

International Membership Grants Annual Reports 2010

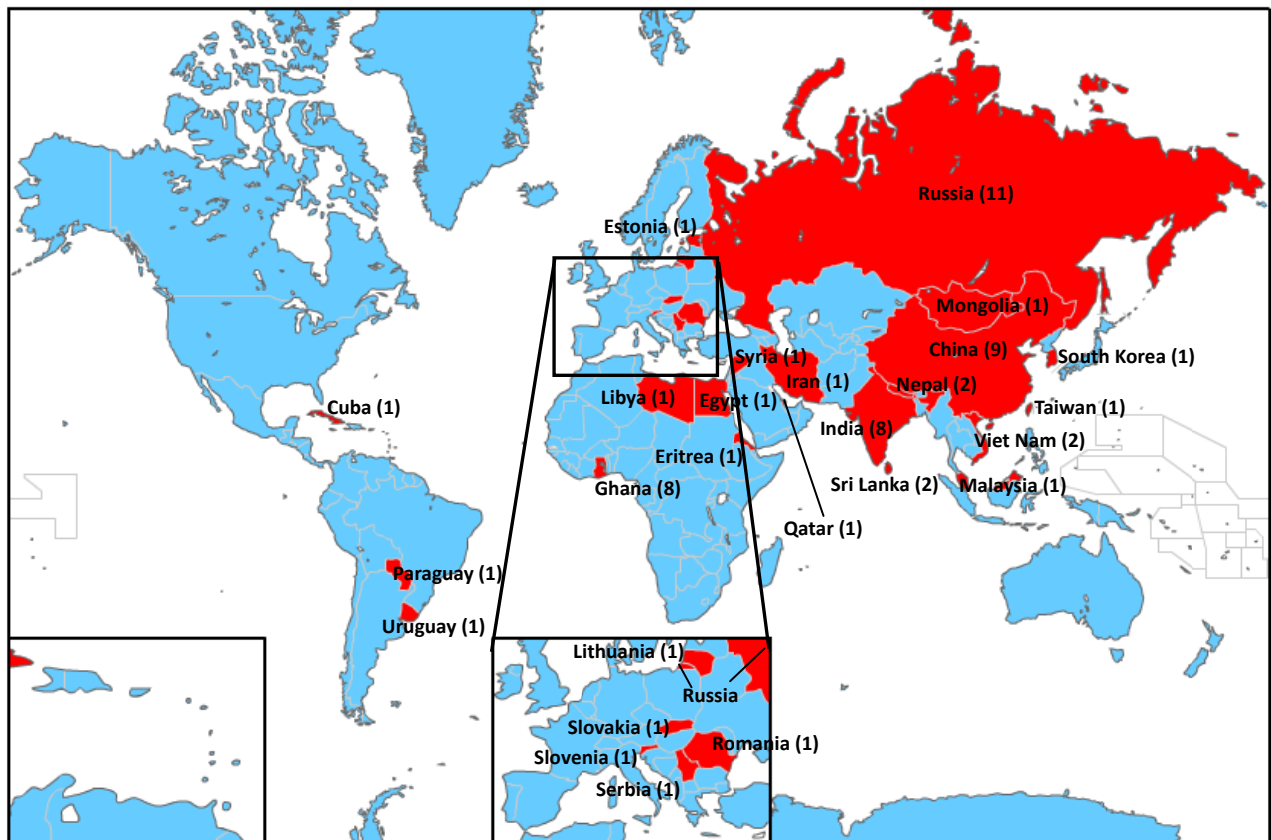
One third of AACC's membership lives outside of the United States in more than 100 different countries. Through its philanthropic arm, the Van Slyke Foundation, AACC provides 5-year membership grants to laboratorians in 'resource-limited' countries who could not otherwise have access to AACC. These international membership grants are made possible by the generous contributions of Jerry and Sandy Gallwas, the Wilding Family Foundation, Scherago International and individual AACC members.

Each year, there are more candidates than grants available for them. If you would like to contribute and allow AACC to continue and expand this important program, please visit AACC's website at <http://direct.aacc.org/vsf/Contribute.aspx>. If you would like to sponsor a deserving International Member, contact Jean Rhame at jrhame@aacc.org or on (202) 835-8744.

As 2010 ended, AACC had over 60 membership grant recipients in 25 countries. The majority of the grant recipients are in Asia, including Russia, with the remainder in Africa, South America, and Central and Eastern Europe.

As a condition of a grant, the recipient is required to provide a report each year explaining how the grant has benefited their practice of laboratory medicine.

International Membership Grants Worldwide





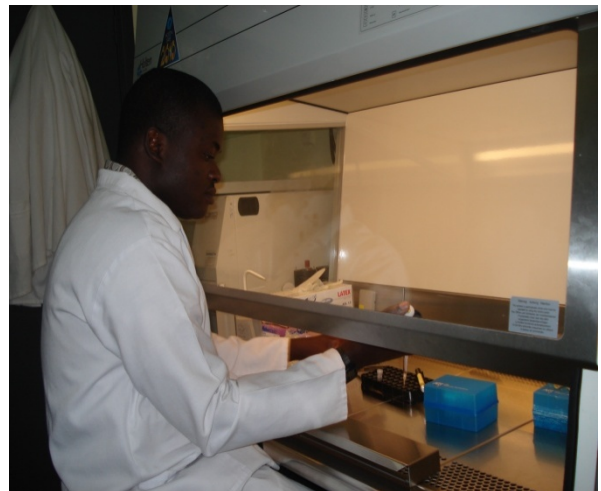
**Dennis Adu-Gyasi, BSc, PG Dip. ID,
Kintampo Health Research Centre
Kintampo, Ghana
*Member since 2008 (Jerry & Sandy Gallwas)***

I am pleased whenever I have the chance to write about what I have experienced as a research scientist with the support of the American Association for Clinical Chemistry and the Gallwas family. The information that I have imparted to my fellow biomedical scientists in Ghana has only been possible with the help that I have received from the Gallwas scholarship.

My membership offered me the chance to select one of AACC's online courses and I was able to complete the Clinical Laboratory Leadership and Management Certificate Program. The journals from the association have helped my development in proposal and report writing. The publications are always available to my colleagues and its impact to our research work is great. The search for new topics and trends to research is always available in the journals I received from AACC.

The improvement that I have seen in my work will continue as long as I remain as a member of AACC. Thank you to the Gallwas and the continuing education team of AACC. It is my hope to be able to attend another Annual Meeting to improve on the network I built when I attended the 2009 meeting in Chicago.

**Alex Agyekum
Quality Assurance Manager
Agogo Presbyterian Hospital
Agogo
Ghana
*Member since 2009 (Jerry & Sandy Gallwas)***



It is a great pleasure to be a member of AACC through the Gallwas grant and want say thank you to Mr and Mrs Gallwas for instituting this fund. I have benefited immensely from this grant through access to current online journals which have kept the entire chemistry laboratory team up to date with current trends in laboratory medicine.

