

AACC

Improving healthcare through laboratory medicine

2010

Annual Report

AACC's Vision: To provide national and worldwide leadership in advancing the practice and profession of clinical laboratory science and its application in healthcare.

Message from Catherine A. Hammett-Stabler, PhD, 2010 AACC President



With great appreciation and recognition of the tremendous efforts of members and staff, I now join the ranks of past-presidents who

can, with a sigh of relief, say “their” year was a strong year for AACC. Not only did we continue to dodge bullets that squarely hit many other professional organizations, we grew in ways we would not have thought possible at the beginning of the year.

The **2010 Annual Meeting and Clinical Laboratory Expo** was the biggest and best in AACC history as a result of the efforts of Mike Hallworth, the Annual Meeting Organizing Committee, and many volunteer members, vendors, and staff. Not only did we have a strong educational and scientific program, we officially broke the records on total attendance and total booth sales.

AACC organized and hosted an **international forum focused on global harmonization of results** from

clinical laboratory testing procedures for which no reference measurement procedure exists. This key leadership forum will serve as a basis within the laboratory community that will lead to the development of procedures to minimize the risk to patients from nonstandardized laboratory tests—and will ultimately lead to improved patient care.

AACC continued moving into the electronic world by offering access to the 2010 abstracts in several **e-book formats**. We also began offering a number of our book titles in this form as well. In fact, most future titles of the AACC Press will have three types of e-files prepared: pdf, prc (Kindle), and epub (for other e-book readers). So next time you consider a new title, check out the e-version. This is not the easiest market to crack, as formats and devices are developing as we move into the market, but we cannot sit back and wait for the dust to settle—if we do, we’ll be left behind.

Behind the scenes, Dr. Vince Stine carefully monitored the **issues related to our profession that were arising on a daily basis from Capitol Hill** and the greater Washington, DC, area. We voiced opinions and concerns regarding changing phi-

losophies and regulations from the FDA on topics ranging from glucose monitoring devices to laboratory-developed tests to challenges faced by manufacturers taking new products through approval processes. Dr. Stine skillfully summarized the issues in our monthly government affairs newsletter, in local section presentations, in webinars, and in annual meeting programming so that we could all stay informed and educated.

Past-President Barbara Goldsmith and Pamela Nash worked diligently to establish a sound foundation for the **Emerging Countries Project**. This initiative is made possible through a grant received in 2008 from the Wallace H. Coulter Foundation to develop training and educational programs for resource-limited countries. The workshop (“Adding Value to Patient Care Using Internal Quality Control”) held March 21–22, 2010, in Quito was an overwhelming success, and future workshops will follow. In addition, five Clinical and Laboratory Standards Institute guidelines were translated into Spanish for distribution at the workshop and throughout Latin America. The third edition of *Basic QC Practices* by Dr. James

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Westgard was also translated. These efforts expand the global mission of the Association.

Your Academy, the National Academy of Clinical Biochemistry (NACB), formally published two Laboratory Medicine Practice Guidelines, covering tumor markers and pharmacogenomics. The year saw greater collaboration and coordination of key activities between AACC and

NACB. Next year, 2011, will mark the end of the five-year transition for the two groups.

To all of you whose involvement and contributions made 2010 a success, THANK YOU! I sincerely appreciate your time and efforts and hope that you will stay involved. Our future rests on the dedication of the member volunteers and the excellent work of our exceptional staff in Washington, DC.

I encourage, even challenge, everyone of every member category to take a moment to think about what you receive from AACC and what you can do for the Association and our profession. Get involved—I promise you will find the time both personally and professionally rewarding.

Thank you once again for allowing me the honor and pleasure of serving as the 2010 AACC President.

Government Affairs



Healthcare reform remained a key issue in 2010. AACC worked closely with its allies to ensure that laboratory concerns were heard and addressed. The Association strongly backed efforts to extend patient access to testing services and to expand the role of evidence-based medicine (EBM) in healthcare decision making. It opposed cuts in laboratory reimbursement.

