

Southeast Local Section Annual Report 2011

2011 SES Annual Report Prepared by:

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Chair Southeast Local Section of AACC - 2011

AACC Southeast Section Officers: 2011

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Tiffany Roberts-Wilson (Chair)

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Awards

Ron Whitley (Chair), Larry Broussard, Bill Pope

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Samir Aleryani (Chair)

|

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AACC SES Activities-2011

Spring meeting – Atlanta, GA March 30, 2011

The Southeast local section spring meeting was held in Atlanta, GA in the Sear Restaurant in the Atlanta Marriott Marquis. Members traveling to Atlanta for a CLSI annual meeting going on during the same dates and other members arrived in Atlanta on March 30 for the gathering. Approximately 24 members from the Southeast Local section and other local sections attended this meeting. We had dinner and one speaker. The program began with the Gerald Cooper Travel Award (see attached newsletter for award details) winner, Dr. Amy Pyle a 2nd year clinical chemistry fellow from Vanderbilt, who spoke to us about “A Multi-Marker Approach to Differentiate Sepsis from SIRS”. Next, the Gadsden Award was presented to Dr. Earl Smith for his service to the AACC’s SES over his career. The Gadsden Award is the highest award for the SES. In addition to a plaque, this award provides funds to cover travel expenses for the award recipient to attend the local section meeting at which the Gadsden Award was presented. Next, Dr. Hubert Vesper, Chief, Protein Biomarkers Laboratory, Clinical Chemistry Branch, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) gave an excellent talk entitled, “The Steroid Hormone Standardization Program – Overview of a Collaborative Effort between the CDC and Clinical Communities”.

Prior to dinner we held a business meeting in which 13 of our members were present, one member participated by phone. Several items were discussed including – finances, upcoming events at the AACC Annual meeting and the Fall meeting (TBD), Awards, Fall 2010 meeting wrap up, and the upcoming SES audio conferences. For details see Spring 2011 meeting minutes attached.

AACC Health Fair - Atlanta, GA July 23, 2011

The Southeast local section was pleased to host an AACC Health Fair, an idea of Dr. Larry Broussard that was championed by Dr. Dave Koch (both members of the SES), in Atlanta before the 2011 Annual Meeting began. The goal of this important initiative was to assist the medically underserved population of Atlanta and promote the public’s general knowledge of clinical chemistry and lab medicine. The Health Fair was on Saturday, July 23 from 9AM to 1PM EST at the Central Presbyterian Church, 201 Washington Street, S.W., Atlanta 30303 (across from the Georgia State Capitol Building). The location was about an 8 block walk southeast from the Convention Center/CNN/Omni Hotel (where the AACC Annual Meeting was held), and about a 10 block walk south from the main downtown hotels. Approximately 25 volunteers from the SES and local hospitals assisted with the production of this important event. Several vendors participated and provided point-of-care tests including glucose, creatinine, cholesterol, HDL cholesterol, triglycerides, hemoglobin A1c, hemoglobin, and HIV testing. The health fair was a very big success and was covered on Atlanta’s local news station WXIA. The news clip is an

interview with Dr. Dave Koch explaining the purpose of the health fair. The video is available for viewing on the AACC's SES website. There are plans for the Southern California Section to hold a 2012 AACC Health Fair during the 2012 AACC Annual Meeting in Los Angeles, CA with the dream that these Health Fairs will continue every year in the future at the AACC Annual Meetings.

Summer meeting – Atlanta, GA July 27, 2011

The Southeast section members attending the AACC annual meeting in Atlanta were joined by the North Carolina and Texas sections for a tri-section breakfast held at the Hyatt Regency Atlanta on Wednesday, July 27th. It was a wonderful opportunity to meet new colleagues and reconnect with members of our three sections. At the meeting the SES members discussed the following: 1. Decided the location of the Fall meeting – Ross Bridge Resort, Hoover AL, 2. The success of the health fair at the Annual meeting in Atlanta, 3. Health fairs at future AACC Annual Meetings, and 4. joint section meetings.

Fall meeting – Hoover, AL November 11, 2011

The southeast section had a retreat style fall meeting in Hoover, AL (just outside of Birmingham). We had a business meeting in the late morning, then lunch, and 5 speakers in the afternoon. The meeting ended with a dinner and a speaker. The content for the meeting entitled “**The Infertile Couple**” was chosen by our program committee (see meeting program attached). The meeting was well attended with 39 registrants. Forty members and their guests joined us for the dinner and talk by the Executive Vice President of AACC, Rich Flaherty. The speakers and their content was exceptional, and the meeting was favorable financially (see treasurer's report). The Southeast Local section's Awards committee presented the Christopher Frings Travel Award to Dr. Alina G. Sofronescu, a 2nd year clinical chemistry fellow from the Medical University of South Carolina (see attached newsletter for award details). Awards of appreciation (donation to the VanSlyke Foundation in Rich's name and Amazon gift card) were also presented to Rich Flaherty for his years of service to the AACC. The Southeast Local section also sent out a letter to the other Local Sections asking them to donate to the VanSlyke Foundation in Rich's name as well (see attached letter).