As the head of the QA department, I have been able to implement a lot of quality measures in the laboratory through access to online journals and newsletters. This has enriched the quality systems in the laboratory. The laboratory also provides training for students on attachment as well as practical training for students from the Presbyterian University College at Asante Akim in Ghana and the Nurses' Training College at Asante Akim. I am able to prepare lecture notes for these students through the help of the online journals and the newsletters. I am very grateful to Mr. and Mrs. Gallwas, the Van Slyke Foundation and AACC.



Seema Bhargava, MD, PhD
Senior Consultant
Department of Biochemistry
Sir Ganga Ram Hospital
New Delhi, India
Member since 2008 (Jerry & Sandy Gallwas)

As always, I would like to begin with an expression of gratitude to AACC for honoring me with a 5-year Gallwas membership in 2008, for awarding me the International Travel Grant enabling me to participate in the AACC 2010 Annual Meeting held at Anaheim, CA, and, finally, to Mr. and Mrs. Gallwas for funding both.

The Gallwas membership has benefited me professionally as a laboratorian, as well as an academician. The direct access to ***Clinical Chemistry***, and exclusive access to ***Clinical Laboratory Strategies*** and ***Clinical Laboratory News***, has provided a constant stimulating insight into the current knowledge, advances and future directions for research and practice. The books that are made available to us also help in this manner.

This has enabled me to benefit our patients by the addition of new clinically useful parameters. This year, I have started the estimation of total bile acids and pre-albumin to better evaluate functioning of the liver. For better management of diabetes, I have included fructosamine in our test menu. Our hospital has very active nephrology and renal transplant departments. So, to better assess renal functions, I have started the estimation of Cystatin-C in serum. Thus early diagnosis and patient care in our hospital has been enhanced.

Thanks to the AACC and Mr. and Mrs. Gallwas who awarded me an International Travel Grant, I was able to participate in the 2010 Annual Meeting of the AACC held at Anaheim, California, USA, in July. The work I presented there was also part of my PhD study. The vast exposure to advancements in every field of laboratory medicine enabled me to bring back home a wider perspective of patient care.

Attending the conference, especially the focal meets of the Lipoprotein & Vascular Disease Division [LVDD] provided a deeper knowledge which was useful during the writing of my PhD thesis. At this juncture, I am pleased to inform you that I have completed the writing of my PhD thesis and have recently submitted it to the Jamia Millia University in New Delhi. Now I am awaiting the viva voce date.

Thus, I have maintained a steady pace forward, professionally and personally, through the introduction of clinically relevant parameters in our laboratory, and by the submission of my PhD thesis. I am pleased to acknowledge the professional exposure provided by the AACC and my Gallwas membership. I also hope to continue this trend in the coming years as well.

Proposed activities for the coming year are to enhance our test menu so that we may provide as wide a range as is clinically relevant to our doctors and patients. My aim to start detection of MTHFR [methylene tetrahydrofolate reductase] and CBS [cystathionine-beta-synthase] polymorphisms and VCAM estimation is yet under way. Also, I intend to submit several clinically related project proposals to some of our national funding bodies. I am already involved as principal investigator in one research project funded by ICMR [Indian Council of Medical Research] and in two others as a co-investigator.



Irina Birulya, MD, PhD
Clinical Laboratory Diagnostic Department
Pavlov State Medical University
St. Petersburg, Russia
Member since 2010 (Jerry & Sandy Gallwas)

I was awarded AACC Membership in the second part of 2010, thanks to the Gallwas grant. Membership of AACC has helped me and my colleagues to increase the level of education in the area of laboratory medicine using information from AACC web page and e-news. Also, the Gallwas grant has enabled us to spread new knowledge in the

laboratories and clinical departments of Pavlov State Medical University, at the lectures and seminars for senior medical students and postgraduates of the University.

The latest up-to-date information from the ***Clinical Chemistry*** journal helped me a lot in my practical work in Laboratory of Clinical Immunology and research projects. As a docent of Department of the Clinical Laboratory Diagnosis, I have completed my research on concentration of ET-1 in blood serum of patients with glaucoma and migraine and submitted the abstract to the 2011 AACC Annual Meeting in Atlanta.

I am very grateful to Jerry, and Sandy Gallwas, and AACC for this opportunity. Thank you for your support.

Sureka Chackrewarthy, PhD
Head of Department of Biochemistry & Clinical Chemistry
Faculty of Medicine
University of Kelaniya
Sri Lanka
Member since 2010 (Jerry & Sandy Gallwas)



First of all I am grateful to Sandy and Jerry Gallwas for the Gallwas membership grant. I became a member of the AACC in June 2010 and it is my pleasure to write this report on the benefits I have received since becoming a member.

AACC membership has provided access to the Association's services and activities through which I have benefited a lot. The hard copy of ***Clinical Chemistry*** journal which I receive monthly has been very useful to the entire Department including lecturers, research assistants and laboratory technologists. It has been updating us with current research methodologies in clinical chemistry and the review articles have been a source of knowledge in teaching activities for medical and science undergraduates. The AACC website provides access to audioconferences and webinars on topics of interest which could not be accessed otherwise. The ***Clinical Laboratory News*** has been useful in addressing the challenges in routine clinical laboratory work. As such AACC membership has been a source of inspiration to me and for the rest of the staff at the Department.

Overall, AACC membership will contribute to my career development as a clinical biochemist and in my role as a lecturer and researcher. It will undoubtedly help in improving the quality and standards of the

clinical chemistry laboratory service provided by the Department of Biochemistry to the local community.



Prof. Ming Chen
Director of Department of Laboratory Medicine,
Daping Hospital
Third Military Medical University
Chongqing City
People's Republic of China
Member since 2009 (Jerry & Sandy Gallwas)

2010 was a challenging year and also a fruitful year for me. Firstly, since there is much latest information in **Clinical Chemistry**, I just shared those books to my colleagues in the department. We studied together once every two weeks about the topical or interesting articles. For example, we learned **Dealing with Missing Predictor Values When Applying Clinical Prediction Models**. We also got more information from **Fasting and Non-fasting LDL Cholesterol: To Measure or Calculate?** Secondly, I received Case Study emails from AACC in time. During the process of studying, many impressive cases had jumped into my head. Thirdly, I was very proud to be one of the main organizers for translating the Lab Test Online in China, and we made our efforts to translating all new contents to remain current. Now, the Chinese Lab Test Online is already on the hospital LAN, keeping current all the time. It greatly helped doctors, nurses and patients pay attention to the tests and conditions online easily. The public responded well. I thank AACC again for giving me so many chances to study and make steady progress.

Olga Chernichyk, MD
Department of Biochemistry
Okrug Clinical Hospital
Khanty-Mansiysk
Russia
Member since 2008 (Jerry & Sandy Gallwas)

AACC membership is a unique possibility to receive education in laboratory medicine. With the membership, I visit your site and use the information in my research, the theme of which is Point of Care. That is why, writing the chapter on theory, I use the information from **Clinical Chemistry**. Having used some articles showing the diagrams of analysis, I completed the research of glucose and lipid composition. Also, your information about latest research and technologies helps me in my studying. In our country there is an intention to create and apply the independent devices for blood analysis out of the laboratory, that's why different information from your site and organization made me more informed about this subject. One more problem in medicine is diagnosis efficiency, screening and monitoring of cardiovascular diseases. This problem is broadly discussed in **Clinical Chemistry** so I have the opportunity to receive the latest information about methods of research and share this data with colleagues.