The Association continued its collaborative relationship with the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, which agreed to fund seven AACC proposed systematic reviews, while completing work on another. The

Association also supported legislative efforts to increase federal funding for EBM-related research.

AACC worked to streamline the FDA regulatory review process for low-risk TDM assays without a predicate device. The Association provided input to key decision makers, including the FDA, the FDA Council on Medical Device Innovation, and the Institute of Medicine, and developed and submitted a detailed white paper outlining the problems affecting TDM assays and the need for action.

The Association actively participated in discussions regarding the appropriate level of federal oversight for laboratory-developed tests and continued to support federal funding for the NIH National Children's Study.

Who We Are

AACC ended the year 2010 with 8,898 members.

International membership (outside of the United States) was 28% of the total AACC membership, and over 100 countries were represented.

Of AACC members,

- 78% are Full Members,
- 9% are Affiliate Members,
- 9% are Emeritus, and
- 4% are Student Members.

By gender,

- 72% are male, and
- 28% are female.

NACB, the Academy of AACC

The NACB invested 18 scientists as new Fellows in 2010. The Academy has 579 members in 30 countries.

AACC Reaccredited by the ACCME

An application was submitted to the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME) for AACC to be reaccredited as a provider of continuing medical education. The application was approved, enabling AACC to be reaccredited through 2014.

Divisions Membership

AACC's 14 divisions are specialized interest groups that provide education and networking opportunities for AACC members. In 2010, 3,376 scientists joined one or more divisions for a total of 5,892 memberships.

Annual Meeting & Clinical Laboratory Expo

AACC's Annual Meeting in 2010 was held in Anaheim, CA. Every comment we heard was that participants really enjoyed Anaheim, and it was a record-breaking meeting. Over 21,000 participants from more than 100 countries joined us in Anaheim. The Clinical Lab Expo had more than 1,995 booths for more than 650 exhibitors. Conference participants chose from some 170 programs. More than 800 scientific posters updated and informed attendees.

The five plenary session speakers were

- **John Trojanowski, MD, PhD**, University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine, Philadelphia, PA, "The Impact of Biomarkers on the Diagnosis of Alzheimer's Disease"
- **Gail Wilensky, PhD**, Project Hope, Bethesda, MD, "The Changing and Challenging Healthcare Landscape"
- **James Thomson, VMD, PhD**, University of Wisconsin-Madison, Madison, WI, "Human Induced Pluripotent Stem Cells Derived from Episomal Vectors"

- **Paul Ridker, MD, MPH**, Brigham and Women's Hospital, Boston, MA, "Inflammation, HsCRP, and Cardiovascular Prevention: A Paradigm Shift"
- **Leroy Hood, MD, PhD**, Institute for Systems Biology, Seattle, WA, "Systems Medicine, Transforming Technologies and the Emergence of P4 Medicine: Predictive, Personalized, Preventive and Participatory"

The program covered the full range of laboratory practice—from infectious disease testing to point-of-care testing management to many sessions on DNA, genetics, laboratory medicine in developing countries, and molecular testing. An exciting mix of cutting-edge science, sessions to enhance management skills, and opportunities to network with peers from around the world made the program a must-attend event.

Oak Ridge Conference

The 42nd Annual Oak Ridge Conference, "The Impact on Emerging Diagnostic Technologies," held in San Jose, CA, featured emerging technology in four key areas: (1) diagnostic

technologies for resource-limited settings, (2) novel multiplex platforms for diagnostics, (3) emerging detection technologies for diagnostics, and (4) novel separation and sample prep technologies. More than 65 posters were presented. Keynote speaker **Mauro Ferrari, PhD**, of the University of Texas Health Science Center in Houston, TX, opened the program with an overview on nanotechnology at the frontier of individualized medicine.

