Greetings, fellow Informatics Division Members:

We are very excited to be among the first divisions to embrace the cutting edge technology offered by the AACC ARTERY! Many of you have already found valuable information in the Artery Open Forum and in the members’ area of the Informatics Division. The nature of the up-to-the-minute postings in the Division Forum allows members to participate in discussions almost in real time.

In addition to a summary newsletter format, future Division updates will come to you as post labeled “News” in the Informatics members’ Forum. It’s possible to make comments and to stay current on many hot topics. Email blasts will go out to give notice of news posts, linking to Artery.

How do you get there?
For those of you not yet familiar with the Artery, here is a link to the getting started page: https://community.aacc.org/general_forum

And here is the link to the page for the Informatics Division which is accessible by members: https://community.aacc.org/divisions/informatics/

2015 AACC Annual Meeting re-cap
For those of you fortunate enough to attend the 2015 Annual meeting in Atlanta, there were a variety of activities for Informatics members to get to know each other, network and share experiences.

Joint Mixer: Sunday evening July 27
We started the AACC week by enjoying drinks, seafood and amazing appetizers as we greeted old friends, made new ones, and rubbed elbows at the “annual” Joint Mixer with fellow Informatics Division members as well those from the Pediatric Maternal Fetal, Clinical Translational Science, and Industry divisions. The Award for the best informatics-related Poster session was presented by our division President Bill Coughlin to Dr. Alan B Solinger of the FAR Institute for his poster “A New Theory for Reference Intervals and Analyte Test Reporting Based on Clinical Risks Derived from Readily-Available EMR Data”.

Informatics Division Meeting: Tuesday midday July 28
Nearly two dozen members enjoyed a delicious buffet lunch and exchanged ideas on how to improve future division content on the Artery, and the Executive committee leadership (Bill Coughlin, Mark Cervinski, and Christopher McCudden) encouraged attendees to engage the division with questions, needs, and engage membership by becoming active in leadership opportunities.

Some ways for members to become involved:
• Write /comment on informatics-related subjects and news on the Artery Informatics Division Forum
2015 AACC Annual Meeting re-cap (cont’d)

- We encourage members to submit poster abstracts in informatics-related topics for next year’s AACC
- Nominate a candidate or vote in upcoming elections for open Informatics division leadership posts.

International Standardization Forum
Tuesday evening July 28

This joint dinner on was co-sponsored by the Informatics division and the LVD Division. Attendees from across the globe (US, Canada, Europe and Asia) enjoyed education and a delicious three course meal. There were 3 student awards and presentations, as well as Zak Award (LVDD) presentation by winner Sridevi Devaraj from Texas Children’s Hospital and Baylor College of Medicine, and keynote speaker Christopher Naugler, MD, from the University of Calgary and Calgary Laboratory Services. Welcome remarks and speaker introductions were done by Kris Kulkarni (LVD Chair) as well as Mark Cervinski (Informatics Secretary).

On the topic “Fasting Time and Lipid Levels in a Community Based Population”, Dr. Naugler discussed how the association between fasting times and lipid levels in a large community based cohort, could be derived by performing a cross sectional analysis of the abundant laboratory data. Dr. Naugler’s presentation can be accessed by Informatics Division members at https://www.aacc.org/community/divisions/informatics/events

Corporate sponsorship. We are currently seeking corporate sponsors for 2016 to support division Annual Meeting educational activities such as talks. For further info please contact Mark Cervinski.

Thanks to Data Innovations, LLC for their support of the Informatics division activities at the 2015 Annual Meeting in Atlanta.

Announcement of Division elections:
On December 3, an AACC email blast was sent announcing the opening of ballots for Informatics officer elections. Don’t forget to vote before the election closes December 20!

Here is the election slate for the three posts to be filled for 2016, and note that write-ins are also allowed.

Chair-Elect: Two highly qualified candidates

Kenneth Blick, Professor and Laboratory Director University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center and OU Medical Center &
Sharon Geaghan, MD
Former Co-Director of Stanford Laboratories and Chief, Pathology, Packard Children’s Hospital at Stanford

The elected candidate will serve as Chair-Elect for 2016, serve as Chair for 2017-2018, and then 1 year as Past-Chair in 2019.

Treasurer: Matthew Henderson, PhD
Children’s Hospital of Eastern Ontario and University of Ottawa

The elected candidate will serve a 2 year post starting in 2016.

Member-at-large: Stephen Master
Weill Cornell Medical Center
Informatics Division education Bytes
Look out for our second education video Byte in mid-January 2016. In the meantime, feel free to take a look at Dr. Mark Cervinski’s helpful experience and tips for using moving averages. This is the first video Byte produced and is found in the Resource Center of the Informatics Artery group.

IN MEMORIAM
Dr. Jim Miller, University of Louisville

So many of us were saddened to learn of the sudden passing of Dr. James Miller on September 9, 2015. Dr. Miller was active in the Informatics Division over the years and was an avid contributor to the Artery. Always one to be in the forefront of continuing education, he was working with the Division officers on a project to update the LIS certificate program. Over the course of his career, Dr. Miller contributed to the training and mentoring of over 25 clinical chemistry fellows and has thus impacted many peoples’ careers both directly and indirectly. A few years ago he was interviewed for the SYCL Mentor of the Month program. The link to his interview from October of 2012 is shown below. 
https://www.aacc.org/community/sycl/mentor-of-the-month/2012/october/james-miller

Dedicated teacher, collaborator, and our dear friend, Jim will be sorely missed but always remembered.

Informatics Division Officers for 2015
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Past-Chair & Nominating Committee Chair
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