My latest achievement is the following. In March my colleagues and I will open the clinic-diagnostic laboratory in the institution where I work now. There we will have a large range of research work (oncomarkers, hematology and biochemical, immunology research). In our laboratory we will use high-performance autoanalyzer and their process will be controlled by laboratory software. The knowledge received from AACC permits me to solve the problems, directed on the quality of the result improvement of laboratory analysis; to publish the practical recommendations, methodological booklets and article connected with my research work; to receive the new information about the technologies and use the laboratory information systems for managing technological process; and to improve the traditional approaches in the work of the Center of Occupational Pathology in Khanty-Mansiysk Autonomous Okrug - Ugra.

I hope we continue our cooperation.



Barnali Das, MD, DNB, PGDHHM
Consultant, Biochemistry & Immunology, Laboratory
Medicine Department,
Kokilaben Dhirubhai Ambani Hospital & Medical
Research Institute,
Mumbai, India
Member since 2007 (Jerry & Sandy Gallwas)

I want to convey my thanks and gratitude to Jerry and Sandy Gallwas and the Van Slyke Foundation for awarding me the Gallwas grant in 2007 and also for the 2009 International Travel Grant. It has been of great support for my personal growth and that of the

institutions in which I have been working.

Foremost, it has helped me immensely, in setting up the Biochemistry and Immunology laboratory of the new, state of the art, 750 bedded Kokilaben Dhirubhai Ambani Hospital (KDAH) and Medical Research Institute at Mumbai, India. Earlier in my stint as a specialist in SRL Ranbaxy laboratory, Mumbai, I could learn and put to use my skills in Biochemistry and RIA-Chemiluminescence divisions. The ***Clinical Chemistry*** journal, that I receive, is an excellent source of knowledge and cutting-edge developments in my area of expertise. It thus helps me in imbibing the new techniques and translates them into laboratory practice.

The journal, newsletters and audioconferences also provide me, and the scientific officers working under my supervision, to refer to clinical problems and research projects undertaken worldwide. This has therefore helped us in establishing validation protocols, within the framework of Total Quality Management in our new laboratory at KDAH. I feel all these efforts to be worthwhile, when I am able to improve the quality of life of our patients at the hospital.

Subir Kumar Das (on the right)

Subir Kumar Das, PhD
Associate Professor, Biochemistry
Employees States Insurance – Post Graduate Institute of
Medical Science & Research
Kolkata, India
Member since 2003 (Jerry & Sandy Gallwas)



2010 was different from previous years. I was fully involved in clinical and laboratory service in this year. During this period, I worked at ESI-PGIMSR (Employees State Insurance Corporation-Post Graduate Institute of Medical Science & Research), Kolkata, which serves underprivileged people working in different factories. These people are fully dependent on this organization for their medical treatment. ***Clinical Chemistry*** journal and ***Clinical Laboratory News*** from AACC helped us serve these people. The number of laboratory investigations increased from 226,780 in 2009 to 320,796 in 2010. Out of this, the clinical chemistry laboratory alone performed 41,344 investigations. This was possible for me as Chief of Clinical Chemistry Laboratory, by efficient laboratory management, which I learned from AACC. Moreover, our organization initiated important hormonal assays in the last year that helped clinicians to treat and patients more efficiently.

AACC has given me ample opportunity to learn the subject in a better way and witness the latest development in this field. My colleagues and laboratory personnel also share knowledge from information provided by AACC. In addition, the e-Newsletter keeps me updated with international events and gives me opportunity to shape my career in a better way. I also wish to serve people in better ways.



Natacha Díaz Meyer, PhD
Department of Genetics
Meyer Lab
Asunción, Paraguay
Member since 2009 (Wilding Foundation)

I feel honored and privileged to have been awarded the Gallwas Membership Award. Since becoming member of AACC, I have received the monthly ***Clinical Chemistry*** journals, which I enjoy reading. It helps me to keep up-to-date on what is going on in the field. I have also made the journals available to the colleagues in the lab by creating a mini-library where they also can have access to the journals. I always encourage them to try to also take advantage of the journals, even if there is a language barrier. I have also accessed the journal online for electronic copies of previous editions on topics that we are researching in the lab to be up to international standards. In addition, we have also utilized the other resources and online tools that the AACC members can take advantage of, such as webinars and podcasts. A pending subject for me is to attend an AACC meeting (would love to and try to do so next year).

Overall, I can say that the AACC membership has allowed a unique opportunity for me to receive

information about the latest technologies and assays in the field of laboratory diagnostics.

I would like to take this opportunity to express my profound gratitude to individuals and organizations who contribute generously to the Gallwas Grant which in turn supports many upcoming scientists across the globe, in particular those from under-developed countries, such as Paraguay. I would also like to personally thank Mrs. Jean Rhame who encouraged me to apply. As she so eloquently stated: “The program is designed for those who could not otherwise have access to AACC and are in the early part of their career.” Through the Gallwas Membership Grant, the AACC is providing and facilitating what we as clinical laboratory professionals are constantly aiming to achieve—to improve the quality of life and well-being of our patients

Jun Dong (second from left)

Jun Dong, PhD
Beijing Institute of Geriatrics
Beijing Hospital, Ministry of Health
People’s Republic of China
Member since 2008 (Jerry & Sandy Gallwas)

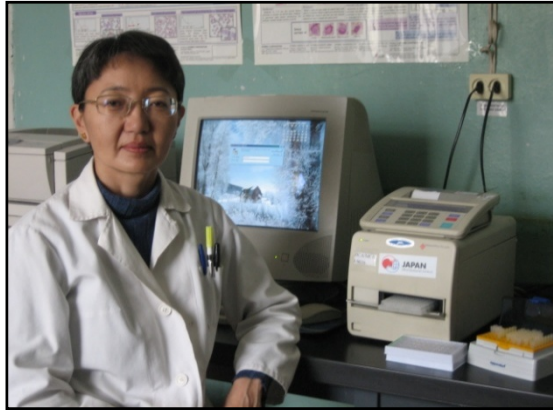
I have been a Gallwas member since 2008 and it is my great pleasure to report how the Gallwas membership has benefited me in the year 2010.

My work in 2010 still focused on standardization of lipid and lipoprotein measurements and methodological study of other cardiovascular disease risk factors. As a member of the US CDC Cholesterol Reference Method Laboratory Network (CRMLN), our laboratory continued to participating CRLMN reference method comparisons, and based on this, providing certification services for reagent manufacturers in China. We also developed accurate method for the measurement of serum high-density and low-density lipoproteins and compared it with several commercial homogenous assays and found that some systems are not analytically specific. This part of work is very important in approving the analytical quality of clinical laboratories in China.

Being a member of the AACC has been beneficial to me as well as to our laboratory. ***Clinical Chemistry***, the official journal of AACC, and the AACC website helped me a lot in my research design, standardization services and clinical studies. With the help of the depth understanding and the latest information of the journal, we have set up some projects on new metabolic and life style risk factors, such as cholesterol esterification rate, advanced glycation end products, cotinine and et al, and used these parameters in clinical studies. This work may provide effective predictive biomarkers for the prevention and management of cardiovascular diseases.