Other Conferences and Online Learning

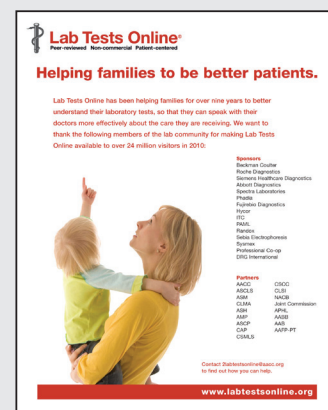
In 2010, AACC hosted 21 webinars, conducted 7 online learning certificate programs, and sponsored 9 face-to-face meetings. Of particular note, one of these meetings was a combined effort with NIST and IVD industry leaders to examine the state of assay harmonization in the clinical lab.

In addition, we posted three new webcasts, available free, online, and on demand. And of course, AACC's long-running Expert Access Live Online program continued to bring the most recent information and opinions on a wide variety of lab topics to our global audience, free of charge.

Lab Tests Online

Lab Tests Online achievements in 2010 include the following:

- Averaged more than 2 million visitors each month
- Reached 30 million visitors worldwide in 11 languages through 14 Lab Tests Online sites
- Launched Lab Tests Online–Brazil and Lab Tests Online–Portugal
- Agreed to development of Lab Tests Online–Romania under the guidance of the Romanian Society for Laboratory Medicine
- Signed an agreement with the Korean Society of Laboratory Medicine for development of Lab Tests Online–Korea



"I'm a former senior editor of *Prevention* magazine... This is the most phenomenal website—on any topic—that I've ever encountered. Congratulations and many, many thanks!"—Lab Tests Online user

Clinical Chemistry

In 2010, *Clinical Chemistry* maintained its role as the foremost international journal of laboratory medicine, publishing more than 2,000 pages of peer-reviewed papers advancing clinical laboratory science. The journal's popularity is well deserved. The Thomson ISI Journal Citation Report® last year again rated *Clinical Chemistry* as the most cited journal in the field of clinical chemistry. The journal was cited in excess of 24,000 times in more than 2,800 journals in 2010.

The journal is available to readers in print and in a full-text online version. Under the leadership of our Editor-in-Chief, Nader Rifai, the journal continued its program of “reaching out to the world” by working with other international societies to translate and print selected articles from the journal into a variety of native languages. We also continued the series of articles entitled “Clinical Chemistry Guide to Scientific Writing,” offering free educational guidelines on the basics of good scientific writing. *Clinical Chemistry Online* is the “version of record,” containing all the copy that appears in print, plus additional data supplements. The online version is available [here](#).

Clinical Laboratory News

Members read about the top issues facing labs and laboratorians in *Clinical Laboratory News*. Among the top news stories in 2010 were the diagnostic dilemma of ovarian cancer, emerging biomarkers for acute kidney injury, assay harmonization, and a look at diagnostic testing strategy for HIV infection. Patient safety issues for the lab remained a focus in the *Clinical Laboratory News* quarterly special section, “Patient Safety Focus.”

AACC Press Books

AACC Press published four new titles in 2010:

- *Abused Drugs III: A Laboratory Pocket Guide*, by John Wilson
- *Biochemical and Molecular Basis of Pediatric Disease, 4th Edition*, edited by Dennis J. Dietzen, Michael J. Bennett, and Edward C. Wong
- *Point-of-Care Testing: Needs, Opportunity, and Innovation, 3rd Edition*, edited by Christopher P. Price, Andrew St John, and Larry J. Kricka
- *Quick Guide to Venipuncture*, by Alexis Bennett and George A. Fritsma

Clinical & Forensic Toxicology News

This quarterly newsletter addressing the clinical, forensic, technical, and regulatory issues faced by toxicology laboratories included the following feature articles in 2010:

- “Heavy Metals Testing Can Assess Exposures and Toxicity”
- “Should the NACB Revise Its Guideline on Poisoned Patients? (Point/Counterpoint)”
- “Legal in Most States, Use of Marijuana Substitutes Grows”
- “Anti-Doping Testing Evolves With Changes in Drug Use”

Other Publications

NACB Laboratory Medicine Practice Guidelines (LMPG) are available for free download [here](#) or for sale through the AACC Store.

