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AACC

Southeast Local Section

## Message from the Chair

Submitted by Patrick Kyle, Ph.D.

Numerous activities are planned for 2014! Spring is in the air and our **Spring Meeting** is just around the corner. Our meeting will be held jointly with the Association of Clinical Scientists in Amelia Island Florida on May 30/31. The meeting will provide quality scientific presentations at a venue where you can relax, recharge, and to boost your vitamin D reserves (details below).

A **Southeast Section Breakfast** has been arranged so that we can meet during the 2014 AACC Annual Meeting in Chicago. Breakfast will be served to all Southeast Section members on Monday, July 28 from 7 - 8:30 a.m. in the Toronto room of the Hyatt Regency Hotel (Headquarters Hotel). We will enjoy a short presentation from the Christopher Frings travel awardee. An email reminder will follow.

The Southeast Section is excited to offer **FREE Continuing Education webinars** on a quarterly basis, coordinated by our Continuing Education Chair, Samir Aleryani PhD. Dr. Gary Horowitz, Director of Chemistry at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, will present the first webcast on March 26 entitled, "*When Accuracy Alone is Not Sufficient: New Roles for Clinical Chemists*".

Two **travel awards** will be sponsored this year. One for a student/fellow to attend the Southeast Section meeting on May 30/31, and the second for a young investigator to attend the National AACC meeting in Chicago (details page 2).

An **annual election** will be held for Chair-elect, Alternate Delegate, and two Nominating Committee members. Nominations will be received through May 31 (details page 2).

## Message from the Chair Elect

Submitted by Yusheng Zhu, Ph.D.

The AACC Southeast Section Spring Meeting will be held as a joint conference in collaboration with the Association of Clinical Scientists (ACS) in Amelia Island, Florida on May 30-31. The program includes Friday evening dinner & business meeting (pay at the door) and Saturday presentations on clinical biochemistry topics on May 31, 2014. An optional golf outing is being organized for Friday afternoon. A special one-day meeting registration fee of \$125 has been negotiated for Southeast Section members (does not include dinner Friday). Meeting registration includes a luncheon with guest speaker Dr. William E. Winter speaking on iron metabolism. The joint meeting will be conducted at the luxurious Omni Amelia Island Plantation Resort, where a block of rooms has been reserved for \$219 & \$269.

The scientific meeting format will involve 15-minute oral presentations, and Southeast Section members are encouraged to submit abstracts for presentation. **The deadline for abstract submission is March 1.** The Gerald Cooper Travel Award will be available for a postdoctoral student or fellow to attend this meeting, and attendees can expect 7-8 hours of CE/CME from this one-day event. Online registration, housing, and abstract submission can be found on the ACS meeting website at <http://www.clinicalscience.org/annualmeeting.html>

**The deadline to reserve rooms at the meeting rate is April 28.**

Please contact the following individuals with any questions:

Program Committee Chair:  
Yusheng Zhu, PhD  
([Zhuyu@musc.edu](mailto:Zhuyu@musc.edu), 843-792-8814)

Program Committee Members:  
Patrick Kyle PhD  
Dennis Jay PhD



# Message from the Past Chair

Submitted by Dennis Jay, Ph.D.

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It is never too early to load up the ballots for the annual election. This year we are accepting nominations for Chair-Elect (1 year term), Alternate Delegate (3 year term) and 2 new members for the Nominating Committee (1 year terms). If you are interested or know of someone who is interested in serving, please email [dennis.jay@stjude.org](mailto:dennis.jay@stjude.org). Please include a brief biography for each Chair-Elect nominee.

# Message from the Awards Committee

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

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The Southeast Section is excited to offer two travel awards this year in honor of Gerald R. Cooper and Christopher Frings, two outstanding Southeast Section chemists.

## Gerald R. Cooper Travel Award

The recipient will receive a plaque and a \$500 cash award to assist with travel expenses to attend the local Southeast Section meeting in Amelia Island, Florida. This travel award is available to a young investigator who has demonstrated exceptional research accomplishments. The recipient will be expected to attend the Southeast Section meeting and present a 15-minute presentation on an aspect of their research not previously presented.