As always, I am very much grateful to AACC for providing membership through Gallwas grants and all the membership benefits.





Tserennadmid Enkhjargal, PhD, ScD
Director, Public Health Central Laboratory,
Public Health Institute
Associate Professor, Mongolian University of Medical
Sciences
Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia
Member since 2010 (Jerry & Sandy Gallwas)

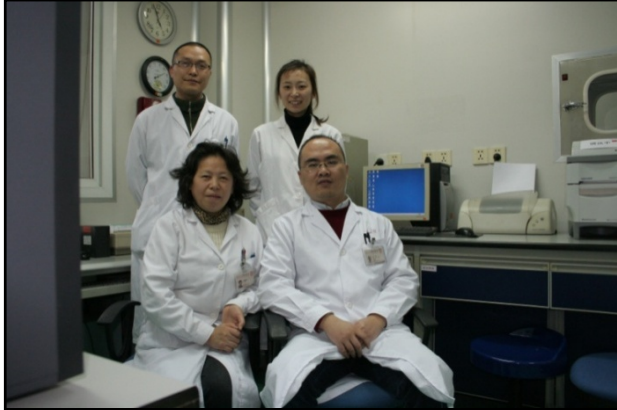
I was fortunate to be awarded a Gallwas membership in 2010 through which I became a member of AACC. The membership enabled me to receive copies of the journal ***Clinical Chemistry*** and join the Clinical Translational

Science and Management Sciences. Taking advantage of being an AACC member, I joined the Journal Club, and started receiving periodically via e-mail Clinical Laboratory Strategies e-newsletters, ***Clinical Laboratory News*** and Clinical Case Studies. The copies of ***Clinical Chemistry*** journal are circulated among the personnel of our laboratory, and e-newsletters are shared with members of the Laboratory Professional Council of the Ministry of Health. I took two clinical cases for the discussion at a meeting of researchers of our Institute. I hope that this is only a beginning of my cooperation with AACC, and as a new member, I am just learning about the opportunities of the membership.

Jasvinder K Gambhir, PhD
Professor, Department of Biochemistry
University College of Medical Sciences & GTB Hospital,
Delhi, India
Member since 2007 (Jerry & Sandy Gallwas)

I am grateful to Gerald and Sandy Gallwas and AACC for the generous gift of Gallwas Membership grant. This membership is a unique opportunity to receive online, as well as hands on education in laboratory medicine. Additional benefits of the AACC grant are e-News and ***Clinical Chemistry*** journal which have been important tools in keeping me and my colleagues updated with the knowledge in the field. This has also helped me to plan and guide my students in the area of clinical chemistry in a meticulous manner. I am working in the area of atherosclerosis and diabetes mellitus. E-news has generated lot of academic awareness in my field which I have been able to apply in clinical practice and also in the planning and execution of ongoing and new projects. This grant has also been helpful in getting an International Travel grant which I received in 2009 to attend AACC meeting in Chicago where I could see the huge display of the latest technology. I thank the staff of the AACC for the wonderful hospitality. I am looking forward to attending the AACC meeting in Atlanta in 2010.





Ming Guan (seated, right)

Ming Guan, PhD
Professor, Department of Laboratory Medicine
Huashan Hospital
Shanghai
People's Republic of China
Member since 2008 (Jerry & Sandy Gallwas)

It is really a pleasure to write an annual report at the end of 2010. In July, I was very pleased to get an International Travel Grant from AACC to attend the Annual Meeting in Anaheim, CA. At the meeting, I was invited to attend Lab Tests Online® global editor meeting. Each editor from the world talked about the situation of LTO development and problems they may have. We are happy to see that LTO is playing more and more important roles in the education in the field of laboratory medicine. I also had a poster presentation “Molecular Analysis of SLC2A9 gene associated with serum uric acid levels in the Chinese male Han population by high-resolution melting” and exchanged idea with colleagues from all over the world. As a recipient of travel grant, I had the opportunity to meet with other recipients from other countries, which expanded my communication with colleagues all over the world and helped me gain more information on the latest development in this area.

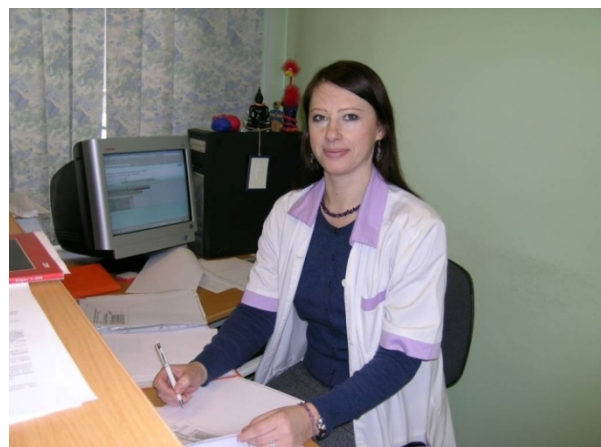
As executive chief editor of Lab Tests Online-China®, I continue to update the contents. Ten new tests have been translated and we will put them on the website soon. To facilitate the people in areas which do not have internet access, we have finished the editing of print version and this print version will be published at the beginning of next year.

A couple of weeks ago, it was my great honor to have Mr. and Mrs. Gallwas visit our lab. I introduced our lab and the activities related with AACC. In addition, we had a very interesting discussion on the case study in routine clinical laboratory work.

Once again, I want to thank Mr. and Mrs. Gallwas, the Van Slyke Foundation and AACC for their great support.

Agnes Ivanov
Quality Manager
Tartu University Hospital
Tartu, Estonia
Member since 2007 (Jerry & Sandy Gallwas)

In 2010, my work was influenced by ***Clinical Chemistry*** Journal. It helped me and my colleagues to improve our everyday work in health service. A number of studies have highlighted the importance of tight glycemic control (TGC) in management. Our institution used TGC protocols in intensive care units. Typical TGC protocols consist of placing post-operative and critically ill patients on a continuous intravenous insulin infusion, checking their glucose



concentration on an hourly basis and giving a bolus of insulin. However, measurement of blood glucose is performed by handheld glucose meters. At our institution, total imprecision for glucose meters shows a CV approximately 12% and a simulated total analytical error of 10% led to incorrect insulin doses in 16% to 45% of cases (Tight Glucose Control in the Intensive Care Unit: Are Glucose meter up to the Task? *Clinical Chemistry* 55:1 18-20 (2009)).

I visited the AACC Web podcast by Bob Barrett. It was a very interesting interview with Dr. David Sacks about Tight Glucose Control in Intensive Care Unit. I discussed, with head of Intensive Care Unit, the problems of glucose measurement and also submitted a soft copy of articles of *Clinical Chemistry* about tight glycemic control. We believe the one possibility for more precise glucose measurement may be the cassette-based blood gas analyzer in our intensive care unit.

All of my work during the past year was considerably affected by the Gallwas membership. Thank you for your support.