LMPGs published in 2010:

- *Use of Tumor Markers in Liver, Bladder, Cervical, Lung, and Gastric Cancers*, edited by Catherine M. Sturgeon and Eleftherios Diamandis
- *Laboratory Analysis and Application of Pharmacogenetics to Clinical Practice*, edited by Roland Valdes Jr., Deborah Payne, and Mark Linder

Professional Development

AACC Awards

John Trojanowski, MD, PhD
The Wallace H. Coulter
Lectureship Award

Jay M. McDonald, MD
Outstanding Lifetime Achievement
Award in Clinical Chemistry and
Laboratory Medicine

Ann M. Gronowski, PhD, DABCC, FACB
Outstanding Contributions through
Service to the Profession of Clinical
Chemistry

Amitava Dasgupta, PhD, DABCC, FACB
Outstanding Contributions in
Education

Robin A. Felder, PhD, FACB
AACC/NACB Award for Outstanding
Contributions to Clinical Chemistry in
a Selected Area of Research

Amy K. Saenger, PhD, DABCC, FACB
Outstanding Scientific Achievements
by a Young Investigator

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AACC and NACB awards were supported by generous contributions from Abbott, BD Diagnostics–Preanalytical Systems, Beckman Coulter, Inc., Quest Diagnostics, Roche Diagnostics, and Siemens Healthcare Diagnostics.

**Laurence M. Demers, PhD,
DABCC, FACB**

The Morton K. Schwartz Award for Significant Contributions in Cancer Research Diagnostics

Barbara M. Goldsmith, PhD, FACB
Past-President's Award

NACB Awards

James H. Nichols, PhD, DABCC, FACB
NACB Professor Alvin Dubin Award

Andrew N. Hoofnagle, MD, PhD, FACB
NACB George Grannis Award

NACB Distinguished Abstracts Awards

Twenty-five abstracts received the Academy's blue ribbon for excellence in scientific research ([click here](#)). Five of them were selected for oral presentation during the AACC Annual Meeting in Anaheim, CA.

Division Awards

Animal Clinical Chemistry

Peter D. Eckersall, BSc, MBA, PhD, FRCPath

University of Glasgow Veterinary School, Glasgow, Scotland
Outstanding Contributions to Animal Clinical Chemistry

David F. Adams

GlaxoSmithKline, King of Prussia, PA
Outstanding Research in Animal Clinical Laboratory Medicine

Clinical & Diagnostic Immunology

William Korzun, PhD

Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond, VA
Carl Jolliff Award for Lifetime Achievement in Clinical or Diagnostic Immunology

Ramesh C. Nayak, PhD

MSDx, LLC, Tuscon, AZ
Outstanding Research in Clinical and Diagnostic Immunology

Clinical Translational Science

Olusegun A. Mojiminiyi, MD, PhD
Kuwait University, Kuwait
Outstanding Research in Translational Medicine

Critical and Point-of-Care Testing

Bob Kaplanis

Laboratory Services of Arizona, Tempe, AZ
Point-of-Care Coordinator of the Year

Paul O. Collinson, MD, FRCPath

St. George's Hospital, London, UK
Outstanding Research in Critical Care or Point-of-Care Testing

Industry

Jacob Levine

Siemens Healthcare Diagnostics, Tarrytown, NY
Louis J. Dunka Jr. Memorial Service Award

Alison Woodworth, PhD

Vanderbilt University School of Medicine, Nashville, TN
Best Abstract of Interest to the Industry Division

Laboratory Information Systems and Medical Informatics

Corinne Fantz, PhD

Emory University, Atlanta, GA
Outstanding Research in Medical Informatics

Lipoproteins and Vascular Diseases

Ikunosuke Sakurabayashi, MD

Saitama Memorial Hospital, Saitama, Japan
Cooper Award for Outstanding Contributions to Service in the Area of Lipoproteins and Vascular Diseases

