Dear Division Members,

As I serve out my term as Chair at the end of this December, I would like to thank our Division officers for helping to host a very successful Division networking event during the 2018 AACC annual meeting. We saw numerous folks signing up for complimentary membership in our division and we hope these individuals will renew their memberships for 2019 and become more active in the activities of PMD. If any member is interested to be more involved, please reach out to any division officers.

At the annual AACC meeting we also sponsored a Joint luncheon with the Molecular Pathology Division, with a scintillating presentation by our featured speaker, Dr. Ritterhouse on the “Molecular Biomarkers for Personalized Medicine in Cancer Immunotherapy”. We also presented an outstanding abstract award to Dr. Heather Robinson and a postdoctoral/student abstract award to Dr. Imad Tarhoni (see below for details). We highly encourage you to indicate on relevant abstracts to be submitted in 2019, for these competitive awards to be presented at the 2019 AACC meeting.

As the baton is passed to our new incoming chair, Dr. Ping Wang, in Jan 2019, we look forward to her leadership to further invigorate our division.

She has already begun to lead the efforts by submitting couple of personalized medicine proposals for consideration by 2019 Annual Meeting Committee. One of these is a joint proposal with members of the IFCC. Dr. Wang will share more of some of her ideas as she assumes the chair in 2019.

We also want to welcome several of the newly elected officers for the 2019 year-thank you for volunteering your services. I wish everyone a wonderful holiday season and Happy New Year!

Warmest regards,

Jerry Yeo
KT Jerry Yeo, PhD, DABCC
EDITORIAL

- During the 2018 AACC annual meeting, the Personalized Medicine Division had joint luncheon with the Molecular Pathology Division

- Dr. Lauren Ritterhouse from University of Chicago gave luncheon presentation entitled “Molecular Biomarkers for Personalized Medicine in Cancer Immunotherapy”.

Dr. Lauren Ritterhouse, MD, PhD, is Assistant Professor of Pathology at the University of Chicago. She is a member of the Genomic and Molecular Pathology (GMP) division at the University of Chicago, where she is Co-Director of the clinical genomics and molecular diagnostic laboratories. Prior to this, she completed a Molecular Genetic Pathology Fellowship at Harvard Medical School (Boston, MA) and Anatomic Pathology Residency at Brigham and Women’s Hospital (Boston, MA). She earned her MD and PhD in Pathology from the University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center (Oklahoma City, OK). Dr. Ritterhouse is particularly interested in the translation of emerging molecular biomarkers into the clinical laboratory, including those evaluating hematologic malignancies, circulating tumor DNA, as
2018 PMD Outstanding Abstract Award

**Biography:** Heather M. Robison is a postdoctoral researcher at the University of Michigan with Professor Ryan Bailey. Heather received her undergraduate degree in chemistry at The Ohio State University in 2012. She then went on to the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, obtaining a Ph.D. in 2017 working in Ryan Bailey’s laboratory. Her doctoral work consisted of the development of novel in vitro diagnostic immunoassays deployed on silicon photonic microring resonator arrays. Upon the laboratory’s move to the University of Michigan, Heather transitioned to a postdoctoral researcher position pursuing a more rigorous pre-clinical expansion of the multiplexed immunoassays from her graduate work.

2018 PMD Postdoc/Student/MT Abstract Award

**Biography:** My primary medical training was completed in 2007 at the University of Zawiya School of Medicine, in Libya. After graduation, I became a trainee (roughly equivalent to a resident physician) in the Laboratory Medicine Department at the National Heart Center in Tripoli-Libya, where I also had teaching responsibility in the Department of Clinical Biochemistry in the schools of medicine. This training marked the beginning of my journey into my clinical pathology and laboratory medicine career. My passion for pursuing a physician-scientist path, through advanced research and clinical laboratory training, compelled me to travel to the USA in 2011 to continue my graduate studies and seeking further professional training. I earned my master's degree in biochemistry from Rush University in Chicago, in 2014, with a focus on prognostic lung cancer serum biomarkers and immune assay development. Then I continued to pursue a Ph.D. degree focusing on biomarkers of response to cancer immune checkpoint inhibitors. While I am doing my research studies, I am also taking the USMLE tests to take a further step to advance my training in laboratory medicine and pathology after I graduate with the Ph.D.

**Project:** My thesis research focuses on characterization of proteomic changes associated with response and adverse events linked to cancer immunotherapy to provide a better understanding of immunotherapy targeting mechanisms and will help to guide the development of future personalized cancer immunotherapies and prognostication of clinical outcomes of advanced stage lung cancer.
DIVISION NEWS

The election to the 2019 PMD executive committee was voted and announced on Dec 20th, 2018.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Candidate Name</th>
<th>Total Vote Count</th>
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<tr>
<td>Chair-Elect</td>
<td>James Fuller</td>
<td>13</td>
<td><a href="mailto:jim@lighthouselabservices.com">jim@lighthouselabservices.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secretary</td>
<td>Jing Cao</td>
<td>13</td>
<td><a href="mailto:jxcao@texaschildrens.org">jxcao@texaschildrens.org</a></td>
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<tr>
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<td>Xander van Wijk</td>
<td>14</td>
<td><a href="mailto:xandervanwijk@gmail.com">xandervanwijk@gmail.com</a></td>
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2019 Personalized Medicine Division Officer Roster

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<tr>
<th>Division Officer Position</th>
<th>Officer Name</th>
<th>Term Begin Date</th>
<th>Term End Date</th>
<th>Email</th>
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<tr>
<td>Chair</td>
<td>Ping Wang</td>
<td>1/1/2019</td>
<td>12/31/2020</td>
<td><a href="mailto:ping.wang2@uphs.upenn.edu">ping.wang2@uphs.upenn.edu</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Past Chair</td>
<td>KT Jerry Yeo</td>
<td>1/1/2019</td>
<td>12/31/2020</td>
<td><a href="mailto:jyeo@bsd.uchicago.edu">jyeo@bsd.uchicago.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chair-Elect</td>
<td>James Fuller</td>
<td>1/1/2019</td>
<td>12/31/2020</td>
<td><a href="mailto:jim@lighthouselabservices.com">jim@lighthouselabservices.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Treasurer</td>
<td>Xin Yi</td>
<td>11/28/2017</td>
<td>12/31/2019</td>
<td><a href="mailto:xin.y.56@gmail.com">xin.y.56@gmail.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Secretary</td>
<td>Jing Cao</td>
<td>1/1/2019</td>
<td>12/31/2020</td>
<td><a href="mailto:jxcao@texaschildrens.org">jxcao@texaschildrens.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Nominating Committee</td>
<td>Xander van Wijk</td>
<td>1/1/2019</td>
<td>12/31/2020</td>
<td><a href="mailto:xandervanwijk@gmail.com">xandervanwijk@gmail.com</a></td>
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</tbody>
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JOURNAL WATCH


Highlights of the special issue:

Dyfrig A. Hughes. Economics of Pharmacogenetic-Guided Treatments: Underwhelming or Overstated?

We hope you enjoy this edition of The PMD Newsletter. Your feedback is welcome. We also encourage you to submit review articles, original research, opinions, and other information you wish to share with your colleagues.

We are especially interested in a volunteer to prepare annotated bibliographies for the Journal Watch section. A brief review of the most important articles related to advances in pharmacogenomics is an important service to our members.

Visit us online at:
www.aacc.org/community/divisions/personalized-medicine