Snezana Jovicic
Center of Medical Biochemistry
Clinical Center of Serbia
Belgrade, Serbia
Member since 2005 (Jerry & Sandy Gallwas)

Being the member of the AACC thanks to the Gallwas Foundation has been the greatest honor for me for five years now. As I pointed out in my previous annual reports, the benefits of this membership, reflected through periodical issues of *Clinical Chemistry* journal and on-line editions of *Clinical Laboratory Strategies* and *Fats of Life*, have become irreplaceable source of news in the field of clinical chemistry for my colleagues and me. Together with the books I've received from the Foundation (and this year it has been *Tietz Textbook of Clinical Chemistry*, the most comprehensive and the most valuable textbook in the field of clinical chemistry and molecular diagnostics today) and CDs, all these resources helped me to prepare lectures and classes in my work with students as the assistant for experimental teaching of the subject clinical chemistry and molecular diagnostics, at the Faculty of Pharmacy, University of Belgrade. Also, I've been engaged as moderator in workshops of two courses of continuous education organized by the Faculty of Pharmacy and our national Society of Medical Biochemists of Serbia. The first one was dedicated to IFCC Standardization and Recommendations for HbA1c and estimated glomerular filtration rate and the other one to laboratory management, accreditation and quality insurance in clinical laboratory.

Also, AACC resources available to me through the Gallwas Membership Grant helped me in my research development. My research in the field of biomarkers in primary prevention of cardiovascular disease couldn't develop without *Clinical Chemistry* journal, the major source of references. This year was published my professional paper about the role of C-reactive protein in the development of atherothrombosis in *Acta Clinica*, the journal of Clinical Center of Serbia. Also, I had a poster presentation at XVII National Congress of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine, held in Belgrade in October.

I would like to thank Mr. and Mrs. Gallwas for this enormous support to my work and professional development. This support is not reserved for me exclusively, but the benefits of it are also used by all of my colleagues. Without your help, it would have been more difficult to us to keep up-to-date with the latest achievements in clinical chemistry. Thank you very much!

Lina A. Khorovskaya, MD, PhD
Clinical Laboratory Diagnostic Dept
Pavlov State Medical University
St.Petersburg, Russia
Member since 2001 (Jerry & Sandy Gallwas)

2010 brought me a lot of possibilities to develop education for clinicians and laboratory physicians in St.-Petersburg.

First of all we created a working group to translate case studies from **Clinical Chemistry** according our agreement with AACC and **Clinical Chemistry**. Our group consisted of postgraduate students and physicians from Pavlov State Medical University, St.-Petersburg, Russia. We translated four case studies and discussed them in Student Scientific Society Meetings. We invited a very nice audience from different medical Institutions of St.-Petersburg: Pavlov State Medical University, Medical Military Academy and Mechnikov Medical Academy. After lovely discussions all translated case studies were published in the medical journal **Consilium**. Names of participants were put on the last page of the December 2010 issue of **Clinical Chemistry**.



There were some more activities of Student Scientific Society with help of AACC. AACC member (TDM Division) Dr. Dave Berry (Medical Toxicology Unit, Guys and St Thomas' Foundation Trust, London, UK) gave a lecture for School of Young Scientists on "Testing for the Commonly Abused Drugs: A Medical, Social and Employment Issue" on April 7, 2010. Sixty two students attended this lecture. Dr. Berry gave a brilliant presentation and received a lot of interesting questions from the younger generation. There were students from Pavlov State Medical University and Mechnikov Medical Academy, St.-Petersburg, Russia. Professor Ksenia Zagorodnikova from Mechnikov Medical Academy made Russian interpretation of this presentation. It was interesting that after this lecture students preferred to ask questions to Dr. Berry in English. Most of them were very happy to speak with him. Dr. Berry gave permission to put his presentation on the webpage of the Student Scientific Society in Pavlov State Medical University.

Our collaboration led to the translation of NACB Guidelines **Acute Coronary Syndrome and Heart Failure**. My colleagues from the Medical Academy of Postgraduate Education and Publishing Office Terra Medica under the leadership of Dr. Igor Voltchek made this translation and printed in it in the medical journal **Laboratornaya Diagnostika**. Now everybody can read the Russian version of these Guidelines on the AACC webpage.

The Central Russian Medical Laboratory Journal **Klinecheskaya Laboratornaya Diagnostika** under the leadership of its main editor Professor Vadim Menshikov translated two 2 articles that were printed in this prestigious Russian Journal for specialists from all Russian Federation:

Miller WG, Bruns DE, Hortin GL, et al. Current Issues in Measurement and Reporting of Urinary Albumin Excretion. Clin Chem 2009;1:24-38, and

Taglieri N, Koenig W, Kaski JC. Cystatin C and Cardiovascular Risk. Clin Chem 2009;11:1932-43.

In December 2010, I ran a training course 'Quality Management in Laboratory Medicine' in Pavlov State Medical University. Ten doctors from three regions of the Russian Federation and Kazakhstan participated in this training. Other Gallwas Grant recipients Ludmila Ivanova and Olga Chernichuk helped me. We use a lot of education materials that we brought from AACC meetings, from AACC books and webinars.

I would like to say "many thanks" to AACC for this help with education for Russia!



Weiwei Liu, PhD
Huashan Hospital
Fudan University
Shanghai, People's Republic of China
Member since 2009 (Jerry & Sandy Gallwas)

It is indeed a great pleasure for me to submit this report as a member of the AACC since 2009. I would like to convey my thanks for the continuing support of the Gallwas award.

The Society of China Laboratory Medicine has been established more than 30 years and the clinical laboratory service of China is now in a very quick stage of development. CAP and ISO15189 accreditation have been spread to more and more cities in the last decade.

However, the staff in the laboratory needs continual professional education to match the development. So, I believe, the AACC Gallwas membership grant helping the laboratory professionals of the developing countries will definitely aid update and advance the field. I receive the news and information about the AACC from the ***Clinical Chemistry*** journal, emails, free books and the website. My colleagues and I will share journals and books in the seminar in our department. We think this journal is the one of the most important professional journals in the laboratory medicine worldwide, either in routine testing work or in research.

As an assistant professor and supervisor of molecular pathology in the Department of Laboratory Medicine in Huashan Hospital, I feel so much improvement in 2010 from the AACC membership. Our group could detection HBV-DNA, HCV-RNA, CMV-DNA, YMDD, JAK2 and so on. In 2010 we established the PCR protocol to detect the MecA gene in MRSA and report the result in one day. The articles in the journals and books will help us improve the progress. My research interests focus on the oncogenic potential of the AKAP12, a tumor suppressor gene, in the carcinogenesis of colorectal cancer. I found that the levels of methylated DNA of AKAP12 were correlated with Dukes' stages indicating that methylated DNA of AKAP12 could be a new biomarker for evaluating the malignancy of the cancer. The results have been published in Cancer Biol Ther (2010, 9(11):862-71) and Clin Chim Acta (2010, 411(13-14):940-6). I received the National Natural Science Foundation of China (Grant No. 81001059) in 2010.

I am so lucky to be awarded an International Travel Grant to attend the 2010 AACC Annual Meeting in Anaheim and share the excellent memory with thousand of professionals form all of the world. This is the first time that I attended AACC's Annual Meeting and I saw science and new technology in all areas of clinical diagnostics. I also had the chance to listen to lectures on biochemistry, immunology,

molecular pathology, microbiology and so on. In the receptions, I was able to communicate with the awardees from different countries. The medical lab tour in University of California, Irvine was also an important experience for my professional career.