Management Sciences and Patient Safety

James Hernandez, MD

Mayo Clinic, Scottsdale, AZ
Outstanding Contributions to Management Sciences

Denise Uettwiller-Geiger, PhD

Mather Memorial Hospital, Port Jefferson, NY
Outstanding Research in Management Sciences

Molecular Pathology

R.H.N. van Schaik, PhD

Erasmus University Medical Center, Rotterdam, Netherlands
Outstanding Research in the Area of Molecular Pathology or Pharmacogenomics

Jianqing He, MD

University of British Columbia, Vancouver, BC, Canada
Student/Medical Technologist Award for Outstanding Research in Molecular Pathology or Pharmacogenomics

Nutrition

Michael M. Meguid, MD

Upstate Medical University, Syracuse, NY
Gary Labbe Award for Contributions to Laboratory Assessment of Nutritional Status

Sandy Botnen

Human Nutrition Research Center, Grand Forks, ND
Nutrition Division Service Award

Pediatric & Maternal-Fetal

Edward Ashwood, MD

ARUP Laboratories, Salt Lake City, UT
Outstanding Contributions to Pediatric and Maternal-Fetal Clinical Chemistry

Jianqing He, MD

University of British Columbia, Vancouver, BC, Canada
Best Poster

Alison Woodworth, PhD

*Vanderbilt University School of Medicine,
Nashville, TN*

Best Poster, Honorable Mention

Christina Lockwood, PhD

*Washington University School of Medicine,
St. Louis, MO*

Student and Young Faculty Best Poster

Qingli Wu, PhD

*University of Texas Southwestern Medical
Center, Dallas, TX*

Student and Young Faculty Best Poster,
Honorable Mention

Proteomics**Joely A. Straseski**

*Johns Hopkins Medical Institutions,
Baltimore, MD*

Outstanding Research in Proteomics,
First Place

Sean A. Agger, PhD

University of Washington, Seattle, WA

Outstanding Research in Proteomics,
Second Place

**Therapeutic Drug Management
& Toxicology Division****Stacy Melanson, MD, PhD**

*Brigham and Women's Hospital, Boston,
MA*

UTAK Young Investigator Award

Christine Snozek, PhD

Mayo Clinic, Rochester, MN

UTAK Young Investigator Award

Lindsay B. Hardy, MD

*Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center,
Boston, MA*

Outstanding Research in Therapeutic
Drug Management or Toxicology

Roy Gerona, PhD

*San Francisco General Hospital,
San Francisco, CA*

Outstanding Research in Therapeutic
Drug Management or Toxicology

**Divisions Management
Group Achievement
Awards**

Each year AACC recognizes the
division(s) whose achievements

have made a significant contribution
to advancing one or more of the
Association's strategic initiatives. The
2010 recipients were the **Clinical &
Diagnostic Immunology Division** and
the **Lipoproteins and Vascular Diseases
Division**.

2010 SYCL Travel Grants**Sean A. Agger, PhD**

University of Washington, Seattle, WA

Made possible by a gift from the
Chicago Local Section

Alex C. Chin, PhD

Emory University Hospital, Atlanta, GA

Supported by IRIS International, Inc.

Charbel Abou Diwan, PhD

*Emory University School of Medicine,
Atlanta, GA*

Made possible by a gift from the Van
Slyke Foundation

Deborah French, PhD

*University of California—San Francisco,
San Francisco, CA*

Made possible by a gift from the
Southern California Local Section

Van Leung-Pineda, PhD

*Washington University School of Medicine,
St. Louis, MO*

Made possible by a gift from the
Midwest Local Section

Marion Snyder, PhD

*Brigham and Women's Hospital Boston,
Boston, MA*

Supported by IRIS International, Inc.

**Clinical Chemist's
Recognition Awards**

AACC awarded the Clinical Chemist's
Recognition Award to 30 members
who provided documentation of having
completed 75 continuing education
credits in the past three years. Recipients
of this award are listed [here](#).

**Outstanding Speaker
Awards**

The Association recognized 101
presenters who had received an overall
speaker evaluation score of 4.50 in 2010

as outstanding speakers. The list of
outstanding speakers can be viewed [here](#).