The business meeting had an excellent turnout of 18 members. At the meeting we discussed several important issues including: our finances, the 2012 elections, upcoming meetings, awards, and the progress of the SES audio conferences. See attached meeting minutes for more details.

Other Awards

Drs. Henry Zeidan and James Ritchie had the distinct pleasure on Friday, April 1, 2011 of traveling to Athens to judge the SES-AACC winners of the 63rd Georgia Science and Engineering Fair (GSEF). The fair was organized into two divisions (junior and senior). After much

deliberation, the SES judges selected one winner from each division who received a savings bond and a plaque. The judging was really a challenge as there were many good entries.

Junior Division Winner:

Ms. Kyrie Hugdahl from Miller Middle Magnet School in Macon, GA for her project entitled "How Does Temperature Affect Enzymes?".

Senior Division Winner:

Mr. Vivek Patel from Collins Hill High School in Suwanee, GA for his project entitled "ASCL3, A Novel Target of the CDK 2 Kinase".

This project was initiated in the lab of a Moorhouse researcher and included experiments involving PCR, Mass Spectrometry, and Western blotting. Both Drs. Zeiden and Ritchie were impressed that this work could easily be presented at a national scientific meeting. These opportunities are a great way to promote our profession and to meet the clinical chemists of tomorrow.

Southeast Section Fall 2011 Audio conferences

In August 2010 the SES began monthly audio conferences that are broadcasted free to SES members through <http://www.freeconferencing.com/>. This was a continued success in 2011. Please see list of conferences and titles below. These conferences, organized again by continuing education chair Samir Aleryani, qualified for ACCENT credit for all attendees. In addition, all conferences are recorded and can be accessed by all SES members. This audio conference series received great feedback and attendance (see data below) and we hope to continue it in the future.

AACC-SES Continuing Education Report for 2011

No.	Date	Title	Presenter
1	Feb-11	Racial Disparities in Pregnancy Complications – Should We Design Diagnostic Tests Based on Race?	Woodworth
2	Mar-11	SES Spring Meeting- The Steroid Hormone Standardization Program	Huber Vesper
3	Apr-11	Clinical Applications of Natriuretic Peptide Testing in 2011	James Januzzi
4	May-11	1. The Role of Gender Identity in Defining Laboratory Reference Ranges	Tiffany Roberts-Wilson
4	May-11	2. A Novel Multi-marker Approach to Diagnose Sepsis	Amy Pyle
5	Jun-11	The D-Lightful Vitamin D: A D-Lightful Solution for Good Health	Michael Holick
6	Jul-11	The CAP Checklists 2011 Edition	Gerald Hoeltge
7	Oct-11	Biomarkers for Pneumonia and Sepsis: Perspectives from an Emergency Medicine Clinician	Wesley Self
8	Nov-11	SES Fall Meeting – The Infertile Couple	Faix et al.
9	Dec-11	Challenges and Clinical Impact of Standardization of Immunoassays	Martin Fleisher

Web-Based AudioConferences Summary (n=6):

Participants (total): 127

Participants/audioconference (range): 13 - 47

Total minutes spent by all participants: 6253 (104 hours)

Average minutes spent by each participant: 49.2

Spring & Fall Meeting Participants Summary:

Spring: 24

Fall: 39

ATTACHMENTS

Message from the Chair

Submitted by Ross Molinaro, Ph.D.

Upcoming Southeast Section Events

On behalf of the Officers of the Southeast Section, thank you for your support in 2010. We hope that you all had a happy holiday season and your New Year is going well so far. We are again planning events for our members in the coming months.

- Our annual spring meeting will be held in Atlanta, GA on **March 30, 2011** (more information is below).
- We will have another joint section gathering with the Texas and North Carolina Local Sections at the 2011 AACC Annual Meeting in Atlanta. This year we have planned a breakfast event that will be held on Wednesday, July 27th, 2011. The time and location are to come.
- We are currently in the early stages of planning our Fall 2011 meeting, with hopes that we can join with the North Carolina section for our event. If you have any thoughts or questions, please email me at rjmolin@emory.edu
- **FREE** SES Continuing Education webcasts will continue this year! These webcasts are available on our AACC SES webpage. You can obtain 1hr of ACCENT credit by viewing these outstanding presentations online (more information is below). We are now working to have these available on iTunes.

Support of Future Clinical Chemists

The SES is pleased to announce the second round of awards to support our young members (more information on page 4) and hope that you will help by nominating deserving candidates. Please email your nominations for the Cooper award by March 10, 2011 and the Frings award by May 15, 2011 to the awards committee, care of: Ron Whitley at rjwhit00@email.uky.edu

Message from the Chair Elect

Submitted by Thomas ER, Burgess, Ph.D.