As a member of the Lab Tests Online-China (LTO-China) editing team, I translated tests in 2010. I also do my best to spread the lab testing knowledge to the resident doctor in our department as well as in the website of Shanghai Society of Laboratory Medicine.

I really appreciated the AACC to award me the Gallwas membership. From above you can see I did benefit greatly from the membership in 2010.

Bernard Nkrumah, MPhil
Biomedical Scientist
Kumasi Centre for Collaborative Research in Tropical
Medicine
Kumasi, Ghana
Member since 2009 (Jerry & Sandy Gallwas)



My membership in AACC has been of tremendous help as far as knowledge in clinical laboratory medicine, management and leadership is concerned. The knowledge gained has improved my work, teaching and research activities. My colleagues and students have not been left out as I have ensured that materials, knowledge and skills acquired are shared with all.

This year has particularly been very eventful. I got the chance for the first time to participate and present my abstracts at the Annual Meeting in Anaheim, CA. This was made possible by the Gallwas travel grant and I am very grateful to them. This, I must say, was a huge experience and an eye opener for me. The symposia, plenary and poster sections etc educated me a lot, particularly in areas of manuscript writing, patient safety, result interpretation, sepsis, just to mention a few. The lab expo was the biggest I have ever seen.

The conference also afforded me the chance to make good contacts and interestingly, one of them, a senior consultant chemical pathologist, who happened to be in my country a few weeks after the conference, visited my facility. After a tour, he gave a wonderful presentation on Laboratory Diagnosis and Monitoring of Thyroid Diseases to the delight of all present; something I am so proud of.

I wish to thank Jerry and Sandy Gallwas for the travel grant award as well as the time I spent with them. I also thank the Van Slyke Foundation for my AACC membership. It is my hope that this experience will be bigger and better in Atlanta.



**Christopher Nkrumah
Biomedical Scientist
Methodist Hospital Wenchi
Ghana**

Member since 2010 (Jerry & Sandy Gallwas)

I would like to express my profound gratitude to AACC for granting me 5-year Gallwas membership. It is almost a year since I joined AACC and the improvement in our health service delivery is already evident.

I have benefited immensely from access to current online and print journals which have kept me and other clinicians updated on current trends in laboratory medicine. Publications on how to write standard scientific paper was particularly useful to me as an MPhil student at the School of Medical Sciences, KNUST.

I work at the Methodist Hospital Wenchi as the head of medical laboratory department. I was able to improve on the training of Interns from University of Ghana, Korle-bu Teaching Hospital, KNUST and Kintampo Health Training School with the use of the journals and newsletters from AACC. I also double up as a Regional Trainer and Support Supervisor and took this advantage to share valuable knowledge with colleagues on our regional rounds.

The journals and the useful online suggestions also helped our Clinical Chemistry unit to add the measurement of APO A-1 and APO B to the conventional lipid profile. This has really improved the cardiovascular disease risk stratification in our hospital.

**Peela Jagannadha Rao, MD, NRCC-CC, FACB.
Department of Biochemistry
Faculty of Medicine, Garyounis University
Benghazi, Libya
*Member since 2005 (Jerry & Sandy Gallwas)***



I have been an AACC member since September 2005. I was given a Gallwas membership grant while I was working for Ministry of Health Hospitals of Saudi Arabia as a specialist in biochemistry. I receive regularly the AACC news bulletin by e-mail and learn all the latest news about clinical chemistry subject worldwide. Since February 2006, I am also member of the National Academy of Clinical Biochemistry.

Presently I am working as faculty member of the Department of Biochemistry, Faculty of Medicine, Garyounis University, Benghazi, Libya.

I strongly believe that it will be very much helpful to me if I continue my membership as a clinical chemist. As an AACC member I am enjoying all the privileges of the membership. I am able to access online contents of journals of AACC, and monthly updates by reading newsletters. I gain much

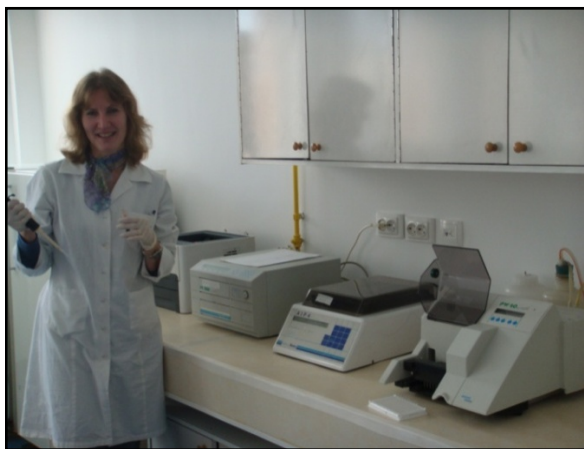
knowledge by reading the ***Clinical Chemistry*** journal. I am able to guide my research students with this knowledge by having them read these journals. As faculty member in the university's faculty of medicine, I am supervising the post graduates of the department in research on lipid profile in benign and malignant neoplasm of breast, tumor markers in breast cancer, and lipid profile in hypertension in Libya.

Currently I am involved in one of the investigators of research on breast cancer, a project funded by the Ministry of Higher Education in Libya. I presented a poster from the above project at the last AACC Annual Meeting held in Anaheim, California on July 28, 2010. I also presented the following papers in Anaheim, **Serum Lipid changes in Carcinoma Breast in Libya**, **Correlation of Lipid profile in Coronary Heart Disease patients in Libya**, and **Serum Uric Acid Levels as an adjunct in the assessment of certain Psychiatric Disorders**.

I was very happy to present these papers in the posters session of the Annual Meeting. I am very much excited to say that I have been qualified in NRCC (National Registry of Certified Chemists) during the Annual Meeting i.e., on July 25, 2010. This is all due to my being a member of AACC through the Gallwas membership grant.

Apart from the papers I have presented in the AACC conference I have published the following articles, ***Correlation between Chemical Composition of Stone and Serum in Cholelithiasis*** in the ***Libyan Journal of Medical Research*** and ***Cardiac Biomarkers: The Troponins and CK-*** in the ***Ibnosina Journal of Medicine and Biological Sciences***.

I am very grateful to AACC and the Van Slyke Foundation for providing free membership for 5 years from 2005 to 2010. I have enjoyed the privileges of full membership of AACC. It has been very useful for me during these 5 years to do research and publish many papers in the conferences as well as journals. I would like to continue my relation with AACC as member as well as regular attendee of the meetings and conferences. I would like to receive all updates from AACC and hope fully I will continue as paid member from now on.



Adina Stanciu, PhD
Senior Researcher, Department of Carcinogenesis & Molecular Biology
Institute of Oncology Bucharest,
Bucharest, Romania
Member since 2005 (Jerry & Sandy Gallwas)

I would like to thank AACC for honoring me with a Gallwas Membership. I have been a beneficiary of the Gallwas Membership Grant for the past five years. Fortunately, my membership in AACC will be extended for another five years. I would like to thank all of you - Jean Rhame, Michele Horwitz, Peter

Patterson, Freddy Tellez - for your excellent work and support.

