

Newsletter Mission |

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We would like to wish all members of the Tumor Markers and Cancer Diagnostics Division, a very happy holiday season with best wishes for a healthy, safe and peaceful new year.

We are delighted that you have joined our division and thank you for your participation as well as suggestions for improvement. We hope to continue to hear from you on interesting subjects that we can cover in the newsletter. This can be technical briefs, short cases, interesting observations and original opinions.

Message from the Chair | Lakshmi V. Ramanathan PhD, Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, NY

Dear Colleagues,

Thanks to support from AACC membership, in 2017, the division of tumor markers and cancer diagnostics has been granted provisional status. To date, we have close to 190 members who have joined our division. My sincere thanks to AACC and my colleagues on the Executive Committee, Qing Meng from MD Anderson Cancer Center, Zhen Zhou and Josh Hayden from Weill-Cornell Medicine, Sarah Hackenmueller from the University of Wisconsin and Tina Lockwood from the University of Washington for the time and effort they have devoted to division activities.

Below is a summary of the 2017 Division Activities:

- **Division Breakfast Meeting at annual meeting** was held on Monday, July 31 between 7-9 am at the Santa Rosa meeting Room at the Marriott Marquis, San Diego where the members as well as the officers of the division had a chance to meet.
- **Inaugural Lecture** by Dr. Martin Fleisher, PhD on “**The search for a cancer specific tumor marker; reality or pipe dream?**” was extremely well received. Dr. Fleisher reviewed our progress over the past 40 years in discovering a highly specific test for cancer and according to him, we probably would get a C- and that may be a generous grade. However, on the bright side he felt that we are entering a golden age of early cancer detection.
- **Best Abstract Awards** were presented to Dr. Lusia Sepiashvili for “Breaking Free from the Ratio: Analytical Performance of an Immuno enrichment-Coupled MALDI-TOF MS Detection Method for Monoclonal Immunoglobulin Free Light Chain” and Dr. Chunni Zhang for “Clinical implications and multiple antitumor effects of miR-651 and miR-708 in renal cell carcinoma.”
- **Poster Walk was conducted** on Tuesday, Aug 1 between 12:30-1:30 pm to review more than 60 abstracts received by the division. Several brown bag sessions as well as short courses relating to tumor markers and cancer diagnostics were presented at the annual meeting.
- **By Laws** are being written by the executive committee and will be presented to the membership in the first quarter of 2018.
- **SPCC** initiatives have been supported by the TMCD membership. Several members have participated in the major gap scientific survey.