Annual Southeast Section Spring Meeting - March 30, 2011

Right around the corner along with flowers, pine pollen and the Braves is the 2011 AACC Southeast Section Spring Meeting. This event is being held concurrently with the Annual CLSI meeting on

**Wednesday, March 30, 2011 at the Atlanta Marriott Marquis,
265 Peachtree Center Avenue, Atlanta, GA 30303.**

We are extremely pleased to announce that our topic is:

*“The Steroid Hormone Standardization Program –
Overview of a Collaborative Effort between
CDC and Clinical Communities.”*

Our speaker is Hubert W. Vesper, Ph.D., Chief, Protein Biomarkers Laboratory, Clinical Chemistry Branch. As in years past, this will be an evening dinner meeting with our speaker to follow.

In addition, the winner of the SES Gerald Cooper Travel Award will give a 15 minute presentation.

Hotel reservations should be made as soon as possible. Please reserve your room directly with Marriott reservations at 1 (800) 228-9290 or (404) 521-0000.

Flyers with more detailed information of the event and registration will be provided by email shortly.

For more information, contact Dr. Ross Molinaro (rjmolin@emory.edu, 404-686-1913) or Dr. Tom Burgess (tom.e.burgess@questdiagnostics.com, 770-621-7322).



Improving healthcare
through laboratory medicine

Southeast Local Section

AACC

Message from the Past Chair

Submitted by Alison Woodworth, Ph.D.

The Southeast Section had a very productive 2010. Approximately 35 members from around the section met for our spring meeting in Nashville in June, where we had the pleasure of hearing 2011 AACC president, Ann Gronowski speak about the latest in hCG assays. The program began with a short talk given by the Cooper Award winner, Dr. Charbel Diwan. In addition, to awarding the first Gerald Cooper Travel Award, we also presented the first annual Chris Frings Travel Grant to Dr. Corinne Fantz of Emory. Look for the next round of awards at the end of the newsletter!

In July, the Southeast section joined their colleagues from the North Carolina and Texas sections for a breakfast held during the AACC annual meeting in Anaheim. We plan to continue this tradition for the third year at the 2011 AACC Annual meeting in Atlanta.

In November, 36 AACC members attended the Southeast Section fall symposium, “**Quality and Emerging Practices in Clinical Chemistry**”, held in Braselton, GA. We had 4 speakers in the morning, lunch and a business meeting, a free afternoon to enjoy our beautiful location at Chateau Elan, and then dinner and a speaker. Thirty-six members and their guests joined us for the dinner and talk by 2010 AACC President, Catherine Hammett-Stabler. In all the meeting was a huge success!

In August 2010 we began monthly ACCENT approved audio conferences that were broadcast free to SES members through <http://www.freeconferencing.com/>. All conferences are recorded and can be accessed through the local section website by SES members. This audio conference series received great feedback and we will continue it in 2011.

I would like to extend a special thanks to all Southeast Section members who so generously gave their time to help make 2010 a great success for our local section.

Lab-Developed Tests—Where do we stand?

Submitted by Amy L. Pyle, Ph.D., Professional Relations Committee, Chair

As their name suggests, lab-developed tests (LDTs) are in-house created assays which do not require FDA approval. However, several recent events have called the oversight for such tests into question. While LDTs include a variety of assays and platforms, such as gas chromatography, immunoassays, and mass spectrometry, the focus of scrutiny is on genetic tests. This has arisen largely in response to marketing of direct-to-consumer (DTC) genetic testing.

Most manufactured in vitro diagnostic tests are subjected to FDA 501(k) clearance before they can be sold to clinical labs. However, there is another path for labs wishing to create LDTs, which only requires oversight from CMS or CAP. This system was intended for relatively simple, low-risk tests, and is inappropriate for the complexity of many current genetic tests. Thus, the FDA has begun the process of reshaping the accreditation of LDTs. CAP has proposed a system for accreditation which classifies tests by level of risk, with high-risk tests requiring FDA review. Most recently, the FDA held a meeting in July 2010 to gather input from laboratorians, but has not shared any conclusions or future directions since. Thus, we must continue to wait to see what the future holds for LTDs.

- LDTs are in vitro diagnostic tests produced by and run in the same laboratory
- An investigation of by the Government Accountability Office found deceptive marketing and questionable practices associated with DTC genetic tests
- While analytical validation is currently checked through proficiency testing, efforts are now being made to establish that tests are also clinically meaningful
- The FDA held a public meeting in July 2010 to get feedback from stakeholders. Webcast of the meeting can be found at: <http://www.fda.gov/MedicalDevices/NewsEvents/WorkshopsConferences/ucm212830.htm>

Professional Relations

Submitted by **Tiffany K. Roberts-Wilson, Ph.D., Professional Relations Committee Member**

In addition to federal health care legislation, there are many other laws and amendments from state legislatures which impact laboratory medicine. These are a few highlights from the past few months for states in the Southeast Section.