This grant has allowed me an excellent access to information in the field of clinical chemistry, through original and electronic copies of ***Clinical Chemistry*** journal, weekly news updates by e-mail, AACC website, many useful books free of cost and others. Just like in previous years, in 2010, I received, due to the Grant, an essential book: ***Cardiovascular Biomarkers: Pathophysiology and Disease Management***,

edited by David A. Morrow. This book provides analytical and clinical guidance for the measurement and interpretation of biochemical markers of cardiac injury in acute coronary syndromes (ACS), in heart failure, atrial fibrillation etc. The cardiac biomarkers represent the theme of my research project: "Periprocedural markers of the catheter ablation in patients with paroxysmic/persistent atrial fibrillation". This book is very useful for me and my colleagues in interpretation of the cardiac biomarkers in atrial fibrillation and in preparing of articles and lectures for clinical laboratory specialists.

I also found many guidelines from AACC/NACB. These guidelines are significant and practical for laboratories of worldwide. The NACB guidelines for use of tumor markers in the clinic are the best in introducing new parameters in our workload, are already available for many cancers and contain recommendations for the most appropriate use of tumor markers. I would like to introduce some of these important guidelines to my colleagues.

I am interested in the information related to the tumor markers, because in 2008, 2009 and 2010 I lectured to a postgraduate course about tumor markers. This course was intended for clinical laboratory specialists.

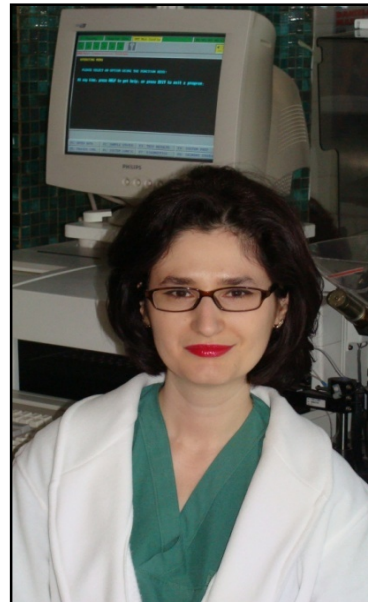
Quality control is, always, a priority in any medical laboratory. I visited the website of AACC and I read some articles from journal of *Clinical Chemistry* related to EN ISO: 15189 and EN ISO/IEC: 17043. I am starting, together with my colleagues from Association for Quality in Laboratories (CALILAB), to prepare a new postgraduate course entitled "Quality assurance in medical laboratories", which will take place on January 28-30, 2011. At this course, I shall present "The implications of ISO 15189 and 17043 accreditation for immunology".

As the member of the AACC, I was able to take part in different activities of the clinical chemistry worldwide with more confidence. I participated in the 2008, 2009 and 2010 AACC Annual Meetings. It was a pleasure to meet people from different countries and share ideas to improve my research.

This year was an especially lucky one for me, because I won one of the NACB's Distinguished Abstract Awards with the poster *Anti-inflammatory and anti-remodeling effects of Cardiac Resynchronization Therapy*. This award was a great honor for me. I was invited at the NACB awards luncheon and I had the pleasure of being in the same room with the 120 Fellows of NACB and the others being awarded. It was a pleasure to meet people from different countries. We discussed our diverse cultures and experiences. I would like to take this opportunity to express my gratitude to individuals and organizations that contributed generously to the grant.

I am very grateful to Jerry and Sandy Gallwas, the Van Slyke Foundation and AACC. They have helped me a lot in my professional progress!

Lorena Ivona Stefan MSc, PhD
Principal Physicist
Department of Clinical Chemistry
Craiova County Clinical Emergency Hospital
Craiova, Romania
Member since 2006 (Jerry & Sandy Gallwas)



It is a pleasure to write this report as AACC member due to the Gallwas Membership. 2010 was an extraordinary year for me continuing to be influenced by Gallwas Grant. I would like to enumerate a few of what happened in the last year. The year began by awarding the distinction of Magna Cum Laude from the evaluation committee's activity during the PhD in Medicine. Also, in the past year I was honored with the free book from AACC store, **Reference Intervals - A User's Guide** by Paul. S. Horn and Amadeo J. Pesce, which helped me to better interpretations of the results obtained from laboratory or research activity. The Gallwas membership gives me free access to the journal **Clinical Chemistry**. Each time I receive the Journal, I share it with my colleagues and medical residents. The **Clinical Chemistry** journal is one of the best in the laboratory medicine. During 2010 I have translated for the Romanian Review of Medical Laboratory (the official publication of Romanian Professional Association of Biologists, Biochemists and Chemists – OBBCSSR) some important articles, so more laboratory professionals can read it. And last but not least, this year I was one of the Scholarship Winners at the 12th Asian-Pacific Congress in Clinical Biochemistry, 3-8 October 2010, Seoul, Korea.

My Gallwas scholarship expires. In these 5 year I had the chance to improve the quality of my work in Clinical Chemistry field, to add news ideas to my research work, to explore and to receive new information about up-to-date technologies, to learn about new methods of studying in the field of laboratory diagnosis, to help my colleagues and my students with all the information that I had access, to finish with the highest score possible in Romania for my Ph.D. thesis in Medicine.

I want to thank Gerry and Sandy Gallwas, AACC and the Van Slyke Foundation for all the achievements of those years. I will continue to be part of the AACC family, to learn, to work and to give the best results to clinical chemistry field.

Duong Thi Nguyet Minh, PhD
Trang An Hospital
Hanoi, Vietnam
Member since 2006 (Jerry & Sandy Gallwas)

Being an AACC Gallwas member since 2006, I have received a lot of knowledge and experiences through **Clinical Chemistry** and AACC eNews. I also shared my updated knowledge with colleagues in my hospital and members of the Vietnamese Association of Clinical Biochemists (VACB). In the Congress of the Society of Clinical Biochemists of Hanoi and North Vietnam held in Tam Dao, August 2010, I encouraged my colleagues to join the AACC, the biggest association of clinical biochemistry in the world. I am very interested in the Guidelines, especially of Tumor markers, published in Clinical Chemistry, which I have been using in my Department. I also received from AACC the book **Applied Pharmacokinetics & Pharmacodynamics** by M.E. Burton and, L.M. Shaw. It is very important for my work. Unfortunately, I couldn't attend the 2010 AACC Annual Meeting in Anaheim as planned due to financial problems.

I express my gratitude to Jerry and Sandy Gallwas and the Van Slyke Foundation for supporting me in my professional work. I also thank Peter Patterson for his regular help. I wish all of you all the best in the 2011 New Year.



Hoang Thu Ha, MD
Head of Biochemistry Department
Saint Paul Hospital
Hanoi, Vietnam
Member since 2006 (Jerry & Sandy Gallwas)

It has been five years since I first became member of AACC in 2006 courtesy of a Gallwas Membership scholarship. I cannot describe all the benefits that AACC membership brings me and my colleagues.