Student Awards**Genzyme Student Oral
Presentations****Dennis O'Rourke**

First Place

Christina Lockwood, PhD

Second Place

Mohammad Al-Ghoul, PhD

Honorable Mention

Roy Gerona, PhD

Honorable Mention

**Genzyme Student Poster
Contest****Frederick Strathmann, PhD**

First Place

Maria Diamandis, PhD

Second Place

Sean Agger, PhD

Honorable Mention

Charbel Abou-Diwan, PhD

Honorable Mention

Student Travel Grants**Charbel Abou-Diwan, PhD****Sean Agger, PhD****Mohammad Al-Ghoul, PhD****Bei Cai, MS****Maria Diamandis, PhD****Kristen Ford****Roy Gerona, PhD****Jennifer Hackbarth, PhD****Lindsay Hardy, MD****Elizabeth Jaben, MD****Christine Lee, AB****Christina Lockwood, PhD****Dennis O'Rourke****Joely Straseski, PhD****Maria Willrich, MSC**

American Association for Clinical Chemistry, Inc.

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

December 31, 2010 and 2009

ASSETS	2010	2009
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 4,635,172	\$ 3,842,824
Investments	11,684,648	10,214,329
Accounts receivable	1,341,919	947,583
Pledges receivable	3,021,922	3,189,875
Inventory	238,511	238,920
Prepaid expenses	1,205,031	1,177,750
Property and equipment	682,983	729,970
Total assets	<u>\$22,810,186</u>	<u>\$20,341,251</u>
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS		
Liabilities		
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	\$ 1,074,742	\$ 964,086
Deferred revenue	4,666,412	3,986,779
Deferred rent liability	333,667	326,968
Total liabilities	<u>6,074,821</u>	<u>5,277,833</u>
Net assets		
Unrestricted:		
Undesignated	2,111,198	2,203,709
Designated	9,953,175	8,452,286
	<u>12,064,373</u>	<u>10,655,995</u>
Temporarily restricted	1,782,419	1,576,788
Permanently restricted	2,888,573	2,830,635
Total net assets	<u>16,735,365</u>	<u>15,063,418</u>
Total liabilities and net assets	<u>\$ 22,810,186</u>	<u>\$20,341,251</u>

If you have any questions or comments about this report, please contact

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American Association for Clinical Chemistry, Inc.

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

Year Ended December 31, 2010 and 2009

	2010	2009
Unrestricted activities		
Revenue		
Conferences and online programs	\$11,043,555	\$10,121,311
Publications and periodicals	2,855,488	3,077,274
Membership, public relations, & government affairs	1,744,833	1,709,448
Educational programs	614,771	684,607
Marketing	186,997	149,114
Divisions	161,031	192,672
Management services	49,059	58,934
Committees and other income	38,539	64,511
Net assets released from restrictions	7,332	817,716
Total unrestricted revenue	16,701,605	16,811,076
Expense		
Program services		
Conferences and online programs	6,173,992	5,978,356
Publications and periodicals	3,134,739	3,180,073
Membership, public relations, & government affairs	1,406,325	1,353,630
Marketing	759,834	742,693
Educational programs	407,447	415,458
Van Slyke Foundation	208,484	261,423
Coulter	170,356	184,785
Divisions	123,482	140,283
Committees	120,960	168,091
Management services	49,192	58,988
Total program services	12,554,811	12,483,780
Supporting services		
General and administrative	3,311,570	3,211,211
Customer service center	591,593	572,033
Total supporting services	3,903,163	3,783,244
Total expense	16,457,974	16,267,024
Change in unrestricted net assets from operations	243,631	608,563
Investment income	1,164,747	1,476,733
Change in unrestricted net assets	1,408,378	2,085,296
Temporarily restricted activities		
Van Slyke contributions	146,345	120,340
Investment income	35,223	83,429
Coulter contributions	31,395	30,539
Net assets released from restrictions	(7,332)	(817,716)
Change in temporarily restricted net assets	205,631	(583,408)
Permanently restricted activities		
Coulter contribution	57,938	57,938
Change in net assets	1,671,947	1,559,826
Net assets, beginning of year	15,063,418	13,503,592
Net assets, end of year	\$16,735,365	\$15,063,418