Alabama: On January 26th, 2010 house bill 402, the Hemophilia Standards of Care Act, was introduced and referred to the House of Representatives committee on Health, where it is still pending. This bill would establish standards of care for persons with hemophilia and other bleeding disorders, including requiring physicians to request a medical screening for von Willebrand's disease and other bleeding disorders prior to advising a patient that an invasive uterine surgical procedure is the most appropriate treatment for menorrhagia.

Georgia: House bill 23 filed November 15th, 2010 would require the Division of Family and Children's Services (DFCS) to create a process for independent medical review of mental health treatment programs, specifically psychotropic medication monitoring for foster care children. The bill calls for creation of psychotropic medication utilization parameters for children based on current, peer-reviewed research and best practices in the field of child psychiatry as well as an independent clinical review team, to include a child psychiatrist, to review each child's psychotropic medications.

Kentucky: Senate bill 72 was introduced on January 7th, 2011 and, if passed, would require health care facilities to implement infection prevention program for high risk areas and throughout the facility by January 1, 2012. The bill mandates that health care facilities implement best practices that include identification of hospital acquired infection, prevention and control policies, and public postings of policies as well as worker and staff education programs. The bill also designates corrective actions and fines should a facility fail to comply.

Mississippi: House bill 533 introduced on January 25th, 2011 would create the chronic kidney disease task force, prescribe its duties, and extend the date of activity until July 1st, 2014. The role of the task force will continue to be to make recommendations on the implementation of a cost-effective plan for early screening, diagnosis, and treatment of chronic kidney disease for the state's population.

South Carolina: House bill 3040 would require a student to undergo a pre-participation physical, which will include testing for sickle cell anemia/sickle cell trait. The doctor who administers the tests must then clear the student for participation on the team. The bill was introduced on January 11th, 2011 and referred to the House of Representatives committee on Education and Public Works.

Tennessee: On January 25th, 2011 senate bill 0157 was filed with the Tennessee General Assembly. The bill, as introduced, would extend the termination of the Tennessee Medical Laboratory Board to June 30th, 2016. The Tennessee Medical Laboratory Board licenses qualified laboratory personnel including medical laboratory directors, medical laboratory technologists, and trainee permits for students. The Board also licenses and monitors the performance of medical laboratory facilities including clinical laboratories, collection stations, blood donor centers, ambulatory surgical treatment centers, and plasmapheresis centers.

Continuing Medical Education

Submitted by **Samir Aleryani, Ph.D., Chair Continuing Education Committee**

Last year I was asked by Dr. Alison Woodworth to be the Continuing Education Chair for the SES. Dr. Woodworth was inspirable and wanted to connect all of us through monthly audio conferences. We knew this was another way to keep us connected until we meet at our spring, annual, and fall meetings. We achieved this using a **FREE** web-based conferencing tool. I was eager to bring speakers from diverse areas of lab medicine. Thank you to the outstanding speakers (listed below) for participating!

We will be continuing the CE webcasts this year. I am now scheduling eight speakers to present between now and our fall meeting. **You can obtain ACCENT CE credit by watching these webcasts.**

I would also like to invite the SES Clinical Chemistry Fellows to present, and I have reserved two months exclusively for them. Fellows can present for 30 minutes or 1-hour. This is a great opportunity to practice a big meeting or job talk in front of the friendly SES audience! If you would like to recommend a fellow, please email me at Samir.Aleryani@Vanderbilt.edu

Please find the following 2010 presentations online at the SES webpage.

- Recent Developments in the Diagnosis and Monitoring of Myeloma and other Monoclonal Gammopathies, **Rudi Hrcic, M.D.**
- Improving Phlebotomy: Strategies that Work, **Stacy Melanson, M.D., Ph.D.**
- Progress of the CDC Sponsored Committee to Improve Test Selection and Result Interpretation, **Michael Laposata, M.D., Ph.D.**
- RFID in Anatomic Pathology, **Schuyler O. Sanderson, M.D.**

Message from the Awards Committee

Submitted by Ron Whitley, Ph.D., Chair Awards Committee

The Southeast Section is pleased to announce two awards for 2011 to honor two outstanding former members of the Southeast Section. The two awards are named for Gerald R. Cooper and Christopher Frings to honor their long and outstanding careers as members of the AACC and the Southeast Section.



Gerald R. Cooper Travel Award

This award recognizes a young investigator currently enrolled in a postdoctoral/graduate program who has demonstrated exceptional accomplishments in a selected area of research. The award recipient will receive a plaque and a \$500.00 cash award to assist with travel expenses to attend the local Southeast Section meeting. The award recipient will be expected to attend the Southeast Section meeting and present a 15 minute lecture on an aspect of their research that has not been presented previously.