AACC gives a number of opportunities for me and my colleagues; including original and electronic copies of ***Clinical Chemistry*** journal, AACC website; free books, etc. The ***Clinical Chemistry*** journal helped to update with the latest invention trend and research in the field. This is very important for me to do my PhD research and I have had good results. AACC offered a very valuable free book ***Effects of Preanalytical Variables on Clinical Laboratory Tests, 3rd Edition***, which help us so much in interpreting difficult results.

With the up to date knowledge in laboratory management, we planned to improve our lab's competence to be accredited the ISO 15189 certification. It is important to maintain good quality levels for our laboratory so as to provide the best service to the patients.

I would like to express my deep gratitude to the AACC and Gallwas Membership Committee.

Aurelian Udristoiu, MD
Emergency County Hospital
Targu Jiu, Romania
Member since 2002 (Jerry & Sandy Gallwas)

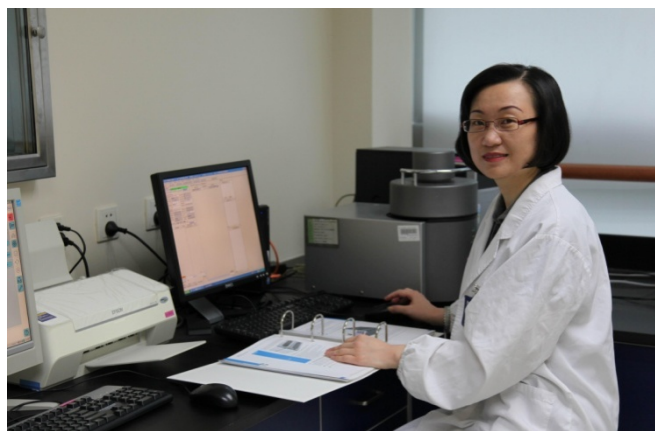


During 2010, my Gallwas Membership benefited me in a number of ways. It provided the opportunity to learn from medical laboratory physicians and scientists worldwide and, using what I learned, I implemented new techniques of laboratory medicine in my hospital.

I often shared the benefits of my Gallwas-Membership with my colleagues from our Laboratory by studying scientific problems using AACC's **Lab Tests Online** site. I have had better access to current information from ***Clinical Chemistry*** and I used the journal to read selected articles in my field of activity – hematology and biochemistry – and to prepare my research for publication in specialty journals. I was better able to network with laboratory doctors and scientists from other countries. I was able to access AACC's electronic resources (AACC Online, ***Clinical Chemistry*** Online, E-Conferences, audioconferences, etc). I also received discounts on meetings. Membership also allowed me to belong to two AACC Divisions – Clinical and Diagnostic Immunology and

Laboratory Information Systems & Medical Informatics. I had the opportunity to study and to present information about articles published in ***Clinical Chemistry*** to conferences of the Romanian Society of Laboratory Medicine, newsletters on the internet, and I recommended to my colleagues that they members of AACC.

After the model of AACC Annual Meeting which I attended in 2004, 2005, and 2006, I organized The Romanian Congress of Laboratory Medicine-RSML/ 2010, in Targu Jiu. The meeting included lectures/edutraks, workshops, round tables, posters and also a medical exhibition, after the American model. I had a great success as President of SRML Congress/2010 by attendance of professors from Europe, Canada and USA Universities, to Romanian scientific meeting.



Guo Wei
Vice Director, Laboratory Medicine
Zhongshan Hospital, Fudan University
Shanghai
People's Republic of China
Member since 2009 (Jerry & Sandy Gallwas)

I would like to express my appreciation for the support of the Gallwas Membership Grants to me over the past two years. I am the Vice Director of the Department of Laboratory Medicine in Zhongshan Hospital, Fudan University in Shanghai, China.

My research interests focus on application of the role of cardiac troponin in risk stratification and early MI diagnosis. Through free access to the ***Clinical Chemistry*** journal, I read a lot of papers and get new ideas from the most famous experts such as Fred Apple, Allan Jaffe, and Alan Wu. I also am doing research on high-sensitivity cardiac Troponin T analytical performance validation and reference intervals investigation in China, and our paper was published in the ***Chinese Journal of Laboratory Medicine*** in 2010. Also I call together the supervisor and new undergraduate technologist to learn about papers in the journal of ***Clinical Chemistry*** and we do a presentation every two weeks on Thursday night for continuing education.

In 2010, I was responsible for part of the compilation work on Lab Tests Online-China which was launched in November 2009. It has benefited many patients and laboratorians in China. We also translated several articles in the ***Clinical Chemistry*** journal into Chinese and for publication in the ***Journal of Editorial Board of Overseas Laboratory Medicine***. Recent papers we have translated are:

Aakre KM, Sandberg S. Can Changes in Troponin Results be useful in diagnosing Myocardial Infarction? *Clin Chem*, 2010, 56 (7)1047-1049;

Bates KJ, Hall EM, Fahie-Wilson MN, et al. Circulating Immunoreactive Cardiac Troponin forms determined by Gel Filtration Chromatography after Acute Myocardial Infarction. *Clin Chem*, 2010, 56 (6): 952-958.

It benefits many Chinese technologists to learn the latest information in the world. Again I would like to say thank you to Mr. and Mrs. Gallwas and the AACC for your support.

Binod Kumar Yadav, M.Sc
Assistant Professor (Biochemistry)
Maharajgunj Medical Campus
Institute of Medicine, TU Teaching Hospital
Maharajgunj, Kathmandu, Nepal
Member since 2009 (Jerry & Sandy Gallwas)

This is the second year of my Gallwas membership as I was awarded it in 2009, and I am very pleased to write this report on how the Gallwas membership of American Association for Clinical Chemistry has benefitted me, my colleagues and my laboratory in the past year.

I am very much grateful to Mr. and Mrs. Gallwas and Van Slyke foundation for awarding me the Gallwas grant for the year 2010 to attend the AACC Annual Meeting. It has been of great support for my personal growth and that of the institutions in which I have been working.



The Gallwas membership gives me free access to ***Clinical Chemistry***, the official journal of AACC, regularly. From this journal, I have learned a lot of advances in clinical chemistry. Being an academician at medical school I have shared all the interesting articles with my colleagues and students. Sometimes the key papers are made to present in the journal club by the Post graduate student. The journal has helped me a lot in standardization activities, research design and teaching topics. I have also learned a lot from the AACC website, the news items, information, and announcements published in e-News keeps me informed with the latest information from AACC. This has therefore helped us in establishing validation protocols within the framework of Total Quality Management in our new laboratory at Kantipur Hospital (Pvt), where I am also working as Consultant Biochemist. By seeing the system of USA laboratories during an AACC lab tour, I am also applying some setting of that in this lab as I am using Vitros-250 (Dry chemistry) for routine clinical Biochemistry. Being a President of Nepal Association for Medical Laboratory Science (NAMLS) affiliated to the Asian & Pacific Federation of Clinical Biochemistry (APFCB), I am sharing all my AACC member benefits with our colleagues during our regular meeting.

Last but not least, I appreciate the opportunity given to me to be a AACC member which keeps me up to date with information about laboratory medicine and to put it into practice. I would like to thank you all for your generous support, through which a lot of professionals, who, like me, otherwise may not be part of AACC, benefit.