through continuing education.

There will be ongoing efforts to develop and globally consolidate new certifications in response to emerging disciplines or regulatory changes in the delivery of laboratory testing. Operating in a financially stable manner, the BOC will be instrumental in stimulating economic and workforce development both nationally and internationally.

6. Board of Governors election of NSH Representative:

While I have been very fortunate to have been nominated by the NSH, and elected as the NSH representative for three terms, I am taking this opportunity to inform the NSH membership that I have reached the maximum length of service allowed by BOC/BOG Policy. My last Board of Governors meeting will be in October, when the meetings will be held concurrently with the ASCP Annual meeting in Las Vegas, NV. My term expires at the conclusion of those meetings.

BIOLOGICAL STAIN COMMISSION (BSC) - DONNA HARCLERODE

CLINICAL & LABORATORY STANDARDS INSTITUTE (CLSI) - JANET KLIETHERMES

In April, I attended the 2011 Clinical Laboratory Standards Institute Leadership Conference in Atlanta, Georgia as the delegate for NSH. The theme of this year's meeting was "Improving and Protecting the Public's Health Worldwide". The conference included lectures and working meetings of sub-groups that are in the process of developing guidelines and standards.

CLSI develops standards and guidelines that impact the practice of laboratory medicine both in the United States and globally. By maintaining membership, NSH has the opportunity to review, comment, and vote on standards and guidelines as they are developed.

One significant CLSI accomplishment for FY 2010 included development of a streamlined CLSI consensus process. The new process will be more efficient and make better use of the talents of the

volunteers. After a project is proposed by an individual or an organization for consideration, a consensus committee will be formed to assess and endorse the proposal. After the endorsement by the consensus committee, a document development committee will be appointed. The project will then be put on a 15-month track or a 25-month track for document development.

In October 2010, CLSI launched StatPro, a statistical software program that makes it easy for labs to perform the statistical analyses needed to implement CLSI guidelines. CLSI currently has 71 active projects under development and has logged 4,000 hours in volunteer time donated this year. In addition to their annual symposium, CLSI offers teleconferences throughout the year with over 2,000 participants. They presented over 150 webinars in conjunction with the Joint Commission.

Currently, the CLSI Microwave Device Guidelines (GP28-A), originally published in 2005, are up for revision. The goals of this guideline are to provide a basis for reproducible sample preparation, to provide safety practice guidelines, and to discuss limitations of using a domestic microwave oven in a laboratory setting. CLSI is currently searching for a Chairperson for this sub-committee; when that person is located, a timeline will be developed for the revision.

HEALTH PROFESSIONS NETWORK -LENA T. SPENCER AND JENNIFER HOFHECKER

The Health Professions Network (HPN) is a collaborative group of organizations representing leading health professional associations, educational institutions and accrediting agencies, as well as federal and state workforce analysts, licensing and certification bodies. The allied health professions are the core group of the HPN, representing about 6 million jobs and 60 percent of the health care workforce. The HPN focuses on communication, consensus and advocacy on behalf of all allied health professions.

Goals:

To be the voice for the NSH, representing the membership and gaining visibility for the profession through the HPN organization.

Encourage programs that address issues that are relevant to the NSH and the histology profession.

To remain active in advocacy opportunities that may have an impact on the histology profession.

Continue to keep the NSH informed about issues and opportunities facing the HPN and Allied Health Professions.

Activities:

The HPN sponsors two meetings per year (spring and fall).

The spring meeting was held in Milwaukee, Wisconsin on April 13-16, "Movin' On: Providers, Professional Associations and Educators Adjust to Health Care Reform". The attendees representing approximately 40 health professional associations networked and discussed the challenges within their respective professions – lack of recognition and awareness, an aging workforce, racial/ethnic workforce diversity, to lack of clinical sites for required rotations and health care reform.

The interesting and provocative presentations from the outstanding speakers are available on the HPN website.

The fall meeting will be held October 12-16, 2011, in Jacksonville, FL.

The HPN is working with the Department of Labor and Ryan Merclean on an allied health competency model; interested individuals are encouraged to participant in monthly conference calls to develop a competency skills model that will ensure that future health care workers have the right skills for practice both today and tomorrow, and to help educators and regulators develop curricula, licensure, certification and career ladders.