Eligibility:

- Nominee must be enrolled in a postdoctoral or graduate program.
- Nominee does not have to be an AACC member.

Nominations:

Nominations must be submitted to Ron Whitley (SES Awards Committee) at rjwhit00@email.uky.edu by March 10, 2011. The nomination must include a letter containing an evaluation and appraisal of the nominee's accomplishments, a curriculum vitae for the nominee, and an abstract from a recent presentation/poster.

Christopher Frings Travel Grant

This travel grant is presented to sponsor a post doctoral fellow/resident/graduate student or junior faculty member from the SES to attend the AACC Annual meeting and present a poster on an aspect of their research. The award recipient will receive a plaque and a \$1000.00 cash award to assist with travel expenses to attend the AACC Annual meeting. Travel grant recipients will be invited to also attend the Southeast Section meeting to meet SES members.

Eligibility:

- Nominee must be a post doctoral fellow, resident, graduate student, or junior faculty member from the Southeast Section.
- Nominee must have submitted an abstract that was accepted for presentation at the AACC Annual Meeting for the year the award is presented.



Nominations:

Nominations must be submitted to Ron Whitley (SES Awards Committee) at rjwhit00@email.uky.edu by May 15, 2011. The nomination must include a letter containing an evaluation and appraisal of the nominee's accomplishments, a curriculum vitae for the nominee, and a copy of the abstract submitted for presentation at the AACC Annual meeting.

Minutes
SES Business Meeting
03/30/11
Sear Restaurant, Marriott Marquis, Atlanta, GA

Present: Tom Burgess (Chair Elect), Corrine Fantz, Rich Flaherty, Rob Hardy, Mary Kimberly (Secretary/Treasurer), Dave Koch, Ross Molinaro (Chair), Alejandro Molinelli (Membership), Gary Myers, Amy Pyle (Professional Relations), Jim Ritchie, Earl Smith, Ron Whitley (Awards), Alison Woodworth (Past Chair, by phone).

Future meetings

Fall 2011: We had planned to hold a joint meeting this fall with the North Carolina Section; however, Ross has spoken to Chris McCudden in the NC section about this, but since Chris is leaving UNC, a joint meeting is probably not going to happen this year. We discussed other options on how to approach the fall meeting. Several locations were suggested. Rob suggested Ross Bridge near Birmingham; it's a central location; he will get some info. Tom suggested Grove Park Inn in Asheville; he will get info. Alison suggested Gatlinburg; she will get info. Ron offered to host the meeting in Kentucky in 2012. Tom needs topics for fall meeting. California Section recently had a meeting on autoverification. Another idea is a four-speaker workshop on fertility testing, including talks on physiology, biochemistry, psychology of infertility, preservation of fertility. This was a very successful meeting when he did it in Chicago a few years back and they had to turn people away. It served both from a professional perspective and as educational outreach and funded the section for 2 years.

2011 Annual meeting (a tri-section meeting) will be Wednesday morning, July 27 for breakfast. Texas covers cost this year.

Health Fair update

Report by Dave: The Health Fair will be held on Saturday, July 23 at North Avenue Presbyterian Church, which is near an underserved population. Dave will work on getting the people that need the services to the location. Mercy Care will provide transport. We are planning for 100 participants. Larry Brussard and Dave are working with vendors. Dave will be speaking to Grady phlebotomy folks about working at the fair. We need someone to talk to Emory, and other local labs to also line up some people to work. Ross sent an email to CA officers to join us and catch the vision; our hope is to make it an annual event at AM. The goal is to advance and promote our profession. Corrine will be talking to someone she knows (at CNN?) about publicity. As for the vendors who donate their support, we should work on a way to recognize them with either a plaque or certificate to show at their booth. Mary is concerned about cost of this, especially plaques. Then possibly a glossy print, hard copy, framed certificate would be nice. Tom suggested getting the POCT Division involved. Dave will see the chair of that division in San Diego; Corrine is not sure they could do it because they are busy with POC forum at the AM. We are trying not to burden the national office with this because they already have a lot on their plate. Corrine recommended not using LDX. There are some physicians in the host's congregation who will be on hand to counsel patients. Amy suggested that we especially need this to counsel people to help with HIV positive people. Corrine has list of reportable tests. Tom will check with Quest's reporting person to find out what needs to be reported to the state. We will only be using waived devices.

Audioconference Series

This has been very successful. We want to think of ways to increase utilization and participation. Samir Aleryani (Continuing Education Chair) is working on ways to post presentations (slides and audio) to the SES website. He was able to get approval to get CE credits up to 3 months after the AC. Samir needs ideas for topics and speakers; send him an email (Samir.Aleryani@Vanderbilt.Edu) with ideas. Alison hoped that we could somehow include this in a type of Grand Rounds seminar series. Her vision was to coordinate audioconference sessions at different locations. Ross noted that Emory has case conferences every other week; could tape them, and put them on the website. Ron noted that they have a conference room where they can stream live.