AACC's philanthropic program, the Van Slyke Foundation (VSF), offers you a way to give back to *your* profession and *your* colleagues. Here are some of the Foundation's good works for 2010:

- Twenty-three [International Travel Grants](#) that helped scientists from around the world experience the best and latest science and technology at the AACC Annual Meeting
- [SYCL Travel Grants](#) for seven young laboratorians to attend the 2010 AACC Annual Meeting
- A [Past-Presidents Scholarship](#) to **Laura Bender, PhD**, to study at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
- Four [Student Poster Contest winners](#) and a like number of [Oral Presentation Contest winners](#), thanks to a gift from Genzyme



AACC Van Slyke Foundation

- 15 [Student Travel Grants](#), thanks to support from Beckman Coulter
- Five honorees at the [International Science and Engineering Fair](#), also supported by Genzyme
- A VSF Research Grant to **David Grenache, PhD**, from the University of Utah, Salt Lake City, UT, for his project, "Genotype-Phenotype Correlation of Butyrylcholinesterase"

The Foundation also funded five-year AACC memberships for laboratory scientists from emerging areas worldwide,

thanks to generous gifts from Sandy and Jerry Gallwas and the Wilding Family Foundation.

Contributions also came through a FUNdraising Silent Auction and Reception, where bids brought donors great prizes for a great cause. Thanks to generous underwriting from AutoGenomics and PerkinElmer, all ticket and auction sales dollars went directly to grants and awards.

Another Silent Auction fundraiser will be held at the 2011 Annual Meeting, so save the date—Wednesday, July 27. [Click here](#) to buy tickets to the 2011 event! And look for VSF raffle tickets at the 2011 Annual Meeting—you could win a new iPad!

Your VSF gift is an investment in the future of our field. Make a [donation](#) today!

Thank you for your support!

Emerging Countries Project

AACC's Emerging Countries Project (ECP) took flight in 2010, with the presentation of a highly successful workshop, "Adding Value to Patient Care Using Internal Quality Control," presented to an SRO audience in March 2010 in Quito, Ecuador. Thanks to an exceptionally productive partnership with SEBIOCLI (the Ecuadorian Society), we were able to offer this inaugural program just prior to the X Ecuadorian Congress. It was one of AACC's highest-rated meetings ever.

We also translated numerous materials into Spanish including *Clinical Chemistry* case studies, the journal's article series, "A Guide to Scientific Writing," five selected Clinical and Laboratory Standards Institute guidelines, and the third edition of James O. Westgard's *Basic QC Practices*. All these resources were made available through our [Spanish Resources web page](#), which also offers information and access to AACC's other resources for international visitors and colleagues. These projects were ably guided by the Latin American Working Group: Barbara Goldsmith (chair), Rosa Sierra Amor (Mexico), Ana Leticia de Maselli (Guatemala), Stella Raymondo (Uruguay), and Consuelo Valencia (Ecuador).

ECP plans for 2011 include presenting an expanded and enhanced version of the workshop, this edition in conjunction with the COLABIOCLI's Congress in the Dominican Republic in November 2011. We continue to translate and publish the *Clinical Chemistry* case studies monthly, and are adding archived cases as well. Working with our colleagues in Latin America, we will evaluate their suggestions for additional translations to produce materials that are truly useful to this audience.

All these projects were possible thanks to a most generous and ongoing gift from the Wallace H. Coulter Foundation, which also funds the Wallace H. Coulter Lectureship Award. Through the ECP and the Coulter lectureship, AACC seeks to honor the memory of and educate others about the enormous and meaningful inventions and contributions that Wallace H. Coulter made to the diagnostics industry. To read more about the Coulter Principle and his many other accomplishments, please click [here](#).