### To be Eligible:

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

Submit nominations to Ron Whitley, Chair SES Awards Committee at [rjwhit00@email.uky.edu](mailto:rjwhit00@email.uky.edu) by **April 15, 2014**. The nomination should include a letter with 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 will sponsor a post-doctoral fellow/resident/graduate student or junior faculty member from the Southeast Section 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. The recipient will be expected to present a 15-minute lecture at the Southeast Section Breakfast at the AACC Annual meeting in Chicago.

### To be Eligible:

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

Submit nominations to Ron Whitley, Chair SES Awards Committee at [rjwhit00@email.uky.edu](mailto:rjwhit00@email.uky.edu) by **April 15, 2014**. The nomination should 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. Final selection will require notice of abstract acceptance by AACC.

# Continuing Medical Education

Submitted by Samir Aleryani, Ph.D., CE Chair

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The Southeast section is excited to continue its CE webinars now in its 5<sup>th</sup> year. These webinars have made our section a distinct and a pioneer online continuing education provider. Since its inception in 2010, we have aimed to provide our members with top speakers and the best topics. What has made our program unique are two simple values. First, it is totally free ACCENT CE supported by the AACC. Second, it attracts the best speakers in the field of clinical chemistry from the AACC, other societies, and other organizations. Our efforts continue to be successful because of your support to the profession of clinical chemistry. I ask that you continue the good work that AACC represents namely, a quality provider of education, service, and advancement of the field of laboratory medicine in the United States and throughout the world. I hope that 2014 will be another exciting year full of activities. Please contact me to recommend a speaker at [Samir.Aleryani@Vanderbilt.EDU](mailto:Samir.Aleryani@Vanderbilt.EDU).

# AACC Membership

Submitted by Emily Lu Ryan, Ph.D., Membership Committee Chair

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I am writing to let you know of the two new reward programs as part of the AACC membership program, the Member-Get-A-Member Rewards and Local Section Membership Challenge. You may be familiar with the benefits of belonging to AACC but as a current fellow I am still discovering how helpful they are:

- Unlimited access to the electronic information and opportunities at [www.aacc.org](http://www.aacc.org)
- An annual subscription to *Clinical Chemistry*
- Listservs that allow you to query your colleagues
- Online Clinical Lab Job Center that allows you to search for the perfect job
- Specialized online programs that increase your knowledge and skills

And now through the Member-Get-A-Member Rewards program, you are eligible to receive a \$100 AACC gift certificate when you recruit two colleagues to join AACC, Details can be found on the AACC website: [http://www.aacc.org/members/AACC\\_Membership/Pages/Member-Get-A-Member.aspx#](http://www.aacc.org/members/AACC_Membership/Pages/Member-Get-A-Member.aspx#). Not only can you be rewarded, but the Southeast AACC Section will receive an additional \$500 or a free Webinar, if it enlists 25 new members by September 1, 2014. Hopefully these opportunities will encourage you to share the benefits of AACC membership with your colleagues.

## Congratulations

We wish to congratulate the following Southeast Section members on their recent election to national service. These include but may not be limited to the following Southeast Section members:

Corinne Fantz PhD, LabSource LLC - AACC Board of Directors

Dave Koch PhD, Emory University School of Medicine - AACC President-Elect

Ross Molinaro PhD, Emory University School of Medicine - Chair-Elect, AACC Endocrinology Division

Jim Ritchie PhD, Emory University School of Medicine - Chair-Elect, AACC TDM/Toxicology Division

Yusheng Zhu PhD, Medical University of South Carolina - Chair-Elect, AACC Clinical Translational Science Division

A sincere thank you is due to all those who continue to help make the Southeast Section a success! Activities of the Section could not occur without the time and effort that each of you put into planning, organizing, and carrying out the associated duties.