Supporting GA science fair and other such activities

Would be good to get other states to participate, too. Ron has judged for the International Science Fair in the past; AACC also does this one. If we do it for one state, we should be open for all states in the Section. Tom noted that this is our future and we need to support this. There is an organization at some schools: Health Occupations Students of America (HOSA, <http://www.hosa.org/>); Quest is active in local and state group which takes high school students to show them the various occupations. They find that the students know nothing about clinical laboratory medicine. This is a golden opportunity for the organization. Amy noted that SYCL has outreach to college and graduate students. Each state needs its own champions to promote this. If members are willing to judge, we will support. Make a plug for this in our newsletter.

Membership

Alejandro suggested that to encourage attendance at fall meeting that we have a "Bring a Colleague" campaign. Participants would be acknowledged in the newsletter. He also suggested that we place poster at AM about the activities of the SES. Other associations allow this at their AMs. Could we put something in CLN? Gary noted that there will be only one issue at this year's AM. We can distribute info at the AACC booth, too. Put a link to our Section website from the AACC website.

New Orleans Meeting CD sales

Dave needs someone to take this over. Does someone else want to pick up and start this spinning again? We have the CDs, need to figure out how to get them sold. Corrine suggested selling them at the POC Forum at AACC mtg.

Awards

Ron (Chair of Awards Committee) noted that the Frings award is open for nominations. We are awarding the Gadsden and Cooper Awards this year. We agreed that we would give plaques for these awards.

Legislation update

Any (Chair of Professional Relations Committee) gave an update. Legislation to renew Kentucky's Chronic Kidney Disease taskforce is up for approval. Tennessee renewed the State Medical Laboratory Inspection office. Alison reported that Tiffany Roberts Wilson is now co-chair of the Professional Relations Committee and that Jessica Colon-Franco will be coming on the committee.

Treasurer Report

Our balance is \$27,916.06. We ran in the black for the fall meeting. (Post meeting note: There is still money in our account from the NC and TX Sections for the New Orleans meeting.)

House of Delegates

There was no report from the AACC House of Delegates.

Minutes taken by Dr. Mary Kimberly.

AACC SES FALL MEETING PROGRAM

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Welcome!



Welcome to the Ross Bridge Golf Resort and Spa in Hoover, Alabama! We are pleased that you could join the AACC's Southeast Section's 2011 Fall Symposium entitled, **“The Infertile Couple”**. We hope that you will enjoy the outstanding line up of speakers! The Organizing Committee has worked very hard to provide an experience that we hope will be both educational and enjoyable for all attendees.

As you will see in our program, we have prepared an agenda beginning with a business meeting in the late morning and scientific programming starting after lunch. We will break for a short time in the late afternoon before we reconvene in the evening for a cocktail reception and dinner. There we have the honor of hearing the AACC's Executive Vice President, Richard G. Flaherty, speak about “The Profession of Clinical Chemistry: A 25 Year View from the Top”. This is a unique opportunity to hear from the long-time leader of our professional organization before he starts to enjoy retirement!

If you're staying at the resort on Friday night, join our members for golf on Saturday morning! Not a golfer? Don't forget about the beautiful spa! They have something for everyone from spa services, to golf, tennis, hiking, biking, and horseback riding!

Thank you to this year's Organizing Committee and the AACC who have helped to make the idea of this conference become a reality. Thank you also to the vendors who have supported the meeting. Please visit their display tables and talk with their representatives who are attending the meeting.

Most importantly, thanks to all of you for taking time out of your busy schedules and spending travel money (in some cases out of your own pockets) to attend this meeting. A smaller, focused meeting such as this is a great venue for networking and allows our members to meet local and national experts in the field!

Enjoy the Meeting!

Ross J. Molinaro, Chair, Southeast Section, AACC

The Southeast Section of AACC



**Fall Symposium
“The Infertile Couple”
Friday, November 11, 2011
*Ross Bridge Resort
Hoover, Alabama***

Section Executive Committee and Organizing Committee Members

Ross J. Molinaro, MT(ASCP), PhD, DABCC, FACB
Emory University, Atlanta, GA

Chair
Site Logistics
Sponsorship

Alison Woodworth, PhD
Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN

Past Chair
Sponsorship

Thomas E. Burgess, PhD
Quest Diagnostics, Tucker, GA

Chair-Elect
Program
Sponsorship

Mary M. Kimberly, PhD
Atlanta, GA

Secretary-Treasurer
Registration and Speaker
Coordination

Robert W. Hardy, MS, PhD, DABCC, FACB
University of Alabama at Birmingham, Birmingham, AL

Local Representative
Sponsorship

Samir L. Aleryani, PhD
Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN

Continuing Education
Sponsorship

The Infertile Couple

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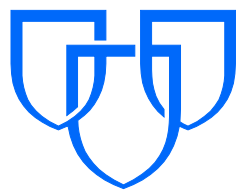
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The Southeast Section of AACC