As the NSH representative I am a member of the:

Consumer Awareness Committee

- Promotion of Health Career Opportunities
- Identify the issues/barriers/opportunities within Education, Legislation, Governance and Regulation
- Financial shortfall for Allied Health educational programs
- Working on programs to increase visibility of health professions in the public arena

Membership/Outreach Committee.

NAACLS – JENNIFER MACDONALD

NATIONAL SOCIETY FOR HISTOTECHNOLOGY, INC.
 Statements of Assets, Liabilities and Net Assets - Modified Cash Basis
 December 31, 2010 and 2009

	<u>2010</u>	<u>2009</u>
ASSETS		
Current Assets		
Cash	\$ 98,732	\$ 180,230
Investments	2,171,884	2,051,350
Inventory	<u>28,579</u>	<u>15,728</u>
Total current assets	<u>2,299,195</u>	<u>2,247,308</u>
Fixed Assets		
Office equipment	71,224	54,284
Software	<u>43,148</u>	<u>42,795</u>
	114,372	97,079
Less accumulated depreciation	<u>(79,445)</u>	<u>(79,775)</u>
Total fixed assets	<u>34,927</u>	<u>17,304</u>
Other Assets		
Security deposits	<u>5,395</u>	<u>5,395</u>
Total other assets	<u>5,395</u>	<u>5,395</u>
Total assets	<u>\$ 2,339,517</u>	<u>\$ 2,270,007</u>
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS		
Current Liabilities		
Payroll taxes withheld	\$ 7,855	\$ 4,974
Pension withheld	<u>5,327</u>	<u>1,660</u>
Total current liabilities	<u>13,182</u>	<u>6,634</u>
Unrestricted net assets	2,303,235	2,241,819
Temporarily restricted net assets	<u>23,100</u>	<u>21,554</u>
Total net assets	<u>2,326,335</u>	<u>2,263,373</u>
Total liabilities and net assets	<u>\$ 2,339,517</u>	<u>\$ 2,270,007</u>

NATIONAL SOCIETY FOR HISTOTECHNOLOGY, INC.
 Statements of Support, Revenue and Expenses and Other Changes in Net Assets - Modified Cash Basis
 Years Ended December 31, 2010 and 2009

	<u>2010</u>	<u>2009</u>
Unrestricted Net Assets		
Support and Revenue		
Exhibitions	\$ 468,700	\$ 515,372
Convention	376,938	323,190
Education	277,775	201,374
Memberships	242,815	232,595
Advertising and employment listing	110,140	172,033
Journal subscriptions	98,620	107,692
Realized/unrealized gain (loss) on investments	93,438	217,018
Interest and dividend income	80,212	61,247
Sponsorships	48,883	40,500
Public relations committee	16,614	1,397
Awards	12,697	26,980
Sustaining members	6,550	5,700
Miscellaneous	4,779	6,923
Royalties - credit cards	2,795	2,782
Membership list sales	2,172	1,951
Gain (loss) on disposition of equipment	<u>(85)</u>	<u>-</u>
Total unrestricted support and revenue	1,843,043	1,916,754
Net assets released from (transferred to) temporarily restricted net assets	<u>(1,546)</u>	<u>(3,893)</u>
Total Unrestricted Revenues, Gains, and Support	1,841,497	1,912,861
Expenses		
Program Services		
Publications	140,575	133,250
Educational programs	236,264	59,439
Conventions	<u>763,134</u>	<u>610,418</u>
Total program services	1,139,973	803,107
Supporting Services		
Administrative and general	<u>640,108</u>	<u>704,382</u>
Total expenses	<u>1,780,081</u>	<u>1,507,489</u>
Change in unrestricted net assets	61,416	405,372
Temporarily Restricted Net Assets		
Net assets released from (transferred to) unrestricted net assets	<u>1,546</u>	<u>3,893</u>
Change in temporarily restricted net assets	<u>1,546</u>	<u>3,893</u>
Change in net assets	62,962	409,265
Net assets at the beginning of the year	<u>2,263,373</u>	<u>1,854,108</u>
Net assets at the end of the year	<u>\$ 2,326,335</u>	<u>\$ 2,263,373</u>

See notes to financial statements.