

# MICHIGAN SECTION AACC NEWSLETTER

## SPRING 2014

Raymond Karcher, editor

Chair's Corner

Veronica Luzzi

This season we are welcoming Spring more than ever! We are also very enthusiastic about the challenge proposed by the AACC main office to the local sections: if we recruit 25 new members by September 1, 2014, we can win \$500 additional funds to be included in our local section allotment check in December 2014 or a free Webinar for our Section (to be used by in 2014 or 2015). This is an opportunity for our section to increase our membership and be rewarded for it. Also, as an individual member you can be rewarded if you are able to recruit 2 colleagues in 2014: you can receive \$100 to use in AACC materials, including dues and conferences. More information is available at [http://www.aacc.org/members/AACC\\_Membership/Pages/Member-Get-A-Member.aspx#](http://www.aacc.org/members/AACC_Membership/Pages/Member-Get-A-Member.aspx#)

As part of the benefits of being a member, we enjoy the opportunity to meet with colleagues, share ideas, and get inspiration and support. On March 6<sup>th</sup>, we had the opportunity to meet with our colleagues once more and enjoy a great speaker: Dr. James Nichols, PhD, DABCC, FACB, Professor of Pathology, Microbiology and Immunology Medical Director, Clinical Chemistry at Vanderbilt University School of Medicine. He gave an excellent and engaging presentation on 'Managing Quality in a POCT Program' and 'Quality Control Based on Risk Management: CLSI EP23 and CMS IQCP CLIA Interpretative Guidelines'. There was a 25 minutes discussion with the audience where we all got the opportunity to ask questions and share ideas.

What better than staying current with the developments of new methodologies and breakthrough ideas than attending the AACC international meeting. This year the meeting will be held in Chicago and the main topic will be understanding and preparing for workplace change. In a recent blog about the 2014 AACC meeting, Dr. Thomas Moyer, Emeritus Professor of Laboratory Medicine at the Mayo Clinic, mentioned that 'Understanding and preparing for workplace change are fundamental themes of the 2014 Annual Meeting plenary sessions.' Hopefully, you will make time on your busy schedule to attend the meeting and give yourself the chance to be better prepared for the challenging years we will face ahead. I certainly hope to see you there!

Legislative Liaison Report

Raymond Karcher

The following is from Vince Stine at the National Office:

“The Senate passed S.1417, the "Newborn Screening Saves Lives Reauthorization Act of 2013," which would preserve recent advances in state newborn screening programs. Since the enactment of earlier legislation, the number of states testing for 29 of the 31 treatable core conditions has increased four-fold. S.1417 would preserve these gains. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention early screening has resulted in 12,500 babies receiving life-saving treatments and interventions annually. This legislation has played a critical role in improving the lives of these children. In addition to expanding access to newborn screening, S.1417 would assist state screening programs better assess and coordinate newborn treatments and continue research towards identifying treatments for conditions that can be detected through early testing. Attention will now focus on the House of Representatives. If you have not yet done so, please contact your House member [http://www.aacc.org/gov/gov\\_affairs/Pages/capwiz.aspx#](http://www.aacc.org/gov/gov_affairs/Pages/capwiz.aspx#) and ask them to cosponsor this AACC-endorsed bill. I will keep you abreast of further developments. Let me know if you have any questions.”

“The Food and Drug Administration has released two draft guidance documents on point-of-care blood glucose meters-one document covers POCT devices used in clinical settings, the other those sold over-the-counter for home use. The FDA documents address such issues infection control, device accuracy, study design and labeling. The FDA is seeking comments on these draft guidance's through April 7th. Please send me any thoughts you have on these documents, particularly the guidance for health care settings. Let me know if you have any questions. Thanks. Vince”

Upcoming Program: DNA Symposium at Beaumont Health System



**SAVE THE DATE**  
**23<sup>rd</sup>**  
ANNUAL SYMPOSIUM  
ON MOLECULAR PATHOLOGY

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**Clinical Applications of  
Genomic Medicine**

**September 16-17, 2014**

**Somerset Inn**  
2601 West Big Beaver Rd.  
Troy, Michigan

**Beaumont**

Local Interest

Raymond Karcher

The following position is open at the Michigan Department of Community Health, Lansing, Mi. for anyone interested. Please forward to other colleagues you might think would be interested if you are not.

**Public Health Laboratory Division Director for Chemistry and Toxicology**

The Michigan Department of Community Health seeks a doctoral level scientist with prior clinical laboratory experience emphasizing chemistry, toxicology and New Born Screening to lead a 30+ member Chemistry/Toxicology Division in our modern public health laboratory. This individual will provide technical and administrative direction to the Analytical Chemistry Section, the Trace Metals Section, and to the New Born Screening Section. Opportunities are available to develop and evaluate new procedures and work with state and federal public health partners on innovative programmatic responses to, and epidemiological investigations of, emerging environmental and other issues related to human diseases. The successful candidate will be a highly motivated individual with excellent interpersonal and communication skills, a record of scientific investigation in applied chemistry, evidence of a multi-disciplinary approach to problem-solving, and a strong commitment to continuous quality improvement and team management. See details at:

[http://www.michigan.gov/documents/StateDivisionAdministrator\\_13132\\_7.pdf](http://www.michigan.gov/documents/StateDivisionAdministrator_13132_7.pdf)

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