Fall Symposium "The Infertile Couple" Friday, November 11, 2011 *Ross Bridge Resort Hoover, Alabama*

- 10:00 am-- 1:00 pm** **Registration**
- 11:00 am– 12:00 pm** **Lunch and business meeting for AACC SE members**
- 1:00 – 1:15 pm** **Welcome: Ross Molinaro, PhD, Chair of the Southeast Section**
- 1:15 – 2:00 pm** **The Biochemistry of Fertility: The Hormones of the Pituitary Axis**
James D. Faix, MD
Stanford University
Palo Alto, California
- 2:00 – 2:45 pm** **Estrogens and Androgens Determination with Mass Spectrometry vs. Immunoassays-"Does it matter in Clinical Practice?"**
Ravinder Singh, PhD
Mayo Clinic
Rochester, Minnesota
- 2:45 – 3:05 pm** **Coffee Break**
- 3:05 – 3:40 pm** **The Role of the Clinical Laboratory in Diagnosis and Management of PCOS based infertility**
Alison Woodworth, PhD
Vanderbilt University
Nashville, Tennessee
- 3:40 – 4:15 pm** **Clinical Management of PCOS based infertility**
Jessica Spencer, MD
Emory University
Atlanta, Georgia
- 4:15 – 5:00 pm** **IVF and ART: The Role of the Laboratory in *In-Vitro* Fertility – a Physician’s Perspective**
Mark Perloe, MD
Georgia Reproductive Specialists
Atlanta, Georgia

5:00 - 6:30 pm

Relax at Ross Bridge Resort

6:30 - 9:30 pm

Cocktail Reception and Dinner with Plenary Speaker

**The Profession of Clinical Chemistry: A 25 Year View from
the Top**

Richard G. Flaherty

Executive Vice President, AACC

Washington, DC

The Southeast Section of AACC



Fall Symposium

“The Infertile Couple”

Friday, November 11, 2011

Ross Bridge Resort

Hoover, Alabama

This program has been approved for 3.0 ACCENT® credits.

Activity Title: The Infertile Couple

Location: Hoover, AL

Date: **November 11, 2011**

ACCENT® Activity Number: **021-11LSM-008**

Florida Category: Clinical Chemistry and Administration

Website address for obtaining credit:

<https://www.aacc.org/applications/ce/intro.aspx?actNum=021-11LSM-008>

Inquiries with regards to how to obtain ACCENT Credit should be directed to the Local Section CE Officer, Samir Aleryani (Samir.Aleryani@Vanderbilt.edu). All other inquires, such as technical problems or a request to reprint a certificate should be emailed to education@aacc.org.

The Southeast Local Section of AACC



10/24/11

Local Sections of the American Association for Clinical Chemistry

AACC Local Section Officers:

As many of you know, Rich Flaherty is retiring from his position as the AACC's Executive Vice-President after 20 years of dedicated service. During this time, the AACC has experienced tremendous success and has become a worldwide leader in the field of clinical chemistry and laboratory medicine. In recognition of his work and to express our appreciation, the Southeast Section has contributed \$500 to the Van Slyke Foundation in Rich's name. These funds will be used for Van Slyke Foundation activities designated by Rich. We would like to encourage every local section to match or exceed the Southeast Section's donation as a way to thank Rich for his dedication and as a fitting and meaningful legacy of his service to the AACC. If your section chooses to participate please contact Stefanie Kleinman (skleinman@aacc.org or 202-835-1712) in the AACC office to make arrangements for the donation. The Southeast Section Officers plan to announce this award at the Southeast Section's fall meeting. If your donation is made before November 12th, it will also be announced at a retirement function honoring Rich.

Please consider honoring Rich by donating to the Van Slyke Foundation.

Thank you,

Officers of the Southeast Local Section of AACC

American Association for Clinical Chemistry
Southeast Section
Business Meeting Minutes
November 11, 2011
11:00 AM to 12:00 PM EST
Ross Bridge Resort, Hoover, AL

Those present were: Ross Molinaro (Chair), Alison Woodworth (Past Chair), Tom Burgess (Chair Elect), Mary Kimberly (Secretary/Treasurer), Samir Alyerani (CE Chair), Ron Whitley (Awards Chair), Larry Broussard, Janetta Bryskin, Corinne Fantz, Rob Hardy, Dave Koch, Patrick Kyle, JD Peele, Bill Pope, Jim Ritchie, Greg Sephel, Alina Sofronesku, Yusheng Zhu.

1. Treasurer's Report (reported by Mary Kimberly, see attachment 1)
 - We began the year with \$23,170.88. Income to date 2011 has been \$16,390.05. Expenditures to date have been \$11,719.34. The current balance is \$27,840.79.
 - The estimated cost of the fall meeting is \$10,340. We have raised \$10,817.35 so far in registration and vendor support. We are expected to break even for the meeting.
 - There was some discussion about whether or not we still owe the North Carolina and Texas sections any money from the 2009 fall meeting. Mary will look at old emails from Richard Tulley (former Secretary/Treasurer) to help understand this issue.

2. Elections (reported by Alison Woodworth)
 - Alejandro Molinelli sent email around to drum up interest for people to run; got great response. Dennis Jay will be the Chair Elect. Elia Mears will be Secretary/Treasurer. JD Peele will be our delegate. Greg Sephel and Marian Snyder will form the Nominating Committee.
 - Dave Koch noted that we only received one email about the election; no reminders were. Alison noted that AACC did not serve us well on this point. Next year's committee needs to be aware of this problem. Voter response was low.

3. Future meetings
 - Inter-Section Collaborations: Alison suggested that we consider asking the Ohio Valley Section; Ron Whitley has generously offered to host a meeting in Lexington, KY. Alison also suggested considering the teaming up with the group from Jacksonville, FL.
 - Other meetings we could coincide with include the Carolina Clinical Connection (Yusheng Zhu) or the Clinical pathologists meeting in Kiowa Island (April 23-28). Larry Broussard reported that the Louisiana and Mississippi medical technologists' group is meeting next year at a location on the edge of the section; the casinos have pretty cheap room rates.
 - Tom Burgess asked if want to keep single speaker format for spring meeting and multiple speaker symposium for the fall meetings. He recommended planning both meetings at the beginning of the year. The advantage of this approach is that it would give potential financial sponsors a heads up what was coming. His experience with other groups is that sponsors gave more money. As an example, this year Ross

Molinaro approached both Waters and AB Sciex about sponsoring the fall meeting and they said their budget was already planned for the year; we were too late. Samir Alyerani had a similar problem with ARUP.

4. Awards (reported by Ron Whitley)

- We established an award in Rich Flaherty's name for the Van Slyke Foundation. We wanted to do something personal also, so we are giving him an Amazon gift card.
- Science fairs. Next international fair in May. Local fairs are important.
- Ask Earl Smith to join the awards committee since he was the last Gadsden Awardee. The Section By Laws specify that the previous Gadsden Awardee and the chair-elect are members of the Awards Committee. (By Laws are on the Sections site on the AACC website.)
- *Feb 12 Gwinnett environmental heritage center. Looking for judges; TB reported. Will send info to MK for mtg notes.*
- Serving as judges in these events brings notice for the profession. Awards committee next year will be appointed by the chair.

5. House of Delegates (reported by JD Peele)

- The House of Delegates discussed ways to reach out to members who aren't able to come to meetings; The SE section is good about this; our monthly web-based programs were noted. These need to continue.
- The concept of a "Virtual local section" was discussed. Is there a way for local sections to bank their continuing education sessions at the national level? House of Delegates believes that it is important to maintain local section desirables like these programs.
- The concept of a Learning Institute, to include free and revenue-generating (idea of Rich Flaherty), was also discussed.
- It was also suggested at the House of Delegates meeting that AACC should develop a tool box for people to use to get access to various programs.

6. Continuing Education (reported by Samir Alyerani, see attachment 2)

- This year's programs have been very successful. We have capability to post previous programs for people who were not able to participate. These posts contain a link to get the continuing education credit. Credit can be awarded up to 90 days from the original date of the program. Outgoing announcements about the programs contain the link. We should also include a statement that the link is good for 90 days.
- Larry suggested sending out email reminders to the membership so that people who missed the programs can listen and get credit.
- Alison noted that we need to get "permission to record" from speakers. We need to make sure it that the programs are in the secure part of the website.
- Ross reported that some people have expressed interest in hearing Rich Flaherty's presentation at the fall meeting evening event. He asked if it would it be worth it for SE section to purchase some sort of recording device for such events. We approved this idea and agreed that the video camera should "travel" with the Chair.

- Greg Sephel suggested that the section form an AV committee.
7. Health Fair (reported by Dave Koch)
- This was Larry's idea, but was carried out through a team effort. Dave had two goals, both of which were both met. 1) Service to community and 2) Coverage from local news media.
 - The expectation is that the Southern California Section will be doing it at next year's meeting on Saturday morning again. This needs to be local section driven. House of Delegates may be the place to make it nationally driven. When Dave asked national office to do a press release, the national office only thought of print media, not the local television media.
8. New Orleans meeting DVDs
- Alison reported that we have them. She thinks we should just put this behind us and move on. This ideas was approved.
9. Pennell Painter memorial
- Ron will be writing a Pennell Painter memorial who passed away this year. Ron reviewed his career. An award established at the University of Tennessee in his honor. Information will be put up in the web site.

Minutes taken by Dr. Mary Kimberly.

2011 SES Annual Report Prepared by:

Ross J. Molinaro, PhD, MT(ASCP), DABCC, FACB



Chair Southeast Local Section of AACC - 2011